



Impact Assessment
Agency of Canada

Agence d'évaluation
d'impact du Canada

President

Président

160 Elgin St., 22nd floor
Ottawa ON K1A 0H3

160, rue Elgin, 22^e étage
Ottawa ON K1A 0H3

July 4, 2022

Barry Singleton, P. Eng.
Director
Western Energy Corridor Inc.
Barry.Singleton@WesternEnergyCorridor.ca

Barry Singleton:

Thank you for your letter dated June 6, 2022, in which you reference your organization's previous request for a regional assessment of a Western Energy Corridor from Alberta to the Port of Churchill, Manitoba, be reconsidered and that an "expedited" regional assessment be initiated.

As you know, following the receipt of your regional assessment request on March 23, 2021, and the additional information submitted on May 17, 2021, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) undertook an analysis of that request to inform the response from the Minister of Environment and Climate Change (the Minister). The Minister's response, with reasons, was provided on June 21, 2021, and posted to the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry, pursuant to subsection 97(1) of the *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA).

In that response, the Minister indicated that, following careful consideration and analysis of the request, he determined not to conduct a regional assessment of a proposed Western Energy Corridor at that time. The reasons provided included a lack of known or foreseeable development projects within the corridor, for which a regional assessment could inform their future impact assessments, as well as the existence of other regulatory frameworks and initiatives that are well suited to consider and address the potential effects of any such developments.

Please note that there are no provisions for the Agency to reconsider nor re-evaluate that Ministerial decision, which was made and communicated as per the relevant sections of the IAA and its regulations.

.../2



Should, however, your organization wish to develop and submit a new regional assessment request, you are of course welcome to do so. If that is the case, I would encourage you to consider the factors and information requirements detailed in the Agency's *Operational Guide: Requesting a Regional or Strategic Assessment under the Impact Assessment Act* (which is available online at: <https://www.canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency/services/policy-guidance/regional-strategic-assessments/requesting-regional-strategic-assessment-iaa.html>), and to identify a new basis for consideration such as new information or any material changes in circumstances since the Minister responded to your request on June 21, 2021. In the event that a new request is received and considered complete by the Agency, it will be subject to the same review process as your original request and as outlined in the above noted operational guide, with a focus on any new information and rationale provided.

Thank you again for your letter. If you have any questions or require further information on this process, please contact Dr. Steve Bonnell, Manager of Strategic and Regional Assessments at stephen.bonnell@iaac-aeic.gc.ca or (709) 682-4192.

Sincerely,

Terence Hubbard