

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT METHODS AND SCOPE

The scope of the environmental impact assessment (EIA) of the Project under the New Brunswick *Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation–Clean Environment Act* (EIA Regulation) is discussed in this section. The methods that will be used to carry out the EIA are also discussed, followed by a discussion of planned public, stakeholder, and Aboriginal engagement activities.

4.1 SCOPE OF THE ASSESSMENT

4.1.1 Scope of Project

The Project under assessment involves the development of two segments of new submarine power cables adjacent to the existing submarine power cables from Deer Island to Campobello Island and Campobello Island to Grand Manan Island in New Brunswick, along with related land-based components associated with landfall of the cables and their connection to the electrical grid via cable riser stations. The scope of the Project to be assessed under the EIA Regulation includes the construction, operation, and decommissioning phases. For the purpose of this assessment, the scope of the Project includes the Project activities described in Table 4.1.

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Table 4.1 Summary of Project Phases, Components and Activities

Project Phase	Activity Category	Project Activities and Physical Works
CONSTRUCTION		
Construction	Landfall Construction	The physical construction of the submarine cable landfall includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • horizontal directional drilling (HDD) • open-cut trenching (OCT) where HDD is not possible • installation of cables • installation of shoreline protection
	Modifications to Cable Riser Stations	The modifications of the cable riser stations include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • site preparation (grubbing/grading/leveling) • installation of cable riser structures • connection of transmission lines • minor upgrades or realignment of the existing access roads
	Clean-Up and Revegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • stabilization and reconstruction of disturbed areas
	Land-based Transportation	The activities associated with the transportation of goods, materials, and personnel to and from the Project site during construction, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • transportation of equipment, supplies and materials • transportation of personnel to and from the Project site
	Cable Installation in Head Harbour Passage and Grand Manan Channel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • trenching for cable installation • laying of cable • infilling of cable trench in the near-shore where HDD is not possible
	Marine Transportation	The activities associated with the transportation of goods, materials, and personnel to and from the Project site during construction, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • transportation of equipment, supplies and materials • transportation of personnel to and from the Project site
	Inspection and Energizing of Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • inspection of infrastructure energizing of Project
	Employment and Expenditure	The activities associated with Project-related employment and expenditures associated with construction of the Project, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • purchase of equipment, supplies, and materials • employment and incomes

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Table 4.1 Summary of Project Phases, Components and Activities

Project Phase	Activity Category	Project Activities and Physical Works
Construction	Emissions and Wastes	Emissions and wastes arising from construction activities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • release of air contaminants to the atmosphere (e.g., combustion gases from vehicles and heavy equipment, and the generation of airborne dust, (i.e., fugitive dust from roadways and construction activities)) • sound emissions (e.g., from construction activities or from vehicle/equipment movements) • vibration • surface runoff • solid waste disposal
	OPERATION	
Operation	Vegetation Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mechanical and/or chemical vegetation management
	Access Road Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vegetation management • regrading or resurfacing of access roads as necessary
	Energy Transmission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • transmission of electricity
	Infrastructure Inspection, Maintenance, and Repair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • periodic inspection and preventative maintenance of infrastructure
	Employment and Expenditure	The activities associated with Project-related employment and expenditures associated with operation of the Project, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • purchase of equipment, supplies, and materials for maintenance • employment and incomes • taxation
	Land-based Transportation	The activities associated with the transportation of goods, materials, and personnel to and from the Project site during operation, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • transportation of materials and personnel for vegetation maintenance • transportation of materials and personnel for inspection, maintenance, and repair of infrastructure
	Employment and Expenditure	The activities associated with Project-related employment and expenditures associated with operation of the Project, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • purchase of equipment, supplies, and materials for maintenance • employment and incomes • taxation

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Table 4.1 Summary of Project Phases, Components and Activities

Project Phase	Activity Category	Project Activities and Physical Works
Operation	Emissions and Wastes	Emissions and wastes arising from maintenance activities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • release of air contaminants to the atmosphere (e.g., fugitive dust from on-site vehicle movements, combustion gas emissions from vehicles and heavy equipment) • sound emissions (e.g., equipment operation, and vehicle movements) • electromagnetic fields from transmission of marine cables • surface runoff • solid waste disposal
DECOMMISSIONING		
Decommissioning	Decommissioning of Existing Cables	The following options are being assessed for the eventual decommissioning of the existing cables: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • leave in place and remove gas • remove gas and remove only the marine cable portion of the Project • remove gas and take out both terrestrial and marine cable sections of the Project
	Reclamation	The activities associated with revegetation and clean-up at the end of their service life
	Employment and Expenditure	The activities associated with Project-related employment and expenditures associated with decommissioning and abandonment, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • purchase of equipment, supplies and materials • employment and incomes
	Land-based Transportation	The activities associated with the transportation of goods, materials, and personnel during decommissioning, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • transportation of equipment, supplies and materials • transportation of personnel
	Marine-based Transportation	The activities associated with the transportation of goods, materials, and personnel during decommissioning, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • transportation of equipment, supplies and materials • transportation of personnel
	Emissions and Wastes	Emissions and wastes arising from decommissioning and abandonment, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fugitive dust and combustion gases during decommissioning activities • sound emissions from decommissioning activities

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The Project under assessment does not include the previous construction of the existing cables and associated infrastructure, as that is encompassed in existing conditions for the Project. Further, as explained in Section 2.3.3, decommissioning of the new submarine cables and associated infrastructure at the end of their service life is not included in the scope of the assessment, and would be assessed in accordance with current regulations and requirements in place at the end of their service life.

4.1.2 Factors to be Considered

The EIA will consider the following factors:

- the environmental effects of the physical activities associated with the Project;
- mitigation measures that are technically and economically feasible and that would mitigate any significant adverse environmental effects of the Project, including requirements for follow-up studies or monitoring;
- the environmental effects of malfunctions or accidents that may occur in connection with the Project;
- cumulative environmental effects that are likely to result from the Project in combination with other projects or activities that have been or will be carried out;
- any change to the Project that may be caused by the environment; and
- comments from the public, Aboriginal persons, or other stakeholders.

4.1.3 Scope of Factors to be Considered

An important part of the assessment process is the early identification of VCs upon which the assessment can be focused for a meaningful and effective evaluation. The selection of VCs was carried out in consideration of:

- regulatory issues, guidelines, and requirements;
- knowledge of the Project, its components, and activities;
- knowledge of existing conditions where the Project will be located;
- issues raised by regulatory agencies, the public, Aboriginal groups, and stakeholders;
- the scope of factors to be considered in the EIA; and
- the professional judgment of the Study Team.

4.1.3.1 Valued Component (VC) Identification

Based on the factors described in Section 4.1.2, Table 4.2 presents the VCs assessed in this report, the potential environmental interactions, and scoping considerations for each VC.

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Table 4.2 Selection of Valued Components

Valued Component (VC)	Rationale for Inclusion in EIA Report	Factors to be Considered	Details on Assessment
Atmospheric Environment	Project-related emissions of particulate matter, combustion gases, and sound may affect the atmospheric environment and/or be perceptible to nearby receptors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Quality • Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) • Noise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality and GHGs to be quantitatively assessed • Noise to be qualitatively assessed
Terrestrial Environment	The Project may be located in or adjacent to wildlife habitat. Therefore, there are potential interactions with terrestrial wildlife species (wildlife including birds, mammals, and herpetiles; flora), as well as wildlife habitats including wetlands, and any local species of conservation concern, or species at risk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant and wildlife (including bird) species and communities, and their habitats, including wetland habitats • Species of conservation concern (i.e., <i>Species at Risk Act</i> Schedule 1 species; Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada listings) and any species of concern to NBDELG 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quantitative vegetation and wildlife assessment completed • Quantitative wetlands assessment completed
Marine Environment	The Project may interact with the marine environment through installation of cables across Head Harbour Passage and the Grand Manan Channel and with coastal environments where the cable makes landfall.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine wildlife • Marine fish and fish habitat, including shellfish • Species of conservation concern (i.e., <i>Species at Risk Act</i> Schedule 1 species; Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada listings) and any species of concern to NBDELG or DFO 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine environment to be quantitatively assessed (sediment quality and benthic habitat surveys)
Commercial, Recreational and Aboriginal Fisheries	Disruptions to fisheries activities during construction may cause public concern due to their economic and socio-cultural importance to marine communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing commercial fisheries and aquaculture that could be affected by the Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be qualitatively assessed
Water Resources	New Brunswick guidelines for linear facilities require assessment of effects on groundwater quality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groundwater quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be qualitatively assessed
Socioeconomic Environment	Project construction has the potential to interact with labour and economy through employment and expenditures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment and economy • Land and resource use • Infrastructure and services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be qualitatively assessed

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Table 4.2 Selection of Valued Components

Valued Component (VC)	Rationale for Inclusion in EIA Report	Factors to be Considered	Details on Assessment
	<p>Project construction could result in noise and vibration which could create a nuisance effect to local residents.</p> <p>Peak workforces during construction could increase stress on the local and provincial services such as healthcare and emergency response facilities, utilities, etc. The increased number of workers is also expected to contribute to increased traffic on local roads (along with the increase in construction vehicles on the roads during the construction phase).</p>		
Current Use of Land and Resources for Traditional Purposes by Aboriginal Persons	<p>The Project may be carried out on lands used for practicing traditional activities by Aboriginal persons.</p> <p>First Nations consultation is required for any projects crossing public lands</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current use of land and resources for traditional purposes by Aboriginal persons that may be affected by the Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be qualitatively assessed
Heritage Resources	<p>The Project may be carried out within areas with potential for heritage resources. Physical disturbance of the cable landing areas may affect such resources.</p> <p>There is also potential for marine heritage resources to overlap with the submarine cable.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heritage resources potentially located on land or in the water that may be subject to disturbance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be quantitatively assessed (review of benthic habitat survey video and shovel test pits)
Effects of the Environment on the Project	<p>There is potential that risks of natural hazards and influences of nature may interact with the Project.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate • Climate change • Seismic events • Forest fire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be qualitatively assessed
Accidents, Malfunctions, and Unplanned Events	<p>Accidents, Malfunctions, and Unplanned Events could occur during any phase of the Project</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electrical hazard • Land-based infrastructure failure • Vehicle/vessel collision • Damage to submarine cable • Hydrocarbon spills • Unexploded ordinance • Erosion/sediment control failure • fire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be qualitatively assessed

4.2 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT METHODS

The EIA methods for the Project have been developed to meet the regulatory requirements of a registration under the New Brunswick *Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation*.

The Project-related environmental effects are assessed using a standard framework for each VC, with tables and matrices used to facilitate and support the evaluation. Residual Project-related environmental effects (i.e., those environmental effects that remain after the planned mitigation measures have been applied) are characterized for each individual VC using specific analysis criteria (i.e., magnitude, geographic extent, duration, frequency, reversibility, and context). The significance of residual Project-related environmental effects is then determined based on pre-defined standards or thresholds (i.e., significance rating criteria).

Cumulative environmental effects consider the residual environmental effects of the Project with the residual environmental effects of other physical activities (i.e., where there is overlap between the residual environmental effects of other physical activities and those of the Project). An overlap of residual environmental effects may occur and the potential for this is assessed to determine if they could be significant. As the Project is not a designated project under *CEAA 2012* and a cumulative effects assessment is not normally required under provincial EIA Regulation, the cumulative effects assessment will be conducted at a high-level for the Project.

The environmental effects assessment methodology is shown in Figure 4.1 and involves the following generalized steps.

- **Scope of Assessment** – This involves the scoping of the overall assessment, including the selection of VCs; description of measurable parameters; description of temporal, spatial, and administrative/technical boundaries; definition of the parameters that are used to characterize the Project-related environmental effects; and identification of the standards or thresholds that are used to determine the significance of environmental effects. This step relies upon the scoping undertaken by regulatory authorities; consideration of the input of the public, stakeholders, and First Nations (as applicable); and the professional judgment of the Study Team.
- **Existing Conditions** – Establishment of existing (baseline) environmental conditions for the VC. In many cases existing conditions expressly and/or implicitly include those environmental effects that may be or may have been caused by other past or present projects or activities that have been or are being carried out.
- **Assessment of Project-Related Environmental Effects** – Project-related environmental effects are assessed. The assessment includes descriptions of how an environmental effect will occur, the mitigation and environmental protection measures proposed to reduce or eliminate the environmental effect, and the characterization of the residual environmental effects of the Project. The focus is on residual environmental effects (i.e., the environmental effects that remain after planned mitigation has been applied). All phases of the Project are assessed (i.e., construction, operation and decommissioning), as are accidents, malfunctions, and unplanned events. The evaluation also considers the effects of the environment on the Project. For each VC, a determination of significance is then made, based on the identified significance criteria.

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- **Determination of Significance** – The significance of residual Project-related and cumulative environmental effects is then determined, in consideration of the significance criteria that have been established for each VC.
- **Assessment of Cumulative Environmental Effects** – Cumulative environmental effects are identified in consideration of other past, present or future physical activities, for all phases of the Project (i.e., construction, operation, and decommissioning). The cumulative environmental effects of the Project in combination with other past, present, or future projects or activities that have been or will be carried out are then evaluated. This assessment will be conducted at a high-level.

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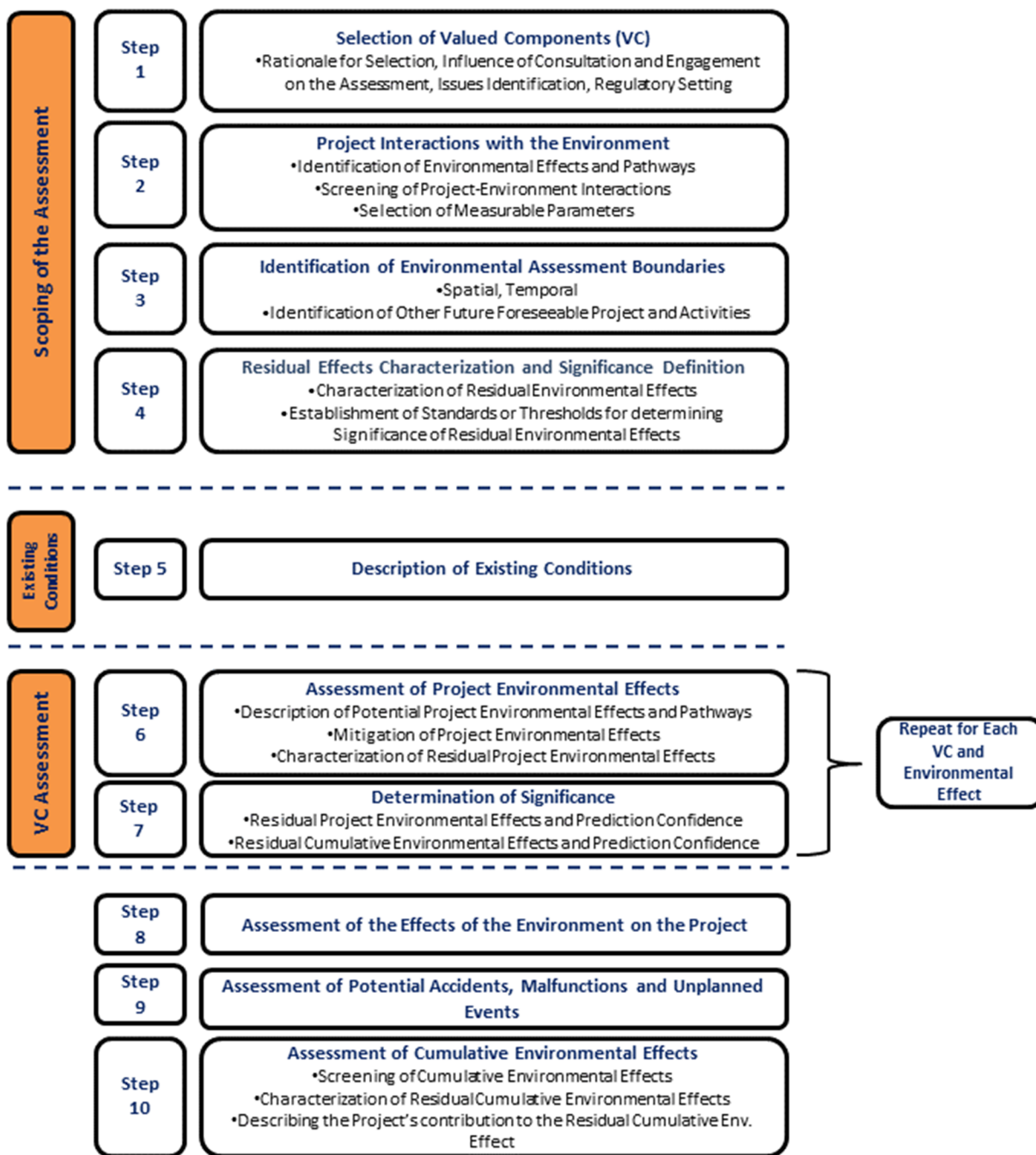


Figure 4.1 Summary of Environmental Impact Assessment Methods

4.2.1 Identification of Potential Interactions between the Project and the Environment

Based on the Project Description (Section 2.0), the Environmental Setting (Section 3.0), the scope of the assessment (Section 4.1), and EIA methods described above, the potential interactions between the Project and the environment are summarized in Table 4.3.

Table 4.3 Potential Interactions between the Project and the Environment

Project Phases	Atmospheric Environment	Terrestrial Environment	Marine Environment	Groundwater	Socioeconomic Environment	Heritage Resources	Commercial, Recreational, and Aboriginal Fisheries	Current Use of Land and Resources for Traditional Purposes by Aboriginal Persons	Effects of the Environment on the Project
Construction	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Operation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Decommissioning of the Existing Cables	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Activities associated with the decommissioning of the proposed cables are not expected to occur until the end of life of the Project, which is expected to be at least 50 years from the start of the operation phase. It is not possible to determine with any certainty the potential environmental effects of decommissioning and abandonment activities, nor the regulations and policies that might apply, a century into the future. Therefore, the decommissioning phase and the potential activities to be conducted as a part of it, are not assessed in detail as part of this EIA; they would be evaluated in accordance with regulations in place at that time.

4.3 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

A Public Involvement Program was initiated by NB Power to inform elected officials, landowners, stakeholders, and the general public about the Project. The Public Involvement Program, which followed guidance from A Guide to Environmental Impact Assessment in New Brunswick (NBDELG 2012), and Additional Information Requirements for Linear Facilities (NBDELG 2008), uses a multi-faceted approach to distribute project information to reach as many people as possible. The approach includes maintaining a project mailing list, distributing project information across media platforms in various formats, placing information on the NB Power website, and conducting open houses.

The key elements of the Public Involvement Program are presented below.

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4.3.1 Objectives

The objectives of the Public Involvement Program are as follows:

- Provide information directly to stakeholders, the general public, community groups, and other interested parties on the proposed Project.
- Provide information directly to elected officials and local service districts.
- Address issues and concerns raised during this process.
- Identify measures that will mitigate or resolve any public issues or concerns.
- Identify proposed future consultation initiatives.

4.3.2 Public Involvement Program Elements

The following section describes elements of public involvement, as they relate to the Project.

4.3.2.1 Communication Methods

The methods employed to communicate with elected officials, stakeholders, individuals, and affected property owners are described below:

- **Letters to Landowners** – In August 2017, NB Power informed potentially affected landowners of the project, with the goal of informing affected private land owners and stakeholders in advance of scheduled open houses.
- **Information Package** – Information packages were used to provide all interested parties with basic information about the Project.
- **Meetings with Stakeholders** – Information packages were sent to elected officials and representatives of relevant key organizations or interest groups in the local area (Table 4.5). An offer to meet was also extended to each key stakeholder group.
- **Web Postings** – The NB Power website (www.nbpower.com) served as an electronic method for members of the public to access Project documents, view maps, and share comments.
- **Public Notice** – A paper copy of the EIA Report document will be made available for viewing during the public review period at the following locations:

Town of St. George Municipal Office
1 School Street
St. George, NB E5C 3N2

Grand Manan Island Village Office
4-1021 Route 776
Grand Manan, New Brunswick E5C 3K4

Campobello Island Municipal Office
924 Rte 774 Unit 3
Welshpool, NB E3E 181

New Brunswick Department of Environment and Local Government,
Project and Approvals Branch
20 McGloin Street
Fredericton, NB E3A 5T8

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Upon Registration, a public notice will be issued in the local newspapers and on the NB Power website. The general public will be encouraged to forward comments and concerns to Project personnel.

- **Media Interviews** – To demonstrate transparency and general community awareness about the Project, media requests for information and interviews were responded to promptly and with detailed project information.
- **Open Houses** – To date, four public open houses have been conducted in the Fundy Isles region to share information about the Project.

Table 4.4 List of Open Houses Regarding the Project to Date

Location	Date held
Magaguadavic Community Centre St. George, New Brunswick	August 22, 2017 5-8 pm
Community Centre Grand Manan, New Brunswick	September 7, 2017 5-8 pm
Campobello Village Mart Campobello Island, New Brunswick	September 13, 2017 5-8 pm
Community Centre Deer Island, New Brunswick	September 28, 2017 5-8 pm

Advertising in local newspapers and on radio stations notified the public about time, date, location, and purpose of scheduled open houses (Appendix A). Further open houses may be considered during the EIA review period, if required.

- **Summary Report** – A brief summary report on the public notification initiatives carried out, and the key issues raised by the public during the EIA review, will be provided to NBDELG within 60 days following registration.
- **Project Telephone Number** – A toll-free project Information Line (1-866-754-7727) appeared in communications materials and provided a means of contacting project personnel for members of the public without computer access.

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Table 4.5 List of Key Groups, Stakeholders and Organizations Contacted to Date

<p>NB Department of Environment and Local Government Marysville Place P. O. Box 6000 Fredericton, NB E3B 5H1</p>	<p>NB Department of Public Safety 364 Argyle St Fredericton, NB E3B 1T9 Tel: (506) 426-3992</p>
<p>Assembly of First Nations Chiefs of New Brunswick P.O. Box 296, Station A Fredericton, NB E3B 4Y9 Tel: (506) 455-1881</p>	<p>New Brunswick Department of Energy and Resource Development Hugh John Flemming Forestry Centre P.O. Box 6000 Fredericton, NB E3B 5H1</p>
<p>DFO Ocean's Branch MPA Planning Team Bedford Institute of Oceanography 1 Challenger Drive, B500 Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4A2 maxine.westhead@dfo-mpo.gc.ca & Penny.Doherty@dfo-mpo.gc.ca</p>	<p>Eastern Charlotte Waterways Inc. 881 Main St. Blacks Harbour, NB E5H 1E5 Tel: (506) 456 - 6001</p>
<p>Environment Canada (National Inquiring Response) 77 Westmoreland St Fredericton, NB E3B 6Z3 Tel: (506) 451-6010</p>	<p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada 301 Bishop Drive Fredericton, NB Tel: (506) 452-3018</p>
<p>Grand Manan Whale and Seabird Research Station 24 Route 776 Grand Manan, NB E5G1A1 Tel: (506) 662-3804</p>	<p>Grand Manan Tourism Association Box 1310 Grand Manan, NB, E5G 1A1 Tel: (506) 662-3442</p>
<p>New Brunswick Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture Marysville Place P.O. Box 6000 Fredericton, NB E3B 5H1 Tel: (506) 453-3115</p>	<p>New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries Agricultural Research Station (Experimental Farm) P.O. Box 6000 Fredericton, NB E3B 5H1 Tel: (506) 453-2666</p>
<p>Fundy Baykeeper Conservation Council of New Brunswick 180 St. John St. Fredericton, NB E3B 4A9 Tel: (506) 458-8747 Matt Abbott, Fundy Baykeeper and Marine Conservation Director</p>	<p>New Brunswick Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Kings Place, P.O. Box 6000 Fredericton, NB E3B 5H1 Tel: (506) 453-3939</p>
<p>Fundy North Fisherman's Association 3 Prince of Wales Street St. Andrews, NB E5B 3W9 Tel: (506) 529-4164 Email: fundynorth@nb.aibn.com</p>	<p>Grand Manan Fishermen's Association 315 Ingalls Head Rd Grand Manan, NB E5G 3G9 Tel: (506) 662-8481</p>
<p>New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries Agricultural Research Station (Experimental Farm) PO Box 6000 Fredericton, NB E3G 5H1</p>	<p>Transport Canada 95 Foundry Road Moncton, NB E1C 8K6 Tel: (506)851-7040</p>

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Table 4.5 List of Key Groups, Stakeholders and Organizations Contacted to Date

<p>Provincial MLA Rick Doucet (Liberal) Constituency: Fundy-The Isles-Saint John West 28 Mt. Pleasant Road St. George, NB E5C 3K4 Tel: (506) 755-4200 Email: rick.doucet@gnb.ca</p>	<p>Federal MP Karen Ludwig (Liberal) New Brunswick Southwest 49 King Street St. Stephen, NB E3L 2C1 Tel: 1(506-466-3928 Email: karenludwigmp@parl.gc.ca</p>
<p>Crystal Cook Mayor, Town of St. George 1 School Street St. George, NB E5C 3N2 Tel: (506)755-4320</p>	<p>Village of Grand Manan 1021 Route776 Grand Manan, NB E5C 3K4 Tel: (506) 662-7059</p>
<p>Stephen Smart Mayor, Campobello Island 924 Rte 774 Unit 3 Welshpool, NB E3E 181 Tel: (506) 752-9181</p>	<p>Dennis Greene Mayor, Grand Manan 4-1021 Route 776 Grand Manan, NB E5C 3K4 Tel: (506) 662-7059</p>
<p>Provincial MLA John Ames (Liberal) Constituency: Charlotte Campobello 78 Milltown Blvd., Suite 5 St. Stephen, NB E3L 1G6 Tel: (506) 466-7484 Email: John.Ames@gnb.ca</p>	

4.3.2.2 Issues Tracking and Reporting

NB Power maintains a database that is used to track issues and concerns raised during the public involvement process. The database provides Project personnel with the ability to conduct queries, print specific reports, and review the status of all issues, concerns, or commitments.

Issues or concerns raised by, or commitments made to, affected landowners and stakeholders are entered into the database and monitored regularly during project meetings until appropriate actions have been taken to address them.

Based on the methods described above, NB Power is able to monitor potential issues and concerns associated with the Project.

4.3.3 Results of Public Involvement Program to Date

The following summarizes the results of the public involvement activities.

4.3.3.1 Open Houses

NB Power hosted four open houses between August 22 and September 28, 2017 in communities located in the general vicinity of the Project. At these meetings, information was provided directly to property owners and stakeholders, to discuss comments and concerns, and to receive direct input on the Project. Originally, just one open house was planned but feedback from participants prompted project personnel to host three additional events in island communities to allow residents to easier access to participate in

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the meetings. The open houses were advertised in local newspapers and radio stations in advance of the meetings. Table 4.6 outlines the list of open house advertisements.

Table 4.6 Open House Advertisements

Where Appeared	Dates
Telegraph Journal	August 19 and 22, 2017
St. Croix Courier	August 18, 22 and September 1, 5, 8, and 12, 2017
The Quoddy Times	September 8, 2017
Grand Manan Paper	September 2017 issue
CHSJ 94.1	August 15 to 22, 2017
The Tide 98.1	August 15 to 22 and September 4 to 7 and 11 to 13, 2017
CHWV 97.3	August 15 to 22 and September 4 to 7 and 11 to 13, 2017
The Rock 88.9	September 4 to 7 and 11 to 13, 2017
K-100 100.5	September 4 to 7 and 11 to 13, 2017

NB Power representatives were on hand at the meetings to greet the public and discuss any comments or concerns. A series of information displays about various aspects of the project were set up at each open house. An exit questionnaire was prepared to further elicit comments on the project and attendees were encouraged to fill one out. In addition to the displays, a number of documents were made available at the meetings, including: The NEB Landowner Guide (NEB 2016) and the Guide to Environmental Impact Assessments in NB (NBDELG 2012).

Approximately 58 people attended the four open houses and one stakeholder session. Not everyone who attended the session signed the sign-in sheets or completed the exit questionnaire. Specific details on how concerns and issues were addressed are provided below in Table 4.7.

Similar comments with common themes were heard and addressed during each of the meetings. A complete summary of the comments is included in Table 4.7, along with NB Power responses.

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Table 4.7 Summary of Key Comments Heard and Addressed During Open Houses

General Topic of Interest	Details of Concerns	Response
Commercial fishing	What is the impact on the scallop bed between Little Whale Cove and Long Eddy Point (Fishing Zone 2)	The proposed location of the line was relocated to help minimize disruption to existing scallop fishing interests.
	What are the noise implications to herring fishery which is focused on the east side?	Minimal
	What is the duration of the construction?	Land based work – Fall 2018 Subsea Cable – July to August 2019
	Can you overlay the cable where the existing cable is?	The proposed change in location has been noted and will be considered.
	Campobello fisherman would like to see both cables in the same corridor, drew new cable route on map to avoid scallop fishing area.	The proposed change in location has been noted and will be considered.
	Campobello fisherman indicated new kind of anchor (square drag) can avoid getting caught on cable.	None required.
	Can you do the work during the day between July and August to avoid interfering with our fishing seasons for herring, lobster and scallops?	Construction will be timed to not disrupt commercial fishing activities, if possible.
	Can you overlay the existing termination site at Deer Island to ensure minimal impacts on fishing?	The termination site must be relocated due to avoid extended power outage. No impacts to fishing are anticipated.
	Campobello lobster season 'may' move earlier into October with summer season lasting further into July. Can you be flexible with this schedule?	Construction will be timed to not disrupt commercial fishing activities, if possible.
Drinking water	How deep will you be drilling and is there a potential to affect wells? (Fracture well)	Detailed design of the HDD construction has not yet been completed. Once completed the information will be used in the EIA to determine if there will be potential environmental effect on surrounding groundwater wells.
Access to High speed internet	A majority of participants asked whether fibre optic communications cable would be included in the undersea cables, asking whether this could speed access to 'fibre op' high speed internet.	Fibre will be included in submarine cables.
Opposition to windmill developments	Concerns/opposition addressed in Deer Island and Campobello about potential windmill developments.	No windmill developments are planned at this time.
Electro-Magnetic Field	Wilson's Beach resident seeking additional info about project and concerned about potential health effects of EMF.	According to Health Canada, there are no health effects from EMF. Additionally, this is a three-phase cable and no issues are anticipated.

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4.3.3.2 Meetings with Stakeholders

The information package sent to various stakeholders extended an invitation to meet and discuss the Project in greater detail with NB Power personnel. To date, only the Fundy North Fisherman’s Association requested a formal meeting, which was held in St. George on September 13, 2017 prior to the open house event in Campobello. Attempts were made by project personnel to hold a similar meeting with Grand Manan Fisherman’s Association without success. However, several individual members of the association met with project personnel at open house events and their feedback is captured and addressed above in Table 4.7.

Table 4.8 summarizes key comments heard and addressed at the FNFA meeting.

Table 4.8 Summary of Key Comments Heard and Addressed During FNFA Meeting

General Topic of Interest	Details of Concerns	Response
Commercial fishing	From Campobello out to approximately the half way point to Grand Manan there are 5 fisherman that fish lobster in the area above the existing cable (fish right up to the cable). If the new cable is placed in the proposed location, there will be fishers that need to move from their areas to avoid it.	The proposed location of the cable will be investigated and compared against relocating adjacent to existing line to help minimize disruption to existing fishing interests.
	In the same area, scallop are fished in the area below the existing cable and in the nearshore area (up to 30 fathom) along the coast where the proposed cable will be going.	The proposed location of the cable will be investigated and compared against relocating adjacent to existing line to help minimize disruption to existing fishing interests.
	Fisherman suggested taking the new line even further from the existing cable since the fishing grounds are poor quality up there (muddy).	On balance of considerations (including previous comments about cable placement from local fishers), least cost and least disruptive placement is as close as possible to existing line.
	Between Chocolate Cove and Wilson’s Beach the existing cable doesn’t interfere with fishing, boats tow trawls over top of the cable.	No response required.
	20-30 scallop boats in that area, might have a hard time with the new cable.	The proposed location of the cable will be investigated and compared against relocating adjacent to existing line to help minimize disruption to existing fishing interests.
	Fishers are currently used to dealing with the existing cable but it’s unacceptable to put new cable in a different location that is in a good fishing area.	The proposed location of the cable will be investigated and compared against relocating adjacent to existing line to help minimize disruption to existing fishing interests.

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Table 4.8 Summary of Key Comments Heard and Addressed During FNFA Meeting

General Topic of Interest	Details of Concerns	Response
Commercial fishing	If the cable is buried then they have no issues with it, but they do not want to be dealing with avoiding two cables that are separated by such a big distance.	The proposed location of the cable will be investigated and compared against relocating adjacent to existing line to help minimize disruption to existing fishing interests.
	They feel like the existing cable destroyed commercial fishing in that area, they don't want another area destroyed, if the new cable is installed they want the old one removed OR both cables in the same corridor so the fisherman only have to avoid one area.	The proposed location of the cable will be investigated and compared against relocating adjacent to existing line to help minimize disruption to existing fishing interests.
	They are ok with the proposed installation timing (July – August), no scallop or lobster fishing at that time.	Construction will be timed to not disrupt commercial fishing activities, where possible.
	There will be a herring weir built near Chocolate Cove next year (just above the cove), they only fish herring at night so as long as there's no drilling at night (or installation activities that create noise) then that won't disrupt the herring fishery.	Construction will be timed to not disrupt commercial fishing activities, where possible.
	Fishers are concerned about having to buy new navigational charts once they are updated with the new cable.	NB Power will work with related agencies to updates the maps.
	Once HDD is complete and capped, the end should be marked so that scallop fishers don't get caught up on it	Agreed.
	Suggested having the Deer Island Public meeting before mid-October.	Meeting held September 28.
	Fishing season for lobster in the area between Deer Island and Campobello, and half way to Grand Manan are in discussions, by the time the project starts the fishing season may go later into July.	Construction will be timed to not disrupt commercial fishing activities, where possible.
	Beginning and end of the lobster season are considered peak times in the season.	Construction will be timed to not disrupt commercial fishing activities.
	Fisherman in the area are upset about the potential marine protected area taking away fishing grounds, so that plus losing grounds to the new cable would be a blow to the industry.	The proposed location of the cable will be investigated and compared against relocating adjacent to existing line to help minimize disruption to existing fishing interests.

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4.3.3.3 Additional Correspondence

NB Power provided additional correspondence with the Grand Manan Fisherman's Association, the Fundy North Fisherman's Association, and First Nations consultative groups as a follow up to the concerns and questions about cable placement expressed during the open house events. In December 2017, NB Power notified these groups via email of an alternative route, that would minimize impacts to existing fishing activities by avoiding existing fishing grounds and positioning the new cables closer to one another. Maps were provided that depicted the existing cable location, the proposed routing in the passage, and the channel and the necessary easements. The correspondence encouraged feedback in the form of questions or concerns on the alternative routing. To date, no response has been received by NB Power. The email and maps are included in Appendix A.

4.3.3.4 Requests for Additional Information

NB Power continued to monitor comments and concerns received from the general public regarding the project, including those received via phone or email from the NB Power website. Table 4.9 outlines a summary of requests and responses received to date.

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Table 4.9 Summary of General Public Requests and Responses to Date

Date	Format	External Participants	Summary of Engagement	Response	Follow-up Date
	Phone Call, Emails	Grand Manan resident	NB Power requesting access through property to dig bore holes on Grand Manan beside the current Cable Riser Station.	N/A	N/A
August 16th @ 4:09 pm	Phone Call	From a resident of the Rural Community of Campobello	Why (host open house in) St. George? Why not Deer Island or Campobello. Both have community centers?	We will do the open house in St. George and gauge the response. We will keep in contact and if there is a need we will have another open house on Campobello. Sent the story boards for her to put up on the Campobello web-site.	COMPLETE August 25th @ 9:50 am Follow up: Four open houses were hosted in Island communities
August 16th @ 6:29 pm	Phone Call	From a resident of the Rural Community of Campobello	Ward 3 Resident Concerns about the Project Why excluded? Ferry not available after 6:30 pm. Elderly population to consider. Why not give a fair chance to give impact statement? Open letter on Campobello website.	Called back and said we will have an open house on Campobello. I met with her at the open house and she was very pleased we came to the island to do the open house.	COMPLETE August 25th @ 10:00 am
August 17th @ 9:20 am	Phone Call	From a resident of Campobello	Open House needed in Campobello.	Called back and said we will have an open house on Campobello. He called back to say thank you for setting it up.	COMPLETE August 25th @ 10:02 am - Left a message on his cell phone.
August 21st @ 12:30pm	Phone Call	NB Power employee seeking information about the project so he can answer questions	NB Power employee who works in the area would like to have a copy of the story boards so he can answer any questions from the public.	Will send him a copy of the story Boards	COMPLETE August 25th @ 09:59 am
August 22nd @ the open house	Open House	Representative of the Fundy North Fisherman's Association	Asked for a copy of the Story Boards to put up on the Fundy North Fisherman's' Association Website.	Send a copy of the Story Boards	COMPLETE Two emails sent August 25th @ 10:00 & 10:30am

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Table 4.9 Summary of General Public Requests and Responses to Date

Date	Format	External Participants	Summary of Engagement	Response	Follow-up Date
August 23rd @ 10:05 am	Phone Call	NB Association of Professional Engineers	Question regarding the registration of individual as a P.Eng. In the province of NB.	Appropriate information forwarded	COMPLETE August 23, 2017
Sept 20th @ 11:30 am	Phone Call	Resident of Deer Island	Fundy North Fisherman's Association volunteering to post meeting notices on the island including schools, churches and post office. He said the preference among the fishermen is to put the new cable parallel to the existing cable. He said the cost to buy new maps and plotters is expensive and everyone already knows where it is.	Sent posters to be posted	COMPLETE
Sept 29th @ 9:00 am	Phone Call	Resident of Saint John	Is thinking of buying property in the area and wanted to know more about the project.	Sent the story boards to him	Complete Sept 29th
Sept 28th @ 7:30 pm	Hand written note delivered to Open House	Deer Island resident who could not attend open house due to work commitment	Wanted to know if this would raise the rates on the island?	No	Complete Sept 29th
Sept 29th @ 4:00 pm	Phone call	Deer Island resident involved with Deer/Island Campobello Fiber Project Inc.	Project manager contacted him directly following CBC radio interview about desire for high speed Internet on the Fundy Isles.	He was not in a good cell reception location and said he would call me back.	

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4.3.4 Future Engagement

NB Power will publish a one-day notice in local newspapers and online informing the public that the Project has been registered with NBDELG and identify locations where the EIA Report document can be reviewed. The public will be asked to forward comments or concerns about the proposed project to NB Power. Following the registration of this project with the NBDELG, and during the Determination Review process, NB Power will track, respond to, and report on key issues raised by the public, First Nations, and elected officials.

4.4 ABORIGINAL ENGAGEMENT

NB Power has been working to build long-lasting, mutually respectful relationships with NB First Nations to facilitate meaningful consultation on projects that have the potential to impact First Nations rights and interests. Engagement is one of three pillars in NB Power's Strategic Approach to First Nations Affairs. NB Power has been developing a strategic approach to First Nations engagement. For the purposes of Project Engagement, this includes monthly update meetings that have occurred throughout 2017 and agreements to support needed capacity for meaningful information exchange with the Wolastoqey Nation in New Brunswick (WNNB) and Mi'gmawe'l Tplu'taqnn Incorporated (MTI). While not a part of WNNB, Woodstock First Nation is invited to participate in, and receive all the benefits associated with the agreement with WNNB.

NB Power also makes Elsipogtog and its delegated consultative body, Kopit Lodge as well as the Peskotomuhkati Nation aware of all projects and invites inquiries for further information. Additionally, because of the close proximity of the Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station, NB Power Community Affairs Representatives frequently engage with the Peskotomuhkati Nation and have established a strong, respectful relationship. Regular communication regarding all projects will be established in a manner suitable to both of these groups going forward.

4.4.1 Objectives

As with the Public Involvement Program, the objectives of the Aboriginal Engagement Program are as follows:

- Provide information directly to First Nations communities in the vicinity of the Project and associated First Nations groups.
- Address issues and concerns raised during this process.
- Identify measures that will mitigate or resolve First Nations issues or concerns proposed during future consultation initiatives.

4.4.2 Aboriginal Engagement Program Elements

The following section describes elements of the Aboriginal Engagement project as they relate to the project.

4.4.2.1 Agreements

NB Power and WNNB have entered into a Consultation and Capacity Funding Agreement and NB Power and MTI are in the process of finalizing a Relationship and Consultation Agreement.

The purposes of the agreements are to:

- Foster a long-term relationship between the Nations and NB Power.
- Build upon the established relationship.
- Facilitate engagement and consultation and, where appropriate, accommodation discussions between NB Power and First Nations representatives.
- Provide funding to promote an effective approach to engagement and consultation and, where appropriate, accommodation in an effort to foster meaningful, good faith consultation about, and accommodation measures for Projects being undertaken by NB Power.

The following principles will guide consultations and relationships under these agreements:

- Seek to understand and respect one another's values, interests, constraints, and aspirations at all times.
- Engage with each other in good faith, honestly, and with as much transparency as possible.
- Strive to avoid adversarial positions and strive to reach an agreement on the nature of any potential impacts on Aboriginal Rights associated with Projects and any appropriate mitigation and accommodation measures to address such potential impacts.
- Acknowledgment of the importance of, and the need for, NB Power to provide energy in a sustainable, safe, reliable way at low and stable rates for all residents of New Brunswick.

NB Power's is working to engage effectively with NB First Nations to design and implement agreements with both WNNB and MTI to facilitate First Nation participation in discussions with NB Power in a meaningful way.

4.4.2.2 Communication Methods

The following methods have been employed to communicate with affected First Nations communities and groups:

- **Letters of Notification**- An official letter of notification regarding the Fundy Isles Project was sent to Chiefs of the Peskotomuhkati, Wolastoqey, and Mi'kmaq First Nations in June 2016.
- **Monthly Update Meetings** - Dialogue on this project began in 2016 and regularly scheduled monthly update meetings with both WNNB and MTI have been in place throughout 2017. During the meetings, project updates are delivered followed by discussions. Minutes of the previous meetings are reviewed, during which time any outstanding actions items are revisited. The monthly meetings foster ongoing communication between the First Nations communities/groups and NB Power, and provide an avenue to give advance notice of projects being contemplated.

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- **Field Reports** - Any fieldwork related to generation and transmission projects is monitored by a NB Power First Nations Field Monitor and Liaison. The Field Monitor participates in all aspects of work in the field and compiles detailed reports which are delivered electronically to WNNB and MTI. This activity will be continued for this project and reports will be sent to Peskotomuhkati and Kopit Lodge on a go forward basis. The reports outline the nature of the work being performed, tasks associated with the study, detailed photographs and interests, and concerns from a First Nations Perspective. Feedback is generally received promptly and is incorporated into our project planning at NB Power.
- **Community Meetings and Open House Events** - When supported by a consultative body, Community Meetings and Open House events are organized, facilitated, and delivered within First Nations communities. The Community Meetings and Open House events allow face to face interaction with NB Power staff.
- **Project Registration and Information Exchange** - All Environmental Impact Assessment Documents are sent to the First Nations consultative bodies at the same time as NBDELG and Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat (AAS). The same is true for Recommendations and Responses to Traditional Land and Resource Use/ Indigenous Knowledge Studies (if conducted), and Technical Review Committee questions and answers.
- **Information Package** - Information packages were made available to provide interested First Nations community members with basic information about the project.
- **Web Postings** - The NB Power website (www.nbpower.com) serves as an additional method for First Nations to access Project documents, view maps, and send comments.
- **Viewing of the EIA Report** - An electronic or paper copy of the EIA Report document will be provided to any First Nation community upon request. A brief summary report on the First Nations engagement initiatives carried out, and the key issues raised during the EIA review, will be provided to AAS via Consultation and Engagement log filing. A paper copy of the EIA Report document will be made available for viewing during the review period at the following locations:

Town of St. George Municipal Office
1 School Street
St. George, NB E5C 3N2

Grand Manan Island Village Office
4-1021 Route 776
Grand Manan, NB E5C 3K4

Campobello Island Municipal Office
924 Rte 774 Unit 3
Welshpool, NB E3E 181

New Brunswick Department of Environment and Local Government,
Project and Approvals Branch
20 McGloin St,
Fredericton, NB E3A 5T8

A list of First Nations communities and groups that were engaged as part of the Project is presented in Table 4.10 below.

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Table 4.10 List of First Nations Communities and Groups

<p>Wolastoqey Nation in New Brunswick (WNNB) Executive Director of Consultation: Shyla O'Donnell 150 Cliffe Street, 2nd Floor, Box 14 Kchikhusis Commercial Centre St. Mary's First Nation, NB E3A 0A1 Tel.: (506) 459-6341</p>	<p>Mi'gmawe'i Tplu'taqnn Incorporated (MTI) Contact: Samantha Robichaud 40 Micmac Road Eel Ground, NB E1V 4B1 Tel: (506) 455-1881 or (506) 627-4696</p>
<p>Peskotomuhkati Nation at Skutik Chief: Hugh Akagi 3 Prince of Wales Street Qonaskamkuk (St. Andrews), NB E5B 3W9 Tel: (506) 529-4657</p>	<p>Kopit Lodge Consultation Coordinator: Kenneth Francis 33 Riverside Dr Elsipogtog First Nation, NB E4W 2Y6 Tel: (506) 338-0125</p>
<p>Bouctouche First Nation Chief: Ann Mary Steele 9 Reserve Road Bouctouche Reserve, NB E4S 4G2 Tel: (506) 743-2520</p>	<p>Eel Ground First Nation Chief: George Ginnish 47 Church Road Eel Ground, NB E1V 4E6 Tel: (506) 627-4600</p>
<p>Eel River Bar First Nation Chief: Thomas (Everett) Martin 11 Main Street, Unit 201 Eel River Bar, NB E8C 1A1 Tel: (506) 684-6277</p>	<p>Elsipogtog First Nation Chief: Arren Sock 373 Big Cove Road Elsipogtog First Nation, NB E4W 2S3 Tel: (506) 523-8200</p>
<p>Esgenoôpetitj First Nation Chief: Alvery Paul 620 Bayview Drive Burnt Church, NB E9G 2A8 Tel: (506) 776-1200</p>	<p>Fort Folly First Nation Chief: Rebecca Knockwood PO Box 1007 Dorchester, NB E4K 3V5 Tel: (506) 379-3400</p>
<p>Indian Island First Nation Chief: Kenneth Barlow 61 Indian Island Drive Indian Island, NB E4W 1S9 Tel: (506) 523-8100</p>	<p>Kingsclear First Nation Chief: Gabriel Atwin 77 French Village road Kingsclear First Nation, E3E 1K3 Tel: (506) 363-3028</p>
<p>Madawaska Maliseet First Nation Chief: Patricia Bernard 1771 Main Street Madawaska Maliseet First Nation, NB E7C 1W9 Tel: (506) 739-9765</p>	<p>Metapenagiag Mi'kmaq Nation Chief: William (Bill) Ward PO Box 293 Metapenagiag Mi'kmaq Nation, NB E9E 2P2 Tel: (506) 836-6111</p>
<p>Oromocto First Nation Chief: Shelley Sabattis PO Box 417 Oromocto, NB E2V 2J2 Tel: (506) 357-2083</p>	<p>Pabineau First Nation Chief: David Peter-Paul 1290 Pabineau Falls Road Pabineau First Nation, NB E2A 7M3 Tel: (506) 548-9211</p>
<p>St. Mary's First Nation Chief: Candice Paul 150 Cliffe Street Fredericton, NB E3A 0A1 Tel: (506) 458-9511</p>	<p>Tobique First Nation Chief: Ross Perley 13156 Route 105 Tobique First Nation, NB E7H 5M7 Tel: (506) 273-8439</p>
<p>Woodstock First Nation Chief: Timothy (Tim) Paul 3 Wulastook court Woodstock, NB E7M 4K6 Tel: (506) 328-3303</p>	

4.4.2.3 Issues Tracking and Reporting

NB Power maintains a log to track issues and concerns raised during the Aboriginal engagement process. The log provides Project personnel with the ability to review the status of all issues, concerns, or commitments.

Issues or concerns raised by, or commitments made to, Aboriginal groups are entered into the log and monitored regularly during the Project meetings until the appropriate actions have been taken to address them. During the meetings, outstanding items are reviewed and updated. Results of Aboriginal Engagement activities conducted will be reported to NBDELG as along with the public engagement summary report.

4.4.3 Results of Aboriginal Engagement Program to Date

The First Nations communities closest to the Fundy Isles Project are affiliated with the Peskotomuhkati First Nation. Although the Peskotomuhkati do not currently hold First Nations status within Canada, NB Power includes them in Aboriginal engagement. Oromocto First Nation is the closest Wolastoqey community (109 km) and the nearest Mi'kmaq community is Fort Folly (217 km).

Official notification of The Fundy Isles Project was sent via letter in June 2016 to the Chiefs of the Peskotomuhkati, Wolastoqey, and Mi'kmaq First Nations.

Since the initial notification, Project information has been shared with the Peskotomuhkati First Nation, WNNB, Woodstock First Nation, MTI, and Kopit Lodge in a variety of ways. Both Wolastoqey and Mi'kmaq Nations have commercial fishing licenses in the Bay of Fundy. Also, WNNB and MTI have since been engaged through regularly occurring monthly update meetings.

In relation to this Project, NB Power agreed to fund a Traditional Land and Resource Use Study (TLRU) for the Wolastoqey Nation, as well as an Indigenous Knowledge (IK) Study for MTI.

NB Power has since received the TLRU study from Wolastoqey Nation and an Interim IK study from MTI. Responses to the TLRU are being prepared and NB Power is expecting the final IK report from MTI in January 2018. In conversations with the Peskotomuhkati Chief, two concerns were raised:

- 1) Potential electromagnetic effects associated with the submarine cable; and
- 2) Concerns associated with benthic organism's ability to transverse the submarine cable.

NB Power has addressed these concerns in the Environmental Impact Assessment and shared this information with the Peskotomuhkati Chief in a teleconference on December 18, 2017.

All archaeological fieldwork associated with the Project has been monitored by A. Paul, NB Power First Nations Field Monitor and Liaison. Detailed reports outlining the nature and findings of archaeological studies have been provided to WNNB, MTI, and the Peskotomuhkati.

Open House events were held in Wolastoqey Territory where Project information was included in an overall project handout for Woodstock First Nation (May 24, 2017), Tobique First Nation (attended by

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members of the Madawaska First Nation as well - August 17, 2017), and St. Mary's First Nation (September 18, 2017).

Recent Open Houses have occurred in in Mi'kmaq Territory in the communities of Bouctouche (October 16, 2017), Eel Ground (October 26, 2017), Eel River Bar (October 25, 2017), Esgenōpetitj (October 17, 2017), Fort Folly (December 7, 2017), Indian Island (October 17, 2017), Metepenagiag (December 6, 2017), and Pabineau First Nation (October 25, 2017). During the Open House events, presentations and information packages associated with all NB Power projects were made available. Elsipogtog was engaged in conversations regarding the Fundy Isles Project through their consultative body, Kopit Lodge. The update meeting took place on October 23, 2017.

A number of topics were raised during Open House events, ranging from green energy opportunities for First Nations, electricity rates, and salmon and other fish passage. For the purpose of the Project, specific topics of interest included environmental and archeological monitoring, which NB Power has committed to support.

More specific feedback from the Mi'kmaq Open Houses is expected from MTI in 2018 as they consult with the communities following the Open Houses and have committed sharing that feedback with NB Power.

NB Power provided additional correspondence to the Peskotomuhkati Nation, WNNB, Woodstock First Nation, and MTI concerning the rerouting of the submarine cable in December 2017. Maps depicting the existing cable location, the proposed routing in the passage, and the necessary easements were provided. The rerouting was in response received from fishers in the area. No feedback regarding this change has been received to date.

4.4.4 Future Engagement

Ongoing communication will be maintained through NB Power's regularly scheduled monthly meetings with WNNB and MTI, and will be established with the Peskotomuhkati Nation and Kopit Lodge, as appropriate.

The ongoing communication will support the following:

- Ongoing engagement, including required capacity, with First Nations regarding the Project.
- Reviewing the results of environmental studies.
- Inviting feedback and identifying opportunities to reduce, mitigate or otherwise accommodate potential adverse effects to First Nations' treaty rights and other interests.

While communication regarding all NB Power Projects has been shared with the Wolastoqey and Mi'kmaq through Open House events that took place throughout the summer and fall of 2017, NB Power remains committed to facilitating other Open House events in First Nations communities when requested and feasible.

Interests and concerns identified during engagement with First Nations, particularly if any are identified in relation to the practice of traditional activities in the PDA, will be documented. Appropriate mitigation

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measures will be implemented as necessary to minimize any interactions of the Project on the practice of traditional activities.

It is the recent practice of NB Power to provide answers to questions, as part of Environmental Assessment Process, to NBDELG, AAS, and First Nations at the same time. This includes questions about the EIA document, as well as questions coming from the Technical Review Committee.

Aboriginal interests will be incorporated into the Project Specific Environmental Management Plan (PSEMP) to help facilitate appropriate action and follow up following support to proceed.