



PROJECT MONITORING

EEYOU MARINE REGION IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

Guide 4

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THIS IS NOT A LEGAL DOCUMENT.

The explanations and definitions are not legal definitions. In case of a discrepancy, the text of the Eeyou Marine Region Land Claims Agreement prevails.

To order copies of the EMRIRB Guides, kindly send a request by email: info-irb@eeyoumarineregion.ca

Note: The abbreviations 'EMRIRB' and 'the Board' are used interchangeably throughout this document in reference to the Eeyou Marine Region Impact Review Board.

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1. MONITORING

Monitoring is an important tool for checking the accuracy of predictions made during an environmental assessment and for determining the effectiveness of measures taken to mitigate any potential adverse environmental effects. Every approved project in the EMR is monitored in some form, whether the project is exempt from screening, approved following the EMRIRB screening, or approved following the EMRIRB review.

Terms and conditions contained in an EMRIRB Project Certificate, a Screening Decision Report, or an approval issued by the Nunavut Water Board may require the establishment of a monitoring program for a project, which may specify responsibilities for the Proponent, the EMRIRB, or regulatory agencies. A monitoring program may be large and have many requirements, or may be small with few requirements, depending on the size and expected impacts of a project.

A monitoring program keeps track of environmental and socio-economic effects of a project to see if management plans are working or if any unexpected effects are occurring which is called 'Effects Monitoring'. Projects are also monitored to make sure Proponents follow the terms of conditions of the licences, decisions, and certificates issued by authorizing agencies, which is called 'Compliance Monitoring'. Monitoring ensures that projects are carried out responsibly, with problems identified early and changes or adjustments made as needed.

The EMRIRB acts as a coordinator of the monitoring process so that all Parties know who is responsible for which aspect of a monitoring program, and so that duplication of reporting is avoided. The EMRIRB also ensures that the information obtained

through the project-specific monitoring program is available to the public. Whether a project is large or small, the EMRIRB staff ensures project monitoring information is distributed between the Board, the Proponent, regulatory agencies, and the affected communities. This information may then be used by agencies to enforce terms and conditions of land or resource use approvals.

EFFECTS MONITORING

The process of measuring and interpreting changes to environmental and socio-economic parameters to identify relevant project effects, and may involve assessing the accuracy of impact predictions contained in the project impact statements.

COMPLIANCE MONITORING

The process of determining whether and to what extent the land or resource use in question is carried out according to regulatory requirements, including terms and conditions contained in the EMRIRB project certificates.

2. PURPOSE OF MONITORING

As set out in Section 18.7.2 of the Eeyou Marine Region Land Claims Agreement (EMRLCA), the purpose of a monitoring program is:

- a) To measure the relevant ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts of projects in the EMR, and their effect on the Cree coastal communities of Eeyou Istchee and their members;
- b) To determine whether and to what extent the land or resource use in question is carried out within the predetermined terms and conditions;
- c) To provide the information base necessary for agencies to enforce terms and conditions of land or resource use approvals;
- d) To assess the accuracy of the predictions contained in the project's Environmental Impact Statements.



3. COMPOSITION OF THE MONITORING PROGRAM

As set out in section 18.7.3 of the EMRLCA, a monitoring program may include:

- a) A requirement that regulatory agencies and the Proponent supply the EMRIRB with reports and information regarding project operations and impacts, and the implementation of mitigative measures;
- b) A requirement for a periodic evaluation by the EMRIRB of the monitoring program for the project;
- c) A requirement that the EMRIRB compile a report on the adequacy of the monitoring program and on the ecosystemic and socioeconomic impacts of the project;
- d) Considerations related to cumulative impacts.

For multi-year projects, monitoring requirements may also require the submission of annual reports or other post-assessment items for each year the project is in operation until the decommissioning phase. An annual report generally includes:

- A summary of evidence indicating how the Proponent has carried out the project in relation to the terms and conditions contained within a Screening Decision Report or Project Certificate;
- A summary of the results from the post-environmental assessment monitoring program;
- Compliance status with all authorizations and applicable regulations and guidelines associated with the project;
- Identification of all authorizations obtained for the project, to date including any requested renewals, updates, amendments, or extensions to existing authorizations;
- A summary of activities undertaken for the year, including any progressive restoration/reclamation work undertaken, and a work plan for the activities occurring in the following year. Site photos may also be required where relevant;
- A summary of community consultations undertaken and the results;
- A summary of site visits by inspectors with results and follow-up actions.

4. ADDITIONAL EMRIRB INFORMATION

Several guides have been produced to provide information about the EMRIRB and the EMRIRB processes.

- Guide 1— INTRODUCTION TO THE
IMPACT REVIEW BOARD
- Guide 2— PROJECT PROPOSAL SUBMISSION
AND SCREENING PROCESS
- Guide 3— REVIEW PROCESS
- Guide 4— PROJECT MONITORING
- Guide 5— TERMINOLOGY AND
DEFINITIONS GLOSSARY
- Guide 6— PARTICIPATING IN EMRIRB SCREENINGS
(available in English and Cree)
- Guide 7— GUIDE FOR GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Guides are all available at:
www.emrirb.ca/resources/

Proponents should also review the Eeyou Marine Region Land Claims Agreement, especially Chapter 18, found on the EMR website.



5. CONTACT THE EMRIRB

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