

# Atura Power

## Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Screening Report for Electricity Projects

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# Executive Summary

Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) is owned and operated by Portlands Energy Centre LP, which operates under the trade name Atura Power. Atura Power is a subsidiary of Ontario Power Generation (OPG) and is planning to make efficiency upgrades (upgrades) within its existing facility located along the Toronto waterfront. PEC is a combined-cycle natural gas-fuelled electricity generating station (GS) with an average electrical output contract capacity of 550 megawatts (MW). The station is located in the Port Lands industrial area at 470 Unwin Ave., just south of the mainland part of the City of Toronto on approximately 11.4 hectares (ha) of land.

The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) quantified the near-term additional energy supply need in Ontario, stating that an additional 4,000 MW of new capacity is required by May 2027. Procurements for projects capable of meeting the increased energy demand in 2027 will need to be completed in the short-term. Atura Power is prepared to help meet that need and support ratepayers in Ontario through upgrades that will optimise and increase energy generation at PEC in Ontario.

Atura Power is planning to make upgrades which will increase the facility generating contract capacity by an average of 50 MW to achieve a total average contract capacity of 600 MW. Atura Power is planning to make these upgrades to its existing facility by replacing internal parts of the natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts that will result in greater electrical output from the gas turbine generators. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient. Better materials are used to manufacture the parts, and these can withstand a higher operating temperature and therefore produce more power. The planned upgrades will be completed as part of the annual fall plant outage and will take approximately four to five weeks per unit to disassemble, replace parts and reassemble the gas turbines. There are two units, and they will be completed one at a time. The project will take place entirely within the facility; the facility footprint will not change, and no additional external laydown areas will be required.

Since the PEC upgrades will result in an increase in the nameplate capacity of more than 5 MW, the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act* requires that an environmental assessment (EA) be undertaken in accordance with Ontario Regulation (O.Reg.) 116/01<sup>1</sup>, and subsequently, the “*Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects*” (the Guide) as outlined by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks (MECP). The Guide requires a Screening Criteria Checklist to be applied to the project, to identify potential negative environmental effects resulting from nine different criteria categories based on current knowledge or preliminary investigations. Application of the Screening Criteria for the planned upgrades at PEC determined that the response to all questions is “No”, indicating that there are no potential negative environmental effects resulting from the project.

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<sup>1</sup> In February 2024, the Government of Ontario revoked O.Reg. 116/01, replacing it with O.Reg. 50/24. See Note to Readers on page iv for more information.

Engagement with Indigenous communities, the public and agencies is a key component of the EA process and was integrated from the initial development stages of the project planning and throughout the Environmental Screening Process. This included sharing project information on the project's webpage, advertising and distributing notices, hosting a virtual public meeting, responding to project enquiries, hosting meetings with Indigenous communities, and sharing information with municipal representatives and elected officials. It also included sharing a draft Screening Report with Indigenous communities, key agencies, municipal staff and elected officials, and interested members of the public to offer an additional opportunity for those interested to review project details, the Environmental Screening Process undertaken, and assessment findings. Atura Power voluntarily provided this opportunity so that comments could be addressed and incorporated in this final Screening Report where applicable. The final Screening Report is being published for a mandated 30-day review period.

Atura Power remains committed to a continuous process of relationship-building and communication with Indigenous communities neighbouring current and future projects.

# Land Acknowledgement

Atura Power acknowledges that Portlands Energy Centre is located on the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples, and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit.

## Note to Reader

This document is the final (updated) version of the draft Screening Report released for public comment and review in December 2023. The report details the Environmental Screening Process Atura Power completed for the PEC upgrades project, as per O.Reg. 116/01 under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act* and subsequently, the “*Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects*” (the Guide).

Since the draft Screening Report was released in December 2023, the Government of Ontario has revoked O.Reg. 116/01, replacing it with O.Reg. 50/24 (Government of Ontario, 2024). O.Reg. 50/24 applies to a broader classification of projects but still includes the same trigger that requires Atura Power to undertake an Environmental Screening Process according to the directives in the Guide.

To limit confusion, this final version of the Screening Report continues to reference O.Reg. 116/01; however, it is important that readers understand that O.Reg. 50/24 has since replaced O.Reg. 116/01.

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- Appendix A.** Letters from General Electric (GE)
- Appendix B.** Engagement Records
- Appendix C.** Comments on the Draft Screening Report

## Glossary of Terms

AAR.....	Acoustic Assessment Report
AGP.....	Advanced Gas Path
ANSI.....	Areas of Natural or Scientific Interest
BTU.....	British thermal unit
°C.....	degrees Celsius
CDM.....	Combustion Dynamics Monitoring
CO <sub>2</sub> .....	carbon dioxide
CWA.....	<i>Clean Water Act</i>
DFO.....	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
E-LT1-RFP.....	Expedited Long-Term Request for Proposal
EA.....	Environmental Assessment
EASR.....	Environmental Activity and Sector Registry
EBA.....	Event-Based Modelling Area
ECA.....	Environmental Compliance Approval
<i>EPA.....</i>	<i>Environmental Protection Act</i>
ESA.....	Environmentally Sensitive Area
ESDM.....	Emission Summary and Dispersion Modelling
ESR.....	Environmental Screening Report
ET.....	Eastern Time
ETS.....	Enhanced Transient Stability
FAQs.....	Frequently Asked Questions
GE.....	General Electric
GJ.....	gigajoule(s)
GS.....	Generating Station
ha.....	hectares
HDI.....	Haudenosaunee Development Institute
HHV.....	higher heating value
HONI.....	Hydro One Networks Inc.
HVA.....	Highly Vulnerable Aquifer
ICA.....	Issues Contributing Area
IESO.....	Independent Electricity System Operator
IPZ.....	Intake Protection Zone
kJ.....	kilojoule(s)
kWh.....	kilowatt(s)-hour
L.....	Litre(s)
LHV.....	Lower Heating Value
m.....	metre(s)
MCFN.....	Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation
MECP.....	Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
MNO.....	Métis Nation of Ontario
MNRF.....	Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
MPP.....	Minister of Provincial Parliament
MTO.....	Ontario Ministry of Transportation
MW.....	megawatt(s)

O.Reg. ....Ontario Regulation  
OPG.....Ontario Power Generation  
OWRA.....*Ontario Water Resources Act*  
PEC.....Portlands Energy Centre  
PTTW.....Permit to Take Water  
Q&A.....Question and Answer  
SNGR.....Six Nations of the Grand River  
SGRA.....Significant Groundwater Recharge Area  
SPA.....Source Protection Area  
TERRE.....Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy  
TRCA.....Toronto and Region Conservation Authority  
WHPA.....Wellhead Protection Area



# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Background

Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) is owned and operated by Portlands Energy Centre LP, which operates under the trade name Atura Power. Atura Power is a subsidiary of Ontario Power Generation (OPG) and is planning to make efficiency upgrades (upgrades) within its existing facility located along the Toronto waterfront. PEC is a combined-cycle natural gas-fuelled electricity generating station (GS) with an average electrical output contract capacity of 550 megawatts (MW). The station is located in the Port Lands industrial area at 470 Unwin Ave., just south of the mainland part of the City of Toronto on approximately 11.4 hectares (ha) of land.

**Figure 1-1** below provides a map of PEC.

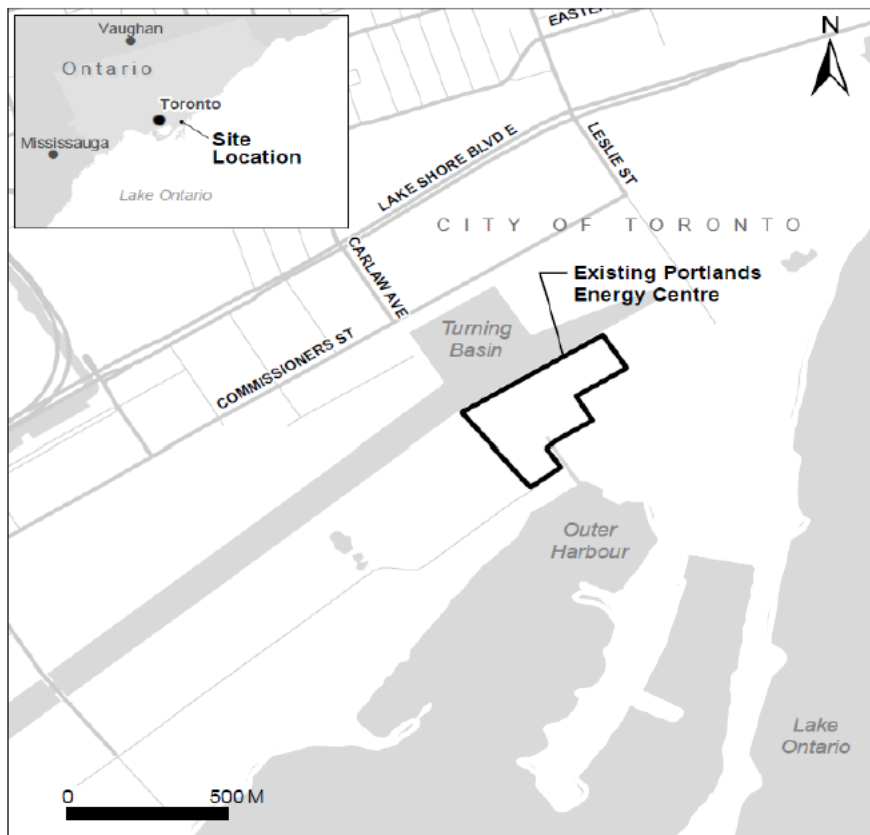
Atura Power is planning to make upgrades which will increase the facility generating contract capacity by an average of 50 MW to achieve a total average contract capacity of 600 MW. The winter contract capacity will be increased from 562 MW to 624 MW and the summer contract capacity will be increased from 538 MW to 576 MW.

The original proponents of PEC, a 50/50 limited partnership between TransCanada Energy and OPG, completed an Environmental Review Report in 2003 which concluded that, “the negative net effects of the proposed PEC, which are considered to be temporary or negligible, are on balance more than offset by the positive contributions of the project to redevelopment of the site, the contribution of cleaner generation capacity to the electrical grid, and the economic benefits in terms of jobs, taxes and investment to the City of Toronto.” (SENES Consultants Limited, 2003). PEC began commercial operation in 2009, after meeting the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects requirements under Ontario Regulation (O.Reg.) 116/01<sup>2</sup> and obtaining all required construction permits.

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<sup>2</sup> In February 2024, the Government of Ontario revoked O.Reg. 116/01, replacing it with O.Reg. 50/24. See Note to Readers on page iv for more information.

Figure 1-1: Map of Portlands Energy Centre



## 1.2 Purpose of the Project

The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) quantified the near-term additional energy supply need in Ontario, stating that an additional 4,000 MW of new capacity is required by May 2027. Procurements for projects capable of meeting the increased energy demand in 2027 will need to be completed in the short-term. Atura Power is prepared to help meet that need and support ratepayers in Ontario through upgrades that will optimise and increase energy generation at PEC.

## 1.3 Environmental Assessment Process

### 1.3.1 Process

The applicable portions of the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects, per O.Reg. 116/01<sup>3</sup>, which define the type of environmental assessment (EA) to be undertaken under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act* (the *Act*) are Section 4 (1) and (3).

<sup>3</sup> In February 2024, the Government of Ontario revoked O.Reg. 116/01, replacing it with O.Reg. 50/24. See Note to Readers on page iv for more information.

Section 4 (1) states that,

“The planning, designing, establishing, constructing, operating, changing, expanding or retiring of any of the following things is defined as a major commercial or business enterprise or activity and is designated as an undertaking to which the *Act* applies:

[Part] 4. A generation facility that has a name plate capacity of *five megawatts or more* [emphasis added] and that uses biomass or natural gas as its primary power source.” (Government of Ontario, 2021).

Section 4 (3) states that,

“Any expansion of or change in a generation facility, transmission line, transformer station or distribution station that would result in it becoming a thing described in Subsection (1) is defined as a major commercial or business enterprise or activity and is designated as an undertaking to which the *Act* applies” (Government of Ontario, 2021).

Since the PEC upgrades will result in an increase in the nameplate capacity of more than 5 MW, the *Act* requires that an EA be undertaken in accordance with O.Reg.116/01, and subsequently, the “*Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects*” (Government of Ontario, 2023) (the Guide) as outlined by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks (MECP). As such, the EA for the project follows the Environmental Screening Process as described in the Guide, which states that natural gas projects in Ontario are classified into one of three categories based on their generation capacity and anticipated environmental effects:

- **Category A:** Generates less than 5 MW of electricity and has minimal environmental effects. These projects do not require approval under the *Act*.
- **Category B:** Generates 5 MW of electricity or more and has potential environmental effects that can be mitigated. These projects require an Environmental Screening Process or a Class EA.
- **Category C:** Major projects with known environmental effects. These projects require an Individual EA.

Given that the upgrades will increase the nameplate capacity of PEC (i.e., the average contract capacity) by 50 MW (to 600 MW from 550 MW), generating an increase greater than 5 MW, the project is classified as a Category B project and triggers an Environmental Screening Process which is a proponent-driven, self-assessment process.

Under the Environmental Screening Process, there are two possible stages of review depending on the environmental effects of a project:

- **Screening stage**, and
- **Environmental Review stage**.

The difference between the two stages of review is the level of detail included in the assessment. The Environmental Review stage involves more detailed study and is typically undertaken based

on the environmental effects of a project and the proponent's ability to address potential concerns. The limited scale and nature of the undertaking (i.e., all activities to complete the upgrades will occur within the existing facility), determined that the PEC upgrades will be undertaken as a Screening stage assessment.

The Screening stage involves the following steps (refer to Figure 2 of the Guide for more detail):

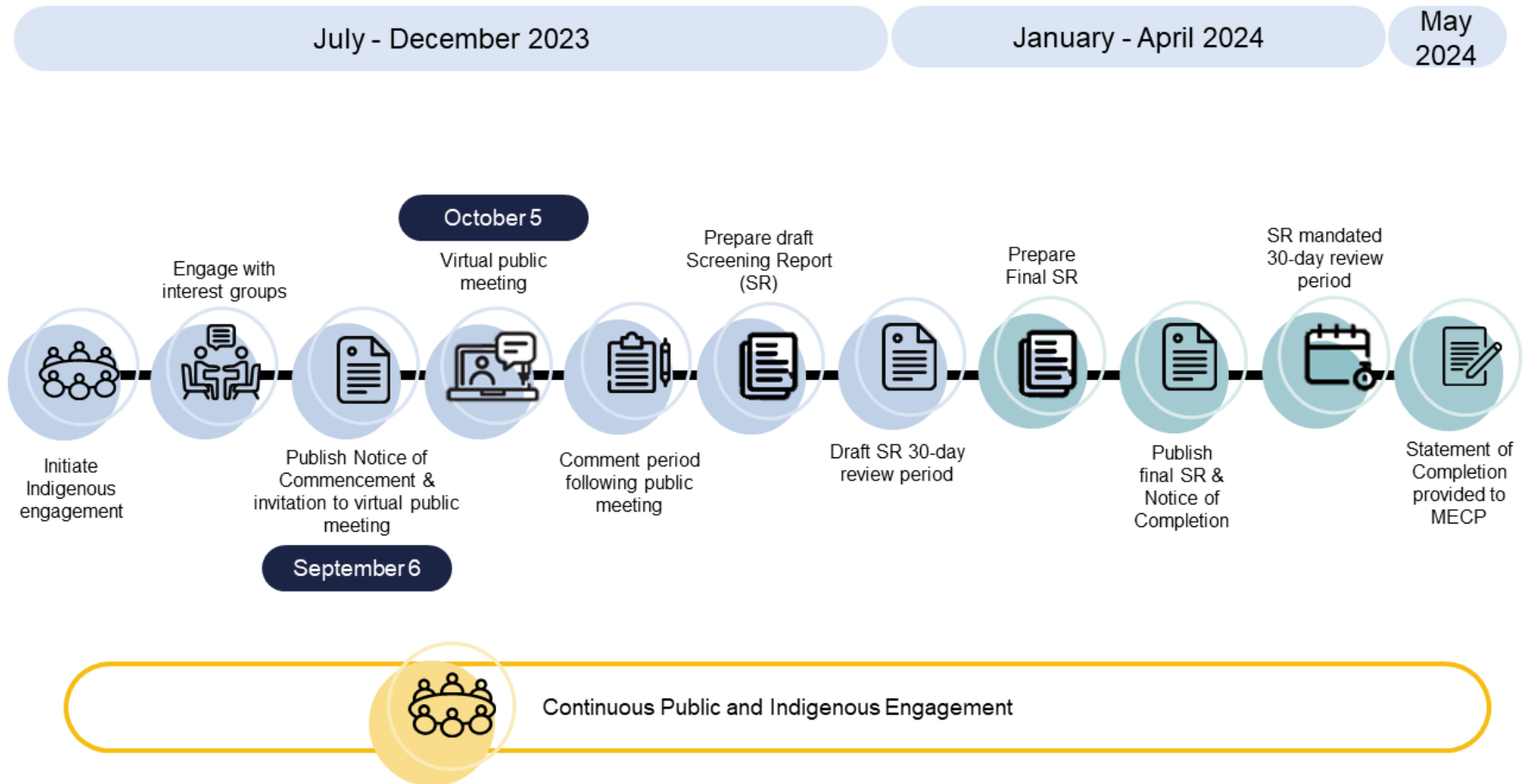
- Publish a Notice of Commencement of a Screening
- Prepare a project description
- Apply Screening Criteria to identify potential negative environmental effects
- Engage Indigenous communities, agencies and the public to identify any issues or concerns
- Assess potential negative environmental effects, develop mitigation and impact management, engage and address issues and concerns
- Prepare a Screening Report
- Publish Notice of Completion of Screening Report and commence a 30-day review period
- Submit a Statement of Completion

### 1.3.2 Timelines

Atura Power commenced the Environmental Screening Process by initiating Indigenous engagement in June 2023, prior to distributing the Notice of Commencement. This included sharing preliminary project details with Indigenous communities during meetings regarding a separate project being undertaken by Atura Power. The Notice of Commencement was published on September 6, 2023, to notify the general public about the project, and a virtual public meeting was held on October 5, 2023. Further details on engagement activities for the project are provided in **Section 4**. The draft Screening Report was shared with Indigenous communities, select key agencies, municipal staff and elected officials, and interested members of the public for review from December 5, 2023 to January 7, 2024. Comments received on the draft screening report were responded to and incorporated where applicable into this final Screening Report, which was prepared and released in March 2024. As stipulated in the Guide, a Notice of Completion was prepared and released alongside the final Screening Report in March 2024, commencing the 30-day mandatory review period.

**Figure 1-2** provides a summary of the key project milestones undertaken to fulfill the requirements of the Environmental Screening Process.

Figure 1-2: Key Project Milestones



## 1.4 Project Description

Atura Power is planning to make upgrades to its existing facility by replacing internal parts of the natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts that will result in greater electrical output from the gas turbine generators. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient. Better materials are used to manufacture the parts, and these can withstand a higher operating temperature and therefore produce more power. The advanced materials and the optimised cooling flows enable the engine to run at higher operating temperatures and use fuel more effectively, allowing for a higher power output per gigajoule (GJ) of fuel consumed. In addition, the control system will be upgraded to further enhance the performance. The steam turbine generator is not being modified but the steam turbine output will increase because the upgrades to the gas turbines will also increase the exhaust energy from the gas turbines which will result more steam input to the steam turbine. No modifications are required to any electrical interconnection equipment.

The planned upgrades will be completed as part of the annual fall plant outage and will take approximately four to five weeks per unit to disassemble, replace parts and reassemble the gas turbines. There are two units, and they will be completed one at a time. The project will take place entirely within the facility (see **Figure 1-3**). The facility footprint will not change, and no additional external laydown areas will be required.



Figure 1-3: Aerial Image of Portlands Energy Centre



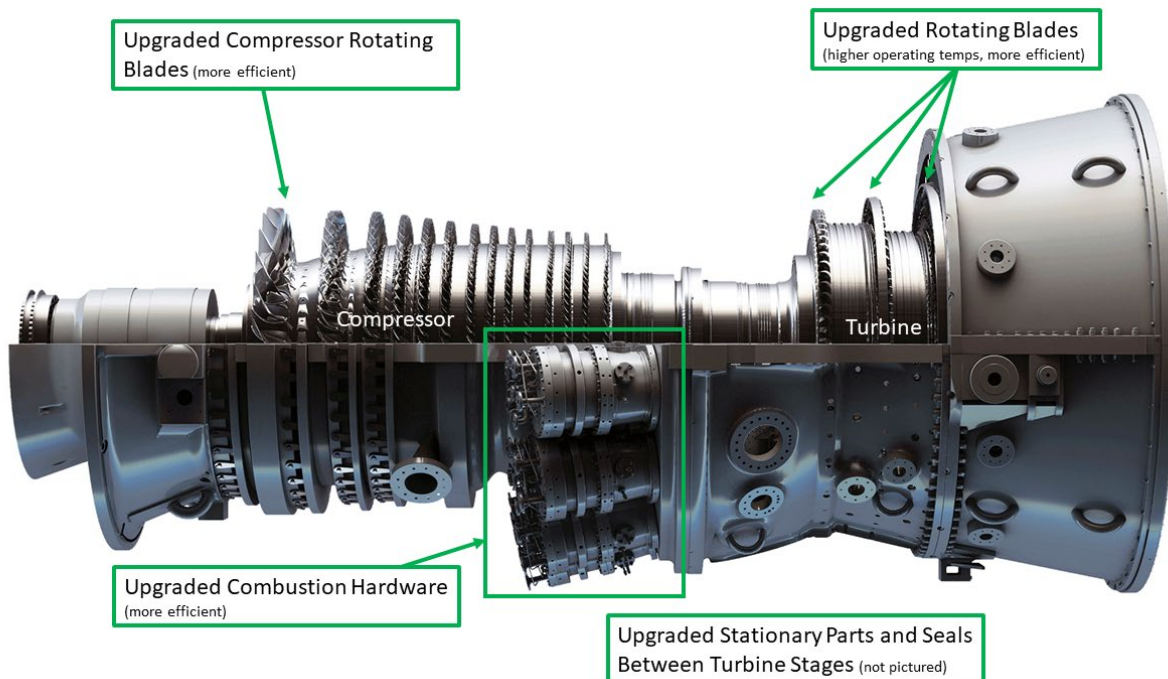
## 1.5 Project Parts and Activities

### 1.5.1 Project Parts

The planned project consists of replacing the existing parts within the turbines with new, improved parts made of materials with optimised cooling characteristics that will allow operation at a higher temperature. This will increase the output of the gas turbine and therefore increase the electrical output of PEC by an average electrical output contract capacity of 50 MW.

**Figure 1-4** illustrates the parts which will be replaced on both gas turbines currently located within PEC:

Figure 1-4: Parts to be Upgraded



The upgrades, including both the replaced parts of the turbine detailed in **Figure 1-4** as well as the parts being installed in the compressor extraction lines and the control system upgrade, will include the following:

#### AGP Tech Package – Advanced Gas Path (AGP)

- AGP Stage 1 Nozzle Kit and Support Ring
- AGP Stage 2 and 3 Nozzle Kits
- AGP Stage 1, 2, and 3 Bucket Kits
- AGP Stage 1, 2, and 3 Shroud Kits
- Cooling and sealing air orifice modification
- Installation and modification documents
- Firing temperature increase and revised Model Based Control software changes (formerly known as control curve change)
- 7FA.04 length 1AO, 2FO, 2AO wheelspace thermocouples
- 7F AGP Tech Stage 2 and 3 Bucket Kits

#### DLN 2.6+ GO Combustion System

- ML A033 Major Disassembly Tool Kit
- ML 0513 Gas-Only Fuel Nozzle Assembly
- ML 0572 Fuel Gas Emergency Stop Valve



- ML 0701 Combustion Chamber Arrangement
- ML 0702 Transition Piece Assembly
- ML 0703 Combustion Liner Arrangement
- ML 0717 Transition Piece Arrangement Combustion
- ML 0719 Aft Combustion Case Arrangement
- ML 0726 Combustion Tuning Piping
- ML 1214 Spark Plug Assembly

7FA.04 Extended Turndown Valves

Control System Upgrades

- OpFlex Balanced Enhanced Transient Stability (ETS)
- OpFlex Auto-Tune
- OpFlex Cold Day Performance
- Variable IGV Angle Optimisation
- Combustion Dynamics Monitoring (CDM) – Dual

**1.5.2 Activities**

Unit 2 upgrade-specific work will take place in a four-to-five-week outage. Unit 1 project upgrades will take place during a planned major inspection which takes approximately seven to eight weeks. Both upgrades will take place in fall 2024. At this time, specialised crews of skilled trades staff will disassemble the gas turbines, replace the existing parts with new ones, and reassemble the gas turbines. Project activities are anticipated to include site preparation, transportation of equipment and parts, replacement of parts, and returning the used parts back to the original equipment manufacturer. The work will take place during a standard maintenance outage and the facility will be shut down for this work. Once back in service, there will be no change to continued operations.

**Table 1-1** summarises the anticipated schedule to complete the planned upgrades.

**Table 1-1: Project Schedule**

Activity	Timeline
<b>IESO Contract Award</b>	Announced May 16, 2023
<b>Environmental Compliance Approval Amendment</b>	Submitted June 23, 2023
<b>Environmental Screening Process</b>	Fall 2023 to Spring 2024
<b>Turbine Upgrades</b>	Fall 2024
<b>Commissioning &amp; Testing</b>	Fall 2024
<b>Operations</b>	Fall 2024 Onwards

## 1.6 Report Organisation

This Screening Report documents the Environmental Screening Process undertaken for the project and is organised as follows:

- **Section 1** – Introduction
- **Section 2** – Permits and Approvals
- **Section 3** – Environmental Screening
- **Section 4** – Engagement
- **Section 5** – Environmental Advantages and Disadvantages
- **Section 6** – References

The report also includes the following appendices which provide supplemental detail:

- **Appendix A** – Letters from General Electric (GE)
- **Appendix B** – Engagement Records
- **Appendix C** – Comments on the Draft Screening Report

## 2. Permits and Approvals

### 2.1 Environmental Compliance Approval (Air/Noise)

An Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) is required for air and noise emissions from the facility as required under Section 9 of Ontario's *Environmental Protection Act*. PEC currently operates under ECA (air and noise) number 3557-BUJKWR issued October 29, 2020. Given that the facility upgrades will increase the output capacity of the facility an amendment to the ECA is required.

Atura Power submitted an application for an amendment to the existing ECA to the MECP on June 23, 2023. As noted in the application, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, provided a letter stating that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels." Similarly, the manufacturer stated that the upgrades are "not expected to increase noise levels from the facility" (copies of these letters are provided in **Appendix A**).

The ECA amendment application included the facility's current Emission Summary and Dispersion Modelling (ESDM) report and Acoustic Assessment Report (AAR) as well as updated Guideline A-5 calculations based on proposed facility and equipment parameters (i.e., nominal rating of combined-cycle combustion turbine facility, nominal rating of natural gas fired combustion turbines, nominal heat input of natural gas fired duct burners, and nominal rating of the steam generator).

### 2.2 Ontario Environmental Assessment Act

As noted in **Section 1.3** of this report, the planned upgrades at PEC are subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to O.Reg. 116/01<sup>4</sup> under the *Act*. The upgrades will result in an increase in the nameplate capacity of more than 5 MW (to an output of 600 MW from the current 550 MW), classifying it as a Category B project under the Environmental Screening Process. This Screening Report addresses the requirements, and documents the results, of the Environmental Screening Process.

### 2.3 Other Permits and Approvals

Given that the upgrades will occur within the existing facility and no ground disturbance is required, no additional environmental permits and approvals will be required.

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<sup>4</sup> In February 2024, the Government of Ontario revoked O.Reg. 116/01, replacing it with O.Reg. 50/24. See Note to Readers on page iv for more information.

## 3. Environmental Screening

### 3.1 Existing Conditions

PEC is an industrial facility and the activities to complete the upgrades will take place entirely within the existing facility, on previously developed land, and will require no physical changes to the PEC footprint. According to the City of Toronto Official Plan (consolidated June 2023), the project is planned on lands designated as a “regeneration area” which “is applied to areas with significant vacant lands and/or buildings and in need of revitalisation as a means of fostering growth and physical change” (City of Toronto, 2023). Each regeneration area has a framework for new development set out in a Secondary Plan. The Central Waterfront Secondary Plan provides the planning framework and policies for new development in the area where the project site is located. A wide variety of mixed-use development ranging from industries to housing to community services and parks are permissible in regeneration areas. According to the Central Waterfront Secondary Plan the project is located within the Port Lands. New waterfront transit, a Natural Heritage corridor, open space, and urban development are planned for the Port Lands; however, existing business operations will continue (City of Toronto, 2015).

Given its proximity to Lake Ontario’s water’s edge, the project site falls within an area overseen by Waterfront Toronto which was established in 2001 through the backing of federal, provincial, and municipal governments to revitalise the Toronto waterfront. The designated waterfront area extends from Dowling Avenue in the west to Coxwell Avenue in the east (Waterfront Toronto, 2023).

The project site is located on lands subject to the *Provincial Policy Statement* (Government of Ontario, 2020a) and *A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe* (hereafter referred to as the Growth Plan) (Government of Ontario, 2020b).

The *Provincial Policy Statement* provides policy direction on matters of provincial interest related to land use and development (Government of Ontario, 2020a). Section 1.6.11.1 of the *Provincial Policy Statement* provides a policy specifically related to energy supply and electricity generation:

“Planning authorities should provide opportunities for the development of energy supply including electricity generation facilities and transmission and distribution systems, district energy, and renewable energy systems and alternative energy systems, to accommodate current and projected needs.”

(Government of Ontario, 2020a)

The Growth Plan outlines the *Greater Golden Horseshoe’s* plan for growth and development. According to the Growth Plan, the project site is located within a built-up area near an urban growth area. Though electricity generating facilities are not specifically discussed in the Growth Plan, there are policies for infrastructure to support growth. Section 3.2.1 (3) of the Growth Plan states:

“Infrastructure investment and other implementation tools and mechanisms will be used to facilitate intensification and higher density development in strategic growth areas. Priority will be given to infrastructure investments made by the province that support the policies and schedules of this Plan.”

(Government of Ontario, 2020b)

The definition of “infrastructure” in the Growth Plan includes electricity generation facilities and electricity transmission and distribution systems.

The project is located within the watershed managed by the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA).

The project site is not located on lands subject to the *Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan* (2017), *Lake Simcoe Protection Plan* (2009), *Niagara Escarpment Plan* (2017), *Greenbelt Plan* (2023) or *Growth Plan for Northern Ontario* (2011).

## 3.2 Rationale for Effects Assessment

Appendix B of the Guide includes a Screening Criteria Checklist that needs to be applied to every project subject to the Environmental Screening Process (see **Section 3.4**). As the proponent, Atura Power is required to identify potential negative environmental effects resulting from the project as it relates to each screening criterion based on current knowledge or preliminary investigations.

The Screening Criteria used to identify potential negative effects of the project are listed under the following categories:

1. Surface and ground water
2. Land
3. Air and noise
4. Natural environment
5. Resources
6. Socio-economics
7. Heritage and culture
8. Indigenous communities
9. Other (including wastes)

As demonstrated in **Sections 3.3 and 3.4** Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the Screening Criteria under the nine categories listed above and no further studies are needed.

### 3.3 Environmental Effects Assessments

The Guide states that, in cases where there is uncertainty about the project's potential for negative effects pertaining to a select criterion within any of the nine categories, further studies may be undertaken to accurately identify and understand the potential for effects. As mentioned above, no further studies are needed as there are no identified negative environmental effects from the project related to the Screening Criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, stated that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels" and that the upgrades are "not expected to increase noise levels from the facility." As such, air and noise assessments are not needed and have not been undertaken for the project. Copies of the GE Gas Power Services letters are provided in **Appendix A**. In correspondence to the project team in January 2024, MECP confirmed that, "MECP's technical staff have reviewed Table 3-1 and Section 3.4.3 of the draft Environmental Screening Report (ESR) for the proposed upgrades at the Portland's Energy Centre. The proposed upgrades to the turbine generator will maintain air emissions levels at or below site permit levels. Based on the rational[e] provided, the ministry concurs that an air quality impact assessment is not needed for this undertaking".

In a letter to Atura Power dated October 16, 2023, the MECP requested consideration of the ministry's "Areas of Interest" (v. Aug. 2022) with respect to the environmental effects associated with the project and consequent Environmental Screening Process. Although no additional studies are required, **Table 3-1** provides Atura Power's consideration of these MECP Areas of Interest as they relate to the project.

**Table 3-1: Consideration of MECP’s Areas of Interest**

MECP’s Area of Interest	Consideration in Relation to the Project
<b>Planning and Policy</b>	
<p>Applicable plans and policies should be identified in the report, and the proponent should describe how the proposed project adheres to the relevant policies in these plans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Projects located in MECP Central, Eastern or West Central Region may be subject to <i>A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe</i> (2020).</li> <li>Projects located in MECP Central or Eastern Region may be subject to the <i>Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan</i> (2017) or the <i>Lake Simcoe Protection Plan</i> (2014).</li> <li>Projects located in MECP Central, Southwest or West Central Region may be subject to the <i>Niagara Escarpment Plan</i> (2017).</li> <li>Projects located in MECP Central, Eastern, Southwest or West Central Region may be subject to the <i>Greenbelt Plan</i> (2017).</li> <li>Projects located in MECP Northern Region may be subject to the <i>Growth Plan for Northern Ontario</i> (2011).</li> </ul> <p>The <i>Provincial Policy Statement</i> (Government of Ontario, 2020a) contains policies that protect Ontario’s natural heritage and water resources. Applicable policies should be referenced in the report, and the proponent should describe how the proposed project is consistent with these policies.</p> <p>In addition to the provincial planning and policy level, the report should also discuss the planning context at the municipal and federal levels, as appropriate.</p>	<p>The project complies with existing provincial, municipal and federal plans and policies. See <b>Section 3.1</b> for additional details.</p>
<b>Source Water Protection</b>	
<p>The <i>Clean Water Act</i> (2006) (CWA) aims to protect existing and future sources of drinking water. To achieve this, several types of vulnerable areas have been delineated around surface water intakes and wellheads for every municipal residential drinking water system that is located in a source protection area. These vulnerable areas are known as a Wellhead Protection Areas (WHPAs) and surface water Intake Protection Zones (IPZs). Other vulnerable areas that have been delineated under the CWA include Highly Vulnerable Aquifers (HVAs), Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas (SGRAs), Event-Based Modelling Areas (EBAs), and Issues Contributing Areas (ICAs). Source</p>	<p>According to the Source Protection Information Atlas (MECP, 2023a), the project site is located within the Toronto Source Protection Area (SPA) and is not located in a vulnerable area.</p> <p>The planned project will not require works beyond the footprint of the existing facility and as such poses no risk to drinking water supplies.</p>

MECP's Area of Interest	Consideration in Relation to the Project
<p>protection plans have been developed that include policies to address existing and future risks to sources of municipal drinking water within these vulnerable areas.</p> <p>Projects that are subject to the <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i> that fall under a Class EA, or one of the Regulations, have the potential to impact sources of drinking water if they occur in designated vulnerable areas or in the vicinity of other at-risk drinking water systems (i.e., systems that are not municipal residential systems). Projects may include activities that, if located in a vulnerable area, could be a threat to sources of drinking water (i.e., have the potential to adversely affect the quality or quantity of drinking water sources) and the activity could therefore be subject to policies in a source protection plan. Where an activity poses a risk to drinking water, policies in the local source protection plan may impact how or where that activity is undertaken. Policies may prohibit certain activities, or they may require risk management measures for these activities. Municipal Official Plans, planning decisions, Class EA projects (where the project includes an activity that is a threat to drinking water) and prescribed instruments must conform with policies that address significant risks to drinking water and must have regard for policies that address moderate or low risks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proponent should identify the source protection area and should clearly document how the proximity of the project to sources of drinking water (municipal or other) and any delineated vulnerable areas was considered and assessed. Specifically, the report should discuss whether or not the project is located in a vulnerable area and provide applicable details about the area.</li> <li>• If located in a vulnerable area, proponents should document whether any project activities are prescribed drinking water threats and thus pose a risk to drinking water (this should be consulted on with the appropriate Source Protection Authority). Where an activity poses a risk to drinking water, the proponent must document and discuss in the report how the project adheres to or has regard to applicable policies in the local source protection plan. This section should then be used to inform and be reflected in other sections of the report, such as the identification of net positive/negative effects of alternatives, mitigation measures, evaluation of alternatives etc.</li> <li>• While most source protection plans focused on including policies for significant drinking water threats in the WHPAs and IPZs it should be noted that even though source protection plan policies may not apply in HVAs, these are areas where aquifers are sensitive and at risk to impacts and within these areas, activities may impact the quality of sources of drinking water for systems other than municipal residential systems.</li> </ul>	



MECP's Area of Interest	Consideration in Relation to the Project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In order to determine if this project is occurring within a vulnerable area, proponents can use Source Protection Information Atlas, which is an online mapping tool available to the public. Note that various layers (including WHPAs, WHPA-Q1 and WHPA-Q2, IPZs, HVAs, SGRAs, EBAs, ICAs) can be turned on through the "Map Legend" bar on the left. The mapping tool will also provide a link to the appropriate source protection plan in order to identify what policies may be applicable in the vulnerable area.</li> <li>For further information on the maps or source protection plan policies which may relate to their project, proponents must contact the appropriate source protection authority. Please consult with the local source protection authority to discuss potential impacts on drinking water. Please document the results of that consultation within the report and include all communication documents/correspondence.</li> </ul> <p><u>More Information</u> For more information on the <i>Clean Water Act</i>, source protection areas and plans, including specific information on the vulnerable areas and drinking water threats, please refer to Conservation Ontario's website where you will also find links to the local source protection plan/assessment report.</p> <p>A list of the prescribed drinking water threats can be found in Section 1.1 of Ontario Regulation 287/07 made under the <i>Clean Water Act</i>. In addition to prescribed drinking water threats, some source protection plans may include policies to address additional "local" threat activities, as approved by the MECP.</p>	
<b>Climate Change</b>	
<p>The document "Considering Climate Change in the Environmental Assessment Process" (Guide) is now a part of the Environmental Assessment program's Guides and Codes of Practice. The Guide sets out the MECP's expectation for considering climate change in the preparation, execution and documentation of environmental assessment studies and processes. The guide provides examples, approaches, resources, and references to assist proponents with consideration of climate change in their study. Proponents should review this Guide in detail.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The MECP expects proponents of projects under a Class EA or <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i> Regulation to:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider during the assessment of alternative solutions and alternative designs, the following:</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<p>The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase electricity production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contract awarded by the IESO as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term Request for Proposal (E-LT1-RFP), in May 2023. Given the recommendations of the IESO and government initiatives, other alternatives were not considered as part of the project, nor are they required as part of the Screening Process being followed for the project.</p>

MECP's Area of Interest	Consideration in Relation to the Project
<p>a. the project's expected production of greenhouse gas emissions and impacts on carbon sinks (climate change mitigation); and</p> <p>b. resilience or vulnerability of the undertaking to changing climatic conditions (climate change adaptation).</p> <p>2. Include a discrete section in the report detailing how climate change was considered in the EA.</p> <p>How climate change is considered can be qualitative or quantitative in nature and should be scaled to the project's level of environmental effect. In all instances, both a project's impacts on climate change (mitigation) and impacts of climate change on a project (adaptation) should be considered. Please ensure climate change is considered in the report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The MECP has also prepared another guide to support provincial land use planning direction related to the completion of energy and emission plans. The "Community Emissions Reduction Planning: A Guide for Municipalities" document is designed to educate stakeholders on the municipal opportunities to reduce energy and greenhouse gas emissions, and to provide guidance on methods and techniques to incorporate consideration of energy and greenhouse gas emissions into municipal activities of all types. We encourage you to review the Guide for information.</li> </ul>	<p>The upgrades involve replacing rotating and non-rotating parts within the gas turbines (blades, seals, nozzles, etc.). These upgraded parts are more efficient due to the advanced materials used to allow the turbines to run hotter and more fuel efficiently, extracting the maximum amount of power possible.</p> <p>After the upgrade, the plant's thermal efficiency will increase due to a reduced heat rate (British thermal unit/kilowatt-hour (BTU/kWh)). This means that the same amount of fuel used will produce more power after the upgrades.</p> <p>The net heat rate of the gas turbine generators (i.e., kilojoules/kilowatt-hours (kJ/kWh) higher heating value (HHV)) is expected to reduce by 2% at baseload and 15 degrees Celsius (°C) ambient temperature, following the upgrades. The greenhouse gas intensity (i.e., the ratio of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) equivalent emissions to total electricity generation) of the facility is also expected to reduce by 2%.</p>
<p><b>Air Quality, Dust and Noise</b></p>	
<p>If there are sensitive receptors in the surrounding area of this project, a quantitative air quality/odour impact assessment will be useful to evaluate alternatives, determine impacts and identify appropriate mitigation measures. The scope of the assessment can be determined based on the potential effects of the proposed alternatives, and typically includes source and receptor characterisation and a quantification of local air quality impacts on the sensitive receptors and the environment in the study area. The assessment will compare to all applicable standards or guidelines for all contaminants of concern. Please contact this office for further consultation on the level of Air Quality Impact Assessment required for this project if not already advised.</p> <p>If a quantitative Air Quality Impact Assessment is not required for the project, the MECP expects that the report contain a qualitative assessment which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A discussion of local air quality including existing activities/sources that significantly impact local air quality and how the project may impact existing conditions;</li> </ul>	<p>GE Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, provided a letter dated May 26, 2023, stating that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels." Similarly, GE Gas Power Services further stated in a letter dated March 30, 2023, that the upgrades are "not expected to increase noise levels from the facility."</p> <p>Copies of the GE Gas Power Services letters are provided in <b>Appendix A</b>.</p> <p>The facility will continue to operate within all environmental permitting requirements.</p> <p>The planned project will not require works outdoors and no dust or noise control measures are required during installation.</p>

MECP's Area of Interest	Consideration in Relation to the Project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A discussion of the nearby sensitive receptors and the project's potential air quality impacts on present and future sensitive receptors;</li> <li>• A discussion of local air quality impacts that could arise from this project during both construction and operation; and</li> <li>• A discussion of potential mitigation measures.</li> </ul> <p>As a common practice, "air quality" should be used an evaluation criterion for all road projects.</p> <p>Dust and noise control measures should be addressed and included in the construction plans to ensure that nearby residential and other sensitive land uses within the study area are not adversely affected during construction activities.</p> <p>The MECP recommends that non-chloride dust-suppressants be applied. For a comprehensive list of fugitive dust prevention and control measures that could be applied, refer to <i>Cheminfo Services Inc. Best Practices for the Reduction of Air Emissions from Construction and Demolition Activities</i> report prepared for Environment Canada (March 2005).</p> <p>The report should consider the potential impacts of increased noise levels during the operation of the completed project. The proponent should explore all potential measures to mitigate significant noise impacts during the assessment of alternatives.</p>	
<b>Ecosystem Protection and Restoration</b>	
<p>Any impacts to ecosystem form and function must be avoided where possible. The report should describe any proposed mitigation measures and how project planning will protect and enhance the local ecosystem.</p> <p>Natural heritage and hydrologic features should be identified and described in detail to assess potential impacts and to develop appropriate mitigation measures. The following sensitive environmental features may be located within or adjacent to the study area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key Natural Heritage Features: Habitat of endangered species and threatened species, fish habitat, wetlands, Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs), significant valleylands, significant woodlands; significant wildlife habitat (including habitat of special concern species); sand barrens, savannahs, and tallgrass prairies; and alvars.</li> <li>• Key Hydrologic Features: Permanent streams, intermittent streams, inland lakes and their littoral zones, seepage areas and springs, and wetlands.</li> </ul>	<p>The planned project is located on reclaimed land in an industrial site and will not require works beyond the footprint of the existing facility. Therefore, the planned project is not expected to have any negative effects on ecosystem forms and functions.</p>

MECP's Area of Interest	Consideration in Relation to the Project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other natural heritage features and areas such as: vegetation communities, rare species of flora or fauna, Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs), Environmentally Sensitive Policy Areas, federal and provincial parks and conservation reserves, Greenland systems etc.</li> </ul> <p>We recommend consulting with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR), Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) and your local conservation authority to determine if special measures or additional studies will be necessary to preserve and protect these sensitive features. In addition, for projects located in Central Region you may consider the provisions of the Rouge Park Management Plan if applicable.</p>	
<p><b>Species at Risk</b></p>	
<p>The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has now assumed responsibility of Ontario's Species at Risk program. Information, standards, guidelines, reference materials and technical resources to assist you are found at <a href="https://www.ontario.ca/page/species-risk">https://www.ontario.ca/page/species-risk</a>.</p> <p>The Client's Guide to Preliminary Screening for Species at Risk (Draft May 2019) has been attached to the covering email for your reference and use. Please review this document for next steps.</p> <p>For any questions related to subsequent permit requirements, please contact <a href="mailto:SAROntario@ontario.ca">SAROntario@ontario.ca</a>.</p>	<p>The planned project is located on reclaimed land in an industrial site and will not require works beyond the footprint of the existing facility. Therefore, the planned project is not expected to have any negative effects on Species at Risk.</p>
<p><b>Surface Water</b></p>	
<p>The report must include enough information to demonstrate that there will be no negative impacts on the natural features or ecological functions of any watercourses within the study area. Measures should be included in the planning and design process to ensure that any impacts to watercourses from construction or operational activities (e.g., spills, erosion, pollution) are mitigated as part of the proposed undertaking.</p> <p>Additional stormwater runoff from new pavement can impact receiving watercourses and flood conditions. Quality and quantity control measures to treat stormwater runoff should be considered for all new impervious areas and, where possible, existing surfaces. The ministry's Stormwater Management Planning and Design Manual (2003) should be referenced in the report and utilised when designing stormwater control methods. A Stormwater Management Plan should be prepared as part of the Environmental Screening Process that includes:</p>	<p>The planned project will not affect the permeability or gradient of existing surfaces, as the project will not require works beyond the footprint of the existing facility. Therefore, potential negative effects to surface water from stormwater runoff due to the project are no different from the existing situation.</p>

MECP's Area of Interest	Consideration in Relation to the Project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategies to address potential water quantity and erosion impacts related to stormwater draining into streams or other sensitive environmental features, and to ensure that adequate (enhanced) water quality is maintained</li> <li>• Watershed information, drainage conditions, and other relevant background information</li> <li>• Future drainage conditions, stormwater management options, information on erosion and sediment control during construction, and other details of the proposed works</li> <li>• Information on maintenance and monitoring commitments.</li> </ul> <p>Any potential approval requirements for surface water taking or discharge should be identified in the report. A Permit to Take Water (PTTW) under the <i>Ontario Water Resources Act</i> (OWRA) will be required for any water takings that exceed 50,000 L/day, except for certain water taking activities that have been prescribed by the Water Taking Environmental Activity and Sector Registry (EASR) Regulation – <i>O. Reg. 63/16</i>. These prescribed water-taking activities require registration in the EASR instead of a PTTW. Please review the Water Taking User Guide for EASR for more information. Additionally, an ECA under the OWRA is required for municipal stormwater management works.</p>	
<b>Groundwater</b>	
<p>The status of, and potential impacts to any well water supplies should be addressed. If the project involves groundwater takings or changes to drainage patterns, the quantity and quality of groundwater may be affected due to drawdown effects or the redirection of existing contamination flows. In addition, project activities may infringe on existing wells such that they must be reconstructed or sealed and abandoned. Appropriate information to define existing groundwater conditions should be included in the report.</p> <p>If the potential construction or decommissioning of water wells is identified as an issue, the report should refer to Ontario Regulation 903, Wells, under the OWRA.</p> <p>Potential impacts to groundwater-dependent natural features should be addressed. Any changes to groundwater flow or quality from groundwater taking may interfere with the ecological processes of streams, wetlands or other surficial features. In addition, discharging contaminated or high volumes of groundwater to these features may have direct impacts on their function. Any potential effects should be identified, and appropriate mitigation measures should be recommended. The level of detail required will be dependent on the significance of the potential impacts.</p>	<p>The planned project does not involve groundwater takings or changes to drainage patterns. The project will not require works beyond the footprint of the existing facility, and as such potential negative effects on groundwater are no different than the existing situation.</p>

MECP's Area of Interest	Consideration in Relation to the Project
<p>Any potential approval requirements for groundwater taking or discharge should be identified in the report. A PTTW under the OWRA will be required for any water takings that exceed 50,000 Litres(L)/day, with the exception of certain water taking activities that have been prescribed by the Water Taking EASR Regulation – O. Reg. 63/16. These prescribed water-taking activities require registration in the EASR instead of a PTTW. Please review the Water Taking User Guide for EASR for more information.</p> <p>Consultation with the railroad authorities is necessary wherever there is a plan to use construction dewatering in the vicinity of railroad lines or where the zone of influence of the construction dewatering potentially intercepts railroad lines.</p>	
<p><b>Excess Materials Management</b></p>	
<p>In December 2019, MECP released a new regulation under the Environmental Protection Act, titled “On-Site and Excess Soil Management” (O. Reg. 406/19) to support improved management of excess construction soil. This regulation is a key step to support proper management of excess soils, ensuring valuable resources don't go to waste and to provide clear rules on managing and reusing excess soil. New risk-based standards referenced by this regulation help to facilitate local beneficial reuse which in turn will reduce greenhouse gas emissions from soil transportation, while ensuring strong protection of human health and the environment. The new regulation is being phased in over time, with the first phase in effect on January 1, 2021. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.ontario.ca/page/handling-excess-soil">https://www.ontario.ca/page/handling-excess-soil</a>.</p> <p>The report should reference that activities involving the management of excess soil should be completed in accordance with O. Reg. 406/19 and the MECP's current guidance document titled “Management of Excess Soil – A Guide for Best Management Practices” (2014).</p> <p>All waste generated during construction must be disposed of in accordance with ministry requirements.</p>	<p>The planned project will not require works beyond the footprint of the existing facility, and as such will not produce excess soil.</p> <p>Regarding waste, the replaced parts will become the property of the original equipment manufacturer and will be refurbished or recycled.</p>
<p><b>Contaminated Sites</b></p>	
<p>Any current or historical waste disposal sites should be identified in the report. The status of these sites should be determined to confirm whether approval pursuant to Section 46 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act (EPA)</i> may be required for land uses on former disposal sites. We recommend referring to the MECP's D-4 guideline for land use considerations near landfills and dumps.</p>	<p>There are no known current or historical waste disposal sites within the vicinity of the project site according to the MECP landfill sites map (MECP, 2023b). Further the project site is not located within a known contaminated site according to Federal Contaminated Sites Inventory (Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, n.d.).</p>

MECP's Area of Interest	Consideration in Relation to the Project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resources available may include regional/local municipal official plans and data; provincial data on large landfill sites and small landfill sites; ECA information for waste disposal sites on Access Environment.</li> </ul> <p>Other known contaminated sites (local, provincial, federal) in the study area should also be identified in the report (Note – information on federal contaminated sites is found on the Government of Canada's website).</p> <p>The location of any underground storage tanks should be investigated in the report. Measures should be identified to ensure the integrity of these tanks and to ensure an appropriate response in the event of a spill. The ministry's Spills Action Centre must be contacted in such an event.</p> <p>Since the removal or movement of soils may be required, appropriate tests to determine contaminant levels from previous land uses or dumping should be undertaken. If the soils are contaminated, you must determine how and where they are to be disposed of, consistent with Part XV.1 of the EPA and Ontario Regulation 153/04, Records of Site Condition, which details the new requirements related to site assessment and clean up. Please contact the appropriate MECP District Office for further consultation if contaminated sites are present.</p>	<p>The planned project will not disturb soils as the project will not require works beyond the footprint of the existing facility. Therefore, the project will not interact with contaminated sites.</p>
<p><b>Servicing, Utilities and Facilities</b></p>	
<p>The report should identify any above or underground utilities in the study area such as transmission lines, telephone/internet, oil/gas etc. The owners should be consulted to discuss impacts to this infrastructure, including potential spills.</p> <p>The report should identify any servicing infrastructure in the study area such as wastewater, water, stormwater that may potentially be impacted by the project.</p> <p>Any facility that releases emissions to the atmosphere, discharges contaminants to ground or surface water, provides potable water supplies, or stores, transports or disposes of waste must have an ECA before it can operate lawfully. Please consult with MECP's Environmental Permissions Branch to determine whether a new or amended ECA will be required for any proposed infrastructure.</p> <p>We recommend referring to the ministry's environmental land use planning guides to ensure that any potential land use conflicts are considered when planning for any infrastructure or facilities related to wastewater, pipelines, landfills or industrial uses.</p>	<p>The planned project will not interfere with existing servicing, utilities or facilities as the project will not require works beyond the footprint of the existing facility or require additional servicing. The existing transmission system will be able to manage the additional electrical load produced by the project.</p>
<p><b>Mitigation and Monitoring</b></p>	



MECP's Area of Interest	Consideration in Relation to the Project
<p>Contractors must be made aware of all environmental considerations so that all environmental standards and commitments for both construction and operation are met. Mitigation measures should be clearly referenced in the report and regularly monitored during the construction stage of the project. In addition, we encourage proponents to conduct post-construction monitoring to ensure all mitigation measures have been effective and are functioning properly.</p> <p>Design and construction reports and plans should be based on a best management approach that centres on the prevention of impacts, protection of the existing environment, and opportunities for rehabilitation and enhancement of any impacted areas.</p> <p>The proponent's construction and post-construction monitoring plans must be documented in the report.</p>	<p>No changes to environmental features are expected given that the upgrades will take place within the existing facility and the existing facility footprint will not change. As such, the screening exercise in <b>Section 3.4</b> identified that, without any mitigation, all regulatory requirements will be met, and no other impact management commitments will be required. Atura Power will continue to manage air emissions from PEC through ongoing continuous emissions monitoring per the terms and conditions of their ECA.</p>
<p><b>Consultation</b></p>	
<p>The report must demonstrate how the consultation provisions of the Environmental Screening Process have been fulfilled, including documentation of all stakeholder consultation efforts undertaken during the planning process. This includes a discussion in the report that identifies concerns that were raised and describes how they have been addressed by the proponent throughout the planning process. The report should also include copies of comments submitted on the project by interested stakeholders, and the proponent's responses to these comments (as directed by the Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects to include full documentation).</p> <p>Please include the full stakeholder distribution/consultation list in the documentation.</p>	<p>A description of engagement undertaken with Indigenous communities, members of the public, the municipal staff and elected officials, and agencies is provided <b>Section 4</b>. Correspondence records are provided in <b>Appendix B4 to B6</b>, except for records capturing engagement between the project team and Indigenous communities, which have been shared directly with each Indigenous community engaged during the Environmental Screening Process.</p>
<p><b>Environmental Screening Process</b></p>	
<p>The purpose of the Environmental Screening report is to document the process followed and the conclusions reached. It should provide clear and complete documentation of the planning process in order to allow for transparency in decision-making and to allow for its timely review by government agencies, and interested persons, including Indigenous communities.</p> <p>The Environmental Screening Process requires the consideration of the effects of the project on all aspects of the environment (including planning, natural, social, cultural, economic, technical). The report should include a level of detail (e.g. hydrogeological investigations, terrestrial and aquatic assessments, cultural heritage assessments) such that all potential impacts can be identified, and appropriate mitigation measures can be</p>	<p>The requirements of the Environmental Screening Process are documented in <b>Section 1.3</b> of this report. In addition to the requirements of the Environmental Screening Process, Atura Power voluntarily shared a draft Screening Report with Indigenous communities, key agencies, municipal staff and elected officials, and interested members of the public to offer an additional opportunity for those interested to review the project details, the Environmental Screening Process undertaken for the project, and the assessment findings. Comments received on the draft Screening Report were responded to and incorporated into this final Screening Report, where</p>



MECP's Area of Interest	Consideration in Relation to the Project
<p>developed. Any supporting studies conducted during the Environmental Screening Process should be referenced and included as part of the report.</p> <p>There are two possible stages of review required under the Environmental Screening Process, depending on the environmental effects of a project: a Screening stage and an Environmental Review stage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All projects that are subject to the process are required to go through the Screening stage, which requires proponents to apply a series of screening criteria to identify the potential environmental effects of the project.</li> <li>• A more detailed study (an Environmental Review) is required if potential concerns are raised during the Screening stage that could not be readily addressed.</li> </ul> <p>Please include in the report a list of all subsequent permits or approvals that may be required for the implementation of the project, including but not limited to, MECP's PTTW, EASR Registrations and ECAs, conservation authority permits, species at risk permits, Ministry of Transportation (MTO) permits and approvals under the <i>Impact Assessment Act</i>, 2019.</p> <p>Proponents are encouraged to circulate a draft of the Environmental Review Report, or relevant sections of the report, to the appropriate agencies and key stakeholders for comment prior to the formal review periods.</p> <p>Ministry guidelines and other information related to the issues above are available at <a href="http://www.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/environment-and-energy">http://www.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/environment-and-energy</a>. We encourage you to review all the available guides and to reference any relevant information in the report.</p>	<p>applicable; these comments and responses are available in <b>Appendix C</b>.</p> <p>Requirements associated with other permits and approvals are documented in <b>Section 2</b>.</p>

### 3.4 Review of Screening Criteria

The Screening Criteria Checklist as presented in Appendix B of the Guide provides the following questions that must be answered with ‘Yes’ or ‘No’ based on whether the project has potential for negative effects on these criteria prior to any mitigation being applied. Additional information is also provided to support the selected response. Each criterion is based on a question which is prefaced with the phrase: “Will the project...”

#### 1. Surface and Ground Water

Criterion	Yes	No	Additional Information
1.1 have negative effects on surface water quality, quantities or flow?		X	The planned project will not have any effects on Lake Ontario. Surface water quality, quantities or flow will not be affected by project activities.
1.2 have negative effects on ground water quality, quantity or movement?		X	The planned project will not have any effects on ground water quality or quantity as project activities will not require water taking or changing water drainage at the existing PEC facility.
1.3 cause significant sedimentation, soil erosion or shoreline or riverbank erosion on or off site?		X	All planned project activities will occur within the existing PEC footprint and will not require soil movement.
1.4 cause potential negative effects on surface or ground water from accidental spills or releases to the environment?		X	All planned project activities will occur within the existing PEC footprint within an industrial area and away from water resources. If an accidental spill occurred it would be within the plant and existing spills management protocols will be undertaken to report and clean the spill.

#### 2. Land

Criterion	Yes	No	Additional Information
2.1 have negative effects on residential, commercial or institutional land uses within 500 metres (m) of the site?		X	All planned project activities will occur within the existing PEC footprint.
2.2 be inconsistent with the <i>Provincial Policy Statement</i> , provincial land use or resource management plans?		X	The planned project is consistent with Section 1.6.11.1 of the <i>Provincial Policy Statement</i> . Provincial land use will not change as a result of the project. The project is being undertaken in response to the IESO’s plan to meet Ontario’s energy needs.

Criterion	Yes	No	Additional Information
2.3 be inconsistent with municipal land use policies, plans and zoning by-laws?		X	The planned project is consistent with municipal land use policies and zoning amendments will not be required as a result of the project. The project is located on lands designated as regeneration area and subject to the Central Waterfront Secondary Plan.
2.4 use hazard lands or unstable lands subject to erosion?		X	All planned project activities will occur within the existing PEC footprint and will not affect hazard or unstable lands.
2.5 have potential negative effects related to the remediation of contaminated land?		X	The planned project works will not require remediation of contaminated land.

### 3. Air and Noise

Criterion	Yes	No	Additional Information
3.1 have negative effects on air quality due to emissions of nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, suspended particulates, or other pollutants?		X	GE Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, provided a letter dated May 26, 2023, stating that the upgrades to the turbine generator “will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels.” A copy of the GE Gas Power Services letter can be found in <b>Appendix A</b> . The facility will continue to operate within all environmental permitting requirements.
3.2 cause negative effects from the emission of greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> ), methane)?		X	Planned project works will improve the efficiency of the gas turbines and as a result will reduce the greenhouse gas intensity (i.e., the ratio of CO <sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions to total electricity generation) of the facility.
3.3 cause negative effects from the emission of dust or odour?		X	The project will not have effects from the emissions of dust or odour.
3.4 cause negative effects from the emission of noise?		X	GE Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, provided a letter dated March 30, 2023, stating that the upgrades are “not expected to increase noise levels from the facility.” A copy of the GE Gas Power Services letter can be found in <b>Appendix A</b> . The facility will continue to operate within all environmental permitting requirements.

#### 4. Natural Environment

Criterion	Yes	No	Additional Information
4.1 cause negative effects on rare, threatened or endangered species of flora or fauna or their habitat?		X	Planned project works will take place entirely within lands that have been built-up and industrialised. Atura Power has procedures in place if rare, threatened or endangered species are encountered.
4.2 cause negative effects on protected natural areas such as ANSIs, ESAs or other significant natural areas?		X	Planned project works will take place entirely within lands that have been built-up and industrialised. No effects on protected natural areas such as ANSIs, ESAs or other significant natural areas will occur.
4.3 cause negative effects on wetlands?		X	Planned project works will take place entirely within lands that have been built-up and industrialised. No effects on wetlands will occur.
4.4 have negative effects on wildlife habitat; populations, corridors or movement?		X	Planned project works will take place entirely within lands that have been built-up and industrialised. No effects on wildlife habitat, populations, corridors or movement will occur.
4.5 have negative effects on fish or their habitat, spawning, movement or environmental conditions (e.g., water temperature, turbidity, etc.)?		X	Planned project works will take place entirely within lands that have been built-up and industrialised. No effects on fish or their habitat, spawning, movement or environmental conditions will occur.
4.6 have negative effects on migratory birds, including effects on their habitat or staging areas?		X	Planned project works will take place entirely within lands that have been built-up and industrialised. Atura Power has procedures in place if migratory birds are encountered.
4.7 have negative effects on locally important or valued ecosystems or vegetation?		X	Planned project works will take place entirely within lands that have been built-up and industrialised. No effects on locally important or valued ecosystems or vegetation will occur.

#### 5. Resources

Criterion	Yes	No	Additional Information
5.1 result in inefficient (below 40%) use of a non-renewable resource (efficiency is defined as the ratio of output energy to input energy, where output energy includes electricity produced plus useful heat captured)?		X	There will be a decrease in 177.9 BTU/kWh Lower Heating Value (LHV) per unit. Improved thermal efficiency will occur. The overall plant efficiency will remain above the ECA thermal efficiency requirement.
5.2 have negative effects on the use of Canada Land Inventory Class 1-3, specialty crop or locally significant agricultural lands?		X	Planned project works will take place entirely within lands that have been built-up and industrialised. No effects on agricultural lands will occur.
5.3 have negative effects on existing agricultural production?		X	Planned project works will take place entirely within lands that have been built-up and industrialised. No effects on agricultural lands will occur.

Criterion	Yes	No	Additional Information
<b>5.4 have negative effects on the availability of mineral, aggregate or petroleum resources?</b>		<b>X</b>	Planned project works will take place entirely within lands that have been built-up and industrialised. No effects on mineral, aggregate or petroleum resources will occur.
<b>5.5 have negative effects on the availability of forest resources?</b>		<b>X</b>	Planned project works will take place entirely within lands that have been built-up and industrialised. No effects on forest resources will occur.
<b>5.6 have negative effects on game and fishery resources, including negative effects caused by creating access to previously inaccessible areas?</b>		<b>X</b>	Planned project works will take place entirely within lands that have been built-up and industrialised. No effects on game and fishery resources will occur.

## 6. Socio-economic

Criterion	Yes	No	Additional Information
<b>6.1 have negative effects on neighbourhood or community character?</b>		<b>X</b>	Planned project works will take place entirely within lands that have been built-up and industrialised. No effects on neighbourhood or community character will occur.
<b>6.2 have negative effects on local businesses, institutions or public facilities?</b>		<b>X</b>	Planned project works will take place entirely within lands that have been built-up and industrialised. No effects on local businesses, institutions or public facilities will occur.
<b>6.3 have negative effects on recreation, cottaging or tourism?</b>		<b>X</b>	Planned project works will take place entirely within lands that have been built-up and industrialised. No effects on neighbourhood or community recreation, cottaging or tourism are anticipated.
<b>6.4 have negative effects related to increases in the demands on community services and infrastructure?</b>		<b>X</b>	The planned project will not increase demands on community services and infrastructure.
<b>6.5 have negative effects on the economic base of a municipality or community?</b>		<b>X</b>	The planned project will not have negative effects on the economic base of a municipality or community.
<b>6.6 have negative effects on local employment and labour supply?</b>		<b>X</b>	The planned project will not have negative effects on local employment and labour supply.
<b>6.7 have negative effects related to traffic?</b>		<b>X</b>	The planned project will not have negative effects related to traffic as all the necessary parts will likely be delivered in one vehicle, similar to current maintenance activities.
<b>6.8 cause public concerns related to public health and safety?</b>		<b>X</b>	The planned project will not affect public health or safety.

## 7. Heritage and Culture

Criterion	Yes	No	Additional Information
<b>7.1 have negative effects on heritage buildings, structures or sites, archaeological resources, or cultural heritage landscapes?</b>		<b>X</b>	Planned project works will take place entirely within lands that have been built-up and industrialised. The planned project will not affect heritage buildings, structures or sites, archaeological resources, or cultural heritage landscapes.
<b>7.2 have negative effects on scenic or aesthetically pleasing landscapes or views?</b>		<b>X</b>	Planned project works will take place entirely within lands that have been built-up and industrialised and will not result in taller structures. No effects on scenic or aesthetically pleasing landscapes or views will occur.

## 8. Indigenous

Criterion	Yes	No	Additional Information
<b>8.1 cause negative effects on Indigenous communities?</b>		<b>X</b>	Planned project works will take place entirely within lands that have been built-up and industrialised. Engagement activities with Indigenous communities to date are documented in <b>Section 4</b> ; engagement with these communities is ongoing and will continue beyond the Environmental Screening Process.

## 9. Other

Criterion	Yes	No	Additional Information
<b>9.1 result in the creation of waste materials requiring disposal?</b>		<b>X</b>	Waste disposal will not be required as replaced parts will become the property of the original equipment manufacturer and will be refurbished or recycled.
<b>9.2 cause any other negative environmental effects not covered by the criteria outlined above?</b>		<b>X</b>	No other environmental effects have been identified as a result of the planned project.

The above review of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project against the Screening Criteria in Appendix B of the Guide has determined that the response to all questions is "No", indicating that there are no potential negative environmental effects resulting from the project.

### **3.5 Mitigation Measures, Residual Net Effects, and Impact Management Commitments**

The Screening identified that, without any mitigation, all regulatory requirements will be met, and no other impact management commitments will be required. Atura Power will continue to manage air emissions from PEC through ongoing continuous emissions monitoring per the terms and conditions of the facility's ECA.

## 4. Engagement

Engagement with Indigenous communities, the public and agencies is a key component of the EA process and was integrated from the initial development stages of the project planning and throughout the Environmental Screening Process.

This section describes the engagement activities that were undertaken and demonstrates how Atura Power meets and exceeds the engagement requirements of the Environmental Screening Process. This section is organised as follows:

- **Section 4.1** – Engagement Program
- **Section 4.2** – Notice of Commencement
- **Section 4.3** – Public Engagement
- **Section 4.4** – Engagement with Municipal Staff and Elected Officials
- **Section 4.5** – Agency Engagement
- **Section 4.6** – Indigenous Engagement
- **Section 4.7** – Other Engagement
- **Section 4.8** – Draft Screening Report
- **Section 4.9** – Notice of Completion

### 4.1 Engagement Program

According to the Guide, proponents are required to prepare a Notice of Commencement at the beginning of the Environmental Screening Process and a Notice of Completion upon the completion of the Environmental Screening Process. Proponents are also required to document the engagement program and engagement activities, agencies contacted, a summary of concerns or issues, and how concerns and issues have been addressed. Further, the public engagement program should:

- “identify potentially affected stakeholders;
- describe how the project may affect the environment;
- provide appropriate notification to identified stakeholders as prescribed in the Environmental Screening/Review Process;
- inform the public where, when and how they can be involved;
- identify public concerns and issues related to the project;
- address public concerns and issues raised during the program; and
- document how public input is taken into account in the screening process and in the project planning and development” (Government of Ontario, 2023).



The goal of the PEC upgrades engagement program is to facilitate information sharing and provide an opportunity for concerns and issues to be raised and responded to as part of the Environmental Screening Process. Furthermore, it serves to build a positive relationship between Atura Power, the local community, Indigenous communities and any members of the public who may be interested in the project. To achieve this goal and meet the above EA engagement requirements, several communication tools and engagement activities were applied as described in **Section 4.1.1. Sections 4.2 to 4.9** provide a description of engagement with the public, municipal staff and elected officials, agencies and Indigenous communities to date.

#### 4.1.1 Communication Tools and Engagement Activities

Below is an overview of the communication tools and engagement activities that were undertaken for the PEC upgrades.

- **Project contact list** – a project contact list was developed by researching the area around PEC to identify potentially interested groups, including elected officials and municipal staff. Agencies were identified using the “Environmental Assessment Government Review Team Master Distribution List” (MECP, 2023c). Indigenous communities were identified based upon proximity to, and potential interest in, the project and confirmed through correspondence with the MECP. Copies of this correspondence are provided in **Appendix B1**.
- **Comment tracking tool** – a database was developed to track comments that were received on the project. The database includes details such as who provided comments and when and how comments were received, as well as responses provided by the project team, and when and how the responses were provided.
- **Project webpage** – a project webpage (<https://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade>) was developed and maintained throughout the duration of the project. The webpage contains information on the project, the Environmental Screening Process, project timeline, project documents, public meeting materials, and a contact form for sending questions and comments to the project team.
- **Newspaper advertisements, emails and direct mailouts of notices and accompanying letters** – several methods were used to distribute project notices. These methods were selected based on either identified preference or previous project experience as the most appropriate and effective way of communicating with the public, agencies and Indigenous communities. **Sections 4.2 to 4.6** note the distribution methods for each notice.
- **Project email address** – a project-specific email address was established to help interested members of the public contact the project team with any questions and comments regarding the project and associated Environmental Screening Process. The email address was included on project notices, advertisements, etc. and was available for the duration of the Environmental Screening Process. The email was monitored frequently and comments/questions received were responded to by a member of the project team.

- **Public meeting** – a virtual public meeting was hosted to share information about the project and provide an opportunity for attendees to ask questions and provide feedback. More information on the meeting is provided in **Section 4.3.1**.
- **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)** – a FAQs document was developed and provided on the project webpage, including general project information as well as responses to commonly asked questions and comments received on the project.
- **Draft Screening Report** – a *draft* Screening Report was distributed to Indigenous communities, key agencies, municipal staff and elected officials, and interested members of the public to offer an additional opportunity for those interested to review project details, the Environmental Screening Process undertaken, and assessment findings. Atura Power voluntarily provided this opportunity so that comments could be incorporated where applicable, prior to preparing the final Screening Report. Comments on the draft Screening Report and how they were addressed are provided in **Appendix C**.
- **Final Screening Report** – this *final* Screening Report was distributed to Indigenous communities, key agencies, municipal staff and elected officials, and the public in March 2024, along with an accompanying Notice of Completion. The final Screening Report will be available for a 30-day mandated review period, during which time Indigenous communities, agencies, municipal staff and elected officials, and interested members of the public can review and provide comments on the report. More information on the mandatory 30-day review period is provided in **Section 4.9**.<sup>5</sup>

#### 4.1.2 Documentation and Record of Engagement

**Sections 4.3 to 4.8** document the comments received from the public, municipal staff and elected officials, agencies and Indigenous communities to date. Copies of correspondence are provided in the following appendices, which contain correspondence from the date the project commenced on September 6, 2023, to March 8, 2024, when the final Screening Report was prepared:

- **Appendix B4b:** Correspondence Records with Members of the Public
- **Appendix B5:** Correspondence Records with Municipal Staff and Elected Officials
- **Appendix B6:** Correspondence Records with Agencies

Additionally, **Appendix C** captures comments and responses provided on the draft Screening Report.

Note, any personal information for members of the public has been redacted from these records to maintain privacy. Correspondence records capturing engagement between Atura Power and each Indigenous community were shared directly with each respective Indigenous community engaged during the Environmental Screening Process.

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<sup>5</sup> Atura Power posted the draft Screening Report on the project webpage, [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade), and shared a copy of the draft Screening Report via email with interested parties in early December 2023. See **Section 4.8** for details.

## 4.2 Notice of Commencement

The project commenced with the publication of the Notice of Commencement on September 6, 2023, in several local and regional newspapers including the *Toronto Star*, *Toronto Sun*, and *Beach Metro*. Copies of the publications are provided in **Appendix B2**. The notice included a project description stating the nature of the project, location, details, and purpose. The notice also communicated the start of the Environmental Screening Process and concluded by providing project contacts and details of an upcoming virtual meeting. This notice can be found in **Appendix B2**.

The notice was distributed to recipients potentially interested in the project via a variety of methods as shown in **Table 4-1**. Covering letters, when provided, included details on the project and explained the planned engagement process, including the virtual public meeting (see **Appendix B2**).

**Table 4-1: Notice of Commencement Recipients**

Type	Recipient	Method	Date
<b>Provincial and Federal Ministries</b>	Member of Parliament for Toronto-Danforth	Mail / email of covering letter and notice	Mail – Sept 5, 2023 Email – Sept 6, 2023
	Conseil scolaire Viamonde (Association des conseils scolaires des écoles publiques de l'Ontario)		
	Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO)		
	Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism		
	Ministry of Energy		
	Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks		
	Ministry of Infrastructure		
	Ministry of Mines		
	Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry		
	Ministry of Transportation		
	Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport		
	Toronto Catholic School Board		
	Toronto District School Board		
<b>Regional and Municipal Contacts</b>	City of Toronto - Office of the Mayor, Clerk and City Councillors	Mail / email of covering letter and notice	Mail – Sept 5, 2023 Email – Sept 6, 2023
	City of Toronto - City Planning		
	City of Toronto - Environment and Climate Department		
	City of Toronto - Fire Services		
	City of Toronto - Parks, Forestry and Recreation		
	City of Toronto - Toronto Water		

Type	Recipient	Method	Date
	Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA)		
	Toronto Economic Development Corporation		
	York Region		
<b>Other Agencies/Utilities</b>	Ashbridges Bay Waste Water Treatment	Mail / email of covering letter and notice	Mail – Sept 5, 2023 Email – Sept 6, 2023
	Canadian National Railway		
	Canadian Pacific Railway		
	Cherry Beach Park		
	Cherry Beach Sports fields		
	Commissioners Street Transfer Station		
	CreateTO		
	Go Transit and Metrolinx		
	Hydro One Networks Inc. (HONI)		
	Ontario Power Generation		
	Toronto Hydro		
	Toronto Police Service		
	Toronto Port Authority (now called PortsToronto)		
	Toronto Port Lands Company (now a part of CreateTO)		
Waterfront Toronto			
<b>Adjacent Property Owners/ Tenants</b>	Seven notices delivered to properties adjacent to the project site	Mail / email of covering letter and notice	Mail – Sept 5, 2023 Email – Sept 6, 2023
<b>Indigenous Communities</b>	Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)	Email of covering letter and notice	Sept 6, 2023
	Six Nations of the Grand River		
	Haudenosaunee Development Institute (HDI)		
	Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO)		

Indigenous communities were contacted through an early engagement process (**Section 4.6**). The Notice of Commencement and an accompanying covering letter to contacts were shared on September 6, 2023.

A separate letter was emailed on September 6, 2023, to three contacts from the MECP. This letter contained information about the project, including a completed copy of the MECP’s Project Information Form, as well as a request for any Indigenous communities to be engaged as part of the planned project. This MECP covering letter can be found in **Appendix B2**.

### 4.3 Public Engagement

Atura Power facilitated public engagement opportunities and processes throughout the project. Public engagement began with the distribution of the Notice of Commencement on September 6,

2023. Through the notice, members of the public were encouraged to share their questions or feedback with the project team through the project email address. Additionally, the notice directed members of the public to additional project information and resources accessible on the project webpage. The notice also invited members of the public to a virtual public meeting where they would have the opportunity to learn more about the project and share their questions during a moderated question and answer period (see **Section 4.3.1**).

Both the project email and webpage have been available to the public throughout the life of the project. A summary of public comments received over the course of the project is also provided, from the date the project commenced on September 6, 2023, to March 8, 2024, when the final Screening Report was prepared (see **Section 4.3.2**).

### 4.3.1 Virtual Public Meeting

An invitation to the virtual public meeting was provided in the Notice of Commencement. Along with the initial distribution of the Notice of Commencement on September 6, 2023, Atura Power sent an email to remind participants of the upcoming virtual public meeting on October 3, 2023.

The virtual public meeting was scheduled for 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) on October 5, 2023. The meeting began at 6:30 p.m. ET with a PowerPoint presentation on the upgrades project description and associated Environmental Screening Process. The presentation was followed by a moderated Question & Answer (Q&A) session during which time members of the public submitted their questions to Atura Power via a chat function. To address as many questions as possible, Atura Power prioritised questions relevant to the PEC upgrades project and the associated Environmental Screening Process. The meeting was extended to 7:40 p.m. ET to accommodate the interest that was noted during the Q&A period and answer as many project-specific questions as possible.

More than 100 people attended the virtual public meeting. Approximately 190 comments and questions were submitted during the meeting. A list of questions and comments organised by category, and Atura Power's response to them, is provided in **Appendix B4**. A record of all comments and questions that were received verbatim via the chat function during the public meeting are provided in **Appendix B3**.

### 4.3.2 Summary of Public Comments

Members of the public shared questions, comments and feedback with Atura Power via two main communication methods including the project email address, [portlandupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandupgrade@aturapower.com), and the moderated Q&A session during the virtual public meeting on October 5, 2023. Atura Power received approximately 200 questions and/or comments during the virtual public meeting and approximately 280 emails via the project email address between September 6, 2023 and March 8, 2024, many of which were duplicative in nature. Through these two methods of communication, members of the public voiced questions and comments on topics shown in **Table 4-2**. The complete list of questions and comments, and Atura Power's responses to them, is provided in **Appendix B4**.

Questions or comments from members of the public specific to the draft Screening Report that was published for review between December 5, 2023, and January 7, 2024, are provided in **Appendix C**, along with Atura Power’s responses.

**Table 4-2: Summary of Public Comment Categories and Sub-Categories**<sup>6</sup>

Category	Sub-Category
<b>Atura Power</b>	Atura’s Future Plans
	Battery Storage Systems
	Conservation Initiatives
	Future Plans
	Hydrogen
	Renewable Energy Portfolio
<b>Comment/Opinion</b>	Contact List Request
<b>Costs</b>	General
	Capacity vs. Generation
	Other
<b>Air &amp; Noise</b>	Air Quality
	Emissions of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)
	Emissions Reporting
	Other
<b>Environmental Screening Process</b>	Engagement Process
	Indigenous Engagement
	Public Meeting Format
	Screening Report and Public Review Period
<b>Exemption Request</b>	n/a
<b>Facility Operations</b>	Operating Capacity
	Operating Frequency
	Operations Contract
	Portlands Energy Centre
	Waste Heat
	Water Use
	Other
<b>Out of Scope</b>	General
<b>Project Description</b>	General
	Efficiency Upgrades
	Hydrogen
	Schedule
<b>Project Need</b>	Consideration of Alternatives
	Requirements for Municipal Support
	Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO)
	IESO Procurement Process

<sup>6</sup> A small number of questions related to the PEC upgrades project were also submitted to Atura Power via other means, such as Atura Power’s media inquiries email inbox. Those questions are also reflected in **Table 4-2** as well as included in the project records of engagement in **Appendix B4**.

Category	Sub-Category
	Role of Gas in Ontario Energy Supply
	Upgrades vs. Expansion
<b>Request for Project/Meeting Materials</b>	Project Documentation
<b>Other</b>	n/a

#### 4.4 Engagement with Municipal Staff and Elected Officials

Throughout the operation of PEC, Atura Power has endeavoured to build strong relationships with the City of Toronto leadership and elected officials and continues to do so. To support that effort, communication between the project team and municipal staff and elected officials has been ongoing to ensure that the City of Toronto and its representatives are aware of the project’s status and activities. As mentioned in **Section 4.2**, the City of Toronto was provided a Notice of Commencement. The notice was sent via email to municipal staff, the mayor and relevant city councillors, and the relevant provincial and federal Members of Parliament on September 6, 2023. In cases where responses to the Notice of Commencement were not received, follow-up phone calls were made to extend an invitation to meet and further discuss the project and explain how Atura Power and PEC can help meet the City of Toronto’s growing energy needs. Voicemails summarising the project details, offering opportunities to meet to discuss project details, and sharing contact information were left in instances where the project team was unable to reach contacts over the phone. Municipal contacts also received a copy of the draft Screening Report in December 2023 via email, along with details explaining the opportunity to review the report and provide comments. Details associated with sharing the draft Screening Report are available in **Section 4.8**.

**Table 4-3** below documents the correspondence between the municipal representatives and the project team following the distribution of the Notice of Commencement. All other correspondence with municipal staff and elected officials following the distribution of the notice occurred via email; copies of the emails are provided in **Appendix B5**.



**Table 4-3: Correspondence with Municipal Representatives**

Organisation	Title and/or Department	Communication Method	Communication Summary
<b>City of Toronto, Office of the Mayor</b>	Mayor, City of Toronto	Email	On September 6, 2023, the City of Toronto, Office of the Mayor was contacted via email to share a summary of the PEC upgrades project. A covering letter and copy of the Notice of Commencement were attached. An opportunity to meet, at the Mayor's convenience, to further discuss the project was also offered.
		Phone Call	On September 19, 2023, a follow up call was made to the Office of the Mayor regarding the Notice of Commencement and invitation to meet to further discuss the project. The Mayor was not available but a voicemail was left.
		Email	On September 19, 2023, a follow up email was sent to the Office of the Mayor noting previous outreach, reiterating the offer to meet to review the project and answer any questions.
		Email	On October 3, 2023, an email was sent to the Office of the Mayor reminding the Mayor of the upcoming virtual public meeting scheduled for October 5, 2023.
		Email	On December 14, 2023, Atura Power provided a copy of the draft Screening Report and noted any feedback or comments on the report could be shared with the project team via the project email by January 7, 2024.
<b>City of Toronto</b>	City of Toronto, Toronto-Danforth	Email	On September 6, 2023, a City of Toronto Councillor was contacted via email to share a summary of the PEC upgrades project along with a covering letter and copy of the Notice of Commencement. An opportunity to meet, at the Councillor's convenience, to further discuss the project was also offered.
		Phone Call	On September 19, 2023, a follow up call was made to the City of Toronto Councillor regarding the Notice of Commencement and invitation to meet to further discuss the project. The Toronto Councillor was not available but a voicemail was left.
		Email	On September 19, 2023, a follow up email to the City of Toronto Councillor was made, as directed, noting previous outreach and extending an offer to meet to review the project and answer any questions.
		Email	On October 3, 2023, an email was sent to the City of Toronto Councillor reminding the City of Toronto Councillor of the upcoming virtual public meeting scheduled for October 5, 2023.
		Email	On December 14, 2023, Atura Power provided a copy of the draft Screening Report and noted any feedback or comments on the report could be shared with the project team via the project email by January 7, 2024.
<b>City of Toronto</b>	Member of Parliament, Toronto-Danforth	Email	On September 6, 2023, a City of Toronto, Member of Parliament was contacted via email to share a summary of the PEC upgrades project. A covering letter and copy of the Notice of Commencement were attached.



Organisation	Title and/or Department	Communication Method	Communication Summary
		Email	On October 3, 2023, an email was sent to the City of Toronto, Member of Parliament reminding the City of Toronto, Member of Parliament of the upcoming virtual public meeting scheduled for October 5, 2023.
		Email	On December 14, 2023, Atura Power provided a copy of the draft Screening Report and noted any feedback or comments on the report could be shared with the project team via the project email by January 7, 2024.
<b>City of Toronto</b>	Member of Provincial Parliament, Toronto-Danforth	Email	On September 6, 2023, a City of Toronto, Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) was contacted via email to share a summary of the PEC upgrades project. A covering letter and copy of the Notice of Commencement were attached.

## 4.5 Agency Engagement

As discussed in **Section 4.2**, several agencies were sent a Notice of Commencement for the project. A full list of agency contacts can be found in **Appendix B1**.

**Table 4-4** below notes the correspondence between agencies and the project team following the distribution of the Notice of Commencement.

Correspondence records with agencies are provided in **Appendix B6**.

Table 4-4: Correspondence with Agencies

Organisation	Title and/or Department	Communication Method	Communication Summary
Hydro One Networks Inc. (HONI)	Secondary Land Use Asset Optimisation Strategy & Integrated Planning	Email	On September 6, 2023, Atura Power shared a covering letter and copy of the Notice of Commencement.
			On September 11, 2023, a representative from HONI shared an attachment, describing it as HONI's response to the Notice of Commencement. In the attached response, HONI confirmed that there are no existing HONI Transmission assets in the subject area. The response closed with the request for Atura Power to contact HONI if plans for the undertaking change or the study area expands beyond that shown in the project materials. No other comments were raised. A copy of the attachment is provided in <b>Appendix B6</b> . No response was required.
			On October 3, 2023, an email was sent to HONI notifying them of the upcoming virtual public meeting scheduled for October 5, 2023.
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF)	Regional Planner  Land Use Planning and Strategic Issues Section  Southern Region	Email	On September 6, 2023, Atura Power shared a covering letter and copy of the Notice of Commencement.
			On September 14, 2023, a representative from the MNRF confirmed receipt of the Notice of Commencement and shared documentation to guide Atura Power in identifying ministry interests and engaging the ministry for advice, as needed, during the Environmental Screening Process. Copies of the attachments are provided in <b>Appendix B6</b> .
			On September 27, 2023, the project team responded to MNRF, acknowledging receipt of the materials and guidance provided by MNRF.
			On October 3, 2023, an email was sent to MNRF notifying them of the upcoming virtual public meeting scheduled for October 5, 2023.
			On December 5, 2023, Atura Power provided a copy of the draft Screening Report and noted any feedback or comments on the report could be shared with the project team via the project email by January 7, 2024.
			On December 11, 2023, a representative from the MNRF thanked Atura Power for sharing the draft Screening Report, noted they had no concerns or further comments, and requested Atura Power continue to circulate information regarding key project stages and milestones.
Toronto Fire Services, Office of the Fire Chief	Administrative Assistant for Matthew Pegg, Fire Chief and General Manager	Email	On September 6, 2023, Atura Power shared a covering letter and copy of the Notice of Commencement.

Organisation	Title and/or Department	Communication Method	Communication Summary
			<p>On September 14, 2023, a representative from the Office of the Fire Chief confirmed receipt of the Notice of Commencement and indicated they had shared it with the appropriate division who would contact Atura Power for further information, if needed. No additional information or response was received.</p> <p>On October 3, 2023, an email was sent to the Office of the Fire Chief notifying them of the upcoming virtual public meeting scheduled for October 5, 2023.</p>
<p><b>Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA)</b></p>	<p>Planner Infrastructure Planning and Permits Development and Engineering Services</p>	<p>Email</p>	<p>On September 6, 2023, Atura Power shared a covering letter and copy of the Notice of Commencement.</p> <p>On September 19, 2023, a representative from TRCA confirmed receipt of the Notice of Commencement, indicated TRCA would be preparing a formal response, and requested project materials following the public meeting scheduled for October 5, 2023. Atura Power and TRCA representative corresponded from September 19, 2023, to October 31, 2023, when the TRCA representative shared a formal response.</p> <p>On October 3, 2023, an email was sent to TRCA notifying them of the upcoming virtual public meeting scheduled for October 5, 2023.</p> <p>On December 5, 2023, Atura Power provided a copy of the draft Screening Report and noted any feedback or comments on the report could be shared with the project team via the project email by January 7, 2024.</p> <p>On December 6, 2023, a representative from TRCA inquired about Atura Power’s response to TRCA comments shared on October 31, 2023 and shared details regarding application review fees. A copy of the attachment is provided in <b>Appendix B6</b>.</p> <p>On December 11, 2023, Atura Power provided a response to the TRCA’s comments and acknowledged details regarding application review fees. A copy of the attachment is provided in <b>Appendix B6</b>.</p> <p>On December 12, 2023, a representative from TRCA confirmed receipt of the response to TRCA’s comments and noted they would be in touch following their review.</p> <p>On December 12, 2023, Atura Power thanked TRCA for confirming receipt of the comments.</p> <p>On December 21, 2023, a representative from TRCA indicated TRCA staff would be unable to meet the January 7, 2024 draft Screening report review deadline and requested a 2-week extension in the review schedule.</p> <p>On December 22, 2023, Atura Power confirmed TRCA’s request for a two-week extension and indicated they would look forward to receiving TRCA’s comments by January 19, 2024.</p>

Organisation	Title and/or Department	Communication Method	Communication Summary
			<p>On January 17, 2024, a representative from TRCA confirmed TRCA staff completed their review of the draft Screening Report and attached a letter with their comments. A copy of the attachment is provided in <b>Appendix B6</b>.</p> <p>On January 22, 2024, Atura Power thanked TRCA for their review of the draft Screening Report and shared a letter responding to TRCA’s comments. A copy of the attachment is provided in <b>Appendix B6</b>.</p>
<p><b>Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)</b></p>	<p>Regional Environmental Planner</p> <p>Environmental Assessments Branch</p>	<p>Email</p>	<p>On September 6, 2023, Atura Power shared a covering letter and copy of the Notice of Commencement.</p> <p>On October 3, 2023, an email was sent to MECP notifying them of the upcoming virtual public meeting scheduled for October 5, 2023.</p> <p>On October 16, 2023, a representative from the MECP confirmed receipt of the Notice of Commencement and shared guidance for consideration over the course of the Environmental Screening Process. A copy of the attachment is provided in <b>Appendix B6</b>.</p> <p>On November 24, 2023, Atura Power provided a letter responding to the MECP’s guidance for consideration over the course of the Environmental Screening Process. A copy of the attachment is provided in <b>Appendix B6</b>.</p> <p>On November 27, 2023, a representative from the MECP confirmed receipt of Atura Power’s letter and indicated they would follow up with the project team with any questions or concerns.</p> <p>On November 30, 2023, a representative from the MECP contacted Atura Power with recommendations regarding the Environmental Screening Process.</p> <p>On December 5, 2023, Atura Power provided a copy of the draft Screening Report and noted any feedback or comments on the report could be shared with the project team via the project email by January 7, 2024.</p> <p>On December 8, 2023, Atura Power followed up with MECP regarding their recommendations regarding the Environmental Screening Process, sharing the rationale for Atura Power’s approach to the Environmental Screening Process and directing the MECP to the appropriate sections of the draft Screening Report for more information.</p> <p>On December 11, 2023, a representative from the MECP noted the MECP would be requesting the full record of Indigenous engagement information either to support the review of the draft Screening Report or with the Notice of Completion and final Screening Report.</p> <p>On January 5, 2024, a representative from the MECP confirmed they had reviewed Atura Power’s rationale associated with their approach to the Environmental Screening Process and confirmed the MECP concurs with Atura Power’s approach. MECP also reiterated their request</p>

Organisation	Title and/or Department	Communication Method	Communication Summary
			<p>for the full record of Indigenous engagement information either to support the review of the draft Screening Report or with the Notice of Completion and final Screening Report. A copy of the attachment is provided in <b>Appendix B6</b>.</p> <p>On January 12, 2024, Atura Power thanked MECP for confirming their rationale for the Environmental Assessment Process and confirmed they would share the Indigenous engagement records with the Notice of Completion and final Screening Report.</p>

## 4.6 Indigenous Engagement

Atura Power engaged with Haudenosaunee Development Institute (HDI), Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN), as well as Six Nations of the Grand River (SNGR) and Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO), prior to publicly issuing the Notice of Commencement, and has since worked to foster continuous dialogue with these communities. The following **Sections 4.6.1 to 4.6.4** provide a narrative of the engagement that was undertaken with these communities from the pre-engagement phase in June 2023 to March 2024, when this final Screening Report was prepared.

Correspondence records capturing engagement between Atura Power and each Indigenous community have been shared directly with each Indigenous community engaged during the Environmental Screening Process.

### 4.6.1 Summary of Engagement with HDI

Atura Power and HDI have been engaging in a series of communications and meetings as part of the ongoing discussions about Atura Power's energy projects and their impacts on the communities represented by HDI. The dialogue has included Atura Power's planned upgrades at PEC to enhance efficiency and build Ontario's resilient electricity grid. Before the public announcement of the Notice of Commencement for these projects, Atura Power provided information about various projects to HDI, outlining project details and the avenues for feedback and further information.

The exchanges between the two entities have also encompassed operational matters such as documentation requests. HDI has sought clarity and requested detailed records on environmental, regulatory, and federal approvals for Atura Power's assets. HDI has raised concerns regarding the potential impacts on Haudenosaunee rights and interests with respect to Atura Power's broader operations regarding land claims, inadequacy of engagement activities, and respect for treaties and treaty rights. HDI has expressed opposition to the project and their inability to provide meaningful comment without additional support. These issues raised by HDI underline the broader context of historical challenges and the need for continued transparent and honest communication.

The discussions will continue with the intention that the Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs and Clan Mothers can attend and contribute to the conversation, as per HDI's request. Atura Power has initiated correspondence and future meetings to discuss various projects, including the PEC upgrades. These meetings aim to inform and involve HDI in the decision-making process, address environmental concerns, and ensure that the terms of reference for the Joint Liaison Committee meetings foster effective and respectful dialogue.

### 4.6.2 Summary of Engagement with MNO

Atura Power has been engaged in a series of communications with the MNO relating to various energy projects. The discussions have been focused on sharing information and soliciting feedback on planned upgrades to key energy-generating stations within Ontario, including PEC. The correspondence has involved coordination for future discussions to ensure that the MNO is

adequately informed and has the opportunity to provide input on the developments that may affect their traditional territories.

Notably, Atura Power has conveyed its intentions to proceed with upgrades to PEC, which will involve installing more efficient components to enhance the facility's performance. To maintain a transparent relationship with the MNO, Atura Power has provided advanced notice of the Notice of Commencement for the public, which detailed the project's scope and expected enhancements. They have also extended invitations for feedback and further discussion on the proposed upgrades, emphasising their availability for additional clarification and support. Atura Power held a virtual public meeting to discuss the project's details, reiterating their approach to open communication and engagement with the MNO and other stakeholders.

#### **4.6.3 Summary of Engagement with SNGR**

The communications between Atura Power and the Lands and Resources Department of SNGR have centred around various energy projects and their potential environmental impacts. In particular, these discussions covered the subject of long-term procurement with the IESO.

The dialogue has been constructive, with Atura Power engaging in follow-up post-meetings to ensure a clear understanding and address concerns from the Six Nations community. The community has also expressed interest in the details of water permits, Species at Risk, and tree removal and replacement associated with the project. In response, Atura Power has committed to sharing, and has shared, draft agreements, such as a Framework Agreement/Memorandum of Understanding, and to issuing notices, such as the Notice of Commencement for the project. As with all engaged Indigenous communities, they have also committed to provide feedback opportunities for the Screening Report and Notice of Completion concerning the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project, ensuring the community's input is considered in the project.

#### **4.6.4 Summary of Engagement with MCFN**

Atura Power and the MCFN have engaged in communications regarding Atura Power's planned upgrades at various energy facilities, including PEC located in Toronto, Ontario. Atura Power initiated the dialogue by informing MCFN's leadership about the Notice of Commencement for the PEC upgrades and offered to provide detailed materials and respond to inquiries. MCFN responded with a preference for direct consultation with Atura Power, highlighting their Unextinguished Aboriginal Title Claim to the waters used by PEC, and underscoring the importance of direct engagement on the project, which falls within MCFN's treaty territory. A subsequent virtual meeting took place to discuss the PEC upgrades project.

Atura Power is seeking to coordinate further meetings with MCFN to continue to provide updates on the PEC upgrades project and has shared detailed plans, including replacing natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient components, which are expected to increase the facility's output. Moreover, Atura Power has been transparent about upcoming communications regarding additional projects in MCFN's treaty and traditional territory, maintaining a commitment to sharing information and engaging with the First Nation community.



Follow-up communications from Atura Power have reiterated the ongoing discussions about energy projects, including hosting a virtual public meeting for the PEC project. These steps demonstrate Atura Power's proactive approach to keeping MCFN informed and involved in the projects affecting their territory, emphasising environmental considerations and respect for MCFN's claims and governance.

## 4.7 Other Engagement

In addition to the correspondence summarised above, Atura Power also received enquiries from several members of the local media<sup>7</sup>. Correspondence between Atura Power and members of the media included providing statements related to project need and the project description, confirming project and PEC operations details, and addressing a request to be added to the project contact list to receive future project updates and notifications. Atura Power also participated in a virtual interview with one media outlet; discussions covered general questions related to the PEC Upgrades project. Correspondence with members of the media that took place via email are captured in **Appendix B7**.

## 4.8 Draft Screening Report

To further support engagement during the Environmental Screening Process, Atura Power has voluntarily shared a *draft* Screening Report with key agencies and municipal staff/elected officials, Indigenous communities and interested members of the public in early December 2023. The purpose of preparing and releasing the draft Screening Report was to provide an additional opportunity for anyone wishing to share comments, questions or concerns regarding the PEC upgrades and the associated Environmental Screening Process prior to Atura Power preparing the final Screening Report. The draft Screening Report was shared with key agencies, municipal staff and elected officials, Indigenous communities and interested members of the public<sup>8</sup> via a variety of methods as shown in **Table 4-5**. Emails noting the release of the draft Screening Report, associated Environmental Screening Process, and details about the review period were shared with each recipient. Copies of the emails are provided in **Appendix B4, B5 and B6**.

Through this process, feedback and comments received about the draft Screening Report were responded to and incorporated in this final Screening Report, where applicable (see **Appendix C**).

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<sup>7</sup> Most enquiries from the local media were submitted via Atura Power's other communications channels. However, relevant media enquiries specific to the PEC Upgrades project received via both the project email address and Atura Power's other communications channels are summarized here.

<sup>8</sup> Atura Power defined interested members of the public as individuals who requested to be added to the project contact list as well as any member of the public who contacted the project email inbox ([portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)) during the Environmental Screening Process.

**Table 4-5: Draft Screening Report Distribution**

Type	Recipient	Method	Date
<b>Key Agencies</b>	Ministry of the Environment, Conversation & Parks	Email with attached copy of draft Screening Report	December 5, 2023
	Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry		
	Toronto and Region Conservation Authority		
	Waterfront Toronto		
	Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism		January 9, 2024
<b>Regional and Municipal Contacts</b>	City of Toronto Councillors	Email with attached copy of draft Screening Report	December 14, 2023
	City of Toronto Mayor		
	City of Toronto Planning Department		
<b>Other Key Organisations</b>	PortsToronto (previously the Toronto Port Authority)	Contact form on PortsToronto website	December 14, 2023
	CreateTO (previously the Toronto Port Lands Company)	Email with link to project	December 14, 2023
	Ontario Clean Air Alliance	webpage (which includes a link to the draft Screening Report)	December 6, 2023
<b>Indigenous Communities</b>	HDI	Email with attached copy of draft Screening Report	December 6, 2023
	MNO		
	MCFN		
	SNGR		
<b>Interested Members of the Public</b>	N/A	Email with link to project webpage (which includes a link to the draft Screening Report)	December 6, 2023

Atura Power received many questions and comments on the draft Screening Report during the comment period from members of the public, municipal staff and agencies. These included:

- City of Toronto, City Planning Division (Heritage Planning department)
- City of Toronto, Environment and Climate Division
- MCM
- MECP
- Ontario Clean Air Alliance (OCAA)
- Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE)
- TRCA

- Waterfront Toronto, and
- Several from individual members of the public (many of which were submitted as an identical comment form submitted by approximately 130 members of the public)

Generally, comments on the draft Screening Report related to the following key themes:

- Emissions and Air Quality
- Engagement Process and Requirements
- IESO Procurement Process, Project Need, and Consideration of Alternatives
- Frequency and Schedule of Operations
- Health Impacts
- Heritage and Culture
- Municipal Support
- Project Costs
- Project Documentation, Resources and Materials
- Project Notification and Contact List
- Scope of Assessment
- Screening Criteria
- Upgrades vs. Expansion

All inquiries specific to the draft Screening Report and Atura Power's response to them, can be found in **Appendices B4, B5 and B6**. **Appendix C** also indicates where and how comments received were considered and incorporated in this final Screening Report, where applicable. Additional changes made to the draft Screening Report include revisions to the language regarding O.Reg. 116/01, now O.Reg. 50/24, and updates to engagement chapter to reflect communication that occurred since publishing the draft in December 2023.

## 4.9 Notice of Completion & Final Screening Report

Following the comment period for the *draft* Screening Report, Atura Power took steps to respond to the comments and incorporate the comments into the *final* Screening Report, where applicable (see **Appendix C**). Per the Guide, a Notice of Completion was prepared and released to the public. The Notice of Completion informs all interested parties when the Environmental Screening Process for the project is complete and provides details regarding the 30-day review and comment period for this *final* Screening Report. As required, the notice includes: a map identifying the project location; the proponent and contact information; a description of the project; the results of the Environmental Screening Process; details regarding the review period; the location where the final Screening Report may be reviewed; and instructions for making an elevation request in accordance with the provisions of the Guide. The Notice of Completion was distributed to the same project contacts who received the Notice of Commencement via the same methods on September 6, 2023, as well as project contacts who received the draft Screening Report. Additionally, it was advertised in the same publications used to share the Notice of Commencement in September 2023, which include the *Toronto Sun*, *Toronto Star*, and *Beach Metro* newspapers. As noted in **Section 4.6**, a copy of this final Screening Report was shared with the four Indigenous

communities that were engaged during the Environmental Screening Process, prior to the public release of the report.

According to the Guide, and as described in the Notice of Completion, if a concerned party has outstanding environmental concerns about the project, they should raise these concerns with Atura Power. If Atura Power and the interested party are unable to resolve the matter, the concerned party may make a written request to the Minister, copying the Director of the Environmental Assessment Branch, MECP, and Atura Power, to elevate the project to either an Environmental Review or to a Comprehensive EA. Elevation requests must be submitted within the 30-day review period must be made in accordance with the provisions set out in the MECP's Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects.

## 5. Environmental Advantages and Disadvantages

In concluding the Environmental Screening, the overall advantages and disadvantages of the PEC upgrades are presented in **Table 5-1**. This section provides an overall conclusion as to whether the negative net environmental effects of the project are acceptable, based on a balanced assessment against the positive benefits.

**Table 5-1: Environmental Advantages and Disadvantages of the Project**

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As part of the replacement of equipment at the end of their service life that would normally occur at this time, the existing equipment would be upgraded with more efficient equipment but resulting in more electrical output.</li> <li>• Helps to address energy supply gap in Ontario by providing additional power generation capacity to meet the growing demand (through increased efficiency without expanding the facility).</li> <li>• Close proximity to existing transmission facilities and natural gas supply.</li> <li>• Allows PEC to continue to provide electricity system reliability by operating on demand in times when intermittent energy sources (e.g., wind and solar) alone cannot meet energy demand.</li> <li>• After the upgrade, the plant's thermal efficiency will increase due to a reduced heat rate (BTU/kWh). This means that the same amount of fuel used will produce more power after the upgrades.</li> <li>• Provides a cost-effective and timely solution to secure operational flexibility in the Ontario electricity grid.</li> <li>• Brings economic benefits through procurement of local labour and materials.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>

As shown in **Table 5-1**, a consideration of the overall advantages and disadvantages of the project indicate that the project advantages outweigh the disadvantages. Further, the Environmental Screening determined that all Screening Criteria scored 'No' as a result of the PEC upgrades project, and without any mitigation, all regulatory requirements will be met.

Atura Power remains committed to continuing to build relationships with Indigenous communities and the local community throughout the EA process.

## 6. References

- City of Toronto (2015). Central Waterfront Secondary Plan. Retried on November 16, 2023, from: [https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/8e22-CityPlanning\\_2006-OP\\_CWSP\\_Final.pdf](https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/8e22-CityPlanning_2006-OP_CWSP_Final.pdf)
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- Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (n.d.). DFRP/FCSI - Map Navigator. Retrieved on November 13, 2023, from: <https://map-carte.tbs-sct.gc.ca/map-carte/fcsi-rscf/map-carte.aspx?Language=EN&qid=2637841&backto=www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/fcsi-rscf/numbers-numeros-eng.aspx?qid=2637841>

Waterfront Toronto (2023). About Us. Retrieved from: <https://www.waterfrontoronto.ca/about-us>

**Atura Power**



# Appendix A

## Letters from General Electric (GE)



GE Gas Power - Services

**Richard Loud**  
Consulting Engineer – Acoustics  
Building 40-411K  
1 River Road

Schenectady, NY 12345

(518) 385-7275  
Richard.loud@ge.com

March 30, 2023

Andrea Coutu  
Gas Turbine Specialist  
1415 Joshuas Creek Drive Unit #101,  
Oakville, ON  
L6H 7G4

**Atura Power – Portlands Energy Centre & Brighton Beach Power - AGP, DLN2.6+ and High Output S0/R0 Upgrades - Noise**

Dear Andrea:

We have reviewed proposed changes to the gas turbines and have concluded that the Advanced Gas Path Upgrades, DLN2.6+ combustion system additions and High Output R0/S0 Upgrades to the gas turbine generator are not expected to increase noise levels from the Facility. This conclusion is based on the following aspects of the upgrade.

- The inlet guide vanes will be opened slightly increasing the airflow by 1% resulting in an immeasurable increase in the inlet noise of 0.04 dB\*.
- Changes to the combustor will improve efficiency but do not affect noise. The combustion system is located within the gas turbine enclosure which itself is located within the turbine building. The enclosures and building work together to mitigate noise from the combustion system.
- The exhaust gas flow will increase by less than 1% resulting in an immeasurable increase in the exhaust noise of 0.04 dB\*.

\* For IEC 61672-1 Class 1 sound level meters, acceptance limits are generally +/- 1.0 dB.

In its experience installing the Advanced Gas Path upgrades and High Output R0/S0 upgrades on the 7F fleet, GE is not aware of any instance in which the upgrades resulted in a material increase in noise emissions from a facility. GE has no evidence indicating that the upgrades resulted in extra turbulence in the exhaust that could result in damage to the stack silencer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Richard Loud'.

Richard Loud  
Consulting Engineer - Acoustics



## GE Gas Power - Services

**Mark Brache**  
Account Manager

1919 Minnesota Court, Suite 100, Mississauga,  
Ontario L5N 0C9

(403) 585-2799  
Mark.Brache@ge.com

May 26th, 2023

Andrea Coutu  
Gas Turbine Specialist  
1415 Joshuas Creek Drive Unit #101,  
Oakville, ON  
L6H 7G4

### **Atura Power – Portlands Energy Centre & Brighton Beach Power - AGP, DLN2.6+ and High Output S0/R0 Uprates - Noise**

Dear Andrea,

We have reviewed proposed changes to the gas turbines and have concluded that the Advanced Gas Path Upgrades, DLN2.6+ combustion system additions and High Output R0/S0 Upgrades to the gas turbine generator will Maintain emissions levels at or below site permit levels. This is also stated in proposal, "The proposed AGP Tech, DLN2.6+ upgrade will maintain NOx emission at 9 ppm."

This conclusion is based on the following aspects of the upgrade.

- The 7FA DLN2.6+ Combustor is a common architecture across the 7FA.03, 7FA.04 and 7FA.05 gas turbine models. The combustor can deliver lower NOx and equal CO emissions guaranteed levels as compared with the DLN 2.6e system. It also provides improved Combustion Inspection (CI) intervals, higher ethane and H2 tolerance, and improved flexibility with lower turndown levels with increased Modified Wobbe Index (MWI) range.
- DLN tuning is required following installation of the uprate to ensure emission estimates contained here-in.
- Start-up emissions are NOT addressed in this letter as they are dependent on the given site specific start-up profile.

GE's 2.6+ combustor was designed originally to offer lower emissions. GE's expectation is that the emissions of the gas turbine in minimum emission mode and above will maintain the 9 PPM.

Sincerely,

Mark Brache  
Account Manager

# Appendix B

## Engagement Records

- **Appendix B1: Project Contact List**
- **Appendix B2: Distribution of Notice of Commencement**
- **Appendix B3: Virtual Public Meeting Materials**
- **Appendix B4: Summary of Public Engagement**
- **Appendix B5: Correspondence Records with Municipal Staff and Elected Officials**
- **Appendix B6: Correspondence Records with Agencies**
- **Appendix B7: Other Correspondence**
- **Appendix B8: Notice of Completion**

Since the draft Screening Report was released in December 2023, the Government of Ontario has revoked O. Reg. 116/01, replacing it with O. Reg. 50/24. O. Reg. 50/24 applies to a broader classification of projects but still requires Atura Power to undertake an Environmental Screening Process according to the directives in the Guide.

As the project commenced under O. Reg. 116/01, many of the early project materials referenced in the following appendices reference O. Reg. 116/01, however it is important that readers understand O. Reg. 50/24 has since replaced O. Reg. 116/01, as of February 2024. See Note to Readers on page iv of the Screening Report for more information.

# Appendix B1: Project Contact List



**Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades: Agency Contact List**

Category	Subcategory	Organization	Contact Name & Title	Email	Phone Number	Address
<b>MECP Contacts</b>						
Agency	Provincial	Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks	General Contact	<a href="mailto:ClassEAnotices@ontario.ca">ClassEAnotices@ontario.ca</a>	-	-
Agency	Provincial	Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks	Naz Kiriliak	<a href="mailto:Nazariy.Kiriliak@ontario.ca">Nazariy.Kiriliak@ontario.ca</a>	-	-
Agency	Provincial	Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks – Central Region	General contact	<a href="mailto:eanotification.cregion@ontario.ca">eanotification.cregion@ontario.ca</a>	-	-
Agency	Provincial	Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks	Kathleen O'Neill, Director	<a href="mailto:Kathleen.Oneill@ontario.ca">Kathleen.Oneill@ontario.ca</a>	-	-
Agency	Provincial	Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks	Chunmei Liu, Regional Environmental Planner	<a href="mailto:Chunmei.Liu@ontario.ca">Chunmei.Liu@ontario.ca</a>	-	-
<b>Elected Officials</b>						
Elected Official	Federal	Member of Parliament for Toronto-Danforth	Julie Dabrusin	<a href="mailto:julie.dabrusin@parl.gc.ca">julie.dabrusin@parl.gc.ca</a>	416-405-8914	1028 Queen Street East Toronto, Ontario M4M 1K4
Elected Official	Provincial	Member of Provincial Parliament for Toronto-Danforth	Peter Tabuns	<a href="mailto:tabunsp-qp@ndp.on.ca">tabunsp-qp@ndp.on.ca</a>	416-325-3250	111 Wellesley St W, Room 465 Toronto, ON M7A 1A5
Elected Official	Regional	York Region	Wayne Emmerson, York Region Chairman and CEO	<a href="mailto:wayne.emmerson@york.ca">wayne.emmerson@york.ca</a> ; <a href="mailto:regional.chair@york.ca">regional.chair@york.ca</a>	1-877-464-9675 x 71100	Attn: Wayne Emmerson 17250 Yonge Street Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1
Elected Official	Municipal	City of Toronto	Olivia Chow, Mayor	<a href="mailto:mayor_chow@toronto.ca">mayor_chow@toronto.ca</a>	416-397-2489	Office of the Mayor 100 Queen St W City Hall, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Elected Official	Municipal	City of Toronto	Michal Hay, Mayor's Chief of Staff	<a href="mailto:mayor_chow@toronto.ca">mayor_chow@toronto.ca</a>	416-397-2489	Office of the Mayor 100 Queen St W City Hall, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Elected Official	Municipal	City of Toronto	Asuma Malik, Deputy Mayor (South)	<a href="mailto:Councillor_Malik@toronto.ca">Councillor_Malik@toronto.ca</a>	416-397-2489	Office of the Mayor 100 Queen St W City Hall, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Elected Official	Municipal	City of Toronto	Paula Fletcher, Toronto-Danforth Ward	<a href="mailto:councillor_fletcher@toronto.ca">councillor_fletcher@toronto.ca</a>	416-392-4060	Office of the Mayor 100 Queen St W City Hall, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor

Category	Subcategory	Organization	Contact Name & Title	Email	Phone Number	Address
						Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
<b>Agencies - Provincial</b>						
Agency	Provincial	Conseil scolaire Viamonde (Association des conseils scolaires des écoles publiques de l'Ontario)	Michel Laverdière, Director of Education	<a href="mailto:laverdierem@csviamonde.ca">laverdierem@csviamonde.ca</a>	416-614-0844	116 Cornelius Parkway Toronto, ON M6L 2K5
Agency	Provincial	Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO)	General Contact	<a href="mailto:contract.management@ieso.ca">contract.management@ieso.ca</a>	905-403-6900	1600-120 Adelaide Street W Toronto, ON M5H 1T1
Agency	Provincial	Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism – Heritage, Tourism and Culture Division	Karla Barboza, Team Lead(A), Heritage	<a href="mailto:karla.barboza@ontario.ca">karla.barboza@ontario.ca</a>	416-660-1027	c/o Heritage Planning Unit 400 University Ave 5th Floor Toronto, ON M7A 2R9
Agency	Provincial	Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism – Heritage, Tourism and Culture Division	Liam Smythe, Heritage Planner	<a href="mailto:Liam.Smythe2@ontario.ca">Liam.Smythe2@ontario.ca</a>	416-301-4797	Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism 400 University Ave. 5th Floor Toronto, ON M7A 2R9
Agency	Provincial	Ministry of Energy	Joerg Wittenbrinck, Manager(A)	<a href="mailto:joerg.wittenbrinck@ontario.ca">joerg.wittenbrinck@ontario.ca</a>	289-980-8124	Ministry of Energy 77 Grenville St 6th Floor, Toronto, ON M7A 1B3
Agency	Provincial	Ministry of Energy	Michael Di Cosmo, A/ Coordinator	<a href="mailto:michael.dicosmo@ontario.ca">michael.dicosmo@ontario.ca</a>	437-770-7960	-
Agency	Provincial	Ministry of Infrastructure – Infrastructure Ontario	Katherine Hotrum, Director Environmental Projects	<a href="mailto:katherine.hotrum@infrastructureontario.ca">katherine.hotrum@infrastructureontario.ca</a>	647-264-4573	1 Dundas St W 20th Floor Toronto, ON M5G 1Z3
Agency	Provincial	Ministry of Infrastructure – Infrastructure Ontario	Erica Anderson, Environmental Manager	<a href="mailto:erica.anderson@infrastructureontario.ca">erica.anderson@infrastructureontario.ca</a>	226-314-0893	1 Dundas St W 20th Floor Toronto, ON M5G 1Z3
Agency	Provincial	Ministry of Infrastructure – Infrastructure Ontario	David Macey, Vice President: Portfolio Planning and Development	<a href="mailto:david.macey@infrastructureontario.ca">david.macey@infrastructureontario.ca</a> cc: <a href="mailto:noticereview@infrastructureontario.ca">noticereview@infrastructureontario.ca</a>	647-264-3861	1 Dundas St W 20th Floor Toronto, ON M5G 1Z3
Agency	Provincial	Ministry of Infrastructure – Infrastructure Ontario	Joanna Craig, Planner	<a href="mailto:noticereview@infrastructureontario.ca">noticereview@infrastructureontario.ca</a>	647-965-6703	1 Dundas St W 20th Floor, Toronto, ON M5G 1Z3
Agency	Provincial	Ministry of Mines	Tracey Burton, Manager (A) – Strategic Support Unit	<a href="mailto:tracey.burton@ontario.ca">tracey.burton@ontario.ca</a>	705-918-1609	Willet Green Miller Centre 933 Ramsey Lake Rd, 2nd Floor Sudbury, ON P3E 6B5



Category	Subcategory	Organization	Contact Name & Title	Email	Phone Number	Address
Agency	Provincial	Ministry of Mines	Melanie Johnson, Senior Strategic Initiatives Lead	<a href="mailto:melanie.johnson@ontario.ca">melanie.johnson@ontario.ca</a>	705-698-5041	Willet Green Miller Centre 933 Ramsey Lake Rd, 2nd Floor Sudbury, ON P3E 6B5
Agency	Provincial	Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry	Keith Johnston, Environmental Planning Team Lead (A)	<a href="mailto:Environmental.Planning.Team@ontario.ca">Environmental.Planning.Team@ontario.ca</a> cc: <a href="mailto:keith.johnston@ontario.ca">keith.johnston@ontario.ca</a>	-	99 Wellesley St W Whitney Block Room 5520 Toronto, ON M7A 1W3
Agency	Provincial	Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry	Jessica Post, Land Use Planning and Strategic Issues Section Administrative Assistant	<a href="mailto:SR.Planning@ontario.ca">SR.Planning@ontario.ca</a>	705-761-4839	300 Water Street Box 7000, 4th Floor, South Tower Peterborough ON K9J 8MS
Agency	Provincial	Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry	Sarah Bale, Regional Planner	<a href="mailto:sarah.bale@ontario.ca">sarah.bale@ontario.ca</a>	613-504-2254	-
Agency	Provincial	Ministry of Transportation	Rina Kulathinal, Manager (Engineering Program Delivery Central)	<a href="mailto:rina.kulathinal@ontario.ca">rina.kulathinal@ontario.ca</a>	416-454-1573	Ministry of Transportation 159 Sir William Hearst Ave 5th Floor, Building D Toronto ON M3M 0B7
Agency	Provincial	Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport – Sport, Recreation and Recognition Division	Darja Ros, Manager	<a href="mailto:darja.ros@ontario.ca">darja.ros@ontario.ca</a>	647-283-8621	777 Bay Street 18th Floor Toronto, ON M7A 1S5
Agency	Provincial	Toronto Catholic School Board	Brendan Browne, Director of Education	<a href="mailto:brendan.browne@tcdsb.org">brendan.browne@tcdsb.org</a>	416-222-8282 Main Switchboard	Catholic Education Centre 80 Sheppard Ave E Toronto, ON M2N 6E8
Agency	Provincial	Toronto District School Board	Colleen Russell-Rawlins, Director of Education	<a href="mailto:directorsoffice@tdsb.on.ca">directorsoffice@tdsb.on.ca</a>	416-397-3180	Director's Office 5050 Yonge Street, Toronto, ON M2N 5N8
<b>Agencies – Regional</b>						
Agency	Regional	Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA)	Councillor Paul Ainslie, TRCA Board Chair	<a href="mailto:councillor_ainslie@toronto.ca">councillor_ainslie@toronto.ca</a>	416-392-4008	c/o TRCA, 101 Exchange Avenue Vaughan, ON L4K 5R6
Agency	Regional	Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA)	General Contact (Clerk's Office)	<a href="mailto:clerk@trca.ca">clerk@trca.ca</a>	437-880-2328	c/o TRCA, 101 Exchange Avenue Vaughan, ON L4K 5R6
Agency	Regional	Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA)	Jackie Ho, Planner	<a href="mailto:Jackie.Ho@trca.ca">Jackie.Ho@trca.ca</a>	437-880-2147	c/o TRCA, 101 Exchange Avenue Vaughan, ON L4K 5R6
Agency	Regional	Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA)	Corinna Thomassen-Darby	<a href="mailto:Corinna.Thomassen-Darby@trca.ca">Corinna.Thomassen-Darby@trca.ca</a>	416-661-6600 x 5625	c/o TRCA, 101 Exchange Avenue Vaughan, ON L4K 5R6



Category	Subcategory	Organization	Contact Name & Title	Email	Phone Number	Address
Agency	Regional	Toronto Economic Development Corporation	Richard Saunders	<a href="mailto:richard.saunders@ontario.ca">richard.saunders@ontario.ca</a>	416-990-2661	5775 Yonge Street 8 <sup>th</sup> Floor Toronto, ON M2M 4J1
Agency	Regional	PortsToronto (previously known as Toronto Ports Authority)	General Contact	-	416-863-2000, 416-462-3937	207 Queen's Quay W Suite 500 Toronto, ON M5J 1A7
<b>Agencies - Municipal</b>						
Agency	Municipal	Ashbridges Bay WW Treatment	General Contact	-	416-392-5150	9 Leslie St Toronto, ON M4M 3M9
Agency	Municipal	Cherry Beach Park	General Contact	-	416-392-0239	1 Cherry St Toronto, ON M5A 0B7
Agency	Municipal	Cherry Beach Sports Fields	General Contact	-	416-367-4359	115 Unwin Ave Toronto, ON M5A 1A2
Agency	Municipal	Toronto Fire Services	Matthew Pegg, Fire Chief & General Manager	<a href="mailto:OfficeoftheFireChief@toronto.ca">OfficeoftheFireChief@toronto.ca</a>	416-338-9061	4330 Dufferin St Toronto, ON M3H 5R9
Agency	Municipal	Toronto Police Service	General Contact	<a href="mailto:Officeofthechief@torontopolice.on.ca">Officeofthechief@torontopolice.on.ca</a>	416-808-8000	40 College St Toronto, ON M5G 2J3
Agency	Municipal	City of Toronto	John Elvidge, City Clerk	<a href="mailto:clerk@toronto.ca">clerk@toronto.ca</a>	416-392-8641	Toronto City Hall 100 Queen St W 13 <sup>th</sup> Floor W Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Agency	Municipal	City of Toronto- City Council	Michal Hay, Mayor's Chief of Staff	<a href="mailto:mayor_chow@toronto.ca">mayor_chow@toronto.ca</a>	416-397-2489	Office of the Mayor 100 Queen St W City Hall, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Agency	Municipal	City of Toronto – Environment and Climate Department: Public Energy Initiatives – Existing Buildings	Rae-Anne Miller, Manager	<a href="mailto:eed@toronto.ca">eed@toronto.ca</a>	416-455-3251	c/o Metro Hall mailroom 55 John St Union Station East Wing, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Toronto, ON M5V 3C6
Agency	Municipal	City of Toronto – Environment and Climate Department: Public Energy Initiatives – New Developments	Fernando Carou, Manager	<a href="mailto:eed@toronto.ca">eed@toronto.ca</a>	416-455-3251	c/o Metro Hall mailroom 55 John St Union Station East Wing, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Toronto, ON M5V 3C6
Agency	Municipal	City of Toronto – Environment and Climate Division	James Nowlan, Executive Director	<a href="mailto:James.Nowlan@toronto.ca">James.Nowlan@toronto.ca</a>	-	c/o Metro Hall mailroom 55 John St Union Station East Wing, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Toronto, ON M5V 3C6

Category	Subcategory	Organization	Contact Name & Title	Email	Phone Number	Address
Agency	Municipal	City of Toronto – Parks, Forestry and Recreation	Janie Romoff, General Manager	<a href="mailto:parks@toronto.ca">parks@toronto.ca</a>	416-392-8182	Toronto City Hall 100 Queen St W 4 <sup>th</sup> Floor W Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Agency	Municipal	City of Toronto – Toronto Water	Lou Di Gironimo, General Manager	<a href="mailto:TWCustomerCare@toronto.ca">TWCustomerCare@toronto.ca</a>	416-392-8200	Metro Hall, 55 John Street 18 <sup>th</sup> Floor Toronto, ON M5V 0C4
Agency	Municipal	City of Toronto – City Planning	Gregg Lintern, Chief Planner & Executive Director	<a href="mailto:cityplanning@toronto.ca">cityplanning@toronto.ca</a>	416-392-8772	Toronto City Hall 100 Queen St W 12 <sup>th</sup> Floor E Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Agency	Municipal	Commissioners St Transfer Station	General Contact	-	416-392-2292	400 Commissioners St Toronto, ON M4M 3K2
Agency	Municipal	City of Toronto – City Planning Division – Urban Design, Heritage	Amir Nissan, Assistant Heritage Planner	<a href="mailto:Amir.Nissan@toronto.ca">Amir.Nissan@toronto.ca</a>	416-338-4805	Toronto City Hall 100 Queen St W 12 <sup>th</sup> Floor E Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
<b>Utilities</b>						
Agency	Utility	Hydro One Networks Inc.	General Contact	<a href="mailto:SecondaryLandUse@HydroOne.com">SecondaryLandUse@HydroOne.com</a>	-	-
Agency	Utility	Ontario Power Generation (OPG)	Tammy Wong, Senior Environment Specialist	<a href="mailto:tammy.wong@opg.com">tammy.wong@opg.com</a>	416-592-4548	700 University Avenue Toronto, ON M5G 1X6
Agency	Utility	Toronto Hydro	General Contact	-	416-542-8000	14 Carlton Street Toronto, ON M5B 1K5
Utilities	Utility	CN Rail	General Contact	<a href="mailto:Proximity@cn.ca">Proximity@cn.ca</a>	-	1 Administration Road Concord, ON L4K 1B9
Utilities	Utility	CP Rail	Tom Twigge, Director	<a href="mailto:tom_twigge@cpr.ca">tom_twigge@cpr.ca</a>	905-803-5986	1290 Central Parkway W Mississauga, ON L5C 4R3

## **Appendix B2: Distribution of Notice of Commencement**



# Notice of Commencement of a Screening and Invitation to a Virtual Public Meeting

## Portlands Energy Centre Upgrades

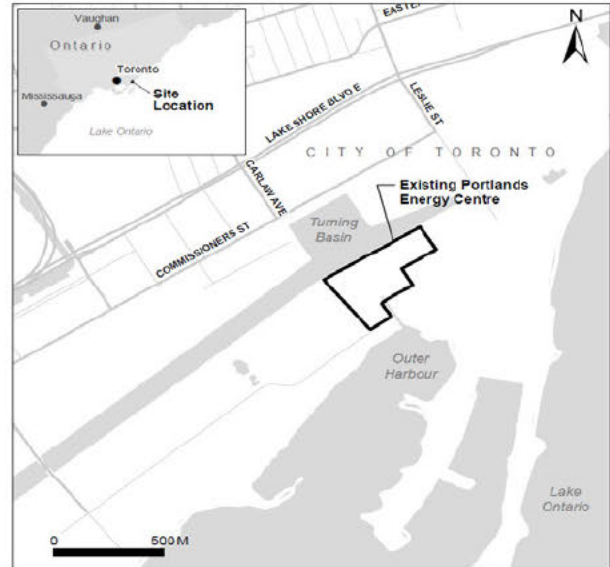
Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at its Portlands Energy Centre (PEC).

## Project Description

PEC has operated since 2009 in the City of Toronto on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station on Villiers Island. It's capable of outputting 550 megawatts (MW) to Ontario's electricity grid.

The upgrades will be limited to replacing parts of the existing natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts during a regular maintenance cycle and will result in an increase in output capacity to 600 MW. All upgrades will take place within the existing facility and **there will be no changes or expansion beyond the existing PEC footprint.**

# Atura Power



Atura Power is committed to building a resilient electricity grid in Ontario and is working to address the energy supply shortfall, identified by the Independent Electricity System Operator, that Ontario will experience in the near future. The planned efficiency upgrades to PEC are part of Atura Power's efforts to address this supply gap and to make energy production more efficient and affordable.

## Environmental Screening Process

Since the project will result in a 50 MW increase in output capacity of PEC, it's subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01, under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. This Notice is issued to communicate the start of the Environmental Screening Process.

## Virtual Public Meeting

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<b>How to Join</b>	Date:	Thursday, October 5, 2023
	Time:	6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time
	Project webpage:	<a href="http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade">aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade</a>

## Project Contacts

Please email your questions or comments to [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

For more information: [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade)

Comments and information regarding this project are being collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* for the purpose of meeting environmental assessment requirements.



# MARKETPLACE

REAL ESTATE	BUSINESS	RENTALS
Real Estate Services	Investment Properties	Apts. Unfurn. Central
<b>YONGE</b> /Finch, furn. 1 bdrm. Bsmt. 2bath, side split, sep. entr., \$2000+. 416-779-9985.	<b>INVESTORS WANTED</b> Real Estate opportunities in GTA Development, single/multifamily, lending and more. (647) 686-8506	<b>FOR RENT</b> Bloor/Sherbourne. New bachelor apartment, long or short term. 1 min to Sherbourne Station. This is not to be missed! \$1650/mo. Call (647) 983-2589
		<b>Rooms (Furn.)</b>
		<b>PHARMACY</b> - Danforth - clean, quiet house, shared kit/bath., no smoke. 647-515-8595

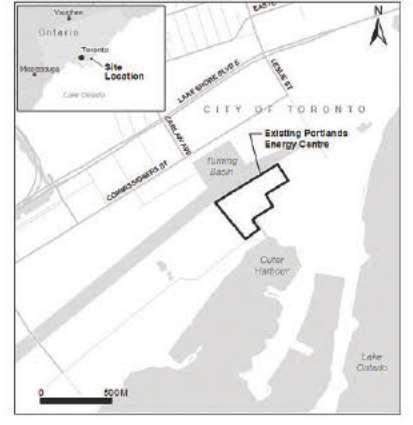
## SERVICES

Legal

### Notice of Commencement of a Screening and Invitation to a Virtual Public Meeting

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**Project Contacts**  
 Please email your questions or comments to [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).  
 For more information: [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade)  
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<b>Groups &amp; Clubs</b>	<b>Missing Persons</b>	<b>Instruction-Dancing/Educational/Musical</b>
<b>MAKE NEW FRIENDS!</b> Join a fall social bowling club. At Parkway Bowl, 67 Ellesmere Road, Lower Level, Parkway Mall. Call 416-447-1761	<b>MISSING PERSON</b> DICKERSON, Benjamin, DOB: January 2, 1983, or anyone knowing his whereabouts, please call Kaela at 416-969-8510.	<b>MISSING PERSON</b> TOWEGEJICK, Whitney, DOB: January 4, 1990, or anyone knowing her whereabouts, please call Kaela at 416-969-8510.
		<b>PROFESSIONAL</b> Recording Studio avail. in Toronto. \$85 per hr. 416-266-3079

## MERCHANDISE

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 Call Ed 416-844-9990

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 Costume jewellery, Doultons, fancy cups and saucers, coins, watches, silver.  
 David 416-231-9948

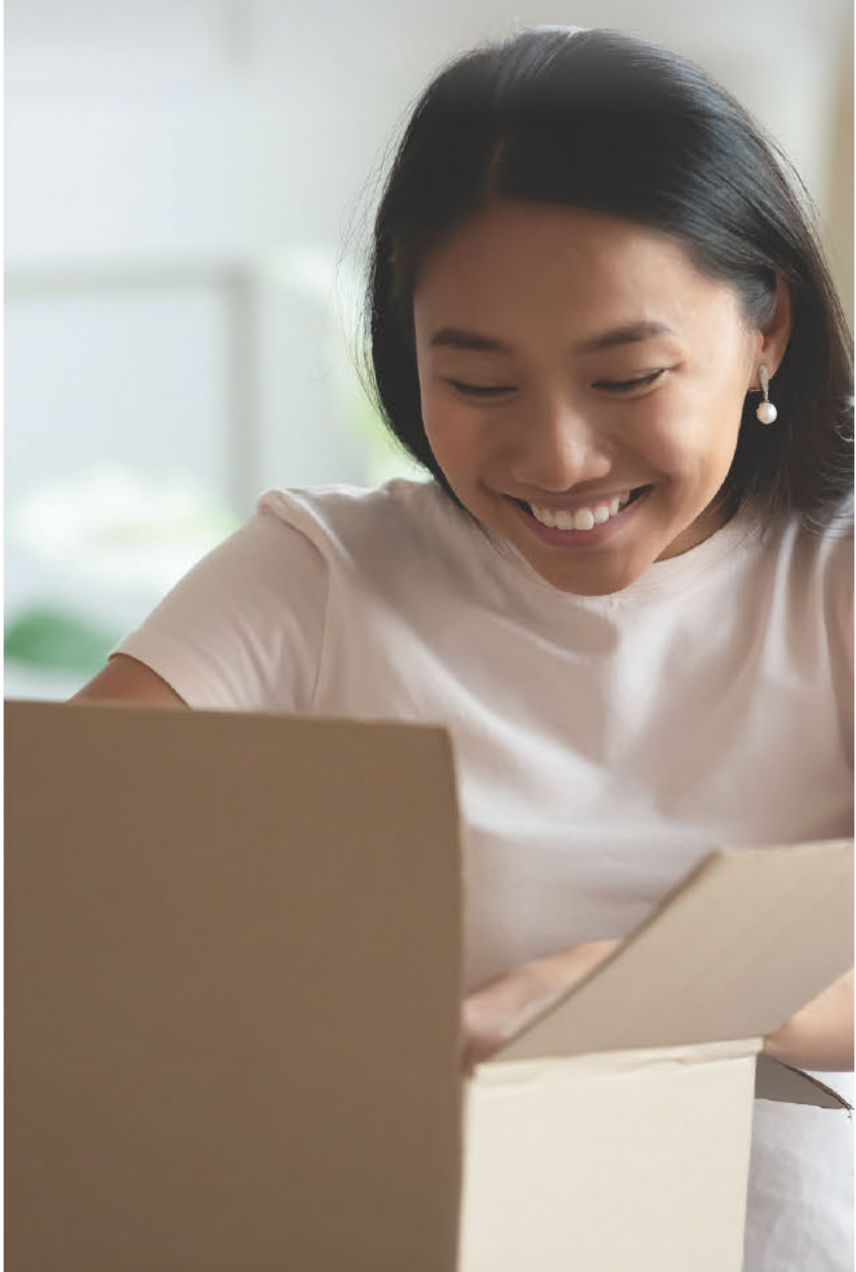
**Dogs**  
**GREAT PYRENEES & COCKPOOS**  
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SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION



# 'Control, influence'

## Trial for Freedom Convoy organizers about actions, not beliefs: Crown

OTTAWA — Tamara Lich and Chris Barber are not on trial for their political beliefs against COVID-19 public health orders, but for the means the two Freedom Convoy organizers used in trying to end them, a Crown prosecutor argued Tuesday.

Tim Radcliffe used his opening remarks at the start of the 16-day trial to paint a picture of Lich and Barber as the heart of the protest that gridlocked downtown Ottawa near Parliament Hill for three weeks in January and February 2022, until police moved in to clear the streets.

"This occupation was anything but peaceful," he told the court.

Lich, who hails from Medicine Hat, Alta., and Barber, who is from Swift Current, Sask., were part of the original group that mobilized a convoy of big rigs and other vehicles to drive to Ottawa to protest COVID-related restrictions and, more broadly, the federal Liberal government.

Together they are charged with mischief, counselling others to commit mischief, intimidation and

obstructing police. Barber, who owns a trucking company in Saskatchewan, is also charged with counselling others to disobey a court order that banned loud honking in the city's downtown core.

In a signed admission to the court, Lich and Barber acknowledged the actions of "certain individuals" interfered with the lawful use, enjoyment and operation of property and businesses in Ottawa during the protest.

In a separate document signed by

Lich and Barber, Lich admitted she was a leader, organizer and authorized spokesman for the Freedom Convoy.

Radcliffe told the court that Lich and Barber not only counselled people to come to Ottawa but to remain there, using what the lawyer called their "infamous 'hold the line' rallying call."

The pair "pressured decision-makers" and exerted "control and influence," all in the name of achieving the political purpose of ending pandemic health orders such as vaccine mandates, Radcliffe said.

About 50 people, including roughly 20 who were there to support Lich and Barber, filled the Ottawa courtroom on Tuesday.

Judge Heather Perkins-McVey said she requested the largest courtroom to allow as many people as possible to watch, given the public interest in the case.

Lawrence Greenspon, who is representing Lich, disputed the Crown's use of the word "occupation," calling it "inflammatory, inaccurate and



Chris Barber leaves the courthouse yesterday in Ottawa. Inset, Tamara Lich takes a hug break. ADRIAN WYLD/CANADIAN PRESS PHOTOS

insensitive."

The word has far more serious connotations for people around the world who are truly victims of an occupation, he said.

— The Canadian Press



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### Portlands Energy Centre Upgrades

Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at its Portlands Energy Centre (PEC).

### Project Description

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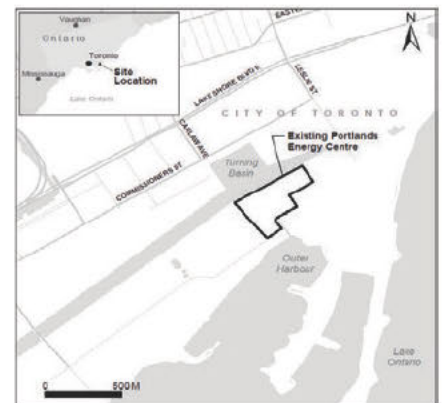
### Project Contacts

Please email your questions or comments to [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

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## Atura Power



<b>How to Join</b>	Date:	Thursday, October 5, 2023
	Time:	6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time
	Project webpage:	<a href="http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade">aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade</a>



## Fun at the Danforth East Arts Fair



Youngsters create crafts while attending the Danforth East Arts Fair at East Lynn Park on Saturday. The annual fair took place on both Saturday and Sunday at the park. PHOTO: ALAN SHACKLETON



To celebrate his 90th birthday in 2019, the East Toronto Women's Fastpitch Association presented Peter Cripps with this framed photo honouring his decades of being the announcer for games at Dieppe Park.

## Women's fastpitch championship game set for tonight at Dieppe Park

**'Peter' from Page 19**  
Thursday nights. There were lots of teams and lots of fans," he remembered.

The same held true for the men's fastpitch games that would be played on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the park. "It was very popular and there were some very good players among the ladies and the men," said Cripps.

"I was the announcer up in the booth and there would be good crowds out. Some nights the place was just packed," he remembered.

Looking far younger than his age, Cripps has lived not too far from Dieppe Park for the past 29 years and often walks over to watch the games.

On the night he met with Beach Metro, though, he had taken the bus since there was a possibility of rain later that night.

"I go to the gym four days

a week. I've been doing so for 40 years. That helps keep me in good shape," he said.

An East Ender through and through, Cripps grew up in the Jones and Danforth avenue area and attended Earl Grey Public School. He didn't go to high school afterwards but later took a correspondence course to earn his diploma.

"I got 49 As and one B-plus over the five years of the course. The B-plus was on the last course. I can't complain about that. It was pretty darn good. It was just plain good," he said of the high school courses he took by correspondence.

Cripps worked for years at a local paint company before he retired.

Along with his involvement with women's softball, Cripps also enjoys watching other sports including hockey and football.

"I cut out the TV at my apartment, but I will some-

times go to a restaurant or bar to watch sports, especially hockey and football," he said. "I always watch the Super Bowl and the Grey Cup."

Sports and recreation has always been a big part of life for Cripps in the East Toronto community.

Along with the softball, he would also take part in five-pin bowling and play pool along the Danforth.

"Years ago on the Danforth there was a big pool hall and I would go there every once in a while to pick up some money," he said.

Local sports fans are invited to say hello to Cripps at tonight's (Tuesday, Sept. 19 at 8 p.m.) ETWFA play-off championship game at Dieppe Park on Coxburn Avenue. He'll be there cheering on the Cannons and the Mavericks; as they compete for the title. Currently the ETWFA has five teams and 70 players.

## Notice of Commencement of a Screening and Invitation to a Virtual Public Meeting

**Portland's Energy Centre Upgrades**  
Aura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at its Portland Energy Centre (PEC).

**Project Description**  
PEC has operated since 2005 in the City of Toronto on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station on Villiers Island. It's capable of outputting 550 megawatts (MW) to Ontario's electricity grid.

The upgrades will be limited to replacing parts of the existing natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts during a regular maintenance cycle and will result in an increase in output capacity to 600 MW. All upgrades will take place within the existing facility and there will be no changes or expansion beyond the existing PEC footprint.

Aura Power is committed to building a resilient electricity grid in Ontario and is working to address the energy supply shortfall, identified by the Independent Electricity System Operator, that Ontario will experience in the near future. The planned efficiency upgrades to PEC are part of Aura Power's efforts to address the supply gap and to make energy production more efficient and affordable.

### Environmental Screening Process

Under the project will result in a 50 MW increase in output capacity of PEC. It's subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01, under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act. This Notice is issued to communicate the start of the Environmental Screening Process.

### Virtual Public Meeting

Aura Power is committed to engaging with Indigenous communities, the public and other interested parties on all our projects. We invite you to attend an upcoming virtual public meeting to learn more and provide feedback. You can access the link to join the public meeting on the project webpage. If you are unable to participate, meeting materials will be posted on the project webpage following the meeting.

How to Join	Date:	Thursday, October 5, 2023
	Time:	6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time
	Project webpage:	<a href="https://auraenergy.com/ontariolandupgrades">auraenergy.com/ontariolandupgrades</a>

### Project Contacts

Please email your questions or comments to [ontariolandupgrades@auraenergy.com](mailto:ontariolandupgrades@auraenergy.com)

For more information: [auraenergy.com/ontariolandupgrades](https://auraenergy.com/ontariolandupgrades)

Comments and information regarding the project are being collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act for the purpose of meeting environmental assessment requirements.

## Atura Power



## Pet Memorials

Honouring Beloved Companions

### Ferris 2008-2023



Ferris came into our lives on August 29, 2008 and he left August 31, 2023. My precious little baby boy. My sugar pile. My rump roast. Mr. Stinky. The most beautiful cat I ever saw with my own two eyes.

Conceived in Scarborough, raised on Hammer-smith Avenue in The Beaches and Westlake Avenue in East York, Ferris made an impression on everyone he met because in many ways he was not a nice cat. He despised meeting new people.

We were invited not to return to several veterinary clinics in the East End. The only note on his file at the vet who had the guts to take him on was "Difficult".

It took him five years to sleep on our laps. It took about ten years to truly be able to call him affectionate. We loved him, pet him, kissed him, brushed him, snuggled him, and rubbed his velvety paws for every second he would let us.

He loved stealing a taste of old fashion plain donuts, butter tart pastry, potato chips, popcorn, Budweiser, and the first few sips of water you just poured for yourself. He would also yell at you to get out of the shower so he could have a slurp in the tub.

He was an indoor cat most of his life but as of this Spring he loved sitting outside on our little porch for hours at a time.

He had a rough summer. On the morning of August 31, he made his way to the door as quick as he could and died with purpose on our little porch shortly thereafter. We loved him, pet him, kissed him, snuggled him, and rubbed his velvety paws for every second.

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

## [Cover Letter sent to Agency Contacts](#)

To whom it may concern,

This letter is to inform you that Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC), on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station on Villiers Island at 470 Unwin Ave., Toronto, Ont. The planned work will be limited to replacing parts of the existing natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts. These upgrades will occur during a regular maintenance cycle and, due to improved technology, will result in better performance. All activities to complete the upgrades will take place within the footprint of the existing facility. This project is part of Atura Power's effort to build a more efficient and resilient electricity grid in Ontario.

Currently, PEC is capable of outputting 550 megawatts (MW) to Ontario's electricity grid with proposed upgrades increasing its capacity to 600 MW. This planned increase of 50 MW results in the upgrades being subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01, under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. The attached Notice is issued to communicate the start of the Environmental Screening Process. A copy of the Notice was published in the *Toronto Star* and *Toronto Sun* on Wednesday, September 6, 2023, and will also be published in the *Beach Metro* newspaper in the coming days. A copy is also available on the project webpage at [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade).

Atura Power is committed to engaging with Indigenous communities, agencies, the public and other interested parties on all our projects. A virtual public meeting will be hosted on **Thursday, October 5, 2023, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** to share more about the planned upgrades and collect feedback from members of the public. The attached Notice includes details on how to join. Outreach to Indigenous communities is also underway to learn how they wish to be engaged about the project.

For more information about the project, please visit our project webpage (see link above). If you have any other questions or inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact us at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Sincerely,



Krishana Gnanachandran  
Project Manager - Outages and Projects  
Atura Power



Wednesday, September 6, 2023

## Cover Letter sent to MECP Contacts

To whom it may concern,

This letter is to inform you that Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC), on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station on Villiers Island at 470 Unwin Ave., Toronto, Ont. The planned work will be limited to replacing parts of the existing natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts. These upgrades will occur during a regular maintenance cycle and, due to improved technology, will result in better performance. All activities to complete the upgrades will take place within the footprint of the existing facility. This project is part of Atura Power's effort to build a more efficient and resilient electricity grid in Ontario.

Currently, PEC is capable of outputting 550 megawatts (MW) to Ontario's electricity grid with proposed upgrades increasing its capacity to 600 MW. This planned increase of 50 MW results in the upgrades being subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01, under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. The attached Notice is issued to communicate the start of the Environmental Screening Process. A copy of the Notice was published in the *Toronto Star* and *Toronto Sun* on Wednesday, September 6, 2023, and will also be published in the *Beach Metro* newspaper in the coming days. A copy is also available on the project webpage at [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade).

Atura Power is committed to engaging Indigenous communities, agencies, the public and other interested parties on all projects. A virtual public meeting will be hosted on **Thursday, October 5, 2023, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** to share more about the planned upgrades and collect feedback from members of the public. The attached Notice includes details on how to join.

Atura Power is seeking input from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) regarding the Indigenous communities that should be engaged as part of the Environmental Screening Process. The attached Notice includes a map of the project location. We would appreciate if the MECP would provide us with a list of communities with whom we should engage on this project. Given that the planned upgrades to PEC are minor, similar to routine maintenance activities and will be contained entirely within the footprint of PEC, Atura Power will be in contact with Mr. Nick Colella, Manager (Acting) of Environmental Assessment Services with the MECP, to pursue an exemption to the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act* for this project.

For more information about the project, please visit our project webpage (see link above). If you have any other questions or inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact us at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Sincerely,



Krishana Gnanachandran  
Project Manager - Outages and Projects  
Atura Power

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

## Cover Letter sent to Adjacent Properties

To whom it may concern,

This letter is to inform you that Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC), on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station on Villiers Island at 470 Unwin Ave., Toronto, Ont. The planned work will be limited to replacing parts of the existing natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts. These upgrades will occur during a regular maintenance cycle and, due to improved technology, will result in better performance. All activities to complete the upgrades will take place within the footprint of the existing facility. This project is part of Atura Power's effort to build a more efficient and resilient electricity grid in Ontario.

Currently, PEC is capable of outputting 550 megawatts (MW) to Ontario's electricity grid with proposed upgrades increasing its capacity to 600 MW. This planned increase of 50 MW results in the upgrades being subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01, under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. The attached Notice is issued to communicate the start of the Environmental Screening Process. A copy of the Notice was published in the *Toronto Star* and *Toronto Sun* on Wednesday, September 6, 2023, and will also be published in the *Beach Metro* newspaper in the coming days. A copy is also available on the project webpage at [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade).

Atura Power is committed to engaging all interested parties on all our projects. This includes you, our valued neighbours. We want to hear from you and would like to **invite you to attend a virtual public meeting on Thursday, October 5, 2023, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** to learn more about the planned upgrades and give us your feedback. The attached Notice includes details on how to join.

For more information about the project, please visit our project webpage (see link above). If you have any other questions or inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact us at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Sincerely,



Krishana Gnanachandran  
Project Manager - Outages and Projects  
Atura Power

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

## Cover Letter sent to Indigenous Communities

To whom it may concern,

This letter is to inform you that Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC), on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station on Villiers Island at 470 Unwin Ave., Toronto, Ont. The planned work will be limited to replacing parts of the existing natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts. These upgrades will occur during a regular maintenance cycle and, due to improved technology, will result in better performance. All activities to complete the upgrades will take place within the footprint of the existing facility. This project is part of Atura Power's effort to build a more efficient and resilient electricity grid in Ontario.

Currently, PEC is capable of outputting 550 megawatts (MW) to Ontario's electricity grid with proposed upgrades increasing its capacity to 600 MW. Since the upgrades will result in a 50 MW increase in the electrical output of PEC, it is subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01, under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. The attached Notice is issued to communicate the start of the Environmental Screening Process. A copy of the Notice was published in the *Toronto Star* and *Toronto Sun* on Wednesday, September 6, 2023, and will also be published in the *Beach Metro* newspaper in the coming days. A copy is also available on the project webpage at [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade).

Atura Power is committed to engaging with interested Indigenous communities on all projects. In addition to reaching out through this letter, we have been reaching out to your offices to share information about the project and learn how you wish to participate in this process. A virtual public meeting will be hosted on **Thursday, October 5, 2023, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** where members of the public can learn more about the planned upgrades and provide feedback, and we are also planning separate engagement sessions with interested Indigenous communities such as yourselves. We look forward to connecting with you further to continue learning how you might wish to participate.

For more information about the project, please visit our project webpage (see link above). If you have any other questions or inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact Kelly Grieves at [kelly.grieves@aturapower.com](mailto:kelly.grieves@aturapower.com).

Sincerely,



Shelley Babin  
President and CEO  
Atura Power

## **Appendix B3: Virtual Public Meeting Materials**

- **B3a: Virtual Public Meeting Presentation**
- **B3b: Virtual Public Meeting Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)s (FAQ)**
- **B3c: Virtual Public Meeting Q&A Session Question/ Comments**

# **Appendix B3a: Virtual Public Meeting Presentation**

# Atura Power

## Portland's Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

### Public Meeting

An opportunity to learn about the proposed efficiency upgrades and share your feedback.

**October 5, 2023**





# Order of Events

## Agenda

1. Introduction and Land Acknowledgement
2. Project and Proponent Information
3. Environmental Assessment Process
4. Next Steps
5. Question Period
6. Closing Comments



Presentation is being recorded



Materials will be available online



Moderator will mute participants; chat function is available for questions



Comments or questions can be sent to: [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)

# Land Acknowledgement

Atura Power acknowledges that Portlands Energy Centre is on the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit.



Comments or questions can be sent to: [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)



# Project Information

## Name of Project

- Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades

## Location

- 470 Unwin Ave., Toronto, Ont.
- Site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station on Villiers Island

## Proposed Activity

- Replacing parts of the combustion turbines with upgraded parts that will result in a 50 megawatt (MW) increase in output capacity



# Proponent Information

## Atura Power's Fleet of Generation Assets

A subsidiary of Ontario Power Generation, Atura Power owns and operates Ontario's largest fleet of combined-cycle gas turbine power plants



1. Brighton Beach Generating Station  
Capacity 570 MW



2. Halton Hills Generating Station  
Capacity 683 MW



4. Napanee Generating Station  
Capacity 900 MW



3. Portlands Energy Centre  
Capacity 550 MW



5. Oakville Head Office



Comments or questions can be sent to: [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)

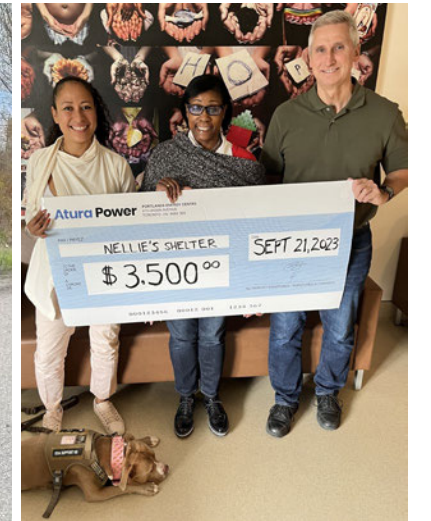


# Community Outreach and Support

## Strong Local Partner for 24 Years

In addition to participating in Doors Open Toronto, PEC annually donates more than \$20,000 to local charities and organizations including:

- Food and toy drives
- Nellie's Shelter
- Red Door Family Shelter
- Toronto Nature Stewards



Comments or questions can be sent to: [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)



# Project Need

- The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is the Crown corporation responsible for operating the electricity market in Ontario
- The IESO predicts Ontario will face an energy shortage as a result of growing demand and nuclear refurbishments; an additional 4,000 MW are needed by the end of the decade to maintain the system's reliability
- The PEC upgrades are part of Atura Power's efforts to address this supply gap, providing a cost-effective and timely solution to secure operational flexibility in the Ontario electricity grid
- Upgrading the two turbines with more efficient parts will increase output capacity by 50 MW



# Project Description

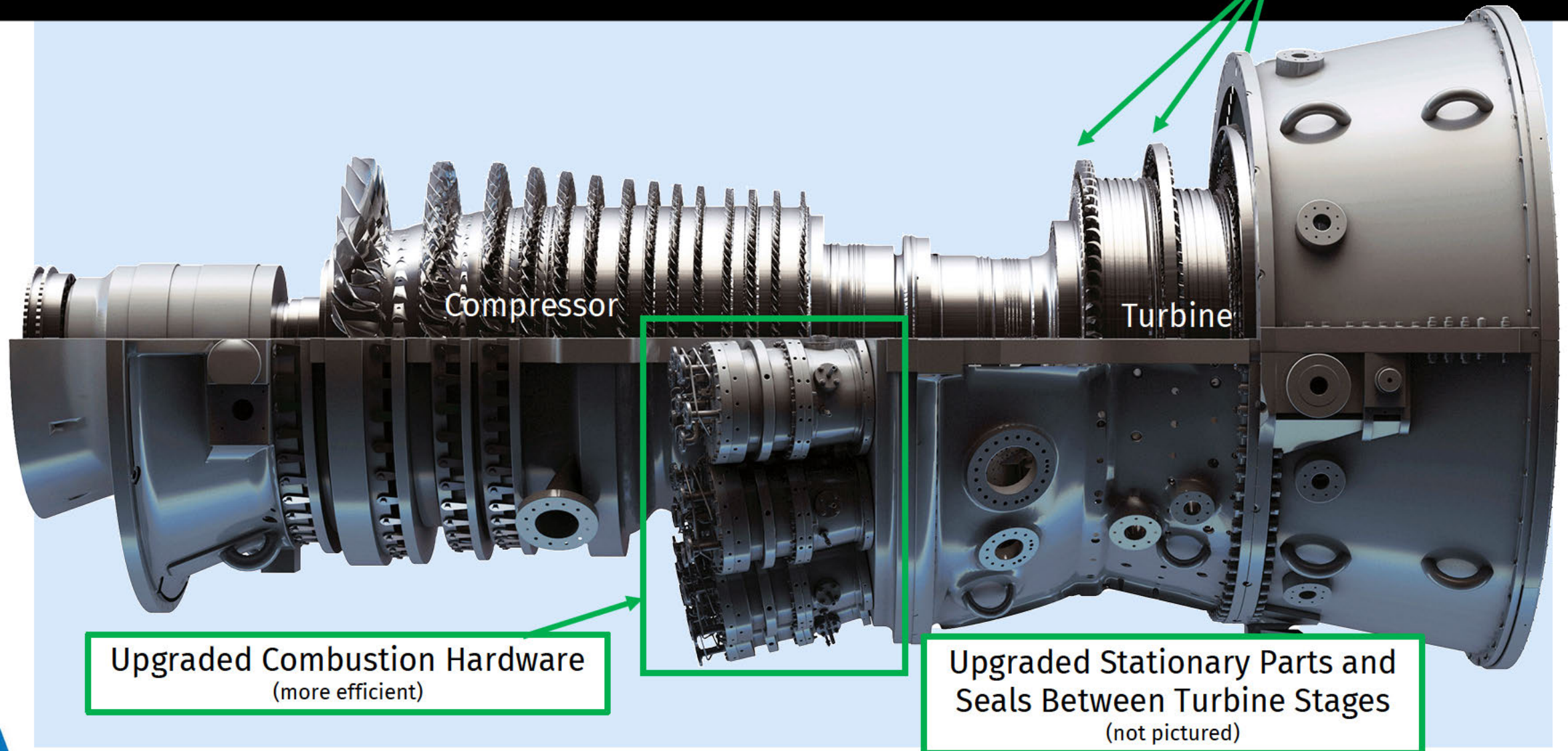
- Replacing parts of the existing turbines with parts made of materials with optimized cooling characteristics
- Will allow PEC to generate more electricity using a similar amount of natural gas
- All activities will be within the existing facility; **no changes or expansion of existing footprint**



Comments or questions can be sent to: [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)



# Project Description



Upgraded Rotating Blades  
(higher operating temps, more efficient)

Compressor

Turbine

Upgraded Combustion Hardware  
(more efficient)

Upgraded Stationary Parts and  
Seals Between Turbine Stages  
(not pictured)

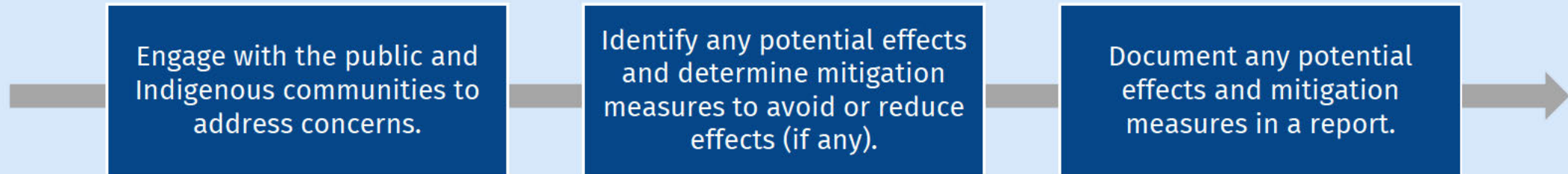


Comments or questions can be sent to: [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)

# Environmental Assessment (EA) Process

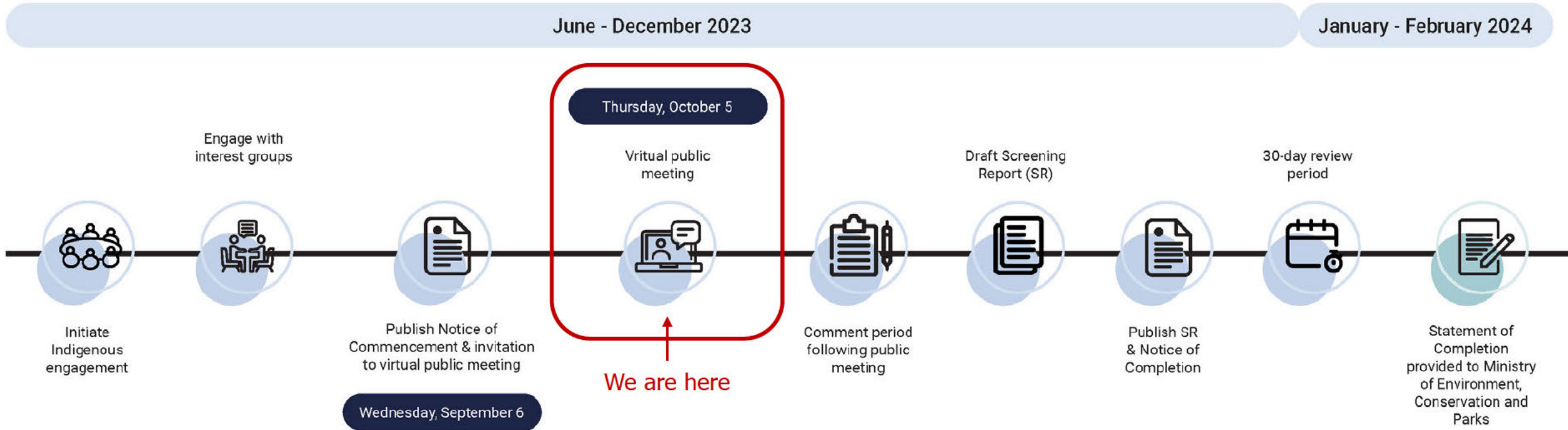
- The project will result in a > 5 MW increase in the output capacity of PEC
- The capacity increase of 50 MW triggers the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects subject to Ontario Regulation 116/01, under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*
- The project is classified as a Category B project under the Environmental Screening Process
- Atura Power is proceeding with a **Screening Stage assessment**

## Purpose of the Screening Stage Assessment





# Public and Indigenous Engagement



Continuous Public and Indigenous Engagement



Comments or questions can be sent to: [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)



# Environmental Effects

- The Screening criteria in Ontario Regulation 116/01 require the project to be reviewed against the following criteria:
  1. Surface and groundwater
  2. Land
  3. Air and noise
  4. The natural environment
  5. Resources
  6. Socio-economic
  7. Heritage and culture
  8. Other environmental features
- Engagement with Indigenous communities and the public is also an important part of the Screening Process. Engagement will continue throughout the life of the project.



# Environmental Effects

- No changes to features listed in the Screening Criteria Checklist are anticipated given that the upgrade activities are limited to the footprint and will occur within the existing facility.
- Emission concentrations (NO, NO<sub>2</sub>, and CO) will remain the same following the upgrades according to General Electric (GE) Gas Power, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades.
- Further, PEC will continue to meet relevant air quality regulations required by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) and will continue to operate in accordance with the emissions permit requirements.



# Next Steps and Timeline

Next steps and timelines associated with completing the upgrades are:

Activity	Timeline
IESO Contract Award	Announced May 16, 2023
Permits and Approvals: Environmental Compliance Approval Amendment	Submitted June 23, 2023
Turbine Upgrades	Fall 2024
Commissioning and Testing	Fall 2024
Operations	Fall 2024 onwards



Comments or questions can be sent to: [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)

## Thank You

Questions?

Please email further comments and feedback to:  
[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)



# **Appendix B3b: Virtual Public Meeting Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

## Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades Frequently Asked Questions

Below are some frequently asked questions and answers about the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) efficiency upgrades (upgrades). If you have a question that is not shown below, please send us an email at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com) and a project representative will respond to your enquiry.

### **Why is Atura Power making these efficiency upgrades?**

After years of strong energy supply, Ontario is entering a period of growing electricity system demand (a predicted energy supply gap) and actions are needed to ensure the continued reliability of the electricity grid.

To close this gap and meet the projected demand, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. The upgrades to PEC are part of Atura Power's efforts to address this supply gap. After the upgrade, the plant's thermal efficiency will increase due to a reduced heat rate (British thermal unit/kilowatt-hour (BTU/kWh)). This means that the same amount of fuel used will produce more power after the upgrades.

### **What is causing the energy supply gap in Ontario?**

Ontario's electricity sector is undergoing a period of major transformation. New decarbonization policies coupled with rapid growth in the mining, greenhouse and industrial sectors are accelerating electricity demand growth across the province and heightening needs in certain regions.

The IESO's most recent Annual Planning Outlook (APO) reflects these trends. It projects a steady rise in electricity demand that highlights the strengths of Ontario's communities and economy to navigate the challenges of the pandemic, pursue electrification and support economic growth.

### **I thought we wanted to stay away from coal and/or natural gas. Why are we still burning fossil fuels? Why are we upgrading a natural gas power plant?**

Wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity; however, other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is not uncommon to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system.

The IESO established the Resource Adequacy Framework in 2021 to provide a flexible and cost-effective approach for competitively securing the resources necessary to meet demand and ensure system reliability. These upgrades are part of the plan IESO put in place to meet Ontario's energy needs.



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## **What kind of power plant is PEC?**

PEC is a combined-cycle natural gas electricity generating power plant. It can be operated as needed, during periods of peak demand when intermittent energy sources like wind and solar might not be available or might not be enough to meet demand.

## **What will the upgrades include? What changes will be made?**

We will be replacing rotating and non-rotating parts within the gas turbines (blades, seals, nozzles, etc.). These upgraded parts are more efficient due to the advanced materials used to allow the turbines to run hotter and more fuel efficiently, extracting the maximum amount of power possible. The upgrades will take place on our two gas turbines within the existing facility, and there will no change to the physical size or footprint of the station.

## **How long will the upgrades take?**

The upgrades are scheduled to take place in Fall 2024. The upgrade specific work will take approximately four to five weeks per unit to disassemble, replace parts and reassemble the gas turbines. There are two units, and they will be completed one at a time.

## **By how much will PEC's capacity increase, after the upgrades are complete?**

PEC is currently capable of outputting 550 megawatts (MW) to Ontario's electricity grid. Replacing parts of the existing natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts will increase the output capacity to 600 MW. This means the upgrades will increase the output capacity by 50 MW.

## **Will there be more upgrades in the future?**

These are the only current upgrade plans for PEC, as this is the latest technology available. Atura Power always strives to be on the leading edge of technology and will be open to future advancements that make the engines more fuel efficient.

## **How many more years is PEC expected to operate?**

PEC is contracted to operate until April 2034.

## **Who will be undertaking the upgrades?**

General Electric (GE) Gas Power – Services will be providing the new parts and performing the work using local skilled trades from Ontario.

## **Once the upgrades are complete, will the plant run more frequently?**

PEC operations are dictated by the IESO based on the supply and demand balance. The frequency at which the plant operates will not change going forward; the plant will continue to operate as directed by the IESO.

## **How often does PEC run now?**

PEC operations are dictated by the IESO based on the supply and demand balance, which fluctuates season by season and year to year. Historically, the plant has operated between 1750 to 4500 hours per year, always at the direction of the IESO.

## **What environmental effects will the upgrades have?**

No changes to environmental features are expected given that the upgrades will take place within the existing facility and the existing facility footprint will not change. GE Gas Power – Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, has provided a letter stating that the upgrades to the turbine generator ‘will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels’. GE Gas Power - Services further stated that the upgrades are ‘not expected to increase noise levels from the facility.’

The facility will continue to operate within all environmental permitting requirements.

## **What can you say about the anticipated difference in particulate matter (air emissions) after the upgrades are complete?**

GE Gas Power – Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, provided a letter stating that the upgrades to the turbine generator ‘will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels’. Emissions concentrations are not expected to change following the upgrades.

## **How are the air emissions from PEC measured?**

PEC operates under an environmental permit called an Environmental Compliance Approval, which dictates nitrogen oxides and carbon monoxide emission limits for the facility. PEC uses a Continuous Emission Monitoring System (CEMS) to monitor emissions in the undiluted gases leaving the exhaust stacks. The CEMS is audited annually by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) and submitted to the MECP annually for assessment.

## **Where can I find past emission reports for PEC?**

All PEC emissions reports are publicly available on the provincial and federal government websites.

## **Will the upgrades increase the noise at the plant?**

GE Gas Power – Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, has provided a letter stating that the upgrades are ‘not expected to increase noise levels from the facility.’

## **What are Atura Power’s plans for the waste heat? Has Atura Power looked into supplying it as district heating to new Portlands developments?**

PEC uses waste heat from the plant to generate steam, which is used to create additional electricity. Exhaust heat from the gas turbines is passed through a heat recovery steam generator which turns water to steam that is then used to power a steam turbine and generate additional electricity. This occurs in a closed loop where the remaining condensation from the steam is captured and reused over and over again.

## **What is public and Indigenous engagement and how does it involve me?**

Public and Indigenous engagement describes the continuous, two-way communication of project information and feedback between the proponent (Atura Power) and members of the public and Indigenous communities. It includes specific communication opportunities like public meetings, comment periods and project notices. It also includes ongoing communication opportunities available

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throughout the duration of the project via tools such as the project email address ([portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)) and project webpage ([aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade)).

## What is a Screening Stage assessment?

A Screening Stage assessment is a specific environmental assessment process that certain projects that fall under the Ontario Electricity Project Regulation must complete to meet the environmental assessment requirements under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*.

## What is the Screening Report?

The upgrades are subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01, under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. As part of the Environmental Screening Process, Atura Power is required to prepare a Screening Report that documents the results of the Environmental Screening Process, including determining the potential for environmental effects of the project.

## Will I get to review the Screening Report?

Yes, the assessment process includes a 30-day mandatory review period during which time anyone, including members of the public, can review the Screening Report. Information on the availability of the Screening Report will be published in the same publications used to announce the project in September 2023: the *Toronto Star*, *Toronto Sun*, and *Beach Metro* newspapers. Information will also be posted on the project webpage at [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade).

## Is Atura Power asking the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MEPC) to exempt the PEC Upgrades from the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*?

Atura Power will not be pursuing an exemption from the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act* for the Portlands Energy Centre efficiency upgrades project.

## I have more comments and questions. Who can I speak to about this project?

Comments and questions about the project can be sent to [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com) at any time. A project representative will respond to your enquiry.

# **Appendix B3c: Virtual Public Meeting Q&A Session Question/Comments**

*Note: Participants had the option to share their name with their comment/question during the public meeting, or to submit their comment/question anonymously. Names shared during the meeting are omitted from the record, to protect participant's privacy. Questions/comments are listed in the order they were submitted via the chat.*

Question/Comment
We just had the hottest summer & the hottest September on record, globally. There are cheaper, healthier, and safer alternatives to gas plants. Portlands Gas Plants was originally built despite local protests, under promises it would only be a "peak supplier" yet it in fact has been running 21 hours a day. Plus, Toronto City council voted against the expansion of this plant. Despite all these facts and more, why does OPG still want to expand the gas plant, against the wishes of local Torontonians and Ontarians alike?
How much will this cost?
will there be an increase in particulate and CO2.
Will the amount of CO2 emitted increase as a result of this upgrade
Will the upgraded parts allow the plant to operate more hours per day
How many hours a day is the Portlands Facility operating?
Will there be any other public meeting opportunities in this process?
What will the expansion mean for greenhouse gases and air pollution from the plant? Surely more MW means more GHGs and more air pollution. Why would we choose to increase GHGs and air pollution when we're in the middle of a climate crisis, and when we have lower cost and lower emission alternatives available to us, like wind, solar, conservation, QC power and storage?
What plans does OPG/Atura Power have to invest in wind and solar energy instead of fossil fuels?
How many hours per year is the plant expected to operate, please?
How long will the "comment period following public meeting" last?
What pollution abatement is in place?
What additional 1) greenhouse gas emissions and 2) local air pollution are associated with this
Can the supply gap should be filled by non-fossil fuel sources given we are in the middle of a climate crisis: Renewables, including wind, solar plus purchases from Quebec?
why isn't the excess capacity of Quebec Hydro not an option? It's cheap, renewable, and available. And by far the cheapest. We're in the midst of a climate crisis and more gas plants are part of the problem.
On May 10th Toronto City Council passed a resolution opposing the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Why is OPG not respecting the wishes of Toronto City Council?
After the upgrade will PEC be operating for more hours
What is that 30 day review period at the end of the screening process? Is that a period of consultation for the public?



## Question/Comment

On May 10th Toronto City Council passed a resolution opposing the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Why is OPG not respecting the wishes of Toronto City Council?

How much is the project costing?

Thanks for this info. I would like to know why we are continuing to invest in fossil fuels vs the cheaper options of conservation and renewable energy options. Thanks.

What is the total cost of this efficiency upgrade and who pays for it?

This plant was intended to be a "peaker plant" that operates for only a few hours a week at most, but Portlands has been running as much as 21 hours a day all summer. Does Atura power have plans to reduce operations?

Is the increased capacity 5 MW or 50 MW? I saw and heard two figures.

why are questions being asked (and by whom) on material that was just presented?

What alternatives were considered before deciding to go ahead with the project?

What is the cost of this upgrade project?

Why is OPG not respecting the wishes of Toronto City Council?

The presentation says that there will be more power generated with a similar amount of gas burned before. How similar - 10% increase or more?

Will an energy conservation program aimed at consumers be part of this efficiency upgrade?

Why aren't you looking at renewable, non-polluting energy? It doesn't matter that you are not changing the 'footprint of the plant. The fact that you are using polluting fossil fuels is UNACCEPTABLE!

Why does our publicly owned utility think more fossil gas burning is a good idea in the middle of a climate crisis?

Why spend millions expanding a fossil fuel plant instead of spending that money on energy conservation programs that can help residents and businesses save money?

What are your plans for the waste heat? Have you looked into suppling it as district heating to new Portlands developments?

What alternatives to this option to increase capacity have been considered?

Can you please share the total cost of this renewal/upgrade? Thanks.

The federal draft Clean Electricity Regulations set a performance standard of 30 t CO2/MWh for generation facilities. Without an upgrade, PEC would need to meet the standard in 2035 (since PEC was commissioned in 2009). Will the upgrade postpone the requirement for PEC to meet 30 t/MWh standard?

What plans does OPG have to invest in wind and solar energy instead of fossil fuels?

In view of the global climate crisis, which a major cause of which is burning fossil fuels, why is the "efficiency upgrade" not addressing and lowering the emissions?

What is the total cost to tax payers on this upgrade?

## Question/Comment

Does the company plan to continue burning fossil fuels after 2035?

Why is OPG asking Ontario's Ministry of the Environment to exempt its proposal to increase Portland's gas-fired generating capacity by 50 MW from the Environmental Assessment Act?

Do you expect that the frequency of use of the plant will increase as a result of this upgrade? What is the current frequency of use?

On the Environmental Effects slide, I noticed CO2 was not listed (just NO, NO2, and CO) under the emissions that were not supposed to increase as per GE. Was that a mistake, or is there reason to expect CO2 emissions will increase?

How did Atura Power notify local residents of this public consultation meeting?

Atura's gas plants are contributing to the climate crisis. Why doesn't Atura Power put pressure on the government to invest in green alternatives instead of these efficiency upgrades?

What level of NOx are you permitted to emit?

How is expanding a gas plant in 2023 aligned with Canada

Even though the emissions intensity is not expected to increase, what are the hours of operations per year that are expected, please?

With the global climate crisis, why are renewable energy sources not being used?

Hello, I am reporter for the French CBC in Toronto. Could you address the reporting in the Toronto Star that the Portlands Energy Centre ran for nearly 21 hours a day all summer long in 2023? Why has the plant been used this much?

Why are you only addressing safe questions likely submitted by your own employees?

Are you saying there will be more power generated without an increase in emissions? please clarify

Has the city of Toronto approved this expansion?

Will the environmental assessment include an assessment of the health impacts of increased emissions from the plant?

Is this a peaker plant or baseload power?

How is expanding a gas plant in 2023 aligned with Canada's greenhouse gas emission reduction commitments? How is a gas plant expansion aligned with the federal government's proposed Clean Electricity Regulations?

You have not answered the question if the amount of GreenHouse gas emissions will increase?

What is the point of comments from the public when it seems that Atura has already been contracted to do this upgrade?

Thanks for this info. I would like to know why we are continuing to invest in fossil fuels vs the cheaper options of conservation and renewable energy options. Thanks.

How much is this upgrade expected to cost, and where does that money come from?

It has been scientifically shown that the Portlands Gas Plant is the single largest source of Greenhouse Gases in Toronto.

Also, Please explain the "screening reports"?



## Question/Comment

What are your plans for the waste heat? Have you looked into supplying it as district heating to new Portlands developments?

Will the upgrade allow the plant to operate more hours per day

Will the actual greenhouse gas emissions increase in quantity? (ie not relative to increased output)

Has OPG considered renewable energy options as an alternative?

Why is OPG asking Ontario's Ministry of the Environment to exempt its proposal to increase Portland's gas-fired generating capacity by 50 MW from the Environmental Assessment Act?

The Minister of Energy directed that gas projects would need municipal approval - Toronto has voted against this expansion. Why won't the IESO respect Toronto's wishes?

As this seems to be a transition time and a perfect time to consider different options. What plans does OPG have to invest in wind and solar energy instead of fossil fuels?

you mention that "similar" levels of natural gas will be burned in order increase the energy output, can you define similar?

Sorry I forgot the question. The UN has said that all new fossil fuel development is moral and economic madness! How can you justify this expansion when the climate and health affects are disastrous?

I am sorry but it seems my questions are going in as "private", so they are not coming through. not sure how to change that... ??

At full capacity wil it burn more fossil fuel than currently?

Why not use the land for energy storage instead of more gas?

wow. what a joke. do you seriously think people are taking your question period seriously with these fluff questions? Unfortunately for you you aren't hoodwinking the public.

I'm concerned about greenhouse gases. Is there any plan by Atura or OPG to reduce them rather than simply maintaining the current level?

Why is this project going forward when Toronto City Council passed a resolution opposing the project.

How does this upgrade help reach net-zero emissions by 2035?

On May 10th Toronto City Council passed a resolution opposing the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Why is OPG not respecting the wishes of Toronto City Council?

You mentioned that additional power will be generated without increasing the amount of gas burned. Also you mentioned particulate and c02 are a ratio of the input. Does this mean that for a given output there will be fewer particulates and c02.

such deep questions. can you convert the hours operating to minutes? I'm fascinated

Were green eneergy options considered insttead of these upgrades

how might concern over overall increased CO2 emissions and air quality expressed through public consultation effect the project's development?

## Question/Comment

Is the natural gas used by the plant be subject to the price of carbon?

How does this upgrade impact PEC's requirement and timing to meet the proposed federal Clean Electricity Regulation emission standard of 30 tonnes CO2.MWh? Thank you.

What is the total cost to tax payers on this upgrade?

Thanks for this info. I would like to know why we are continuing to invest in fossil fuels vs the cheaper options of conservation and renewable energy options. Thanks.

What is the cost of the upgrade?

What plan does OPG have for wind and solar?

Does Atura Mgmt acknowledge that we are facing a climate emergency and, if so, how does reality inform its decision to enhance and continue operating this fossil fuel energy plant?

What's the current greenhouse gas emissions level for the site and what will it become post-alteration?

Are you able to share information on the current carbon and air pollutant (PM 2.5's, NOx) emissions generated by PEC and anticipated changes post upgrades?

Thanks.

these plants were designed and approved to be supplemental to the existing power generation grid, up to 14hrs a day does not seem in-keeping with the original plan, is there an explanation as to why this has occurred?

How will the upgrade the air pollution coming from the plant? Particularly for NOx

I'm aware of how combined system plants work. After using steam to generate additional electricity there will still be steam. The Portlands area, as far as I know, will use district heating and cooling. Steam does not need to be superheated to be useful for district heating. Have you contacted the city about to see if they can use your steam?

If council opposed this expansion why is going ahead?

Can your upgrade also include energy storage?

What happens if the upgrades are not done?

Why is an expansion happening in the middle of a climate crisis?

How is the exhaust of the natural gas combustion in your plant measured?

Will these upgrades increase the cost of electricity to the consumer? What is the overall cost of this upgrade?

You mentioned that the facility will be more efficient. Can you be specific? How much more efficient? Thanks!

I came late because can't find the link. Will talk be recorded to be available laterally

Since you did a land acknowledgment and hopefully respect Indigenous rights, are we to assume that if Indigenous communities are opposed to this upgrade, then you will not proceed with the upgrade?



## Question/Comment

What is the projected cost of this upgrade project?

What plans does OPG have to invest in wind and solar energy instead of fossil fuels?

How much is this upgrade expected to cost, and where does that money come from?

Do you test for methane leaks in the ambient air in and around your facility? If so, do you include these fugitive emissions in your GHG emissions reporting?

What is the cost of this upgrade?

what are the health risks associated with the upgrades to such a large population of people living so close by?

Why is OPG Atura expanding gas generation instead of building clean wind, solar and waterpower projects to meet demand growth?

How many more years is Portland expected to operate?

Will your company be allowed to burn fossil fuels after 2035?

Another report available to the public is the most recent IPCC report, which states, unequivocally , that we must reduce ff output, and you are expanding your facilities to support an additional 50 megawatts (MW) of output.

Is Atura going to use natural gas to create hydrogen?

How do you justify this?

How is expanding a gas plant in 2023 aligned with Canada's greenhouse gas emission reduction commitments? How is a gas plant expansion aligned with the federal government's proposed Clean Electricity Regulations?

When Don says "green hydrogen", does he mean produced from renewable power?

Why spend millions expanding a fossil fuel plant instead of spending that money on energy conservation programs that can help residents and businesses save money?

How do you justify ff expansion in an age of spiralling environmental disaster? As human beings, how can you even entertain this?

Will you also be spending money to educate the public about energy conservation?

How can the public obtain the emissions reports you produce?

Does the Atura Power plan to continue burning fossil fuels at PEC after 2035?

Do you test for methane leaks in the ambient air in and around your facility? If so, do you include these fugitive emissions in your GHG emissions reporting?

Can't hear

Can you clarify what you mean by "uses the water from the Niagara river" to generate hydrogen? Is the process completely powered by hydro power?

Does the company plan to continue burning fossil fuels after 2035?

What is the cost of this upgrade?

The Government of Canada estimates that the PEC emitted 1000 tonnes of NOx a year. What - if any - NOx abatement technologies do you have in place?



## Question/Comment

Not much of a time horizon.

Thank you. I didn't realize that you capture the heat from the steam and use it again.

Does Atura intend to renew its contract for PEC beyond 2034?

What happens when contract ends in 2024?

Why aren't my questions going through?

Actually, the only thing right now that is critical is stopping all fossil fuel expansion and drastically cutting emissions as fast as possible

Can we expect to see an energy conservation incentive aimed at consumers?

For clarification - you won't be using more fuel with the expansion?

Is there a plan for the people who work there to find jobs in the green economy after the plant's life is over?

These types of expansions - or whatever greenwashing nonsense you peddle them as - as a way to stall true action toward a livable future for humanity

Data available on the IESO website describe PEC operations for "G1, G2, and G3". Are you able to talk a little about PEC operations from the three turbines please? For instance, which label applies to which turbine? Thank you.

that is meaningless nonsense

I am a longtime resident of the area and have appreciated the significant improvement in air quality since the closing of the coal-plant. Please shape your answers about increases in emissions in terms of our experience in the environment, and not your compliance with regulations and directives. We need to know about the impact. What can you say about the anticipated difference in particulate matter etc. post-upgrade? Please also address the discrepancy between the 21 hours a day the Toronto Star reported this summer and the 8 to 14 or 15 hours in your response about the hours of operation.

What happens at the conclusion of PEC's contract in 2034?

There is growing medical literature on the health impacts of gas-fired electricity including asthma, lost days of work, premature deaths, and more. Does Atura follow these impacts and do you have any commentary on these concerns?

nobody who has ever had a critical thought in their brain would accept that nonsense

Portlands is a peaking plant?

Did Atura initiate this project or was it called for from another organization?

I get that the plant's operational algorithm will not change, but the fact that it is being made to be more efficient suggests that the \$/MWH threshold price will decrease. Doesn't this mean that the run-time of the plant should increase?

Could you clarify what public and indigenous engagement means?

as a peaking plant, how frequently was portlands plant intended to operate, how much does it currently operate, and what is the projection for future use?

If IESO asks you use hydrogen produced from natural gas would Atura be forced to do so?

Thank you!

### Question/Comment

Does PEC still count as a "peaking plant"? I believe you said it can run 8-14 hours per day.

You mentioned where we can find data on your carbon emissions. Where can we find similar data for air pollutants?

For clarification - the questions that I am asking that are not being Featured - I should send them to your e-mail address for a response?

will you increase the output?

not efficiency. they're different

Do these efficiency upgrades apply to hydrogen power as well?

Where is the funding for this project coming from?

I understand PEC produced power on average 21 hours per day this summer. How can this be considered a peaker plant?

As residents we need to know about the impact on emissions in terms of our experience in the environment, and not only your compliance with regulations and directives. What can you say about the anticipated difference in particulate matter etc. post-upgrade?

Please also address the discrepancy between the 21 hours a day the Toronto Star reported this summer and the 8 to 14 or 15 hours in your response about the hours of operation.

Does Atura Mgmt acknowledge that we are facing a climate emergency and, if so, how does reality inform its decision to enhance and continue operating this fossil fuel energy plant? Should Atura, for example, be investing in solar and wind instead?

So the engagement is multiple forms of answering questions?

Where can we find more information about your engagement with indigenous communities? Which communities did you consult?

But I don't see my question in the list

What were the concerns of those communities, and how were they addressed?

As residents we need to know about the impact on emissions in terms of our experience in the environment, and not only your compliance with regulations and directives. What can you say about the anticipated difference in particulate matter etc. post-upgrade?

The IESO has also identified that wind and solar could meet demands

Can you make available hourly air pollution emission and fuel-consumption from the Portlands facility?

What does "engage" mean?

Can the community make actionable demands through engagement?

Will Atura be pursuing additional capacity increases as part of the 1500 MW increase in natural gas electricity generation?

Wouldn't the fastest way to reduce GHG emissions in Toronto be to shut down the Portlands plant as soon as feasible?

What will be the difference in total output, not concentrations?

one is an amount, the other is a rate. two different mathematical concepts

Can you give an example of how you addressed concerns, beyond just answering questions?



**Question/Comment**

Clarification. So if you produce 9% more electricity with the same amount of gas, then will you emit less if you do not need to operate at full power?

You told us to see your website for summary. Under which heading w I'll it be posted?

So engagement doesn't mean we have a say in how the project operates, just that we can get information about it?

What would emissions per hour be at proposed max capacity vs current max capacity?

If the upgrade is for efficiency then why is it necessary to increase the plant capacity?

Did Atura Power lobby for the plant? How was Atura chosen as the contractor for this and other projects in Ontario?

Is further expansion of generating capacity at PEC anticipated?

There is a discrepancy between the 21 hours a day the Toronto Star reported this summer and the 8 to 14 or 15 hours in your response about the hours of operation. Please comment.

at what capacity of full power is PEC running in 2023

What is the cost of the upgrades?

As you are classifying the proposed work as an upgrade rather than expansion, does this exempt the project from the IESO mandate that municipalities must approve gas-plant expansions? Toronto City Council has twice opposed gas expansion. Will this be considered?

IESO projections show that gas plant use will go up to more than 19 hours a day by 2026. Does that mean that even if the PEC is more efficient, it will still be fired up more and produce more emissions?

this question is entirely within scope

## **Appendix B4: Summary of Public Engagement**

- **B4a: Summary of Public Questions/Comments by Category, and Atura Power's Response**
- **B4b: Correspondence Records with Members of the Public**

**Appendix B4a: Summary of Public  
Questions/Comments by Category, and  
Atura Power's Responses**



Category	Sub-Category	Source	Question/Comment	Response
Atura Power	Atura's Future Plans	Portlands Email Inbox	Does the company plan to continue burning fossil fuels after 2035?	In addition to pursuing efficiency upgrades at PEC, Atura Power is also playing a leadership role in establishing the supply of low-carbon hydrogen and developing energy storage systems and potentially other clean energy projects in Ontario to help the province move towards a net-zero carbon future. As Atura Power responds to Ontario energy needs as directed by the IESO, plans beyond PEC's contract period (which extends to April 2034) are not certain at this time.
		Portlands Email Inbox	How can we be sure Portlands Energy Centre won't expand?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Does the company plan to continue burning fossil fuels after 2035?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Will your company be allowed to burn fossil fuels after 2035?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Is there a plan for the people who work there to find jobs in the green economy after the plant's life is over?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Is further expansion of the generating capacity of PEC anticipated?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Will Atura be pursuing additional capacity increases as part of the 1500 MW increase in natural gas electricity generation?	
	Battery Storage Systems	Virtual Public Meeting	Why not use the land for energy storage instead of more gas?	Atura Power is currently proposing battery energy storage systems at several other locations in Ontario. Atura Power is not considering battery energy storage systems at PEC.
		Virtual Public Meeting	Can your upgrade also include energy storage?	
	Conservation Initiatives	Virtual Public Meeting	Will an energy conservation program aimed at consumers be part of this efficiency upgrade?	Energy conservation and education programs and incentives are part of the IESO's responsibilities.
		Virtual Public Meeting	Will you also be spending money to educate the public about energy conservation?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Can we expect to see an energy conservation incentive aimed at consumers?	
	Hydrogen	Portlands Email Inbox	Are you considering using green hydrogen to fuel existing turbines at some point in the future?	Atura Power does not have plans to produce nor consume hydrogen at PEC at this time.  Atura Power has selected the Niagara region as its first Ontario site for large-scale hydrogen production. The Niagara Hydrogen Centre (NHC) will be Ontario's largest green hydrogen production facility and will help industries across the province adopt low carbon energy solutions. The facility will use electrolysis technology to split water into hydrogen and oxygen molecules and be powered by renewable electricity directly from the nearby Sir Adam Beck II Generating Station.
		Portlands Email Inbox	What upgrades will be needed to convert Atura's plants to hydrogen, and how much are these upgrades expected to cost?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	If Atura's plants are upgraded to hydrogen, would they use hydrogen created from fossil fuels if there wasn't enough hydrogen created from carbon-neutral sources?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	I was hoping that some serious attention was being paid to the potential for hydrogen to displace natural gas in fuelling the fleet. I think more publicity should be given to the hydrogen potential especially in light of the strong opposition to gas generation that I have been hearing at the municipal level recently.	
		Virtual Public Meeting	When you reference "green hydrogen", does it mean it is produced from renewable power?	
Virtual Public Meeting		Can you clarify what you mean by "uses the water from the Niagara river" to generate hydrogen? Is the process completely powered by hydro power?		
Virtual Public Meeting		Is Atura going to use natural gas to create hydrogen?		



Category	Sub-Category	Source	Question/Comment	Response
		Virtual Public Meeting	If IESO asks you use hydrogen produced from natural gas would Atura be forced to do so?	
	Renewable Energy Portfolio	Portlands Email Inbox	<p>I understand OPG has an important role to fulfill in keeping energy production at the level needed by consumption. This is certainly challenging in this era of climate chaos and push back from the fossil fuel industry. However, I feel OPG could be taking a better leadership position in the energy transition than it is currently doing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A 'fair and just transition' applies to the clean energy sector as well. What plans does OPG have to invest in wind and solar energy as well as energy storage solutions instead of fossil fuels?</li> <li>- Does the company plan to continue burning fossil fuels after 2035 and how does a proposed 10% increase in production translate to a reported operation of over 21 hours a day that was happening over the summer?</li> <li>- What will OPG be doing to capture, contain and reduce methane emissions from its existing plants and to ensure it is carbon neutral by 2035?</li> </ul>	<p>In addition to pursuing efficiency upgrades at PEC, Atura Power is also playing a leadership role in establishing the supply of low-carbon hydrogen and developing energy storage systems and potentially other clean energy projects in Ontario to help the province move towards a net-zero carbon future.</p> <p>As Atura Power responds to Ontario energy needs as directed by the IESO, plans beyond PEC's contract period (which extends to April 2034) are not certain at this time.</p>
		Portlands Email Inbox	I am concerned about the continued investment in fossil fuel energy generation, the public health impacts and the urgent call by the IPCC to wind down fossil fuel burning. What plans does Atura have to expand wind, solar, geothermal and hydro?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	What plans does OPG have to invest in wind and solar energy instead of fossil fuels?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	What plans does OPG/Atura Power have to invest in wind and solar energy instead of fossil fuels?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Has OPG considered renewable energy options as an alternative?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	As this seems to be a transition time and a perfect time to consider different options. What plans does OPG have to invest in wind and solar energy instead of fossil fuels?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	I'm concerned about greenhouse gases. Is there any plan by Atura or OPG to reduce them rather than simply maintaining the current level?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	What plan does OPG have for wind and solar?	
		Virtual Public Meeting		
<b>Comment / Opinion</b>	Contact List Request	Portlands Email Inbox	Please place me on the list for access to the October 5 public consultation on the PEC Upgrade.	Thank you for your interest in the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. You will be added to the project contact list and will receive future communications and notices about the project, as they become available.
		Portlands Email Inbox	Please keep me up to date on developments with this project.	
		Portlands Email Inbox	Would you please add me to the Portlands Energy Centre information distribution list?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	Just want to stay updated on the project.	
		Portlands Email Inbox	Further to the Public meeting on Oct 5, please send me any follow-up information and updates.	
		Portlands Email Inbox	I would like to be in the consultation.	
		Portlands Email Inbox	Interested in the project details.	

Category	Sub-Category	Source	Question/Comment	Response
		Portlands Email Inbox	Can you kindly provide notice to me of the following events in relation to the Portlands Energy Centre upgrade: - publication of the draft Screening Report, and - publication of the Screening Report and Notice of Completion	
		Portlands Email Inbox	Please add me to the email list for project updates.	
		Portlands Email Inbox	Can you please include me on the list?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	May I please be added to your notification distribution list?	
<b>Costs</b>	General	Portlands Email Inbox	I suspect the cost of the upgrade will be substantially lower than adding an independent 50 MW generator elsewhere. Is that so?	At this time, Atura Power is unable to share commercially sensitive financial details related to its efficiency upgrades.
		Portlands Email Inbox	How much does the upgrade to PEC cost?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	How much will this cost?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	How much is the project costing?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	What is the total cost of this efficiency upgrade and who pays for it?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	What is the cost of this upgrade project?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Can you please share the total cost of this renewal/upgrade? Thanks.	
		Virtual Public Meeting	What is the total cost to tax payers on this upgrade?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	How much is this upgrade expected to cost, and where does that money come from?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Is the natural gas used by the plant be subject to the price of carbon?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	What is the cost of the upgrade?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Will these upgrades increase the cost of electricity to the consumer? What is the overall cost of this upgrade?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	What is the projected cost of this upgrade project?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	What is the cost of this upgrade?	
Virtual Public Meeting	Where is the funding for this project coming from?			



Category	Sub-Category	Source	Question/Comment	Response
		Virtual Public Meeting	What is the cost of the upgrades?	
	Capacity vs. Generation	Portlands Email Inbox	How much are you paid per year for capacity, and how much are you paid for generation?	Please visit the IESO's website at <a href="https://ieso.ca">ieso.ca</a> for electricity system pricing details.
	Other	Portlands Email Inbox	<p>I would like to know how this 'upgrade' is being paid for and what cost valuation you used for the greenhouse gas (carbon/methane) pollution this 'upgrade' will result in for your environmental evaluation of this project? Is this valuation in line with the U.S. directive? The President's Day One Executive Order on Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science to Tackle the Climate Crisis re-established an Interagency Working Group (IWG) and tasked it with identifying areas of budgeting, purchasing, and other key decisions where agencies should consider the Social Cost of Greenhouse Gases (SC-GHG) — a well-established metric for the known damages that greenhouse gas emissions cause across society. <a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2023/09/21/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-announces-new-actions-to-reduce-greenhouse-gas-emissions-and-combat-the-climate-crisis/">https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2023/09/21/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-announces-new-actions-to-reduce-greenhouse-gas-emissions-and-combat-the-climate-crisis/</a> Are these hidden costs included?</p> <p>THE HIDDEN COST OF NATURAL GAS Accounting for the price of carbon in fossil-fuel-based energy generation is key to ensuring that natural gas facilities aren't being unfairly favoured. Every tonne of carbon dioxide emitted from a natural gas plant has a cost to society in Canada and elsewhere. A recent report from the U.S.'s Environmental Protection Agency estimates that a tonne of carbon emitted in 2020 costs the economy between C\$160 and C\$450. The Canadian government has referenced a range of between \$135 and \$440 a tonne. -from Clean Energy Canada: A Renewables Powerhouse - February 2023 <a href="https://cleanenergycanada.org/wpcontent/uploads/2023/01/RenewableCost_Report_CleaEnergyCanada_Feb2023.pdf">https://cleanenergycanada.org/wpcontent/uploads/2023/01/RenewableCost_Report_CleaEnergyCanada_Feb2023.pdf</a></p>	<p>Thank you for your email and your interest in the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.</p> <p>Atura Power is not pursuing an exemption from the Ontario <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i> for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. We would also like to note that after the upgrades, the plant's thermal efficiency will increase due to a reduced heat rate (BTU/kWh) which means that the same amount of fuel used can produce more power after the upgrade.</p> <p>The upgrades to the turbine generator 'will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels', as stated by the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, GE Gas Power – Services. The facility will continue to operate in accordance with all environmental permitting requirements.</p> <p>Should you require any more information, materials from the public meeting and updates are available on the project webpage at <a href="https://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade">aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade</a>.</p>
Air & Noise	Air Quality	Virtual Public Meeting	As residents we need to know about the impact on emissions in terms of our experience in the environment, and not only your compliance with regulations and directives. What can you say about the anticipated difference in particulate matter etc. post-upgrade?	GE Gas Power – Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, has provided a letter stating that the upgrades to the turbine generator 'will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels'.
		Virtual Public Meeting	Can you make available hourly air pollution emission and fuel-consumption from the Portlands facility?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	Do you monitor the emissions of NOx, PM-12 and ozone from your plants? Would you share this data with us?	PEC operates under an environmental permit called an Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA). The ECA approves the operation of the combined cycle combustion turbine facility inclusive of but not limited to two natural gas fired combustion turbines, each equipped with dry low-NOx burners. The ECA dictates nitrogen oxides and carbon monoxide emission limits for the facility. PEC uses a Continuous Emission Monitoring System (CEMS) to monitor emissions in the undiluted gases leaving the exhaust stacks and must investigate and report any exceedance during normal operation to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP).
		Virtual Public Meeting	How is the exhaust of the natural gas combustion in your plant measured?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	How will the upgrade change the air pollution coming from the plant? Particularly for NOx?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	I am a longtime resident of the area and have appreciated the significant improvement in air quality since the closing of the coal-plant. Please shape your answers about increases in emissions in terms of our experience in the environment, and not your compliance with regulations and directives. We need to know about the impact. What can you say about the anticipated difference in particulate matter etc. post-upgrade?	



Category	Sub-Category	Source	Question/Comment	Response
		Portlands Email Inbox	I object to any further expansion of the Portlands Energy Centre. The city already had air quality issues that this plant and any upgrades will make worse, increasing the health risks of the people of Toronto, especially in the city's east end.	<p>PEC is classified as a Schedule 4 facility and therefore must update their Emission Summary and Dispersion Modelling Report on an annual basis and demonstrate continued compliance with O. Reg. 419/05.</p> <p>The facility will continue to operate within all environmental permitting requirements.</p> <p>The response can be expanded by noting that air standards under O. Reg. 419/05 are set by the MECP's Standards Development Branch to protect against health and environmental effects. Of the 5,208 air contaminant standards, guidelines and screening levels which the MECP currently requires to be assessed for contaminants released to the air, 5,099 are health based. PEC's Emission Summary and Dispersion Modelling (ESDM) report must be updated on an annual basis to reflect changes such as sources no longer in operation, updates to MECP's <i>Air Contaminants Benchmarks List: standards, guidelines and screening levels for assessing point of impingement concentrations of air contaminants</i>, as well as updates to the MECP approved air dispersion model versions.</p> <p>The contaminants listed on the Environmental Effects slide for the virtual public meeting was limited to NOx and CO as these are the contaminants which have facility-specific emission concentration limits noted in the ECA based on MECP's <i>Guideline A-5 Atmospheric Emissions from Stationary Combustion Turbines</i>. As noted in Section 2.1 of the draft Screening Report, the ECA amendment application for the project submitted Jun. 23, 2023, included updated Guideline A-5 calculations based on proposed facility and equipment parameters (i.e., nominal rating of combined-cycle combustion turbine facility, nominal rating of natural gas fired combustion turbines, nominal heat input of natural gas fired duct burners, and nominal rating of the steam generator). The PEC combustion turbines following the efficiency upgrades do not meet the trigger set in the Guideline A-5 (2021) definition of a modified combustion turbine and therefore, as verified by the MECP, Guideline A-5 (1994) applies. As per Guideline A-5 (2021), "this approach is meant to encourage upgrades in thermal efficiency and technology modernization of Existing SCTs [Stationary Combustion Turbines] that are intended to increase efficiency or reduce</p>
		Portlands Email Inbox	I will be attending the zoom meeting to better understand how routine maintenance can improve efficiencies to produce the additional 50MW and what increase in CO2 emissions (methane) and other pollutants are anticipated.	
		Virtual Public Meeting	The Government of Canada estimates that the PEC emitted 1000 tonnes of NOx a year. What - if any - NOx abatement technologies do you have in place?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	What are the health risks associated with the upgrades to such a large population of people living so close by?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	What level of NOx are you permitted to emit?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	What would emissions per hour be at proposed max capacity vs current max capacity?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Will the environmental assessment include an assessment of the health impacts of increased emissions from the plant?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Will there be an increase in particulate and CO2?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Will you increase the output of emissions?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	You mentioned that additional power will be generated without increasing the amount of gas burned. You mentioned particulate and CO2 are a ratio of the input. Does this mean that for a given output there will be fewer particulates and CO2.	
		Portlands Email Inbox	What are the climate impacts of this development?	



Category	Sub-Category	Source	Question/Comment	Response
				emissions but without expecting the more stringent emission limits of New SCTs to be met.”
	Emissions of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)	Virtual Public Meeting	Are you able to share information on the current carbon and air pollutant (PM 2.5's, NOx) emissions generated by PEC and anticipated changes post-upgrades?	Planned project works will improve the efficiency of the gas turbines and as a result reduce the greenhouse gas intensity (i.e., the ratio of CO <sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions to total electricity generation) of the facility.  Atura Power has projected that, following the efficiency upgrades, the net heat rate of the gas turbine generators (i.e., kJ/kWh HHV) is expected to reduce by 2% (at baseload and 15°C ambient temperature). The overall heat rate is expected to improve further as the facility will be able to fire the duct burners less as a result of the efficiency upgrades. The greenhouse gas intensity (i.e., the ratio of CO <sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions to total electricity generation) of the facility is also expected to reduce by 2%.  Greenhouse gas emissions from PEC are regulated under the Emissions Performance Standards Regulation (O. Reg. 241/19) under the Environmental Protection Act. Furthermore, information on GHG emissions from facilities across Canada who meet the requirements is collected under section 46 of the <i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act</i> . Reviewed 2021 greenhouse gas data is currently available through the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program data search.  PEC will continue to operate as dictated by the IESO based on the supply and demand balance, which fluctuates season by season and year to year, and will continue to report annual greenhouse gas emissions under the provincial and federal reporting programs.  Emission rates per Gigawatt hour (GWh) is not a reportable measure and therefore has not been quantified.
		Portlands Email Inbox	Do you monitor the GHG emissions from your plants? Would you share this data with us?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Do you test for methane leaks in the ambient air in and around your facility? If so, do you include these fugitive emissions in your GHG emissions reporting?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	Is it true that the upgrades to the Portlands Energy Centre will not increase the plant's greenhouse gas emissions?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	It has been scientifically shown that the Portlands Gas Plant is the single largest source of Greenhouse Gases in Toronto.	
		Virtual Public Meeting	On the Environmental Effects slide, I noticed CO <sub>2</sub> was not listed (just NO, NO <sub>2</sub> , and CO) under the emissions that were not supposed to increase as per GE. Was that a mistake, or is there reason to expect CO <sub>2</sub> emissions will increase?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	What additional greenhouse gas emissions and local air pollution are associated with this?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	What's the current greenhouse gas emissions level for the site and what will it become post-alteration?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Will the amount of CO <sub>2</sub> emitted increase as a result of this upgrade?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	You have not answered the question if the amount of greenhouse gas emissions will increase?	
	Emissions Reporting	Portlands Email Inbox	Could you please provide me with the following data about the Portlands Generating Station for each year from 2017 to 2022 inclusive: - Total GHG emissions; - Total nitrogen oxides emissions; - Total fine particulate emissions (PM 2.5); - GHG emission rate per GWh; - Nitrogen oxides emission rate per GWh; and - Fine particulate (PM 2.5) emission rate per GWh?	Owners or operators of facilities that meet published reporting requirements are required to report to the National Pollutant Release Inventory (NPRI) under the authority of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA). Reviewed 2021 NPRI data and preliminary 2022 NPRI data is currently available through the NPRI data search.  PEC will continue to operate as dictated by the IESO based on the supply and demand balance, which fluctuates season by season and year to year, and will continue to report annual emissions to the NPRI.
		Portlands Email Inbox	Could you please share your forecast of Portland's GHG emission rate per GWh; nitrogen oxides emission rate per GWh; and fine particulate (PM 2.5) emission rate per GWh if your proposed "efficiency upgrades" are made?	



Category	Sub-Category	Source	Question/Comment	Response
		Virtual Public Meeting	How can the public obtain the emissions reports you produce?	Emission rates per Gigawatt hour (GWh) is not a reportable measure and therefore has not been quantified.
		Portlands Email Inbox	It's not ratio of emissions, it's total emissions that matter. Will I have to choose between my home and being able to breathe?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	On a Per Mw basis what will be the emission increase (also absolute number) after the refit?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	Please provide a full detailing of all the emissions profile of the plant now and after the proposed expansion.	
		Portlands Email Inbox	What will be the difference in total output, not concentrations?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	You mentioned where we can find data on your carbon emissions. Where can we find similar data for air pollutants?	
	Other	Portlands Email Inbox	The Halton Hills Generating Station is a sister plant to PEC. Is there some reason the Halton Hills Screening report includes an Emissions Summary and Modelling results and PEC does not?	<p>Of the nine screening criteria categories, one category (i.e., air and noise) was associated with some uncertainty in determining the potential for effects on air quality for the HHGS Efficiency Upgrades project. To provide further details on the Screening Criteria related to air quality, an assessment was undertaken and is outlined in Sections 3.3.1 to 3.3.3 of the HHGS Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report. The assessment determined that without mitigation, the project will produce emissions that meet the applicable AAQC set by the MECP.</p> <p>For the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project, there was no uncertainty associated in determining the potential for effects on air quality as the efficiency upgrades equipment manufacturer provided a letter to Atura Power stating that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels".</p>
<b>Environmental Screening Process</b>	Engagement Process	Portlands Email Inbox	Have you informed the people and businesses located near your plants about the health hazards of air pollution produced by them?	Public and Indigenous engagement describes the continuous, two-way communication of project information and feedback between the proponent (Atura Power) and members of the public and Indigenous communities. It includes specific communication opportunities like public meetings, comment periods and project notices. It also includes ongoing communication opportunities available throughout the duration of the project via tools such as the project email address ( <a href="mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com">portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com</a> ) and project webpage ( <a href="http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade">aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade</a> ). The purpose of public and Indigenous engagement in the Environmental Screening Process is to allow the proponent to identify and address public concerns and issues and to provide the public
		Portlands Email Inbox	We have reviewed the project documents and the website. How can we submit comments to be included in the public consultation? What is the email to submit to and when do you need them by?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Will there be any other public meeting opportunities in this process?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Could you clarify what public and Indigenous engagement means?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	So engagement is multiple forms of answering questions?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	What does "engage" mean?	



Category	Sub-Category	Source	Question/Comment	Response
		Virtual Public Meeting	How did Atura Power notify local residents of this public consultation meeting?	<p>with an opportunity to receive information about and make meaningful input into the project review and development. Public and Indigenous engagement is required for all projects that are subject to the Environmental Screening Process.</p> <p>Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup> was the only public meeting opportunity for this project (outside of individual meetings with Indigenous communities, for those interested), however, the project email address (<a href="mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com">portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com</a>) and project webpage (<a href="http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade">aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade</a>) will continue to be available for the duration of the project.</p> <p>Information on the availability of the Screening Report will be published in the same publications used to announce the project in September 2023: the <i>Toronto Star</i>, <i>Toronto Sun</i>, and <i>Beach Metro</i> newspapers. Information will also be posted on the project webpage at <a href="http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade">aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade</a>.</p>
		Virtual Public Meeting	What is the point of comments from the public when it seems that Atura has already been contracted to do this upgrade?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	How might concern over overall increased CO2 emissions and air quality expressed through public consultation effect the project's development?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	So engagement doesn't mean we have a say in how the project operates, just that we can get information about it?	
	Indigenous Engagement	Virtual Public Meeting	Since you did a land acknowledgment and hopefully respect Indigenous rights, are we to assume that if Indigenous communities are opposed to this upgrade, then you will not proceed with the upgrade?	<p>Atura Power is preparing a Screening Report that documents the results of the Environmental Screening Process and engagement undertaken as part of the project, which includes engagement with Indigenous communities.</p> <p>Information on the availability of the Screening Report will be published in the same publications used to announce the project in September 2023: the <i>Toronto Star</i>, <i>Toronto Sun</i>, and <i>Beach Metro</i> newspapers. Information will also be posted on the project webpage at <a href="http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade">aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade</a>.</p>
		Virtual Public Meeting	Where can we find more information about your engagement with indigenous communities? Which communities did you consult?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	What were the concerns of those communities, and how were they addressed?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Can the community make actionable demands through engagement?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Can you give an example of how you addressed concerns, beyond just answering questions?	
	Public Meeting Format	Portlands Email Inbox	Since the live questions have been handpicked and completely irrelevant, I'm hoping you'll address real questions on real issues that are pressing and upon us such as wild fires and floods and emissions. There's a climate crisis!!!	<p>The virtual public meeting was scheduled from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Eastern. The meeting began at 6:30 p.m. with a PowerPoint presentation on the efficiency upgrades project description and associated Environmental Screening Process. The presentation was followed by a moderated Question &amp; Answer (Q&amp;A) session during which time members of the public submitted their questions to Atura Power via a chat function. In order to address as many questions as possible, Atura Power prioritized questions relevant to the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project and the associated Environmental Screening Process. The meeting was extended to 7:40 p.m. to accommodate the interest that was noted during the Q&amp;A period and answer as many project-specific questions as possible but Atura Power was not able to address all of the questions during the meeting.</p>
		Portlands Email Inbox	We did not hear about this meeting until this evening and now the meeting is over. We live near to the facility - is there an opportunity for us to comment & review the project documents?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	We did not hear about this meeting until this evening and now the meeting is over. Why was this not better publicized to residents in the area?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	I was terribly disappointed and angry as I tuned in at 6:45pm and it was closing. This presentation was supposed to go from 6:30pm-7:30pm. What happened!!	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Why are questions being asked (and by whom) on material that was just presented?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Why are you only addressing safe questions likely submitted by your own employees?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	I am sorry but it seems my questions are going in as "private", so they are not coming through. not sure how to change that... ??	

Category	Sub-Category	Source	Question/Comment	Response
		Virtual Public Meeting	wow. what a joke. do you seriously think people are taking your question period seriously with these fluff questions? Unfortunately for you aren't hoodwinking the public.	<p>Meeting participants were reminded that the presentation and a summary of the Q&amp;As would be posted on the project webpage following the meeting. Participants were also encouraged to visit the project webpage for project details at <a href="http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade">aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade</a> or to contact Atura Power via the project email address (<a href="mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com">portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com</a>) with any additional questions.</p> <p>This table also recaps questions that have been received to date<sup>1</sup>, including those received during the virtual meeting (both answered and unanswered during the event), along with Atura Power's responses.</p>
		Virtual Public Meeting	Why aren't my questions going through?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	For clarification - the questions that I am asking that are not being featured - I should send them to your e-mail address for a response?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	I don't see my question in the list	
	Screening Report and Public Review Period	Virtual Public Meeting	How long will the "comment period following the public meeting" last?	<p>The PEC efficiency upgrades are subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01, under the Ontario <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i>. As part of the Environmental Screening Process, Atura Power is required to prepare a Screening Report that documents the results of the Environmental Screening Process, including determining the potential for environmental effects of the project.</p> <p>The screening process includes a 30-day mandatory review period during which time anyone, including members of the public and Indigenous communities, can review the Screening Report. Information on the availability of the Screening Report will be published in the same publications used to announce the project in September 2023: the <i>Toronto Star</i>, <i>Toronto Sun</i>, and <i>Beach Metro</i> newspapers. Information will also be posted on the project webpage at <a href="http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade">aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade</a> and distributed to anyone who has sent an email to the project inbox (<a href="mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com">portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com</a>) and/or requested to be added to the project contact list to receive project updates and notifications.</p> <p>The project email will be available throughout the duration of the project.</p>
		Virtual Public Meeting	What is the 30-day review period at the end of the screening process? Is that a period of consultation for the public?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	How long will the comment period following the public meeting last?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Please explain the screening reports.	
<b>Exemption Request</b>	n/a	Portlands Email Inbox	Could you please send me a copy of your letter to the Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks seeking an exemption to the <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i> for your proposed 50 MW upgrade for Portlands?	<p>Atura Power will not be pursuing an exemption from the Ontario <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i> for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.</p>
		Portlands Email Inbox	Your web site says Atura is requesting an exemption. Have you just made the request orally?	



Category	Sub-Category	Source	Question/Comment	Response
		Portlands Email Inbox	Considering that the 'upgrade' will greatly increase generating capacity and consequently the amount of greenhouse gas emissions, how can you justify a request for exemption to the Ontario <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i> ?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	OPG is asking Ontario's Ministry of the Environment to exempt its proposal to increase Portland's gas-fired generating capacity by 50 MW from the <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i> . Why? How will OPG know what mitigations to put in place for wildlife, biodiversity, water and air quality if it doesn't do a full Environmental assessment?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	Why is OPG asking Ontario's Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks to exempt its proposal to increase Portlands gas-fired generating capacity by 50 MW from the <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i> ?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	Can you please tell me when you expect to submit your environmental screening report to the Ministry of the Environment?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	I noted on the project webpage that Atura Power has applied for an exemption with MECP. Is there an expected timeline for when it will be known whether the EA proceeds?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Why is OPG asking Ontario's Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks to exempt its proposal to increase Portlands gas-fired generating capacity by 50 MW from the <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i> ?	
Facility Operations	Operating Capacity	Virtual Public Meeting	For clarification, if you produce 9% more electricity with the same amount of gas then you omit less if you don't need to operate at full power, correct?	PEC operations are dictated by the IESO based on the supply and demand balance, which fluctuates season by season and year to year. Historically, the plant has operated between 1750 to 4500 hours per year, always at the direction of the IESO.  The frequency at which the plant operates will <u>not</u> change going forward; the plant will continue to operate as directed by the IESO.
		Virtual Public Meeting	At what capacity of full power is PEC running in 2023?	
	Operating Frequency	Portlands Email Inbox	Using the IESO's hour-by-hour generation data, we were able to determine how many hours every gas plant in the province operates every day. The results show that far from the 2-5% of the time that was cited at the recent municipal hearings concerning new gas plant proposals, Ontario's gas plant fleet operates far more. The investigation found: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nine of the province's biggest gas plants operated more than 12 and a half hours a day, on average, everyday this year.</li> <li>- The three GTA gas plants were turned on even more. The Portlands Energy Centre in Toronto, the Goreway Power Station in Brampton and the Halton Hills Generating Station have been in production for an average of at least 13 hours and 30 minutes a day in 2023.</li> <li>- This summer, the GTA plants were fired up at least 18 hours and 20 minutes, on average, a day. The Portlands plant ran the most: 21 hours a day.</li> <li>- Contrary to historical trends, which show more peaking plant usage in summer, the Halton Hills plant ran more in the winter (21 hours/day) than it did in the summer (18 hours/day), last year.</li> </ul> I'm reaching out to request comment from Atura, as owners of the Portlands and Halton Hills Plants.	PEC operations are dictated by the IESO based on the supply and demand balance, which fluctuates season by season and year to year. Historically, the plant has operated between 1750 to 4500 hours per year, always at the direction of the IESO.  The frequency at which the plant operates will <u>not</u> change going forward; the plant will continue to operate as directed by the IESO.
		Portlands Email Inbox	I've lived in Leslieville since 1997. We were promised limited use of the plant as backup power only - now it is operating 21 hours daily!	
Virtual Public Meeting		After the upgrade will PEC be operating for more hours?		
	Virtual Public Meeting	Virtual Public Meeting	This plant was intended to be a "peaker plant" that operates for only a few hours a week at most, but Portlands has been running as much as 21 hours a day all summer. Does Atura power have plans to reduce operations?	



Category	Sub-Category	Source	Question/Comment	Response
		Virtual Public Meeting	How many hours per year is the plant expected to operate, please?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	How many hours a day is the Portlands facility operating?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Will the upgraded parts allow the plant to operate more hours per day?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Do you expect that the frequency of use of the plant will increase as a result of this upgrade? What is the current frequency of use?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Even though the emissions intensity is not expected to increase, what are the hours of operations per year that are expected, please?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Could you address the reporting in the Toronto Star that the Portlands Energy Centre ran for nearly 21 hours a day all summer long in 2023? Why has the plant been used this much?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	These plants were designed and approved to be supplemental to the existing power generation grid, up to 14hrs a day does not seem in-keeping with the original plan, is there an explanation as to why this has occurred?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	I get that the plant's operational algorithm will not change, but the fact that it is being made to be more efficient suggests that the \$/MWH threshold price will decrease. Doesn't this mean that the run-time of the plant should increase?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	As a peaker plant, how frequently was the Portlands plant intended to operate, how much does it currently operate, and what is the projection for future use?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	I understand PEC produced power on average 21 hours per day this summer. How can this be considered a peaker plant?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	There is a discrepancy between the 21 hours a day the Toronto Star reported this summer and the 8 to 14 or 15 hours in your response about the hours of operation. Please comment.	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Can you convert the hours operating to minutes?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	IESO projections show that gas plant use will go up to more than 19 hours a day by 2026. Does that mean that even if the PEC is more efficient, it will still be fired up more and produce more emissions?	
	Operations Contract	Portlands Email Inbox	Was the plant originally scheduled to close in 2029 but now will stay open until 2034?	PEC is contracted to operate until April 2034, meaning it is expected to operate for approximately 10 more years.
		Virtual Public Meeting	How many more years is Portlands expected to operate?	Atura Power does not know if PEC will continue to operate beyond 2034.
		Virtual Public Meeting	Does Atura Power plan to continue burning fossil fuels at PEC after 2035?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Does Atura intend to renew its contract for PEC beyond 2034?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Not much of a time horizon. <i>[Meeting participant was commenting on the discussion about how Portlands Energy Centre is contracted to operate until April 2034].</i>	
		Virtual Public Meeting	What happens when contract ends in 2024?	



Category	Sub-Category	Source	Question/Comment	Response
		Virtual Public Meeting	What happens at the conclusion of PEC's contract in 2034?	
Portlands Energy Centre	Portlands Email Inbox		Is it accurate to say that PEC is a natural gas electrical generating station?	PEC is a combined-cycle natural gas electricity generating power plant. It can be operated as needed, during periods of peak demand when intermittent energy sources like wind and solar might not be available or might not be enough to meet demand. This is often described as a peaker plant.  PEC has three turbines; G1 and G2 refer to the two gas turbines while G3 refers to the steam turbine.
	Virtual Public Meeting		Is this a peaker plant or baseload power plant?	
	Virtual Public Meeting		Data available on the IESO website describe PEC operations for "G1, G2, and G3". Are you able to talk a little about PEC operations from the three turbines please? For instance, which label applies to which turbine? Thank you.	
	Virtual Public Meeting		Does PEC still count as a "peaking plant"? I believe you said it can run 8-14 hours per day.	
	Virtual Public Meeting			
Waste Heat	Virtual Public Meeting		What are your plans for the waste heat? Have you looked into suppling it as district heating to new Portlands developments?	PEC uses waste heat from the plant to generate steam, which is used to create additional electricity. Exhaust heat from the gas turbines is passed through a heat recovery steam generator which turns water to steam that is then used to power a steam turbine and generate additional electricity. This occurs in a closed loop where the remaining condensation from the steam is captured and reused over and over again.
	Virtual Public Meeting		I'm aware of how combined system plants work. After using steam to generate additional electricity there will still be steam. The Portlands area, as far as I know, will use district heating and cooling. Steam does not need to be superheated to be useful for district heating. Have you contacted the city about to see if they can use your steam?	
	Virtual Public Meeting		I didn't realize that you capture the heat from the steam and use it again.	
Water Use	Portlands Email Inbox		"When the former Ontario Hydro established the Lennox Generating Station in Bath, they also had plans to mitigate the effects of warm water being discharged from the plant, which was then designed to burn oil -and has since been converted to natural gas. It was projected that the warmer water discharged into the North Channel would make the ice unsafe. To compensate for this, a bubble system was installed to enable the Amherst Island Ferry to operate year-round. Does the Portland's electricity generation plant use water from Lake Ontario for cooling purposes? Is so, how much water is used daily, and what is the projected effect on Lake Ontario from the Portlands plant? What is the temperature of the water as it is taken from Lake Ontario, and what is the temperature of the water being discharged into Lake Ontario?"	PEC uses water from Lake Ontario to cool and condense the steam exiting from the steam turbine which allows the facility to reuse that condensate in the steam generation process, thereby raising the station's efficiency.  Approximately 300 m <sup>3</sup> of water passes through the station per day on average when the facility is operating. The average increase in water temperature from intake to discharge is in the range of 5 to 8 °C. PEC also provides a service in the summer months where it sterilizes the water of E-coli bacteria through a chlorination/dichlorination process, thereby improving the quality of the water to nearby beaches.  Yes, 300 m <sup>3</sup> is 300 cubic meters of water is used daily to cool and condense the steam exiting from the steam turbine.
	Portlands Email Inbox		Is 300 m <sup>3</sup> translated into my simple English 300 cubic metres of water that is used as a coolant daily?	
	Portlands Email Inbox		I'm surprised by how little water is used, and re-used, for cooling purposes.	
	Portlands Email Inbox			
Other	Virtual Public Meeting		What pollution abatement is in place?	Atura Power complies with and will continue to comply with all applicable provincial and federal emissions regulations.
	Virtual Public Meeting		How does this upgrade impact PEC's requirement and timing to meet the proposed federal Clean Electricity Regulation emission standard of 30 tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> /MWh? Thank you.	
	Virtual Public Meeting		The federal draft Clean Electricity Regulations set a performance standard of 30 t CO <sub>2</sub> /MWh for generation facilities. Without an upgrade, PEC would need to meet the standard in 2035 (since PEC was commissioned in 2009). Will the upgrade postpone the requirement for PEC to meet 30 t/MWh standard?	
	Portlands Email Inbox		Could you please provide me with the GWh supplied to the IESO-controlled grid for the Portlands Generating Station for each year from 2017 to 2022 inclusive?	
				Publicly-available supply and emissions data related to PEC are available via the following links:



Category	Sub-Category	Source	Question/Comment	Response
				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. GWh supplied to the IESO-controlled grid <a href="http://reports.ieso.ca/public/">http://reports.ieso.ca/public/</a> &amp; <a href="#">Data Directory (ieso.ca)</a></li> <li>2. Total GHG emissions; <a href="https://climate-change.canada.ca/facility-emissions/">https://climate-change.canada.ca/facility-emissions/</a></li> <li>3. Total nitrogen oxides emissions; <a href="https://climate-change.canada.ca/facility-emissions/">https://climate-change.canada.ca/facility-emissions/</a></li> <li>4. Total fine particulate emissions (PM 2.5); <a href="https://pollution-waste.canada.ca/national-release-inventory/">https://pollution-waste.canada.ca/national-release-inventory/</a></li> </ol> <p>After the upgrades, the station's thermal efficiency will increase due to a reduced heat rate (BTU/kWh). This means that the same amount of fuel used will produce more power after the upgrades. The upgrades to the turbine generators 'will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels', as stated by the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, GE Gas Power – Services. The facility will continue to operate in accordance with all environmental permitting requirements.</p>
<b>Out of Scope</b>	General	Portlands Email Inbox	I have some additional concerns based on my readings on dispersion modelling. Do you have any information which addresses the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dispersion modelling does not identify the chemical reactions or transformations that may result when the pollutants released from the stacks mix with elements already in the atmosphere</li> </ul>	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. Atura Power cannot comment on a project belonging to another proponent.
		Portlands Email Inbox	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- If the metrological data input to the model does not heavily favour inversion layers then the results will not show what happens when there is an inversion. Did the modelling conducted include a scenario where there is an extended inversion event?</li> </ul>	
		Portlands Email Inbox	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The terrain down-wind of the stacks influences dispersion - did the modelling done for PEC take into account the slope to the north rising from the lake?</li> </ul>	
		Portlands Email Inbox	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- I gather that the impacts on tall buildings - of which there are a growing number in the neighbourhood - are not accurately portrayed in the results</li> </ul>	
		Portlands Email Inbox	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Third party review of modelling results increases confidence in results</li> </ul>	
		Portlands Email Inbox	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Given that the modelling done for PEC is now more than 20 years old, would Atura consider re-running the modelling with more recent metrological data? Since the study was done we have gone from "heat waves" and introduced the new term "heat domes".</li> </ul>	
		Portlands Email Inbox	The Goreway Power Station Environmental Review report included a forecast of the lifetime emissions of the plant. Is there some reason that the Goreway ER was able to calculate lifetime emissions and PEC does not?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	The Goreway Power Station ER flags GHG emissions as one of the reasons for raising the review to an ER. The St. Clair Energy Station ER flags some emissions being close to the limit for raising the review to an ER. Given that PEC has been flagged as having the highest GHG emissions in Toronto (with an expectation that they will increase even more) and, from media and other reports from PEC's 2003 ER, that local NOx and particulate matter were high - is there some reason Atura did not upgrade the PEC EA to an Environmental Review?	



Category	Sub-Category	Source	Question/Comment	Response
		Portlands Email Inbox	I appreciate that Atura is not obliged to send the full Air Dispersion Modelling study. Would you answer these questions: - Was "Shoreline fumigation" ruled out as a possibility?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	- Were there any additional components used in the AERMON model, other than standard components (e.g. BPIP PRIME)?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	- Was "Calms Processing" invoked during the execution of the model?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	- What station's ground and atmospheric observations were used in the execution of the model?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	- What years were the ground and atmospheric observations from?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	- What are the characteristics of the 'receptors' used in the model?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	- The "Procedure for Preparing an Emissions Summary and Dispersion Modelling" indicates that it is to be updated annually. Is there some reason the Executive Summary that Atura provided references an EDSM from December 31, 2020 rather than December 31, 2023?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	- What is the reason that the Executive Summary only lists NOx in the Emissions Summary Table and not CO (indicated in the ECA 3557-BUJKWR)?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	- Media reports from the 2003 ER suggested that PM10 and PM2.5 were also concerns - what did the modelling show for them and in comparison to the current air shed levels?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	- What area did the modelling cover and how was the local terrain described?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	- The "Procedure for Preparing an Emissions Summary and Dispersion Modelling" indicates "The assessment of all contaminants that are discharged from the facility regardless of whether or not a ministry POI Limit is available." Given that PEC is the largest source of GHG in Toronto, why isn't CO2e listed in the table?	
<b>Project Description</b>	General	Virtual Public Meeting	What will the upgrades include? What changes will be made?	Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at PEC. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient. Better materials are used to manufacture the parts, and these can withstand a higher operating temperature and therefore produce more power. The advanced materials and the optimized cooling flows enable the engine to run at higher operating temperatures and use fuel more effectively, allowing for a higher power output per gigajoule (GJ) of fuel consumed.  PEC is currently capable of outputting 550 megawatts (MW) to Ontario's electricity grid. Upgrading the equipment at PEC will increase its generating capacity by 50 MW to an output of 600 MW. All upgrade activities will take place within the
		Virtual Public Meeting	Is the increased capacity 5 MW or 50 MW? I saw and heard two figures.	



Category	Sub-Category	Source	Question/Comment	Response
				existing facility and there will be no changes or expansion beyond the existing PEC footprint.
	Efficiency Upgrade	Virtual Public Meeting	For clarification - you won't be using more fuel with the expansion?	The upgrades will involve replacing rotating and non-rotating parts within the gas turbines (blades, seals, nozzles, etc.). These upgraded parts will be more efficient due to the advanced materials used to allow the turbines to run hotter and more fuel efficiently, extracting the maximum amount of power possible. The upgrades will take place on the two gas turbines within the existing facility, and there will no change to the physical size or footprint of the station. After the upgrade, the plant's thermal efficiency will increase due to a reduced heat rate (British thermal unit/kilowatt-hour (BTU/kWh)). This means that the same amount of fuel used will produce more power after the upgrades.  Atura Power has projected that, following the efficiency upgrades, the net heat rate of the gas turbine generators (i.e., kJ/kWh HHV) is expected to reduce by 2% (at baseload and 15°C ambient temperature). The overall heat rate is expected to improve further as the facility will be able to fire the duct burners less as a result of the efficiency upgrades.
		Virtual Public Meeting	The presentation says that there will be more power generated with a similar amount of gas burned before. How similar - 10% increase or more?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Are you saying there will be more power generated without an increase in emissions? Please clarify.	
		Virtual Public Meeting	You mentioned that the facility will be more efficient. Can you be specific? How much more efficient? Thanks!	
		Virtual Public Meeting	At full capacity will it burn more fossil fuel than currently?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	You mention that "similar" levels of natural gas will be burned in order increase the energy output; can you define similar?	
	Hydrogen	Virtual Public Meeting	Do these efficiency upgrades apply to hydrogen power as well?	Atura Power is not considering hydrogen at PEC at this time.
	Schedule	Virtual Public Meeting	How long will it take to complete the installation of the upgrades?	The upgrades are scheduled to take place in fall 2024. The upgrade specific work will take approximately four to five weeks per unit to disassemble, replace parts and reassemble the gas turbines. There are two units, and they will be completed one at a time.
<b>Project Need</b>	Consideration of Alternatives	Virtual Public Meeting	What alternatives were considered before deciding to go ahead with the project?	The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contracted PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.
		Virtual Public Meeting	What alternatives to this option to increase capacity have been considered?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	What happens if the upgrades are not done?	
	Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO)	Portlands Email Inbox	I understand OPG has an important role to fulfill in keeping energy production at the level needed by consumption. This is certainly challenging in this era of climate chaos and push back from the fossil fuel industry. However, I feel OPG could be taking a better leadership position in the energy transition than it is currently doing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Why is OPG not respecting the wishes of Toronto City Council who voted against this expansion on May 10th and whereby the Ontario Minister of Energy previously indicated the wishes of municipalities would be respected?</li> <li>- With the increases in GHG emissions expected to increase by 700% by 2041 if the current policies and plans are maintained, why does our publicly owned utility think more fossil gas burning is a good idea in the middle of a climate crisis?</li> </ul>	After years of strong energy supply, Ontario is entering a period of growing electricity system demand (a predicted energy supply gap) and actions are needed to ensure the continued reliability of the electricity grid. New decarbonization policies coupled with rapid growth in the mining, greenhouse and industrial sectors are accelerating electricity demand growth across the province and heightening needs in certain regions.



Category	Sub-Category	Source	Question/Comment	Response	
			- RBC, environmental organizations and even IESO have provided other options to address future energy demands. Enbridge is already making money out of federally supported consumer energy efficiency programs. Why are these other options not being considered by OPG as a more immediate option while transition from fossil fuels takes place or until Small Modular Reactors are in a position to be regulated?	The IESO's most recent Annual Planning Outlook (APO) reflects these trends. It projects a steady rise in electricity demand that highlights the strengths of Ontario's communities and economy to navigate the challenges of the pandemic, pursue electrification and support economic growth.	
		Portlands Email Inbox	I am not in favour of any expansion or increase of natural gas output. Improving efficiency so that an increase of 50MW can be facilitated is not about sustainability carbon reduction or resiliency. It is simply continuing the use of fossil fuels.	The IESO established the Resource Adequacy Framework in 2021 to provide a flexible and cost-effective approach for competitively securing the resources necessary to meet demand and ensure system reliability. These upgrades are part of the plan IESO put in place to meet Ontario's energy needs; Atura is responding to the plan the IESO put in place to address the supply gap.	
		Portlands Email Inbox	On May 10th Toronto City Council passed a resolution opposing the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Why is OPG not respecting the wishes of Toronto City Council?		
		Virtual Public Meeting	On May 10th Toronto City Council passed a resolution opposing the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Why is OPG not respecting the wishes of Toronto City Council?		
		Virtual Public Meeting	In view of the global climate crisis, which a major cause of which is burning fossil fuels, why is the "efficiency upgrade" not addressing and lowering the emissions?		
		Virtual Public Meeting	Why is OPG not respecting the wishes of Toronto City Council?		
		Virtual Public Meeting	How does this upgrade help reach net-zero emissions by 2035?		
		Virtual Public Meeting	Why is this project going forward when Toronto City Council passed a resolution opposing the project?		
		Virtual Public Meeting	Does Atura management acknowledge that we are facing a climate emergency and, if so, how does reality inform its decision to enhance and continue operating this fossil fuel energy plant?		
		Virtual Public Meeting	How do you justify this? [Meeting participant asking about Atura Power's reason for pursuing the Portlands Energy Centre efficiency upgrades project].		
		Virtual Public Meeting	Why does our publicly owned utility think more fossil gas burning is a good idea in the middle of a climate crisis?		
		Virtual Public Meeting	Wouldn't the fastest way to reduce GHG emissions in Toronto be to shut down the Portlands plant as soon as feasible?		
	Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) Procurement Process	Virtual Public Meeting	Did Atura initiate this project or was it called for from another organization?		After years of strong energy supply, Ontario is entering a period of growing electricity system demand (a predicted energy supply gap) and actions are needed to ensure the continued reliability of the electricity grid.  To close this gap and meet the projected demand, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. The upgrades to PEC are part of Atura Power's efforts to address this supply gap.
		Virtual Public Meeting	Did Atura Power lobby for the plant? How was Atura chosen as the contractor for this and other projects in Ontario?		
	Role of Gas in Ontario Energy Supply	Portlands Email Inbox	Expanding your plant sends more carbon upward and NO pollution downwind to us. Why spend millions expanding a fossil fuel plant instead of spending that money on energy conservation programs to help residents and businesses save money & renewables?	Wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity; however, other resources are required to maintain	



Category	Sub-Category	Source	Question/Comment	Response
		Portlands Email Inbox	We should be working towards closing this project, or at least reducing its footprint. Switching anything from fossil fuel powered to electric is meaningless if in fact the electricity is generated using fossil fuels.	system reliability. It is not uncommon to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system.
		Portlands Email Inbox	Even the major fossil fuel companies are recognizing the threat to life as we know it on planet earth that is climate change. According to the IPCC we only have until 2030 to roll back carbon emissions. We need to get off gas. Ramp up green energy!	
		Portlands Email Inbox	I don't support expanding the burning of fossil fuels for power. While some fossil fuels may be needed while we transition to cleaner sources of energy and storage options, more should be done on that front instead of investing more in gas plants.	
		Portlands Email Inbox	I want it known that I am very opposed to the Portland's increase in capacity. This is the wrong direction to be going in. Any government money and/or private capital spent on this could be much better spent on off shore wind and solar - much cheaper and emissions-free. Also Toronto has great plans in the Net-Zero Emissions by 2040 strategy that passed in council recently. We need industry that will help us get there. Expanding gas in our city will not do so. Our council doesn't want it and nor do a majority of Torontonians. People are becoming increasingly aware of the climate crisis and the role of fossil fuels in having created the crisis. We will not sit by and let our present and future be hijacked by ill conceived notions of the need for anymore gas.	
		Portlands Email Inbox	With the excess power available from Quebec Hydro why is this natural, renewable hydro not the first and only option?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	There are many, many Canadians who want natural energy to be the focus. We want to fund only natural energy alternatives. Why does our publicly owned utility think more fossil gas burning is a good idea in the middle of a climate crisis? Why is there no effort to go natural?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Can the supply gap should be filled by non-fossil fuel sources given we are in the middle of a climate crisis: Renewables, including wind, solar plus purchases from Quebec?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Why isn't the excess capacity of Quebec Hydro not an option? It's cheap, renewable, and available. And by far the cheapest. We're in the midst of a climate crisis and more gas plants are part of the problem.	
		Virtual Public Meeting	I would like to know why we are continuing to invest in fossil fuels vs the cheaper options of conservation and renewable energy options. Thanks.	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Why aren't you looking at renewable, non-polluting energy? It doesn't matter that you are not changing the 'footprint of the plant. The fact that you are using polluting fossil fuels is UNACCEPTABLE!	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Atura's gas plants are contributing to the climate crisis. Why doesn't Atura Power put pressure on the government to invest in green alternatives instead of these efficiency upgrades?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	With the global climate crisis, why are renewable energy sources not being used?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Were green energy options considered instead of these upgrades?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Does Atura management acknowledge that we are facing a climate emergency and, if so, how does reality inform its decision to enhance and continue operating this fossil fuel energy plant? Should Atura, for example, be investing in solar and wind instead?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	The IESO has also identified that wind and solar could meet demands.	



Category	Sub-Category	Source	Question/Comment	Response
		Portlands Email Inbox	I cannot support an increase in capacity as requested. It is better to put money into developing sustainable energy solutions, rather than to increase the current greenhouse gas emissions. Thank you.	
		Portlands Email Inbox	I agree we need to keep natural gas power for a while yet, we have no alternative. But I really don't think we should increase the capacity of what we have now. I would personally prefer rolling blackouts--with advance notice. We all have to suffer a bit in order to make the world liveable for our children and grandchildren.	
		Portlands Email Inbox	Just regarding the variability in renewable energy from wind and solar we are now in the advanced stages of energy storage technology so that old argument is outdated and frankly misleading.  We are also engaged n Ontario in behaving like spoiled children and ignoring the abundant green energy available from Quebec  At this stage please be aware that as a citizen in Toronto I will protest and do everything legal to block any expansion of the gas burning plant .  As you know I am not alone	
	Upgrades vs. Expansion	Virtual Public Meeting	As you are classifying the proposed work as an upgrade rather than expansion, does this exempt the project from the IESO mandate that municipalities must approve gas-plant expansions? Toronto City Council has twice opposed gas expansion. Will this be considered?	Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient. Better materials are used to manufacture the parts, and these can withstand a higher operating temperature and therefore produce more power. The advanced materials and the optimized cooling flows enable the engine to run at higher operating temperatures and use fuel more effectively, allowing for a higher power output per gigajoule (GJ) of fuel consumed.  All upgrade activities will take place within the existing facility and there will be no changes or expansion beyond the existing PEC footprint.
	Virtual Public Meeting	Why spend millions expanding a fossil fuel plant instead of spending that money on energy conservation programs that can help residents and businesses save money?		
	Portlands Email Inbox	By expanding Gas powered plants, Atura Power and the province of Ontario is shooting itself in the foot environmentally and financially. Fossil fuels are being phased out as we speak as there are healthier and cheaper alternatives for the taxpayer.		
	Virtual Public Meeting	We just had the hottest summer & the hottest September on record, globally. There are cheaper, healthier, and safer alternatives to gas plants. Portlands Gas Plants was originally built despite local protests, under promises it would only be a "peak supplier" yet it in fact has been running 21 hours a day. Plus, Toronto City council voted against the expansion of this plant. Despite all these facts and more, why does OPG still want to expand the gas plant, against the wishes of local Torontonians and Ontarians alike?		
	Virtual Public Meeting	How is expanding a gas plant in 2023 aligned with Canada?		
	Virtual Public Meeting	Has the city of Toronto approved this expansion?		
	Virtual Public Meeting	How is expanding a gas plant in 2023 aligned with Canada's greenhouse gas emission reduction commitments? How is a gas plant expansion aligned with the federal government's proposed Clean Electricity Regulations?		
	Virtual Public Meeting	The Minister of Energy directed that gas projects would need municipal approval - Toronto has voted against this expansion. Why won't the IESO respect Toronto's wishes?		
	Virtual Public Meeting	Sorry I forgot the question. The UN has said that all new fossil fuel development is moral and economic madness! How can you justify this expansion when the climate and health affects are disastrous?		
	Virtual Public Meeting	If council opposed this expansion, why is it going ahead?		
	Virtual Public Meeting	Why is an expansion happening in the middle of a climate crisis?		



Category	Sub-Category	Source	Question/Comment	Response
		Virtual Public Meeting	Why is OPG Atura expanding gas generation instead of building clean wind, solar and waterpower projects to meet demand growth?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Another report available to the public is the most recent IPCC report, which states, unequivocally, that we must reduce fossil fuel output, and you are expanding your facilities to support an additional 50 megawatts (MW) of output.	
		Virtual Public Meeting	How do you justify an expansion in an age of spiralling environmental disaster? As human beings, how can you even entertain this?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	The only thing right now that is critical is stopping all fossil fuel expansion and drastically cutting emissions as fast as possible.	
		Virtual Public Meeting	These types of expansions - or whatever greenwashing nonsense you peddle them as - as a way to stall true action toward a livable future for humanity.	
<b>Request for Project/Meeting Materials</b>	Project Documentation	Portlands Email Inbox	Can you please send me a copy of the Q&A promised during the meeting, or a link to where it is posted?	Materials from the public meeting, including a copy of the presentation and a document summarizing the Question and Answer period, are available on the project webpage at <a href="http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade">aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade</a> , under the Project Documents heading.
		Portlands Email Inbox	Can you advise if the Q&A resulting from the Oct 5 public consultation meeting has been published and where it is available for review.	
		Portlands Email Inbox	Do you have any idea when the Q&A's will be posted?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	Would you please share the materials with us after the meeting for TRCA staff to review?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	You told us to see your website for summary. Under which heading will it be posted?	
		Virtual Public Meeting	Will the meeting be recorded and available later?	
		Portlands Email Inbox	Would you also send me the - Emissions Summary - Guideline A-5 calculations based on proposed facility and equipment parameters	
<b>Other</b>	n/a	Portlands Email Inbox	Any news on when you will be able to respond to my other requests and when the final Screening report will be out?	Atura Power is responding to your enquiries as quickly as possible and anticipate releasing the final Screening Report in the coming weeks.

## **Appendix B4b: Correspondence Records with Members of the Public**

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 6, 2023 12:53 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Automatic reply: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Hello,

Thank you for contacting Waterfront Toronto. We appreciate you taking the time to email us. We will make every effort to get back to you as soon as we can.

If you are looking for general information on waterfront revitalization please visit our website at <https://www.waterfronttoronto.ca/>

Here are some helpful links where you can find additional information.

- [News](#) – *Read our latest news and blogs*
- [Quayside](#) – *visit the project page for the latest information about the Quayside project.*
- [Port Lands Flood Protection Project](#) – *For more information about the planning and future development of the Port Lands and the Don Mouth Naturalization project.*
- [Online Calendar](#) – *here you will find Waterfront Toronto related meetings and events – including public engagements, Board & Committee meetings and Design Review Panel meetings.*
- **Social Media** - You can learn more and get our latest updates online via [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#).

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**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 5, 2023 3:21 PM  
**To:** Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>  
**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Good afternoon.

As you know, Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC). The upgrades are subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01 under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. Atura Power has prepared a *draft* copy of the Screening Report which documents the results of the Environmental Screening Process undertaken to identify whether any potential environmental effects of the project would occur ('Yes' or 'No'). The Environmental Screening Process determined that the response to all questions is 'No', indicating that there would not be potential negative environmental effects resulting from the project.

Attached to this email is a draft of the Screening Report. We are sharing this draft with Indigenous communities, key agencies such as yourselves, and interested members of the public to offer an additional opportunity to review the project details, the Environmental Screening Process undertaken, and assessment findings. Atura Power is voluntarily providing this opportunity so comments can be incorporated in the final Screening Report. We invite you to review the draft report and share any comments on the report via our project email address, [portlandupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandupgrade@aturapower.com). We will **accept comments until Jan. 7, 2024**, after which time we will prepare and release the final version of the Screening Report in winter 2024.

Thank you very much, and please send your project-related questions to [portlandupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandupgrade@aturapower.com).

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

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**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 6, 2023 1:07 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>; Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Hi Darius,

This report states that the PEC is on Villiers Island, which is incorrect. Villiers Island is the small island we are creating as part of the Port Lands Flood Protection project. It is bound by the Keating Channel to the north, the future river valley (just west of Don Roadway) to the east, the new river valley (north of the Ship Channel) to the south, and the inner harbour to the west.

*page i and repeated on page 1 - PEC is a combined-cycle natural gas-fuelled electricity generating station (GS) with an average electrical output contract capacity of 550 megawatts (MW). The station is located on Villiers Island just south of the mainland part of the City of Toronto on approximately 11.4 hectares (ha) of land.*

*Please let us know if you have any questions. Warm regards,  
Waterfront Toronto*

**From:** Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, December 11, 2023 12:58 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Good afternoon.

Thank you for your email and the information within it.

We appreciate your outreach and interest in our project.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-657

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Monday, December 11, 2023 1:42 PM

**To:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>; [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Thanks Darius,

One other question/comment raised by one of our colleagues was whether the upgrades proposed will result in an increase in discharge water temperature conditions, or whether the thermal impacts will remain relatively consistent with current operations.

There is some discussion about that in the screening, but nothing about whether there will be a change over existing thermal impacts.

Thanks,  
Waterfront Toronto



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 12, 2023 6:41 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>; Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Good afternoon.

The PEC efficiency upgrades to the gas turbines will have no impact on the cooling water discharged by the facility. Cooling water temperatures will remain within compliance of the existing ECA and thus no change to the Industrial Sewage Works ECA or limits are required.

I hope this answers your colleague's questions.

Thanks,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-657

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thursday, September 21, 2023 1:18 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Exemption request

Hi Atura Power,

Could you please send me a copy of your letter to the Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks seeking an exemption to the Environmental Assessment Act for your proposed 50 MW upgrade for Portlands.

Please also send me any response(s) to this request that you have received from the Ministry.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Chair, Ontario Clean Air Alliance

160 John Street, #300

Toronto, ON M5V 2E5

[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 26, 2023 11:40 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Exemption request

Good day, [REDACTED]

Thank you for reaching out to us and for your requests regarding the Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades project.

Please note that a letter has not been sent to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding an exemption to the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*.

Kindest regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 26, 2023 11:53 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Exemption request

Hi Darius,

But your web site says Atura is requesting an exemption. Have you just made the request orally?

[REDACTED]



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 7:50 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Exemption request

Good morning, [REDACTED]

Thanks again for reaching out to us.

Please be advised that Atura Power is not seeking an exemption to the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act* from the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks related to the Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades project.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Friday, October 6, 2023 2:32 PM

**To:** 'Upgrade project for PEC' <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** [REDACTED] 'tabunsp-qp@ndp.on.ca' <tabunsp-qp@ndp.on.ca>; 'sarah.gingrich@toronto.ca' <sarah.gingrich@toronto.ca>

**Subject:** Production and emissions data request

Hi Darius,

Could you please provide me with the following data about the Portlands Generating Station for each year from 2017 to 2022 inclusive:

1. GWh supplied to the IESO-controlled grid;
2. Total GHG emissions;
3. Total nitrogen oxides emissions;
4. Total fine particulate emissions (PM 2.5);
5. GHG emission rate per GWh;
6. Nitrogen oxides emission rate per GWh; and
7. Fine particulate (PM 2.5) emission rate per GWh.

Could you please also provide me with your forecast of Portland's GHG emission rate per GWh;

nitrogen oxides emission rate per GWh; and fine particulate (PM 2.5) emission rate per GWh if your proposed "efficiency upgrades" are made.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 7:48 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** FW: Production and emissions data request

Hi Darius,

Could you please let me know when you will be able to provide me with responses to my questions below.

And can you please also tell me when you expect to submit your environmental screening report to the Ministry of the Environment.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2023 2:27 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Production and emissions data request

Hello again, [REDACTED]

I just sent my responses to your earlier email. Sorry again for the delay.

We expect to publish the PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report and Notice of Completion in November or December 2023, and provide them to the MECP in January or February, 2024.

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal ([hear it](#))**

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2023 2:18 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** [REDACTED] tabunsp-qp@ndp.on.ca <tabunsp-qp@ndp.on.ca>; sarah.gingrich@toronto.ca <sarah.gingrich@toronto.ca>

**Subject:** RE: Production and emissions data request

Good evening, [REDACTED]

Sorry for my late reply and thank you for your patience.

Public-available supply and emissions data related to PEC are available via the following links:

1. GWh supplied to the IESO-controlled grid <http://reports.ieso.ca/public/> & [Data Directory \(ieso.ca\)](http://reports.ieso.ca/public/DataDirectory(ieso.ca))
2. Total GHG emissions; <https://climate-change.canada.ca/facility-emissions/>
3. Total nitrogen oxides emissions; <https://climate-change.canada.ca/facility-emissions/>
4. Total fine particulate emissions (PM 2.5); <https://pollution-waste.canada.ca/national-release-inventory/>

After the upgrades, the station's thermal efficiency will increase due to a reduced heat rate (BTU/kWh). This means that the same amount of fuel used will produce more power after the upgrades. And, the upgrades to the turbine generators 'will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels', as stated by the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, GE Gas Power – Services. The facility will continue to operate in accordance with all environmental permitting requirements.

Thank you again,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 6, 2023 8:33 AM

**To:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>; Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Good morning.

As you know, Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC). The upgrades are subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01 under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. Atura Power prepared a draft copy of the Screening Report which documents the results of the Environmental Screening Process undertaken to identify whether any potential environmental effects of the project would occur ('Yes' or 'No'). The Environmental Screening Process determined that the response to all questions is 'No', indicating that there will be no potential negative environmental effects resulting from the project.

The draft Screening Report is now available on our project webpage at [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade). We are sharing this draft copy to offer an additional opportunity to review the project details, the Environmental Screening Process undertaken, and assessment findings. Atura Power is voluntarily providing this opportunity so that comments can be incorporated in the final Screening Report. We will be collecting comments on the draft Screening Report through our project email address, [portlandupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandupgrade@aturapower.com), **until Jan. 7, 2024**. After that date, we will prepare and release the final version of the Screening Report in the Winter 2024.

Thank you for your interest in the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.

**Darius Sokal ([hear it](#))**

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2023 9:17 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 'Sarah Gingrich' <Sarah.Gingrich@toronto.ca>;  
Councillor\_Fletcher@toronto.ca <Councillor\_Fletcher@toronto.ca>; tabunsp-qp@ndp.on.ca  
<tabunsp-qp@ndp.on.ca>; 'McMahon, Mary-Margaret' <mmcmahon.mpp@liberal.ola.org>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Hi Darius,

Please find attached the OCAA's comments on Atura's Draft Screening Report regarding its proposal to increase the capacity of the Portlands Energy Centre by 50 MW.

All the best,

[REDACTED]



December 14, 2023

BY EMAIL: portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com

Mr. Darius Sokal  
Senior Communications Advisor  
Atura Power  
Oakville, Ontario

Dear Mr. Sokal

**Re: Atura Power's Draft Screening Report with respect to its proposal to increase the capacity of the Portlands Energy Centre by 50 megawatts (MW)**

### Introduction

Further to your email of December 6, 2023, I am writing to provide you with the Ontario Clean Air Alliance's (OCAA) comments and recommendations with respect to Atura Power's December 2023 *Draft Screening Report* (DSR) regarding its proposal to increase the gas-fired electricity generating capacity of its Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) by 50 MW.

### Concerns

The OCAA has the following concerns about Atura Power's DSR.

1. The DSR fails to acknowledge that Atura Power has **not** obtained a municipal support resolution from the City of Toronto for its proposed project.

According to Ontario's Minister of Energy, Todd Smith, municipal support resolutions from the host municipalities are a prerequisite for electricity generation and storage projects.



Specifically, according to the Minister’s December 23, 2022 letter to the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO):

“In recent months, as project proponents look for sites to develop approximately 4,000 megawatts of generation and energy storage, I have heard from multiple municipal councils and other stakeholders that they would like the IESO to be explicit that municipal council support is required for the approval of projects proposed on sites that are located within their boundaries...

Recognizing that... it is the IESO which is responsible for implementing the [October 6, 2022] Directive, it is my expectation that the IESO will be clear about the requirement for a resolution from municipal council supporting a proponent or counterparty with a proposed project located in that municipality, separate and apart from that municipality’s permitting and regulatory requirements.

I believe that the submission of a council resolution by a proponent or counterparty to the IESO demonstrating support for the project would be the only basis from which to conclude that an elected council’s support on behalf of the municipality has been obtained.”<sup>1</sup>

As the above quote makes clear, Minister Smith’s letter is with respect to the IESO’s procurement of 4,000 MW of generation and energy storage. Atura Power’s contract with the IESO to expand the capacity of its PEC by 50 MW is one component of the IESO’s plan to acquire an additional 4,000 MW of generation and energy storage. Therefore it requires a municipal support resolution from the City of Toronto to proceed.

2. The DSR fails to note that on May 12, 2023 and June 15, 2023 the City of Toronto passed resolutions opposing Atura Power’s proposal to increase the capacity of PEC by 50 MW.
3. The DSR fails to explain why Atura believes that the Minister of Energy, Conservation and Parks should approve its proposed PEC project despite the fact that that it does not have the support of Toronto City Council as required by the Minister of Energy.
4. Atura has not quantified PEC’s carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter (PM 2.5) and sulphur dioxide *emission rates per kWh* in 2022.
5. Atura has not quantified the *changes* in PEC’s carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter (PM 2.5) and sulphur dioxide *emission rates per kWh* which will occur if the project proceeds.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ieso.ca/en/Corporate-IESO/Ministerial-Directives>

6. Atura has not provided PEC's *total* emissions of nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, particulate matter (PM 2.5), sulphur dioxide in 2022.
7. Atura has not provided a forecast of PEC's total emissions of carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter (PM 2.5) and sulphur dioxide in each year from 2024 to 2035 inclusive if: a) the proposed project proceeds; and b) the project is not approved.
8. Atura has not quantified adverse health impacts (e.g., asthma attacks, emergency room visits, hospital admissions, premature deaths) of proceeding with its proposed project.
9. Atura has not provided PEC's total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in 2022.
10. Atura has not provided a forecast of PEC's total GHG emissions in each year from 2024 to 2035 inclusive if: a) the proposed project proceeds; and b) the project is not approved.
11. Atura's DSR does not examine *alternatives* to its proposed project. Specifically, there is no analysis with respect to the existence of cleaner and lower cost options to meet Ontario's electricity needs even though there are many commercially available alternatives.

For example, according to the Royal Bank of Canada, Ontario could completely avoid the need for new gas-fired generation and save \$500 million per year by investing in energy efficiency and demand management.<sup>2</sup>

Ontario's demand for electricity peaks on hot summer days when our air-conditioners are running full out. On the other hand, Quebec's demand for electricity peaks on cold winter nights since most of its homes have electric resistance (baseboard) heating. As a result, Quebec has a huge surplus of hydro-electricity capacity available for export to Ontario during our summer peak demand hours.<sup>3</sup> By increasing our imports of Quebec waterpower, Ontario can avoid the need for new gas-fired generation to power our air conditioners.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://thoughtleadership.rbc.com/power-shift-how-ontario-can-cut-its-450b-electricity-bill/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://news.ontario.ca/en/release/1003444/the-governments-of-ontario-and-quebec-support-new-electricity-trade-agreement>

In addition, the DSR provides no analysis of the potential for wind<sup>4</sup> and solar energy (including solar PV on Toronto roofs) combined with energy storage (including EV batteries) to avoid the need to increase the generation capacity of PEC.

In this context, it is also important to note that that Hydro Quebec is proposing to meet 100% of its future electricity needs by investing in energy efficiency and renewables (wind, solar, waterpower and biogas).

12. The DSR does not propose any mitigation measures to ensure that the project will **not** have a negative net impact on public health and our climate.

### Conclusion

Atura's DSR has failed to demonstrate that its proposal to increase PEC's capacity by 50 MW is in the public interest.

Therefore, OCAA recommends that Atura's DSR be revised and expanded to:

- a) explain why Atura believes the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks should approve its proposed power project which does not have a municipal support resolution from the City of Toronto;
- b) quantify PEC's carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter (PM 2.5) and sulphur dioxide *emission rates per kWh* of electricity generation in 2022;
- c) quantify PEC's *total* carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter (PM 2.5) and sulphur dioxide emissions in 2022;
- d) quantify PEC's carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter (PM 2.5) and sulphur dioxide *emission rates per kWh* of electricity generation in each year from 2024 to 2035 inclusive if the proposed project proceeds;
- e) quantify PEC's *total* forecast carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter (PM 2.5) and sulphur dioxide emissions in each year from 2024 to 2035 inclusive if: a) the proposed project proceeds; and b) the project is not approved.
- f) quantify PEC's greenhouse gas emission rate per kWh of electricity generation in 2022;
- g) quantify PEC's greenhouse gas emission rate per kWh of electricity generation if the proposed project proceeds;
- h) quantify PEC's total greenhouse gas emissions in 2022;
- i) quantify PEC's *total* forecast greenhouse gas emissions in each year from 2024 to 2035 inclusive if: a) the proposed project proceeds; and b) the project is not approved;
- j) quantify PEC's *total* adverse health impacts (e.g., asthma attacks, emergency room visits, hospital admissions, premature deaths) in each year from 2024 to 2035 inclusive if the proposed project proceeds;

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<sup>4</sup> [https://www.cleanairalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Great-Lakes-Wind-Report-apr-17-v\\_01.pdf](https://www.cleanairalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Great-Lakes-Wind-Report-apr-17-v_01.pdf)

- k) evaluate alternatives to the proposed project (e.g., energy efficiency and demand management, Quebec waterpower, Made-in-Ontario wind and solar energy, storage projects including the use of Hydro Quebec’s reservoirs and electric vehicle batteries as storage options for Ontario wind and solar energy); and
- l) evaluate the benefits and costs of measures to mitigate the adverse health and climate impacts of the proposed project.

Yours sincerely,



Chair



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Friday, December 22, 2023 1:30 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 'Sarah Gingrich' <Sarah.Gingrich@toronto.ca>;  
Councillor\_Fletcher@toronto.ca <Councillor\_Fletcher@toronto.ca>; tabunsp-qp@ndp.on.ca  
<tabunsp-qp@ndp.on.ca>; 'McMahon, Mary-Margaret' <mmcmahon.mpp@liberal.ola.org>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Good morning,

We appreciate you providing the OCAA's comments on our PEC Efficiency Upgrade Draft Screening Report, please see Atura Powers response in the attached PDF.

Thank you,

**Stephen Smith**

Environmental Specialist | **Atura Power**

289-259-2377 | [Stephen.smith@aturapower.com](mailto:Stephen.smith@aturapower.com)

December 21, 2023

[REDACTED]

Ontario Clean Air Alliance (OCAA)  
160 John St., Suite 300  
Toronto, ON M5V 2E5

[REDACTED]

**Re: Atura Power's Draft Screening Report with respect to its proposal to increase the capacity of Portlands Energy Centre by 50 megawatts (MW)**

This letter is a response to your letter on behalf of the Ontario Clean Air Alliance (OCAA) dated December 14, 2023, regarding comments about Atura Power's Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project draft Screening Report released to the public for review on December 6, 2023.

Below are responses to each of the questions and comments raised in your letter. We note these comments are very similar to the questions and comments raised in your letter regarding Atura Power's Halton Hills Generating Station (HHGS) Efficiency Upgrades project earlier this Fall. As a result, you will note many of our responses regarding the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project below are similar to the responses we provided to your letter regarding the HHGS Efficiency Upgrades project. Nonetheless, we are providing our responses here for your convenience.

In response to each of the comments raised in your letter, we offer the following responses:

OCAA Letter Section (page #)	OCAA Comment	Atura Power's Response
<b>OCAA Letter - Concerns</b>		
<b>#1 (p1, p2)</b>	Atura Power has <b>not</b> obtained a municipal support resolution from the City of Toronto for its proposed project.	A municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The Minister of Energy's quote provided on page 2 of the OCAA letter refers to Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO's) current Long-Term (LT1) Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The IESO has already awarded a contract for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023, including
<b>#2 (p2)</b>	The draft Screening Report fails to note that on May 12, 2023 and June 15, 2023 the City of Toronto passed resolutions opposing Atura Power's proposal to increase the capacity of PEC by 50 MW.	
<b>#3 (p2)</b>	The draft Screening Report fails to explain why Atura believes that the Minister of Energy, Conservation and Parks should approve its proposed PEC	

OCAA Letter Section (page #)	OCAA Comment	Atura Power's Response
	project despite the fact that it does not have the support of Toronto City Council as required by the Minister of Energy.	contracts for natural gas electricity generation facility upgrades.
#4 (p2)	Atura has not quantified PEC's carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter (PM 2.5) and sulphur dioxide <i>emission rates per kWh</i> in 2022.	As demonstrated in <b>Section 3.3 and 3.4</b> of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment is not required and has not been undertaken for the project.
#5 (p2)	Atura has not quantified the <i>changes</i> in the PEC's carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter (PM 2.5) and sulphur dioxide <i>emission rates per kWh</i> which will occur if the project proceeds.	See response to #4 above.
#6 (p3)	Atura has not provided PEC's <i>total</i> emissions of nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, particulate matter (PM 2.5), sulphur dioxide in 2022.	Owners or operators of facilities that meet published reporting requirements are required to report to the National Pollutant Release Inventory (NPRI) under the authority of the <i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act</i> (CEPA). Reviewed NPRI data is now available up to 2022.
#7 (p3)	Atura has not provided a forecast of PEC's total emissions of carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter (PM 2.5) and sulphur dioxide in each year from 2024 to 2035 inclusive if: a) the proposed project proceeds; and b) the project is not approved.	PEC will continue to operate as dictated by the IESO based on the supply and demand balance, which fluctuates season by season and year to year, and will continue to report annual emissions to the NPRI.
#8 (p3)	Atura has not quantified adverse health impacts (e.g., asthma attacks, emergency room visits, hospital admissions, premature deaths) of proceeding with its proposed project.	See response to #4 above.

OCAA Letter Section (page #)	OCAA Comment	Atura Power's Response
#9 (p3)	Atura has not provided PEC's total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in 2022.	Greenhouse gas emissions from PEC are regulated under the Emissions Performance Standards Regulation (O. Reg. 241/19) under the <i>Environmental Protection Act</i> . Furthermore, information on GHG emissions from facilities across Canada who meet the requirements is collected under section 46 of the <i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act</i> . Reviewed 2021 GHG data is currently available. 2022 GHG data has been submitted as per the reporting requirements; it is currently under review.
#10 (p3)	Atura has not provided a forecast of PEC's total GHG emissions in each year from 2024 to 2035 inclusive if: a) the proposed project proceeds; and b) if the project is not approved.	See response to #7 above.
#11 (p3, p4)	Atura's SR does not examine <i>alternatives</i> to its proposed project. Specifically, there is no analysis with respect to the existence of cleaner and lower cost options to meet Ontario's electricity needs even though there are many commercially available alternatives.	The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contracted PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.
#12 (p4)	The draft SR does not propose any mitigation measures to ensure that the project will <b>not</b> have a negative net impact on public health and our climate.	See response to #4 above.

As described in the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report released to the public for review on December 6, 2023, PEC is an industrialised facility and its activities are heavily regulated under many existing permits, standards, approvals and reporting requirements. Activities to complete the upgrades will occur within the existing PEC facility. The process will improve operational efficiency, improve grid resiliency in Ontario, and bring economic benefits to the area through the procurement of local labour and materials. Atura Power is in the process of obtaining an amended Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) from the MECP for the upgrades.



As additionally described in the draft Screening Report, the application of the Screening Criteria for the planned upgrades at PEC resulted in a score of 'No' for potential negative environmental effects resulting from the project (see Section 3.4 of the Screening Report for more details). As such, the Environmental Screening determined that, without any mitigation, all regulatory requirements will be met, and no other impact management commitments will be required.

We hope that the responses above provide clarification regarding the comments and questions raised about the draft Screening Report and associated Environmental Screening Process. The responses to these comments will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.

Should you require further clarification on project details, please contact us through our project email address at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).



Stephen Smith  
Environmental Specialist  
Atura Power

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Friday, December 22, 2023 1:31 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Automatic reply: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Thank you for your email. I am away from the office today. I will respond to you when I return.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

Senior Climate Policy Manager

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Friday, December 22, 2023 1:31 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Automatic reply: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Happy Holidays! I'm away from Dec 22 - Jan 2.

All the best,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Friday, December 22, 2023 1:31 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Out of Office RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Hello,

Thank you for getting in touch. I will be out of office until January 2nd. I will get back to you promptly when I return.

Best,

[REDACTED]



Reminder email sent by Atura Power to public interest groups on October 3, 2023

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 5:22 PM  
**To:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>; Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good day.

A reminder that Atura Power will be hosting a virtual public meeting on Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. ET about the planned efficiency upgrades at Portlands Energy Centre.

A link to access the meeting will be available on the project webpage here: [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade).

If you are unable to participate, meeting materials will be posted on the project webpage following the meeting.

Thank you, and please email any questions or comments to [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 4:57 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name:

[REDACTED]

Last name:

[REDACTED]

Region/Topic:

PEC Upgrade

Email Address:

[REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: I would like to attend the virtual meeting.

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 1:06 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hello [REDACTED]

Thank you for reaching out to us.

A link to the upcoming PEC Efficiency Upgrades public meeting will be available on our project website, [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade), on Oct. 5th.

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <[no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com](mailto:no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 4:31 PM

**To:** Station Manager @ Portlands <[stationmgr.portlands@aturapower.com](mailto:stationmgr.portlands@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about Portlands Energy Centre –

Toronto

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: Portlands Energy Centre – Toronto

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: Looking to receive link for Oct 5 virtual public meeting re Portlands Gas Plant

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked



**From:** Station Manager @ Portlands <[stationmgr.portlands@aturapower.com](mailto:stationmgr.portlands@aturapower.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 8:34 AM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about Portlands Energy Centre – Toronto

Good Morning [REDACTED]

Thank you for your interest in the virtual public meeting happening tomorrow, Oct 5<sup>th</sup>.

The link will appear on the project's web site early on in the day prior to the meeting starting time of 6:30pm. The link will be located here:

<https://aturapower.com/portlands-energy-centre-upgrade>

Regards,

[REDACTED]  
Plant Manager | Portlands Energy Centre  
**Atura Power**

[REDACTED]  
470 Unwin Avenue, Toronto, ON, M4M 3B9

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 11:04 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Please send me the link to Oct 5th virtual meeting thx

Sent from my Galaxy

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 1:04 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Please send me the link to Oct 5th virtual meeting thx

Hello.

Thank you for reaching out to us.

A link to the upcoming PEC Efficiency Upgrades public meeting will be available on our project website, [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade), on Oct. 5th.

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 1:19 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: I would like the zoom link for the meeting.

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 1:07 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hello [REDACTED]

Thank you for reaching out to us.

A link to the upcoming PEC Efficiency Upgrades public meeting will be available on our project website, [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade), on Oct. 5th.

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 5:46 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [redacted] about PEC Upgrade

First name: [redacted]

Last name: [redacted]

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email Address: [redacted]

Enter Your Message Here: I would like to be in the consultation.

I accept the privacy policy: Checked

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 1:09 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hello [REDACTED]

Thank you for reaching out to us.

A link to the upcoming PEC Efficiency Upgrades public meeting will be available on our project website, [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade), on Oct. 5th.

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <[no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com](mailto:no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 2:50 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>; Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name:

[REDACTED]

Last name:

[REDACTED]

Region/Topic:

PEC Upgrade

Email Address:

[REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: I would like to attend the Oct. 5th meeting.

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked



On Wednesday, October 4, 2023 at 09:07:42 a.m. EDT, Upgrade project for PEC  
<[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)> wrote:

Hello [REDACTED]

Thank you for reaching out to us.

A link to the upcoming PEC Efficiency Upgrades public meeting will be available on our project website,  
[aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade), on Oct. 5th.

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Friday, October 6, 2023 9:04 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Re: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

I was terribly disappointed and angry as I tuned in at 6:45pm and it was closing. This presentation was supposed to go from 6:30pm-7:30pm. What happened!!

[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 2:46 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hi [REDACTED]

Our public community meeting about the proposed PEC efficiency upgrades ended at approximately 7:45 p.m., 15 minutes beyond the assigned time.

The meeting presentation is available for your review on the project webpage here:

<https://aturapower.com/atura-overview/our-stations/portlands-energy-centre-upgrade/>.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 5:00 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: I support the proposed upgrading of the equipment at PEC that will increase its generating capacity.

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:46 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for your message. You can get updates about the project by visiting  
aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 3:10 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: I am concerned about the continued investment in fossil fuel energy generation, the public health impacts and the urgent call by the IPCC to wind down fossil fuel burning. What plans does Atura have to expand wind, solar, geothermal and hydro?

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:48 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hello [REDACTED]

Wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity. However, other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is common to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system.

The IESO established the Resource Adequacy Framework in 2021 to provide a flexible and cost-effective approach for competitively securing the resources necessary to meet demand and ensure system reliability. These upgrades are part of the plan IESO put in place to meet Ontario's energy needs.

Thank you for your question.

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 11:34 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: I live within a 2 km radius of the plant. Please provide a full detailing of all the emissions profile of the plant now and after the proposed expansion. Thank you.

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:53 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hi [REDACTED]

All PEC emissions reports are publicly available on the provincial and federal government websites.

No changes to environmental features are expected given that the upgrades will take place within the existing facility and the existing facility footprint will not change. GE Gas Power – Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, has provided a letter stating that the upgrades to the turbine generator ‘will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels’.

The facility will continue to operate in accordance with all environmental permitting requirements.

Thank you for your question.

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 11:08 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: Please place me on the list for access to the October 5 public consultation on the PEC Upgrade.

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:54 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hi [REDACTED]

We will add your information to the project database and email you with updates.

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 3:22 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: Thank you for the opportunity to learn more about the proposal.

I accept the privacy policy: Checked

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Friday, October 27, 2023 1:39 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hello [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email and your interest in the Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades project. Should you require any more information, please note that materials from the public meeting will be posted on the project webpage available at [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade).

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 3:23 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name:

[REDACTED]

Last name:

[REDACTED]

Region/Topic:

PEC Upgrade

Email Address:

[REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: Can't attend but the response is:  
'NO THANKS!'

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Friday, October 27, 2023 1:40 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hello [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email. Materials from the public meeting will be posted on the project webpage available at [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade) should you wish to review them at a time that is more convenient for you.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal ([hear it](#))**

**Sr. Communications Advisor | [Atura Power](#)**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 8:37 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email

Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: I will be attending the zoom meeting to better understand how routine maintenance can improve efficiencies to produce the additional 50MW and what increase in CO2 emissions (methane) and other pollutants are anticipated.

I accept the privacy policy:

Checked

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Friday, October 27, 2023 1:45 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hello [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email and your interest in the Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades project. We hope you received the information you were looking for during the public meeting. Should you require any more information, please note that materials from the public meeting will be posted on the project webpage available at [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade).

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal ([hear it](#))**

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 5:26 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Public meeting Oct 5

To whom it may concern,

I understand OPG has an important role to fulfill in keeping energy production at the level needed by consumption. This is certainly challenging in this era of climate chaos and push back from the fossil fuel industry. However, I feel OPG could be taking a better leadership position in the energy transition than it is currently doing.

I am unable to attend the planned public meeting on October 5th 6:30-7:30 pm but I would like to be on the mailing list about this project.

Additionally, here are some initial questions for response that I have about this project:

1. Why is OPG not respecting the wishes of Toronto City Council who voted against this expansion on May 10th and whereby the Ontario Minister of Energy previously indicated the wishes of municipalities would be respected?
2. With the increases in GHG emissions expected to increase by 700% by 2041 if the current policies and plans are maintained, why does our publicly owned utility think more fossil gas burning is a good idea in the middle of a climate crisis?
3. RBC, environmental organizations and even IESO have provided other options to address future energy demands. Enbridge is already making money out of federally supported consumer energy efficiency programs. Why are these other options not being considered by OPG as a more immediate option while transition from fossil fuels takes place or until SMRs are in a position to be regulated?
4. A 'fair and just transition' applies to the clean energy sector as well. What plans does OPG have to invest in wind and solar energy as well as energy storage solutions instead of fossil fuels?
5. Does the company plan to continue burning fossil fuels after 2035 and how does a proposed 10% increase in production translate to a reported operation of over 21 hours a day that was happening over the summer?
6. OPG is asking Ontario's Ministry of the Environment to exempt its proposal to increase Portland's gas-fired generating capacity by 50 MW from the Environmental Assessment Act. Why? How will OPG know what mitigations to put in place for wildlife, biodiversity, water and air quality if it doesn't do a full Environmental assessment?
7. What will OPG be doing to capture, contain and reduce methane emissions from its existing plants and to ensure it is carbon neutral by 2035?

Thank you in advance for your time and efforts to address these questions of concern.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2023 1:39 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Public meeting Oct 5

Hello, [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email and interest in the proposed efficiency upgrades at our Portlands Energy Centre (PEC).

I'm sorry that you were not able to participate in the public meeting. However, we will add you to our email list and note that project details and updates are also available on the project webpage at [www.aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://www.aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade).

Atura Power is an OPG subsidiary, but we do not and cannot speak on OPG's behalf. I suggest you direct your questions numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 to OPG via the methods outlined on their website here: <https://www.opg.com/contact-us/>.

Regarding the future of the company after 2035, PEC is expected to operate until the contract term end date which is in April 2034. PEC operations are dictated by the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) based on the supply and demand balance. The frequency at which the plant operates will not change going forward and the plant will continue to operate as directed by the IESO.

Finally, Atura Power is not pursuing an exemption from the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act* for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.

Thank you once again,

**Darius Sokal ([hear it](#))**

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Friday, December 8, 2023 3:15 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name:

[REDACTED]

Last name:

[REDACTED]

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email

Address:

[REDACTED]

Enter Your  
Message

This project improves the electricity output from the plant, yet I am greatly concerned about the climate emergency, meeting emissions reduction targets.

Here:

Atura must be a greater leader transitioning away from fossil gas. Please advise when you will.

I accept the  
privacy  
policy:

Checked



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Monday, December 11, 2023 2:19 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Good morning, [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email and interest in our project.

As you may know, Ontario is entering a period of growing electricity system demand and actions are needed to ensure the continued reliability of the electricity grid and supply. To close this gap and meet the projected demand, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. The efficiency upgrades to Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) are part of Atura Power's efforts to address this supply gap.

The upgrades to PEC also play a role in Ontario's ability to rely on renewable energy sources. Wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity. However, other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is common to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system.

Thank you again, and please visit our project webpage at [www.aturapower.com/portlandupgrade](http://www.aturapower.com/portlandupgrade) for more information.

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 11, 2023 4:23 PM  
**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Dear Senior Communications Advisor Darius Sokal,

Thank you for your timely email response to my brief comment about the gas plans. While I appreciate that transitions are a needed component, the rate and degree of that transition is key. I would like to take this opportunity to respond in more detail with supporting sources to be included in my feedback about the project:

\$287 billion invested across Canada in wind and solar, in addition to energy efficiency management programs and back up storage units would mean no need for expanding fossil gas usage. The days of 'what if it isn't windy or sunny' are gone. The technology exists now to store energy for those days and other countries are well ahead of the curve on that. OPG and Atura are already investigating this, they just need to spend the dollars in that area rather than gas expansions. Many studies, reports and scientific as well as economic agencies attest to this.

Frankly, this is simply the decision making of a certain number of people who either are looking for the path of least resistance, have personal gains from maintaining the energy status quo, or who aren't informed well enough about what is now possible and what is needed for climate goals so that there is a future beyond 2050 and 2100.

Furthermore, investing in fossil gas is harmful to the economy on the world stage - even RBC gets this; investors and buyers are moving away from fossil fuel producing countries, countries that are deforesting and those supporting the dirtier hydrogen productions. Canada is doing all three, though now we have some traction with methane emissions and start to caps on fossil fuel production.

As noted previously, and by OPG, Atura Power is in a position to be a leader. Hopefully one day, while it's still not too late, it will be.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

a member of Climate Action Newmarket Aurora

Sources:

<https://policyalternatives.ca/sites/default/files/uploads/publications/BC%20Office/2023/02/Spending%20What%20It%20Takes.pdf>

<https://www.iisd.org/articles/deep-dive/canada-energy-future-guided-by-credible-scenarios>

[https://www.opg.com/projects-services/projects/energy-storage/?gclid=EAIAIqObChMIw5\\_Si92HgwMVNRmtBh2EQQhcEAAYAiAAEgKy-\\_D\\_BwE](https://www.opg.com/projects-services/projects/energy-storage/?gclid=EAIAIqObChMIw5_Si92HgwMVNRmtBh2EQQhcEAAYAiAAEgKy-_D_BwE)

[https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/renewable-energy/renewable-energy-directive-targets-and-rules/renewable-energy-directive\\_en](https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/renewable-energy/renewable-energy-directive-targets-and-rules/renewable-energy-directive_en)

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 20, 2023 2:26 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hello [REDACTED]

Your comment is noted and will be included in the record of engagement for the PEC efficiency upgrades project. In response to your comment, I'd just offer one clarification. Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient.

Thank you again for your continued interest in the project. Please feel free to share further questions or comments here or visit the project webpage (<https://aturapower.com/atura-overview/our-stations/portlands-energy-centre-upgrade/>) for more information.

**Stephen Smith**

Environmental Specialist | **Atura Power**

289-259-2377 | [Stephen.smith@aturapower.com](mailto:Stephen.smith@aturapower.com)

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 6:03 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Upgrades - Questions

Hello,

I would like to know how this 'upgrade' is being paid for and what cost valuation you used for the greenhouse gas (carbon/methane) pollution this 'upgrade' will result in for your environmental evaluation of this project?

Is this valuation in line with the U.S. directive?

*The President's Day One Executive Order on Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science to Tackle the Climate Crisis re-established an Interagency Working Group (IWG) and tasked it with identifying areas of budgeting, purchasing, and other key decisions where agencies should consider the Social Cost of Greenhouse Gases (SC-GHG) — a well-established metric for the known damages that greenhouse gas emissions cause across society.*

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2023/09/21/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-announces-new-actions-to-reduce-greenhouse-gas-emissions-and-combat-the-climate-crisis/>

Are these hidden costs included?

#### *THE HIDDEN COST OF NATURAL GAS*

*Accounting for the price of carbon in fossil-fuel-based energy generation is key to ensuring that natural gas facilities aren't being unfairly favoured. Every tonne of carbon dioxide emitted from a natural gas plant has a cost to society in Canada and elsewhere. A recent report from the U.S.'s Environmental Protection Agency estimates that a tonne of carbon emitted in 2020 costs the economy between C\$160 and C\$450. The Canadian government has referenced a range of between \$135 and \$440 a tonne.*

-from Clean Energy Canada: A Renewables Powerhouse - February 2023

[https://cleanenergycanada.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/RenewableCost\\_Report\\_CleaEnergyCanada\\_Feb2023.pdf](https://cleanenergycanada.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/RenewableCost_Report_CleaEnergyCanada_Feb2023.pdf)

*"Upgrading the equipment at PEC will increase its generating capacity by 50 MW to an output of 600 MW."*

Considering that the 'upgrade' will greatly increase generating capacity and consequently the amount of greenhouse gas emissions, how can you justify a request for exemption to the *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act*?

Regards,

[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2023 1:45 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Upgrades - Questions

Hello [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email and your interest in the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project.

Atura Power is not pursuing an exemption from the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act* for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. We would also like to note that after the upgrades, the plant's thermal efficiency will increase due to a reduced heat rate (BTU/kWh) which means that the same amount of fuel used can produce more power after the upgrade.

The upgrades to the turbine generator 'will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels', as stated by the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, GE Gas Power – Services. The facility will continue to operate in accordance with all environmental permitting requirements.

Should you require any more information, materials from the public meeting and updates are available on the project webpage at [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade).

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 8:58 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name:

[REDACTED]

Last name:

[REDACTED]

Region/Topic:

PEC Upgrade

Email Address:

[REDACTED]

Enter Your Message

Please give me a link to the meeting on Thursday at 6:30. Thank you. [REDACTED]

Here:

[REDACTED]

I accept the privacy  
policy:

Checked

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 1:09 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hello [REDACTED]

Thank you for reaching out to us.

A link to the upcoming PEC Efficiency Upgrades public meeting will be available on our project website, [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade), on Oct. 5th.

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal ([hear it](#))**

**Sr. Communications Advisor | [Atura Power](#)**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 1:43 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name:

[REDACTED]

Last name:

[REDACTED]

Region/Topic:

PEC Upgrade

Email Address:

[REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: Interested in the project details.

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 5:47 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Good day, [REDACTED]

Thank you for reaching out to us.

Details about the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project are available on our project webpage at [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade).

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <[no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com](mailto:no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 2:04 PM

**To:** Station Manager @ Portlands <[stationmgr.portlands@aturapower.com](mailto:stationmgr.portlands@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about Portlands Energy Centre – Toronto

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: Portlands Energy Centre – Toronto

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: I would like to come to the meeting on Thursday Oct 5th about increasing production at the Portlands Gas Plant.

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked



**From:** Station Manager @ Portlands

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 2:57 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Station Manager @ Portlands

<[stationmgr.portlands@aturapower.com](mailto:stationmgr.portlands@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about Portlands Energy Centre – Toronto

Good Afternoon [REDACTED]

Thank you for your interest in the virtual public meeting happening tomorrow, Oct 5<sup>th</sup>. The meeting is virtual so attendance is via a web based link.

The link will appear on the project's web site early on in the day prior to the meeting starting time of 6:30pm. The link will be located here:

<https://aturapower.com/portlands-energy-centre-upgrade>

Regards,

[REDACTED]  
Plant Manager | Portlands Energy Centre

**Atura Power**

[REDACTED]  
470 Unwin Avenue, Toronto, ON, M4M 3B9

**From:** Atura Power <[no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com](mailto:no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 3:15 PM

**To:** Station Manager @ Portlands <[stationmgr.portlands@aturapower.com](mailto:stationmgr.portlands@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about Portlands Energy Centre – Toronto

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: Portlands Energy Centre – Toronto

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: What are the climate impacts of this development?

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked

.

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2023 10:21 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about Portlands Energy Centre – Toronto

Hello [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email and your interest in the Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades project and I apologize for the delay in this response.

The upgrades to the turbine generators ‘will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels’, as stated by the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, GE Gas Power – Services. The facility will continue to operate in accordance with all environmental permitting requirements.

Should you require any more information, materials from the public meeting and project updates are available on the project webpage at <https://aturapower.com/atura-overview/our-stations/portlands-energy-centre-upgrade/>.

Thank you

Regards,

[REDACTED]  
Plant Manager |  
**Atura Power**

[REDACTED]  
470 Unwin Avenue, Toronto, ON, M4M 3B9

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 6:41 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: Trying to connect through MSTeams and/or Web -nothing works.

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:34 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hi [REDACTED]

I'm sorry that you were not able to participate in the meeting. Project documents, including the meeting presentation, are available on the project webpage here: <https://aturapower.com/atura-overview/our-stations/portlands-energy-centre-upgrade/>.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 3:46 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: Expanding your plant sends more carbon upward and NO pollution downwind to us. Why spend millions expanding a fossil fuel plant instead of spending that money on energy conservation programs to help residents and businesses save money & renewables?

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:40 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hello [REDACTED]

We are not proposing an expansion of PEC, only efficiency upgrades of the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period.

Thank you for your question.

**Darius Sokal ([hear it](#))**

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 1:32 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: We should be working towards closing this project, or at least reducing its footprint. Switching anything from fossil fuel powered to electric is meaningless if in fact the electricity is generated using fossil fuels.

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:45 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hello, [REDACTED]

Thank you for your message. You can get updates about the project by visiting  
aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <[no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com](mailto:no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 10:25 AM

**To:** Station Manager @ Portlands <[stationmgr.portlands@aturapower.com](mailto:stationmgr.portlands@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about Portlands Energy Centre – Toronto

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: Portlands Energy Centre – Toronto

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: Attend seminar

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked



**From:** Station Manager @ Portlands <stationmgr.portlands@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 10:55 AM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about Portlands Energy Centre – Toronto

Good Morning [REDACTED]

I believe you are inquiring about our public meeting with regards to our efficiency upgrades at Portlands Energy Centre?

Thank you for your interest in the virtual public meeting happening today, Oct 5<sup>th</sup>. The meeting is virtual so attendance is via a web based link.

The link will appear on the project's web site today prior to the meeting starting time of 6:30pm. The link will be located here:

<https://aturapower.com/portlands-energy-centre-upgrade>

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Plant Manager | Portlands Energy Centre

**Atura Power**

[REDACTED]  
470 Unwin Avenue, Toronto, ON, M4M 3B9

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 8:44 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: Please provide the information for virtual participation in the PEC upgrade public town hall

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked

**From:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 3:00 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]

Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hello [REDACTED]

The participation link for tonight's Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrade public meeting is available on the project webpage here: <https://aturapower.com/atura-overview/our-stations/portlands-energy-centre-upgrade/>.

Thank you for your message and interest in our project.

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2023 7:23 PM  
To: Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
Subject: Supportive Comment

I attended the public meeting tonight. The explanation of the upgrade was well done. It sounds like the improvement in efficiency will pay for itself and add needed reliable capacity. I suspect the cost of the upgrade will be substantially lower than adding an independent 50 MW generator elsewhere. Is that so?

Are you considering using green hydrogen to fuel existing turbines at some point in the future?

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:13 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Supportive Comment

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for your comment.

Yes, the efficiency upgrades are a very cost-effective way to increase the output capacity at the station to help meet the province's growing energy needs as they will occur during a scheduled maintenance period.

Atura Power is indeed planning to blend green hydrogen into the fuel stream at our Halton Hills Generating Station. You can find more about our hydrogen plans from these links:

<https://aturapower.com/about-hydrogen/>

<https://aturapower.com/atura-overview/our-stations/niagara-hydrogen-centre/>

Best regards,

Darius Sokal (hear it)

Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 5:54 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Re: Supportive Comment

Dear Darius,

This is good news! I was hoping that some serious attention was being paid to the potential for hydrogen to displace natural gas in fuelling the fleet. I think more publicity should be given to the hydrogen potential especially in light of the strong opposition to gas generation that I have been hearing at the municipal level recently. I am a retired engineer who has worked extensively on generation projects internationally. I maintain a strong interest in the field.

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 7:18 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** PEC distribution list

Hello.

Would you please add me to the Portlands Energy Centre information distribution list?

Thank you and best regards,

[REDACTED]  
Project Lead, Environment & Climate Division  
City of Toronto



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:16 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: PEC distribution list

Hello [REDACTED]

Thanks for reaching out to us.

Yes, we will add your information to our list and email you project-related updates.

Kindest regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 7:05 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Question for tonight's public forum

**Since the live questions have been handpicked and completely irrelevant, I'm hoping you'll address real questions on real issues that are pressing and upon us such as wild fires and floods and emissions. There's a climate crisis!!!**

**There are many, many Canadians who want natural energy to be the focus. We want to fund only natural energy alternatives.**

Why does our publicly owned utility think more fossil gas burning is a good idea in the middle of a climate crisis?

Why is there no effort to go natural?

[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:19 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Question for tonight's public forum

Hello, [REDACTED]

Thank you for your questions.

Wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity. However, other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is common to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system.

The IESO established the Resource Adequacy Framework in 2021 to provide a flexible and cost-effective approach for competitively securing the resources necessary to meet demand and ensure system reliability. These upgrades are part of the plan IESO put in place to meet Ontario's energy needs.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 7:53 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email

Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: Hi - we did not hear about this meeting until this evening & the meeting. Is over. We live near to the facility - is there an opportunity for us to comment & review the project documents?

**Why was this not better publicized to residents in the area**

I accept the privacy policy:

Checked

On Oct 17, 2023, at 11:02 PM, Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com> wrote:

Hello, [REDACTED]

The meeting notice was published in the Toronto Star and Toronto Sun on September 6th, and in the Beach Metro News on September 19<sup>th</sup>.

You can review the project documents and provide comments through the project webpage here: [www.aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://www.aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade).

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:21 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Re: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hi - not everyone impacted subscribes to these newspapers & the beaches news is not distributed in Lesliville.

We have reviewed the project documents and the website you pointed us to - how can we submit comments to be included in the public consultation? What is the email to submit to and when do you need them by?

Thanks in advance,

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2023 2:37 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hello, [REDACTED]

You can submit your comments and questions to this email address, and they will form part of the project's engagement record. Our public and Indigenous consultation period is ongoing and will continue into 2024.

Thank you for your questions and interest in our proposed efficiency upgrades.

**Darius Sokal ([hear it](#))**

**Sr. Communications Advisor | [Atura Power](#)**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 6:52 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name:

[REDACTED]

Last name:

[REDACTED]

Region/Topic:

PEC Upgrade

Email Address:

[REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here:

On a Per Mw basis what will be the emission increase (also absolute number) after the refit.

I accept the privacy policy:

Checked



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:29 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for your message.

GE Gas Power – Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, provided a letter stating that the upgrades to the turbine generator ‘will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels’.

Emissions concentrations are not expected to change following the upgrades.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 6:52 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: I object to any further expansion of the Portlands Energy Centre. The city already had air quality issues that this plant and any upgrades will make worse, increasing the health risks of the people of Toronto, especially in the city's east end.

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:30 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hello [REDACTED]

Thank you for your message. Please check the project webpage from time-to-time for updates:  
<https://aturapower.com/atura-overview/our-stations/portlands-energy-centre-upgrade/>.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 6:49 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: By expanding Gas powered plants, Atura Power and the province of Ontario is shooting itself in the foot environmentally and financially. Fossil fuels are being phased out as we speak as there are healthier and cheaper alternatives for the taxpayer.

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:32 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hello [REDACTED]

Thank you for your message. Please feel free to check the project webpage from time-to-time for updates: <https://aturapower.com/atura-overview/our-stations/portlands-energy-centre-upgrade/>.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 5:09 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** My opposition

I am writing because I cannot attend the public meeting but I want it known that I am very opposed to the Portland's increase in capacity. This is the wrong direction to be going in. Any government money and/or private capital spent on this could be much better spent on off shore wind and solar - much cheaper and emissions-free.

Also Toronto has great plans in the Net-Zero Emissions by 2040 strategy that passed in council recently. We need industry that will help us get there. Expanding gas in our city will not do so. Our council doesn't want it and nor do a majority of Torontonians.

People are becoming increasingly aware of the climate crisis and the role of fossil fuels in having created the crisis. We will not sit by and let our present and future be hijacked by ill conceived notions of the need for anymore gas.

Thank you

[REDACTED]



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:35 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: My opposition

Hello, [REDACTED]

Thank you for your message. Please feel free to check the project webpage from time-to-time for updates: <https://aturapower.com/atura-overview/our-stations/portlands-energy-centre-upgrade/>.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal ([hear it](#))**

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 4:31 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name:

[REDACTED]

Last name:

[REDACTED]

Region/Topic:

PEC Upgrade

Email Address:

[REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: I am strongly opposed to the expansion of the PEC fossil fuel plant.

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:35 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hello [REDACTED]

Thank you for your message. Please feel free to check the project webpage from time-to-time for updates: <https://aturapower.com/atura-overview/our-stations/portlands-energy-centre-upgrade/>.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2024 3:20 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Dear Atura Power Senior Communications Advisor Darius Sokal ,

Thank you for inviting comments on your draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant.

I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.

The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.

We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.

And finally, the screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 11, 2024 9:26 AM  
**Cc:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** Re: My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about the proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project (below). A letter with our responses to your comments is attached.

Thank you and please do not hesitate to contact us at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com) with any questions.

Sent on behalf of Darius Sokal

Senior Communications Advisor

Atura Power

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>  
**Subject:** My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Dear Atura Power Senior Communications Advisor Darius Sokal ,

Thank you for inviting comments on your draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant.

I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.

The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.

We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.

And finally, the screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

January 11, 2024

Good morning,

Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about our proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project. Your comments are noted and part of the project record.

Before we respond to your comments, we would like to offer one clarification. Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient.

In response to each of the questions/comments raised in your email, we offer the following responses in the table below.



Comment	Atura Power's Response
<p>I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.</p>	<p>It should be noted that a municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The Minister of Energy's quote noting the requirement for a municipal support resolution refers to the Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO's) current Long-Term (LT1) Request for Proposals (RFP) process which is not related to the upgrade projects for which the IESO has already awarded a contract to PEC. The PEC Efficiency Upgrades project was part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023.</p>
<p>The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.</p>	<p>At this time, Atura Power is unable to share commercially sensitive financial details related to its efficiency upgrades.</p>
<p>We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.</p>	<p>The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contracted PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.</p> <p>Additionally, it should be noted that wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity; however, other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is not uncommon to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and, for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system.</p>
<p>The screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.</p>	<p>As per Section 3.2 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment is not required and has not been undertaken for the project.</p>

Comment	Atura Power's Response
	<p>Greenhouse gas emissions from PEC are regulated under the Emissions Performance Standards Regulation (O. Reg. 241/19) under the <i>Environmental Protection Act</i>. Furthermore, information on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from facilities across Canada who meet the requirements is collected under section 46 of the <i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act</i>. Reviewed 2021 GHG data is currently available. 2022 GHG data has been submitted as per the reporting requirements and is under review.</p>

We hope that the responses above provide clarification regarding the comments and questions raised about the draft Screening Report and associated Environmental Screening Process. The responses to these comments will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.

Should you require further clarification on project details, please continue to contact us through our project email address at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Darius Sokal  
Senior Communications Advisor  
Atura Power

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 12:59 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: I am not in favour of any expansion or increase of natural gas output. Improving efficiency so that an increase of 50MW can be facilitated is not about sustainability, carbon reduction or resiliency. It is simply continuing the use of fossil fuels.

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:36 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hello [REDACTED]

Thank you for your message. Please feel free to check the project webpage from time-to-time for updates: <https://aturapower.com/atura-overview/our-stations/portlands-energy-centre-upgrade/>.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 11:37 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: Even the major fossil fuel companies are recognizing the threat to life as we know it on planet earth that is climate change. According to the IPCC we only have until 2030 to roll back carbon emissions. We need to get off gas. Ramp up green energy!

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:36 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hello [REDACTED]

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Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 2, 2024 4:30 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Dear Atura Power Senior Communications Advisor Darius Sokal ,

Thank you for inviting comments on your draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant.

I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.

The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.

We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.

And finally, the screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 11, 2024 9:26 AM  
**Cc:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** Re: My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

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Thank you and please do not hesitate to contact us at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com) with any questions.

Sent on behalf of Darius Sokal

Senior Communications Advisor

Atura Power

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>  
**Subject:** My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Dear Atura Power Senior Communications Advisor Darius Sokal ,

Thank you for inviting comments on your draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant.

I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

January 11, 2024

Good morning,

Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about our proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project. Your comments are noted and part of the project record.

Before we respond to your comments, we would like to offer one clarification. Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient.

In response to each of the questions/comments raised in your email, we offer the following responses in the table below.

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<p>The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.</p>	<p>At this time, Atura Power is unable to share commercially sensitive financial details related to its efficiency upgrades.</p>
<p>We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.</p>	<p>The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contracted PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.</p> <p>Additionally, it should be noted that wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity; however, other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is not uncommon to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and, for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system.</p>
<p>The screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.</p>	<p>As per Section 3.2 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment is not required and has not been undertaken for the project.</p>



Comment	Atura Power's Response
	<p>Greenhouse gas emissions from PEC are regulated under the Emissions Performance Standards Regulation (O. Reg. 241/19) under the <i>Environmental Protection Act</i>. Furthermore, information on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from facilities across Canada who meet the requirements is collected under section 46 of the <i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act</i>. Reviewed 2021 GHG data is currently available. 2022 GHG data has been submitted as per the reporting requirements and is under review.</p>



We hope that the responses above provide clarification regarding the comments and questions raised about the draft Screening Report and associated Environmental Screening Process. The responses to these comments will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.

Should you require further clarification on project details, please continue to contact us through our project email address at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Darius Sokal  
Senior Communications Advisor  
Atura Power

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 6:58 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: I don't support expanding the burning of fossil fuels for power. While some fossil fuels may be needed while we transition to cleaner sources of energy and storage options, more should be done on that front instead of investing more in gas plants.

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:43 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hello [REDACTED]

We are not proposing an expansion of PEC, only efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period.

Thank you for your message.

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 10:42 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name:

[REDACTED]

Last name:

[REDACTED]

Region/Topic:

PEC Upgrade

Email Address:

[REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: I'd like to attend the 6:30 pm meeting Oct. 5, if it's possible

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Friday, October 27, 2023 1:55 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hello [REDACTED]

We hope you were able to join the public meeting on Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>

If you were unable to attend, please note that materials from the meeting will be posted on the project webpage available at [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade). Alternatively, please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 10:58 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Q & A in virtual meeting

Please restate the location of the Q & A. I'm not seeing this on my screen.



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Friday, October 27, 2023 2:00 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Q & A in virtual meeting

Hello [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email regarding the Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades project. We hope you were able to locate the Q & A function during the public meeting on Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>.

If not, please note that materials from the meeting will be posted on the project webpage available at [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade) should you like to review them. Alternatively, please feel free to reach out using this project email address if you have any questions.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

> -----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2023 6:53 PM

To: Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

Subject: Portlands

I've lived in Leslieville since 1997. We were promised limited use of the plant as backup power only - now it is operating 21 hours daily! And how can we be sure It won't expand? It's not ratio of emissions, it's total emissions that matter. Will I have to choose between my home and being able to breathe?



Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 17, 2023, at 11:25 PM, Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com> wrote:

Hi [REDACTED]

> Thank you for your message.

PEC operations are dictated by the IESO based on the supply and demand balance, which fluctuates season by season and year to year. Historically, the plant has run as few as 1750 hours per year to as much as 4500 per year, always at the instruction of the IESO.

And these are the only current upgrade plans for PEC, as this is the latest technology available. Atura Power always strives to be on the leading edge of technology and will be open to future advancements that make the engines more fuel efficient.

> Best regards,

Darius Sokal (hear it)  
Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power  
1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4  
E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)  
M: 289-795-6573

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 4:53 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Re: Portlands

I moved into Leslieville 25 years ago. In recent years I've had trouble breathing and have been diagnosed with asthma. I am otherwise a healthy, physically active non-smoking 68 year old. All I can think of that has changed is the Portland plant operating "at the instruction of the IESO". I guess the problem isn't of your making, but is the fault of an irresponsible government that continues to think increasing the burning of fossil fuels - even in the heart of our major cities - is the future, not the past.

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 10:42 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Questions for Portlands Energy Centre - Efficiency Upgrades Public Meeting

Questions:

With the excess power available from Quebec Hydro why is this natural, renewable, and very cheap hydro not the first and only option?

1. [On May 10<sup>th</sup> Toronto City Council passed a resolution opposing the expansion of the Portlands gas plant.](#) Why is OPG **not** respecting the wishes of Toronto City Council?
2. Why does our publicly owned utility think more fossil gas burning is a good idea in the middle of a climate crisis?
3. Why spend millions expanding a fossil fuel plant instead of spending that money on [energy conservation programs](#) that can help residents and businesses save money?
4. What plans does OPG have to invest in [wind](#) and solar energy instead of fossil fuels?
5. Does the company plan to continue burning fossil fuels after 2035?
6. Why is OPG asking Ontario's Ministry of the Environment to exempt its proposal to increase Portland's gas-fired generating capacity by 50 MW from the *Environmental Assessment Act*?

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2023 2:09 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Questions for Portlands Energy Centre - Efficiency Upgrades Public Meeting

Hello, [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email and interest in our proposed project.

The governments of Ontario and Quebec have an electricity trade agreement where the IESO can call on 500 MW of capacity from Quebec up until 2030. Under the current Ontario-Quebec electricity trade agreement, the IESO can call on 500 MW of capacity from Quebec up until 2030. Ontario will maintain this option under the new agreement. The governments are also supporting a new 600 megawatt (MW) trade agreement between Ontario's [Independent Electricity System Operator \(IESO\)](#) and Hydro-Québec that will optimize the use of existing electricity generation capacity in both provinces.

Ontario will maintain the original option for 500 MW under the new agreement. Ontario has one of the cleanest electricity grids in the world, receiving most of its clean electricity supply from nuclear, hydroelectric, and renewable generation.

While Atura Power is a subsidiary of OPG, we cannot answer questions on their behalf.

After years of strong energy supply, Ontario is entering a period of growing electricity system demand (a predicted energy supply gap) and actions are needed to ensure the continued reliability of the electricity grid. To close this gap and meet the projected demand, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. The upgrades to PEC are part of Atura Power's efforts to address this supply gap.

The upgrades to PEC also play a role in Ontario's ability to rely on renewable energy sources. Wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity, however other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is common to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system.

PEC is expected to operate until the contract term end date which is in April 2034. Finally, Atura Power is not pursuing an exemption from the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act* for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.

Thank you again for your question.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 1, 2023 10:15 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Re: Questions for Portlands Energy Centre - Efficiency Upgrades Public Meeting

Gas fired and nuclear power plants are not clean energy. And the dangers of operating them are unwarranted. Overcoat, under performing. Very expensive and very dangerous. Wind, solar and get the rest of required kw from Quebec Hydro at a fraction of the cost. And safe and renewable. People have caught on to this greenwashing. Watching that grade 6 presentation was embarrassing. And the scripted questions? How stupid do you think the audience was? More pressure coming your way. You'd think you'd like your life, your families and future generations to live well. But you only think of your salary and that will not protect you from the climate disaster as it spirals

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, November 2, 2023 12:35 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Questions for Portlands Energy Centre - Efficiency Upgrades Public Meeting

Thank you for your email, [REDACTED]

Your comments are noted and part of the project record.

Please continue visiting [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade) for project updates and additional information.

**Darius Sokal ([hear it](#))**

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

On Sat, Oct 7, 2023 at 2:13 PM [REDACTED] wrote:

Hello,

> Thank you for answering some of our questions about the expansion on October 5th. Because of time restrictions there were several that were unable to be answered in that time - thank you for providing this email for us to continue getting information. I have a couple more questions below:

-How much does the upgrade to PEC cost?

> -What upgrades will be needed to convert Atura's plants to hydrogen, and how much are these upgrades expected to cost?

- If Atura's plants are upgraded to hydrogen, would they use hydrogen created from fossil fuels if there wasn't enough hydrogen created from carbon-neutral sources?

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

> [REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thursday, October 12, 2023 11:42 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Re: Portlands Upgrade

Hello,

Thank you again for answering questions last week. Just following up on these ones that I didn't get a chance to ask.

Best,

[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Friday, October 27, 2023 2:19 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Upgrade

Hi again, [REDACTED]

I just sent you a response to your original email.

I apologize for the delay.

Regards,

Darius Sokal (hear it)

Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Friday, October 27, 2023 2:17 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Upgrade

Hello [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email and your interest in the Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades project.

We are currently not publicizing the cost to make the efficiency upgrades at PEC.

We will begin blending green hydrogen into the fuel stream at our Halton Hills Generating Station starting in late 2024/early 2025. The hydrogen will be produced by electrolysis at our hydroelectric-powered Niagara Hydrogen Centre. Blending technology required includes piping, blending skids and gas metering. You can find out more about our work to develop Ontario's hydrogen economy and related projects here: <https://aturapower.com/about-hydrogen/>.

Best regards,

Darius Sokal (hear it)

Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thursday, December 7, 2023 8:17 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Re: Portlands Upgrade

Hi Darius,

A couple more questions about the upgrades:

- What is the cost of the upgrade? Will Atura ever publish this?
- What percent blend of hydrogen will be able to be used at PEC with these upgrades?

Thank you

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Monday, December 11, 2023 5:56 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Upgrade

Good day, [REDACTED]

At this time, Atura Power is unable to share commercially sensitive financial information related to its efficiency upgrades at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC).

Additionally, Atura Power is not planning to produce, store, nor consume hydrogen at PEC.

Thank you for your email and interest in our project. You can find more information and project updates at [www.aturapower.com/portlandupgrade](http://www.aturapower.com/portlandupgrade).

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <[no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com](mailto:no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023 12:32 PM

**To:** Station Manager @ Portlands <[stationmgr.portlands@aturapower.com](mailto:stationmgr.portlands@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about Portlands Energy Centre – Toronto

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: Portlands Energy Centre – Toronto

Email [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: I attended the meeting on Oct 5 for the consultation on the Portlands Upgrade. Can you please send me a copy of the Q&A promised during the meeting, or a link to where it is posted. Thanks

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023 3:36 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Requesting Copy of Q&A from the Virtual Public Meeting, Oct 6, 2023

Hello:

Can you advise if the Q&A resulting from the Oct 5 public consultation meeting has been published and where it is available for review.

I attended the meeting on Oct 5 for the consultation on the Portlands Upgrade. We were advised that the Q&A would be published and made available. I am looking for a copy.

Thanks in advance

[REDACTED]

**From:** Station Manager @ Portlands <[stationmgr.portlands@aturapower.com](mailto:stationmgr.portlands@aturapower.com)>

**Sent:** October 11, 2023 2:09 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about Portlands Energy Centre – Toronto

Thanks for your message, [REDACTED]

A summary of the meeting plus answers to commonly asked questions will be posted on the project webpage here: [www.aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://www.aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade)

Thank you.

Regards,

[REDACTED]  
Plant Manager | Portlands Energy Centre  
**Atura Power**

[REDACTED]  
470 Unwin Avenue, Toronto, ON, M4M 3B9

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thursday, October 12, 2023 12:07 PM

**To:** Station Manager @ Portlands <stationmgr.portlands@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about Portlands Energy Centre – Toronto

Hello Don: Thank you for your quick reply. Do you have any idea when the Q&A's will be posted?

[REDACTED]



**From:** Station Manager @ Portlands <stationmgr.portlands@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 12, 2023 6:21 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>; Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about Portlands Energy Centre – Toronto

I would expect them to be posted in the next couple of weeks [REDACTED] Thanks for your interest.

Regards,

[REDACTED]  
Plant Manager | Portlands Energy Centre  
**Atura Power**  
[REDACTED]  
470 Unwin Avenue, Toronto, ON, M4M 3B9

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Subject: Portlands water use**

**Date:** October 10, 2023 at 9:20:39 AM EDT

**To:** [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)

Atura Power;

I have a question concerning the Portlands electricity generation plant.

When the former Ontario Hydro established the Lennox Generating Station in Bath, they also had plans to mitigate the effects of warm water being discharged from the plant, which was then designed to burn oil -and has since been converted to natural gas. It was projected that the warmer water discharged into the North Channel would make the ice unsafe. To compensate for this, a bubble system was installed to enable the Amherst Island Ferry to operate year-round.

Does the Portland's electricity generation plant use water from Lake Ontario for cooling purposes?

Is so, how much water is used daily, and what is the projected effect on Lake Ontario from the Portlands plant? What is the temperature of the water as it is taken from Lake Ontario, and what is the temperature of the water being discharged into Lake Ontario?

I look forward to receiving your response.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 16, 2023 11:55 AM  
**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fwd: Portlands water use

Atura Power;

I am forwarding the letter that I sent to your office last week as it has not been acknowledged, nor have I received an answer to my questions.

I am looking forward to receiving your response.

[REDACTED]

On Oct 18, 2023, at 7:05 AM, Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com> wrote:

Hello, [REDACTED]

Thank you for your questions.

Yes, PEC uses water from Lake Ontario to cool and condense the steam exiting from the steam turbine which allows us to reuse that condensate in the steam generation process, thereby raising the station's efficiency.

Approximately 300 m<sup>3</sup> of water passes through the station per day on average when the facility is operating. The average increase in water temperature from intake to discharge is in the range of 5 to 8°C. PEC also provides a service in the summer months where it sterilizes the water of E-coli bacteria through a chlorination/dichlorination process, thereby improving the quality of the water to nearby beaches.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 11:48 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Re: Portlands water use

Hi Darius;

Thank you very much for the responses to my questions about water use at the Portlands Energy Centre. I appreciate your assistance in understanding another aspect of this electricity generating project.

I do need some help though.

Is 300 m<sup>3</sup> translated into my simple English 300 cubic metres of water that is used as a coolant daily?

May your day go well;

[REDACTED]

On Oct 26, 2023, at 10:27 PM, Upgrade project for PEC  
<[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)> wrote:

Hi [REDACTED]

Yes, 300 m<sup>3</sup> is 300 cubic meters of water is used daily to cool and condense the steam exiting from the steam turbine.

A very good day – eve, in this case – to you as well!



**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Friday, October 27, 2023 7:49 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Re: Portlands water use

Thanks again Darius.

I'm surprised by how little water is used, and re-used, for cooling purposes.

This has implications for reducing the environmental impact.

May your day go well, and thanks again for taking time to respond.

[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Friday, October 27, 2023 1:41 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands water use

Thank you, [REDACTED]

It's a pleasure speaking with you.

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2023 8:21 PM  
To: Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
Subject: Information request

Further to the Public meeting on Oct 5, please send me any follow-up information and updates.

Thank you,  
[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 2:38 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Information request

Hi [REDACTED]

We will add your email address to the project email list and share updates with you.

Thank you for your interest.

Best regards,

Darius Sokal (hear it)

Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2024 5:00 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Response to PEC Environmental Screening Process Draft Screening Report

January 3, 2024

Mr. Darius Sokal  
Senior Communications Advisor Atura Power  
Oakville, Ontario  
[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)

Dear Mr. Sokal

Thank you for your December 6 email and links to the Environmental Screening Process Draft Screening Report for review and comments.

### My Background

I'm a resident who **lives within 5 kilometres** of the Portlands Energy Centre. I'm also a member of SCAN! (Seniors for Climate Action Now!) and TERRE (Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy.)

### Concerns and Comments

1. It is incomprehensible to me that an **Environmental Screening Process** would conclude that there are no potential negative environmental effects from the project by looking narrowly at the mechanics of the capacity upgrade installation with **no acknowledgement of the negative environmental and health impacts of the facility when in operation.**
2. The report notes that in 2003 an Environmental Review Report concluded that the negative net effects of the proposed PEC were considered to be "temporary or negligible" (p 1). There has **never been a full environmental assessment** of this facility. Given that PEC is reported to be the **largest emitter of greenhouse gases in Toronto, the largest emitter of nitrogen oxides in Toronto** (Environmental Defence) and on the list of **Ontario's largest industrial emitters** (CBC Oct 5, 2023), a **full environmental assessment is needed.**
3. **The report should be expanded to provide specific quantitative data regarding the impact of PEC's operation on air quality** as a result of emissions from the facility before and after the proposed capacity expansion. Information should also be provided regarding **any potential adverse impacts on public health and climate** of these emissions
4. The report states that the proposed project, "allows PEC to continue to provide electricity system reliability by operating on demand in times when intermittent energy sources (e.g., wind and solar) alone cannot meet energy demand" (Table 5-1 p. 48) , giving the impression of an infrequently used "peaker" plant. In light of the recent media report (Toronto Star, Oct 2, 2023) that many of the province's gas plants have effectively been transformed, "from rarely used peaker plants into baseload power plants" and that PEC ran "nearly 21 hours a day all summer long", **the report needs to provide more transparent and complete information regarding the current extent of operation, the expected date of closure and the extent of operation projected to be ordered by the Independent Electricity Systems Operator until the expected closure.**
5. This capacity expansion **does not have the support of Toronto City Council.** In May and June of 2023, the City of Toronto passed resolutions **opposing Atura's proposal** to increase PEC's capacity. This information was **omitted from the draft report.** This is especially relevant in light of the recent cancelation of proposed plants in Halton Hills and Thorold when opposed by local councils. Damage to the environment from the operation of an expanded existing plant is not different from the damage that would have resulted from these proposed plants. **An explanation is required justifying this disregard for local government.**
6. No consideration was given to **possible alternative renewable energy sources** such as wind, solar and hydro power from Quebec. These sources might assist in meeting the province's demand for electricity in a manner which is less harmful to health and climate and ultimately more cost effective. **The report requires a more fulsome analysis of the cost and benefits of operating this facility compared to alternative renewable energy sources and this should take into consideration the cost of mitigating any adverse health and climate impacts.**

Summary

**As a resident living close to the Portlands Energy Centre, I have significant concerns and questions left unanswered by this environmental screening report. The report needs to be revised and expanded to include specific quantitative information regarding the impact on air quality of PEC's operation, both before and after the proposed capacity expansion. For full transparency, the report should also include information regarding potential health risks and climate impact of the facility's current and projected operation. Opposition to the expansion by municipal council should be acknowledged and respected. A comprehensive costs and benefits analysis of the plant's current and proposed operation compared to cleaner energy alternatives should be included. In summary, the proposed capacity expansion should be paused pending the outcome of a full environmental assessment.**

Sincerely,



Sent with a [Spark](#)



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Monday, February 12, 2024 1:40 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Response to PEC Environmental Screening Process Draft Screening Report

Good morning, [REDACTED]

Thank you for your interest, comments, and questions regarding the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project. Atura Power's responses are in the attached PDF.

Please send any further comments or questions to the project email address, [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com), thank you.

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications & Stakeholder Relations Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit 200, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

Feb. 12, 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

**Re: Response to PEC Environmental Screening Process Draft Screening Report**

---

Thank you for your interest in the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project and your comments/ enquiries shared on Jan. 3, 2024. In response to each of the comments raised in your email, we offer the following responses in the table below.

Comment Number	Your Comment	Atura's Response
1.	It is incomprehensible to me that an <b>Environmental Screening Process</b> would conclude that there are no potential negative environmental effects from the project by looking narrowly at the mechanics of the capacity upgrade installation with <b>no acknowledgement of the negative environmental and health impacts of the facility when in operation.</b>	<p>As per Section 3.2 of the draft Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment was deemed to be not required and has not been undertaken for the project.</p> <p>In recent correspondence to the project team, it was confirmed that "[Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks'] MECP's technical staff have reviewed Table 3-1 and Section 3.4.3 of the draft environmental screening report (ESR) for the proposed upgrades at the Portland's Energy Centre. The proposed upgrades to the turbine generator will maintain air emissions levels at or below site permit levels. Based on the rationale provided, the ministry concurs that an air quality impact assessment is not needed for this undertaking". This instruction from the MECP will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.</p>
2.	The report notes that in 2003 an Environmental Review Report concluded that the negative net effects of the proposed PEC were considered to be "temporary or negligible" (p 1). There has <b>never been a full environmental assessment</b> of this facility. Given that PEC is reported to be the <b>largest emitter of greenhouse gases in Toronto, the largest emitter of nitrogen oxides in Toronto</b> (Environmental Defence) and on the list of <b>Ontario's largest industrial emitters</b> (CBC Oct 5, 2023), a <b>full environmental assessment is needed.</b>	The assessment process requires Atura Power to undertake an Environmental Screening Process to identify whether any potential environmental effects <i>of the project</i> would occur. The existing PEC facility went through an Environmental Assessment and is therefore not the subject of the Screening Report. As such, the scope of this assessment is limited to understanding and identifying any effects of the proposed efficiency upgrades. We can confirm that Ministry of the MECP is aware of the scope and assessment process that Atura Power is undertaking for the project.
3.	<b>The report should be expanded to provide specific quantitative data regarding the impact of PEC's operation on air quality</b> as a result of emissions from the facility before and after the proposed capacity expansion. Information should also be provided regarding <b>any potential adverse impacts on public health and climate</b> of these emissions.	See Response #1 above.
4.	The report states that the proposed project, "allows PEC to continue to provide electricity system reliability by operating on demand in times when intermittent energy sources (e.g., wind and solar) alone cannot	As stated in Appendix B3a of the draft Screening Report, PEC operations are dictated by the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) based on the electricity supply and demand balance,



Comment Number	Your Comment	Atura's Response
	<p>meet energy demand" (Table 5-1 p. 48), giving the impression of an infrequently used "peaker" plant. In light of the recent media report (Toronto Star, Oct 2, 2023) that many of the province's gas plants have effectively been transformed, "from rarely used peaker plants into baseload power plants" and that PEC ran "nearly 21 hours a day all summer long", <b>the report needs to provide more transparent and complete information regarding the current extent of operation, the expected date of closure and the extent of operation projected to be ordered by the Independent Electricity Systems Operator until the expected closure.</b></p>	<p>which fluctuates season by season and year to year. Historically, the plant has operated between 1,750 to 4,500 hours per year, always at the direction of the IESO.</p> <p>The following link <a href="https://ieso.ca/en/Power-Data/Data-Directory">https://ieso.ca/en/Power-Data/Data-Directory</a> indicates that all reports found through the IESO's public reports website can be accessed using the tabs on that webpage, should you like more information regarding the IESO's operations.</p> <p>PEC is contracted to operate until April 2034. It is unknown at this time if PEC will continue to operate beyond 2034.</p>
5.	<p>This capacity expansion <b>does not have the support of Toronto City Council</b>. In May and June of 2023, the City of Toronto passed resolutions <b>opposing Atura's proposal</b> to increase PEC's capacity. This information was <b>omitted from the draft report</b>. This is especially relevant in light of the recent cancelation of proposed plants in Halton Hills and Thorold when opposed by local councils. Damage to the environment from the operation of an expanded existing plant is not different from the damage that would have resulted from these proposed plants. <b>An explanation is required justifying this disregard for local government.</b></p>	<p>A municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The IESO has already awarded a contract for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) Request for Proposal (RFP), results for which were announced in May 2023, including contracts for natural gas electricity generation facility upgrades.</p>
6.	<p>No consideration was given to <b>possible alternative renewable energy sources</b> such as wind, solar and hydro power from Quebec. These sources might assist in meeting the province's demand for electricity in a manner which is less harmful to health and climate and ultimately more cost effective. <b>The report requires a more fulsome analysis of the cost and benefits of operating this facility compared to alternative renewable energy sources and this should take into consideration the cost of mitigating any adverse health and climate impacts.</b></p>	<p>The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase electricity production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contract awarded by the IESO as part of the competitive E-LT1-RFP, in May 2023. Given the recommendations of the IESO and government initiatives, other alternatives were not considered as part of the project, nor are they required as part of the Screening Process being followed for the project.</p>

We hope that the responses above provide clarification regarding the comments and questions raised about the draft Screening Report and associated Environmental Screening Process. The responses to these comments will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.

Should you require further clarification on project details, please continue to contact us through our project email address at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Darius Sokal  
Senior Communications Advisor  
Atura Power

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 11, 2023 3:51 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name:

[REDACTED]

Last name:

[REDACTED]

Region/Topic:

PEC Upgrade

Email Address:

[REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: Just want to stay updated on the project.

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 10:37 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>; Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hi [REDACTED]

We will add your email address to the project email list and share updates with you.

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, November 16, 2023 12:22 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your  Can you kindly provide notice to me of the following events in relation to the

Message Here: Portlands Energy Centre upgrade:  
- publication of the draft Screening Report, and  
- publication of the Screening Report and Notice of Completion.

[REDACTED]

I accept the  privacy policy: Checked

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2023 12:53 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Good morning, [REDACTED]

The draft Screening Report for our proposed PEC efficiency upgrades will be available in the next few weeks. The Notice of Completion and the final Screening Report should be available in either January or February 2024.

Please let me know if you would like to be added to our email list for project updates.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2023 7:59 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Re: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Thank you for the information.

Please add me to the email list for project updates.

Thank you

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2023 1:01 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

You are very welcome.

Consider it done, sir.

Have a great day.

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <[no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com](mailto:no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 28, 2023 2:46 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>; Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name:

[REDACTED]

Last name:

[REDACTED]

Region/Topic:

PEC Upgrade

Email Address:

[REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: Can you please include me on the listserv

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked



**From:** Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 28, 2023 4:02 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hello, [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email and interest in our project. We have added your email address to our project contact list and will share updates with you.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

Email sent by Atura Power to interested members of the public, including draft Environmental Screening Report, on December 6, 2023

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 6, 2023 1:32 PM

**To:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>; Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Good morning.

As you know, Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC). The upgrades are subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01 under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. Atura Power prepared a draft copy of the Screening Report which documents the results of the Environmental Screening Process undertaken to identify whether any potential environmental effects of the project would occur ('Yes' or 'No'). The Environmental Screening Process determined that the response to all questions is 'No', indicating that there will be no potential negative environmental effects resulting from the project.

The draft Screening Report is now available on our project webpage at [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade). We are sharing this draft copy to offer an additional opportunity to review the project details, the Environmental Screening Process undertaken, and assessment findings. Atura Power is voluntarily providing this opportunity so that comments can be incorporated in the final Screening Report. We will be collecting comments on the draft Screening Report through our project email address, [portlandupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandupgrade@aturapower.com), **until Jan. 7, 2024**. After that date, we will prepare and release the final version of the Screening Report in the Winter 2024.

Thank you for your interest in the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.

**Darius Sokal ([hear it](#))**

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <[no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com](mailto:no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com)>

**Sent:** Friday, December 8, 2023 12:38 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>; Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name: [REDACTED]

Last name: [REDACTED]

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: I attended the Oct 5th public meeting but have not heard anything since. Has any new information been sent out? I recall hearing that questions that were not answered during the session would be.

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked

On Friday, December 8, 2023 at 03:40:41 p.m. EST, Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com> wrote:

Hello [REDACTED]

Yes, there is new information available on the project website, where we posted a summary of the questions and answers and a draft of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project's screening report. Both documents are available here: <https://aturapower.com/atura-overview/our-stations/portlands-energy-centre-upgrade/>.

Thank you for your continued interest in our proposed project.

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Friday, December 8, 2023 9:10 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Re: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Thank-you Darius,

Would you please send me a copy of the draft EA Screening report. Is there a place where I can find the original EA report for PEC?

[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 13, 2023 7:48 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hi, [REDACTED]

I've attached a PDF copy of the draft Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades screening report as you requested.

Unfortunately, we do not have access to a complete copy of the original PEC EA as Atura Power was not the proponent of the previous EA.

Thanks again for your email and interest in our project.

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor** | **Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 12, 2023 5:49 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name:

[REDACTED]

Last name:

[REDACTED]

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email Address:

[REDACTED]

Enter Your

Message Here:

Would you please add me to the distribution list for the PEC Project as well as the PEC Newsletter.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

I accept the privacy policy:

Checked

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 13, 2023 12:11 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Hello, [REDACTED]

Yes, I will add your name and email address to the PEC efficiency upgrades email distribution list as requested.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2023 11:53 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

**First name:** [REDACTED]

**Last name:** [REDACTED]

**Region/Topic:** PEC Upgrade

**Email**

**Address:** [REDACTED]

**Enter Your  
Message  
Here:**

I submitted questions to Darius(on vacation to Jan 2). I am hoping that you can respond to my questions. I have also submitted other questions to Darius and have not yet received a reply. I may have additional questions based on the replies.

**I accept the  
privacy  
policy:**

Checked

F

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 19, 2023 1:12 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report - Questions - Dec 18

Hi,

More questions:

1. Do the emissions limits that PEC is supposed to conform to include the emissions from production of the natural methane gas that it burns?
2. pg. 110 - Air Quality - a number of people express concerns about air quality health impacts and the Atura response seems to be that we are operating within environmental permitting requirements. Would you add a note indicating the name of the organization that concerns on air quality health should be addressed to? It would also help if Atura pointed to a study for a region that had a similar load of pollution which showed no impact on health - does such a study exist?
3. pg. 111 - Emissions of Greenhouse Gases - there are several questions in this section which are not answered by the response provided by Atura - would you answer them? (e.g, On the Environmental Effects slide, I noticed CO2 was not listed (just NO, NO2, and CO) under the emissions that were not supposed to increase as per GE. Was that a mistake, or is there reason to expect CO2 emissions will increase?)
4. pg. 112 - Engagement Process - Would you add a note to the question "Could you clarify what public and Indigenous engagement means?" that the MECP publishes a guide (Consultation in Ontario's Environmental Assessment Process) on the EA Consultation process and provide the link to it (<https://www.ontario.ca/page/consultation-ontarios-environmental-assessment-process>)?
5. pg. 115 - Operating Capacity - would you add to your response a clarification on the frequency of operation - does your response mean that you operate every day but just not at 100% capacity? That the plant is "on" every day but the number of hours that it produces electricity varies? I find this response unclear.
6. pg. 116 - There is a record from the Ontario Energy Board that indicates that PEC is licensed to operate until 2024. There is reference in the project materials that PEC is contracted to operate until 2029 and plans to extend this until 2034. What licenses and approvals does PEC need to operate to 2029 and 2034? Does 'contracted to operate' mean that PEC has a contract with a customer to produce electricity?
7. Did PEC/Atura conduct a communications test to determine if area residents/businesses were aware of the plan to expand PEC's generating capability?
8. pg 117 - Are PEC's emissions limits based on the most recent guideline or have they been grandfathered from a previous guideline?

More questions to come.

[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 20, 2023 2:32 PM  
**To:** ██████████ Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Cc:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from ██████████ about PEC Upgrade

Hello ██████████

I wanted to provide a response to your email regarding the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project on December 15, 2023, in which you noted you have submitted questions regarding our PEC Efficiency Upgrades project and not received a reply. Based on your inquiry, I went back through our engagement records to be sure we have addressed your questions. I have the following record of correspondence with you:

<b>Enquiry</b>	<b>Atura Power's Reply</b>
<p>On December 8, 2023:            "I attended the Oct 5th public meeting but have not heard anything since. Has any new information been sent out? I recall hearing that questions that were not answered during the session would be."</p>	<p>On December 8, 2023:            "Hello ██████████            Yes, there is new information available on the project website, where we posted a summary of the questions and answers and a draft of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project's screening report. Both documents are available here: <a href="https://aturapower.com/atura-overview/our-stations/portlands-energy-centre-upgrade/">https://aturapower.com/atura-overview/our-stations/portlands-energy-centre-upgrade/</a>.            Thank you for your continued interest in our proposed project.  <b>Darius Sokal</b>"</p>
<p>On December 9, 2023:            "Thank-you Darius,            Would you please send me a copy of the draft EA Screening report. Is there a place where I can find the original EA report for PEC?            ██████████</p>	<p>On December 13, 2023:            "Hi, ██████████            I've attached a PDF copy of the draft Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades screening report as you requested.            Unfortunately, we do not have access to a complete copy of the original PEC EA as Atura Power was not the proponent of the previous EA.            Thanks again for your email and interest in our project.  <b>Darius Sokal</b>"</p>
<p>On December 12, 2023:            "Would you please add me to the distribution list for the PEC Project as well as the PEC Newsletter.            Thanks,            ██████████</p>	<p>On December 13, 2023:            "Hello, ██████████            Yes, I will add your name and email address to the PEC efficiency upgrades email distribution list as requested.            Best regards,  <b>Darius Sokal</b></p>

More recently, I see you submitted a list of questions to the project inbox the evening of December 18, 2023. We will work to get you a response to these questions shortly.

Thank you for your continued interest in the project,

**Stephen Smith**

Environmental Specialist | **Atura Power**

289-259-2377 | [Stephen.smith@aturapower.com](mailto:Stephen.smith@aturapower.com)



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2023 2:02 AM  
**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Cc:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Aturapower.com | Summary of Questions

Thanks Stephen,

I submitted a number of emails with questions to Darius - emails are copied in below. Will you be addressing those questions as well?

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

----- START

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** darius.sokal@aturapower.com <darius.sokal@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 12:39:12 a.m. EST  
**Subject:** Fw: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report - Questions

Hi Darius,

I am reading through the Draft Screening Report and I have a few questions so far - it is a long report and will take some time to get through.

Questions:

1. page 36 - Items 3.1 and 3.2 - am I to take it that Autura is absolving itself from future increases in demand from IESO for more electricity that will lead to more GHG and NO from the facility? If so, isn't this counter to the Ontario approach of producer responsibility? I understand that PEC is already the biggest source of GHG and NO in Toronto while only operating for an average of 14 hours per day so far in 2023.

2. page 38 - Items on Socio-Economics - what detailed criteria were used to assess each of these items?

That is all for now. I am pretty sure I will have more questions as I move through the rest of the report.

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** darius.sokal@aturapower.com <darius.sokal@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2023 at 06:14:04 p.m. EST  
**Subject:** PEC Draft Screening Report - more questions

Hi Darius,

Some more questions have occurred to me about the PEC Draft Screening report. I expect that I will have more as I continue to move through the report.

1. pg 35 - Review of Screening Criteria

It seems that many of the answers in this section reflect a 'more of the same' response - which of the previous Screening reports answered these questions fully?

2. pg 36 - Item 2.3 be inconsistent with municipal land use policies, plans and zoning by-laws?

In view of the fact that Toronto City Council voted against the PEC expansion, would you add a note to indicate this fact in the answer to this item?

3. pg 36 - Item 3.1 have negative effects on air quality due to emissions of nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, suspended particulates, or other pollutants?

In view of the fact that the Toronto Star has reported that PEC is the largest source of GHG and nitrous oxides in Toronto based on the plant producing electricity for less than 24 hours per day, would you add a note to indicate this fact in the answer to this item.

4. ibid - If IESO requests PEC to operate 24 hours per day, what would the total of various gases and particulates be over an entire year? Understanding that with the shut down of Ontario's nuclear plants that the current plan is to use gas powered plants to make up much of the difference.

5. The draft Screening report seems to indicate that only the expansion project is being considered against the MECP's Areas of Interest and Screening criteria. Do you have agreement from MECP that it is only the project to be considered or whether the full PEC facility (after the expansion) needs to be considered?

6. pg 36 - Item 3.2 cause negative effects from the emission of greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane)?

I find the answer to this question, again, focuses just on the project rather than the full facility after the expansion project is completed. A further complication is the requests from the IESO to operate more hours per day. The answer does not identify any negative effects from GHG on people nor it's contribution to Canada's GHG inventory. Would you add a note to indicate these additional points in the answer to this item?

7. pg 38 - Item 6.4 have negative effects related to increases in the demands on community services and infrastructure?

There have been a number of public health studies - including from Toronto Public Health

- which show that air pollution causes respiratory illness, hospitalizations and death. Since the exhaust from PEC will add to the level of pollution in the neighbourhood, would you add a note to indicate that overall exhaust from PEC increases the risk related to respiratory illness, hospitalizations and death as it relates to our health care system?

8. pg 38 - Item 6.5 have negative effects on the economic base of a municipality or community?

Since business and residents may decide not to move into a neighbourhood that has Toronto's largest source of GHG and nitrous oxides in it, would you add a note to this effect in the answer?

9. pg 38 - Item 6.8 cause public concerns related to public health and safety?

Would you add a note to the answer to this item to indicate that various individuals, groups and municipal representatives and offices have expressed concern relating to public health? Would you also add a note that concerns have been expressed since the inception of PEC? Would you also add a note to indicate that cumulative air pollution from all sources in the area is a concern? Would you add a note to indicate that area monitoring stations for pollution are located far from the PEC site? Would you add a note to indicate that a study on the high incidence of respiratory illness in the East End of Toronto was completed in the mid-2000s and no follow-up study has been completed since.

10. pg 43 - Table 4-1

Is there some reason that the Beaches MP was left off the list?

Is there some reason that the Members of Provincial Parliament was left off the list?

Why was York region put on the list?

Is there some reason that the Ontario Ministry of Health and Public Health Ontario were left off the list?

Why was the Ministry of Mines put on the list?

Is there some reason that Toronto Public Health and Community Health Centres (e.g. South Riverdale Community Health, East End Community Health, others) were left off the list?

Why were Cherry Beach Park and Cherry Beach Sports Field included on the list?

Is there some reason that Anishnabeg, Chippewa, Wendat Indigenous groups were left off the list?

Is there some reason that local BIAs and Residents Associations were left off the list?

That is all for now.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

-----  
----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** Darius Sokal <darius.sokal@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2023 at 06:06:26 p.m. EST  
**Subject:** Draft Screening Report - Dec 15 Questions

Hi Darius,

Here are some additional questions.

1. - pg 55 - Item 4.8: A number of people that I know that attended the initial public meeting did not receive notice that the draft Screening report was available. What distribution list was used to send out the notification that the draft Screening report was available?

2. - pg 55 - item 4.9: I see Atura is planning on answering questions on the draft Screening report after the comment period has closed. What opportunity will I have to ask follow-up questions after you have published the answers to the questions? I understand that this is supposed to be a collaborative effort. Will the 30 day review period be interactive (with more than one cycle of questions and answers) with clarifications made to the final report?

3. - pg 57 - Section 5 - was the PEC Community Liason Committee asked to provide input to Table 5-1?

4. - pg 57 - Table 5-1: While illness from pollution is difficult to attribute to a single facility, there are numerous studies identified by Toronto Public Health which link illness to pollution

> I would suggest that one of the disadvantages that should be identified is that of increased GHG and NO that will come as a result of the requests from the IESO to operate more hours as a result of the nuclear power plants being shut down.

> I would suggest that one of the disadvantages that should be identified is the potential for increased respiratory illness from residents as a result of increased pollution - especially the young whose lungs are still developing and the very old.

> I would suggest that one of the disadvantages that should be identified is the potential for increased morbidity and mortality of the residents (as well as the difficulties that will introduce to their lives and the lives of their families) as a result of increased pollution

> I would suggest that one of the disadvantages that should be identified is lost time from work for residents and the impact to employers from illness due to increased pollution

> I would suggest that one of the disadvantages that should be identified is the increased in health care

costs from illness due to pollution

> I would suggest that conservation, wind and solar power are more cost effective solutions but are not currently available to expand the electrical supply

> I would suggest that the increased GHG emissions expected from PEC will add to Canada's GHG emissions inventory which is counter to public policy of reducing emissions

> I would suggest that businesses looking to locate in a region that has clean power will be dissuaded from locating in a region that uses burned methane to create electricity

5. pg 58 - Would you provide me with a copy of the SENES Consultants Limited (2003). Environmental Review Report for the Portlands Energy

Centre. Prepared for TransCanada Energy Limited. Prepared for TransCanada Energy and Ontario Power Generation.

6. Other documents. These documents are no longer available at the indicated location - would you provide me with a copy of them:

[http://www.portlandsenergycentre.com/docs/nov2003/PEC\\_Air\\_Impact\\_Assessment-](http://www.portlandsenergycentre.com/docs/nov2003/PEC_Air_Impact_Assessment-Final.pdf)

[Final.pdf](http://www.portlandsenergycentre.com/docs/nov2003/PEC_Human_Health_Risk-Final.pdf) and [http://www.portlandsenergycentre.com/docs/nov2003/PEC\\_Human\\_Health\\_Risk-Final.pdf](http://www.portlandsenergycentre.com/docs/nov2003/PEC_Human_Health_Risk-Final.pdf)

7. pg 69 - Is there some reason that the project to boost efficiency is also increasing the generating capability of PEC by 50 mw? Could the upgrade have been done without increasing the generating capability of PEC beyond 550 mw?

More questions to come.



-----END



**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2023 11:42 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report - Questions - Dec 21

Hi,

Some additional questions:

1. pg. 119 - Consideration of Alternatives - do you know if IESO even considered some new renewable energy projects to partially account for the increase in demand? As the people who live with the consequences of other people's decisions, it is difficult to accept that no attempt was made to reduce the amount of gas being burned.
2. pg. 120 - Good question that did not get answered - IESO Procurement Process: Did Atura Power lobby for the plant?
- 3, pg 120 - Role of Gas in Ontario Energy Supply - Would you change the answer to point out that renewable energy can be used to reduce the demand for electricity from gas generation?
4. What is a P2 plan and why doesn't PEC have one? It sounds like it has to do with pollution reduction.
5. Does PEC's draft Screening report adhere to the guidance from the Ontario Energy Board - ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINES FOR THE LOCATION, CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF HYDROCARBON PIPELINES AND FACILITIES IN ONTARIO?
6. pg 121 - When PEC was first built it was seen as a temporary solution until renewables matured. While some people oppose off-shore wind because they don't like the interrupted view of the natural environment, it does not produce emissions and renewable energy has definitely matured. Would you provide a better response to the questions asking why renewable energy is not being used?
7. pg 130 - Gwh supplied to the IESO grid - this link leads to a page that requires a login id of a market participant. Would you provide the data requested on pg 129 - Gwh supplied to the IESO controlled grid for each year from 2017 to 2022?



8. pg 240 to pg 247 - Did Atura have any response from Mayor Chow, Councilor Fletcher or MP Dabrusin?

9. Is there some reason Atura did not engage Councilor Brad Bradford, MPP Mary-Margaret McMahon and MP Nathaniel Erskine-Smith?

10. pg 255 - Is there some reason the Ontario Ministry of Health and Toronto Public Health were not included in correspondence? Also, Ontario Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Indigenous Affairs, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

11. pg 255 - Is there some reason that correspondence with all agencies listed were not included in the section starting on page 239?

12. pg 255 - Once again why was York Region included?

13. pg, 271 Indicates: "If there are sensitive receptors in the surrounding area of this project, a quantitative air quality/odour impact assessment will be useful to evaluate alternatives, determine impacts and identify appropriate mitigation measures. The scope of the assessment can be determined based on the potential effects of the proposed alternatives, and typically includes source and receptor characterization and a quantification of local air quality impacts on the sensitive receptors and the environment in the study area. The assessment will compare to all applicable standards or guidelines for all contaminants of concern."

It seems to me that humans are sensitive receptors. Given the many studies which indicate the link between air pollution and respiratory illness, hospitalizations and death in humans and that PEC (while operating on average 14 hours per day this year and expected to operate more in the future) - did Atura conduct such a study?

14. pg. 277 Indicates: "Please include in the report a list of all subsequent permits or approvals that may be required for the implementation of the project" Why is this missing from the draft Screening report?

15. pg 296 - What response did you receive from Waterfront Toronto?

16. pg 321 - Are there additional responses from stakeholders listed in the contact list for which no correspondence is provided?

17. pg 321 - What response was provided to the TRCA questions?

18. pg 45 - Do your Indigenous contacts include both traditional and elected leadership?



**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Friday, December 22, 2023 3:16 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report - Questions - Dec 22

Hi,

Some additional questions.

1. Did Atura identify any environmental effect or issue in the screening process that will be addressed under another environmental approval (e.g., an approval under the Environmental Protection Act)?
2. Did Atura consider attempting to engage with the public through social media (e.g. Facebook, Instagram, X, etc.) or other means?
3. Did Atura identify any environment effects from the project that require mitigation or managing?
4. Will Atura conduct an Air Quality Test in the neighbourhoods surrounding PEC before and after project completion? Antidotally I heard that a previous study was reviewed as being conducted in the fall rather than in the summer when pollution levels are higher and that monitoring stations were too far away from the neighbourhoods surrounding PEC.
5. Does Atura recognise that the public perception of and concerns about PEC have changed since it moved from being a peaker plant to a baseload plant?
6. Was the Notice of Commencement mailed to households in the immediate vicinity of PEC? If so, what streets or neighbourhoods?
7. Where is the summary of public and agency concerns or issues in the Screening report?
8. Is there other supporting documentation or correspondence related to the Screening Report that was not included in the Screening Report?
9. Would you send me copies of previous Screening reports done for PEC. I understand that Atura does not have a copy of the original EA - is it available from OPG or TransCanada?
10. Section 3.1 of the draft Screening report identifies current conditions as a description of the physical facility. The EA Guide for Electricity Projects suggests a description of the local environment and conditions. Would you modify this section to reflect local environment and conditions?

9. Which libraries, municipal offices or recreation centres are you planning on making the Screening report available in?

10. What residents, businesses and local interest groups are you planning on sending the EA Completion notice to?

11. Have any commitments been made from previous EAs?

12. Has a Climate Change Impact Assessment been completed for PEC? (as per Ontario's Considering climate change in the environmental assessment process) If so, would you please provide a copy of it.

Thanks,

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2024 11:14 AM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Question on Draft Screening Report

Good afternoon, [REDACTED]

Thank you for your series of questions and comments that we received in December 2023 and earlier this month regarding Atura Power's proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades draft Screening Report.

Please find answers to your questions in addition to information about Atura Power's approach to the Environmental Screening Process in the attached PDF.

Also note that each of your individual question and comments will be included in the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.

Thank you for your interest on our project, and please visit [www.aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://www.aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade) for updates.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit 200, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Friday, January 5, 2024 10:43 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Question on Draft Screening Report

Hi,

One additional question on the Draft Screening Report.

The Emissions Limits (e.g. NO<sub>x</sub>, CO, Sulphur Dioxide) that PEC operates under - when these limits were determined, what were the assumptions made in the modelling? Was there an assumption that these gases would be dispersed? What would happen if the gases were not dispersed or built up in the area surrounding PEC?

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

January 29, 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

**Re: Questions on the draft Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report**

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Thank you for your continued interest in the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. We received your enquiries to the project inbox on Dec. 19, 21 and 22, 2023, and Jan. 5, 2024. Please note this response includes responses to your original enquiries sent to me on Dec. 13, 14 and 15, 2023, which you forwarded to the project inbox on Dec. 21 and 22, 2023.

Upon reviewing your enquiries, we note several common themes including:

- a. Efficiency Upgrades vs. Expansion and Scope of Assessment**
- b. Screening Criteria**
- c. Municipal Support**
- d. IESO Procurement Process, Project Need, and Consideration of Alternatives**
- e. Emissions and Air Quality**
- f. Engagement Process, Requirements and Project Contact List**
- g. Project Notification**
- h. Review of draft Screening Report**
- i. Project Documentation, Resources and Materials**
- j. Frequency and Schedule of Operations**

As your questions relate to these recurring themes, we provided additional information below regarding Atura Power's approach to each of these themes over the course of the Environmental Screening Process. It is our hope that this provides you with a more fulsome understanding of the key themes driving your individual questions. Additionally, please note each of your individual comments will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.

**a. Efficiency Upgrades vs. Expansion and Scope of Assessment**

Several of your comments refer to the project as the "PEC expansion". We would like to offer an important clarification. Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The advanced materials allow a higher power output per gigajoule (GJ) of fuel consumed.

The assessment process requires Atura Power to undertake an Environmental Screening Process to identify whether any potential environmental effects *of the project* would occur. The existing PEC facility went through an Environmental Assessment and is therefore not the subject of the Screening Report. As such, the scope of this assessment is limited to understanding and identifying any effects of the proposed efficiency upgrades. We can confirm that Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) is aware of the scope and assessment process that Atura Power is undertaking for the project.

**b. Screening Criteria**

Several of your comments request further information about the nine Screening Criteria required by the environmental assessment process. The project was assessed against each Screening Criteria as it relates

to the potential for the efficiency upgrades to cause negative effects. As noted in Section 3.4 of the draft Screening Report, review of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades - which is limited to replacing parts of the existing turbines with more efficient parts - determined that the response to all questions is "No", indicating that there are no potential negative environmental effects resulting from the activities associated with the efficiency upgrades.

### **c. Municipal Support**

Several of your comments request further information about municipal support in relation to the project. A municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The IESO has already awarded a contract for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023, including contracts for natural gas electricity generation facility upgrades.

### **d. IESO Procurement Process, Project Need, and Consideration of Alternatives**

In response to your request for further information about the IESO procurement process, project need, and consideration of alternatives to the efficiency upgrades, we offer the following information. As stated in Section 3.3 of the draft Screening Report, the IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase electricity production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contract awarded by the IESO as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term Request for Proposal (E-LT1-RFP), in May 2023. Given the recommendations of the IESO and government initiatives, other alternatives were not considered as part of the project, nor are they required as part of the Screening Process being followed for the project.

Additionally, we are not able to speak on behalf of the IESO regarding their process for determining the types of and/or alternatives to energy projects required to meet the province's energy demands in the future.

### **e. Emissions and Air Quality**

As per Section 3.2 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment was deemed to be not required and has not been undertaken for the project.

In recent correspondence to the project team, it was confirmed that "MECP's technical staff have reviewed Table 3-1 and Section 3.4.3 of the draft environmental screening report (ESR) for the proposed upgrades at the Portland's Energy Centre. The proposed upgrades to the turbine generator will maintain air emissions levels at or below site permit levels. Based on the rational[e] provided, the ministry concurs that an air quality impact assessment is not needed for this undertaking". This instruction from the MECP will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.

Details of PEC's Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) (Air/Noise) are provided in Appendix B3a in the response to public comments under the air quality sub-category. The response can be expanded by



noting that air standards under O. Reg. 419/05 are set by the MECP's Standards Development Branch to protect against health and environmental effects. Of the 5,208 air contaminant standards, guidelines and screening levels which the MECP currently requires to be assessed for contaminants released to the air, 5,099 are health based. PEC's Emission Summary and Dispersion Modelling (ESDM) report must be updated on an annual basis to reflect changes such as sources no longer in operation, updates to MECP's *Air Contaminants Benchmarks List: standards, guidelines and screening levels for assessing point of impingement concentrations of air contaminants*, as well as updates to the MECP approved air dispersion model versions.

The contaminants listed on the Environmental Effects slide for the virtual public meeting was limited to NO<sub>x</sub> and CO as these are the contaminants which have facility-specific emission concentration limits noted in the ECA based on MECP's *Guideline A-5 Atmospheric Emissions from Stationary Combustion Turbines*. As noted in Section 2.1 of the draft Screening Report, the ECA amendment application for the project submitted Jun. 23, 2023, included updated Guideline A-5 calculations based on proposed facility and equipment parameters (i.e., nominal rating of combined-cycle combustion turbine facility, nominal rating of natural gas fired combustion turbines, nominal heat input of natural gas fired duct burners, and nominal rating of the steam generator). The PEC combustion turbines following the efficiency upgrades do not meet the trigger set in the Guideline A-5 (2021) definition of a modified combustion turbine and therefore, as verified by the MECP, Guideline A-5 (1994) applies. As per Guideline A-5 (2021), "this approach is meant to encourage upgrades in thermal efficiency and technology modernization of Existing SCTs [Stationary Combustion Turbines] that are intended to increase efficiency or reduce emissions but without expecting the more stringent emission limits of New SCTs to be met."

#### **f. Engagement Process, Requirements and Project Contact List**

Several of your comments request further information about the engagement process, associated requirements, and the project contact list. Ontario Regulation 116/01's *Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects* (the Guide) outlines the purpose and requirements associated with engagement for each type of project and associated environmental assessment process. Atura Power also considers Ontario's guidance on the environmental assessment consultation process, but it is more general when compared to the specific requirements outlined in the Guide referenced above.

The project contact list was generated based on the requirements of the Guide and updated over the course of the project based on engagement with the agencies, updates to the Environmental Assessment Government Review Team Master Distribution List, and as communications developed with project contacts over the course of the Environmental Screening Process to date.

Appendix B contains copies of all comments between the project team and members of the public, municipal staff and elected officials, and agencies shared over the course of the project, from the date the project commenced on Sept. 6, 2023, to early November 2023, when the draft Screening Report was prepared. A full record of the comments provided over the duration of the entire project will be provided in the final Screening Report (for example, correspondence such as the project team's response to Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) questions in December 2023 will be provided in the final Screening Report).

Note, in response to your inquiry about a PEC Community Liaison Committee, a committee has not been set up for this upgrades project.

#### **g. Project Notification**

As noted in Section 4.2 of the draft PEC Screening Report, the Notice of Commencement was shared with adjacent property owners/tenants, provincial and federal ministries, regional and municipal contacts, a variety of other agencies/utilities, and several Indigenous communities. Communication methods were selected based on identified preference, previous project experience and/or available contact information.

Notice that the draft PEC Screening Report is available was shared with key agencies and organizations, Indigenous communities and interested members of the public. Interested members of the public included individuals who requested to be added to the project contact list as well as any member of the public who contacted the project email inbox ([portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)) during the Environmental Screening Process. The draft PEC Screening Report was also made available on the project webpage. The final PEC Screening Report will include a section describing distribution of the draft Screening Report.

Based on the current project contact list, Atura Power will be sharing the Notice of Completion with the same project contacts who received the Notice of Commencement in September 2023 (see Section 4.2 of the draft PEC Screening Report), as well as project contacts who received the draft Screening Report in early December 2023. Additionally, it will be advertised in the same publications used to share the Notice of Commencement in September 2023, including the *Toronto Sun*, *Toronto Star*, and *Beach Metro* newspapers. Anyone who has contacted the project team via the project email ([portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)) will also receive a copy of the Notice of Completion. Finally, a copy of the Notice of Completion will also be posted on the project webpage, in lieu of providing a physical copy for review in any local libraries, municipal offices, or recreation centres.

## **h. Review of draft Screening Report**

The project email inbox ([portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)) will continue to be available throughout the duration of the project. Comments on the draft PEC Screening Report that were provided by Jan. 7, 2023, will be incorporated and reflected in the final PEC Screening Report. Comments on the final PEC Screening Report will be responded to via email and are welcome until the end of the mandated 30-day review period which commences with the release of the Notice of Completion. The Notice will include details regarding the mandated 30-day review period.

Note, in response to your inquiry about a PEC Community Liaison Committee, a committee has not been set up for this Upgrades project.

## **i. Project Documentation, Resources and Materials**

Several of your comments request further information about project resources and materials used to complete the Environmental Screening Process. A combination of desktop research and the following resources were used to complete the Environmental Screening Assessment:

- Sources listed in the References section of the draft Screening Report,
- Letters from GE Gas Power Services found in Appendix A of the draft Screening Report,
- Documentation associated with the Environmental Review completed by SENES Consultants Limited in 2003, and
- Documentation associated with environmental permitting for PEC.

Atura Power does not have access to a complete copy of the original PEC Environmental Assessment (which included an Environmental Review Report) as Atura Power was not the proponent of the previous EA, nor does Atura Power have copies of the other documents you shared links to in one of your emails

to the PEC project inbox on Dec. 21, 2023. The following link <https://ieso.ca/en/Power-Data/Data-Directory> indicates that all reports found through the IESO's public reports website can be accessed using the tabs on that webpage.

All information relevant to the screening is included in the report and associated appendices, with the exception of correspondence records capturing engagement between Atura Power and Indigenous communities which is being shared directly with each Indigenous community engaged during the Environmental Screening Process.

## **j. Frequency and Schedule of Operations**

Several of your comments request further information about the frequency of and schedule of PEC operations. As stated in Appendix B3a of the draft Screening Report, PEC operations are dictated by the IESO based on the electricity supply and demand balance, which fluctuates season by season and year to year. Historically, the plant has operated between 1,750 to 4,500 hours per year, always at the direction of the IESO.

PEC is contracted to operate until April 2034. Atura Power does not know if PEC will continue to operate beyond 2034.

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We hope that the responses above provide clarification regarding your comments and questions raised about the draft Screening Report and associated Environmental Screening Process. The comments you provided, including this response letter, will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.

Should you require further clarification on project details, please continue to contact us through our project email address at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Darius Sokal  
Senior Communication Advisor  
Atura Power

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 31, 2024 4:30 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Re: Question on Draft Screening Report

Hi Darius,

I find Atura's responses to my questions significantly less than satisfactory - primarily because instead of answering the questions, blanket general responses were provided. I have attached my list of questions to this note and ask that Atura respond this time with answers that will enhance my understanding of the project and PEC operation. I am aware that Atura would like to move forward to the Final Screening report process and I would like to get any follow-up questions I have answered before that process begins.

Without the initial screening report for PEC (and the other documents I requested) there is no way of knowing whether this project is more of the same or whether we are entering new territory. If the initial screening report describes PEC as a peaker plant operating for a few hours each day that is very different from the baseload plant that PEC has grown into and continues to expand from. I ask that Atura check with Trans-Canada Energy and OPG to verify they do not have copies of those documents. I'm also reminded that Atura may want to check with the IT area as I understand historical backups are kept. As I see it, the absence of these documents is a serious deficiency in the Atura response. Your response indicates that documentation from the SENS Environmental Review of 2003 is available - I ask that you send it to me. I ask that you provide me with a copy of the partial report of the original PEC Environmental Assessment that you do have. While your response indicates that you have made available all 'relevant' documents for the purposes of the Screening report, I do have a different perspective and do not agree.

I hope that you continue to have access to Avaanz Ltd. to be able to answer how responses to some of the questions in the draft Screening report were arrived at. I appreciate that there must have been significant risk assessment work behind some of the responses on criteria for Air/Noise and Socio-Economic impacts. I would like to know whose viewpoint is represented in findings which suggest low impact, low probability to be able to answer as No impact. From the viewpoint of an area resident there are definitely health impacts as have been detailed by the Toronto Department of Public Health, the Ontario Ministry of Health, Health Canada and other organizations. Additional concerns are raised by organizations concerned with climate change. The analysis that spreads from those details spreads through all the criteria questions. I have found many guides to Socio-Economic evaluations which suggest a much more in-depth review than what appears to have been done for this project.

I find that the Atura answers in the section on MECP's Areas of Interest dealing with Climate Change and Air Quality/Dust/Noise do not answer the points highlighted by MECP and I ask that those responses be expanded to fully answer the questions/criteria.

There are a number of times in the draft Screening report that Atura points to the IESO as the organization that is initiating the project or requesting more electricity be generated but no direct response has been provided by IESO to explain such things as alternatives explored, why municipal support is not required, how much electricity they foresee being requested from PEC and other matters. I ask that Atura take the initiative to remove this siloed approach to providing answers and obtain responses directly from the IESO for inclusion in the report.

I have been able to obtain a copy of the letter that Ontario Energy Minister Todd Smith sent to the IESO on December 22, 2022. I have also obtained a copy of the IESO's E-LT1 final contract (attached) and I suggest looking at section 2.14 Municipal Support Confirmation which seems to indicate a requirement to obtain support within 18 months of signing the contract. I have not been able to find anything which suggest that the Energy Minister has changed his directive.

I have recently started researching dispersal modelling and I may have questions in the future. Of particular concern to me is what happens when the wind does not blow on a very hot day - how far away from PEC do pollutants fall in that scenario, how do they build up over time and what is the cumulative impact when combined with other pollution sources. The cumulative impact has been an item of concern to health agencies at all levels of government. Although there are four air monitoring stations within Toronto, none are close to PEC and recent information suggests that air quality at any significant distance from the monitors can vary widely. I only have a vague reference to the PEC Air Impact Assessment report which suggests that it was done in autumn rather than on a windless hot summer day. Would you please send me a copy of the PEC Emission Summary and Dispersion Modelling report.

I was under the impression that a PEC Community Liason Committee (not project specific) was already in existence. From your response I get the impression that is not true. You identify "the Guide" for Electricity Projects and make passing reference to "Consultation in Ontario's environmental assessment process". I will suggest that

how people communicate today is at odds with publishing notices in newspapers and I hope Atura updates their perspective to include (local) social media. With the busy lives that many people in my neighbourhood live I did not find it surprising that my neighbours knew nothing of the PEC project. I'm sure that a simple polling of area residents would be a good test of how effective communications have been. From reading the screening report I noted that there was not a single comment which clearly supported the project which, I believe, is a sign that more work needs to be done to win over the neighbours.

I'm sure that Atura would agree that low cost, reliable electricity, clean air and safety from climate change are important for our society. I believe that the environmental assessments are important to protect the environment that humans and other living species depend on in this complex world that we live in. With this in mind I look forward to mitigating the impacts that are inherent with technology projects.

My concerns are serious and urgent and I hope that you provide updated answers as soon as possible.





----- Forwarded Message -----

From: [REDACTED]  
To: darius.sokal@aturapower.com <darius.sokal@aturapower.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 12:39:12 a.m. EST  
Subject: Fw: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report - Questions

Hi Darius,

I am reading through the Draft Screening Report and I have a few questions so far - it is a long report and will take some time to get through.

Questions:

1. page 36 - Items 3.1 and 3.2 - am I to take it that Autura is absolving itself from future increases in demand from IESO for more electricity that will lead to more GHG and NO from the facility? If so, isn't this counter to the Ontario approach of producer responsibility? I understand that PEC is already the biggest source of GHG and NO in Toronto while only operating for an average of 14 hours per day so far in 2023.
2. page 38 - Items on Socio-Economics - what detailed criteria were used to assess each of these items?

That is all for now. I am pretty sure I will have more questions as I move through the rest of the report.

[REDACTED]  
-----  
----- Forwarded Message -----

From: [REDACTED]  
To: darius.sokal@aturapower.com <darius.sokal@aturapower.com>  
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2023 at 06:14:04 p.m. EST  
Subject: PEC Draft Screening Report - more questions

Hi Darius,

Some more questions have occurred to me about the PEC Draft Screening report. I expect that I will have more as I continue to move through the report.

1. pg 35 - Review of Screening Criteria  
It seems that many of the answers in this section reflect a 'more of the same' response - which of the previous Screening reports answered these questions fully?
2. pg 36 - Item 2.3 be inconsistent with municipal land use policies, plans and zoning by-laws?  
In view of the fact that Toronto City Council voted against the PEC expansion, would you add a note to indicate this fact in the answer to this item?
3. pg 36 - Item 3.1 have negative effects on air quality due to emissions of nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, suspended particulates, or other pollutants?  
In view of the fact that the Toronto Star has reported that PEC is the largest source of GHG and nitrous oxides in Toronto based on the plant producing electricity for less than 24 hours per day, would you add a note to indicate this fact in the answer to this item.
4. ibid - If IESO requests PEC to operate 24 hours per day, what would the total of various gases and particulates be over an entire year? Understanding that with the shut down of Ontario's nuclear plants that the current plan is to use gas powered plants to make up much of the difference.

5. The draft Screening report seems to indicate that only the expansion project is being considered against the MECP's Areas of Interest and Screening criteria. Do you have agreement from MECP that it is only the project to be considered or whether the full PEC facility (after the expansion) needs to be considered?

6. pg 36 - Item 3.2 cause negative effects from the emission of greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane)? I find the answer to this question, again, focuses just on the project rather than the full facility after the expansion project is completed. A further complication is the requests from the IESO to operate more hours per day. The answer does not identify any negative effects from GHG on people nor it's contribution to Canada's GHG inventory. Would you add a note to indicate these additional points in the answer to this item?

7. pg 38 - Item 6.4 have negative effects related to increases in the demands on community services and infrastructure? There have been a number of public health studies - including from Toronto Public Health - which show that air pollution causes respiratory illness, hospitalizations and death. Since the exhaust from PEC will add to the level of pollution in the neighbourhood, would you add a note to indicate that overall exhaust from PEC increases the risk related to respiratory illness, hospitalizations and death as it relates to our health care system?

8. pg 38 - Item 6.5 have negative effects on the economic base of a municipality or community? Since business and residents may decide not to move into a neighbourhood that has Toronto's largest source of GHG and nitrous oxides in it, would you add a note to this effect in the answer?

9. pg 38 - Item 6.8 cause public concerns related to public health and safety? Would you add a note to the answer to this item to indicate that various individuals, groups and municipal representatives and offices have expressed concern relating to public health? Would you also add a note that concerns have been expressed since the inception of PEC? Would you also add a note to indicate that cumulative air pollution from all sources in the area is a concern? Would you add a note to indicate that area monitoring stations for pollution are located far from the PEC site? Would you add a note to indicate that a study on the high incidence of respiratory illness in the East End of Toronto was completed in the mid-2000s and no follow-up study has been completed since.

10. pg 43 - Table 4-1

Is there some reason that the Beaches MP was left off the list?

Is there some reason that the Members of Provincial Parliament was left off the list?

Why was York region put on the list?

Is there some reason that the Ontario Ministry of Health and Public Health Ontario were left off the list?

Why was the Ministry of Mines put on the list?

Is there some reason that Toronto Public Health and Community Health Centres (e.g. South Riverdale Community Health, East End Community Health, others) were left off the list?

Why were Cherry Beach Park and Cherry Beach Sports Field included on the list?

Is there some reason that Anishnabeg, Chippewa, Wendat Indigenous groups were left off the list?

Is there some reason that local BIAs and Residents Associations were left off the list?

That is all for now.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: [Redacted]  
To: Darius Sokal <darius.sokal@aturapower.com>  
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2023 at 06:06:26 p.m. EST  
Subject: Draft Screening Report - Dec 15 Questions

Hi Darius,

Here are some additional questions.

1. - pg 55 - Item 4.8: A number of people that I know that attended the initial public meeting did not receive notice that the draft Screening report was available. What distribution list was used to send out the notification that the draft Screening report was available?

2. - pg 55 - item 4.9: I see Atura is planning on answering questions on the draft Screening report after the comment period has closed. What opportunity will I have to ask follow-up questions after you have published the answers to the questions? I understand that this is supposed to be a collaborative effort. Will the 30 day review period be interactive (with more than one cycle of questions and answers) with clarifications made to the final report?

3. - pg 57 - Section 5 - was the PEC Community Liason Committee asked to provide input to Table 5-1?

4. - pg 57 - Table 5-1: While illness from pollution is difficult to attribute to a single facility, there are numerous studies identified by Toronto Public Health which link illness to pollution

> I would suggest that one of the disadvantages that should be identified is that of increased GHG and NO that will come as a result of the requests from the IESO to operate more hours as a result of the nuclear power plants being shut down.

> I would suggest that one of the disadvantages that should be identified is the potential for increased respiratory illness from residents as a result of increased pollution - especially the young whose lungs are still developing and the very old.

> I would suggest that one of the disadvantages that should be identified is the potential for increased morbidity and mortality of the residents (as well as the difficulties that will introduce to their lives and the lives of their families) as a result of increased pollution

> I would suggest that one of the disadvantages that should be identified is lost time from work for residents and the impact to employers from illness due to increased pollution

> I would suggest that one of the disadvantages that should be identified is the increased in health care costs from illness due to pollution

> I would suggest that conservation, wind and solar power are more cost effective solutions but are not currently available to expand the electrical supply

> I would suggest that the increased GHG emissions expected from PEC will add to Canada's GHG emissions inventory which is counter to public policy of reducing emissions

> I would suggest that businesses looking to locate in a region that has clean power will be dissuaded from locating in a region that uses burned methane to create electricity

5. pg 58 - Would you provide me with a copy of the SENES Consultants Limited (2003). Environmental Review Report for the Portlands Energy Centre. Prepared for TransCanada Energy Limited. Prepared for TransCanada Energy and Ontario Power Generation.

6. Other documents. These documents are no longer available at the indicated location - would you provide me with a copy of them:

[http://www.portlandsenergycentre.com/docs/nov2003/PEC\\_Air\\_Impact\\_Assessment-Final.pdf](http://www.portlandsenergycentre.com/docs/nov2003/PEC_Air_Impact_Assessment-Final.pdf) and

[http://www.portlandsenergycentre.com/docs/nov2003/PEC\\_Human\\_Health\\_Risk-Final.pdf](http://www.portlandsenergycentre.com/docs/nov2003/PEC_Human_Health_Risk-Final.pdf)

7. pg 69 - Is there some reason that the project to boost efficiency is also increasing the generating capability of PEC by 50 mw? Could the upgrade have been done without increasing the generating capability of PEC beyond 550 mw?

More questions to come.



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From: [REDACTED]  
To: Upgrade Project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
Sent: Thursday, December 21, 2023 at 06:42:07 p.m. EST  
Subject: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report - Questions - Dec 21

Hi,

Some additional questions:

1. pg. 119 - Consideration of Alternatives - do you know if IESO even considered some new renewable energy projects to partially account for the increase in demand? As the people who live with the consequences of other people's decisions, it is difficult to accept that no attempt was made to reduce the amount of gas being burned.
2. pg. 120 - Good question that did not get answered - IESO Procurement Process: Did Atura Power lobby for the plant?
3. pg 120 - Role of Gas in Ontario Energy Supply - Would you change the answer to point out that renewable energy can be used to reduce the demand for electricity from gas generation?
4. What is a P2 plan and why doesn't PEC have one? It sounds like it has to do with pollution reduction.
5. Does PEC's draft Screening report adhere to the guidance from the Ontario Energy Board - ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINES FOR THE LOCATION, CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF HYDROCARBON PIPELINES AND FACILITIES IN ONTARIO?
6. pg 121 - When PEC was first built it was seen as a temporary solution until renewables matured. While some people oppose off-shore wind because they don't like the interrupted view of the natural environment, it does not produce emissions and renewable energy has definitely matured. Would you provide a better response to the questions asking why renewable energy is not being used?
7. pg 130 - Gwh supplied to the IESO grid - this link leads to a page that requires a login id of a market participant. Would you provide the data requested on pg 129 - Gwh supplied to the IESO controlled grid for each year from 2017 to 2022?
8. pg 240 to pg 247 - Did Atura have any response from Mayor Chow, Councilor Fletcher or MP Dabrusin?
9. Is there some reason Atura did not engage Councilor Brad Bradford, MPP Mary-Margaret McMahon and MP Nathaniel Erskine-Smith?
10. pg 255 - Is there some reason the Ontario Ministry of Health and Toronto Public Health were not included in correspondence? Also, Ontario Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Indigenous Affairs, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.
11. pg 255 - Is there some reason that correspondence with all agencies listed were not included in the section starting on page 239?
12. pg 255 - Once again why was York Region included?
13. pg, 271 Indicates: "If there are sensitive receptors in the surrounding area of this project, a quantitative air quality/odour impact assessment will be useful to evaluate alternatives, determine impacts and identify appropriate mitigation measures. The scope of the assessment can be determined based on the potential effects of the proposed alternatives, and typically includes source and receptor characterization and a quantification of local air quality

impacts on the sensitive receptors and the environment in the study area. The assessment will compare to all applicable standards or guidelines for all contaminants of concern. "

It seems to me that humans are sensitive receptors. Given the many studies which indicate the link between air pollution and respiratory illness, hospitalizations and death in humans and that PEC (while operating on average 14 hours per day this year and expected to operate more in the future) - did Atura conduct such a study?

14. pg. 277 Indicates: "Please include in the report a list of all subsequent permits or approvals that may be required for the implementation of the project" Why is this missing from the draft Screening report?

15. pg 296 - What response did you receive from Waterfront Toronto?

16. pg 321 - Are there additional responses from stakeholders listed in the contact list for which no correspondence is provided?

17. pg 321 - What response was provided to the TRCA questions?

18. pg 45 - Do your Indigenous contacts include both traditional and elected leadership?

[REDACTED]

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----- Forwarded Message -----

From: [REDACTED]  
To: Upgrade Project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
Sent: Friday, December 22, 2023 at 10:16:08 a.m. EST  
Subject: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report - Questions - Dec 22

Hi,

Some additional questions.

1. Did Atura identify any environmental effect or issue in the screening process that will be addressed under another environmental approval (e.g., an approval under the Environmental Protection Act)?
2. Did Atura consider attempting to engage with the public through social media (e.g. Facebook, Instagram, X, etc.) or other means?
3. Did Atura identify any environment effects from the project that require mitigation or managing?
4. Will Atura conduct an Air Quality Test in the neighbourhoods surrounding PEC before and after project completion? Antidotally I heard that a previous study was reviewed as being conducted in the fall rather than in the summer when pollution levels are higher and that monitoring stations were too far away from the neighbourhoods surrounding PEC.
5. Does Atura recognise that the public perception of and concerns about PEC have changed since it moved from being a peaker plant to a baseload plant?
6. Was the Notice of Commencement mailed to households in the immediate vicinity of PEC? If so, what streets or neighbourhoods?
7. Where is the summary of public and agency concerns or issues in the Screening report?
8. Is there other supporting documentation or correspondence related to the Screening Report that was not included in the Screening Report?

9. Would you send me copies of previous Screening reports done for PEC. I understand that Atura does not have a copy of the original EA - is it available from OPG or TransCanada?

10. Section 3.1 of the draft Screening report identifies current conditions as a description of the physical facility. The EA Guide for Electricity Projects suggests a description of the local environment and conditions. Would you modify this section to reflect local environment and conditions?

11. Which libraries, municipal offices or recreation centres are you planning on making the Screening report available in?

12. What residents, businesses and local interest groups are you planning on sending the EA Completion notice to?

13. Have any commitments been made from previous EAs?

14. Has a Climate Change Impact Assessment been completed for PEC? (as per Ontario's Considering climate change in the environmental assessment process) If so, would you please provide a copy of it.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

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----- Forwarded Message -----

From: [REDACTED]  
To: portlandupgrade@aturapower.com <portlandupgrade@aturapower.com>  
Sent: Friday, January 5, 2024 at 10:39:31 a.m. EST  
Subject: Question on Draft Screening Report

Hi,

One additional question on the Draft Screening Report.

The Emissions Limits (e.g. NO<sub>x</sub>, CO, Sulphur Dioxide) that PEC operates under - when these limits were determined, what were the assumptions made in the modelling? Was there an assumption that these gases would be dispersed? What would happen if the gases were not dispersed or built up in the area surrounding PEC?

Thanks,

[REDACTED]



Note: Due to the length of this document, only the title page is included.

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**EXPEDITED LONG-TERM RELIABILITY SERVICES (E-LT 1) CONTRACT**

**Between**



**– and –**

**INDEPENDENT ELECTRICITY SYSTEM OPERATOR**

DATED as of the  day of , 2023.

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**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sunday, February 11, 2024 4:02 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Re: Question on Draft Screening Report

Hi Darius,

Do you have any news on my questions?

I have some additional concerns based on my readings on dispersion modelling. Do you have any information which addresses the following:

- dispersion modelling does not identify the chemical reactions or transformations that may result when the pollutants released from the stacks mix with elements already in the atmosphere
- if the metrological data input to the model does not heavily favour inversion layers then the results will not show what happens when there is an inversion. Did the modelling conducted include a scenario where there is an extended inversion event?
- the terrain down-wind of the stacks influences dispersion - did the modelling done for PEC take into account the slope to the north rising from the lake?
- I gather that the impacts on tall buildings - of which there are a growing number in the neighbourhood - are not accurately portrayed in the results
- Third party review of modelling results increases confidence in results

Given that the modelling done for PEC is now more than 20 years old, would Atura consider re-running the modelling with more recent metrological data? Since the study was done we have gone from "heat waves" and introduced the new term "heat domes".

I look forward to getting an update on your response.

[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Monday, February 12, 2024 1:30 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Question on Draft Screening Report

Hi, [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email yesterday and the earlier one sent on Jan. 31, 2024.

Due to the volume and nature of your comments and questions, we will need a few weeks to formulate and share our responses with you.

Thank you for your ongoing interest in our Portlands Energy Centre efficiency upgrades project.

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications & Stakeholder Relations Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit 200, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Friday, February 16, 2024 12:23 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Question on Draft Screening Report

Hello, [REDACTED]

You're very welcome for the response.

We're working on responding to all your inquiries and will try to have our responses available for in the final screening report. However, the timing for publishing the screening report is yet to be determined.

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications & Stakeholder Relations Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit 200, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2024 5:51 PM  
**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Question on Draft Screening Report

Hi Darius,

Thanks for your response.

Will there still be an opportunity to have my comments and questions (with Atura responses) included in the Final Screening report? I may also have some follow-up questions based on the Atura responses.

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sunday, February 18, 2024 11:15 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** PEC's most recent ESDM Report

Hi Darius,

Would you please send me PEC's most recent Emissions Summary and Dispersion Modelling report.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Date:** February 22, 2024 at 1:49:36 PM CST  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** RE: PEC's most recent ESDM Report

Hello, [REDACTED]

I've attached an executive summary of PEC's most recent ESDM report in response to your request.

Thank you and let me know if you have any questions.

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications & Stakeholder Relations Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit 200, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND EMISSION SUMMARY TABLE

This Emission Summary and Dispersion Modelling (ESDM) report was prepared for Portlands Energy Centre L.P. (the Facility) located at 470 Unwin Avenue in Toronto, Ontario. The ESDM report was originally prepared to support the Facility's application and amendment to a Certificate of Approval (CofA), now known as an Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA). The Facility currently operates under ECA Number 3557-BUJKWR.

In accordance with s.25(3) of Ontario Regulation 419/05 (O.Reg. 419/05), the Facility has updated this ESDM report so that it is accurate as of December 31, 2020. The ESDM report was prepared in accordance with s.26 of O.Reg. 419/05 and guidance in the Ministry publication "Procedure for Preparing an Emission Summary and Dispersion Modelling Report, Version 4.1" [1] dated March 2018 (ESDM Procedure Document) was followed, as appropriate.

The Facility is a natural gas-fired combined cycle power generation plant having a nominal generating capacity of 550 megawatts (MW). Electricity is derived from two (2) 175 MW (nominal) gas turbine generator sets (CTGs), each equipped with a Heat Recovery Steam Generator (HRSG) that feed steam to a 238.5 MW (nominal) steam turbine generator (STG). There are also natural gas-fired duct burners installed in the HRSGs which augment power production in the STG. Other natural gas combustion equipment includes an auxiliary boiler and comfort heating equipment. There is also a one (1) MW emergency diesel generator.

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code that applies to the Facility is 221112- Fossil-Fuel Electric Power Generation. As such, s.20 of O.Reg.419/05 applies, and compliance has been assessed using an approved dispersion model (AERMOD) and the Schedule 3 standards listed in the "Air Contaminants Benchmarks (ACB) List, Version 2.0" [2], as well as the applicable limits listed in the publication "Emergency Generator Checklist Supplement To Application For Approval, EPA s.9, PIBS 7976e" [3].

The principal contaminant released from the Facility is nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) from natural gas combustion and testing of the emergency diesel generator. Some sources and contaminants were considered negligible in accordance with s.8 of O.Reg. 419/05. The maximum emission rates for each significant contaminant emitted from the Facility were calculated in accordance with s.11 of O.Reg. 419/05 and the data quality assessed following the process outlined in the requirements of the ESDM Procedure Document.

A maximum point of impingement (POI) concentration for each significant contaminant emitted from the Facility was calculated based on the calculated emission rates and the output from the approved dispersion model; the results are presented in the following Emission Summary Table in accordance with s.26 of O.Reg. 419/05. The POI concentrations were compared against the Ministry's ACB List and the Ministry's Emergency Generator

Checklist screening levels.

All contaminants listed in the Emission Summary Table have limits in the ABC List or Ministry screening levels. All predicted POI concentrations are below the corresponding POI Limits. For example, the POI concentration of NO<sub>x</sub> from the operation of the HRSGs and auxiliary boiler is 30% of the 1-hour NO<sub>x</sub> standard of 400 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and 21% of the 24-hour NO<sub>x</sub> standard of 200 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The POI concentration of NO<sub>x</sub> due to testing of the emergency diesel generator is 72% of the half-hour screening level of 1,880 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.

This ESDM report demonstrates that the Facility is compliant with O.Reg. 419/05.

**Table ES-1: Emission Summary Table**

Contaminant Name	CAS No.	Total Facility Emission Rate [g/s]	Air Dispersion Model Used	Max. POI Concentration [ $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ] <sup>[4]</sup>	Averaging Period	Ministry POI Limit [ $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ]	Limiting Effect	Source <sup>[5][6]</sup>	ACB Category	Regulation Schedule #	Percentage of Ministry POI Limit (%)
Nitrogen oxides (NOx) <sup>[1]</sup>	10102-44-0	117.0	AERMOD 19191	121.9	1-hour	400	Health	Standard	B1	3	30%
				41.1	24-hour	200	Health	Standard	B1	3	21%
Nitrogen oxides (NOx) <sup>[2][3]</sup>	10102-44-0	6.7	AERMOD 19191	1350.6	½-hour	1880	Health	EGC	n/a	n/a	72%

**Notes:**

1. Nitrogen oxides from all significant, non-emergency equipment, including the heat recovery steam generator stacks and the auxiliary boiler.
2. Nitrogen oxides from the emergency generator only.
3. The 1-hour average maximum POI from AERMOD is converted to a ½-hour maximum by multiplying the 1-hour POI by a conversion factor of 1.2, as per Section 4.4 of the "Air Dispersion Modelling Guideline for Ontario" [4].
4. The meteorological anomalies have been removed for the maximum POI concentration as per Section 6.5 of the "Air Dispersion Modelling Guideline for Ontario" [4].
5. "Standard" means the standards published in the Ministry's "Air Contaminants Benchmark List", Version 2.0, dated April 2018 [2].
6. "EGC" means the screening level published in the Ministry's "Emergency Generator Checklist Supplement To Application For Approval", dated November 2010 [3].

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Upgrade project for PEC](#)  
**Subject:** Re: PEC's most recent ESDM Report  
**Date:** February 22, 2024 3:46:12 PM

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Thank-you Darius,

Would you send me a copy of the complete report. I have some questions which were not answered in the Executive Summary.

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Monday, March 4, 2024 10:34 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Fw: PEC's most recent ESDM Report

Hi Darius,

Would you also send me the

- Emissions Summary
- Guideline A-5 calculations based on proposed facility and equipment parameters

Any news on when you will be able to respond to my other requests and when the final Screening report will be out?

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 6, 2024 5:22 AM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: PEC's most recent ESDM Report

Good morning, [REDACTED]

According to section 27 of O. Reg. 419/05 and referenced in section 2.4 of Guideline A-10 (<https://www.ontario.ca/document/guideline-10-procedure-preparing-emission-summary-and-dispersion-modelling-esdm-report#foot-1>), Atura Power is required to provide the most up-to-date executive summary of the ESDM report to any person, without charge, within 15 days after the person requests it.

Atura Power has met the above requirements as you requested the executive summary on Feb. 18, 2024, and received it on Feb. 22, 2024.

Thank you, and please note that we are still developing responses to your numerous other questions and comments and will deliver them to you in the coming days.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications & Stakeholder Relations Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit 200, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thursday, March 7, 2024 9:44 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** PEC - Additional Questions

Hi Darius,

Would you please send me the the last four Community Ecological Committee (CEC) newsletters.

I appreciate that Atura is not obliged to send the full Air Dispersion Modelling study. Would you answer these questions:

- Was "Shoreline fumigation" ruled out as a possibility?
- Were there any additional components used in the AERMON model, other than standard components (e.g. BPIP PRIME)?
- Was "Calms Processing" invoked during the execution of the model?
- What station's ground and atmospheric observations were used in the execution of the model?
- What years were the ground and atmospheric observations from?
- What are the characteristics of the 'receptors' used in the model?
- The "Procedure for Preparing an Emissions Summary and Dispersion Modelling" indicates that it is to be updated annually. Is there some reason the Executive Summary that Atura provided references an EDSM from December 31, 2020 rather than December 31, 2023?
- What is the reason that the Executive Summary only lists NOx in the Emissions Summary Table and not CO (indicated in the ECA 3557-BUJKWR)?
- Media reports from the 2003 ER suggested that PM10 and PM2.5 were also concerns - what did the modelling show for them and in comparison to the current air shed levels?
- What area did the modelling cover and how was the local terrain described?
- The "Procedure for Preparing an Emissions Summary and Dispersion Modelling" indicates "The assessment of all contaminants that are discharged from the facility regardless of whether or not a ministry POI Limit is available." Given that PEC is the largest source of GHG in Toronto, why isn't CO2e listed in the table?

Thanks,

[REDACTED]



**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 28, 2024 4:37 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Questions from other facilities

Hi Darius,

I just finished reviewing the Screening Report for the Halton Hills Generating Station and the Environmental Review Reports for Capital Power's Goreway Power Station and Invenergy's St. Clair Energy Station. I have some questions based on the review.

1. The Halton Hills Generating Station is a sister plant to PEC. Is there some reason the Halton Hills Screening report includes an Emissions Summary and Modelling results and PEC does not?
2. The Goreway Power Station Environmental Review report included a forecast of the lifetime emissions of the plant. Is there some reason that the Goreway ER was able to calculate lifetime emissions and PEC does not?
3. The Goreway Power Station ER flags GHG emissions as one of the reasons for raising the review to an ER. The St. Clair Energy Station ER flags some emissions being close to the limit for raising the review to an ER. Given that PEC has been flagged as having the highest GHG emissions in Toronto (with an expectation that they will increase even more) and, from media and other reports from PEC's 2003 ER, that local NOx and particulate matter were high - is there some reason Atura did not upgrade the PEC EA to an Environmental Review?

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Friday, March 15, 2024 12:12 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Atura Power PEC Efficiency Upgrades Project

Hello [REDACTED]

Thank you for your recent enquiries regarding the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. Please see the attached which includes Atura Power's responses to your comments and questions. Note that one of the responses in the attached PDF confirms that Atura Power has acquired a copy of the 2003 Environmental Review Report. Please find a copy of the Environmental Review Report attached as well.

Sent on behalf of Stephen Smith

Environmental Specialist

March 15, 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

**Re: Questions on the draft Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report**

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Thank you for your continued interest in the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. We received your enquiries to the project inbox on Dec. 19, 21 and 22, 2023, as well as Jan. 5, Feb. 11 and 28, and Mar. 4 and 7, 2024. Please note this response also includes responses to your original enquiries sent to me on Dec. 13, 14 and 15, 2023, which you forwarded to the project inbox on Dec. 21 and 22, 2023.

Please see the following table which includes Atura Power's responses. Note the responses are organized by category.

Date Submitted	Comment #	Relevant Section of draft Screening Report	Topic	Comment	Atura Power's Response
2023-12-15	27	Appendix B1 of draft Screening Report	Efficiency Upgrades vs. Expansion, and Scope of Assessment	Is there some reason that the project to boost efficiency is also increasing the generating capability of PEC by 50 mw? Could the upgrade have been done without increasing the generating capability of PEC beyond 550 mw?	As stated in Section 3.3 of the draft Screening Report, the IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase electricity production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contract awarded by the IESO as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term Request for Proposal (E-LT1-RFP), in May 2023.
2023-12-22	55	Section 3.1 of draft Screening Report		Section 3.1 of the draft Screening report identifies current conditions as a description of the physical facility. The EA Guide for Electricity Projects suggests a description of the local environment and conditions. Would you modify this section to reflect local environment and conditions?	The project will take place entirely within the facility; the facility footprint will not change. Section 3.1 of the draft Screening Report includes a description of the local environment and conditions relative to the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. As such, text in this section remains accurate as is.
2023-12-22	59	N/A		Has a Climate Change Impact Assessment been completed for PEC? (as per Ontario's Considering climate change in the environmental assessment process) If so, would you please provide a copy of it.	A separate Climate Change Impact Assessment was not completed for the PEC Upgrades project.
2023-12-19	1	N/A	Emissions and Air Quality	Do the emissions limits that PEC is supposed to conform to include the emissions from production of the natural methane gas that it burns?	PEC's Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) specifies facility-specific NOx, SO <sub>2</sub> , and CO emission concentration limits for the undiluted gases emitted from the heat recovery steam generator stacks which are based on MECP's Guideline A-5 Atmospheric Emissions from Stationary Combustion Turbines.
2023-12-19	2	Appendix B3a of draft Screening Report		Air Quality - a number of people express concerns about air quality health impacts and the Atura response seems to be that we are operating within environmental permitting requirements. Would you add a note indicating the name of the organization that concerns on air quality health should be addressed to? It would also help if Atura pointed to a study for a region that had a similar load of pollution which showed no impact on health - does such a study exist?	Details of PEC's Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) (Air/Noise) are provided in Appendix B3a in the response to public comments under the air quality sub-category. The response can be expanded by noting that air standards under O. Reg. 419/05 are set by the MECP's Standards Development Branch to protect against health and environmental effects. Of the 5,208 air contaminant standards, guidelines and screening levels which the MECP currently requires to be assessed for contaminants released to the air, 5,099 are health based. PEC's Emission Summary and Dispersion Modelling (ESDM) report must be updated on an annual basis to reflect changes such as sources no longer in operation, updates to MECP's Air Contaminants Benchmarks List: standards, guidelines and screening levels for assessing point of impingement



Date Submitted	Comment #	Relevant Section of draft Screening Report	Topic	Comment	Atura Power's Response
					concentrations of air contaminants, as well as updates to the MECP approved air dispersion model versions.
2023-12-19	3	Appendix B3a of draft Screening Report		Emissions of Greenhouse Gases - there are several questions in this section which are not answered by the response provided by Atura - would you answer them? (e.g, On the Environmental Effects slide, I noticed CO2 was not listed (just NO, NO2, and CO) under the emissions that were not supposed to increase as per GE. Was that a mistake, or is there reason to expect CO2 emissions will increase?)	The statement on the slide was referring to emission concentrations of contaminants with facility-specific emission concentration limits (see response to comment #1).
2023-12-19	8	Appendix B3a of draft Screening Report		Are PEC's emissions limits based on the most recent guideline or have they been grandfathered from a previous guideline?	The PEC combustion turbines following the efficiency upgrades do not meet the Guideline A-5 (2021) definition of a modified combustion turbine and therefore, as verified by the MECP, Guideline A-5 (1994) applies. As per Guideline A-5 (2021), "this approach is meant to encourage upgrades in thermal efficiency and technology modernization of Existing SCTs that are intended to increase efficiency or reduce emissions but without expecting the more stringent emission limits of New SCTs to be met."
2023-12-13	9	Section 3.4 of draft Screening Report		Am I to take it that Autura is absolving itself from future increases in demand from IESO for more electricity that will lead to more GHG and NO from the facility? If so, isn't this counter to the Ontario approach of producer responsibility? I understand that PEC is already the biggest source of GHG and NO in Toronto while only operating for an average of 14 hours per day so far in 2023.	<p>The assessment process requires Atura Power to undertake an Environmental Screening Process to identify whether any potential environmental effects <i>of the project</i> would occur. As such, the scope of this assessment is limited to understanding and identifying any effects of the proposed efficiency upgrades.</p> <p>As noted in Section 3.4 of the draft Screening Report, review of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades - which is limited to replacing parts of the existing turbines with more efficient parts - determined that the response to all questions is "No", indicating that there are no potential negative environmental effects resulting from the activities associated with the efficiency upgrades.</p> <p>In recent correspondence to the project team, it was confirmed that, "MECP's technical staff have reviewed Table 3-1 and Section 3.4.3 of the draft environmental screening report (ESR) for the proposed upgrades at the Portland's Energy Centre. The proposed upgrades to the turbine generator will maintain air emissions levels at or below site permit levels. Based on the rational[e] provided, the ministry</p>

Date Submitted	Comment #	Relevant Section of draft Screening Report	Topic	Comment	Atura Power's Response
					concur that an air quality impact assessment is not needed for this undertaking".
2023-12-14	13	Section 3.4 of draft Screening Report		Have negative effects on air quality due to emissions of nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, suspended particulates, or other pollutants? In view of the fact that the Toronto Star has reported that PEC is the largest source of GHG and nitrous oxides in Toronto based on the plant producing electricity for less than 24 hours per day, would you add a note to indicate this fact in the answer to this item.	<p>Owners or operators of facilities that meet published reporting requirements are required to report to the National Pollutant Release Inventory (NPRI) under the authority of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA). The NPRI tracks over 300 pollutants.</p> <p>Greenhouse gas emissions are regulated by the Emissions Performance Standards Regulation (O. Reg. 241/19) under the Environmental Protection Act. Furthermore, information on GHG emissions from facilities across Canada who meet the requirements is collected under section 46 of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act.</p> <p>The net heat rate of the gas turbine generators (i.e., kilojoules/kilowatthours (kJ/kWh) higher heating value (HHV)) following the upgrades is expected to reduce by 2% at baseload and 15°C ambient temperature. The greenhouse gas intensity (i.e., the ratio of CO2 equivalent emissions to total electricity generation) of the facility is also expected to reduce by 2%.</p> <p>PEC will continue to operate as dictated by the IESO based on the supply and demand balance, which fluctuates season by season and year to year, and will continue to report annual emissions to all provincial and federal emissions reporting programs.</p> <p>As such, text in this section remains accurate as is.</p>
2023-12-14	16	Section 3.4 of draft Screening Report		Cause negative effects from the emission of greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide (CO2), methane)? I find the answer to this question, again, focuses just on the project rather than the full facility after the expansion project is completed. A further complication is the requests from the IESO to operate more hours per day. The answer does not identify any negative effects from GHG on people nor it's contribution to Canada's GHG inventory. Would you add a note to indicate these additional points in the answer to this item?	See response to comment #13.
2023-12-14	17	Section 3.4 of		Have negative effects related to increases in the demands on community services and infrastructure? There have been a	See response to comment #2.



Date Submitted	Comment #	Relevant Section of draft Screening Report	Topic	Comment	Atura Power's Response
		draft Screening Report		number of public health studies - including from Toronto Public Health - which show that air pollution causes respiratory illness, hospitalizations and death. Since the exhaust from PEC will add to the level of pollution in the neighbourhood, would you add a note to indicate that overall exhaust from PEC increases the risk related to respiratory illness, hospitalizations and death as it relates to our health care system?	
2023-12-21	40	Appendix B5b of draft Screening Report		Indicates: "If there are sensitive receptors in the surrounding area of this project, a quantitative air quality/odour impact assessment will be useful to evaluate alternatives, determine impacts and identify appropriate mitigation measures. The scope of the assessment can be determined based on the potential effects of the proposed alternatives, and typically includes source and receptor characterization and a quantification of local air quality impacts on the sensitive receptors and the environment in the study area. The assessment. It seems to me that humans are sensitive receptors. Given the many studies which indicate the link between air pollution and respiratory illness, hospitalizations and death in humans and that PEC (while operating on average 14 hours per day this year and expected to operate more in the future) - did Atura conduct such a study? will compare to all applicable standards or guidelines for all contaminants of concern.	See response to comment #9.
2024-01-05	60	N/A		The Emissions Limits (e.g. NOx, CO, Sulphur Dioxide) that PEC operates under - when these limits were determined, what were the assumptions made in the modelling? Was there an assumption that these gases would be dispersed? What would happen if the gases were not dispersed or built up in the area surrounding PEC?	See response to comment #1. Note that the emissions limits are determined based on calculations completed in accordance with MECP's Guideline A-5 Atmospheric Emissions from Stationary Combustion Turbines.
2024-02-28	67	N/A		The Halton Hills Generating Station is a sister plant to PEC. Is there some reason the Halton Hills Screening report includes an Emissions Summary and Modelling results and PEC does not?	Of the nine screening criteria categories, one category (i.e., air and noise) was associated with some uncertainty in determining the potential for effects on air quality for the HHGS Efficiency Upgrades project. To provide further details on the Screening Criteria related to air quality, an assessment was undertaken and is outlined in Sections 3.3.1 to 3.3.3 of the HHGS Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report. The assessment determined that without mitigation, the project will produce emissions that meet the applicable AAQC set by the MECP.



Date Submitted	Comment #	Relevant Section of draft Screening Report	Topic	Comment	Atura Power's Response
					For the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project, there was no uncertainty associated in determining the potential for effects on air quality as the efficiency upgrades equipment manufacturer provided a letter to Atura Power stating that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels".
2023-12-19	4	Appendix B3a of draft Screening Report	Engagement Process, Requirements and Project Contact List	Engagement Process - Would you add a note to the question "Could you clarify what public and Indigenous engagement means?" that the MECP publishes a guide (Consultation in Ontario's Environmental Assessment Process) on the EA Consultation process and provide the link to it ( <a href="https://www.ontario.ca/page/consultation-ontarios-environmental-assessment-process">https://www.ontario.ca/page/consultation-ontarios-environmental-assessment-process</a> )?	The Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects outlines the purpose and requirements associated with engagement for each type of project and associated environmental assessment process. Atura Power also considers Ontario's guidance on the environmental assessment consultation process, but it is more general when compared to the specific requirements outlined in the Guide referenced above. For this reason, we will not be providing the link to the Consultation in Ontario's Environmental Assessment Process you have referenced. As such, text in this section remains accurate as is.
2023-12-19	7	Appendix B3a of draft Screening Report		Did PEC/Atura conduct a communications test to determine if area residents/businesses were aware of the plan to expand PEC's generating capability?	Atura Power is undertaking the Environmental Screening Process according to Ontario Regulation 50/24 (previously Ontario Regulation 116/01) and the Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects.
2023-12-14	20	Section 4.2 of draft Screening Report		Is there some reason that the Beaches MP was left off the list? Is there some reason that the Members of Provincial Parliament was left off the list? Why was York region put on the list? Is there some reason that the Ontario Ministry of Health and Public Health Ontario were left off the list? Why was the Ministry of Mines put on the list? Is there some reason that Toronto Public Health and Community Health Centres (e.g. South Riverdale Community Health, East End Community Health, others) were left off the list? Why were Cherry Beach Park and Cherry Beach Sports Field included on the list? Is there some reason that Anishnabeg, Chippewa, Wendat Indigenous groups were left off the list? Is there some reason that local BIAs and Residents Associations were left off the list?	The project contact list was generated based on the requirements of Ontario Regulation 50/24 (previously Ontario Regulation 116/01) and the Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects and updated over the course of the project based on engagement with the agencies, updates to the Environmental Assessment Government Review Team Master Distribution List, and as communications developed with project contacts over the course of the Environmental Screening Process to date.
2023-12-15	22	Section 4.9 of draft		I see Atura is planning on answering questions on the draft Screening report after the comment period has closed. What opportunity will I have to ask follow-up questions after you have published the answers to the questions? I understand	The project email inbox ( <a href="mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com">portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com</a> ) will continue to be available throughout the duration of the project. Comments on the draft PEC Screening Report that were provided by Mar. 8, 2024, will be incorporated and

Date Submitted	Comment #	Relevant Section of draft Screening Report	Topic	Comment	Atura Power's Response
		Screening Report		that this is supposed to be a collaborative effort. Will the 30 day review period be interactive (with more than one cycle of questions and answers) with clarifications made to the final report?	reflected in the final PEC Screening Report. Comments on the final PEC Screening Report will be responded to via email and are welcome until the end of the mandated 30-day review period. The Notice of Completion, which is released at the same time as the final Screening Report, marks the beginning of the 30-day mandated review period.
2023-12-15	23	Section 5 of draft Screening Report		Was the PEC Community Liason Committee asked to provide input to Table 5-1?	A committee has not been set up for this upgrades project.
2023-12-21	35	Appendix B4 of draft Screening Report		Did Atura have any response from Mayor Chow, Councilor Fletcher or MP Dabrusin?	Appendix B contains copies of all comments from members of the public, municipal staff and elected officials, and agencies shared over the course of the project, from the date the project commenced on September 6, 2023, to early November 2023, when the draft Screening Report was being finalized. A full record of the comments and emails provided over the duration of the entire project will be provided in the final Screening Report.
2023-12-21	36	Appendix B4 of draft Screening Report		Is there some reason Atura did not engage Councilor Brad Bradford, MPP Mary-Margaret McMahon and MP Nathaniel Erskine-Smith?	See response to comment #20.
2023-12-21	37	Appendix B5a of draft Screening Report		Is there some reason the Ontario Ministry of Health and Toronto Public Health were not included in correspondence? Also, Ontario Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Indigenous Affairs, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.	See response to comment #20.
2023-12-21	38	Appendix B4 of draft Screening Report		Is there some reason that correspondence with all agencies listed were not included in the section starting on page 239?	See response to comment #35.
2023-12-21	39	Appendix B5a of draft Screening Report		Once again why was York Region included?	See response to comment #20.



Date Submitted	Comment #	Relevant Section of draft Screening Report	Topic	Comment	Atura Power's Response
2023-12-21	42	Appendix B5b of draft Screening Report		What response did you receive from Waterfront Toronto?	<p>In December 2023, Waterfront Toronto shared two comments with Atura Power regarding the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. One comment was to share a clarification regarding the description of the project location in the draft Screening Report. Atura Power thanked Waterfront Toronto for the information and took steps to update the description of the project location in the final Screening Report.</li> <li>ii. The second comment Waterfront Toronto shared was to ask whether the upgrades proposed will result in an increase in discharge water temperature conditions, or whether the thermal impacts will remain relatively consistent with current operations. In response, Atura Power confirmed that the PEC efficiency upgrades to the gas turbines will have no impact on the cooling water discharged by the facility. Cooling water temperatures will remain within compliance of the existing ECA and thus no change to the Industrial Sewage Works ECA or limits are required.</li> </ul> <p>Please note a full record of the comments provided over the duration of the entire project up to Mar. 8, 2024 will be provided in the final Screening Report.</p>
2023-12-21	43	Appendix B5c of draft Screening Report		Are there additional responses from stakeholders listed in the contact list for which no correspondence is provided?	See response to comment #35.
2023-12-21	44	Appendix B5c of draft Screening Report		What response was provided to the TRCA questions?	<p>In December 2023, Atura Power provided responses to TRCA's comments received in October 2023. Atura Power's response included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Confirming that the upgrades will take place within the existing facility and associated paved areas, the existing facility footprint will not change, and acknowledging that further engagement with TRCA should be initiated should the project extend beyond the building footprint and associated paved areas,</li> <li>ii. Recognizing the Highly Vulnerable Aquifer in the surrounding region, confirming that the upgrades will take place within the existing facility footprint and will</li> </ul>

Date Submitted	Comment #	Relevant Section of draft Screening Report	Topic	Comment	Atura Power's Response
					<p>not require excavation, and acknowledging that further engagement with TRCA should be initiated should the project require excavation,</p> <p>iii. Confirming that all critical equipment is to be stored inside the facility, any equipment stored outside will be temporarily stored on tractor trailer/flatbeds located on existing paved or gravel parking areas and driveways, and Atura Power does not expect to affect or change the facility's existing stormwater management plan/program nor are effects to erosion or sediment anticipated, and</p> <p>iv. Acknowledging that the project is located within the Toronto Waterfront Screening Area and that while future permits under the Conservation Authorities Act regulations are not required, TRCA will continue to be involved in the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project throughout the EA process, and confirming that Atura Power will continue to notify the TRCA of EA milestones including the release of the draft Screening Report as well as the Notice of Completion and publication of the final Screening Report.</p>
2023-12-21	45	Section 4.2 of draft Screening Report		Do your Indigenous contacts include both traditional and elected leadership?	Atura Power has communicated with the consultation departments of elected leadership for the Six Nations of the Grand River, Mississaugas of the Credit and Métis Nation of Ontario. Atura Power has also engaged with and communicated with the Haudenosaunee Development Institute. Atura Power has engaged Indigenous communities regarding the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project as guided by the MECP.
2023-12-22	47	Section 4 of draft Screening Report		Did Atura consider attempting to engage with the public through social media (e.g. Facebook, Instagram, X, etc.) or other means?	See response to comment #7.
2023-12-22	53	N/A		Is there other supporting documentation or correspondence related to the Screening Report that was not included in the Screening Report?	All information relevant to the screening is included in the report and associated appendices. With respect to records of correspondence between Atura Power and Indigenous communities, these are only being shared directly with each respective Indigenous community. All other documentation has been provided and made available in the screening report.
2023-12-21	28	Appendix B3a of	IESO Procurement	Do you know if IESO even considered some new renewable energy projects to partially account for the increase in	



Date Submitted	Comment #	Relevant Section of draft Screening Report	Topic	Comment	Atura Power's Response
		draft Screening Report	Process, Project Need, and Consideration of Alternatives	demand? As the people who live with the consequences of other people's decisions, it is difficult to accept that no attempt was made to reduce the amount of gas being burned.	<p>Atura Power will not comment on the IESO regarding their process for determining the types of and/or alternatives to energy projects required to meet the province's energy demands in the future.</p> <p>You may wish to review the IESO's latest Request for Proposal (RFP) referred to as the Long-Term 2 (LT2) RFP process, which includes the IESO's recent call for renewable energy production to support Ontario's electricity sector:  <a href="https://www.ieso.ca/Sector-Participants/Resource-Acquisition-and-Contracts/Long-Term-2-RFP">https://www.ieso.ca/Sector-Participants/Resource-Acquisition-and-Contracts/Long-Term-2-RFP</a>.</p>
2023-12-21	29	Appendix B3a of draft Screening Report		IESO Procurement Process: Did Atura Power lobby for the plant?	Atura Power responded to the IESO's call for efficiency upgrades under the E-LT1 process.
2023-12-21	30	Appendix B3a of draft Screening Report		Would you change the answer to point out that renewable energy can be used to reduce the demand for electricity from gas generation?	The current messaging in Appendix B3a of the draft Screening Report noting the role of gas in Ontario energy supply is accurate and reflects Atura Power's perspective on this topic.
2023-12-21	33	Appendix B3a of draft Screening Report		When PEC was first built it was seen as a temporary solution until renewables matured. While some people oppose off-shore wind because they don't like the interrupted view of the natural environment, it does not produce emissions and renewable energy has definitely matured. Would you provide a better response to the questions asking why renewable energy is not being used?	See response to comment #30.
2023-12-14	12	Section 3.4 of draft Screening Report	Municipal Support	Be inconsistent with municipal land use policies, plans and zoning bylaws? In view of the fact that Toronto City Council voted against the PEC expansion, would you add a note to indicate this fact in the answer to this item?	A municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The IESO has already awarded a contract for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023, including contracts for natural gas electricity generation facility upgrades. As such, text in this section remains accurate as is.
2023-12-19	5	Appendix B3a of draft Screening Report	Operations	Operating Capacity - would you add to your response a clarification on the frequency of operation - does your response mean that you operate every day but just not at 100% capacity? That the plant is "on" every day but the number of hours that it produces electricity varies? I find this response unclear.	PEC operates as dictated by the IESO to meet the electricity demands of Torontonians and Ontarians, based on the supply and demand balance. PECs operations fluctuate season by season and year to year.

Date Submitted	Comment #	Relevant Section of draft Screening Report	Topic	Comment	Atura Power's Response
2023-12-19	6	Appendix B3a of draft Screening Report		There is a record from the Ontario Energy Board that indicates that PEC is licensed to operate until 2024. There is reference in the project materials that PEC is contracted to operate until 2029 and plans to extend this until 2034. What licenses and approvals does PEC need to operate to 2029 and 2034? Does 'contracted to operate' mean that PEC has a contract with a customer to produce electricity?	PEC is contracted to operate until April 2034.
2023-12-22	50	N/A		Does Atura recognise that the public perception of and concerns about PEC have changed since it moved from being a peaker plant to a baseload plant?	PEC is a peaker plant and not a baseload plant. It can be operated as needed, during periods of peak demand or when intermittent energy sources like wind and solar are not available or cannot meet the electricity demands of Torontonians and the province.
2023-12-14	14	Appendix B3a of draft Screening Report	Out of Scope	If IESO requests PEC to operate 24 hours per day, what would the total of various gases and particulates be over an entire year? Understanding that with the shut down of Ontario's nuclear plants that the current plan is to use gas powered plants to make up much of the difference.	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.
2023-12-21	31	N/A		What is a P2 plan and why doesn't PEC have one? It sounds like it has to do with pollution reduction.	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.
2023-12-22	49	N/A		Will Atura conduct an Air Quality Test in the neighbourhoods surrounding PEC before and after project completion? Antidotally I heard that a previous study was reviewed as being conducted in the fall rather than in the summer when pollution levels are higher and that monitoring stations were too far away from the neighbourhoods surrounding PEC.	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.
2023-12-22	58	N/A		Have any commitments been made from previous EAs?	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.
2024-02-11	61	N/A		I have some additional concerns based on my readings on dispersion modelling. Do you have any information which addresses the following:  Dispersion modelling does not identify the chemical reactions or transformations that may result when the pollutants released from the stacks mix with elements already in the atmosphere	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.
2024-02-11	62	N/A		If the metrological data input to the model does not heavily favour inversion layers then the results will not show what happens when there is an inversion. Did the modelling	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.



Date Submitted	Comment #	Relevant Section of draft Screening Report	Topic	Comment	Atura Power's Response
				conducted include a scenario where there is an extended inversion event?	
2024-02-11	63	N/A		The terrain down-wind of the stacks influences dispersion - did the modelling done for PEC take into account the slope to the north rising from the lake?	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.
2024-02-11	64	N/A		I gather that the impacts on tall buildings - of which there are a growing number in the neighbourhood - are not accurately portrayed in the results	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.
2024-02-11	65	N/A		Third party review of modelling results increases confidence in results	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.
2024-02-11	66	N/A		Given that the modelling done for PEC is now more than 20 years old, would Atura consider re-running the modelling with more recent metrological data? Since the study was done we have gone from "heat waves" and introduced the new term "heat domes".	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.
2024-02-28	68	N/A		The Goreway Power Station Environmental Review report included a forecast of the lifetime emissions of the plant. Is there some reason that the Goreway ER was able to calculate lifetime emissions and PEC does not?	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. Atura Power cannot comment on a project belonging to another proponent.
2024-02-28	69	N/A		The Goreway Power Station ER flags GHG emissions as one of the reasons for raising the review to an ER. The St. Clair Energy Station ER flags some emissions being close to the limit for raising the review to an ER. Given that PEC has been flagged as having the highest GHG emissions in Toronto (with an expectation that they will increase even more) and, from media and other reports from PEC's 2003 ER, that local NOx and particulate matter were high - is there some reason Atura did not upgrade the PEC EA to an Environmental Review?	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. Atura Power cannot comment on a project belonging to another proponent.
2024-03-07	72	N/A		I appreciate that Atura is not obliged to send the full Air Dispersion Modelling study. Would you answer these questions: - Was "Shoreline fumigation" ruled out as a possibility?	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.
2024-03-07	73	N/A		- Were there any additional components used in the AERMON model, other than standard components (e.g. BPIP PRIME)?	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.
2024-03-07	74	N/A		- Was "Calms Processing" invoked during the execution of the model?	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.
2024-03-07	75	N/A		- What station's ground and atmospheric observations were used in the execution of the model?	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.



Date Submitted	Comment #	Relevant Section of draft Screening Report	Topic	Comment	Atura Power's Response
2024-03-07	76	N/A		- What years were the ground and atmospheric observations from?	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.
2024-03-07	77	N/A		- What are the characteristics of the 'receptors' used in the model?	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.
2024-03-07	78	N/A		- The "Procedure for Preparing an Emissions Summary and Dispersion Modelling" indicates that it is to be updated annually. Is there some reason the Executive Summary that Atura provided references an EDSM from December 31, 2020 rather than December 31, 2023?	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.
2024-03-07	79	N/A		-What is the reason that the Executive Summary only lists NOx in the Emissions Summary Table and not CO (indicated in the ECA 3557-BUJKWR)?	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.
2024-03-07	80	N/A		- Media reports from the 2003 ER suggested that PM10 and PM2.5 were also concerns - what did the modelling show for them and in comparison to the current air shed levels?	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.
2024-03-07	81	N/A		- What area did the modelling cover and how was the local terrain described?	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.
2024-03-07	82	N/A		- The "Procedure for Preparing an Emissions Summary and Dispersion Modelling" indicates "The assessment of all contaminants that are discharged from the facility regardless of whether or not a ministry POI Limit is available." Given that PEC is the largest source of GHG in Toronto, why isn't CO2e listed in the table?	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.
2023-12-15	25	Section 1.1 of draft Screening Report		Project Documentation, Resources and Materials	Would you provide me with a copy of the SENES Consultants Limited (2003). Environmental Review Report for the Portlands Energy Centre. Prepared for TransCanada Energy Limited. Prepared for TransCanada Energy and Ontario Power Generation.
2023-12-15	26	N/A		"Other documents. These documents are no longer available at the indicated location - would you provide me with a copy of them: <a href="http://www.portlandsenergycentre.com/docs/nov2003/PEC_Air_Impact_Assessment-Final.pdf">http://www.portlandsenergycentre.com/docs/nov2003/PEC_Air_Impact_Assessment-Final.pdf</a> and <a href="http://www.portlandsenergycentre.com/docs/nov2003/PEC_Human_Health_Risk-Final.pdf">http://www.portlandsenergycentre.com/docs/nov2003/PEC_Human_Health_Risk-Final.pdf</a> "	The documents you reference relate to the 2003 Environmental Review Report by SENES. Please see response to #25 above.
2023-12-21	34	Appendix B3b of draft		Gwh supplied to the IESO grid - this link leads to a page that requires a login id of a market participant. Would you provide the data requested on pg 129 - Gwh supplied to the IESO controlled grid for each year from 2017 to 2022?	The following link: <a href="https://ieso.ca/en/Power-Data/Data-Directory">https://ieso.ca/en/Power-Data/Data-Directory</a> indicates that all reports found through the IESO's public reports website can be accessed using the tabs on that webpage.

Date Submitted	Comment #	Relevant Section of draft Screening Report	Topic	Comment	Atura Power's Response
		Screening Report			
2023-12-22	54	Section 1.1 of draft Screening Report		Would you send me copies of previous Screening reports done for PEC. I understand that Atura does not have a copy of the original EA - is it available from OPG or TransCanada?	See response to comment #25.
2024-03-04	70	N/A		Would you also send me the - Emissions Summary - Guideline A-5 calculations based on proposed facility and equipment parameters	The ESDM and A5 guideline calculations are currently being assessed by the MECP as part of the ECA amendment referenced in Section 2 of the draft Screening Report. The Executive Summary of the ESDM can be made available once approved by the MECP.
2023-12-15	21	Section 4.8 of draft Screening Report	Project Notification	A number of people that I know that attended the initial public meeting did not receive notice that the draft Screening report was available. What distribution list was used to send out the notification that the draft Screening report was available?	Notice that the draft PEC Screening Report is available was shared with key agencies and organizations, Indigenous communities and interested members of the public. Interested members of the public included individuals who requested to be added to the project contact list as well as any member of the public who contacted the project email inbox ( <a href="mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com">portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com</a> ) during the Environmental Screening Process. The draft PEC Screening Report was also made available on the project webpage.
2023-12-22	51	Section 4.2 of draft Screening Report		Was the Notice of Commencement mailed to households in the immediate vicinity of PEC? If so, what streets or neighbourhoods?	The Notice of Commencement was distributed according to the requirements set out in the Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects. As noted in Section 4.2 of the draft PEC Screening Report, the Notice was shared with adjacent property owners/tenants, provincial and federal ministries, regional and municipal contacts, a variety of other agencies/utilities, and several Indigenous communities.
2023-12-22	56	Section 4.1 of draft Screening Report		Which libraries, municipal offices or recreation centres are you planning on making the Screening report available in?	Based on the current project contact list, Atura Power will be sharing the Notice of Completion with the same project contacts who received the Notice of Commencement in September 2023 (see Section 4.2 of the draft PEC Screening Report), as well as project contacts who received the draft Screening Report in early December 2023. Additionally, it will be advertised in the same publications used to share the Notice of Commencement in September 2023, including the Toronto Sun, Toronto Star, and Beach Metro newspapers. Anyone who has contacted the project team via the project email ( <a href="mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com">portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com</a> ) will also receive a copy of the Notice of Completion. Finally, a copy of the Notice of Completion will also be posted on the project webpage.



Date Submitted	Comment #	Relevant Section of draft Screening Report	Topic	Comment	Atura Power's Response
2023-12-22	57	Section 4.9 of draft Screening Report		What residents, businesses and local interest groups are you planning on sending the EA Completion notice to?	See response to comment #56.
2023-12-21	41	Appendix B5b of draft Screening Report	Review of draft Screening Report	Indicates: "Please include in the report a list of all subsequent permits or approvals that may be required for the implementation of the project" Why is this missing from the draft Screening report?	This information is available in Section 2: Permits and Approvals of the draft Screening Report.
2023-12-22	52	Section 4.3 and 4.5 of the draft Screening Report		Where is the summary of public and agency concerns or issues in the Screening report?	This information is available in Section 4.3: Public Engagement and Section 4.5: Agency Engagement of the draft Screening Report.
2023-12-13	10	Section 3.4 of draft Screening Report	Screening Criteria	What detailed criteria were used to assess each of these items?	Per the Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects, the project was assessed against each Screening Criteria as it relates to the potential for the efficiency upgrades to cause negative effects.
2023-12-14	11	Section 3.4 of draft Screening Report		It seems that many of the answers in this section reflect a 'more of the same' response -which of the previous Screening reports answered these questions fully?	See response to comment #10.
2023-12-14	15	Section 3 of the draft Screening Report		The draft Screening report seems to indicate that only the expansion project is being considered against the MECP's Areas of Interest and Screening criteria. Do you have agreement from MECP that it is only the project to be considered or whether the full PEC facility (after the expansion) needs to be considered?	Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The advanced materials allow a higher power output per gigajoule (GJ) of fuel consumed.  Please also see response to comment #9.
2023-12-14	18	Section 3.4 of draft Screening Report		Have negative effects on the economic base of a municipality or community? Since business and residents may decide not to move into a neighbourhood that has Toronto's largest source of GHG and nitrous oxides in it, would you add a note to this effect in the answer?	The Environmental Screening Process determined that all Screening Criteria scored 'No' as a result of the PEC Upgrades project, and without any mitigation, all regulatory requirements will be met. Further, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades provided a letter stating that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels."

Date Submitted	Comment #	Relevant Section of draft Screening Report	Topic	Comment	Atura Power's Response
					Given the facility will continue to operate within all environmental permitting requirements, text in this section remains accurate as is.
2023-12-22	46	Section 3 of the draft Screening Report		Did Atura identify any environmental effect or issue in the screening process that will be addressed under another environmental approval (e.g., an approval under the Environmental Protection Act)?	See response to comment #41.
2023-12-22	48	Section 3 of the draft Screening Report		Did Atura identify any environment effects from the project that require mitigation or managing?	As noted in Section 3.5 of the draft Screening Report, "the Screening identified that, without any mitigation, all regulatory requirements will be met, and no other impact management commitments will be required. Atura Power will continue to manage air emissions from PEC through ongoing continuous emissions monitoring per the terms and conditions of the facility's ECA."
2023-12-14	19	Section 3.4 of draft Screening Report	Other	Cause public concerns related to public health and safety? Would you add a note to the answer to this item to indicate that various individuals, groups and municipal representatives and offices have expressed concern relating to public health? Would you also add a note that concerns have been expressed since the inception of PEC? Would you also add a note to indicate that cumulative air pollution from all sources in the area is a concern? Would you add a note to indicate that area monitoring stations for pollution are located far from the PEC site? Would you add a note to indicate that a study on the high incidence of respiratory illness in the East End of Toronto was completed in the mid-2000s and no follow-up study has been completed since.	See response to comment #35 above. The remainder of the questions provided are beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.
2023-12-15	24	Section 5 of draft Screening Report		While illness from pollution is difficult to attribute to a single facility, there are numerous studies identified by Toronto Public Health which link illness to pollution  > I would suggest that one of the disadvantages that should be identified is that of increased GHG and NO that will come as a result of the requests from the IESO to operate more hours as a result of the nuclear power plants being shut down. > I would suggest that one of the disadvantages that should be identified is the potential for increased respiratory illness from residents as a result of increased pollution - especially the young whose lungs are still developing and the very old.	The assessment process requires Atura Power to undertake an Environmental Screening Process to identify whether any potential environmental effects of the project would occur. As such, the scope of this assessment is limited to understanding and identifying any effects of the proposed efficiency upgrades.  As noted in Section 3.4 of the draft Screening Report, review of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades - which is limited to replacing parts of the existing turbines with more efficient parts - determined that the response to all questions is "No", indicating that there are no potential negative environmental



Date Submitted	Comment #	Relevant Section of draft Screening Report	Topic	Comment	Atura Power's Response
				<p>&gt; I would suggest that one of the disadvantages that should be identified is the potential for increased morbidity and mortality of the residents (as well as the difficulties that will introduce to their lives and the lives of their families) as a result of increased pollution</p> <p>&gt; I would suggest that one of the disadvantages that should be identified is lost time from work for residents and the impact to employers from illness due to increased pollution</p> <p>&gt; I would suggest that one of the disadvantages that should be identified is the increased in health care costs from illness due to pollution</p> <p>&gt; I would suggest that conservation, wind and solar power are more cost effective solutions but are not currently available to expand the electrical supply</p> <p>&gt; I would suggest that the increased GHG emissions expected from PEC will add to Canada's GHG emissions inventory which is counter to public policy of reducing emissions</p> <p>&gt; I would suggest that businesses looking to locate in a region that has clean power will be dissuaded from locating in a region that uses burned methane to create electricity</p>	<p>effects resulting from the activities associated with the efficiency upgrades.</p> <p>Additionally, please see response to #13.</p>
2023-12-21	32	N/A		Does PEC's draft Screening report adhere to the guidance from the Ontario Energy Board - ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINES FOR THE LOCATION, CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF HYDROCARBON PIPELINES AND FACILITIES IN ONTARIO?	Ontario Regulation 50/24 (previously Ontario Regulation 116/01) defines the type of environmental assessment (EA) to be undertaken under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act (the Act). Ontario Regulation 50/24 notes that any applicable facility undergoing a change that would increase the name plate capacity of the facility by five megawatts or more must undergo an Environmental Screening Process. Atura Power has undertaken the Environmental Screening Process according to the guidance in the Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects.
2024-03-04	71	N/A		Any news on when you will be able to respond to my other requests and when the final Screening report will be out?	Atura Power is responding to your enquiries as quickly as possible and anticipate releasing the final Screening Report in the coming weeks.

We hope that the responses above provide clarification regarding the comments and questions raised about the draft Screening Report and associated Environmental Screening Process. This letter will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.

Sincerely,

Darius Sokal  
Sr. Communications & Stakeholder Relations Advisor  
Atura Power

Note: Due to the length of this document, only the title page is included.

# Environmental Review Report for the Portlands Energy Centre



**Report Prepared By**



***SENES Consultants Limited***

121 Granton Drive, Unit 12  
Richmond Hill, Ontario  
L4B 3N4

**In Association With**



**November 2003**



**From:** TERRE <terrecoalition@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Friday, January 5, 2024 10:35 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** nathaniel.erskine-smith@parl.gc.ca <nathaniel.erskine-smith@parl.gc.ca>;  
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sylvia.jones@ontario.ca <sylvia.jones@ontario.ca>; julie.dabrusin@parl.gc.ca  
<julie.dabrusin@parl.gc.ca>; tabunsp-co@ndp.on.ca <tabunsp-co@ndp.on.ca>

**Subject:** Input to Atura Power's Draft Screening Report for proposed 50 megawatt expansion of the Portlands Energy Centre

Attached is our input to Atura Power's Draft Screening Report for the proposed 50 megawatt expansion of the Portlands Energy Centre.

Sincerely,

Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE)

[350.org](https://www.350.org) Toronto

Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment - Ontario Regional Committee

Citizens Climate Lobby - Toronto East Chapter

Citizens Climate Lobby - Toronto Yonge Street Chapter

Climate Action for Lifelong Learners

Climate Emergency Unit

Climate Fast

For Our Grandchildren

For Our Kids - Toronto

Grandmothers Act to Save the Planet (GASP)

Green 13

Ontario Clean Air Alliance

Ontario Climate Emergency Campaign

Parkdale-High Park 4 Climate Action

Seniors for Climate Action Now (SCAN)

South Riverdale Community Health

Toronto East End Climate Collective (TEECC)



January 5, 2024

By email: portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com

Mr. Darius Sokal  
Atura Power Senior Communications Advisor

**Re: Atura Power's Draft Screening Report for proposed 50 megawatt expansion of the Portlands Energy Centre**

Dear Mr. Sokal,

The proposed expansion of the Portlands Energy Center (PEC) output capacity by 50 megawatts is an urgent and important issue for the Toronto East end community. This expansion raises many questions not addressed in the Draft Screening Report. These questions need to be addressed as the proposed expansion has political implications, immediate and ongoing harmful health impacts for Toronto East end residents, as well as environmental and fiscal repercussions for all Torontonians and Ontarians at large.

Atura Power's community engagement process and Draft Screening Report (DSR) have failed to address the following issues:

The DSR fails to address why this expansion should be approved despite the explicit opposition of Toronto City Council.

In 2023 Toronto City Council passed two separate resolutions opposing Atura Power's plans to increase PEC's output capacity. This is directly counter to a 2022 directive by Energy Minister Todd Smith to the Independent Electricity Systems Operator (IESO) that municipal approval is required for Ontario's proposed energy procurement of 4,000 megawatts. As the PEC expansion is part of this procurement effort, it requires the support of Toronto City Council to proceed. The DSR fails to indicate why this expansion should proceed without the required support of Toronto City Council.

The DSR fails to address the climate and health impacts of the proposed expansion and increased operation.

When PEC was first built it was communicated to the City of Toronto that it was a 'peaker plant', operating only during peak hours to top up base-load supply; however,



recent studies found that the plant was operating up to 21 hours a day<sup>1</sup>. Since 2018, emissions from PEC have increased 550 percent with further announced plans to increase output and emissions by 700 percent by 2043<sup>2</sup>. It is clear that PEC is no longer intended to operate exclusively during peak hours, and it has instead become a base-load power plant without community consultation or the stated support of the City of Toronto.

PEC is the largest emitter of greenhouse gasses and nitrous oxides in Toronto. In addition to worsening the climate crisis, these pollutants have immediate health impacts on local residents, hindering lung development in children, and contributing to respiratory illness that can lead to hospitalization and death. Many studies have shown increased asthma rates in areas with persistent air pollution<sup>3</sup>.

By excluding the data on PEC's current greenhouse gas emissions, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, particulate matter (PM 2.5), and sulphur dioxide, and the increases in these emissions that the proposed expansion will have, the DSR fails to address local health and ongoing climate impacts of the proposed expansion.

#### The DSR fails to provide the financial cost of the proposed expansion.

The cost of living for all Torontonians is increasing, which amplifies the economic impact of the proposed upgrade as a pressing issue. As seen in the correspondence from your community outreach, Atura Power is unwilling to provide any information about the cost of the upgrade despite receiving many questions from the community about this matter. Since Atura Power is a wholly owned subsidiary of the crown corporation Ontario Power Generation, these costs should be made public, as the operational costs of PEC are ultimately borne by the taxpayer. There can be no meaningful discussion about the economic impact of the upgrade without this information, which Atura Power has declined to provide in the DSR.

#### The DSR fails to indicate alternatives to the proposed expansion.

We are in a global climate crisis. Despite available alternatives to meet Ontario's power needs, Atura Power's DSR fails to indicate carbon-neutral alternatives to its proposed expansion. Wind, solar and storage are among the most affordable on the market.

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<sup>1</sup>[https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/ontario-gas-plants-were-supposed-to-run-only-during-peak-periods-instead-they-re-running/article\\_8ba52f13-bd5a-541a-b80e-9f497ff498be.html](https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/ontario-gas-plants-were-supposed-to-run-only-during-peak-periods-instead-they-re-running/article_8ba52f13-bd5a-541a-b80e-9f497ff498be.html)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.cleanairalliance.org/campaigns/gas-how-2/>

<sup>3</sup><https://globalnews.ca/news/2078460/poorer-more-polluted-toronto-neighbourhoods-have-higher-childhood-asthma-rates-study/>



Additionally, Ontario has the ability to import surplus hydro-electricity from Quebec<sup>4</sup>. Atura Power's DSR fails to indicate alternatives to their proposal, and in doing so fails to justify the need for its proposed expansion.

In light of the above, it is clear that Atura Power's public consultation process and subsequent DSR has failed to provide key information about their proposal which has direct and immediate impacts on the community. The DSR fails to include any socio-economic impact or environmental disadvantages the proposed upgrades will have on the community. There is no evidence provided in the DSR to indicate that the proposed expansion would be a benefit to the local community, or that the proposed expansion would not pose a danger to the climate or public health. We are therefore demanding an immediate halt to the proposed expansion and that the DSR be revised to include:

1. An explanation why Atura believes PEC should be expanded without explicit support from Toronto City Council.
2. The expected closure date of PEC.
3. The projected power generation to be ordered by the IESO from 2024 through to PEC's expected closure.
4. The plans for PEC's replacement after its expected closure.
5. The financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.
6. A full environmental assessment that:
  - Examines the smog, climate, and health impacts of the PEC at present and until its expected closure.
  - Evaluates the cost and benefits of cleaner alternatives (e.g. energy efficiency, demand management, and renewables).

Sincerely,

Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE)

350.org Toronto

Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment - Ontario Regional Committee

Citizens Climate Lobby - Toronto East Chapter

Citizens Climate Lobby - Toronto Yonge Street Chapter

Climate Action for Lifelong Learners

Climate Emergency Unit

Climate Fast

For Our Grandchildren

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<sup>4</sup><https://news.ontario.ca/en/release/1003444/the-governments-of-ontario-and-quebec-support-new-electricity-trade-agreement>



For Our Kids - Toronto  
Grandmothers Act to Save the Planet (GASP)  
Green 13  
Ontario Clean Air Alliance  
Ontario Climate Emergency Campaign  
Parkdale-High Park 4 Climate Action  
Seniors for Climate Action Now (SCAN)  
South Riverdale Community Health  
Toronto East End Climate Collective (TEECC)

CC:

Beaches East York MP Nathaniel Erskine-Smith  
Beaches-East York MPP Mary-Margaret McMahon  
City of Toronto - Beaches East York Councillor Brad Bradford  
City of Toronto - Chairs of Transform T.O. Climate Advisory Group - Lyn Adamson & Maggie Chang  
City of Toronto - Mayor Olivia Chow  
City of Toronto - Toronto Danforth Councillor Paula Fletcher  
City of Toronto - Toronto Public Health - Chief Medical Officer - Dr. Eileen de Villa  
Haudenosaunee Development Institute  
IESO - President and CEO - Lesley Gallinger  
Metis Nation of Ontario  
Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation  
Province of Ontario - Energy Minister Todd Smith  
Province of Ontario - Environment, Conservation and Parks Minister Andrea Khanjin  
Province of Ontario - Health Minister Sylvia Jones  
Toronto Danforth MP Julie Dabrusin  
Toronto Danforth MPP Peter Tabuns

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 26, 2024 2:15 PM  
**To:** TERRE <terrecoalition@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Input to Atura Power's Draft Screening Report for proposed 50 megawatt expansion of the Portlands Energy Centre

Good afternoon.

Thank you for your email and attached letter regarding the draft Screening Report for Atura Power's proposed Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades project received on Jan. 5, 2024.

We appreciate you taking the time to review our draft report and provide responses to your questions and comments in the attached PDF.

Thank you for your keen interest in our proposed efficiency upgrades, and please direct additional questions to the project email address at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Sincerely,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit 200, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



Jan. 26, 2024

Dear Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy,

**Re: Atura Power's Draft Screening Report for the proposed efficiency upgrades of the Portlands Energy Centre**

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Thank you for your recent letter on Jan. 5, 2024, sharing your comments about our proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project and draft Screening Report released for review on Dec. 6, 2023. Your comments are noted and part of the project record.

Before we respond to your individual comments, we would like to make an important clarification: Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility and the parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced during regular maintenance but, due to improved technology, will be more efficient.

In response to each of the comments raised in your letter, we offer the following responses below:

TERRE Comment (Page #)	TERRE Comment	Atura Power's Response
#1 (p1)	<p><b>The Draft Screening Report (DSR) fails to address why this expansion should be approved despite the explicit opposition of Toronto City Council</b></p> <p>In 2023 Toronto City Council passed two separate resolutions opposing Atura Power's plans to increase PEC's output capacity. This is directly counter to a 2022 directive by Energy Minister Todd Smith to the Independent Electricity Systems Operator (IESO) that municipal approval is required for Ontario's proposed energy procurement of 4,000 megawatts. As the PEC expansion is part of this procurement effort, it requires the support of Toronto City Council to proceed. The DSR fails to indicate why this expansion should proceed without the required support of Toronto City Council.</p>	<p>A municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The Minister of Energy's quote noting the requirement for a municipal support resolution refers to the Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO's) Long-Term (LT1) Request for Proposals (RFP) process which is not related to the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The PEC Efficiency Upgrades project was part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023 and for which the IESO awarded a contract to PEC.</p>
#2 (p1,p2)	<p><b>The DSR fails to address the climate and health impacts of the proposed expansion and increased operation.</b></p> <p>When PEC was first built it was communicated to the City of Toronto that it was a 'peaker plant', operating only during peak hours to top up base-load supply; however, recent studies found that the plant was operating up to 21 hours a day. Since 2018, emissions from PEC have increased 550 percent with further announced plans to increase output and emissions by 700 percent by 2043. It is clear that PEC is no longer intended to operate exclusively during peak hours, and it has instead become a base-load power plant without community consultation or the stated support of the City of Toronto.</p>	<p>The purpose of the draft Screening Report is to assess the effects of the proposed <i>efficiency upgrades</i> (see Section 1.4: Project Description of the draft Screening Report). As such, this comment is beyond the scope of the draft Screening Report and associated Environmental Screening Process.</p>
#3 (p2)	<p>PEC is the largest emitter of greenhouse gasses and nitrous oxides in Toronto. In addition to worsening the climate crisis, these pollutants have immediate health impacts on local residents, hindering lung development in children, and contributing to respiratory illness that can lead to hospitalization and death. Many studies have shown increased asthma rates in areas with persistent air pollution.</p>	<p>For a detailed response to public comments on Emissions of Greenhouse Gases please refer to the sub-category provided in Appendix B3a.</p> <p>Similarly, details of PEC's Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) (Air/Noise) are provided in Appendix B3a in the response to public comments under the air quality sub-category. The response can be expanded by noting that air standards under O. Reg. 419/05 are set by the MECP's Standards Development Branch to protect against health and environmental effects. Of the 5,208 air contaminant standards, guidelines and screening levels which the MECP currently requires to be assessed for contaminants released to the air, 5,099 are health based.</p>



TERRE Comment (Page #)	TERRE Comment	Atura Power's Response
#4 (p2)	<p>By excluding the data on PEC's current greenhouse gas emissions, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, particulate matter (PM 2.5), and sulphur dioxide, and the increases in these emissions that the proposed expansion will have, the DSR fails to address local health and ongoing climate impacts of the proposed expansion.</p>	<p>As per Section 3.2 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment was deemed to be not required and has not been undertaken for the project.</p> <p>In recent correspondence to the project team, it was confirmed that "MECP's technical staff have reviewed Table 3-1 and Section 3.4.3 of the draft environmental screening report (ESR) for the proposed upgrades at the Portland's Energy Centre. The proposed upgrades to the turbine generator will maintain air emissions levels at or below site permit levels. Based on the rational[e] provided, the ministry concurs that an air quality impact assessment is not needed for this undertaking". This instruction from the MECP will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.</p>
#5 (p2)	<p><b>The DSR fails to provide the financial cost of the proposed expansion.</b></p> <p>The cost of living for all Torontonians is increasing, which amplifies the economic impact of the proposed upgrade as a pressing issue. As seen in the correspondence from your community outreach, Atura Power is unwilling to provide any information about the cost of the upgrade despite receiving many questions from the community about this matter. Since Atura Power is a wholly owned subsidiary of the crown corporation Ontario Power Generation, these costs should be made public, as the operational costs of PEC are ultimately borne by the taxpayer. There can be no meaningful discussion about the economic impact of the upgrade without this information, which Atura Power has declined to provide in the DSR.</p>	<p>At this time, Atura Power is unable to share commercially sensitive financial details related to its efficiency upgrades.</p> <p>Additionally, the IESO sets the price of electricity in Ontario. Therefore, please direct your question regarding electricity costs for consumers to the IESO here: <a href="https://www.ieso.ca/en/Corporate-IESO/Contact">https://www.ieso.ca/en/Corporate-IESO/Contact</a>.</p>

TERRE Comment (Page #)	TERRE Comment	Atura Power's Response
#6 (p2, p3)	<p><b>The DSR fails to indicate alternatives to the proposed expansion.</b></p> <p>We are in a global climate crisis. Despite available alternatives to meet Ontario's power needs, Atura Power's DSR fails to indicate carbon-neutral alternatives to its proposed expansion. Wind, solar and storage are among the most affordable on the market. Additionally, Ontario has the ability to import surplus hydro-electricity from Quebec. Atura Power's DSR fails to indicate alternatives to their proposal, and in doing so fails to justify the need for its proposed expansion.</p>	<p>The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase electricity production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contract awarded by the IESO as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term Request for Proposal (E-LT1-RFP), in May 2023.</p>
#7 (p3)	<p>In light of the above, it is clear that Atura Power's public consultation process and subsequent DSR has failed to provide key information about their proposal which has direct and immediate impacts on the community. The DSR fails to include any socio-economic impact or environmental disadvantages the proposed upgrades will have on the community. There is no evidence provided in the DSR to indicate that the proposed expansion would be a benefit to the local community, or that the proposed expansion would not pose a danger to the climate or public health. We are therefore demanding an immediate halt to the proposed expansion and that the DSR be revised to include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. An explanation why Atura believes PEC should be expanded without explicit support from Toronto City Council.</li> </ol>	<p>See Response #1 above.</p>
#8 (p3)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. The expected closure date of PEC.</li> </ol>	<p>PEC is contracted to operate until April 2034. As Atura Power responds to Ontario energy needs as directed by the IESO, plans beyond PEC's contract period are not certain at this time.</p>
#9 (p3)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. The projected power generation to be ordered by the IESO from 2024 through to PEC's expected closure.</li> </ol>	<p>PEC operations are dictated by the IESO based on the province's supply and demand balance. The plant will continue to operate as directed by the IESO.</p>
#10 (p3)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. The plans for PEC's replacement after its expected closure.</li> </ol>	<p>See response #8 above.</p>
#11 (p3)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. The financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.</li> </ol>	<p>See response #5 above.</p> <p>Atura Power does not dictate the price that customers pay for electricity, nor do we set government policies. Our business is to safely, reliably, and affordably generate electricity to meet the needs of Ontarians.</p>
#12 (p3)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. A full environmental assessment that:</li> </ol>	<p>See response to comment #3, #4 and #6 above.</p>

TERRE Comment (Page #)	TERRE Comment	Atura Power's Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Examines the smog, climate, and health impacts of the PEC at present and until its expected closure.</li> <li>- Evaluates the cost and benefits of cleaner alternatives (e.g. energy efficiency, demand management, and renewables).</li> </ul>	



We hope that the responses above provide clarification regarding the comments raised about the draft Screening Report and associated Environmental Screening Process. The responses to these comments will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.

Should you require further clarification on project details, please contact us through our project email address at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Thank you,

Darius Sokal  
Senior Communications Advisor  
Atura Power



**From:** TERRE <terrecoalition@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 1:00 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** Mayor\_Chow@toronto.ca <Mayor\_Chow@toronto.ca>; councillor\_fletcher@toronto.ca <councillor\_fletcher@toronto.ca>; publichealth@toronto.ca <publichealth@toronto.ca>; transform@toronto.ca <transform@toronto.ca>; tabunsp-co@ndp.on.ca <tabunsp-co@ndp.on.ca>; mmcmahon.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org <mmcmahon.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org>; ministerenergy@ontario.ca <ministerenergy@ontario.ca>; sylvia.jones@ontario.ca <sylvia.jones@ontario.ca>; minister.mecp@ontario.ca <minister.mecp@ontario.ca>; julie.dabrusin@parl.gc.ca <julie.dabrusin@parl.gc.ca>; nathaniel.erskine-smith@parl.gc.ca <nathaniel.erskine-smith@parl.gc.ca>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
customer.relations@ieso.ca <customer.relations@ieso.ca>; tammy.wong@opg.com <tammy.wong@opg.com>

**Subject:** TERRE Statement on Atura DSR Response

Attached please find TERRE's Statement on Atura's Draft Screening Report Response.

Sincerely,

Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE)



February 23, 2024

By email: portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com

Mr. Darius Sokal  
Atura Power Senior Communications Advisor

**Re: Atura Power's Community Engagement Process**

Dear Mr. Sokal,

Atura Power's community engagement and environmental screening process for its 50 MW expansion of the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) has neglected to address the numerous concerns raised by residents who are part of Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE). Atura's responses (received January 26, 2024) to the questions and concerns raised by TERRE and 17 other groups (representing 1,000s of Ontario residents) in our January 5th, 2024 submission on the PEC Draft Screening Report are inadequate, not forthcoming, and flawed in the following ways:

- Counter to a letter from Energy Minister Todd Smith in December of 2022 indicating explicit directives to the Independent Electricity Systems Operator (IESO) requiring municipal approval for new power procurements, Atura Power has stated that this procurement of 50 MW does not require municipal support as it falls under "Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP [Requests For Proposals]", which they claim the Minister was not referring to. **TERRE found no subsequent communication which absolves Atura from complying with the Minister's directive to obtain municipal support. Atura has provided no evidence which justifies disregarding the Minister's statement.**
- In response to questions about the financial cost of the expansion, Atura Power has not shared any information, stating they are "unable to share commercially sensitive financial details" about the expansion. **TERRE feels that this information must be provided in order to assess the socio-economic impacts of the expansion. Atura Power is a crown corporation and therefore taxpayers are entitled to this information.**
- In response to questions about greenhouse gas, nitrogen oxides, and other harmful emissions from the PEC, Atura Power has indicated that questions about emissions are "beyond the scope of the draft screening report and associated Environmental Screening Process." **TERRE feels that if the environmental screening process does not take into account greenhouse gas and other harmful emissions related to the expansion then the screening process is not able to properly assess the project's health and environmental risks.**



Due to Atura Power's disregard for the required municipal approval for the project, lack of transparency surrounding the project costs, and lack of information surrounding environmental impacts, TERRE finds the answers provided by Atura Power to our DSR submission to be unsatisfactory. Increasing Ontario's gas power generation capacity by expanding the capacity of the Portlands Energy Centre will inflame the current climate crisis, is financially irresponsible, and has negative impacts on community health.

Sincerely,

Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy

Cc.

Beaches East York MP Nathaniel Erskine-Smith

Beaches-East York MPP Mary-Margaret McMahon

City of Toronto - Beaches East York Councillor Brad Bradford

City of Toronto - Chairs of Transform T.O. Climate Advisory Group - Lyn Adamson & Maggie Chang

City of Toronto - Mayor Olivia Chow

City of Toronto - Toronto Danforth Councillor Paula Fletcher

City of Toronto - Toronto Public Health - Chief Medical Officer - Dr. Eileen de Villa  
Haudenosaunee Development Institute

IESO - President and CEO - Lesley Gallinger

Metis Nation of Ontario

Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation

Province of Ontario - Energy Minister Todd Smith

Province of Ontario - Environment, Conservation and Parks Minister Andrea Khanjin

Province of Ontario - Health Minister Sylvia Jones

Toronto Danforth MP Julie Dabrusin

Toronto Danforth MPP Peter Tabuns

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 29, 2024 6:07 AM

**To:** TERRE <terrecoalition@gmail.com>

**Cc:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: TERRE Statement on Atura DSR Response

Good morning.

Thank you for your responses received via email on Feb. 23, 2024. Please find our replies in the attached PDF which, among other points, clarifies that we are proposing turbine upgrades during a scheduled maintenance period at PEC and not an expansion of the facility as you have inaccurately stated more than once despite our clarifications. Note that this email and responses to these comments will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.

Please contact us through our project email address at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com) with any further questions or comments.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications & Stakeholder Relations Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit 200, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

Feb. 29, 2024

Dear Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE),

**Re: Atura Power's Community Engagement Process**

---

Thank you for your recent letter on Feb. 23, 2024, sharing your comments about our proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project and associated engagement process. Your comments are noted and part of the project engagement record.

Before we respond to your individual comments, we would like to offer one important clarification. Atura Power is not proposing an "expansion" of the existing PEC facility, as erroneously referenced in your letter on Jan. 5, 2024, and again in your more recent letter on Feb. 23, 2024. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility and the parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls.

In response to each of the comments raised by TERRE and circulated by TERRE via carbon copy to several groups, we offer the following responses in the table below:

TERRE Comment	TERRE Comment	Atura Power's Response
#1	<p>Counter to a letter from Energy Minister Todd Smith in December of 2022 indicating explicit directives to the Independent Electricity Systems Operator (IESO) requiring municipal approval for new power procurements, Atura Power has stated that this procurement of 50 MW does not require municipal support as it falls under "Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP [Requests For Proposals]", which they claim the Minister was not referring to. <b>TERRE found no subsequent communication which absolves Atura from complying with the Minister's directive to obtain municipal support. Atura has provided no evidence which justifies disregarding the Minister's statement.</b></p>	<p>Atura Power does not require municipal approval to complete the efficiency upgrade project for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) As stated in Section 3.3 of the draft Screening Report, the IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase electricity production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contract awarded by the IESO as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term Request for Proposal (E-LT1-RFP), in May 2023. The IESO awarded a contract for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023, including contracts for natural gas electricity generation facility upgrades; as such, municipal support resolution for E-LT1 is not required. The IESO's <a href="#">May 2023 Resource Adequacy Update</a> explains the upgrades to existing gas plants approved under the E-LT1 process, while the 'Results Table' link provided in the Resource Adequacy Update (located under the 'Expedited Process' heading) identifies PEC as one of the seven existing facilities approved for efficiency upgrades.</li> <li>ii) While the IESO's E-LT1 process does not require municipal approval, the PEC efficiency upgrades project is subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects subject to Ontario Regulation (O. Reg.) 116/01, under the Ontario <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i>, since the project proposes to increase the facility's generation capacity by more than five megawatts (MW). The Environmental Screening Process is a proponent-driven process that Atura Power is carrying out, according to the requirements outlined in O. Reg. 116.01. While municipal engagement is an important component of the environmental assessment process, <b>municipal approval is not required.</b></li> </ul>
#2	<p>In response to questions about the financial cost of the expansion, Atura Power has not shared any information, stating they are "unable to share commercially sensitive financial details" about the expansion. <b>TERRE feels that this information must be provided in order to assess the socio-economic impacts of the expansion. Atura Power is</b></p>	<p>As noted previously, Atura Power is not sharing commercially sensitive financial details related to its efficiency upgrades. As the IESO sets the price of electricity in Ontario, please direct your question regarding electricity costs for consumers to the IESO here: <a href="https://www.ieso.ca/en/Corporate-IESO/Contact">https://www.ieso.ca/en/Corporate-IESO/Contact</a>.</p>



TERRE Comment	TERRE Comment	Atura Power's Response
	<p><b>a crown corporation and therefore taxpayers are entitled to this information.</b></p>	
#3	<p>In response to questions about greenhouse gas, nitrogen oxides, and other harmful emissions from the PEC, Atura Power has indicated that questions about emissions are "beyond the scope of the draft screening report and associated Environmental Screening Process." <b>TERRE feels that if the environmental screening process does not take into account greenhouse gas and other harmful emissions related to the expansion then the screening process is not able to properly assess the project's health and environmental risks.</b></p>	<p>Several of your comments refer to the project as the "PEC expansion"; however, as we communicated to you, Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period.</p> <p>The assessment process requires Atura Power to undertake an Environmental Screening Process to identify whether any potential environmental effects <i>of the project</i> would occur. The existing PEC facility went through an Environmental Assessment and is therefore not the subject of the Screening Report. As such, the scope of this assessment is limited to understanding and identifying any effects of the proposed efficiency upgrades. We can confirm that Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) is aware of the scope and assessment process that Atura Power is undertaking for the project. This instruction from the MECP will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.</p>

We hope that the responses above provide clarification regarding the comments raised about the draft Screening Report and associated Environmental Screening Process. The responses to these comments will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.

Should you require further clarification on project details, please contact us through our project email address at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Darius Sokal  
Sr. Communications & Stakeholder Relations Advisor  
Atura Power

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thursday, January 11, 2024 5:45 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** portlandsupgrade

Dear Atura Power Senior Communications Advisor Darius Sokal ,  
From your response to my letter:“the upgrades to the turbine generator  
“will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels”.”  
From my letter:”We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas  
burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and  
load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the  
costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.

And finally, the screening report should include an analysis that  
examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the  
Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.”  
It is not good enough to “maintain {air} emissions”. Doing so would  
perpetuate diseases of the lungs, heart, vascular systems and brain  
along with premature deaths, not to mention premature deaths due to  
heat stroke.

Maintaining emissions will exacerbate climate change resulting in  
greater extremities of temperature, both hot and cold, greater  
extremities of precipitation, more floods and droughts, extremities and  
frequency of storms which damage forests, crops, shorelines,  
infrastructure and buildings (to mention only a few).

You have not provided me with the ‘cost benefit analysis until its final  
closure’. Will you be providing compensation (polluter pay) to those who  
suffer from the damages your maintaining “[air] emissions levels at or  
below site permit levels”?

[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 4:43 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: portlandsupgrade

Good day, [REDACTED]

The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) determined the need for an additional 4,000 megawatts (MW) of flexible electricity generation capacity that can generate and store electricity, especially in the near-term while Ontario's nuclear fleet is refurbished or potentially retired. Ontario is entering a period of growing electricity demand and actions are needed to ensure the continued reliability of the electricity grid, especially during high-demand periods of extreme cold as we are experiencing this week. To help close this gap and meet the projected demand, the IESO awarded Atura Power with a contract to upgrade the internal gas turbine parts and modify the control systems at our Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) during routine maintenance to increase the stations' efficiency.

The Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks technical staff reviewed the draft environmental screening report for the proposed upgrades at the PEC and concurred that an air quality impact assessment is not needed, and that it is projected to cause no additional negative affects to the natural environment or species at risk.

And, as noted in our initial response, Atura Power is unable to share commercially sensitive financial details related to its efficiency upgrades at this time.

Thank you again for your ongoing interest in the project. Your comments will be part of the record of engagement in the final screening report that is being prepared as part of the ongoing environmental assessment process.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit 200, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Atura Power <no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, January 11, 2024 9:50 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

First name:

[REDACTED]

Last name:

Region/Topic:

PEC Upgrade

Email Address:

[REDACTED]

Enter Your Message Here: May I please be added to your notification distribution list

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, January 15, 2024 11:00 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>; Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about PEC Upgrade

Good morning, [REDACTED]

I will add your information to our contact list to provide you with project updates.

Thanks for your message and interest in our proposed PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit 200, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



The following section includes copies of a generic comment form submitted to the PEC project inbox by approximately 130 members of the public from January 2, 2024, to January 23, 2024. Approximately 120 of the comment forms submitted were identical. A copy of this identical form as well as Atura Power's response are provided.

Following the identical comment form and Atura Power's response are eight (8) unique versions of the comment form that include minor variations where members of the public amended or personalized the comment form text. These unique comment forms as well as Atura Power's response to them are provided as well.

**From:** <civinput@newmode.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 2, 2024 4:50 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Dear Atura Power Senior Communications Advisor Darius Sokal ,

Thank you for inviting comments on your draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant.

I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.

The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.

We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.

And finally, the screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 11, 2024 9:26 AM  
**Cc:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** Re: My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about the proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project (below). A letter with our responses to your comments is attached.

Thank you and please do not hesitate to contact us at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com) with any questions.

Sent on behalf of Darius Sokal

Senior Communications Advisor

Atura Power

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>  
**Subject:** My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Dear Atura Power Senior Communications Advisor Darius Sokal ,

Thank you for inviting comments on your draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant.

I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.

The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.

We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.

And finally, the screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

January 11, 2024

Good morning,

Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about our proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project. Your comments are noted and part of the project record.

Before we respond to your comments, we would like to offer one clarification. Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient.

In response to each of the questions/comments raised in your email, we offer the following responses in the table below.

Comment	Atura Power's Response
<p>I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.</p>	<p>It should be noted that a municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The Minister of Energy's quote noting the requirement for a municipal support resolution refers to the Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO's) current Long-Term (LT1) Request for Proposals (RFP) process which is not related to the upgrade projects for which the IESO has already awarded a contract to PEC. The PEC Efficiency Upgrades project was part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023.</p>
<p>The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.</p>	<p>At this time, Atura Power is unable to share commercially sensitive financial details related to its efficiency upgrades.</p>
<p>We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.</p>	<p>The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contracted PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.</p> <p>Additionally, it should be noted that wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity; however, other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is not uncommon to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and, for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system.</p>
<p>The screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.</p>	<p>As per Section 3.2 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment is not required and has not been undertaken for the project.</p>

Comment	Atura Power's Response
	<p>Greenhouse gas emissions from PEC are regulated under the Emissions Performance Standards Regulation (O. Reg. 241/19) under the <i>Environmental Protection Act</i>. Furthermore, information on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from facilities across Canada who meet the requirements is collected under section 46 of the <i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act</i>. Reviewed 2021 GHG data is currently available. 2022 GHG data has been submitted as per the reporting requirements and is under review.</p>



We hope that the responses above provide clarification regarding the comments and questions raised about the draft Screening Report and associated Environmental Screening Process. The responses to these comments will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.

Should you require further clarification on project details, please continue to contact us through our project email address at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Darius Sokal  
Senior Communications Advisor  
Atura Power

**From:** [REDACTED] <civiciinput@newmode.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 4, 2024 1:00 AM  
**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Dear Atura Power Senior Communications Advisor Darius Sokal ,

Thank you for inviting comments on your draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant.

I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.

The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.

We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.

And finally, the screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 11, 2024 9:26 AM  
**Cc:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** Re: My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about the proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project (below). A letter with our responses to your comments is attached.

Thank you and please do not hesitate to contact us at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com) with any questions.

Sent on behalf of Darius Sokal

Senior Communications Advisor

Atura Power

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>  
**Subject:** My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Dear Atura Power Senior Communications Advisor Darius Sokal ,

Thank you for inviting comments on your draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant.

I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.

The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.

We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.

And finally, the screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

January 11, 2024

Good morning,

Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about our proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project. Your comments are noted and part of the project record.

Before we respond to your comments, we would like to offer one clarification. Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient.

In response to each of the questions/comments raised in your email, we offer the following responses in the table below.

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Darius Sokal  
Senior Communications Advisor  
Atura Power

**From:** [REDACTED] <civinput@newmode.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 2, 2024 3:58 PM  
**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Dear Atura Power Senior Communications Advisor Darius Sokal ,

Thank you for inviting comments on your draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant.

I have asthma, and so do some of my children and grandchildren. Toronto smog makes it worse.

Thus, I do NOT support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council also doesn't support the expansion.

Please, Atura, explain how you can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.

The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers - AND the impact on our health (which will increase costs to our healthcare system, such as it is these days).

Cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting are better alternatives. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives, and this MUST include the costs to our health (including work and school absenteeism and healthcare costs).

The screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.

Do not inflict more pollution on the struggling people of Toronto.

Fossil fuels are the technology of the last century. Renewables will help us survive the rising climate catastrophe of this century. Have the courage and integrity to act accordingly.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 11, 2024 9:26 AM  
**Cc:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** Re: My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

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Sent on behalf of Darius Sokal

Senior Communications Advisor

Atura Power

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Dear Atura Power Senior Communications Advisor Darius Sokal ,

Thank you for inviting comments on your draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant.

I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.

The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.

We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.

And finally, the screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

January 11, 2024

Good morning,

Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about our proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project. Your comments are noted and part of the project record.

Before we respond to your comments, we would like to offer one clarification. Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient.

In response to each of the questions/comments raised in your email, we offer the following responses in the table below.

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Darius Sokal  
Senior Communications Advisor  
Atura Power

**From:** [REDACTED] <civicinput@newmode.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 2, 2024 2:26 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Dear Atura Power Senior Communications Advisor Darius Sokal ,

Thank you for inviting comments on your draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant.

I do not and never will support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.

The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.

We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.

The science shows the health hazards to those who live within the air shed of such plants. It is breach of public trust to put at risk the health of those who reside within that air shed. And, of greatest concern, the most recent reports by IPCC, IEA and more sound the alarm on the use of fossil fuels to generate electricity. Surely the unprecedented, record-breaking fires of 2023, floods of 2023, heat waves of 2023 must give us all pause and trigger a rapid end to such profligate use of fossil fuels. We must not further endanger the security and health of those young people and our companion species who come after us. Continuing to use natural gas in this way is intergenerational betrayal.

And finally, the screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 11, 2024 9:26 AM  
**Cc:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** Re: My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about the proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project (below). A letter with our responses to your comments is attached.

Thank you and please do not hesitate to contact us at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com) with any questions.

Sent on behalf of Darius Sokal

Senior Communications Advisor

Atura Power

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>  
**Subject:** My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Dear Atura Power Senior Communications Advisor Darius Sokal ,

Thank you for inviting comments on your draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant.

I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.

The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.

We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.

And finally, the screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

January 11, 2024

Good morning,

Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about our proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project. Your comments are noted and part of the project record.

Before we respond to your comments, we would like to offer one clarification. Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient.

In response to each of the questions/comments raised in your email, we offer the following responses in the table below.

Comment	Atura Power's Response
<p>I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.</p>	<p>It should be noted that a municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The Minister of Energy's quote noting the requirement for a municipal support resolution refers to the Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO's) current Long-Term (LT1) Request for Proposals (RFP) process which is not related to the upgrade projects for which the IESO has already awarded a contract to PEC. The PEC Efficiency Upgrades project was part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023.</p>
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Darius Sokal  
Senior Communications Advisor  
Atura Power

**From:** [REDACTED] <civinput@newmode.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 2, 2024 3:58 PM  
**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Dear Atura Power Senior Communications Advisor Darius Sokal ,

I totally support the points in the letter below!!

Thank you for inviting comments on your draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant.

I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.

The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.

We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.

And finally, the screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.

Thank you.

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And finally, the screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

January 11, 2024

Good morning,

Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about our proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project. Your comments are noted and part of the project record.

Before we respond to your comments, we would like to offer one clarification. Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient.

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<p>The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.</p>	<p>At this time, Atura Power is unable to share commercially sensitive financial details related to its efficiency upgrades.</p>
<p>We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.</p>	<p>The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contracted PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.</p> <p>Additionally, it should be noted that wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity; however, other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is not uncommon to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and, for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system.</p>
<p>The screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.</p>	<p>As per Section 3.2 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment is not required and has not been undertaken for the project.</p>



Comment	Atura Power's Response
	<p>Greenhouse gas emissions from PEC are regulated under the Emissions Performance Standards Regulation (O. Reg. 241/19) under the <i>Environmental Protection Act</i>. Furthermore, information on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from facilities across Canada who meet the requirements is collected under section 46 of the <i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act</i>. Reviewed 2021 GHG data is currently available. 2022 GHG data has been submitted as per the reporting requirements and is under review.</p>



We hope that the responses above provide clarification regarding the comments and questions raised about the draft Screening Report and associated Environmental Screening Process. The responses to these comments will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.

Should you require further clarification on project details, please continue to contact us through our project email address at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Darius Sokal  
Senior Communications Advisor  
Atura Power

**From:** [REDACTED] <civicinput@newmode.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 2, 2024 4:48 PM  
**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Dear Atura Power Senior Communications Advisor Darius Sokal ,

In responding to the invitation to address the draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant, I wish to express my opposition to the expansion in strongest terms.

Not only are there less polluting options but strong opposition to the plans has also emerged from Toronto City Council.

Atura must respect our right to a clean environment.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [Upgrade project for PEC](#)  
**To:** [Upgrade project for PEC](#); [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [Darius Sokal](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from [REDACTED] about Portlands Energy Centre – Toronto  
**Date:** January 9, 2024 2:41:01 PM

---

Thank you for your email, [REDACTED]

Your comments are noted and part of the project record.

Please continue visiting [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](https://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade) for project updates and additional information.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-657

**From:** [REDACTED] <civiciinput@newmode.org>

**Sent:** Friday, January 5, 2024 2:22 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Dear Atura Power Senior Communications Advisor Darius Sokal ,

Let us not move backward!

Thank you for inviting comments on your draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant.

I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.

The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.

We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.

And finally, the screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 11, 2024 9:26 AM  
**Cc:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** Re: My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about the proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project (below). A letter with our responses to your comments is attached.

Thank you and please do not hesitate to contact us at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com) with any questions.

Sent on behalf of Darius Sokal

Senior Communications Advisor

Atura Power

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>  
**Subject:** My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Dear Atura Power Senior Communications Advisor Darius Sokal ,

Thank you for inviting comments on your draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant.

I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.

The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.

We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.

And finally, the screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

January 11, 2024

Good morning,

Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about our proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project. Your comments are noted and part of the project record.

Before we respond to your comments, we would like to offer one clarification. Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient.

In response to each of the questions/comments raised in your email, we offer the following responses in the table below.



Comment	Atura Power's Response
<p>I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.</p>	<p>It should be noted that a municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The Minister of Energy's quote noting the requirement for a municipal support resolution refers to the Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO's) current Long-Term (LT1) Request for Proposals (RFP) process which is not related to the upgrade projects for which the IESO has already awarded a contract to PEC. The PEC Efficiency Upgrades project was part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023.</p>
<p>The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.</p>	<p>At this time, Atura Power is unable to share commercially sensitive financial details related to its efficiency upgrades.</p>
<p>We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.</p>	<p>The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contracted PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.</p> <p>Additionally, it should be noted that wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity; however, other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is not uncommon to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and, for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system.</p>
<p>The screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.</p>	<p>As per Section 3.2 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment is not required and has not been undertaken for the project.</p>

Comment	Atura Power's Response
	<p>Greenhouse gas emissions from PEC are regulated under the Emissions Performance Standards Regulation (O. Reg. 241/19) under the <i>Environmental Protection Act</i>. Furthermore, information on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from facilities across Canada who meet the requirements is collected under section 46 of the <i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act</i>. Reviewed 2021 GHG data is currently available. 2022 GHG data has been submitted as per the reporting requirements and is under review.</p>

We hope that the responses above provide clarification regarding the comments and questions raised about the draft Screening Report and associated Environmental Screening Process. The responses to these comments will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.

Should you require further clarification on project details, please continue to contact us through our project email address at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Darius Sokal  
Senior Communications Advisor  
Atura Power

**From:** [REDACTED] <civinput@newmode.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 7, 2024 2:18 PM  
**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Dear Atura Power Senior Communications Advisor Darius Sokal ,

Thank you for inviting comments on your draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant.

I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.

I have read the draft screening report and find it lacking in a number of places: it should include definite figures of GHG emitted over the past 4-5 years (not "historical" amounts); it should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion; it should include the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.

We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.

And finally, the screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, January 11, 2024 8:29 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Re: My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about the proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project (below). A letter with our responses to your comments is attached.

Thank you and please do not hesitate to contact us at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com) with any questions.

Sent on behalf of Darius Sokal  
Senior Communications Advisor  
Atura Power

January 11, 2024

Good afternoon,

Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about our proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project. Your comments are noted and part of the project record.

Before we respond to your comments, we would like to offer one clarification. Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient.

In response to each of the questions/comments raised in your email, we offer the following responses in the table below.



Comment	Atura Power's Response
<p>I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.</p>	<p>It should be noted that a municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The Minister of Energy's quote noting the requirement for a municipal support resolution refers to the Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO's) current Long-Term (LT1) Request for Proposals (RFP) process which is not related to the upgrade projects for which the IESO has already awarded a contract to PEC. The PEC Efficiency Upgrades project was part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023.</p>
<p>I have read the draft screening report and find it lacking in a number of places: it should include definite figures of GHG emitted over the past 4-5 years (not "historical" amounts); it should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion; it should include the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.</p>	<p>All PEC emissions reports are publicly available on the provincial and federal government websites. At this time, Atura Power is unable to share commercially sensitive financial details related to its efficiency upgrades. Additionally, it is the IESO which sets the price of electricity in Ontario, therefore, please direct your question regarding electricity costs for consumers to the IESO here: <a href="https://www.ieso.ca/en/Corporate-IESO/Contact">https://www.ieso.ca/en/Corporate-IESO/Contact</a>.</p>
<p>We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.</p>	<p>The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contracted PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.</p> <p>Additionally, it should be noted that wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity; however, other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is not uncommon to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and, for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system.</p>
<p>The screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.</p>	<p>As per Section 3.2 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment is not required and has not been undertaken for the project.</p>

Comment	Atura Power's Response
	<p>Greenhouse gas emissions from PEC are regulated under the Emissions Performance Standards Regulation (O. Reg. 241/19) under the <i>Environmental Protection Act</i>. Furthermore, information on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from facilities across Canada who meet the requirements is collected under section 46 of the <i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act</i>. Reviewed 2021 GHG data is currently available. 2022 GHG data has been submitted as per the reporting requirements and is under review.</p>

We hope that the responses above provide clarification regarding the comments and questions raised about the draft Screening Report and associated Environmental Screening Process. The responses to these comments will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.

Should you require further clarification on project details, please continue to contact us through our project email address at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Darius Sokal  
Senior Communications Advisor  
Atura Power

**From:** [REDACTED] <civicinput@newmode.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 23, 2024 3:14 AM  
**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Dear Atura Power Senior Communications Advisor Darius Sokal ,

Thank you for inviting comments on your draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant.

I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.

The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.

We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.

And finally, the screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**From:** [REDACTED] <civicinput@newmode.org>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 8, 2024 12:06 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Dear Atura Power Senior Communications Advisor Darius Sokal ,

Thank you for inviting comments on your draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant.

I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.

The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.

We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.

And finally, the screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Sunday, February 11, 2024 9:32 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: My comments on the proposed Portlands gas plant expansion

Hello again, [REDACTED]

Your questions below are identical to those you asked on Jan. 22, 2024, via an email to this project email address.

As a result, I've reattached our response originally emailed on Jan. 26, 2024, to you from this email address.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications & Stakeholder Relations Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit 200, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



January 11, 2024

Good morning,

Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about our proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project. Your comments are noted and part of the project record.

Before we respond to your comments, we would like to offer one clarification. Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient.

In response to each of the questions/comments raised in your email, we offer the following responses in the table below.

Comment	Atura Power's Response
<p>I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.</p>	<p>It should be noted that a municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The Minister of Energy's quote noting the requirement for a municipal support resolution refers to the Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO's) current Long-Term (LT1) Request for Proposals (RFP) process which is not related to the upgrade projects for which the IESO has already awarded a contract to PEC. The PEC Efficiency Upgrades project was part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023.</p>
<p>The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.</p>	<p>At this time, Atura Power is unable to share commercially sensitive financial details related to its efficiency upgrades.</p>
<p>We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.</p>	<p>The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contracted PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.</p> <p>Additionally, it should be noted that wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity; however, other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is not uncommon to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and, for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system.</p>
<p>The screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.</p>	<p>As per Section 3.2 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment is not required and has not been undertaken for the project.</p>

Comment	Atura Power's Response
	<p>Greenhouse gas emissions from PEC are regulated under the Emissions Performance Standards Regulation (O. Reg. 241/19) under the <i>Environmental Protection Act</i>. Furthermore, information on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from facilities across Canada who meet the requirements is collected under section 46 of the <i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act</i>. Reviewed 2021 GHG data is currently available. 2022 GHG data has been submitted as per the reporting requirements and is under review.</p>

We hope that the responses above provide clarification regarding the comments and questions raised about the draft Screening Report and associated Environmental Screening Process. The responses to these comments will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.

Should you require further clarification on project details, please continue to contact us through our project email address at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Darius Sokal  
Senior Communications Advisor  
Atura Power

# **Appendix B5: Correspondence Records With Municipal Staff and Elected Officials**

Email sent by Atura Power to Municipal Staff and Elected Officials, including cover letter and Notice of Commencement, on September 6, 2023

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 6, 2023 10:53 AM

**To:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good afternoon.

This email and attached PDF are to inform you that Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at our Portlands Energy Centre, located on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station in Toronto, Ont. Please see the attached letter and Notice of Commencement for more details about the proposed activities, engagement opportunities, and how to learn more.

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



Wednesday, September 6, 2023

To whom it may concern,

This letter is to inform you that Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC), on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station on Villiers Island at 470 Unwin Ave., Toronto, Ont. The planned work will be limited to replacing parts of the existing natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts. These upgrades will occur during a regular maintenance cycle and, due to improved technology, will result in better performance. All activities to complete the upgrades will take place within the footprint of the existing facility. This project is part of Atura Power's effort to build a more efficient and resilient electricity grid in Ontario.

Currently, PEC is capable of outputting 550 megawatts (MW) to Ontario's electricity grid with proposed upgrades increasing its capacity to 600 MW. This planned increase of 50 MW results in the upgrades being subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01, under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. The attached Notice is issued to communicate the start of the Environmental Screening Process. A copy of the Notice was published in the *Toronto Star* and *Toronto Sun* on Wednesday, September 6, 2023, and will also be published in the *Beach Metro* newspaper in the coming days. A copy is also available on the project webpage at [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade).

Atura Power is committed to engaging all interested parties on all our projects. This includes you, our valued neighbours. We want to hear from you and would like to **invite you to attend a virtual public meeting on Thursday, October 5, 2023, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** to learn more about the planned upgrades and give us your feedback. The attached Notice includes details on how to join.

For more information about the project, please visit our project webpage (see link above). If you have any other questions or inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact us at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Sincerely,



Krishana Gnanachandran  
Project Manager - Outages and Projects  
Atura Power

# Notice of Commencement of a Screening and Invitation to a Virtual Public Meeting

## Portlands Energy Centre Upgrades

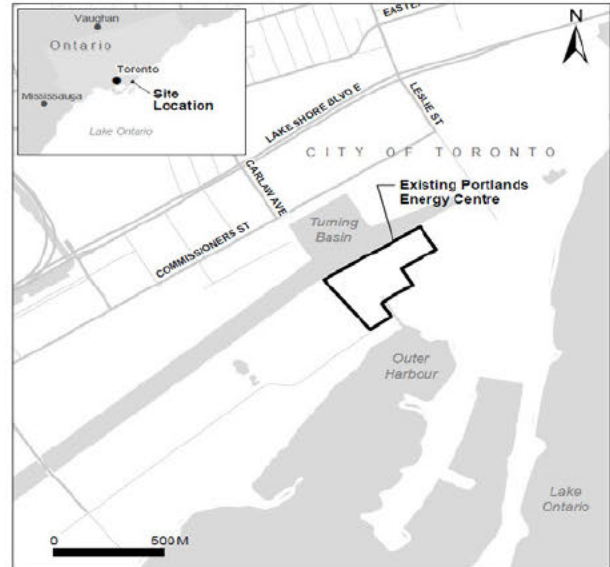
Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at its Portlands Energy Centre (PEC).

## Project Description

PEC has operated since 2009 in the City of Toronto on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station on Villiers Island. It's capable of outputting 550 megawatts (MW) to Ontario's electricity grid.

The upgrades will be limited to replacing parts of the existing natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts during a regular maintenance cycle and will result in an increase in output capacity to 600 MW. All upgrades will take place within the existing facility and **there will be no changes or expansion beyond the existing PEC footprint.**

# Atura Power



Atura Power is committed to building a resilient electricity grid in Ontario and is working to address the energy supply shortfall, identified by the Independent Electricity System Operator, that Ontario will experience in the near future. The planned efficiency upgrades to PEC are part of Atura Power's efforts to address this supply gap and to make energy production more efficient and affordable.

## Environmental Screening Process

Since the project will result in a 50 MW increase in output capacity of PEC, it's subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01, under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. This Notice is issued to communicate the start of the Environmental Screening Process.

## Virtual Public Meeting

Atura Power is committed to engaging with Indigenous communities, the public and other interested parties on all our

projects. We invite you to attend an upcoming virtual public meeting to learn more and provide feedback. **You can access the link to join the public meeting on the project webpage.** If you are unable to participate, meeting materials will be posted on the project webpage for review following the meeting.

<b>How to Join</b>	Date:	Thursday, October 5, 2023
	Time:	6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time
	Project webpage:	<a href="http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade">aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade</a>

## Project Contacts

Please email your questions or comments to [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

For more information: [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade)

Comments and information regarding this project are being collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* for the purpose of meeting environmental assessment requirements.

Reminder email sent by Atura Power to Municipal Staff and Elected Officials on October 3, 2023

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 5:22 PM  
**To:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>; Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good day.

A reminder that Atura Power will be hosting a virtual public meeting on Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. ET about the planned efficiency upgrades at Portlands Energy Centre.

A link to access the meeting will be available on the project webpage here:  
[aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade).

If you are unable to participate, meeting materials will be posted on the project webpage following the meeting.

Thank you, and please email any questions or comments to [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

**Darius Sokal ([hear it](#))**

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



Email sent by Atura Power to Muncipal Staff and Elected Officials, including draft Environmental Screening Report, on December 14, 2023

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2023 9:38 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Draft Screening Report

Good afternoon.

As you know, Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at our Portlands Energy Centre (PEC). The upgrades are subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01, under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. Atura Power has prepared a draft copy of the Screening Report which documents the results of the Environmental Screening Process undertaken to identify whether any potential environmental effects of the project would occur ('Yes' or 'No'). The Environmental Screening Process determined that the response to all questions is "No", indicating that there are no potential negative environmental effects resulting from the project.

Attached to this email is the draft copy of the Screening Report. We are sharing this draft with Indigenous communities, key agencies, and elected officials such as yourselves, and interested members of the public to offer an additional opportunity for those interested to review the project details, the Environmental Screening Process undertaken, and assessment findings. Atura Power is voluntarily providing this opportunity so that comments can be incorporated in the final Screening Report. We invite you to review the draft report and share any comments on the report via our project email address, [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com). We are **accepting comments until Jan. 7, 2024**, after which time we will prepare and release the final version of the Screening Report in Winter 2024.

Thank you very much and please contact us at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com) with any questions.

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 6, 2023 9:05 AM

**To:** mayor\_chow@toronto.ca

**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good morning, Mayor Chow.

My name is Darius Sokal, the communications and municipal relations advisor for Atura Power.

I'm reaching out to let you know that Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at our Portlands Energy Centre (PEC), located on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station on Villiers Island. The planned work will be limited to replacing parts of the existing natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts. All upgrades will take place within the existing facility and **there will be no changes or expansion beyond the existing PEC footprint**. The attached letter and Notice of Commencement provide more details about the proposed activities, engagement opportunities, and how to learn more.

I'd also appreciate an opportunity to meet with you and your staff to further discuss the project and explain how Atura Power and PEC help meet the City of Toronto's growing energy needs.

Thank you for your time, and please let me know if you have any questions, and if you'd like to meet at a date and time that fit your schedule.

Sincerely,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Mayor Chow <[Mayor\\_Chow@toronto.ca](mailto:Mayor_Chow@toronto.ca)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 6, 2023 11:05 AM  
**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

*Please note this is an automatic response.*

Thank you for contacting the Office of Mayor Olivia Chow!

Your email is important to us and we want you to know that your message has been received. The Mayor's office receives a high volume of correspondence, but the Mayor's Staff reads and reviews every incoming email. We do our best to respond to all constituents and direct your inquiry as appropriate.

That means some concerns or questions will need to be forwarded to the appropriate City of Toronto official and/or your local Councillor who may be best suited to assist you. We thank you in advance for your understanding.

- \* If you require immediate help from the City of Toronto regarding services such as waste collection, snow clearing, road safety, or other municipal services, please call 311.
- \* If you are emailing to invite the Mayor to an event please be sure to include key details, and someone from our office will reach out to respond to your request.
- \* If you are requesting a Proclamation, Congratulatory Scroll, or Letter of Greeting, please follow this link to make your request: [www.toronto.ca/city-government/awards-tributes](http://www.toronto.ca/city-government/awards-tributes)

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

**Office of Mayor Olivia Chow**

City Hall, 2nd Floor  
100 Queen St. W.  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

*Our office is committed to accountability and transparency. If you are requesting a meeting with the Mayor or a member of the Mayor's staff on behalf of a for-profit group or enterprise or a group that represents for-profit enterprises, you need to confirm that you are in compliance with the Lobbyists' Code of Conduct. Please contact the Office of the Lobbyist Registrar by phone at 416-338-5858 or by email at [lobbyistregistrar@toronto.ca](mailto:lobbyistregistrar@toronto.ca)*



**From:** Darius Sokal

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 19, 2023 3:36 PM

**To:** [mayor\\_chow@toronto.ca](mailto:mayor_chow@toronto.ca)

**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good afternoon, Mayor Chow.

I'm following up on my sincere offer to meet with you to discuss the efficiency upgrades that Atura Power is proposing to make at our Portlands Energy Centre. We'd like an opportunity to review the project with you and answer any questions that you may have.

Please note that I called and left a similar message with your office voicemail minutes ago.

Thank you once again, and I hope to hear from you soon.

Kindest regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

---

**From:** Mayor Chow <[Mayor\\_Chow@toronto.ca](mailto:Mayor_Chow@toronto.ca)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 19, 2023 3:36 PM  
**To:** Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

*Please note this is an automatic response.*

Thank you for contacting the Office of Mayor Olivia Chow!

Your email is important to us and we want you to know that your message has been received. The Mayor's office receives a high volume of correspondence, but the Mayor's Staff reads and reviews every incoming email. We do our best to respond to all constituents and direct your inquiry as appropriate.

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- \* If you require immediate help from the City of Toronto regarding services such as waste collection, snow clearing, road safety, or other municipal services, please call 311.
- \* If you are requesting a Proclamation, Congratulatory Scroll, or Letter of Greeting, please follow this link to make your request: [www.toronto.ca/city-government/awards-tributes](http://www.toronto.ca/city-government/awards-tributes)

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

**Office of Mayor Olivia Chow**

City Hall, 2nd Floor  
100 Queen St. W.  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

*Our office is committed to accountability and transparency. If you are requesting a meeting with the Mayor or a member of the Mayor's staff on behalf of a for-profit group or enterprise or a group that represents for-profit enterprises, you need to confirm that you are in compliance with the Lobbyists' Code of Conduct. Please contact the Office of the Lobbyist Registrar by phone at 416-338-5858 or by email at [lobbyistregistrar@toronto.ca](mailto:lobbyistregistrar@toronto.ca)*

**From:** Mayor Chow <Mayor\_Chow@toronto.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2023 9:50 PM  
**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: Portlands Energy Centre Draft Screening Report

*Please note this is an automatic response.*

Thank you for contacting the Office of Mayor Olivia Chow!

Your email is important to us and we want you to know that your message has been received. The Mayor's office receives a high volume of correspondence, but the Mayor's Staff reads and reviews every incoming email. We do our best to respond to all constituents and direct your inquiry as appropriate.

That means some concerns or questions will need to be forwarded to the appropriate City of Toronto official and/or your local Councillor who may be best suited to assist you. We thank you in advance for your understanding.

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- If you require immediate help from the City of Toronto regarding services such as waste collection, snow clearing, road safety, or other municipal services, please call 311.
- If you are requesting a Proclamation, Congratulatory Scroll, or Letter of Greeting, please follow this link to make your request: [www.toronto.ca/city-government/awards-tributes](http://www.toronto.ca/city-government/awards-tributes)

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

**Office of Mayor Olivia Chow**

City Hall, 2nd Floor  
100 Queen St. W.  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

*Our office is committed to accountability and transparency. If you are requesting a meeting with the Mayor or a member of the Mayor's staff on behalf of a for-profit group or enterprise or a group that represents for-profit enterprises, you need to confirm that you are in compliance with the Lobbyists' Code of Conduct. Please contact the Office of the Lobbyist Registrar by phone at 416-338-5858 or by email at [lobbyistregistrar@toronto.ca](mailto:lobbyistregistrar@toronto.ca)*

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 6, 2023 9:10 AM  
**To:** councillor\_fletcher@toronto.ca  
**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good morning, Councillor Fletcher.

This is Darius Sokal again, the communications and municipal relations advisor for Atura Power.

I'm reaching out to let you know that Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at our Portlands Energy Centre (PEC), located on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station on Villiers Island. The planned work will be limited to replacing parts of the existing natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts. All upgrades will take place within the existing facility and **there will be no changes or expansion beyond the existing PEC footprint**. The attached letter and Notice of Commencement provide more details about the proposed activities, engagement opportunities, and how to learn more.

I'd also appreciate an opportunity to meet with you and your staff to further discuss the project and explain how Atura Power and PEC help meet the City of Toronto's growing energy needs.

Thank you for your time, and please let me know if you have any questions, and if you'd like to meet at a date and time that fit your schedule.

Sincerely,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

To whom it may concern,

This letter is to inform you that Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC), on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station on Villiers Island at 470 Unwin Ave., Toronto, Ont. The planned work will be limited to replacing parts of the existing natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts. These upgrades will occur during a regular maintenance cycle and, due to improved technology, will result in better performance. All activities to complete the upgrades will take place within the footprint of the existing facility. This project is part of Atura Power's effort to build a more efficient and resilient electricity grid in Ontario.

Currently, PEC is capable of outputting 550 megawatts (MW) to Ontario's electricity grid with proposed upgrades increasing its capacity to 600 MW. This planned increase of 50 MW results in the upgrades being subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01, under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. The attached Notice is issued to communicate the start of the Environmental Screening Process. A copy of the Notice was published in the *Toronto Star* and *Toronto Sun* on Wednesday, September 6, 2023, and will also be published in the *Beach Metro* newspaper in the coming days. A copy is also available on the project webpage at [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade).

Atura Power is committed to engaging with Indigenous communities, agencies, the public and other interested parties on all our projects. A virtual public meeting will be hosted on **Thursday, October 5, 2023, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** to share more about the planned upgrades and collect feedback from members of the public. The attached Notice includes details on how to join. Outreach to Indigenous communities is also underway to learn how they wish to be engaged about the project.

For more information about the project, please visit our project webpage (see link above). If you have any other questions or inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact us at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Sincerely,



Krishana Gnanachandran  
Project Manager - Outages and Projects  
Atura Power

# Notice of Commencement of a Screening and Invitation to a Virtual Public Meeting

## Portlands Energy Centre Upgrades

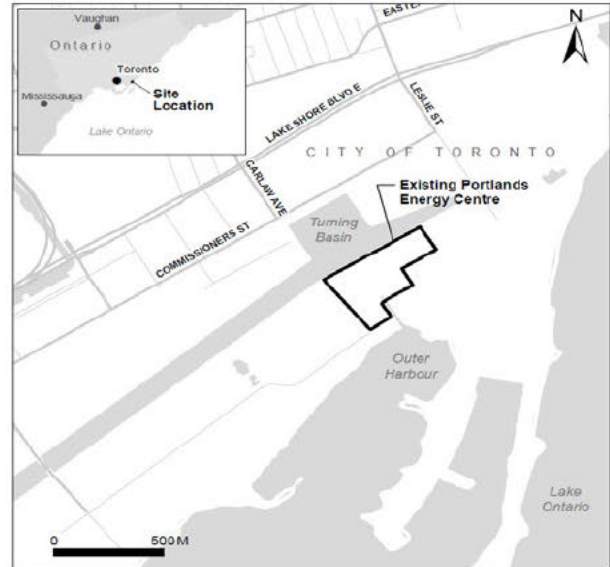
Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at its Portlands Energy Centre (PEC).

## Project Description

PEC has operated since 2009 in the City of Toronto on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station on Villiers Island. It's capable of outputting 550 megawatts (MW) to Ontario's electricity grid.

The upgrades will be limited to replacing parts of the existing natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts during a regular maintenance cycle and will result in an increase in output capacity to 600 MW. All upgrades will take place within the existing facility and **there will be no changes or expansion beyond the existing PEC footprint.**

# Atura Power



Atura Power is committed to building a resilient electricity grid in Ontario and is working to address the energy supply shortfall, identified by the Independent Electricity System Operator, that Ontario will experience in the near future. The planned efficiency upgrades to PEC are part of Atura Power's efforts to address this supply gap and to make energy production more efficient and affordable.

## Environmental Screening Process

Since the project will result in a 50 MW increase in output capacity of PEC, it's subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01, under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. This Notice is issued to communicate the start of the Environmental Screening Process.

## Virtual Public Meeting

Atura Power is committed to engaging with Indigenous communities, the public and other interested parties on all our

projects. We invite you to attend an upcoming virtual public meeting to learn more and provide feedback. **You can access the link to join the public meeting on the project webpage.** If you are unable to participate, meeting materials will be posted on the project webpage for review following the meeting.

<b>How to Join</b>	Date:	Thursday, October 5, 2023
	Time:	6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time
	Project webpage:	<a href="http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade">aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade</a>

## Project Contacts

Please email your questions or comments to [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

For more information: [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade)

Comments and information regarding this project are being collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* for the purpose of meeting environmental assessment requirements.



**From:** Darius Sokal

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 19, 2023 3:30 PM

**To:** [councillor\\_fletcher@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_fletcher@toronto.ca)

**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good afternoon, Councilor Fletcher.

I'm following up on my sincere offer to meet with you to discuss the efficiency upgrades that Atura Power is proposing to make at our Portlands Energy Centre. We'd like an opportunity to review the project with you and answer any questions that you may have.

Please note that I called and spoke with a representative from your office, and she suggested that I follow up with you by email.

Thank you once again, and I hope to hear from you soon.

Kindest regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 6, 2023 12:53 PM

**To:** Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good afternoon.

This email and attached PDF are to inform you that Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at our Portlands Energy Centre, located on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station in Toronto, Ont. Please see the attached letter and Notice of Commencement for more details about the proposed activities, engagement opportunities, and how to learn more.

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal ([hear it](#))**

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Dabrusin, Julie - M.P. <[Julie.Dabrusin@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Julie.Dabrusin@parl.gc.ca)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 6, 2023 12:53 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Automatic reply: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Thank you for writing to me. Due to high volume, there may be a delay in my response. I appreciate your patience.

*If you have emailed in your casework request, you will have a response within 48 hours. If it is an emergency, we will get back to you sooner. To better assist you, please avoid sending duplicate requests through different channels.*

#### **Federal resources and programs**

My office can help Toronto—Danforth constituents with federal government resources and programs. You can find out [who your MP is with your postal code](#). Below you'll find a guide on how your email will be prioritized:

- If your query is related to immigration CPP, EI, tax issues, etc., consent forms will need to be filled out before your file can be activated. Please find our [consent form here](#) and send your signed document to [julie.dabrusin.c1@parl.gc.ca](mailto:julie.dabrusin.c1@parl.gc.ca). You can scan documents using either [iPhone](#) or [Android](#). Please let me know if this is not an option that is available to you.
- Queries regarding government programs, policies and operations take time to research, contact appropriate departments, and collate information for the response. If you have provided your full contact details with your query, a response will be forthcoming.

#### **Auto-Generated Advocacy emails**

If your email is an auto-generated advocacy email it may not receive a response at this time. We receive a high volume of correspondence hence our response time for email has increased. Automated, cc'd, and forwarded emails are a lower priority at this time.

Unfortunately, I do not have the staff capacity to personally answer every auto-generated email.

I may have addressed your issue already in one of my Facebook Live videos. Please visit [here](#) for my conversations with community members and experts in their fields. Click [here](#) for all of my videos including my Ask Me Anythings. My future Facebook Live sessions will be announced in my email newsletter and on social media.

If you have not signed up for email updates, please click on “Get Updates” at <https://juliedabrusin.libparl.ca/>

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 6, 2023 12:53 PM

**To:** Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good afternoon.

This email and attached PDF are to inform you that Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at our Portlands Energy Centre, located on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station in Toronto, Ont. Please see the attached letter and Notice of Commencement for more details about the proposed activities, engagement opportunities, and how to learn more.

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal ([hear it](#))**

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Kaufman, Rob <[KaufmanR@ndp.on.ca](mailto:KaufmanR@ndp.on.ca)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 12, 2023 4:26 PM

**To:** Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** FW: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Darius, Peter Tabuns, MPP Toronto-Danforth looks forward to attending the meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup>.  
All the best.

Robin Kaufman  
Assistant to MPP Peter Tabuns  
Toronto-Danforth  
923 Danforth Ave.  
416-461-0223

[Join Peter's e-bulletin list](#)

**From:** Darius Sokal

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 13, 2023 7:06 AM

**To:** 'Kaufman, Rob' <[KaufmanR@ndp.on.ca](mailto:KaufmanR@ndp.on.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good morning, Robin.

Thank you for the message, and we look forward to Mr. Tabuns joining us next month.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



**From:** Atura Power

**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2023 6:14 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from Peter about PEC Upgrade

You don't often get email from [no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com](mailto:no-reply@sendgrid.opg.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

First name: Peter

Last name: Tabuns

Region/Topic: PEC Upgrade

Email Address: [tabunsp@ndp.on.ca](mailto:tabunsp@ndp.on.ca)

Enter Your Message Here: please keep me up to date.

I accept the privacy policy:  Checked

|

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2023 9:44 AM

**To:** tabunsp@ndp.on.ca

**Cc:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Aturapower.com | Contact Form Submission from Peter about PEC Upgrade

Good morning, Mr. Tabuns.

We will most certainly keep you up to date.

Please attend our upcoming live virtual public meeting on Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., to learn more about the PEC efficiency upgrades and provide your project-related feedback and questions.

A link to the meeting will be available on the project webpage here: <https://aturapower.com/atura-overview/our-stations/portlands-energy-centre-upgrade/>

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Jennifer Dsouza (Environment) <Jennifer.Dsouza7@toronto.ca> on behalf of James Nowlan <James.Nowlan@toronto.ca>

**Sent:** Friday, January 5, 2024 9:04 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** David Jollimore <David.Jollimore@toronto.ca>; Josephine Cusumano <Josephine.Cusumano@toronto.ca>

**Subject:** City of Toronto comments on the draft Screening Report for the Portlands Energy Centre upgrade project

Good day,

I am sending the attached letter on behalf of James Nowlan, Executive Director - Environment & Climate Division, City of Toronto.

Thank you,

**Jennifer DSouza**

Support Assistant B

Environment and Climate Division

[City of Toronto](#)

Tel: (416) 397-5789



Environment & Climate

Union Station  
East Wing, 2nd floor  
c/o Metro Hall mailroom  
55 John Street  
Toronto, Ontario M5V 3C6

Tel: 416-392-6064  
[James.Nowlan@toronto.ca](mailto:James.Nowlan@toronto.ca)  
[www.toronto.ca/environment](http://www.toronto.ca/environment)

January 5, 2024

Mr. Darius Sokal  
Senior Communications Advisor  
Atura Power  
1415 Joshuas Creek Drive, Unit 101  
Oakville, ON  
L6H 7G4  
Via email: [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)

**Subject: City of Toronto comments on the draft Screening Report for the Portlands Energy Centre upgrade project**

Dear Mr. Sokal,

I offer the following comments on the draft Screening Report for the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) upgrade project.

Toronto City Council positions:

The planned upgrade would increase PEC's electricity generation capacity from 550 MW to 600 MW, counter to Toronto City Council's recent statements:

- In June 2023, Toronto City Council requested, "the Government of Canada to issue Clean Electricity Regulations that prohibit increasing the gas-fired generating capacity at the Portlands Energy Centre, effective immediately" ([2023.MM7.25](#), Part 1).
- In May 2023, Toronto City Council voted to "oppose any new power generation proposal involving increased burning of fossil fuels, including natural gas, in the City" ([2023.MM6.13](#), Part 1).
- City Council voted to "request the Province of Ontario to immediately invest in programs to deliver energy efficiency, demand management and conservation to meet the capacity and energy needs that would have been fulfilled by expansion of electricity production through burning of fossil fuels" ([2023.MM6.13](#), Part 2).

Local context and emissions:

PEC is located in the Port Lands which are currently under development, and near the heart of the City of Toronto that has a population of over three million people. As such, any

change in emissions from the facility will occur near a densely populated area. In recent years, PEC's operating hours have increased significantly beyond what was anticipated when the facility was proposed as a peaking plant.

The draft Screening Report does not provide the following quantitative information, and we request that it be included in the final Screening Report to provide clarity about the project:

1. If the upgrade is undertaken, is the quantity of natural gas consumed annually expected to increase, decrease, or stay the same? What quantity of natural gas will be consumed and how does this compare to PEC's current state?
2. What emission intensity and total annual quantity of each relevant air pollutant (carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and sulphur dioxide) would be emitted, and how do these compare to PEC's current state?

The required Screening Criteria Checklist, question 3.1 asks if the project would, "have negative effects on air quality due to emissions of nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, suspended particulates, or other pollutants?" A quantitative analysis of how the upgrade project would impact PEC emissions would answer this question.

3. What total annual quantity of greenhouse gases (GHGs) would be emitted, and how does this compare to PEC's current state?

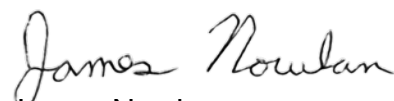
The draft Screening Report, page 18, indicates that the upgrade project is expected to lower the facility's GHG intensity by two percent. What is not clear is how the upgrade project would impact total, annual GHG emissions.

Planning today for net zero:

Achieving Toronto's goal of net-zero GHG emissions community-wide by 2040, as outlined in the [TransformTO Net Zero Strategy](#), among North America's most ambitious climate plans, requires transitioning buildings and transportation from fossil fuels to clean electricity. A critical step for success is developing a resilient, carbon-free, affordable electricity supply in Ontario and increasing local renewable electricity generation, rather than increasing electricity generation from fossil fuels.

As we think ahead, we are interested to hear if Atura plans to capture and store emissions from PEC, including emissions from any increased capacity by 2040. We look forward to discussions in the years to come, with Atura, other facility operators, utilities, other levels of government and their agencies, about collectively transitioning Ontario's electricity sector.

Best regards,



James Nowlan  
Executive Director, Environment & Climate Division  
City of Toronto

Cc:

David Jollimore, Deputy City Manager, Corporate Services  
City of Toronto  
Email: [David.Jollimore@toronto.ca](mailto:David.Jollimore@toronto.ca)



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 5, 2024 7:41 PM  
**To:** James Nowlan <James.Nowlan@toronto.ca>  
**Cc:** David Jollimore <David.Jollimore@toronto.ca>; Josephine Cusumano <Josephine.Cusumano@toronto.ca>; Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** RE: City of Toronto comments on the draft Screening Report for the Portlands Energy Centre upgrade project

Hello, Ms. Dsouza.

Thank you and Mr. Nowlan for your email and Mr. Nowlan's letter received on Jan. 5, 2023, about Atura Power's draft screening report for the proposed Portlands Energy Centre Upgrades.

I've attached a PDF which contains Atura Power's responses to Mr. Nowlan's comments and questions.

Thank you for your interest in our project, and please email this address with any additional questions.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications & Stakeholder Relations Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit 200, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

Feb. 5, 2024

Mr. James Nowlan  
Executive Director, Environment & Climate Division  
City of Toronto

Cc: David Jollimore, Deputy City Manager, Corporate Services  
City of Toronto

**Re: City of Toronto comments on the draft Screening Report for the Portlands Energy Centre upgrade project**

Dear Mr. Nowlan,

Thank you for your recent letter on Jan. 5, 2024, sharing the City of Toronto's comments about the draft Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Screening Report. Your comments are noted and are part of the project record.

In response to each of the questions/comments raised in your email, we offer the following responses in the table below.

Comment	Atura Power's Response
<b>Toronto City Council Positions</b>	
<p>The planned upgrade would increase PEC's electricity generation capacity from 550 MW to 600 MW, counter to Toronto City Council's recent statements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In June 2023, Toronto City Council requested, "the Government of Canada to issue Clean Electricity Regulations that prohibit increasing the gas-fired generating capacity at the Portlands Energy Centre, effective immediately" (2023.MM7.25, Part 1).</li> <li>In May 2023, Toronto City Council voted to "oppose any new power generation proposal involving increased burning of fossil fuels, including natural gas, in the City"(2023.MM6.13, Part 1).</li> <li>City Council voted to "request the Province of Ontario to immediately invest in programs to deliver energy efficiency, demand management and conservation to meet the capacity and energy needs that would have been fulfilled by expansion of electricity production through burning of fossil fuels" (2023.MM6.13, Part 2).</li> </ul>	<p>A municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) has already awarded a contract for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) Request for Proposal (RFP), results for which were announced in May 2023, including contracts for natural gas electricity generation facility upgrades.</p>
<p><b>Local Context and Emissions:</b>  <i>"The draft Screening Report does not provide the following quantitative information, and we request that it be included in the final Screening Report to provide clarity about the project..."</i></p>	
<p>If the upgrade is undertaken, is the quantity of natural gas consumed annually expected to increase, decrease, or stay the same? What quantity of natural gas will be consumed and how does this compare to PEC's current state?</p>	<p>The quantity of natural gas consumed after the efficiency upgrades are completed will depend on the how often the IESO calls on PEC to operate. As stated in Appendix B3a of the draft Screening Report, PEC operations are dictated by the IESO based on the electricity supply and demand balance, which fluctuates season by season and year to year.</p> <p>Also note that, as per Section 3.3 in Table 3-1 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, the same amount of fuel used will produce more power after the upgrades.</p>
<p>What emission intensity and total annual quantity of each relevant air pollutant (carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter (PM2.5) and sulphur dioxide) would be emitted, and how do these compare to PEC's current state? The required Screening Criteria Checklist, question 3.1 asks if the project would, "have negative effects on air quality due to emissions of nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, suspended particulates, or other pollutants?" A quantitative analysis of how the upgrade project would impact PEC emissions would answer this question.</p>	<p>As per Section 3.2 of the draft Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment was deemed to be not required and has not been undertaken for the project.</p> <p>In recent correspondence to the project team, it was confirmed that "[Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks] MECP's technical staff have reviewed Table 3-1 and Section 3.4.3 of the draft environmental screening report (ESR) for the proposed upgrades at the Portland's Energy Centre. The proposed upgrades to the turbine generator will maintain air emissions levels at or below</p>



Comment	Atura Power's Response
	<p>site permit levels. Based on the rational[e] provided, the ministry concurs that an air quality impact assessment is not needed for this undertaking". This instruction from the MECP will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.</p>
<p>What total annual quantity of greenhouse gases (GHGs) would be emitted, and how does this compare to PEC's current state? The draft Screening Report, page 18, indicates that the upgrade project is expected to lower the facility's GHG intensity by two percent. What is not clear is how the upgrade project would impact total, annual GHG emissions.</p>	<p>The text on page 18 of the draft Screening Report indicating that the greenhouse gas intensity of the facility is expected to reduce by two per cent relates to the fact the same amount of fuel used will produce more power after the upgrades.</p> <p>The total annual quantity of GHGs emitted will depend on the how often the IESO calls on PEC to operate. As stated in Appendix B3a of the draft Screening Report, PEC operations are dictated by the IESO based on the electricity supply and demand balance, which fluctuates season by season and year to year.</p>
<p><b>Planning Today for Net Zero:</b></p>	
<p>Achieving Toronto's goal of net-zero GHG emissions community-wide by 2040, as outlined in the <a href="#">TransformTO Net Zero Strategy</a>, among North America's most ambitious climate plans, requires transition buildings and transportation from fossil fuels to clean electricity. A critical step for success is developing a resilient, carbon-free, affordable electricity supply in Ontario and increasing local renewable electricity generation, rather than increasing electricity generation from fossil fuels.</p>	<p>The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contracted PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.</p> <p>Additionally, it should be noted that wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity; however, other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is not uncommon to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system.</p>
<p>As we think ahead, we are interested to hear if Atura plans to capture and store emissions from PEC, including emissions from any increased capacity by 2040. We look forward to discussions in the years to come, with Atura, other facility operators, utilities, other levels of government and their agencies, about collectively transitioning Ontario's electricity sector.</p>	<p>Atura Power is playing a leadership role in establishing the supply of low-carbon hydrogen in Ontario to help the province move towards a net-zero future with plans for low-carbon hydrogen facilities in Niagara, Windsor, and Nanticoke. We are also developing a 250 MW battery energy storage system (BESS) in Napanee, and have submitted proposals to develop additional BESS projects in Nanticoke, Napanee and Peterborough.</p>

We hope that the responses above provide clarification regarding the comments and questions raised about the draft Screening Report and associated Environmental Screening Process. The responses to these comments will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.

Should you require further clarification on project details, please continue to contact us through our project email address at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Sincerely,

Darius Sokal  
Senior Communications Advisor  
Atura Power

## **Appendix B6: Correspondence Records with Agencies**

- **B6a: Correspondence Records with MECP**
- **B6b: Correspondence Records with Other Agencies**



Email sent by Atura Power to Agencies,  
including cover letter and Notice of  
Commencement, on September 6, 2023

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 6, 2023 10:53 AM  
**To:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good afternoon.

This email and attached PDF are to inform you that Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at our Portlands Energy Centre, located on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station in Toronto, Ont. Please see the attached letter and Notice of Commencement for more details about the proposed activities, engagement opportunities, and how to learn more.

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

To whom it may concern,

This letter is to inform you that Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC), on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station on Villiers Island at 470 Unwin Ave., Toronto, Ont. The planned work will be limited to replacing parts of the existing natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts. These upgrades will occur during a regular maintenance cycle and, due to improved technology, will result in better performance. All activities to complete the upgrades will take place within the footprint of the existing facility. This project is part of Atura Power's effort to build a more efficient and resilient electricity grid in Ontario.

Currently, PEC is capable of outputting 550 megawatts (MW) to Ontario's electricity grid with proposed upgrades increasing its capacity to 600 MW. This planned increase of 50 MW results in the upgrades being subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01, under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. The attached Notice is issued to communicate the start of the Environmental Screening Process. A copy of the Notice was published in the *Toronto Star* and *Toronto Sun* on Wednesday, September 6, 2023, and will also be published in the *Beach Metro* newspaper in the coming days. A copy is also available on the project webpage at [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade).

Atura Power is committed to engaging all interested parties on all our projects. This includes you, our valued neighbours. We want to hear from you and would like to **invite you to attend a virtual public meeting on Thursday, October 5, 2023, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** to learn more about the planned upgrades and give us your feedback. The attached Notice includes details on how to join.

For more information about the project, please visit our project webpage (see link above). If you have any other questions or inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact us at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Sincerely,



Krishana Gnanachandran  
Project Manager - Outages and Projects  
Atura Power

# Notice of Commencement of a Screening and Invitation to a Virtual Public Meeting

## Portlands Energy Centre Upgrades

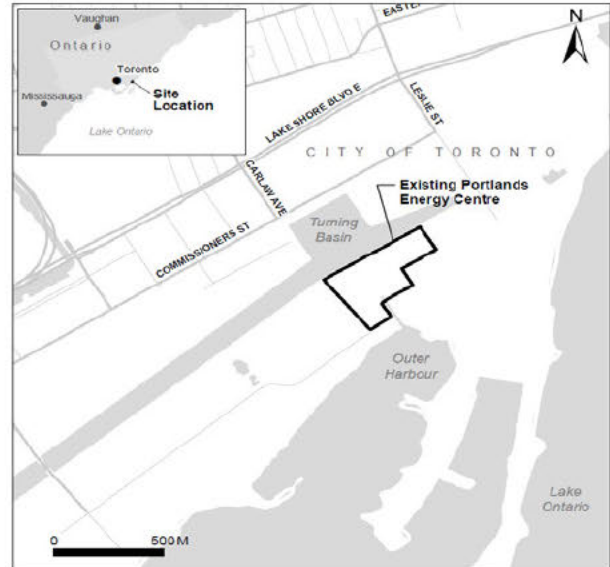
Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at its Portlands Energy Centre (PEC).

## Project Description

PEC has operated since 2009 in the City of Toronto on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station on Villiers Island. It's capable of outputting 550 megawatts (MW) to Ontario's electricity grid.

The upgrades will be limited to replacing parts of the existing natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts during a regular maintenance cycle and will result in an increase in output capacity to 600 MW. All upgrades will take place within the existing facility and **there will be no changes or expansion beyond the existing PEC footprint.**

# Atura Power



Atura Power is committed to building a resilient electricity grid in Ontario and is working to address the energy supply shortfall, identified by the Independent Electricity System Operator, that Ontario will experience in the near future. The planned efficiency upgrades to PEC are part of Atura Power's efforts to address this supply gap and to make energy production more efficient and affordable.

## Environmental Screening Process

Since the project will result in a 50 MW increase in output capacity of PEC, it's subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01, under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. This Notice is issued to communicate the start of the Environmental Screening Process.

## Virtual Public Meeting

Atura Power is committed to engaging with Indigenous communities, the public and other interested parties on all our

projects. We invite you to attend an upcoming virtual public meeting to learn more and provide feedback. **You can access the link to join the public meeting on the project webpage.** If you are unable to participate, meeting materials will be posted on the project webpage for review following the meeting.

<b>How to Join</b>	Date:	Thursday, October 5, 2023
	Time:	6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time
	Project webpage:	<a href="http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade">aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade</a>

## Project Contacts

Please email your questions or comments to [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

For more information: [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade)

Comments and information regarding this project are being collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* for the purpose of meeting environmental assessment requirements.

Reminder email sent by Atura Power  
to key Agencies on October 3, 2023

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 5:22 PM  
**To:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>; Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good day.

A reminder that Atura Power will be hosting a virtual public meeting on Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. ET about the planned efficiency upgrades at Portlands Energy Centre.

A link to access the meeting will be available on the project webpage here:  
[aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade).

If you are unable to participate, meeting materials will be posted on the project webpage following the meeting.

Thank you, and please email any questions or comments to [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

Email sent by Atura Power to key Agencies,  
including draft Environmental Screening Report,  
on December 14, 2023

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 5, 2023 3:21 PM  
**To:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Good afternoon.

As you know, Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC). The upgrades are subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01 under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. Atura Power has prepared a *draft* copy of the Screening Report which documents the results of the Environmental Screening Process undertaken to identify whether any potential environmental effects of the project would occur ('Yes' or 'No'). The Environmental Screening Process determined that the response to all questions is 'No', indicating that there would not be potential negative environmental effects resulting from the project.

Attached to this email is a draft of the Screening Report. We are sharing this draft with Indigenous communities, key agencies such as yourselves, and interested members of the public to offer an additional opportunity to review the project details, the Environmental Screening Process undertaken, and assessment findings. Atura Power is voluntarily providing this opportunity so comments can be incorporated in the final Screening Report. We invite you to review the draft report and share any comments on the report via our project email address, [portlandupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandupgrade@aturapower.com). We will **accept comments until Jan. 7, 2024**, after which time we will prepare and release the final version of the Screening Report in winter 2024.

Thank you very much, and please send your project-related questions to [portlandupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandupgrade@aturapower.com).

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

# **Appendix B6a: Correspondence Records with MECP**



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 6, 2023 6:29 AM

**To:** ClassEAnotices@ontario.ca; EA Notices to CRegion (MECP) <Eanotification.cregion@ontario.ca>; Nazariy.Kiriliak@ontario.ca

**Subject:** Notice of Commencement - Portlands Energy Centre

Good morning:

The materials attached are to inform you that Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station on Villiers Island. Please see the letter, Notice of Commencement, and MECP Project Information Form attached for more detail on the proposed activities, engagement opportunities, and how to learn more.

Thank you,

**David Patterson**

EHS Manager | **Atura Power**

905 870-4233 | [david.patterson@aturapower.com](mailto:david.patterson@aturapower.com)

# Notice of Commencement of a Screening and Invitation to a Virtual Public Meeting

## Portlands Energy Centre Upgrades

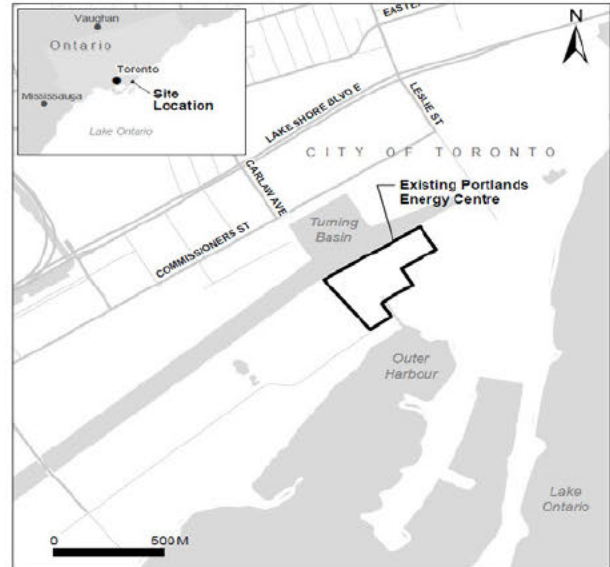
Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at its Portlands Energy Centre (PEC).

## Project Description

PEC has operated since 2009 in the City of Toronto on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station on Villiers Island. It's capable of outputting 550 megawatts (MW) to Ontario's electricity grid.

The upgrades will be limited to replacing parts of the existing natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts during a regular maintenance cycle and will result in an increase in output capacity to 600 MW. All upgrades will take place within the existing facility and **there will be no changes or expansion beyond the existing PEC footprint.**

# Atura Power



Atura Power is committed to building a resilient electricity grid in Ontario and is working to address the energy supply shortfall, identified by the Independent Electricity System Operator, that Ontario will experience in the near future. The planned efficiency upgrades to PEC are part of Atura Power's efforts to address this supply gap and to make energy production more efficient and affordable.

## Environmental Screening Process

Since the project will result in a 50 MW increase in output capacity of PEC, it's subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01, under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. This Notice is issued to communicate the start of the Environmental Screening Process.

## Virtual Public Meeting

Atura Power is committed to engaging with Indigenous communities, the public and other interested parties on all our

projects. We invite you to attend an upcoming virtual public meeting to learn more and provide feedback. **You can access the link to join the public meeting on the project webpage.** If you are unable to participate, meeting materials will be posted on the project webpage for review following the meeting.

<b>How to Join</b>	Date:	Thursday, October 5, 2023
	Time:	6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time
	Project webpage:	<a href="http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade">aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade</a>

## Project Contacts

Please email your questions or comments to [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

For more information: [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade)

Comments and information regarding this project are being collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* for the purpose of meeting environmental assessment requirements.

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

To whom it may concern,

This letter is to inform you that Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC), on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station on Villiers Island at 470 Unwin Ave., Toronto, Ont. The planned work will be limited to replacing parts of the existing natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts. These upgrades will occur during a regular maintenance cycle and, due to improved technology, will result in better performance. All activities to complete the upgrades will take place within the footprint of the existing facility. This project is part of Atura Power's effort to build a more efficient and resilient electricity grid in Ontario.

Currently, PEC is capable of outputting 550 megawatts (MW) to Ontario's electricity grid with proposed upgrades increasing its capacity to 600 MW. This planned increase of 50 MW results in the upgrades being subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01, under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. The attached Notice is issued to communicate the start of the Environmental Screening Process. A copy of the Notice was published in the *Toronto Star* and *Toronto Sun* on Wednesday, September 6, 2023, and will also be published in the *Beach Metro* newspaper in the coming days. A copy is also available on the project webpage at [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade).

Atura Power is committed to engaging Indigenous communities, agencies, the public and other interested parties on all projects. A virtual public meeting will be hosted on **Thursday, October 5, 2023, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** to share more about the planned upgrades and collect feedback from members of the public. The attached Notice includes details on how to join.

Atura Power is seeking input from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) regarding the Indigenous communities that should be engaged as part of the Environmental Screening Process. The attached Notice includes a map of the project location. We would appreciate if the MECP would provide us with a list of communities with whom we should engage on this project. Given that the planned upgrades to PEC are minor, similar to routine maintenance activities and will be contained entirely within the footprint of PEC, Atura Power will be in contact with Mr. Nick Colella, Manager (Acting) of Environmental Assessment Services with the MECP, to pursue an exemption to the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act* for this project.

For more information about the project, please visit our project webpage (see link above). If you have any other questions or inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact us at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Sincerely,



Krishana Gnanachandran  
Project Manager - Outages and Projects  
Atura Power

What to do:

Step 1. Look for the type of EA project in column B that applies to you.

Step 2. Complete columns C to J for that project.

Step 3. Send this form in Excel format to the MECPP regional office email address where the project is located.

MECPP regional office email addresses are listed at

[www.ontario.ca/gov/projects-environmental-assessments](http://www.ontario.ca/gov/projects-environmental-assessments)

Class EA/Streamlined EA	Proponent Name	Proponent Contact	Project Name	Project Schedule	Project Type	Project Location	MOECC Region	Project Initiation Date
1 CD - Remedial flood and erosion control projects								
2 ECP Transit - Class EA								
3 Hydro One - Minor transmission facilities								
4 MIA - Class EA for municipal infrastructure projects								
5 Ministry of Infrastructure - Public works								
6 MNM - Activities of the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines under the Mining Act								
7 MNRP - Provincial parks and conservation reserves								
8 MNRP - Resource stewardship and facility development projects								
9 MTO - Provincial transportation facilities								
10 O. Reg. 101/07 - Waste management projects								
11 O. Reg. 116/01 - Electricity projects	Akura Power	Krishana Gnanachandran	Portlands Energy Centre Upgrade Project	Category B	Natural gas	Toronto, City of	Central	2023-09-01
12 OWA - Waterpower projects								

Enter the proponent's name.

Enter the name and email address of the person who the MECPP should contact about your project. This should be the same contact person who is listed on the notice.

Enter the project name as it appears on the notice.

Select the project schedule from the drop-down menu.

Select the project type from the drop-down menu.

Select the name of the municipality or unincorporated/uneval area where your project is located from the drop-down menu.

Select the MECPP region from the drop-down menu. Read the "MECPP regions" worksheet to find the MECPP region where your project is located.

Enter the date that the streamlined EA process was initiated (e.g. notice of commencement). This date may be when the project notice was first published.

**From:** EA Notices to CRegion (MECP) <eanotification.cregion@ontario.ca>

**Sent:** Monday, October 16, 2023 4:00 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** Battarino, Gavin (MECP) <Gavin.Battarino@ontario.ca>; Caicedo, Jimena (MECP) <Jimena.Caicedo@ontario.ca>; EA Notices to CRegion (MECP) <eanotification.cregion@ontario.ca>

**Subject:** RE: Notice of Commencement - Portlands Energy Centre

Dear Project Team,

Please find the attached response letter and relevant supporting information for this project. If you have any questions regarding the information shared, please let us know.

Thank you,

**Chunmei Liu** (she/her) | Regional Environmental Planner

Environmental Assessments Branch, Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks | 7th Flr, 135 St Clair Ave W, Toronto, ON M4V 1P5 | [Chunmei.Liu@ontario.ca](mailto:Chunmei.Liu@ontario.ca) | 437-249-3102

***We want to hear from you. How was my service? You can provide feedback at 1-888-745-8888 or [ontario.ca/inspectionfeedback](https://ontario.ca/inspectionfeedback)***

***Nous attendons vos commentaires. Qu'avez-vous pensé de mon service? Vous pouvez nous faire part de vos commentaires au 1-888-745-8888 ou à [ontario.ca/retroactioninspection](https://ontario.ca/retroactioninspection)***

Ministry of the Environment,  
Conservation and Parks

Ministère de l'Environnement, de la  
Protection de la nature et des Parcs

Environmental Assessment Branch    Direction des évaluations  
environnementales

1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
135 St. Clair Avenue W  
Toronto ON M4V 1P5  
Tel.: 416 314-8001  
Fax.: 416 314-8452

Rez-de-chaussée  
135, avenue St. Clair Ouest  
Toronto ON M4V 1P5  
Tél. : 416 314-8001  
Télééc. : 416 314-8452

October 16, 2023

Atura Power  
portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com  
\*\*\*BY EMAIL ONLY\*\*\*

Re:    **Portlands Energy Centre Upgrades**  
      **Atura Power**  
      **Electricity Projects Regulation, O. Reg. 116/01 (Category B)**  
      **Acknowledgement of Notice of Commencement**

Dear Project Team,

This letter is in response to the Notice of Commencement for the above noted project. The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) acknowledges that the Atura Power (proponent) has indicated that the study is following the approved environmental planning process for a Category B project set out in the *Electricity Projects Regulation, O. Reg. 116/01* (the “Environmental Screening Process”), made under the *Environmental Assessment Act*.

The **updated (August 2022)** attached “Areas of Interest” document provides guidance regarding the ministry’s interests with respect to the Environmental Screening Process. Please address all areas of interest in the Environmental Screening and Environmental Review at an appropriate level for the Environmental Screening Process. Proponents who address all the applicable areas of interest can minimize potential delays to the project schedule. **Further information is provided at the end of the Areas of Interest document relating to recent changes to the Environmental Assessment Act through Bill 197, Covid-19 Economic Recovery Act 2020.**

The Crown has a legal duty to consult Aboriginal communities when it has knowledge, real or constructive, of the existence or potential existence of an Aboriginal or treaty right and contemplates conduct that may adversely impact that right. Before authorizing this project, the



Crown must ensure that its duty to consult has been fulfilled, where such a duty is triggered. Although the duty to consult with Aboriginal peoples is a duty of the Crown, the Crown may delegate procedural aspects of this duty to project proponents while retaining oversight of the consultation process.

The proposed project may have the potential to affect Aboriginal or treaty rights protected under Section 35 of Canada's *Constitution Act 1982*. Where the Crown's duty to consult is triggered in relation to the proposed project, **the MECP is delegating the procedural aspects of rights-based consultation to the proponent through this letter**. The Crown intends to rely on the delegated consultation process in discharging its duty to consult and maintains the right to participate in the consultation process as it sees fit.

The site is located within treaty 13, 1805 w/ Mississaugas, within the traditional territory and claim area of the Mississaugas of the Credit, and within the 1701 Nanfan Deed. Based on information provided to date and the Crown's preliminary assessment the proponent is required to consult with the following communities who have been identified as potentially affected by the proposed project:

- Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation
- Six Nations of the Grand River (both elected and HCCC/HDI)
  - both the elected council and HCCC claim to represent the Six Nations Community. The HCCC is the traditional council and the SNGR elected was established by Canada pursuant to the Indian Act, 1924.

Steps that the proponent may need to take in relation to Aboriginal consultation for the proposed project are outlined in the ["Code of Practice for Consultation in Ontario's Environmental Assessment Process"](#). Additional information related to Ontario's Environmental Assessment Act is available online at: [www.ontario.ca/environmentalassessments](http://www.ontario.ca/environmentalassessments).

**Please also refer to the attached document "A Proponent's Introduction to the Delegation of Procedural Aspects of consultation with Aboriginal Communities" for further information, including the MECP's expectations for Screening/Environmental Review Report documentation related to consultation with communities.**

The proponent must contact the Director of Environmental Assessment Branch (EABDirector@ontario.ca) under the following circumstances after initial discussions with the communities identified by the MECP:

- Aboriginal or treaty rights impacts are identified to you by the communities;
- You have reason to believe that your proposed project may adversely affect an Aboriginal or treaty right;
- Consultation with Indigenous communities or other stakeholders has reached an impasse; or
- An elevation request is expected on the basis of outstanding environmental concerns.

The MECP will then assess the extent of any Crown duty to consult for the circumstances and will consider whether additional steps should be taken, including what role you will be asked to play should additional steps and activities be required.

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**A draft copy of the report should be sent directly to me prior to the filing of the final report, allowing a minimum of 30 days for the ministry's technical reviewers to provide comments.**

**Please ensure a copy of the final notice is sent to the ministry's Central Region Environmental Assessment (EA) notification email account ([eanotification.cregion@ontario.ca](mailto:eanotification.cregion@ontario.ca)) when available.**

Should you or any members of your project team have any questions regarding the material above, please contact me at [chunmei.liu@ontario.ca](mailto:chunmei.liu@ontario.ca).

Sincerely,



Chunmei Liu  
Regional Environmental Planner – Central Region  
Project Review Unit, Environmental Assessment Branch

Cc: Gavin Battarino, Supervisor, Project Review Unit, MECP  
Jimena Caicedo, Manager, Toronto District Office, MECP

Enclosed: Areas of Interest

Attached: Client's Guide to Preliminary Screening for Species at Risk  
A Proponent's Introduction to the Delegation of Procedural Aspects of Consultation with Aboriginal Communities

### **AREAS OF INTEREST (v. August 2022)**

*It is suggested that you check off each section after you have considered / addressed it.*

#### **Planning and Policy**

- Applicable plans and policies should be identified in the report, and the proponent should describe how the proposed project adheres to the relevant policies in these plans.

- Projects located in MECP Central, Eastern or West Central Region may be subject to [A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe \(2020\)](#).
  - Projects located in MECP Central or Eastern Region may be subject to the [Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan \(2017\)](#) or the [Lake Simcoe Protection Plan \(2014\)](#).
  - Projects located in MECP Central, Southwest or West Central Region may be subject to the [Niagara Escarpment Plan \(2017\)](#).
  - Projects located in MECP Central, Eastern, Southwest or West Central Region may be subject to the [Greenbelt Plan \(2017\)](#).
  - Projects located in MECP Northern Region may be subject to the [Growth Plan for Northern Ontario \(2011\)](#).
- The [Provincial Policy Statement \(2020\)](#) contains policies that protect Ontario's natural heritage and water resources. Applicable policies should be referenced in the report, and the proponent should describe how the proposed project is consistent with these policies.
  - In addition to the provincial planning and policy level, the report should also discuss the planning context at the municipal and federal levels, as appropriate.

### **Source Water Protection**

The *Clean Water Act, 2006* (CWA) aims to protect existing and future sources of drinking water. To achieve this, several types of vulnerable areas have been delineated around surface water intakes and wellheads for every municipal residential drinking water system that is located in a source protection area. These vulnerable areas are known as a Wellhead Protection Areas (WHPAs) and surface water Intake Protection Zones (IPZs). Other vulnerable areas that have been delineated under the CWA include Highly Vulnerable Aquifers (HVAs), Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas (SGRAs), Event-based modelling areas (EBAs), and Issues Contributing Areas (ICAs). Source protection plans have been developed that include policies to address existing and future risks to sources of municipal drinking water within these vulnerable areas.

Projects that are subject to the Environmental Assessment Act that fall under a Class EA, or one of the Regulations, have the potential to impact sources of drinking water if they occur in designated vulnerable areas or in the vicinity of other at-risk drinking water systems (i.e. systems that are not municipal residential systems). Projects may include activities that, if located in a vulnerable area, could be a threat to sources of drinking water (i.e. have the potential to adversely affect the quality or quantity of drinking water sources) and the activity could therefore be subject to policies in a source protection plan. Where an activity poses a risk to drinking water, policies in the local source protection plan may impact how or where that activity is undertaken. Policies may prohibit certain activities, or they may require risk management measures for these activities. Municipal Official Plans, planning decisions, Class EA projects (where the project includes an activity that is a threat to drinking water) and

prescribed instruments must conform with policies that address significant risks to drinking water and must have regard for policies that address moderate or low risks.

- The proponent should identify the source protection area and should clearly document how the proximity of the project to sources of drinking water (municipal or other) and any delineated vulnerable areas was considered and assessed. Specifically, the report should discuss whether or not the project is located in a vulnerable area and provide applicable details about the area.
- If located in a vulnerable area, proponents should document whether any project activities are prescribed drinking water threats and thus pose a risk to drinking water (this should be consulted on with the appropriate Source Protection Authority). Where an activity poses a risk to drinking water, the proponent must document and discuss in the report how the project adheres to or has regard to applicable policies in the local source protection plan. This section should then be used to inform and be reflected in other sections of the report, such as the identification of net positive/negative effects of alternatives, mitigation measures, evaluation of alternatives etc.
- While most source protection plans focused on including policies for significant drinking water threats in the WHPAs and IPZs it should be noted that even though source protection plan policies may not apply in HVAs, these are areas where aquifers are sensitive and at risk to impacts and within these areas, activities may impact the quality of sources of drinking water for systems other than municipal residential systems.
- In order to determine if this project is occurring within a vulnerable area, proponents can use [Source Protection Information Atlas](#), which is an online mapping tool available to the public. Note that various layers (including WHPAs, WHPA-Q1 and WHPA-Q2, IPZs, HVAs, SGRAs, EBAs, ICAs) can be turned on through the “Map Legend” bar on the left. The mapping tool will also provide a link to the appropriate source protection plan in order to identify what policies may be applicable in the vulnerable area.
- For further information on the maps or source protection plan policies which may relate to their project, proponents must contact the appropriate source protection authority. **Please consult with the local source protection authority to discuss potential impacts on drinking water. Please document the results of that consultation within the report and include all communication documents/correspondence.**

#### More Information

For more information on the *Clean Water Act*, source protection areas and plans, including specific information on the vulnerable areas and drinking water threats, please refer to [Conservation Ontario’s website](#) where you will also find links to the local source protection plan/assessment report.

A list of the prescribed drinking water threats can be found in [section 1.1 of Ontario Regulation 287/07](#) made under the *Clean Water Act*. In addition to prescribed drinking water threats, some source protection plans may include policies to address additional “local” threat activities, as approved by the MECP.

## Climate Change

The document "[Considering Climate Change in the Environmental Assessment Process](#)" (Guide) is now a part of the Environmental Assessment program's Guides and Codes of Practice. The Guide sets out the MECP's expectation for considering climate change in the preparation, execution and documentation of environmental assessment studies and processes. The guide provides examples, approaches, resources, and references to assist proponents with consideration of climate change in their study. Proponents should review this Guide in detail.

- **The MECP expects proponents of projects under a Class EA or EA Act Regulation to:**
  1. Consider during the assessment of alternative solutions and alternative designs, the following:
    - a. the project's expected production of greenhouse gas emissions and impacts on carbon sinks (climate change mitigation); and
    - b. resilience or vulnerability of the undertaking to changing climatic conditions (climate change adaptation).
  2. Include a discrete section in the report detailing how climate change was considered in the EA.

How climate change is considered can be qualitative or quantitative in nature and should be scaled to the project's level of environmental effect. In all instances, both a project's impacts on climate change (mitigation) and impacts of climate change on a project (adaptation) should be considered. **Please ensure climate change is considered in the report.**

- The MECP has also prepared another guide to support provincial land use planning direction related to the completion of energy and emission plans. The "[Community Emissions Reduction Planning: A Guide for Municipalities](#)" document is designed to educate stakeholders on the municipal opportunities to reduce energy and greenhouse gas emissions, and to provide guidance on methods and techniques to incorporate consideration of energy and greenhouse gas emissions into municipal activities of all types. We encourage you to review the Guide for information.

## Air Quality, Dust and Noise

- If there are sensitive receptors in the surrounding area of this project, a quantitative air quality/odour impact assessment will be useful to evaluate alternatives, determine impacts and identify appropriate mitigation measures. The scope of the assessment can be determined based on the potential effects of the proposed alternatives, and typically

includes source and receptor characterization and a quantification of local air quality impacts on the sensitive receptors and the environment in the study area. The assessment will compare to all applicable standards or guidelines for all contaminants of concern.

**Please contact this office for further consultation on the level of Air Quality Impact Assessment required for this project if not already advised.**

- If a quantitative Air Quality Impact Assessment is not required for the project, the MECP expects that the report contain a qualitative assessment which includes:
  - A discussion of local air quality including existing activities/sources that significantly impact local air quality and how the project may impact existing conditions;
  - A discussion of the nearby sensitive receptors and the project's potential air quality impacts on present and future sensitive receptors;
  - A discussion of local air quality impacts that could arise from this project during both construction and operation; and
  - A discussion of potential mitigation measures.
- As a common practice, "air quality" should be used as an evaluation criterion for all road projects.
- Dust and noise control measures should be addressed and included in the construction plans to ensure that nearby residential and other sensitive land uses within the study area are not adversely affected during construction activities.
- The MECP recommends that non-chloride dust-suppressants be applied. For a comprehensive list of fugitive dust prevention and control measures that could be applied, refer to [\*Cheminfo Services Inc. Best Practices for the Reduction of Air Emissions from Construction and Demolition Activities\*](#) report prepared for Environment Canada. March 2005.
- The report should consider the potential impacts of increased noise levels during the operation of the completed project. The proponent should explore all potential measures to mitigate significant noise impacts during the assessment of alternatives.

### **Ecosystem Protection and Restoration**

- Any impacts to ecosystem form and function must be avoided where possible. The report should describe any proposed mitigation measures and how project planning will protect and enhance the local ecosystem.
- Natural heritage and hydrologic features should be identified and described in detail to assess potential impacts and to develop appropriate mitigation measures. The following sensitive environmental features may be located within or adjacent to the study area:



- Key Natural Heritage Features: Habitat of endangered species and threatened species, fish habitat, wetlands, areas of natural and scientific interest (ANSIs), significant valleylands, significant woodlands; significant wildlife habitat (including habitat of special concern species); sand barrens, savannahs, and tallgrass prairies; and alvars.
- Key Hydrologic Features: Permanent streams, intermittent streams, inland lakes and their littoral zones, seepage areas and springs, and wetlands.
- Other natural heritage features and areas such as: vegetation communities, rare species of flora or fauna, Environmentally Sensitive Areas, Environmentally Sensitive Policy Areas, federal and provincial parks and conservation reserves, Greenland systems etc.

We recommend consulting with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) and your local conservation authority to determine if special measures or additional studies will be necessary to preserve and protect these sensitive features. In addition, for projects located in Central Region you may consider the provisions of the Rouge Park Management Plan if applicable.

### **Species at Risk**

- The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has now assumed responsibility of Ontario's Species at Risk program. Information, standards, guidelines, reference materials and technical resources to assist you are found at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/species-risk>.
- The Client's Guide to Preliminary Screening for Species at Risk (Draft May 2019) has been attached to the covering email for your reference and use. Please review this document for next steps.
- For any questions related to subsequent permit requirements, please contact [SAROntario@ontario.ca](mailto:SAROntario@ontario.ca).

### **Surface Water**

- The report must include enough information to demonstrate that there will be no negative impacts on the natural features or ecological functions of any watercourses within the study area. Measures should be included in the planning and design process to ensure that any impacts to watercourses from construction or operational activities (e.g. spills, erosion, pollution) are mitigated as part of the proposed undertaking.
- Additional stormwater runoff from new pavement can impact receiving watercourses and flood conditions. Quality and quantity control measures to treat stormwater runoff should be considered for all new impervious areas and, where possible, existing surfaces. The ministry's [Stormwater Management Planning and Design Manual \(2003\)](#) should be

referenced in the report and utilized when designing stormwater control methods. **A Stormwater Management Plan should be prepared as part of the Environmental Screening Process** that includes:

- Strategies to address potential water quantity and erosion impacts related to stormwater draining into streams or other sensitive environmental features, and to ensure that adequate (enhanced) water quality is maintained
  - Watershed information, drainage conditions, and other relevant background information
  - Future drainage conditions, stormwater management options, information on erosion and sediment control during construction, and other details of the proposed works
  - Information on maintenance and monitoring commitments.
- Any potential approval requirements for surface water taking or discharge should be identified in the report. A Permit to Take Water (PTTW) under the *Ontario Water Resources Act* (OWRA) will be required for any water takings that exceed 50,000 L/day, except for certain water taking activities that have been prescribed by the Water Taking EASR Regulation – *O. Reg. 63/16*. These prescribed water-taking activities require registration in the EASR instead of a PTTW. Please review the [Water Taking User Guide for EASR](#) for more information. Additionally, an Environmental Compliance Approval under the OWRA is required for municipal stormwater management works.

## **Groundwater**

- The status of, and potential impacts to any well water supplies should be addressed. If the project involves groundwater takings or changes to drainage patterns, the quantity and quality of groundwater may be affected due to drawdown effects or the redirection of existing contamination flows. In addition, project activities may infringe on existing wells such that they must be reconstructed or sealed and abandoned. Appropriate information to define existing groundwater conditions should be included in the report.
- If the potential construction or decommissioning of water wells is identified as an issue, the report should refer to Ontario Regulation 903, Wells, under the OWRA.
- Potential impacts to groundwater-dependent natural features should be addressed. Any changes to groundwater flow or quality from groundwater taking may interfere with the ecological processes of streams, wetlands or other surficial features. In addition, discharging contaminated or high volumes of groundwater to these features may have direct impacts on their function. Any potential effects should be identified, and appropriate

mitigation measures should be recommended. The level of detail required will be dependent on the significance of the potential impacts.

- Any potential approval requirements for groundwater taking or discharge should be identified in the report. A Permit to Take Water (PTTW) under the OWRA will be required for any water takings that exceed 50,000 L/day, with the exception of certain water taking activities that have been prescribed by the Water Taking EASR Regulation – *O. Reg. 63/16*. These prescribed water-taking activities require registration in the EASR instead of a PTTW. Please review the [Water Taking User Guide for EASR](#) for more information.
- Consultation with the railroad authorities is necessary wherever there is a plan to use construction dewatering in the vicinity of railroad lines or where the zone of influence of the construction dewatering potentially intercepts railroad lines.

### **Excess Materials Management**

- In December 2019, MECP released a new regulation under the Environmental Protection Act, titled “[On-Site and Excess Soil Management](#)” (O. Reg. 406/19) to support improved management of excess construction soil. This regulation is a key step to support proper management of excess soils, ensuring valuable resources don’t go to waste and to provide clear rules on managing and reusing excess soil. New risk-based standards referenced by this regulation help to facilitate local beneficial reuse which in turn will reduce greenhouse gas emissions from soil transportation, while ensuring strong protection of human health and the environment. The new regulation is being phased in over time, with the first phase in effect on January 1, 2021. For more information, please visit <https://www.ontario.ca/page/handling-excess-soil>.
- The report should reference that activities involving the management of excess soil should be completed in accordance with O. Reg. 406/19 and the MECP’s current guidance document titled “[Management of Excess Soil – A Guide for Best Management Practices](#)” (2014).
- All waste generated during construction must be disposed of in accordance with ministry requirements.

### **Contaminated Sites**

- Any current or historical waste disposal sites should be identified in the report. The status of these sites should be determined to confirm whether approval pursuant to Section 46 of the EPA may be required for land uses on former disposal sites. We recommend referring to the [MECP’s D-4 guideline](#) for land use considerations near landfills and dumps.

- Resources available may include regional/local municipal official plans and data; provincial data on [large landfill sites](#) and [small landfill sites](#); Environmental Compliance Approval information for waste disposal sites on [Access Environment](#).
- Other known contaminated sites (local, provincial, federal) in the study area should also be identified in the report (Note – information on federal contaminated sites is found on the Government of Canada’s [website](#)).
- The location of any underground storage tanks should be investigated in the report. Measures should be identified to ensure the integrity of these tanks and to ensure an appropriate response in the event of a spill. The ministry’s Spills Action Centre must be contacted in such an event.
- Since the removal or movement of soils may be required, appropriate tests to determine contaminant levels from previous land uses or dumping should be undertaken. If the soils are contaminated, you must determine how and where they are to be disposed of, consistent with *Part XV.1 of the Environmental Protection Act* (EPA) and Ontario Regulation 153/04, Records of Site Condition, which details the new requirements related to site assessment and clean up. Please contact the appropriate MECP District Office for further consultation if contaminated sites are present.

### **Servicing, Utilities and Facilities**

- The report should identify any above or underground utilities in the study area such as transmission lines, telephone/internet, oil/gas etc. The owners should be consulted to discuss impacts to this infrastructure, including potential spills.
- The report should identify any servicing infrastructure in the study area such as wastewater, water, stormwater that may potentially be impacted by the project.
- Any facility that releases emissions to the atmosphere, discharges contaminants to ground or surface water, provides potable water supplies, or stores, transports or disposes of waste must have an Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) before it can operate lawfully. Please consult with MECP’s Environmental Permissions Branch to determine whether a new or amended ECA will be required for any proposed infrastructure.
- We recommend referring to the ministry’s [environmental land use planning guides](#) to ensure that any potential land use conflicts are considered when planning for any infrastructure or facilities related to wastewater, pipelines, landfills or industrial uses.

## Mitigation and Monitoring

- Contractors must be made aware of all environmental considerations so that all environmental standards and commitments for both construction and operation are met. Mitigation measures should be clearly referenced in the report and regularly monitored during the construction stage of the project. In addition, we encourage proponents to conduct post-construction monitoring to ensure all mitigation measures have been effective and are functioning properly.
- Design and construction reports and plans should be based on a best management approach that centres on the prevention of impacts, protection of the existing environment, and opportunities for rehabilitation and enhancement of any impacted areas.
- The proponent's construction and post-construction monitoring plans must be documented in the report.

## Consultation

- The report must demonstrate how the consultation provisions of the Environmental Screening Process have been fulfilled, including documentation of all stakeholder consultation efforts undertaken during the planning process. This includes a discussion in the report that identifies concerns that were raised and **describes how they have been addressed by the proponent** throughout the planning process. The report should also include copies of comments submitted on the project by interested stakeholders, and the proponent's responses to these comments (as directed by the Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects to include full documentation).
- Please include the full stakeholder distribution/consultation list in the documentation.

## Environmental Screening Process

- The purpose of the Environmental Screening report is to document the process followed and the conclusions reached. It should provide clear and complete documentation of the planning process in order to allow for transparency in decision-making and to allow for its timely review by government agencies, and interested persons, including Indigenous communities.
- The Environmental Screening Process requires the consideration of the effects of the project on all aspects of the environment (including planning, natural, social, cultural, economic, technical). The report should include a level of detail (e.g. hydrogeological investigations, terrestrial and aquatic assessments, cultural heritage assessments) such that

all potential impacts can be identified, and appropriate mitigation measures can be developed. Any supporting studies conducted during the Environmental Screening Process should be referenced and included as part of the report.

- There are two possible stages of review required under the Environmental Screening Process, depending on the environmental effects of a project: a Screening stage and an Environmental Review stage.
  - All projects that are subject to the process are required to go through the Screening stage, which requires proponents to apply a series of screening criteria to identify the potential environmental effects of the project.
  - A more detailed study (an Environmental Review) is required if potential concerns are raised during the Screening stage that could not be readily addressed.
- Please include in the report a list of all subsequent permits or approvals that may be required for the implementation of the project, including but not limited to, MECP's PTTW, EASR Registrations and ECAs, conservation authority permits, species at risk permits, MTO permits and approvals under the *Impact Assessment Act, 2019*.
- Proponents are encouraged to circulate a draft of the Environmental Review Report, or relevant sections of the report, to the appropriate agencies and key stakeholders for comment prior to the formal review periods.
- Ministry guidelines and other information related to the issues above are available at <http://www.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/environment-and-energy>. We encourage you to review all the available guides and to reference any relevant information in the report.

Once the Environmental Screening Report is finalized, the proponent must issue a Notice of Completion providing a minimum 30-day period during which documentation may be reviewed and comment and input can be submitted to the proponent. The Notice of Completion must be sent to the appropriate MECP Regional Office email address.

The public can submit an elevation request, which requests a higher level of assessment on a project if they have outstanding environmental concerns. In addition, at any point in the Environmental Screening Process, if it is determined that a project is likely to have significant negative environmental effects, and that the scope and scale of these effects are such that an individual EA is warranted, the Minister of the Environment may of his or her own initiative require that a project be made subject to Part II of the *Environmental Assessment Act* (an



individual EA). If the Minister requires an individual EA, the proponent will be informed in writing, stating reasons for the decision.

The proponent cannot proceed with the project until at least 30 days after the end of the comment period provided for in the Notice of Completion. Further, the proponent may not proceed after this time if:

- an elevation request has been submitted by any interested person including Indigenous communities to the ministry regarding outstanding environmental concerns, or
- the Minister has given notice to the proponent requiring that an environmental assessment be prepared.

Please ensure that the Notice of Completion advises that outstanding concerns are to be directed to the proponent for a response, and that in the event there are outstanding environmental concerns, elevation requests should be addressed in writing to:

Director, Environmental Assessment Branch  
Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
135 St. Clair Ave. W, 1st Floor  
Toronto ON, M4V 1P5  
EABDirector@ontario.ca

For more information on the Environmental Screening Process and environmental assessment requirements for Electricity Projects, please visit the following link: [Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects | ontario.ca](#)

**A PROPONENT’S INTRODUCTION TO THE DELEGATION OF PROCEDURAL ASPECTS OF CONSULTATION WITH ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES**

**DEFINITIONS**

The following definitions are specific to this document and may not apply in other contexts:

**Aboriginal communities** – the First Nation or Métis communities identified by the Crown for the purpose of consultation.

**Consultation** – the Crown’s legal obligation to consult when the Crown has knowledge of an established or asserted Aboriginal or treaty right and contemplates conduct that might adversely impact that right. This is the type of consultation required pursuant to s. 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*. Note that this definition does not include consultation with Aboriginal communities for other reasons, such as regulatory requirements.

**Crown** – the Ontario Crown, acting through a particular ministry or ministries.

**Procedural aspects of consultation** – those portions of consultation related to the process of consultation, such as notifying an Aboriginal community about a project, providing information about the potential impacts of a project, responding to concerns raised by an Aboriginal community and proposing changes to the project to avoid negative impacts.

**Proponent** – the person or entity that wants to undertake a project and requires an Ontario Crown decision or approval for the project.

**I. PURPOSE**

The Crown has a legal duty to consult Aboriginal communities when it has knowledge of an existing or asserted Aboriginal or treaty right and contemplates conduct that may adversely impact that right. In outlining a framework for the duty to consult, the Supreme Court of Canada has stated that the Crown may delegate procedural aspects of consultation to third parties. This document provides general information about the Ontario Crown’s approach to delegation of the procedural aspects of consultation to proponents.

This document is not intended to instruct a proponent about an individual project, and it does not constitute legal advice.

**II. WHY IS IT NECESSARY TO CONSULT WITH ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES?**

The objective of the modern law of Aboriginal and treaty rights is the *reconciliation* of Aboriginal peoples and non-Aboriginal peoples and their respective rights, claims and interests. Consultation is an important component of the reconciliation process.

The Crown has a legal duty to consult Aboriginal communities when it has knowledge of an existing or asserted Aboriginal or treaty right and contemplates conduct that might adversely impact that right. For example, the Crown’s duty to consult is triggered when it considers

issuing a permit, authorization or approval for a project which has the potential to adversely impact an Aboriginal right, such as the right to hunt, fish, or trap in a particular area.

The scope of consultation required in particular circumstances ranges across a spectrum depending on both the nature of the asserted or established right and the seriousness of the potential adverse impacts on that right.

Depending on the particular circumstances, the Crown may also need to take steps to accommodate the potentially impacted Aboriginal or treaty right. For example, the Crown may be required to avoid or minimize the potential adverse impacts of the project.

### **III. THE CROWN'S ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE DELEGATED CONSULTATION PROCESS**

The Crown has the responsibility for ensuring that the duty to consult, and accommodate where appropriate, is met. However, the Crown may delegate the procedural aspects of consultation to a proponent.

There are different ways in which the Crown may delegate the procedural aspects of consultation to a proponent, including through a letter, a memorandum of understanding, legislation, regulation, policy and codes of practice.

If the Crown decides to delegate procedural aspects of consultation, the Crown will generally:

- Ensure that the delegation of procedural aspects of consultation and the responsibilities of the proponent are clearly communicated to the proponent;
- Identify which Aboriginal communities must be consulted;
- Provide contact information for the Aboriginal communities;
- Revise, as necessary, the list of Aboriginal communities to be consulted as new information becomes available and is assessed by the Crown;
- Assess the scope of consultation owed to the Aboriginal communities;
- Maintain appropriate oversight of the actions taken by the proponent in fulfilling the procedural aspects of consultation;
- Assess the adequacy of consultation that is undertaken and any accommodation that may be required;
- Provide a contact within any responsible ministry in case issues arise that require direction from the Crown; and
- Participate in the consultation process as necessary and as determined by the Crown.

#### **IV. THE PROPONENT'S ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE DELEGATED CONSULTATION PROCESS**

Where aspects of the consultation process have been delegated to a proponent, the Crown, in meeting its duty to consult, will rely on the proponent's consultation activities and documentation of those activities. The consultation process informs the Crown's decision of whether or not to approve a proposed project or activity.

A proponent's role and responsibilities will vary depending on a variety of factors including the extent of consultation required in the circumstance and the procedural aspects of consultation the Crown has delegated to it. Proponents are often in a better position than the Crown to discuss a project and its potential impacts with Aboriginal communities and to determine ways to avoid or minimize the adverse impacts of a project.

A proponent can raise issues or questions with the Crown at any time during the consultation process. If issues or concerns arise during the consultation that cannot be addressed by the proponent, the proponent should contact the Crown.

##### **a) What might a proponent be required to do in carrying out the procedural aspects of consultation?**

Where the Crown delegates procedural aspects of consultation, it is often the proponent's responsibility to provide notice of the proposed project to the identified Aboriginal communities. The notice should indicate that the Crown has delegated the procedural aspects of consultation to the proponent and should include the following information:

- a description of the proposed project or activity;
- mapping;
- proposed timelines;
- details regarding anticipated environmental and other impacts;
- details regarding opportunities to comment; and
- any changes to the proposed project that have been made for seasonal conditions or other factors, where relevant.

Proponents should provide enough information and time to allow Aboriginal communities to provide meaningful feedback regarding the potential impacts of the project. Depending on the nature of consultation required for a project, a proponent also may be required to:

- provide the Crown with copies of any consultation plans prepared and an opportunity to review and comment;
- ensure that any necessary follow-up discussions with Aboriginal communities take place in a timely manner, including to confirm receipt of information, share and update information and to address questions or concerns that may arise;

- as appropriate, discuss with Aboriginal communities potential mitigation measures and/or changes to the project in response to concerns raised by Aboriginal communities;
- use language that is accessible and not overly technical, and translate material into Aboriginal languages where requested or appropriate;
- bear the reasonable costs associated with the consultation process such as, but not limited to, meeting hall rental, meal costs, document translation(s), or to address technical & capacity issues;
- provide the Crown with all the details about potential impacts on established or asserted Aboriginal or treaty rights, how these concerns have been considered and addressed by the proponent and the Aboriginal communities and any steps taken to mitigate the potential impacts;
- provide the Crown with complete and accurate documentation from these meetings and communications; and
- notify the Crown immediately if an Aboriginal community not identified by the Crown approaches the proponent seeking consultation opportunities.

#### **b) What documentation and reporting does the Crown need from the proponent?**

Proponents should keep records of all communications with the Aboriginal communities involved in the consultation process and any information provided to these Aboriginal communities.

As the Crown is required to assess the adequacy of consultation, it needs documentation to satisfy itself that the proponent has fulfilled the procedural aspects of consultation delegated to it. The documentation required would typically include:

- the date of meetings, the agendas, any materials distributed, those in attendance and copies of any minutes prepared;
- the description of the proposed project that was shared at the meeting;
- any and all concerns or other feedback provided by the communities;
- any information that was shared by a community in relation to its asserted or established Aboriginal or treaty rights and any potential adverse impacts of the proposed activity, approval or disposition on such rights;
- any proposed project changes or mitigation measures that were discussed, and feedback from Aboriginal communities about the proposed changes and measures;
- any commitments made by the proponent in response to any concerns raised, and feedback from Aboriginal communities on those commitments;
- copies of correspondence to or from Aboriginal communities, and any materials distributed electronically or by mail;

- information regarding any financial assistance provided by the proponent to enable participation by Aboriginal communities in the consultation;
- periodic consultation progress reports or copies of meeting notes if requested by the Crown;
- a summary of how the delegated aspects of consultation were carried out and the results; and
- a summary of issues raised by the Aboriginal communities, how the issues were addressed and any outstanding issues.

In certain circumstances, the Crown may share and discuss the proponent's consultation record with an Aboriginal community to ensure that it is an accurate reflection of the consultation process.

**c) Will the Crown require a proponent to provide information about its commercial arrangements with Aboriginal communities?**

The Crown may require a proponent to share information about aspects of commercial arrangements between the proponent and Aboriginal communities where the arrangements:

- include elements that are directed at mitigating or otherwise addressing impacts of the project;
- include securing an Aboriginal community's support for the project; or
- may potentially affect the obligations of the Crown to the Aboriginal communities.

The proponent should make every reasonable effort to exempt the Crown from confidentiality provisions in commercial arrangements with Aboriginal communities to the extent necessary to allow this information to be shared with the Crown.

The Crown cannot guarantee that information shared with the Crown will remain confidential. Confidential commercial information should not be provided to the Crown as part of the consultation record if it is not relevant to the duty to consult or otherwise required to be submitted to the Crown as part of the regulatory process.

**V. WHAT ARE THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES' IN THE CONSULTATION PROCESS?**

Like the Crown, Aboriginal communities are expected to engage in consultation in good faith. This includes:

- responding to the consultation notice;
- engaging in the proposed consultation process;
- providing relevant documentation;



- clearly articulating the potential impacts of the proposed project on Aboriginal or treaty rights; and
- discussing ways to mitigate any adverse impacts.

Some Aboriginal communities have developed tools, such as consultation protocols, policies or processes that provide guidance on how they would prefer to be consulted. Although not legally binding, proponents are encouraged to respect these community processes where it is reasonable to do so. Please note that there is no obligation for a proponent to pay a fee to an Aboriginal community in order to enter into a consultation process.

To ensure that the Crown is aware of existing community consultation protocols, proponents should contact the relevant Crown ministry when presented with a consultation protocol by an Aboriginal community or anyone purporting to be a representative of an Aboriginal community.

## **VI. WHAT IF MORE THAN ONE PROVINCIAL CROWN MINISTRY IS INVOLVED IN APPROVING A PROPONENT'S PROJECT?**

Depending on the project and the required permits or approvals, one or more ministries may delegate procedural aspects of the Crown's duty to consult to the proponent. The proponent may contact individual ministries for guidance related to the delegation of procedural aspects of consultation for ministry-specific permits/approvals required for the project in question. Proponents are encouraged to seek input from all involved Crown ministries sooner rather than later.

***Client's Guide to Preliminary Screening for Species at Risk***

***Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Species at Risk Branch, Permissions and Compliance***

***DRAFT - May 2019***

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## 1.0 Purpose, Scope, Background and Context

### 1.1 Purpose of this Guide

This guide has been created to:

- help clients better understand their obligation to gather information and complete a preliminary screening for species at risk before contacting the ministry,
- outline guidance and advice clients can expect to receive from the ministry at the preliminary screening stage,
- help clients understand how they can gather information about species at risk by accessing publicly available information housed by the Government of Ontario, and
- provide a list of other potential sources of species at risk information that exist outside the Government of Ontario.

It remains the client's responsibility to:

- carry out a preliminary screening for their projects,
- obtain best available information from all applicable information sources,
- conduct any necessary field studies or inventories to identify and confirm the presence or absence of species at risk or their habitat,
- consider any potential impacts to species at risk that a proposed activity might cause, and
- comply with the *Endangered Species Act (ESA)*.

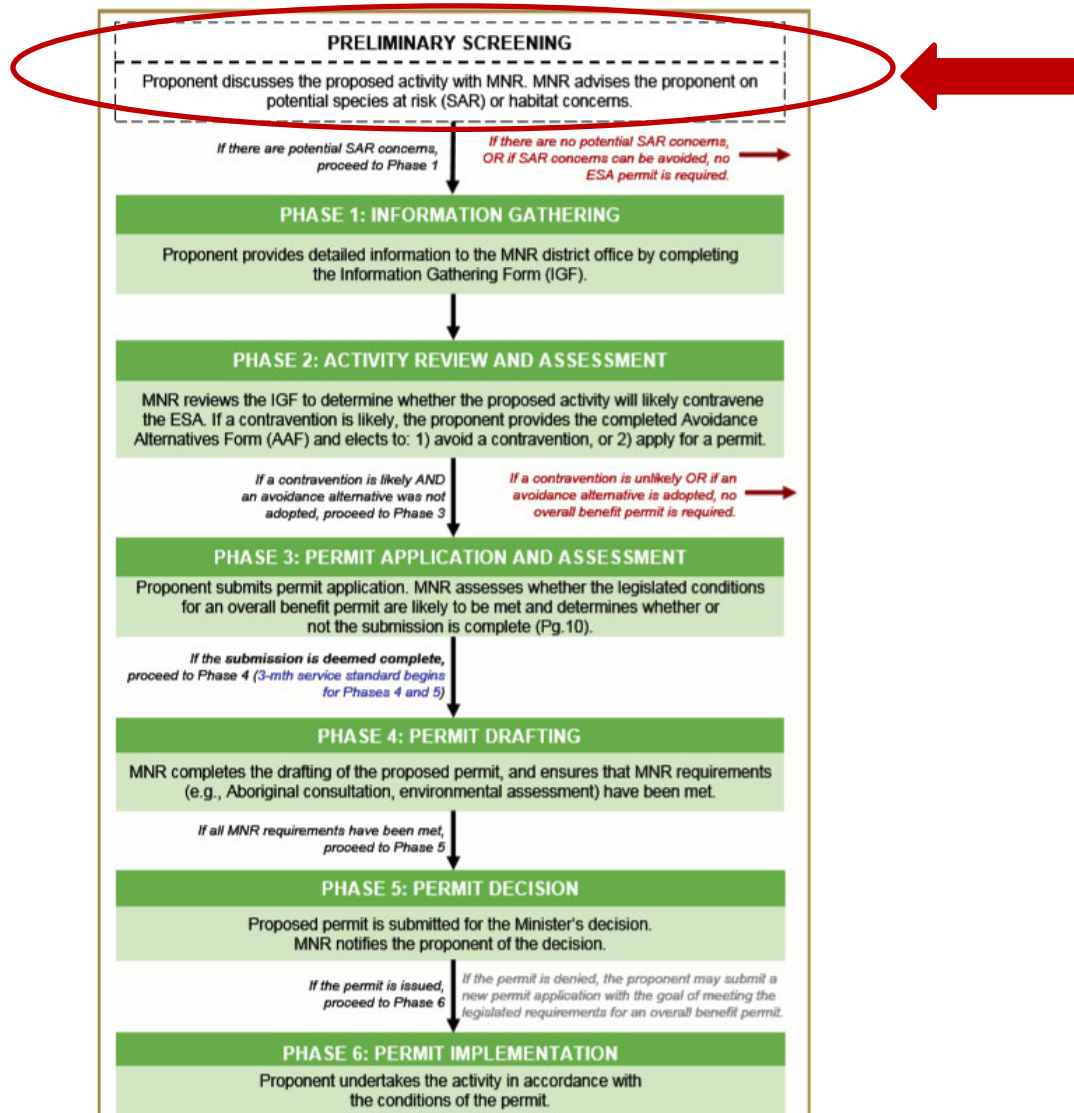
**To provide the most efficient service, clients should initiate species at risk screenings and seek information from all applicable information sources identified in this guide, at a minimum, prior to contacting Government of Ontario ministry offices for further information or advice.**

### 1.2 Scope

This guide is a resource for clients seeking to understand if their activity is likely to impact species at risk or if they are likely to trigger the need for an authorization under the ESA. It is not intended to circumvent any detailed site surveys that may be necessary to document species at risk or their habitat nor to circumvent the need to assess the impacts of a proposed activity on species at risk or their habitat. This guide is not an exhaustive list of available information sources for any given area as the availability of information on species at risk and their habitat varies across the province. This guide is intended to support projects and activities carried out on Crown and private land, by private landowners, businesses, other provincial ministries and agencies, or municipal government.

### 1.3 Background and Context

To receive advice on their proposed activity, clients must first determine whether any species at risk or their habitat exist or are likely to exist at or near their proposed activity, and whether their proposed activity is likely to contravene the ESA. Once this step is complete, clients may contact the ministry at [SAROntario@ontario.ca](mailto:SAROntario@ontario.ca) to discuss the main purpose, general methods, timing and location of their proposed activity as well as information obtained about species at risk and their habitat at, or near, the site. At this stage, the ministry can provide advice and guidance to the client about potential species at risk or habitat concerns, measures that the client is considering to avoid adverse effects on species at risk or their habitat and whether additional field surveys are advisable. This is referred to as the “Preliminary Screening” stage. For more information on additional phases in the diagram below, please refer to the *Endangered Species Act Submission Standards for Activity Review and 17(2)(c) Overall Benefit Permits* policy available online at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/species-risk-overall-benefit-permits>



## 2.0 Roles and Responsibilities

To provide the most efficient service, clients should initiate species at risk screenings and seek information from all applicable information sources identified in this guide prior to contacting Government of Ontario ministry offices for further information or advice.

**Step 1:** Client seeks information regarding species at risk or their habitat that exist, or are likely to exist, at or near their proposed activity by referring to all applicable information sources identified in this guide.

**Step 2:** Client reviews and consider guidance on whether their proposed activity is likely to contravene the ESA (see section 3.4 of this guide for guidance on what to consider).

**Step 3:** Client gathers information identified in the checklist in section 4 of this guide.

**Step 4:** Client contacts the ministry at [SAROntario@ontario.ca](mailto:SAROntario@ontario.ca) to discuss their preliminary screening. Ministry staff will ask the client questions about the main purpose, general methods, timing and location of their proposed activity as well as information obtained about species at risk and their habitat at, or near, the site. Ministry staff will also ask the client for their interpretation of the impacts of their activity on species at risk or their habitat as well as measures the client has considered to avoid any adverse impacts.

**Step 5:** Ministry staff will provide advice on next steps.

**Option A:** Ministry staff may advise the client they can proceed with their activity without an authorization under the ESA where the ministry is confident that:

- no protected species at risk or habitats are likely to be present at or near the proposed location of the activity; or
- protected species at risk or habitats are known to be present but the activity is not likely to contravene the ESA; or
- through the adoption of avoidance measures, the modified activity is not likely to contravene the ESA.

**Option B:** Ministry staff may advise the client to proceed to Phase 1 of the overall benefit permitting process (i.e. Information Gathering in the previous diagram), where:

- there is uncertainty as to whether any protected species at risk or habitats are present at or near the proposed location of the activity; or
- the potential impacts of the proposed activity are uncertain; or
- ministry staff anticipate the proposed activity is likely to contravene the ESA.



### 3.0 Information Sources

Land Information Ontario (LIO) and the Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC) maintain and provide information about species at risk, as well as related information about fisheries, wildlife, crown lands, protected lands and more. This information is made available to organizations, private individuals, consultants, and developers through online sources and is often considered under various pieces of legislation or as part of regulatory approvals and planning processes.

The information available from LIO or NHIC and the sources listed in this guide should not be considered as a substitute for site visits and appropriate field surveys. Generally, this information can be regarded as a starting point from which to conduct further field surveys, if needed. While this data represents best available current information, it is important to note that a lack of information for a site does not mean that species at risk or their habitat are not present. There are many areas where the Government of Ontario does not currently have information, especially in more remote parts of the province. The absence of species at risk location data at or near your site does not necessarily mean no species at risk are present at that location. On-site assessments can better verify site conditions, identify and confirm presence of species at risk and/or their habitats.

Information on the location (i.e. observations and occurrences) of species at risk is considered sensitive and therefore publicly available only on a 1km square grid as opposed to as a detailed point on a map. This generalized information can help you understand which species at risk are in the general vicinity of your proposed activity and can help inform field level studies you may want to undertake to confirm the presence, or absence of species at risk at or near your site.

Should you require specific and detailed information pertaining to species at risk observations and occurrences at or near your site on a finer geographic scale; you will be required to demonstrate your need to access this information, to complete data sensitivity training and to obtain a Sensitive Data Use License from the NHIC. Information on how to obtain a license can be found online at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/get-natural-heritage-information>.

Many organizations (e.g. other Ontario ministries, municipalities, conservation authorities) have ongoing licensing to access this data so be sure to check if your organization has this access and consult this data as part of your preliminary screening if your organization already has a license.

### 3.1 Make a Map: Natural Heritage Areas

The Make a Natural Heritage Area Map (available online at [http://www.gisapplication.lrc.gov.on.ca/mamnh/Index.html?site=MNR\\_NHLUPS\\_NaturalHeritage&viewer=NaturalHeritage&locale=en-US](http://www.gisapplication.lrc.gov.on.ca/mamnh/Index.html?site=MNR_NHLUPS_NaturalHeritage&viewer=NaturalHeritage&locale=en-US)) provides public access to natural heritage information, including species at risk, without the user needing to have Geographic Information System (GIS) capability. It allows users to view and identify generalized species at risk information, mark areas of interest, and create and print a custom map directly from the web application. The tool also shows topographic information such as roads, rivers, contours and municipal boundaries.

Users are advised that sensitive information has been removed from the natural areas dataset and the occurrences of species at risk has been generalized to a 1-kilometre grid to mitigate the risks to the species (e.g. illegal harvest, habitat disturbance, poaching).

The web-based mapping tool displays natural heritage data, including:

- Generalized Species at risk occurrence data (based on a 1-km square grid),
- Natural Heritage Information Centre data.

Data cannot be downloaded directly from this web map; however, information included in this application is available digitally through Land Information Ontario (LIO) at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/land-information-ontario>.

### 3.2 Land Information Ontario (LIO)

Most natural heritage data is publicly available. This data is managed in a large provincial corporate database called the LIO Warehouse and can be accessed online through the LIO Metadata Management Tool at <https://www.javacoeapp.lrc.gov.on.ca/geonetwork/srv/en/main.home>. This tool provides descriptive information about the characteristics, quality and context of the data. Publicly available geospatial data can be downloaded directly from this site.

While most data are publicly available, some data may be considered highly sensitive (i.e. nursery areas for fish, species at risk observations) and as such, access to some data maybe restricted.

### 3.3 Additional Species at Risk Information Sources

- The Breeding Bird Atlas can be accessed online at <http://www.birdsontario.org/atlas/index.jsp?lang=en>
- eBird can be accessed online at <https://ebird.org/home>
- iNaturalist can be accessed online at <https://www.inaturalist.org/>
- The Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas can be accessed online at <https://ontarionature.org/programs/citizen-science/reptile-amphibian-atlas>
- Your local Conservation Authority. Information to help you find your local Conservation Authority can be accessed online at <https://conservationontario.ca/conservation-authorities/find-a-conservation-authority/>

Local naturalist groups or other similar community-based organizations

- Local Indigenous communities
- Local land trusts or other similar Environmental Non-Government Organizations
- Field level studies to identify if species at risk, or their habitat, are likely present or absent at or near the site.
- When an activity is proposed within one of the continuous caribou ranges, please be sure to consider the caribou Range Management Policy. This policy includes figures and maps of the continuous caribou range, can be found online at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/range-management-policy-support-woodland-caribou-conservation-and-recovery>

### 3.4 Information Sources to Support Impact Assessments

- Guidance to help you understand if your activity is likely to adversely impact species at risk or their habitat can be found online at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/policy-guidance-harm-and-harass-under-endangered-species-act> and <https://www.ontario.ca/page/categorizing-and-protecting-habitat-under-endangered-species-act>
- A list of species at risk in Ontario is available online at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/species-risk-ontario>. On this webpage, you can find out more about each species, including where it lives, what threatens it and any specific habitat protections that apply to it by clicking on the photo of the species.

## 4.0 Check-List

Please feel free to use the check list below to help you confirm you have explored all applicable information sources and to support your discussion with Ministry staff at the preliminary screening stage.

- ✓ Land Information Ontario (LIO)
- ✓ Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC)
- ✓ The Breeding Bird Atlas
- ✓ eBird
- ✓ iNaturalist
- ✓ Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas
- ✓ List Conservation Authorities you contacted: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ List local naturalist groups you contacted: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ List local Indigenous communities you contacted: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ List any other local land trusts or Environmental Non-Government Organizations you contacted: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ List and field studies that were conducted to identify species at risk, or their habitat, likely to be present or absent at or near the site: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ List what you think the likely impacts of your activity are on species at risk and their habitat (e.g. damage or destruction of habitat, killing, harming or harassing species at risk): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Friday, November 24, 2023 3:40 PM

**To:** EA Notices to CRegion (MECP) <eanotification.cregion@ontario.ca>; Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** Battarino, Gavin (MECP) <Gavin.Battarino@ontario.ca>; Caicedo, Jimena (MECP) <Jimena.Caicedo@ontario.ca>

**Subject:** RE: Notice of Commencement - Portlands Energy Centre

Good afternoon MECP,

Thank you for the letter acknowledging our Notice of Commencement for the Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrade project, please see our attached response.

If you have additional questions or comments, please let our team know,

Thanks,

**Stephen Smith**

Environmental Specialist | **Atura Power**

289-259-2377 | [Stephen.smith@aturapower.com](mailto:Stephen.smith@aturapower.com)

November 24, 2023

Environmental Assessment Branch  
Environmental Assessment and Permissions Division  
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)  
135 St. Clair Avenue West  
Toronto, ON M4V 1P5

**Re: Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Upgrades  
Atura Power  
Electricity Projects Regulation, O. Reg. 116/01 (Category B)  
Acknowledgement of Notice of Commencement**

Dear Ms. Liu,

Thank you for your recent letter on October 16, 2023, acknowledging our Notice of Commencement for the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project. Atura Power will review the guidance related to the (August 2022) "Areas of Interest" and address applicable areas of interest with respect to the Screening Stage assessment being undertaken as part of the Environmental Screening process for the project.

Prior to publishing the Notice of Commencement, Atura Power initiated engagement with the Indigenous communities identified in your letter and will continue to engage with these Indigenous communities over the course of the Environmental Screening Process.

We anticipate releasing the draft Screening Report for review in a few weeks. A copy of the draft report will be shared with the MECP at that time, as per the contact information specified in your letter. Upon completion of the review period, Atura Power will address and incorporate any comments received before releasing the final Screening Report for a 30-day review period in early 2024, as per the Environmental Screening Process under O.Reg. 116/01.

In the meantime, please let us know if you would like any additional information or have any questions as we progress through the Environmental Screening process. We would also be happy to meet with you either virtually or in-person to discuss any questions or other project details that may be helpful to you.

Thank you,



Krishana Gnanachandran  
Project Manager - Outages and Projects  
Atura Power  
289-834-9084  
[Krishana.gnanachandran@aturapower.com](mailto:Krishana.gnanachandran@aturapower.com)



**From:** Caicedo, Jimena (MECP) <[Jimena.Caicedo@ontario.ca](mailto:Jimena.Caicedo@ontario.ca)>

**Sent:** Friday, November 24, 2023 3:41 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Automatic reply: Notice of Commencement - Portlands Energy Centre

Hello,

I will be out of the office on Friday (Nov.24,2023). If you require immediate assistance, please contact Paul Celsie at [Paul.Celsie@ontario.ca](mailto:Paul.Celsie@ontario.ca).

Regards,

Jimena Caicedo

Manager

Toronto District Office

Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks 5775 Yonge Street |9th  
Floor| Toronto ON

Tel: 416-709-1636

**From:** EA Notices to CRegion (MECP) <eanotification.cregion@ontario.ca>

**Sent:** Monday, November 27, 2023 4:20 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; EA Notices to CRegion (MECP) <eanotification.cregion@ontario.ca>

**Cc:** Battarino, Gavin (MECP) <Gavin.Battarino@ontario.ca>; Caicedo, Jimena (MECP) <Jimena.Caicedo@ontario.ca>

**Subject:** RE: Notice of Commencement - Portlands Energy Centre

Thank you for responding our acknowledge letter for this project. If any concerns or questions come up, we'll follow up with your project team.

Many thanks,  
Chunmei

**From:** EA Notices to CRegion (MECP) <[eanotification.cregion@ontario.ca](mailto:eanotification.cregion@ontario.ca)>

**Sent:** Thursday, November 30, 2023 4:53 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>; Stephen Smith <[Stephen.Smith@aturapower.com](mailto:Stephen.Smith@aturapower.com)>

**Cc:** Battarino, Gavin (MECP) <[Gavin.Battarino@ontario.ca](mailto:Gavin.Battarino@ontario.ca)>; Caicedo, Jimena (MECP) <[Jimena.Caicedo@ontario.ca](mailto:Jimena.Caicedo@ontario.ca)>; EA Notices to CRegion (MECP) <[eanotification.cregion@ontario.ca](mailto:eanotification.cregion@ontario.ca)>; Martin, Paul (MECP) <[Paul.D.Martin@ontario.ca](mailto:Paul.D.Martin@ontario.ca)>; Antunes, Marinha (MECP) <[Marinha.Antunes@ontario.ca](mailto:Marinha.Antunes@ontario.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Notice of Commencement - Portlands Energy Centre

Dear Project Team, hope you're all doing well

Further to the ministry's acknowledge letter for this project. The ministry also recommends that your project team conduct an air quality impact assessment during the Environmental Screening Process. The air assessment should entail modelling of the existing scenario (550 MW) versus the future scenario ( 600 MW). The assessment should also include a discussion how the proposed changes will comply with the local Air Regulation 419/05 and if any mitigation measures are needed.

If your project team require additional clarification or questions and concerns, please let us know.

Many thanks,

*Chunmei Liu* (she/her) | Regional Environmental Planner

Environmental Assessments Branch, Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks | 7th Flr, 135 St Clair Ave W, Toronto, ON M4V 1P5 | [Chunmei.Liu@ontario.ca](mailto:Chunmei.Liu@ontario.ca) | 437-249-3102

***We want to hear from you. How was my service? You can provide feedback at 1-888-745-8888 or [ontario.ca/inspectionfeedback](https://ontario.ca/inspectionfeedback)***

***Nous attendons vos commentaires. Qu'avez-vous pensé de mon service? Vous pouvez nous faire part de vos commentaires au 1-888-745-8888 ou à [ontario.ca/retroactioninspection](https://ontario.ca/retroactioninspection)***

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Friday, December 8, 2023 3:33 PM

**To:** EA Notices to CRegion (MECP) <eanotification.cregion@ontario.ca>; Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** Battarino, Gavin (MECP) <Gavin.Battarino@ontario.ca>; Caicedo, Jimena (MECP) <Jimena.Caicedo@ontario.ca>; Martin, Paul (MECP) <Paul.D.Martin@ontario.ca>; Antunes, Marinha (MECP) <Marinha.Antunes@ontario.ca>; Stephen Smith <Stephen.Smith@aturapower.com>; David Patterson <david.patterson@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Notice of Commencement - Portlands Energy Centre

Good afternoon, Chunmei.

Thank you for your recent email sharing the ministry's recommendation for Atura Power to conduct an air quality impact assessment during the Environmental Screening Process for our Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project.

You would have received a copy of our draft Screening Report for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project by now. We shared this draft report with Indigenous communities, key agencies such as yourselves, and interested members of the public on Dec. 5, 2023, to offer an additional opportunity for those interested to review the project details, the Environmental Screening Process undertaken, and assessment findings.

You will note that Section 3 of the draft Screening Report explains that the Environmental Screening Process found that "no further studies are needed as there are no identified negative environmental effects from the project related to the Screening Criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, stated that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels" and that the upgrades are "not expected to increase noise levels from the facility." As such, air and noise assessments are not needed and have not been undertaken for the project".

In addition to the Environmental Screening Process findings, we note that an air quality assessment of the existing scenario (550 MW) versus the future scenario (600 MW), including a discussion of how the proposed changes will comply with the local Air Regulation 419/05 and if any mitigation measures are needed, is not required. As noted above, the manufacturer of the equipment for the upgrades has stated that [air] emissions levels will be at or below current levels. Therefore, there are no differences between an air quality assessment of the existing scenario (550 MW) versus the future scenario (600 MW). An Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) amendment application (reference number: 1000231733) has been completed and submitted by Atura on June 23, 2023, which demonstrates that the facility complies with the local Air Regulation 419/05.

Based on this, we understand that no further studies are required as part of the Environmental Screening Process per Ontario Regulation 116/01 under the *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act*. Should the ministry have any remaining questions or concerns regarding the Environmental Screening Process undertaken and the assessment findings, we would be pleased to meet with the ministry to discuss those items.

Thank you for your time and attention, and please do not hesitate to contact us with any further questions or to schedule a meeting.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** EA Notices to CRegion (MECP) <eanotification.cregion@ontario.ca>

**Sent:** Friday, January 5, 2024 8:49 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Stephen Smith <Stephen.Smith@aturapower.com>; David Patterson <david.patterson@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** Battarino, Gavin (MECP) <Gavin.Battarino@ontario.ca>; Caicedo, Jimena (MECP) <Jimena.Caicedo@ontario.ca>; Martin, Paul (MECP) <Paul.D.Martin@ontario.ca>; Antunes, Marinha (MECP) <Marinha.Antunes@ontario.ca>; EA Notices to CRegion (MECP) <eanotification.cregion@ontario.ca>; Colella, Nick (MECP) <Nick.Colella@ontario.ca>

**Subject:** RE: Notice of Commencement - Portlands Energy Centre

Happy New Year, Project Team

MECP's technical staff have reviewed Table 3-1 and Section 3.4.3 of the draft environmental screening report (ESR) for the proposed upgrades at the Portland's Energy Centre. The proposed upgrades to the turbine generator will maintain air emissions levels at or below site permit levels. Based on the rationale provided, the ministry concurs that an air quality impact assessment is not needed for this undertaking.

MECP's Toronto District staff have also reviewed the draft ESR from the lens of the district and do not have any further comments. It is understood that the proposed efficiency upgrades are occurring within the facility, will not require works beyond the footprint of the facility and are projected to cause no additional negative effects to the natural environment or species at risk.

Initial concerns with this project were centered around visible emissions as MECP's district staff regularly receive complaints regarding plumes originating from the plant due to the startup/shutdown procedures. In the report, the equipment manufacturer has demonstrated that the upgrades will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels. Similarly, the manufacturer has stated that the upgrades are not expected to increase noise levels from the facility. This was previously assured through discussions with Atura Power representatives in June 2023 when the Environmental Compliance Approval amendment was submitted.

Attached we have also asked the full record of indigenous consultation information including emails, call logs, meeting notes, etc. for the review of the draft ESR.

If the requested information is not available at the draft ESR review stage, the ministry will request the full record of indigenous consultation information for our review when a Notice of Completion and the final ESR for the project is released during the 30-day public review period.

If you have any questions regarding our request, please let us know.

Many thanks,

*Chunmei Liu* (she/her) | Regional Environmental Planner

Environmental Assessments Branch, Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks | 7th Flr, 135 St Clair Ave W, Toronto, ON M4V 1P5 | [Chunmei.Liu@ontario.ca](mailto:Chunmei.Liu@ontario.ca) | 437-249-3102



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Friday, January 12, 2024 4:48 PM

**To:** EA Notices to CRegion (MECP) <eanotification.cregion@ontario.ca>

**Cc:** Battarino, Gavin (MECP) <Gavin.Battarino@ontario.ca>; Caicedo, Jimena (MECP) <Jimena.Caicedo@ontario.ca>; Martin, Paul (MECP) <Paul.D.Martin@ontario.ca>; Antunes, Marinha (MECP) <Marinha.Antunes@ontario.ca>; Colella, Nick (MECP) <Nick.Colella@ontario.ca>; Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Stephen Smith <Stephen.Smith@aturapower.com>; David Patterson <david.patterson@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Notice of Commencement - Portlands Energy Centre

Hello, Chunmei, and Happy New Year to you as well!

Thank you for your email dated Jan. 5, 2024. We appreciate the MECP's confirmation that an air quality impact assessment is not needed for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project, and that the MECP's Toronto District staff have reviewed the draft Screening Report and do not have further comments.

In response to the MECP's request for the full record of Indigenous engagement information, we would like to note that the draft Environmental Screening Report (Section 4) summarizes our engagement with Indigenous communities during the Environmental Screening Process to date. We have not included the detailed correspondence records in the draft Screening Report as we are sharing these records with each Indigenous community first.

And, as noted in your email, we will provide the correspondence with Indigenous communities to the MECP with the Notice of Completion and final Screening Report.

Thank you again, and please let us know if you have further questions.

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit 200, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 5, 2023 3:21 PM

**To:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

As you know, Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC). The upgrades are subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01 under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. Atura Power has prepared a *draft* copy of the Screening Report which documents the results of the Environmental Screening Process undertaken to identify whether any potential environmental effects of the project would occur ('Yes' or 'No'). The Environmental Screening Process determined that the response to all questions is 'No', indicating that there would not be potential negative environmental effects resulting from the project.

Attached to this email is a draft of the Screening Report. We are sharing this draft with Indigenous communities, key agencies such as yourselves, and interested members of the public to offer an additional opportunity to review the project details, the Environmental Screening Process undertaken, and assessment findings. Atura Power is voluntarily providing this opportunity so comments can be incorporated in the final Screening Report. We invite you to review the draft report and share any comments on the report via our project email address, [portlandupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandupgrade@aturapower.com). We will **accept comments until Jan. 7, 2024**, after which time we will prepare and release the final version of the Screening Report in winter 2024.

Thank you very much, and please send your project-related questions to [portlandupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandupgrade@aturapower.com).

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** EA Notices to CRegion (MECP) <eanotification.cregion@ontario.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 11, 2023 3:21 PM  
**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>  
**Cc:** Battarino, Gavin (MECP) <Gavin.Battarino@ontario.ca>; Averill, Jon (MECP) <Jon.Averill@ontario.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Dear Project Team,

The ministry is requesting the full record of indigenous consultation information including emails, call logs, meeting notes, etc. for the review of the draft ESR for this project.

If the requested information is not available at the draft ESR review stage, the ministry will request the full record of indigenous consultation information for our review when a Notice of Completion and the final ESR for the project is released during the 30-day public review period.

If you have any questions regarding our request, please let us know.

Many thanks,

*Chunmei Liu* (she/her) | Regional Environmental Planner

Environmental Assessments Branch, Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks | 7th Flr, 135 St Clair Ave W, Toronto, ON M4V 1P5 | [Chunmei.Liu@ontario.ca](mailto:Chunmei.Liu@ontario.ca) | 437-249-3102

**From:** O'Neill, Kathleen (MECP) <[Kathleen.Oneill@ontario.ca](mailto:Kathleen.Oneill@ontario.ca)>

**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2023 2:30 PM

**To:** [jack@cleanairalliance.org](mailto:jack@cleanairalliance.org) <[jack@cleanairalliance.org](mailto:jack@cleanairalliance.org)>

**Cc:** David Patterson <[david.patterson@aturapower.com](mailto:david.patterson@aturapower.com)>; Liu, Chunmei (MECP) <[Chunmei.Liu@ontario.ca](mailto:Chunmei.Liu@ontario.ca)>; Randolph, Clinton (MECP) <[Clinton.Randolph@ontario.ca](mailto:Clinton.Randolph@ontario.ca)>; Colella, Nick (MECP) <[Nick.Colella@ontario.ca](mailto:Nick.Colella@ontario.ca)>; Battarino, Gavin (MECP) <[Gavin.Battarino@ontario.ca](mailto:Gavin.Battarino@ontario.ca)>; Yumbla, Josephine (MECP) <[Josephine.Yumbla@ontario.ca](mailto:Josephine.Yumbla@ontario.ca)>

**Subject:** Reply Letter - Ministry of the Environment Conservation and Parks (MECP)

Good afternoon,

Please see attached letter from MECP. Regards,

Kathleen O'Neill

Director, Environmental Assessment Branch Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
647-287-5664

Ministry of the Environment,  
Conservation and Parks

Ministère de l'Environnement, de la  
Protection de la nature et des Parcs



Environmental Assessment  
Branch

Direction des évaluations  
environnementales

7th Floor  
135 St. Clair Avenue W  
Toronto ON M4V 1P5  
Tel.: 416 314-8001  
Fax.: 416 314-8452

7ème étage  
135, avenue St. Clair Ouest  
Toronto ON M4V 1P5  
Tél. : 416 314-8001  
Télec. : 416 314-8452

357-2023-2041

November 17, 2023

Jack Gibbons  
Chair, Ontario Clean Air Alliance  
Email: [jack@cleanairalliance.org](mailto:jack@cleanairalliance.org)

Dear Jack Gibbons:

Thank you for your October 10, 2023, email regarding the proposal by Atura Power to increase the capacity of its Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) by 50 Megawatts (MW). I understand that you would like to know how the public can participate in the environmental assessment process and the process for submitting an elevation request.

As the proposal by Atura Power will result in a 50 MW increase in output capacity of the PEC, the proposal is subject to the Environmental Screening Process (ESP) for Electricity Projects pursuant to O. Reg. 116/01 made under the *Environmental Assessment Act*. As part of this process, interested members of the public will be provided with an opportunity to provide feedback and comments at key decision making points in the ESP. The proponent has a responsibility to develop and implement a consultation program which provides appropriate opportunities for the public to participate in the screening process. The ESP also requires that there be a 30-day period during which the Screening Report or the Environmental Review Report is available to the public for review. Please refer to [Atura's project website](#) for more information about the PEC efficiency upgrades and upcoming public meetings.

I understand that you also have questions about the elevation request process. In accordance with O. Reg. 116/01, when a Notice of Completion is issued for a project, members of the public have an opportunity to request that a project be elevated to a more rigorous level of review. For further information about the elevation request process, please refer to the [Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects](#).

...2

Jack Gibbons  
Page 2.

The ministry understands that a Notice of Commencement for the ESP was published in September 2023. As the ESP is still ongoing, I encourage you to take the opportunity to share any comments or concerns about the proposal directly with Atura Power. You can contact David Patterson, EHS Manager, Atura Power, at the following email address: [david.patterson@aturapower.com](mailto:david.patterson@aturapower.com).

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

*Kathleen O'Neill*

Kathleen O'Neill  
Director  
Environmental Assessment Branch

c: David Patterson, EHS Manager, Atura Power



# **Appendix B6b: Correspondence Records with Other Agencies**

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Sent:** September 6, 2023 12:53 PM

**To:** Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good afternoon.

This email and attached PDF are to inform you that Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at our Portlands Energy Centre, located on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station in Toronto, Ont. Please see the attached letter and Notice of Commencement for more details about the proposed activities, engagement opportunities, and how to learn more.

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** SUN Hongxia <Susan.SUN@HydroOne.com> on behalf of SECONDARY LAND USE Department <Department.SecondaryLandUse@hydroone.com>

**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 2:29 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** SECONDARY LAND USE Department <Department.SecondaryLandUse@hydroone.com>

**Subject:** Hydro One Response: 20230911-NoticeOfPIC1-Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Please see the attached for Hydro One's Response.

Hydro One Networks Inc

SecondaryLandUse@HydroOne.com

This email and any attached files are privileged and may contain confidential information intended only for the person or persons named above. Any other distribution, reproduction, copying, disclosure, or other dissemination is strictly prohibited. If you have received this email in error, please notify the sender immediately by reply email and delete the transmission received by you. This statement applies to the initial email as well as any and all copies (replies and/or forwards) of the initial email



Hydro One Networks Inc.

483 Bay Street  
8th Floor South Tower  
Toronto, Ontario M5G 2P5

[HydroOne.com](http://HydroOne.com)

September 11, 2023

Re: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Attention:  
Krishana Gnanachandran  
Project Manager - Outages and Projects  
Atura Power

Thank you for sending us notification regarding (Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades). In our preliminary assessment, we confirm there are no existing Hydro One Transmission assets in the subject area. Please be advised that this is only a preliminary assessment based on current information.

If plans for the undertaking change or the study area expands beyond that shown, please contact Hydro One to assess impacts of existing or future planned electricity infrastructure.

Any future communications are sent to [Secondarylanduse@hydroone.com](mailto:Secondarylanduse@hydroone.com).

Be advised that any changes to lot grading and/or drainage within proximity to Hydro One transmission corridor lands must be controlled and directed away from the transmission corridor.

Sent on behalf of,

**Secondary Land Use  
Asset Optimization  
Strategy & Integrated Planning  
Hydro One Networks Inc.**

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Sent:** September 6, 2023 12:53 PM

**To:** Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good afternoon.

This email and attached PDF are to inform you that Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at our Portlands Energy Centre, located on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station in Toronto, Ont. Please see the attached letter and Notice of Commencement for more details about the proposed activities, engagement opportunities, and how to learn more.

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Johnston, Keith (He/Him) (MNRF) <[Keith.Johnston@ontario.ca](mailto:Keith.Johnston@ontario.ca)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 6, 2023 12:53 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Automatic reply: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Thank you for your email.

I am currently out of the office. I will not have access to email at this time and I will respond to your email when I return September 18.

If you need immediate assistance, please contact: Jim Boothby ([Jim.Boothby@ontario.ca](mailto:Jim.Boothby@ontario.ca)) with copy to my email account.

If you need assistance with OPCC or EA Notices, Environmental Registry or Regulatory Registry, please contact: [Environmental.Planning.Team@ontario.ca](mailto:Environmental.Planning.Team@ontario.ca)

Regards,

Keith Johnston [He/Him]  
A/Team Lead, Environmental Planning



**From:** Bale, Sarah (MNRF) <[Sarah.Bale@ontario.ca](mailto:Sarah.Bale@ontario.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 14, 2023 11:16 AM  
**To:** Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Dear Darius:

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) received the Notice of Commencement for the Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades on September 6, 2023. Thank you for circulating this to our office. Please note the ministry has not completed a screening of natural heritage, natural hazards, other natural resource values, or applicable ministry permits or approvals at this time.

This response provides information to guide you in identifying ministry interests and engaging the ministry for advice as needed. MNRF has prepared the attached to provide proponents an overview of MNRF mandated interests and the ministry's commenting role in respect of external requests for comment for projects subject to the *Environmental Assessment Act*.

Please note it is the proponent's responsibility to be aware of, and comply with, all relevant federal or provincial legislation, municipal by-laws and/or other agency approvals.

After reviewing the information provided, if you have identified that your project would not impact any MNRF interests there is no need to circulate any subsequent notices to our office. If you have identified MNRF interests and/or may require permit(s) or further technical advice, please direct your specific questions to the undersigned.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Best Regards,

**Sarah Bale (she/her), Regional Planner**

Land Use Planning and Strategic Issues Section | Southern Region

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

[Sarah.Bale@Ontario.ca](mailto:Sarah.Bale@Ontario.ca) | (613) 504-2254



As part of providing [accessible customer service](#), please let me know if you have any accommodation needs or require communication supports or alternate formats.

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

Land Use Planning and Strategic Issues  
Section  
Southern Region

Regional Operations Division  
300 Water Street  
Peterborough, ON K9J 3C7  
Tel.: 705 761-4839

Ministère des Richesses naturelles et des Forêts

Section de l'aménagement du territoire et des questions stratégiques  
Région du Sud

Division des opérations régionales  
300, rue Water  
Peterborough (ON) K9J 3C7  
Tél. : 705 761-4839



September 14, 2023

Darius Sokal  
Sr. Communications Advisor, Atura Power  
[darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

**SUBJECT: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades; re: Notice of Commencement of a Screening and Invitation to a Virtual Public Meeting**

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) received the *Notice of Commencement of a Screening and Invitation to a Virtual Public Meeting* on September 6, 2023. Thank you for circulating this to our office. Please note that we have not completed a screening of natural heritage or other resource values for the project at this time. This response, however, does provide information to guide you in identifying and assessing natural features and resources as required by applicable policies and legislation, as well as engaging with the Ministry for advice as needed.

Please also note that it is the proponent's responsibility to be aware of, and comply with, all relevant federal or provincial legislation, municipal by-laws or other agency approvals.

### **Natural Heritage**

MNRF's natural heritage and natural resources GIS data layers can be obtained through the Ministry's [Land Information Ontario \(LIO\)](#) website. You may also view natural heritage information online (e.g., Provincially Significant Wetlands, ANSI's, woodlands, etc.) using the [Make a Map: Natural Heritage Areas](#) tool.

We recommend that you use the above-noted sources of information during the review of your project proposal.

### **Natural Hazards**

A series of natural hazard technical guides developed by MNRF are available to support municipalities and conservation authorities implement the natural hazard policies in the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS). For example, standards to address flood risks and the potential impacts and costs from riverine flooding are addressed in the *Technical Guide River and Stream Systems: Flooding Hazard Limit (2002)*. We recommend that you consider these technical guides as you assess specific improvement projects that can be undertaken to reduce the risk of flooding.

## **Petroleum Wells & Oil, Gas and Salt Resources Act**

There may be petroleum wells within the proposed project area. Please consult the Ontario Oil, Gas and Salt Resources Library website ([www.ogsrlibrary.com](http://www.ogsrlibrary.com)) for the best-known data on any wells recorded by MNR. Please reference the 'Definitions and Terminology Guide' listed in the publications on the library website to better understand the well information available. Any oil and gas wells in your project area are regulated by the *Oil, Gas and Salt Resource Act*, and the supporting regulations and operating standards. If any unanticipated wells are encountered during development of the project, or if the proponent has questions regarding petroleum operations, the proponent should contact the Petroleum Operations Section at [POSRecords@ontario.ca](mailto:POSRecords@ontario.ca) or 519-873-4634.

## **Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act**

Please note, that should the project require:

- The relocation of fish outside of the work area, a Licence to Collect Fish for Scientific Purposes under the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act* will be required.
- The relocation of wildlife outside of the work area (including amphibians, reptiles, and small mammals), a Wildlife Collector's Authorization under the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act* will be required.

## **Public Lands Act & Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act**

Some Project may be subject to the provisions of the *Public Lands Act* or *Lakes and River Improvement Act*. Please review the information on MNR's web pages provided below regarding when an approval is, or is not, required. Please note that many of the authorizations under the *Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act* are administered by the local Conservation Authority.

- For more information about the *Public Lands Act*: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/crown-land-work-permits>
- For more information about the *Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act*: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/lakes-and-rivers-improvement-act-administrative-guide>

After reviewing the information provided, if you have not identified any of MNR's interests stated above, there is no need to circulate any subsequent notices to our office. If you have identified any of MNR's interests and/or may require permit(s) or further technical advice, please direct your specific questions to the undersigned.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Best Regards,

**Sarah Bale (she/her), Regional Planner**

Land Use Planning and Strategic Issues Section | Southern Region

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

[Sarah.Bale@Ontario.ca](mailto:Sarah.Bale@Ontario.ca) | (613) 504-2254

**From:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 27, 2023 11:32 AM  
**To:** Bale, Sarah (MNRF) <Sarah.Bale@ontario.ca>; Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good morning, Sarah.

Thank you for confirming receipt of the Notice of Commencement for the Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades and sharing the information to guide us in identifying ministry interests and engaging the ministry for advice as needed over the course of the Environmental Screening Process.

We will review the materials and reach out with any questions or concerns.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Bale, Sarah (MNRF) <Sarah.Bale@ontario.ca>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 9:22 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Automatic reply: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

I am in training from 12pm Tuesday (October 2) until 4:30pm Thursday (October 5). I will respond to you as soon as possible.

Thanks, Sarah

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Sent:** December 5, 2023 3:21 PM

**To:** Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Good afternoon.

As you know, Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC). The upgrades are subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01 under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. Atura Power has prepared a *draft* copy of the Screening Report which documents the results of the Environmental Screening Process undertaken to identify whether any potential environmental effects of the project would occur ('Yes' or 'No'). The Environmental Screening Process determined that the response to all questions is 'No', indicating that there would not be potential negative environmental effects resulting from the project.

Attached to this email is a draft of the Screening Report. We are sharing this draft with Indigenous communities, key agencies such as yourselves, and interested members of the public to offer an additional opportunity to review the project details, the Environmental Screening Process undertaken, and assessment findings. Atura Power is voluntarily providing this opportunity so comments can be incorporated in the final Screening Report. We invite you to review the draft report and share any comments on the report via our project email address, [portlandupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandupgrade@aturapower.com). We will **accept comments until Jan. 7, 2024**, after which time we will prepare and release the final version of the Screening Report in winter 2024.

Thank you very much, and please send your project-related questions to [portlandupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandupgrade@aturapower.com).

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



**From:** Bale, Sarah (MNRF) <Sarah.Bale@ontario.ca>

**Sent:** Monday, December 11, 2023 12:28 PM

**To:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Hello Darius,

Thank you for sending the draft Screening Report. Based on the information contained in the report, we do not have any concerns or further comment at this time.

Please continue to circulate us on key stages/milestones in the process. You can send future circulations directly to me at [sarah.bale@ontario.ca](mailto:sarah.bale@ontario.ca).

Sincerely,

Sarah

**Sarah Bale (she/her), Regional Planner**

Land Use Planning and Strategic Issues Section | Southern Region

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

[Sarah.Bale@Ontario.ca](mailto:Sarah.Bale@Ontario.ca) | (613) 504-2254



As part of providing [accessible customer service](#), please let me know if you have any accommodation needs or require communication supports or alternate formats

**From:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Monday, December 11, 2023 5:38 PM

**To:** Bale, Sarah (MNRF) <Sarah.Bale@ontario.ca>; Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** Stephen Smith <Stephen.Smith@aturapower.com>; David Patterson  
<david.patterson@aturapower.com>; Krishana Gnanachandran  
<Krishana.Gnanachandran@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Thank you for your message and quick review, Sarah.

They are very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Sent:** September 6, 2023 12:53 PM

**To:** Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** [External Sender] Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good afternoon.

This email and attached PDF are to inform you that Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at our Portlands Energy Centre, located on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station in Toronto, Ont. Please see the attached letter and Notice of Commencement for more details about the proposed activities, engagement opportunities, and how to learn more.

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Office Of The Fire Chief <[OfficeOfTheFireChief@toronto.ca](mailto:OfficeOfTheFireChief@toronto.ca)>

**Sent:** Thursday, September 14, 2023 3:24 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Cc:** Office Of The Fire Chief <[OfficeOfTheFireChief@toronto.ca](mailto:OfficeOfTheFireChief@toronto.ca)>

**Subject:** Toronto Fire Services Reply RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good afternoon Darius,

Thank you for contacting Toronto Fire Services, Office of the Fire Chief to provide this notice regarding the above-mentioned. I have forwarded this to our Fire Prevention and Inspections division who will review and attend if necessary, or be in contact if further information is required.

Kind regards,  
Heather

**Heather Smith (she/her)**  
**Administrative Assistant for**  
Matthew Pegg, Fire Chief and General Manager

**Office of the Fire Chief** | Toronto Fire Services  
4330 Dufferin Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON | M3H 5R9  
O: (416) 338-9061 C: (416) 476-3361 Fax: (416) 338-9060  
[Heather.Smith@toronto.ca](mailto:Heather.Smith@toronto.ca) | [OfficeOfTheFireChief@toronto.ca](mailto:OfficeOfTheFireChief@toronto.ca)

I acknowledge the land I am standing on is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. I also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit and the Williams Treaty signed with multiple Mississaugas and Chippewa bands.

I acknowledge all Treaty peoples – including those who came here as settlers – as migrants either in this

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 6, 2023 12:53 PM

**To:** Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good afternoon.

This email and attached PDF are to inform you that Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at our Portlands Energy Centre, located on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station in Toronto, Ont. Please see the attached letter and Notice of Commencement for more details about the proposed activities, engagement opportunities, and how to learn more.

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Corinna Thomassen-Darby <[Corinna.Thomassen-Darby@trca.ca](mailto:Corinna.Thomassen-Darby@trca.ca)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 19, 2023 3:58 PM

**To:** Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Automatic reply: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

*Thank you for your email.*

*I'm currently out of the office and will return on Wednesday, September 27, 2023. If your email is urgent please contact Madison Antonangeli at [madison.antonangeli@trca.ca](mailto:madison.antonangeli@trca.ca), otherwise I will return your email at my earliest convenience upon my return to the office.*

*Thank-you*

**Corinna Thomassen-Darby, M.PL (she/her/hers)**

Planner

Infrastructure Planning and Permits | Development and Engineering Services

---

T: (416) 661-6600 ext. 5625

E: [corinna.thomassen-darby@trca.ca](mailto:corinna.thomassen-darby@trca.ca)

C: (647) 649-8964

A: [101 Exchange Avenue, Vaughan, ON, L4K 5R6](#) | [trca.ca](http://trca.ca)



**From:** Jackie Ho <[Jackie.Ho@trca.ca](mailto:Jackie.Ho@trca.ca)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 19, 2023 2:07 PM  
**To:** Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>; Upgrade project for PEC  
<[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>  
**Cc:** Corinna Thomassen-Darby <[Corinna.Thomassen-Darby@trca.ca](mailto:Corinna.Thomassen-Darby@trca.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Hi Darius,

I will be the main contact at TRCA for this project. I am confirming receipt of the Notice of Commencement. Please be advised that a formal response will be coming from TRCA.

TRCA staff are unable to attend the public meeting live on October 5th. Would you please share the materials with us for TRCA staff to review?

Thanks,  
Jackie

**Jackie Ho (she/her)**  
Planner I  
Infrastructure Planning and Permits | Development and Engineering Services

T: [437-880-2147](tel:437-880-2147)

E: [jackie.ho@trca.ca](mailto:jackie.ho@trca.ca)

A: [101 Exchange Avenue, Vaughan, ON, L4K 5R6 | trca.ca](https://www.trca.ca)



**From:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 19, 2023 1:58 PM

**To:** Jackie Ho <Jackie.Ho@trca.ca>

**Cc:** Corinna Thomassen-Darby <Corinna.Thomassen-Darby@trca.ca>; Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Hi Jackie.

Thank you for your message.

I will share the public meeting materials with you shortly after the meeting. They will also be posted on the project webpage at [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](http://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade).

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Jackie Ho <Jackie.Ho@trca.ca>

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 19, 2023 4:08 PM

**To:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** Corinna Thomassen-Darby <Corinna.Thomassen-Darby@trca.ca>; Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Hi Darius,

Thanks for confirming. I noted on the project webpage that Atura Power has applied for an exemption with MECP. Is there an expected timeline for when it will be known whether the EA proceeds?

Best,  
Jackie

**Jackie Ho (she/her)**

Planner I

Infrastructure Planning and Permits | Development and Engineering Services

T: [437-880-2147](tel:437-880-2147)

E: [jackie.ho@trca.ca](mailto:jackie.ho@trca.ca)

A: [101 Exchange Avenue, Vaughan, ON, L4K 5R6](https://www.trca.ca/101-Exchange-Avenue-Vaughan-ON-L4K-5R6) | [trca.ca](https://www.trca.ca)



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:57 AM

**To:** Jackie Ho <Jackie.Ho@trca.ca>

**Cc:** Corinna Thomassen-Darby <Corinna.Thomassen-Darby@trca.ca>; Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Hi Jackie.

Atura Power is not pursuing an exemption with the MECP.

Thanks, and sorry for my delayed reply.

**Darius Sokal ([hear it](#))**

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC [portlandupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandupgrade@aturapower.com)

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 5, 2023 3:21 PM

**To:** Darius Sokal [Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)

**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Good afternoon.

As you know, Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC). The upgrades are subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01 under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. Atura Power has prepared a *draft* copy of the Screening Report which documents the results of the Environmental Screening Process undertaken to identify whether any potential environmental effects of the project would occur ('Yes' or 'No'). The Environmental Screening Process determined that the response to all questions is 'No', indicating that there would not be potential negative environmental effects resulting from the project.

Attached to this email is a draft of the Screening Report. We are sharing this draft with Indigenous communities, key agencies such as yourselves, and interested members of the public to offer an additional opportunity to review the project details, the Environmental Screening Process undertaken, and assessment findings. Atura Power is voluntarily providing this opportunity so comments can be incorporated in the final Screening Report. We invite you to review the draft report and share any comments on the report via our project email address, [portlandupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandupgrade@aturapower.com). We will **accept comments until Jan. 7, 2024**, after which time we will prepare and release the final version of the Screening Report in winter 2024.

Thank you very much, and please send your project-related questions to [portlandupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandupgrade@aturapower.com).

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Jackie Ho <[Jackie.Ho@trca.ca](mailto:Jackie.Ho@trca.ca)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 6, 2023 10:21 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>; Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>

**Cc:** Corinna Thomassen-Darby <[Corinna.Thomassen-Darby@trca.ca](mailto:Corinna.Thomassen-Darby@trca.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Hi Krishana and Darius,

TRCA staff note that there were no detailed responses to our comments included in the draft screening report. Please provide us with detailed responses for TRCA staff review in the attached appendix.

Please be advised, as noted in the response letter, this application is subject to a \$5,005 application review fee as per TRCA's [Fee Schedule](#). For payment options, refer to How to Pay TRCA Review Fees. Ensure your accounting department references CFN 69952 when making payment. An invoice will be sent from TRCA Accounting staff in a few days.

Best,  
Jackie

**Jackie Ho (she/her)**

Planner I

Infrastructure Planning and Permits | Development and Engineering Services

T: [437-880-2147](tel:437-880-2147)

E: [jackie.ho@trca.ca](mailto:jackie.ho@trca.ca)

A: [101 Exchange Avenue, Vaughan, ON, L4K 5R6](#) | [trca.ca](http://trca.ca)





October 31, 2023

CFN 69952

**BY E-MAIL ONLY** ([portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com))

Krishana Gnanachandran, Project Manager  
Atura Power  
1415 Joshuas Creek Drive, Unit #101  
Oakville, ON  
L6H 7G4

Dear Krishana Gnanachandran,

**Re: Notice of Commencement  
Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades  
Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects – Category B**

These comments respond to the notice received by Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) staff on Wednesday, September 6, 2023 along with supporting presentation materials from the Public Meeting held on October 5, 2023.

## **OVERVIEW**

This project involves efficiency upgrades to the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) at 470 Unwin Avenue, in the City of Toronto. The Portlands Energy Centre was previously known as the Richard L. Hearn Generating Station on Villiers Island. Upgrading the equipment at the PEC will increase its generating capacity by 50 MW to an output of 600 MW. The efficiency upgrades will be limited to replacing parts of the existing natural gas fired combustion turbines. All upgrade activities will take place within the existing facility and there will be no changes or expansion beyond the existing PEC footprint. Public engagement for this project is planned from June to December 2023 including the release of a Draft Screening Report and 30-day review period, with a Statement of Completion planned to be submitted in February 2024. A listing of documents reviewed is included/provided in Appendix A: Documents Reviewed by TRCA.

A virtual Public Meeting was held on October 5, 2023 where Atura Power provided a presentation including information on the project, proponent, and Environmental Assessment process. Atura Power is undergoing a Screening Stage assessment under the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects subject to Ontario Regulation 116/01. TRCA staff did not attend live but have provided comments on the presentation materials as part of this Notice of Commencement, detailed below.

## **COMMENTING ROLE**

Staff have reviewed the study area associated with this project in accordance with the [Conservation Authorities Act](#), including mandatory commenting on Planning Act and Environmental Assessment Act applications. TRCA undertakes review and commenting functions in accordance with [The Living City Policies](#). For additional information, please see [TRCA Role in the Plan Input and Review Process](#).

## **TRCA REVIEW**

1. TRCA staff have interest within the study area related to both impacts on natural systems, natural hazard management, and mitigating and adapting for the effects of climate change. As the EA progresses and alternatives are reviewed, opportunities to avoid, mitigate, restore, and as a last resort, compensate for impacts to shorelines should be addressed. Additionally, both source water protection and best management practices that support climate change mitigation and adaptation must be considered.
2. Staff have completed the review of this submission and have several comments which are enclosed as Appendix B: TRCA Comments and Proponent Responses. These should be addressed as the EA progresses.
3. Specifically, staff note the following:
  - a. The project is located within the Toronto Waterfront Screening Area. As such, a permit from TRCA is not required.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

1. To ensure TRCA concerns are addressed early in the review process, it is recommended that the TRCA planner be contacted when key project milestones are reached, as detailed in the [Recommended TRCA Contact Points in the Municipal Class EA or Other Processes](#).

## **SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS, TRCA DATA AND REVIEW FEES**

1. Follow the [TRCA Digital Submission Requirements for Environmental Assessment Documents](#) to ensure all required information is provided in future submissions.
2. TRCA has select digital data available through an open data platform on the [TRCA website](#) that should be used to supplement the existing conditions analysis in the development of the environmental assessment.
3. Upon request, TRCA can provide additional data for areas of interest not available on the web. Please contact the undersigned as needed. TRCA charges an administration fee for the compilation of this additional data.



4. This application is subject to a \$ 5,005.00 application review fee as per our [Fee Schedule](#). For payment options, refer to [How to Pay TRCA Review Fees](#). Ensure your accounting department references CFN 69952 when making payment.

Should you have any questions or comments, please contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Jackie Ho  
Planner I

Infrastructure Planning and Permits | Development and Engineering Services

Telephone: 437-880-2147

Email: Jackie.Ho@trca.ca

/jh

Attached: Appendix A: Documents Reviewed by TRCA.

Appendix B: TRCA Comments and Proponent Responses

Enclosed: Appendix B: TRCA Comments and Proponent Responses, Word digital file for proponent response purposes

**BY E-MAIL**

cc: TRCA: Zack Carlan, Senior Planner, Infrastructure Planning and Permits

## APPENDIX A: DOCUMENTS REVIEWED BY TRCA

### DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

1. Letter; Notice of Commencement of a Screening and Invitation to a Virtual Public Meeting; prepared by Atura Power; dated September 6, 2023; received by TRCA on September 6, 2023;
2. Portlands Energy Efficiency Upgrades, Public Meeting; Presentation; prepared by Atura Power; dated October 5, 2023; received by TRCA on October 6, 2023.

**APPENDIX B: TRCA COMMENTS AND PROPONENT RESPONSES**  
**CFN 69952 – Atura Power – Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades**

ITEM	DISCIPLINE	TRCA COMMENTS (October 31, 2023)	PROponent/CONSULTANT RESPONSE (INSERT DATE)
1.	General	TRCA seeks clarification if any work within “existing facilities” extends beyond the building footprint and associated paved areas. If any work is proposed beyond the built and paved areas, consultation with TRCA should be initiated to prevent indirect and/or direct impacts to the nearby wetlands.	
2.		TRCA advises of the Highly Vulnerable Aquifer in this location. Should works require excavation, consultation with TRCA should be initiated.	
3.		TRCA recommends use of erosion and sediment control measures for stockpiling or staging of equipment outside of the building.	
4.	Planning	Be advised that this project is located within the Toronto Waterfront Screening Area and while TRCA will continue to comment on this project throughout the EA process, future permits under the Conservation Authorities Act regulations are not required. Depending on the works that are proposed during detailed design, an application made pursuant to the TRCA Voluntary Project Review process may be recommended by staff. Voluntary Project Review applications are subject to the discretion of the applicant due to the location of the project within the Toronto Waterfront Screening Area.	

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, December 11, 2023 10:46 AM

**To:** Jackie Ho <[Jackie.Ho@trca.ca](mailto:Jackie.Ho@trca.ca)>; Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>;  
Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>

**Cc:** Corinna Thomassen-Darby <[Corinna.Thomassen-Darby@trca.ca](mailto:Corinna.Thomassen-Darby@trca.ca)>; Krishana Gnanachandran  
<[Krishana.Gnanachandran@aturapower.com](mailto:Krishana.Gnanachandran@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Good morning, Jackie.

I hope you had a great weekend.

Thank you for your December 6<sup>th</sup> message and timely review of our draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report. Please find Atura Power's response in the attached letter and appendix.

Additionally, we will take steps to facilitate payment of the \$5,005 application fee associated with your team's review of project documentation.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



Dec. 11, 2023

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority  
101 Exchange Ave.  
Vaughan, Ont. L4K 5R6

To whom it may concern,

**Re: Notice of Commencement  
Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades  
Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects – Category B**

---

Thank you for your recent letter to Atura Power on Oct. 31, 2023, acknowledging our plans to make efficiency upgrades at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) and noting TRCA guidance for consideration, as well as your recent email to Atura Power on Dec. 6, 2023, after receiving a copy of our draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report.

As you are aware, on Dec. 5, 2023, we released a draft copy of the Screening Report for review by agencies such as yourselves, Indigenous communities, and interested members of the public. The report documents the results of the Environmental Screening Process undertaken to identify whether any potential environmental effects of the project would occur ('Yes' or 'No'). The Environmental Screening Process determined that the response to all questions is 'No', indicating that there would not be potential negative environmental effects resulting from the project. We are sharing this letter and a populated copy of Appendix B: TRCA Comments and Responses in response to your Oct. 31, 2023, and Dec. 6, 2023, correspondence.


Firstly, we recognize that the project is located within the Toronto Waterfront Screening Area and note the necessity of highlighting any potential impacts to Highly Vulnerable Aquifers and/or areas beyond the existing facility. Given that the upgrades will involve replacing the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, will take place within the existing facility, and the existing facility footprint will not change, we do not anticipate any effects to the TRCA interests identified. Nonetheless, we reviewed the guidance provided including the staff comments and are responding via this letter as well as our responses to the Appendix B: TRCA Comments and Proponent Responses document provided (attached to this letter).

Upon completion of the draft Screening Report review period on Jan. 7, 2024, Atura Power will address and incorporate any comments received before releasing the final Screening Report for a 30-day review period in early 2024 as per the Environmental Screening Process under O.Reg. 116/01. We welcome any additional comments on the draft

Screening Report and associated Environmental Screening Process from TRCA during the draft review period. In the meantime, we will take steps to facilitate payment of the \$5,005 application fee associated with TRCA's review of project documentation.

If you have any other questions or comments about the project, please also do not hesitate to reach out using the information below.

Sincerely,



Krishana Gnanachandran  
Project Manager - Outages and Projects  
Atura Power  
289-834-9084  
[krishana.gnanachandran@aturapower.com](mailto:krishana.gnanachandran@aturapower.com)



## APPENDIX B: TRCA COMMENTS AND PROPONENT RESPONSES

ITEM	DISCIPLINE	TRCA COMMENTS (Oct. 31, 2023)	PROponent/CONSULTANT RESPONSE (Dec. 8, 2023)
1.	General	TRCA seeks clarification if any work within "existing facilities" extends beyond the building footprint and associated paved areas. If any work is proposed beyond the built and paved areas, consultation with TRCA should be initiated to prevent indirect and/or direct impacts to the nearby wetlands.	No; the upgrades will take place within the existing facility and associated paved areas. The existing facility footprint will not change. Atura Power acknowledges that further engagement with TRCA should be initiated should the project extend beyond the building footprint and associated paved areas.
2.		TRCA advises of the Highly Vulnerable Aquifer in this location. Should works require excavation, consultation with TRCA should be initiated.	Atura Power recognizes the Highly Vulnerable Aquifer in this location. As noted above, the upgrades will take place within the existing facility footprint and will not require excavation. Atura Power acknowledges that further engagement with TRCA should be initiated should the project require excavation.
3.		TRCA recommends use of erosion and sediment control measures for stockpiling or staging of equipment outside of the building.	All critical equipment is to be stored inside the facility. Any equipment stored outside will be temporarily stored on tractor trailer/flatbeds located on existing paved or gravel parking areas and driveways. Atura Power does not expect to affect or change the facility's existing stormwater management plan/program. No effects to erosion or sediment are anticipated.
4.	Planning	Be advised that this project is located within the Toronto Waterfront Screening Area and while TRCA will continue to comment on this project throughout the EA process, future permits under the Conservation Authorities Act regulations are not required. Depending on the works that are	Atura Power acknowledges that this project is located within the Toronto Waterfront Screening Area and that while future permits under the <i>Conservation Authorities Act</i> regulations are not required, TRCA will continue to be involved in the PEC Efficiency

		<p>proposed during detailed design, an application made pursuant to the TRCA Voluntary Project Review process may be recommended by staff. Voluntary Project Review applications are subject to the discretion of the applicant due to the location of the project within the Toronto Waterfront Screening Area.</p>	<p>Upgrades project throughout the EA process. Note, following the successful completion of the EA process, Atura Power plans to move to construction of the planned upgrades in Fall 2024. Atura Power will continue to notify the TRCA of EA milestones including the release of the draft Screening Report (which Atura Power shared notification and a copy of the report with TRCA via email on Dec. 5, 2023) as well as the Notice of Completion and publication of the final Screening Report.</p>

**From:** Jackie Ho <Jackie.Ho@trca.ca>

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 12, 2023 4:07 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** Corinna Thomassen-Darby <Corinna.Thomassen-Darby@trca.ca>; Krishana Gnanachandran <Krishana.Gnanachandran@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Hi Darius,

I'm confirming receipt of the response appendix. I will be back in touch following TRCA staff review.

Thanks,  
Jackie

**Jackie Ho (she/her)**

Planner I

Infrastructure Planning and Permits | Development and Engineering Services

T: [437-880-2147](tel:437-880-2147)

E: [jackie.ho@trca.ca](mailto:jackie.ho@trca.ca)

A: [101 Exchange Avenue, Vaughan, ON, L4K 5R6](https://www.trca.ca) | [trca.ca](https://www.trca.ca)



**From:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 12, 2023 9:09 PM  
**To:** Jackie Ho <Jackie.Ho@trca.ca>; Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Cc:** Corinna Thomassen-Darby <Corinna.Thomassen-Darby@trca.ca>; Krishana Gnanachandran <Krishana.Gnanachandran@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Thank you Jackie.

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))  
**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**  
1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4  
E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)  
M: 289-795-6573



**From:** Jackie Ho <Jackie.Ho@trca.ca>

**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2023 8:47 PM

**To:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>; Upgrade project for PEC  
<portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** Corinna Thomassen-Darby <Corinna.Thomassen-Darby@trca.ca>; Krishana Gnanachandran  
<Krishana.Gnanachandran@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Hi Darius,

TRCA staff are unable to meet the January 7 deadline proposed and request an extension of two weeks. Typically, our service delivery standards are up to 45 business days for reviewing draft EA reports, but staff expect to be able to provide comments by mid-January. Please confirm if Atura Power can accommodate.

Thanks,  
Jackie

**Jackie Ho (she/her)**

Planner I

Infrastructure Planning and Permits | Development and Engineering Services

T: [437-880-2147](tel:437-880-2147)

E: [jackie.ho@trca.ca](mailto:jackie.ho@trca.ca)

A: [101 Exchange Avenue, Vaughan, ON, L4K 5R6](https://www.trca.ca/101-Exchange-Avenue-Vaughan-ON-L4K-5R6) | [trca.ca](https://www.trca.ca)



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Friday, December 22, 2023 5:22 PM

**To:** Jackie Ho <Jackie.Ho@trca.ca>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>; Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** Corinna Thomassen-Darby <Corinna.Thomassen-Darby@trca.ca>; Krishana Gnanachandran <Krishana.Gnanachandran@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

Hello Jackie,

Thank you for your update regarding TRCA's review of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report and noting staff's need for a two-week extension beyond the January 7, 2024 deadline. We look forward to receiving TRCA's comments by January 19, 2024.

Thank you,

**Stephen Smith**

Environmental Specialist | **Atura Power**

289-259-2377 | [Stephen.smith@aturapower.com](mailto:Stephen.smith@aturapower.com)

**From:** Corinna Thomassen-Darby <Corinna.Thomassen-Darby@trca.ca>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 22, 2023 5:24 PM  
**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report

*Thank-you for your email*

*Our offices are closed for the holidays from Saturday, December 23, 2023, through Monday, January 1, 2024. I'm currently out of the office and will return on Wednesday, January 3, 2024.*

*If your email requires a response prior to my return, please contact Sabriya Jahangir at [Sabriya.Jahangir@trca.ca](mailto:Sabriya.Jahangir@trca.ca). Otherwise, I'll return your message at my earliest convenience upon my return to the office.*

**Corinna Thomassen-Darby, M.PL (*she/her/hers*)**

Planner

Infrastructure Planning and Permits | Development and Engineering Services

T: (416) 661-6600 ext. 5625

E: [corinna.thomassen-darby@trca.ca](mailto:corinna.thomassen-darby@trca.ca)

C: (647) 649-8964

A: [101 Exchange Avenue, Vaughan, ON, L4K 5R6](#) | [trca.ca](http://trca.ca)

**From:** Jackie Ho <Jackie.Ho@trca.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 17, 2024 4:51 PM  
**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; Krishana Gnanachandran <Krishana.Gnanachandran@aturapower.com>  
**Cc:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>; Zack Carlan <Zack.Carlan@trca.ca>; Corinna Thomassen-Darby <Corinna.Thomassen-Darby@trca.ca>  
**Subject:** Atura Power - Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report - TRCA Response (CFN 69952)

Good morning,

TRCA staff have completed our review of the Draft Screening Report for the above-noted project. Please see the attached response letter with our detailed comments.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Best,  
Jackie

**Jackie Ho (she/her)**  
Planner I  
Infrastructure Planning and Permits | Development and Engineering Services

T: [437-880-2147](tel:437-880-2147)

E: [jackie.ho@trca.ca](mailto:jackie.ho@trca.ca)

A: [101 Exchange Avenue, Vaughan, ON, L4K 5R6](https://www.trca.ca) | [trca.ca](https://www.trca.ca)



January 17, 2024

CFN 69952

**BY E-MAIL ONLY** ([portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com))

Krishana Gnanachandran, Project Manager  
Atura Power  
1415 Joshuas Creek Drive, Unit #101  
Oakville, ON  
L6H 7G4

Dear Krishana Gnanachandran,

**Re: Draft Screening Report for Electricity Projects  
Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades  
Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects – Category B**

These comments respond to the draft screening report received by Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) on December 5, 2023 along with email responses received on December 11, 2023.

## **OVERVIEW**

This project involves efficiency upgrades to the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) at 470 Unwin Avenue, in the City of Toronto. This site is located within the Toronto Waterfront Screening Area. The Portlands Energy Centre was previously known as the Richard L. Hearn Generating Station on Villiers Island. Upgrading the equipment at the PEC will increase its generating capacity by 50 MW to an output of 600 MW. The efficiency upgrades will be limited to replacing parts of the existing natural gas fired combustion turbines. All upgrade activities will take place within the existing facility and there will be no changes or expansion beyond the existing PEC footprint. TRCA staff understand that any equipment stored outside of the facility will be temporarily stored on tractor trailer/flatbeds located on existing paved or gravel areas. No changes to the facility's existing stormwater management are expected.

Due to the 50 MW increase in output capacity of the PEC, Atura Power is undergoing a Screening Stage assessment under the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects subject to Ontario Regulation 116/01, under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act. Public engagement for this project occurred from June to December 2023 including the release of a Draft Screening Report and 30-day review period, with a Statement of Completion planned to be submitted in February 2024. A listing of documents reviewed is included/provided in Appendix A: Documents Reviewed by TRCA.



## **COMMENTING ROLE**

Staff have reviewed the study area associated with this project in accordance with the Conservation Authorities Act, including mandatory commenting on Planning Act and Environmental Assessment Act applications. TRCA undertakes review and commenting functions in accordance with The Living City Policies. For additional information, please see TRCA Role in the Plan Input and Review Process.

## **TRCA REVIEW**

1. TRCA previously reviewed the Notice of Commencement received on September 6, 2023 and presentation materials from the Public Meeting held on October 5, 2023. A response letter was provided on October 31, 2023. Atura Power has provided responses to these comments as part of this current submission.
2. TRCA staff have completed the review of this submission and have no objections in principle to the proposed work. Our comments on the Draft Screening Report are addressed. A record of TRCA comments is enclosed as Appendix B: TRCA Comments and Proponent Responses. Specifically, staff note the following:
  - a. The project is located within the Toronto Waterfront Screening Area. As such, a permit is not required.
  - b. Continue to notify TRCA of EA milestones including the Notice of Completion and publication of the final Screening Report.
3. Payment of \$5,005 for this application review has been received by TRCA on January 9, 2024.

Should you have any questions or comments, please contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Jackie Ho  
Planner I

Infrastructure Planning and Permits | Development and Engineering Services

Telephone: 437-880-2147

Email: Jackie.Ho@trca.ca

/jh

Attached: Appendix A: Documents Reviewed by TRCA.  
Appendix B: TRCA Comments and Proponent Responses

## **BY E-MAIL**

cc: TRCA: Zack Carlan, Senior Planner, Infrastructure Planning and Permits

## APPENDIX A: DOCUMENTS REVIEWED BY TRCA

### DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

1. Letter; Notice of Commencement; prepared by Atura Power; dated December 11, 2023; received by TRCA on December 11, 2023;
2. Appendix B: TRCA Comments and Proponent Responses; dated December 8, 2023; received by TRCA on December 11, 2023;
3. Portlands Energy Efficiency Upgrades; DRAFT Screening Report for Electricity Projects; prepared by Atura Power; dated December, 2023; received by TRCA on December 5, 2023.



**APPENDIX B: TRCA COMMENTS AND PROPONENT RESPONSES  
CFN 69952 – Atura Power – Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades**

ITEM	DISCIPLINE	TRCA Comments - Notice of Commencement and Public Information Meeting (October 31, 2023)	PROponent/CONSULTANT RESPONSE (December 8, 2023)	TRCA Comments – Draft Screening Report (January 11, 2024)
1.	General	TRCA seeks clarification if any work within “existing facilities” extends beyond the building footprint and associated paved areas. If any work is proposed beyond the built and paved areas, consultation with TRCA should be initiated to prevent indirect and/or direct impacts to the nearby wetlands.	No; the upgrades will take place within the existing facility and associated paved areas. The existing facility footprint will not change. Atura Power acknowledges that further engagement with TRCA should be initiated should the project extend beyond the building footprint and associated paved areas.	Comment addressed. TRCA staff have reviewed the Draft Screening Report and have no concerns.
2.		TRCA advises of the Highly Vulnerable Aquifer in this location. Should works require excavation, consultation with TRCA should be initiated.	Atura Power recognizes the Highly Vulnerable Aquifer in this location. As noted above, the upgrades will take place within the existing facility footprint and will not require excavation. Atura Power acknowledges that further engagement with TRCA should be initiated should the project require excavation.	Comment addressed.
3.		TRCA recommends use of erosion and sediment control measures for stockpiling or staging of equipment outside of the building.	All critical equipment is to be stored inside the facility. Any equipment stored outside will be temporarily stored on tractor trailer/flatbeds located on existing paved or gravel parking	Comment addressed.

			<p>areas and driveways. Atura Power does not expect to affect or change the facility's existing stormwater management plan/program. No effects to erosion or sediment are anticipated.</p>	
4.	Planning	<p>Be advised that this project is located within the Toronto Waterfront Screening Area and while TRCA will continue to comment on this project throughout the EA process, future permits under the Conservation Authorities Act regulations are not required. Depending on the works that are proposed during detailed design, an application made pursuant to the TRCA Voluntary Project Review process may be recommended by staff. Voluntary Project Review applications are subject to the discretion of the applicant due to the location of the project within the Toronto Waterfront Screening Area.</p>	<p>Atura Power acknowledges that this project is located within the Toronto Waterfront Screening Area and that while future permits under the Conservation Authorities Act regulations are not required, TRCA will continue to be involved in the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project throughout the EA process. Note, following the successful completion of the EA process, Atura Power plans to move to construction of the planned upgrades in Fall 2024. Atura Power will continue to notify the TRCA of EA milestones including the release of the draft Screening Report (which Atura Power shared notification and a copy of the report with TRCA via email on Dec. 5, 2023) as well as the Notice of Completion and publication of the final Screening Report.</p>	<p>Comment addressed. Continue to notify TRCA of EA milestones including the Notice of Completion and publication of the final Screening Report.</p>

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Monday, January 22, 2024 6:22 AM

**To:** Jackie Ho <Jackie.Ho@trca.ca>; Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Cc:** Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>; Zack Carlan <Zack.Carlan@trca.ca>; Corinna Thomassen-Darby <Corinna.Thomassen-Darby@trca.ca>; Krishana Gnanachandran <Krishana.Gnanachandran@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Atura Power - Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report - TRCA Response (CFN 69952)

Good morning, Jackie.

Thank you for your email and attached letter concerning the TRCA's review of our draft screening report for our proposed Portlands Energy Centre efficiency upgrades.

Atura Power's response to your letter is in the attached PDF.

Thanks again and please let me know if you have any further questions or comments.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit 200, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



Jan. 22, 2024

Toronto Region Conservation Authority  
Infrastructure Planning and Permits | Development and Engineering Services  
101 Exchange Ave.,  
Concord, Ont.  
L4K 5R6

Dear Ms. Jackie Ho,

**Re: Atura Power - Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades - Draft Screening Report - TRCA Response (CFN 69952)**

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Thank you for confirming TRCA staff have completed their review of the draft Screening Report for our Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project and sharing the letter detailing TRCA's response. And thank you for confirming that TRCA has no objections to the proposed work and noting that your previous comments on the draft Screening Report shared in October 2023 have been addressed.

In response to your letter shared on Jan. 17, 2024, we wish to provide two minor clarifications:

1. In your letter, PEC is described as "previously known as the Richard L. Hearn Generating Station on Villiers Island". Please note that PEC is located in the Port Lands industrial area at 470 Unwin Ave. The former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station is located next to PEC on the southwestern side.
2. In your letter, TRCA notes that we plan to submit a Statement of Completion in February 2024. Please be advised that we plan to issue a Notice of Completion with the final Screening Report in February 2024 and will file a Statement of Completion once the screening process is complete.

Thank you again for your review of our draft Screening Report and project materials. As requested, we will continue to notify the TRCA of project milestones including sharing the Notice of Completion and final Screening Report.

Darius Sokal  
Senior Communication Advisor  
Atura Power

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 6, 2023 12:53 PM

**To:** Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good afternoon.

This email and attached PDF are to inform you that Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at our Portlands Energy Centre, located on the site of the former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station in Toronto, Ont. Please see the attached letter and Notice of Commencement for more details about the proposed activities, engagement opportunities, and how to learn more.

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Proximity <[proximity@cn.ca](mailto:proximity@cn.ca)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 6, 2023 1:25 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Automatic reply: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Thank you for your email. Due to higher than usual volumes, there may be delays in our response time. We appreciate your understanding.

Merci de votre courriel. En raison de volumes plus importants, il peut y avoir des délais additionnels dans notre temps de réponse. Nous vous remercions de votre compréhension.



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Friday, January 26, 2024 12:57 PM

**To:** heritageplanning@toronto.ca

**Cc:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>; cityplanning@toronto.ca;  
Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good afternoon.

Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC), located at 470 Unwin Ave., Toronto. Since the upgrades will result in an increase in the nameplate capacity of more than five megawatts, the project is subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation 116/01, under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act.

Please find an attached letter detailing our proposed project as well as a related enquiry for Heritage Planning staff.

Thank you very much and please contact us at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com) with any questions.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit 200, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

Jan. 26, 2024

City of Toronto  
City Planning Department, Heritage Planning  
Toronto City Hall  
12th Fl. E., 100 Queen St. W.  
Toronto Ont. M5H 2N2

To Whom it May Concern,

**Subject: Ontario Regulation 116/06 - Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects – Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades**

---

Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades (upgrades) at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) located at 470 Unwin Ave., Toronto. These upgrades will increase the facility generating contract capacity by an average of 50 megawatts (MW) to achieve a total average contract capacity of 600 MW. The upgrades will involve replacing internal parts of the natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts that will result in greater electrical output from the generators. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls but, due to improved technology, will be more efficient.

The project will take place entirely within the facility at 470 Unwin Ave. The PEC facility footprint will not change, and no additional external laydown areas will be required.

Since the upgrades will result in an increase in the nameplate capacity of more than five MW, the project underwent an Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects as required by Ontario Regulation 116/01, under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. As part of the engagement process, Atura Power contacted the City Planning department, via [cityplanning@toronto.ca](mailto:cityplanning@toronto.ca), in early September 2023 to share the Notice of Commencement for the project. We contacted the City Planning department again in December 2023 to share a copy of our draft Environmental Screening Report which documents the results of the Environmental Screening Process undertaken to identify whether any potential environmental effects of the project would occur ('Yes' or 'No'). The Environmental Screening Process determined that the response to all questions is "No", indicating that there are no potential negative environmental effects resulting from the project. We have not received any comments or questions about the proposed project, Environmental Screening Process, or assessment findings from the City Planning department to date.

Through correspondence with the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, we were advised to contact City of Toronto Heritage Planning staff to determine if the proposed activities will adversely impact any heritage attributes of the property. As noted above, given that the project will take place entirely within the facility at 470 Unwin Ave., we are reaching out with this letter to confirm that a Heritage Impact Assessment is not required based on the current project description. We understand that the Richard L. Hearn Generating Station at 440 Unwin Ave. is designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act (City of Toronto By-laws #1144-2019 and #936-2020) and note that the PEC Efficiency Upgrades will not affect this property.

As you may be aware, this project was contracted by the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) on May 16, 2023, under their Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) Request for Proposal and is associated with tight project timelines to meet the provinces near-term electricity needs. We would appreciate if Heritage Planning staff can respond to this letter by Jan. 31, 2024, as we hope to release the final Screening Report for review in February 2024.

We thank you for your time reviewing this letter and responding to our enquiry. We will notify Heritage Planning staff of future project milestones including sharing the Notice of Completion and final Screening Report.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact project team at any time via the project inbox at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Sincerely,

Darius Sokal  
Senior Communication Advisor  
Atura Power

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2024 12:27 PM  
**To:** heritageplanning@toronto.ca  
**Cc:** cityplanning@toronto.ca; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>; Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good afternoon.

I'm following up on my email and attached letter sent to you on Jan. 26, 2024, about Atura Power's efficiency upgrades at our Portlands Energy Centre as we hoped to hear back from you by the end of January.

The Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism advised us to contact City of Toronto Heritage Planning staff to determine if the proposed activities will adversely impact any heritage attributes of the property. Since the project will take place entirely within the facility at 470 Unwin Ave., Toronto, we are reaching out with this letter to get your confirmation that a Heritage Impact Assessment is not required based on the current project description.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and please respond to this letter as soon as reasonably possible as we hope to release the final Screening Report for review this month.

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications & Stakeholder Relations Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit 200, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



Jan. 26, 2024

City of Toronto  
City Planning Department, Heritage Planning  
Toronto City Hall  
12th Fl. E., 100 Queen St. W.  
Toronto Ont. M5H 2N2

To Whom it May Concern,

**Subject: Ontario Regulation 116/06 - Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects – Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades**

---

Atura Power is planning to make efficiency upgrades (upgrades) at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) located at 470 Unwin Ave., Toronto. These upgrades will increase the facility generating contract capacity by an average of 50 megawatts (MW) to achieve a total average contract capacity of 600 MW. The upgrades will involve replacing internal parts of the natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts that will result in greater electrical output from the generators. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls but, due to improved technology, will be more efficient.

The project will take place entirely within the facility at 470 Unwin Ave. The PEC facility footprint will not change, and no additional external laydown areas will be required.

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Through correspondence with the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, we were advised to contact City of Toronto Heritage Planning staff to determine if the proposed activities will adversely impact any heritage attributes of the property. As noted above, given that the project will take place entirely within the facility at 470 Unwin Ave., we are reaching out with this letter to confirm that a Heritage Impact Assessment is not required based on the current project description. We understand that the Richard L. Hearn Generating Station at 440 Unwin Ave. is designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act (City of Toronto By-laws #1144-2019 and #936-2020) and note that the PEC Efficiency Upgrades will not affect this property.

As you may be aware, this project was contracted by the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) on May 16, 2023, under their Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) Request for Proposal and is associated with tight project timelines to meet the provinces near-term electricity needs. We would appreciate if Heritage Planning staff can respond to this letter by Jan. 31, 2024, as we hope to release the final Screening Report for review in February 2024.

We thank you for your time reviewing this letter and responding to our enquiry. We will notify Heritage Planning staff of future project milestones including sharing the Notice of Completion and final Screening Report.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact project team at any time via the project inbox at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Sincerely,

Darius Sokal  
Senior Communication Advisor  
Atura Power



**From:** Heritage Planning <[heritageplanning@toronto.ca](mailto:heritageplanning@toronto.ca)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2024 4:29 PM  
**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>  
**Cc:** General Public Enquiries <[cityplanning@toronto.ca](mailto:cityplanning@toronto.ca)>; Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Hi Darius,

Apologies for this late reply. I forwarded your email to my manager to assign a planner to coordinate with you and discuss your proposal for this property.

I will update you as soon as I hear from my manager.

Thank you.

**Sheilah Mesina**

Application Technician, Heritage Planning  
City Planning Division - Urban Design  
City of Toronto



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 14, 2024 5:30 AM  
**To:** Heritage Planning <heritageplanning@toronto.ca>  
**Cc:** General Public Enquiries <cityplanning@toronto.ca>; Darius Sokal <Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com>; Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good morning, Sheilah.

Thank you very much for your reply and help. Please note that project details can be found at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications & Stakeholder Relations Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit 200, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Heritage Planning <[heritageplanning@toronto.ca](mailto:heritageplanning@toronto.ca)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 14, 2024 9:21 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Cc:** General Public Enquiries <[cityplanning@toronto.ca](mailto:cityplanning@toronto.ca)>; Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>; Amir Nissan <[Amir.Nissan@toronto.ca](mailto:Amir.Nissan@toronto.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Hi Darius,

Amir Nissan, one of our assistant heritage planners will assist you regarding your proposal.

Regards,

Sheilah Mesina

Heritage Planning

City Planning Division – Urban Design

City of Toronto



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Sent:** February 15, 2024 9:29 AM

**To:** Heritage Planning <[heritageplanning@toronto.ca](mailto:heritageplanning@toronto.ca)>; Amir Nissan <[Amir.Nissan@toronto.ca](mailto:Amir.Nissan@toronto.ca)>

**Cc:** General Public Enquiries <[cityplanning@toronto.ca](mailto:cityplanning@toronto.ca)>; Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>; Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>; Stephen Smith <[Stephen.Smith@aturapower.com](mailto:Stephen.Smith@aturapower.com)>; Krishana Gnanachandran <[Krishana.Gnanachandran@aturapower.com](mailto:Krishana.Gnanachandran@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** [External Sender] RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good morning, Sheilah.

Thank you for message and for connecting me with Amir.

Amir, please let us know when you are available to discuss our proposed upgrades project. I'm happy book an MS Teams/Zoom meeting for us at your earliest convenience.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications & Stakeholder Relations Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit 200, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Amir Nissan <[Amir.Nissan@toronto.ca](mailto:Amir.Nissan@toronto.ca)>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 15, 2024 11:22 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>; Heritage Planning <[heritageplanning@toronto.ca](mailto:heritageplanning@toronto.ca)>

**Cc:** General Public Enquiries <[cityplanning@toronto.ca](mailto:cityplanning@toronto.ca)>; Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>; Stephen Smith <[Stephen.Smith@aturapower.com](mailto:Stephen.Smith@aturapower.com)>; Krishana Gnanachandran <[Krishana.Gnanachandran@aturapower.com](mailto:Krishana.Gnanachandran@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

I will look into this and get back to you.

Regards,

**Amir Nissan** (he/him)

Assistant Heritage Planner | Heritage Planning

City Planning Division - Urban Design, Heritage | Toronto City Hall

100 Queen Street West | Toronto, ON, M5H 2N2

**Tel: 416 338 4805** | [Amir.Nissan@toronto.ca](mailto:Amir.Nissan@toronto.ca)



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 15, 2024 12:41 PM

**To:** Amir Nissan <[Amir.Nissan@toronto.ca](mailto:Amir.Nissan@toronto.ca)>; Upgrade project for PEC <[portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com)>; Heritage Planning <[heritageplanning@toronto.ca](mailto:heritageplanning@toronto.ca)>

**Cc:** General Public Enquiries <[cityplanning@toronto.ca](mailto:cityplanning@toronto.ca)>; Darius Sokal <[Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:Darius.Sokal@aturapower.com)>; Stephen Smith <[Stephen.Smith@aturapower.com](mailto:Stephen.Smith@aturapower.com)>; Krishana Gnanachandran <[Krishana.Gnanachandran@aturapower.com](mailto:Krishana.Gnanachandran@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Hi Amir.

I appreciate you quick response and efforts, thank you.

**Darius Sokal ([hear it](#))**

**Sr. Communications & Stakeholder Relations Advisor | [Atura Power](#)**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit 200, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



**From:** Amir Nissan <Amir.Nissan@toronto.ca>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 10:18 PM  
**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Hi Darius,

Thank you for enquiring with Toronto Heritage Planning and for being so patient with our response. I have read your detailed letter outlining the scope of work. You have advised us that no proposed alteration will have impacts on any of the designated attributes listed in the designation by-law (linked below), including the interior attributes.

<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/bylaws/2019/law1144.pdf>

INTERIOR ATTRIBUTES:

- The spatial volumes of the boiler hall, turbine hall and fan hall.
- The steel structure of the boiler hall, including the long east-west multi-storey passage through the steel structure.
- The concrete structures and steel beams of the turbine hall.
- The principal entry lobby with its limestone cladding and stair with a metal balustrade.
- The control room configurations built-in desks with control panels as well as wall mounted control panels.

Please confirm via email that the proposed alterations will have no impact on the designated attributes listed above and within the linked designation by-law. Additionally, we would need to see architectural plans outlining the scope of work so that we may confirm if we can accept this project. Ultimately, we look forward to supporting this pending the review of architectural plans.

Regards,

**Amir Nissan** (he/him)

Assistant Heritage Planner | Heritage Planning  
City Planning Division - Urban Design, Heritage | Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen Street West | Toronto, ON, M5H 2N2

**Tel: 416 338 4805** | [Amir.Nissan@toronto.ca](mailto:Amir.Nissan@toronto.ca)



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** February 29, 2024 7:42 AM  
**To:** Amir Nissan <Amir.Nissan@toronto.ca>  
**Cc:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** [External Sender] RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Good morning, Amir.

Thanks for your email. I've attached a PDF with my formal response.

However, I'd like to reiterate that there remains confusion as to the facility that we are proposing to upgrade, specifically between our Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) project site and the nearby Hearn Generating Station, based on your email's reference to interior attributes and embedded link. **Our upgrades project site is at 470 Unwin Ave.**, while the Hearn Generating Station, the site of the interior attributes referenced in your letter, is at 440 Unwin Ave. Please see the map in the attached PDF for location details.

Therefore, based on this clarification, we assume that you will not require architectural plans outlining our scope of work for the PEC efficiency upgrades at **470 Unwin Ave. We are not proposing any upgrade or other activity at the Hearn Generating Station at 440 Unwin Ave.**

As previously mentioned, the efficiency upgrades will be limited to replacing parts of the existing natural gas-fired combustion turbines at PEC, and all upgrades will take place within the existing facility with no changes or expansion to the existing PEC buildings/structures.

Thank you, Amir, and please feel free to call or email me with any questions.

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications & Stakeholder Relations Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit 200, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

February 28, 2024

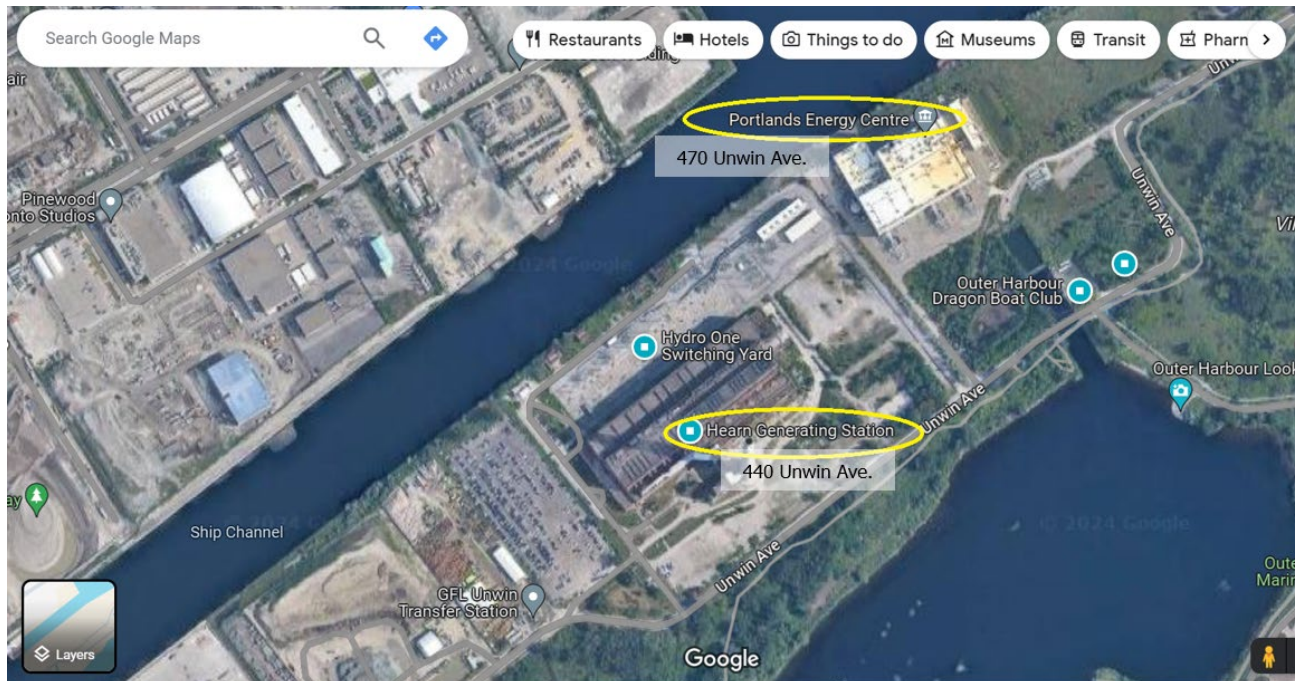
City of Toronto  
City Planning Department, Heritage Planning  
Toronto City Hall  
12<sup>th</sup> Fl. E., 100 Queen St. W.  
Toronto Ont. M5H 2N2

Dear Mr. Amir Nissan,

## Re: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Thank you for reviewing our enquiry regarding the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project and sharing your feedback via email on Feb. 24, 2024.

Based on the address and list of interior attributes referenced in your email on Feb. 24, 2024, we believe there may be some confusion between our project site and the nearby Hearn Generating Station. **Our project site is located at 470 Unwin Ave.**, while the Hearn Generating Station (site of the interior attributes referenced in your letter) is located at 440 Unwin Ave. Please see the image below for further clarification.



As noted previously, the efficiency upgrades will be limited to replacing parts of the existing natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts, all upgrades will take place within the existing facility, and that there will be no changes or expansion beyond the existing PEC footprint.

Based on the clarification above, we assume that you will not require architectural plans outlining our scope of work for the efficiency upgrades at **470 Unwin Ave.** If you have any other comments related to our project or project site, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Thank you again for reviewing our enquiry and associated materials. Should you have any further questions, we would appreciate if you would contact us by Mar. 8, 2024, as we plan to release our final Screening Report later in the next few weeks as per the Environmental Screening Process.

Sincerely,

Darius Sokal  
Sr. Communications & Stakeholder Relations Advisor  
Atura Power

**From:** Amir Nissan <Amir.Nissan@toronto.ca>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 29, 2024 1:39 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Thank you, Darius for clarifying. Apologies for the confusion. Based off your rationale, Heritage Planning has no further comments.

Best,

**Amir Nissan** (he/him)

Assistant Heritage Planner | Heritage Planning

City Planning Division - Urban Design, Heritage | Toronto City Hall

100 Queen Street West | Toronto, ON, M5H 2N2

**Tel: 416 338 4805** | [Amir.Nissan@toronto.ca](mailto:Amir.Nissan@toronto.ca)



**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 1, 2024 9:02 AM  
**To:** Amir Nissan <Amir.Nissan@toronto.ca>  
**Cc:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades

Hi Amir.

You are very welcome, and no need to apologize.

Thank you for your message and I hope you have a great day and weekend.

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications & Stakeholder Relations Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit 200, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573



## **Appendix B7: Other Correspondence**

**From:** Muriel Draaisma <muriel.draaisma@cbc.ca>

**Sent:** Friday, October 6, 2023 1:09 AM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** questions for you

To whom it may concern,

I'm a reporter for CBC Toronto. I can be reached at (647) 203-4199.

I have a few questions following your meeting on Thursday.

1. Is it true that the upgrades to the Portlands Energy Centre will not increase the plant's greenhouse gas emissions?
2. Is it accurate to say that PEC is a natural gas electrical generating station?
3. Was the plant originally scheduled to close in 2029 but now will stay open until 2034?

Thank you very much.

Regards,

Muriel Draaisma

Senior Writer

CBC Toronto

**From:** Atura Media <media@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Friday, October 6, 2023 4:50 PM

**To:** Muriel Draaisma <muriel.draaisma@cbc.ca>; Atura Media <media@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: questions for you

Hi Muriel

Thank you for your questions and interest in our proposed Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades project.

Here are my answers:

1. Is it true that the upgrades to the Portlands Energy Centre will not increase the plant's greenhouse gas emissions?

Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) emissions concentrations are not expected to change and will continue to remain at or below our permitted emission limits. Our facility's greenhouse gas emissions are specifically correlated to how often we operate and are unrelated to the efficiency upgrades project. The proposed project is expected to lower our greenhouse gas intensity because the upgraded equipment will improve the efficiency where the same amount of fuel can produce more power.

2. Is it accurate to say that PEC is a natural gas electrical generating station?

PEC is a combined-cycle gas turbine electricity generating station.

3. Was the plant originally scheduled to close in 2029 but now will stay open until 2034?

PEC currently has a 20-year Accelerated Clean Energy Supply Contract with the IESO. The contract contains an option to extend the contract term for an additional five years until 2034 to support system reliability and future energy needs.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Oved, Marco <moved@thestar.ca>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 7:32 PM

**To:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** Updates

Please keep me up to date on developments with this project.

Thanks

Marco Chown Oved | Climate Change Reporter | Toronto Star

o: +1-416-869-4892 | c: +1-647-765-1615

[@MarcoOved](#)

Send me an encrypted message via [Signal](#)

**From:** Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 3:06 AM

**To:** Oved, Marco <moved@thestar.ca>; Upgrade project for PEC <portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com>

**Subject:** RE: Updates

Hi Marco.

We will add your email address to the project database and email you with updates.

Thank you,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Tina Yazdani [Tina.Yazdani@citytv.rogers.com](mailto:Tina.Yazdani@citytv.rogers.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 6, 2023 2:07:10 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** MEDIA RELATIONS <[media@opg.com](mailto:media@opg.com)>  
**Subject:** CityNews Request

Hi there

I'm Tina with CityNews. There's been quite a bit of opposition to plans to increase output at the Portlands Energy Centre in Toronto. I'm hoping a spokesperson is available for an interview with us on this today. Please email me back and let me know, thank you!

Tina Yazdani  
CityNews Journalist  
647-924-1246

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**From:** Darius Sokal  
**Sent:** Friday, October 6, 2023 5:03 PM  
**To:** Tina Yazdani <[Tina.Yazdani@citytv.rogers.com](mailto:Tina.Yazdani@citytv.rogers.com)>  
**Subject:** FW: CityNews Request

Hi Tina.

Thank you for reaching out to us. Unfortunately, there is no one available at Atura Power for an interview today.

Portlands Energy Centre provides reliable electricity to meet local demand. Natural gas electricity generation supports not just the City of Toronto, but all of Ontario's capacity needs to ensure a reliable and affordable electricity system.

Best regards,

**Darius Sokal** ([hear it](#))

**Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Friday, November 3, 2023 1:00 PM

**To:** Atura Media <[media@aturapower.com](mailto:media@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Interview request regarding Portlands Energy Centre

Hello,

My name is [REDACTED] I am a journalism student at Toronto Metropolitan University, and I am currently working on a story about the Portlands Energy Centre and the community's concerns about the proposed efficiency upgrades. I was hoping to speak with someone from Atura Power before Tuesday, Nov. 7th, about this issue.

I hope to hear from you soon.

All the best,

[REDACTED]

On Fri, Nov 3, 2023 at 1:24 PM Atura Media <[media@aturapower.com](mailto:media@aturapower.com)> wrote:

Hi [REDACTED]

Nice to hear from you, and thanks for your interest in our proposed upgrades at PEC. I'm not available today, but can speak with you Monday between 8-9 or 9:30-11 a.m., or between 2:30-4 p.m.

Do either of those times work for you?

Alternatively, I can answer your emailed questions by your Tuesday deadline.

Please let me know, thanks.

**Darius Sokal ([hear it](#))**

**Sr. Communications Advisor | [Atura Power](#)**

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Friday, November 3, 2023 1:36 PM

**To:** Atura Media <[media@aturapower.com](mailto:media@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Interview request regarding Portlands Energy Centre

Hi Darius,

Monday at 3:30 p.m. works for me. Would you prefer to talk over the phone or through a Zoom meeting?

Best,

[REDACTED]

**From:** Atura Media <[media@aturapower.com](mailto:media@aturapower.com)>

**Sent:** Friday, November 3, 2023 1:42 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Atura Media <[media@aturapower.com](mailto:media@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Interview request regarding Portlands Energy Centre

Hi again.

Either phone or Zoom work for me, [REDACTED] so whatever method you prefer, thanks.

Can you send me your questions in advance so I can prepare?

Regards,

Darius

**From:** Lexy Benedict <[lexy.benedict@globalnews.ca](mailto:lexy.benedict@globalnews.ca)>

**Sent:** Saturday, November 4, 2023 12:37 PM

**To:** Atura Media <[media@aturapower.com](mailto:media@aturapower.com)>; [jon.mills@cummins.com](mailto:jon.mills@cummins.com)

**Subject:** Media Request - GLOBAL NEWS

Hi there ! Hope you are having a great day!

I'm a reporter with Global News - doing a story in the Portland Energy Centre expansion as well as concerns from residents. Wondering if you are able to give us comment on the update of this plant and why this energy source is needed?

Thanks so much!

Lexy Benedict

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From: Atura Media <media@aturapower.com>  
Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 7:16:02 AM  
To: Lexy Benedict <lexy.benedict@globalnews.ca>; Atura Media <media@aturapower.com>;  
jon.mills@cummins.com <jon.mills@cummins.com>  
Subject: RE: Media Request - GLOBAL NEWS

Good morning, Lexy.

Thanks for your outreach and questions.

I see that your story was published and broadcast yesterday. Are you still interested in responses to your questions?

Please let me know, thank you.

Darius Sokal (hear it)  
Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power  
1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4  
E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)  
M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Lexy Benedict <[lexy.benedict@globalnews.ca](mailto:lexy.benedict@globalnews.ca)>

**Sent:** Monday, November 6, 2023 9:11 AM

**To:** Atura Media <[media@aturapower.com](mailto:media@aturapower.com)>; [jon.mills@cummins.com](mailto:jon.mills@cummins.com)

**Subject:** Re: Media Request - GLOBAL NEWS

Hi there! Thanks so much for getting back to me. And yes please! We would love to add in your statement !

Thanks!

Lexy

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**From:** Atura Media <[media@aturapower.com](mailto:media@aturapower.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, November 6, 2023 11:48:16 AM

**To:** Lexy Benedict <[lexy.benedict@globalnews.ca](mailto:lexy.benedict@globalnews.ca)>; Atura Media <[media@aturapower.com](mailto:media@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Media Request - GLOBAL NEWS

Hi Lexy.

Excellent, I'm glad to have an opportunity to respond! Here are my statements:

Atura Power's proposed efficiency upgrades to our Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) will involve replacing some parts of the facility's existing turbines with parts that will allow increased electricity output. All upgrade activities will take place within the station and there will be no changes or expansion beyond the existing footprint. We plan to complete the upgrades in the fall of 2024.

The efficiency upgrades at PEC are needed because Ontario is entering a period of growing electricity system demand, and actions are required to ensure the continued reliability of the electricity grid. The efficiency upgrades will also play a role in Ontario's ability to rely on intermittent renewable energy sources. Wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying electricity. However other resources, such as natural gas electricity generation, are required to maintain system reliability. Natural gas generation plays a critical role, providing system reliability, and acting as an enabler of renewable generation.

Thank you, and have a great day, Lexy.

Best regards,

Darius Sokal (hear it)

Sr. Communications Advisor | Atura Power

1415 Joshuas Creek Dr., Unit #101, Oakville, ON L6H 7G4

E: [darius.sokal@aturapower.com](mailto:darius.sokal@aturapower.com)

M: 289-795-6573

**From:** Lexy Benedict <[lexy.benedict@globalnews.ca](mailto:lexy.benedict@globalnews.ca)>

**Sent:** Monday, November 6, 2023 12:06 PM

**To:** Atura Media <[media@aturapower.com](mailto:media@aturapower.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Media Request - GLOBAL NEWS

Thank you so much Darius! Really appreciate this :) enjoy the rest of your day!!

Lexy Benedict

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## **Appendix B8: Notice of Completion**

# Notice of Completion of a Screening Report

## Portlands Energy Centre Upgrades

Atura Power is a subsidiary of Ontario Power Generation and is planning to make efficiency upgrades at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC).

## Project Description

PEC is a combined-cycle natural gas-fueled electricity generating station with an electrical output of 550 megawatts (MW). The station is located in the Port Lands industrial area at 470 Unwin Ave., Toronto.

The upgrades will involve replacing internal parts of the natural gas fired combustion turbines with more efficient parts which will increase the facility generating contract capacity by an average of 50 MW to achieve a total average contract capacity of 600 MW. All upgrades will take place within the existing facility and there will be no changes or expansion beyond the existing PEC footprint.

The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) quantified the near-term additional electricity supply need in Ontario, stating that an additional 4,000 MW of new capacity is required by May 2027. Procurements for projects capable of meeting the increased electricity demand in 2027 will need to be completed in the short-term. Atura Power is prepared to help meet that need and support Ontarians through upgrades that will optimise and increase energy generation at PEC.

## Environmental Screening Process

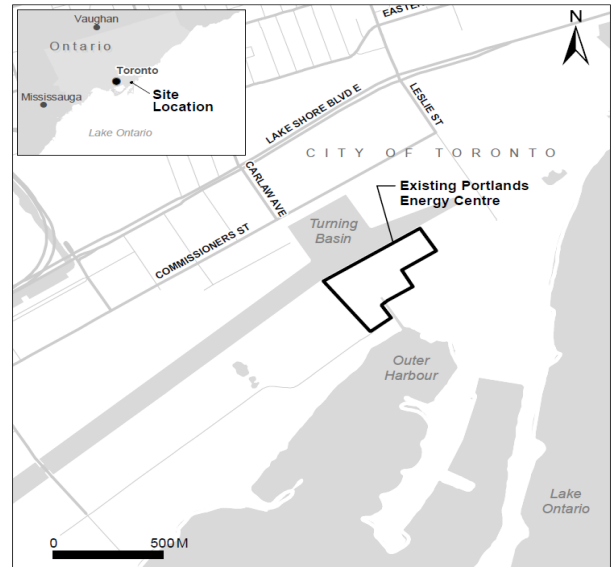
Given that the upgrades will result in a 50 MW increase in the nameplate capacity (electrical output) of PEC, the upgrades are subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects pursuant to Ontario Regulation (O.Reg.) 116/01, under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. Note: Since commencing the project in September 2023, the Government of Ontario has revoked O.Reg. 116/01, such that the upgrades are now subject to the Environmental Screening Process pursuant to O.Reg. 50/24.

Atura Power has prepared a Screening Report according to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects (pursuant to O.Reg. 50/24). The Screening Report documents the results of the Environmental Screening Process undertaken to identify whether any potential environmental effects of the project would occur ('Yes' or 'No'). The Environmental Screening Process determined that all Screening Criteria scored 'No' as a result of the PEC upgrades project, and without any mitigation, all regulatory requirements will be met. Atura Power intends to move forward with implementing the upgrades subject to other required approvals.

For more information: <https://aturapower.com/>

Comments and information regarding this project are being collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* for the purpose of meeting environmental assessment requirements.

## Atura Power





**Indigenous communities, agencies, municipal staff, elected officials, and members of the public are invited to review the Screening Report beginning on March 27, 2024, online at [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](https://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade). The last day comments can be submitted is April 27, 2024.**

Any outstanding concerns about the project should be shared with Atura Power by emailing [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com). If the matter is unable to be resolved, the concerned individual may submit a written request to the Minister, copying the Director of the Environmental Assessment and Approvals Branch, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) and Atura Power, to elevate the project to either an Environmental Review or to a Comprehensive Environmental Assessment. Elevation requests must be made in accordance with the provisions set out in the MECP's Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects.

Note that elevation requests must be submitted to the Minister and a copy sent to the Director and Atura Power within the 30-day review period between March 27 and April 27, 2024.

#### **MECP Contact Information**

	<b>Minister</b>	<b>Director</b>
<b>Mailing Address</b>	Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks 777 Bay St., 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor Toronto, ON M7A 2J3	Environmental Assessment Branch Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks 135 St. Clair Ave. W., 1st Floor Toronto, ON M4V 1P5
<b>Email Address</b>	<a href="mailto:minister@mecp.ontario.ca">minister@mecp.ontario.ca</a>	<a href="mailto:EABDirector@ontario.ca">EABDirector@ontario.ca</a>

#### **Project Contact Information**

More information including other project-related documentation is available online at [aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade](https://aturapower.com/portlandsupgrade).

If you require any assistance regarding accessibility concerns or wish to share questions or comments, please email us at [portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com).

For more information: <https://aturapower.com/>

Comments and information regarding this project are being collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* for the purpose of meeting environmental assessment requirements.

# Appendix C

## Comments on the Draft Screening Report

- **Appendix C1: Comments from Members of the Public**
- **Appendix C2: Comments from Municipal Staff and Elected Officials**
- **Appendix C3: Comments from Agencies**

Since the draft Screening Report was released in December 2023, the Government of Ontario has revoked O. Reg. 116/01, replacing it with O. Reg. 50/24. O. Reg. 50/24 applies to a broader classification of projects but still requires Atura Power to undertake an Environmental Screening Process according to the directives in the Guide.

As the project commenced under O. Reg. 116/01, many of the early project materials referenced in the following appendices reference O. Reg. 116/01, however it is important that readers understand O. Reg. 50/24 has since replaced O. Reg. 116/01, as of February 2024. See Note to Readers on page iv of the Screening Report for more information.

# **Appendix C1: Comments from Members of the Public**

## Summary of Draft Screening Report Comments from the Public

The following table captures questions and comments received from the public during the draft Screening Report review period from December 5, 2023, to January 7, 2024. Copies of the emails containing the comments referenced in the table below can be viewed in **B4b: Correspondence Records with Members of the Public**.

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
Waterfront Toronto	2023-12-06	<p>This report states that the PEC is on Villiers Island, which is incorrect. Villiers Island is the small island we are creating as part of the Port Lands Flood Protection project. It is bound by the Keating Channel to the north, the future river valley (just west of Don Roadway) to the east, the new river valley (north of the Ship Channel) to the south, and the inner harbour to the west.</p> <p>page i and repeated on page 1 - PEC is a combined-cycle natural gas-fuelled electricity generating station (GS) with an average electrical output contract capacity of 550 megawatts (MW). The station is located on Villiers Island just south of the mainland part of the City of Toronto on approximately 11.4 hectares (ha) of land.</p>	Section 1.1: Background (also repeated in Executive Summary)	Thank you for your email and the information within it. We appreciate your outreach and interest in our project.	Executive Summary and Section 1.1: Background
n/a	2023-12-07	What is the cost of the upgrade? Will Atura ever publish this?	n/a	At this time, Atura Power is unable to share commercially sensitive financial information related to its efficiency upgrades at the Portlands Energy Centre (PEC). Additionally, Atura Power is not planning to produce, store, nor consume hydrogen at PEC. Thank you for your email and interest in our project. You can find more information and project updates at <a href="http://www.aturapower.com/portlandupgrade">www.aturapower.com/portlandupgrade</a> .	n/a
n/a	2023-12-07	What percent blend of hydrogen will be able to be used at PEC with these upgrades?	n/a	Additionally, Atura Power is not planning to produce, store, nor consume hydrogen at PEC. Thank you for your email and interest in our project. You can find more information and project updates at <a href="http://www.aturapower.com/portlandupgrade">www.aturapower.com/portlandupgrade</a> .	n/a
n/a	2023-12-08	Would you please send me a copy of the draft EA Screening report. Is there a place where I can find the original EA report for PEC?	n/a	See response to comment #25.  [Response #25: Atura Power recently acquired a copy of the SENES Consultants Limited (2003) Environmental Review Report for the Portlands Energy Centre. Please find it attached to this email.]	n/a
n/a	2023-12-08	This project improves the electricity output from the plant, yet I am greatly concerned about the climate emergency, meeting emissions reduction targets. Atura must be a greater leader transitioning away from fossil gas. Please advise when you will.	n/a	Thank you for your email and interest in our project. As you may know, Ontario is entering a period of growing electricity system demand and actions are needed to ensure the continued reliability of the electricity grid and supply. To close this gap and meet the projected demand, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term	n/a

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
				<p>energy needs while maintaining the province’s focus on cost-effective reliability. The efficiency upgrades to Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) are part of Atura Power’s efforts to address this supply gap. The upgrades to PEC also play a role in Ontario’s ability to rely on renewable energy sources. Wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity. However, other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is common to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system. Thank you again, and please visit our project webpage at <a href="http://www.aturapower.com/portlandupgrade">www.aturapower.com/portlandupgrade</a> for more information.</p>	
n/a	2023-12-11	<p>Thank you for your timely email response to my brief comment about the gas plans. While I appreciate that transitions are a needed component, the rate and degree of that transition is key. I would like to take this opportunity to respond in more detail with supporting sources to be included in my feedback about the project:</p> <p>\$287 billion invested across Canada in wind and solar, in addition to energy efficiency management programs and back up storage units would mean no need for expanding fossil gas usage. The days of ‘what if it isn’t windy or sunny’ are gone. The technology exists now to store energy for those days and other countries are well ahead of the curve on that. OPG and Atura are already investigating this, they just need to spend the dollars in that area rather than gas expansions. Many studies, reports and scientific as well as economic agencies attest to this. Frankly, this is simply the decision making of a certain number of people who either are looking for the path of least resistance, have personal gains from maintaining the energy status quo, or who aren’t informed well enough about what is now possible and what is needed for climate goals so that there is a future beyond</p>	n/a	<p>Your comment is noted and will be included in the record of engagement for the PEC efficiency upgrades project. In response to your comment, I’d just offer one clarification. Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient. Thank you again for your continued interest in the project. Please feel free to share further questions or comments here or visit the project webpage (<a href="https://aturapower.com/aturaoverview/our-stations/portlands-energy-centre-upgrade/">https://aturapower.com/aturaoverview/our-stations/portlands-energy-centre-upgrade/</a>) for more information.</p>	n/a

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
		<p>2050 and 2100. Furthermore, investing in fossil gas is harmful to the economy on the world stage - even RBC gets this; investors and buyers are moving away from fossil fuel producing countries, countries that are deforesting and those supporting the dirtier hydrogen productions. Canada is doing all three, though now we have some traction with methane emissions and start to caps on fossil fuel production. As noted previously, and by OPG, Atura Power is in a position to be a leader. Hopefully one day, while it's still not too late, it will be.</p> <p>Sources:  <a href="https://policyalternatives.ca/sites/default/files/uploads/publications/BC%20Office/2023/02/Spending%20What%20It%20Takes.pdf">https://policyalternatives.ca/sites/default/files/uploads/publications/BC%20Office/2023/02/Spending%20What%20It%20Takes.pdf</a>  <a href="https://www.iisd.org/articles/deep-dive/canada-energy-future-guided-by-credible-scenarios">https://www.iisd.org/articles/deep-dive/canada-energy-future-guided-by-credible-scenarios</a>  <a href="https://www.opg.com/projects-services/projects/energy-storage/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIw5_Si92HgwMVNRmtBh2EQQhcEAAYAiAAEgKy-D_BwE">https://www.opg.com/projects-services/projects/energy-storage/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIw5_Si92HgwMVNRmtBh2EQQhcEAAYAiAAEgKy-D_BwE</a>  <a href="https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/renewable-energy/renewable-energy-directive-targets-and-rules/renewable-energy-directive_en">https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/renewable-energy/renewable-energy-directive-targets-and-rules/renewable-energy-directive_en</a></p>			
Waterfront Toronto	2023-12-11	One other question/comment raised by one of our colleagues was whether the upgrades proposed will result in an increase in discharge water temperature conditions, or whether the thermal impacts will remain relatively consistent with current operations. There is some discussion about that in the screening, but nothing about whether there will be a change over existing thermal impacts.	n/a	The PEC efficiency upgrades to the gas turbines will have no impact on the cooling water discharged by the facility. Cooling water temperatures will remain within compliance of the existing ECA and thus no change to the Industrial Sewage Works ECA or limits are required.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-13	I would appreciate it if you could send me a digital copy of the report which came out recently, thank you. I understand the time to review and respond is quite short.	n/a	I attached a PDF of the draft Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades screening report as per your request. You may also find project details and additional materials on the project webpage here: <a href="https://aturapower.com/atura-overview/our-stations/portlands-energy-centre-upgrade/">https://aturapower.com/atura-overview/our-stations/portlands-energy-centre-upgrade/</a>	n/a
Ontario Clean Air Alliance (OCAA)	2023-12-14	The DSR fails to acknowledge that Atura Power has not obtained a municipal support resolution from the City of Toronto for its proposed project.	n/a	A municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The Minister of Energy's quote provided on page 2 of the OCAA letter refers to Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO's) current Long-Term	n/a



Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
				(LT1) Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The IESO has already awarded a contract for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023, including contracts for natural gas electricity generation facility upgrades.	
Ontario Clean Air Alliance (OCAA)	2023-12-14	The DSR fails to note that on May 12, 2023, and June 15, 2023, the City of Toronto passed resolutions opposing Atura Power's proposal to increase the capacity of PEC by 50 MW.	n/a	A municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The Minister of Energy's quote provided on page 2 of the OCAA letter refers to Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO's) current Long-Term (LT1) Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The IESO has already awarded a contract for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023, including contracts for natural gas electricity generation facility upgrades.	n/a
Ontario Clean Air Alliance (OCAA)	2023-12-14	The DSR fails to explain why Atura believes that the Minister of Energy, Conservation and Parks should approve its proposed PEC project despite the fact that it does not have the support of Toronto City Council as required by the Minister of Energy.	n/a	A municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The Minister of Energy's quote provided on page 2 of the OCAA letter refers to Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO's) current Long-Term (LT1) Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The IESO has already awarded a contract for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023, including contracts for natural gas electricity generation facility upgrades.	n/a
Ontario Clean Air Alliance (OCAA)	2023-12-14	Atura has not quantified PEC's carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter (PM 2.5) and sulphur dioxide emission rates per kWh in 2022.	Chapter 3: Environmental Screening	As demonstrated in Section 3.3 and 3.4 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment is not required and has not been undertaken for the project.	n/a

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Ontario Clean Air Alliance (OCAA)	2023-12-14	Atura has not quantified the changes in PEC's carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter (PM 2.5) and sulphur dioxide emission rates per kWh which will occur if the project proceeds.	Chapter 3: Environmental Screening	See response to #4.  [Response #4: As demonstrated in Section 3.3 and 3.4 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment is not required and has not been undertaken for the project.]	n/a
Ontario Clean Air Alliance (OCAA)	2023-12-14	Atura has not provided PEC's total emissions of nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, particulate matter (PM 2.5), sulphur dioxide in 2022.	Chapter 3: Environmental Screening	Owners or operators of facilities that meet published reporting requirements are required to report to the National Pollutant Release Inventory (NPRI) under the authority of the <i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act</i> (CEPA). Reviewed NPRI data is now available up to 2022.	n/a
Ontario Clean Air Alliance (OCAA)	2023-12-14	Atura has not provided a forecast of PEC's total emissions of carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter (PM 2.5) and sulphur dioxide in each year from 2024 to 2035 inclusive if: a) the proposed project proceeds; and b) the project is not approved.	Chapter 3: Environmental Screening	PEC will continue to operate as dictated by the IESO based on the supply and demand balance, which fluctuates season by season and year to year and will continue to report annual emissions to the NPRI.	n/a
Ontario Clean Air Alliance (OCAA)	2023-12-14	Atura has not quantified adverse health impacts (e.g., asthma attacks, emergency room visits, hospital admissions, premature deaths) of proceeding with its proposed project.	Chapter 3: Environmental Screening	See response to #4.  [Response #4: As demonstrated in Section 3.3 and 3.4 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment is not required and has not been undertaken for the project.]	n/a

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
Ontario Clean Air Alliance (OCAA)	2023-12-14	Atura has not provided PEC's total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in 2022.	Chapter 3: Environmental Screening	Greenhouse gas emissions from PEC are regulated under the Emissions Performance Standards Regulation (O. Reg. 241/19) under the <i>Environmental Protection Act</i> . Furthermore, information on GHG emissions from facilities across Canada who meet the requirements is collected under section 46 of the <i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act</i> . Reviewed 2021 GHG data is currently available. 2022 GHG data has been submitted as per the reporting requirements; it is currently under review.	n/a
Ontario Clean Air Alliance (OCAA)	2023-12-14	Atura has not provided a forecast of PEC's total GHG emissions in each year from 2024 to 2035 inclusive if: a) the proposed project proceeds; and b) the project is not approved	Chapter 3: Environmental Screening	See response to #7.  [Response #7: PEC will continue to operate as dictated by the IESO based on the supply and demand balance, which fluctuates season by season and year to year, and will continue to report annual emissions to the NPRI.]	n/a
Ontario Clean Air Alliance (OCAA)	2023-12-14	Atura's SR does not examine alternatives to its proposed project. Specifically, there is no analysis with respect to the existence of cleaner and lower cost options to meet Ontario's electricity needs even though there are many commercially available alternatives.	n/a	The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contracted PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.	n/a
Ontario Clean Air Alliance (OCAA)	2023-12-14	The draft SR does not propose any mitigation measures to ensure that the project will not have a negative net impact on public health and our climate.	Chapter 3: Environmental Screening	See response to #4.  [Response #4: As demonstrated in Section 3.3 and 3.4 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment is not required and has not been undertaken for the project.]	n/a
n/a	2023-12-19	Do the emissions limits that PEC is supposed to conform to include the emissions from production of the natural methane gas that it burns?	n/a	PEC's Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) specifies facility-specific NO <sub>x</sub> , SO <sub>2</sub> , and CO emission concentration limits for the undiluted gases emitted from the heat recovery steam	n/a

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
				generator stacks which are based on MECP's <i>Guideline A-5 Atmospheric Emissions from Stationary Combustion Turbines</i> .	
n/a	2023-12-19	A number of people express concerns about air quality health impacts and the Atura response seems to be that we are operating within environmental permitting requirements. Would you add a note indicating the name of the organization that concerns on air quality health should be addressed to? It would also help if Atura pointed to a study for a region that had a similar load of pollution which showed no impact on health - does such a study exist?	Appendix B3a: Summary of Public Questions/Comments by Category, and Atura Power's Responses	Details of PEC's Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) (Air/Noise) are provided in Appendix B3a in the response to public comments under the air quality sub-category. The response can be expanded by noting that air standards under O. Reg. 419/05 are set by the MECP's Standards Development Branch to protect against health and environmental effects. Of the 5,208 air contaminant standards, guidelines and screening levels which the MECP currently requires to be assessed for contaminants released to the air, 5,099 are health based. PEC's Emission Summary and Dispersion Modelling (ESDM) report must be updated on an annual basis to reflect changes such as sources no longer in operation, updates to MECP's Air Contaminants Benchmarks List: standards, guidelines and screening levels for assessing point of impingement concentrations of air contaminants, as well as updates to the MECP approved air dispersion model versions.	Appendix B4a: Summary of Public Questions/Comments by Category, and Atura Power's Responses
n/a	2023-12-19	Emissions of Greenhouse Gases - there are several questions in this section which are not answered by the response provided by Atura - would you answer them? (e.g., On the Environmental Effects slide, I noticed CO2 was not listed (just NO, NO2, and CO) under the emissions that were not supposed to increase as per GE. Was that a mistake, or is there reason to expect CO2 emissions will increase?)	Appendix B3a: Summary of Public Questions/Comments by Category, and Atura Power's Responses	The statement on the slide was referring to emission concentrations of contaminants with facility-specific emission concentration limits (see response to comment #1).  [Response #1: PEC's Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) specifies facility-specific NOx, SO2, and CO emission concentration limits for the undiluted gases emitted from the heat recovery steam generator stacks which are based on MECP's <i>Guideline A-5 Atmospheric Emissions from Stationary Combustion Turbines</i> .]	Appendix B4a: Summary of Public Questions/Comments by Category, and Atura Power's Responses
n/a	2023-12-19	Engagement Process - Would you add a note to the question "Could you clarify what public and Indigenous engagement means?" that the MECP publishes a guide ( <i>Consultation in Ontario's Environmental Assessment Process</i> ) on the EA Consultation process and provide the link to it ( <a href="https://www.ontario.ca/page/consultation-ontarios-environmental-assessmentprocess">https://www.ontario.ca/page/consultation-ontarios-environmental-assessmentprocess</a> )?	Appendix B3a: Summary of Public Questions/Comments by Category, and Atura Power's Responses	The <i>Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects</i> outlines the purpose and requirements associated with engagement for each type of project and associated environmental assessment process. Atura Power also considers Ontario's guidance on the environmental assessment consultation process, but it is more general when compared to the specific requirements outlined in the Guide referenced above. For this reason, we will not be providing the link to the Consultation in Ontario's Environmental Assessment Process you have referenced. As such, text in this section remains accurate as is.	n/a

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
n/a	2023-12-19	Operating Capacity - would you add to your response a clarification on the frequency of operation - does your response mean that you operate every day but just not at 100% capacity? That the plant is "on" every day but the number of hours that it produces electricity varies? I find this response unclear.	Appendix B3a: Summary of Public Questions/Comments by Category, and Atura Power's Responses	PEC operates as dictated by the IESO to meet the electricity demands of Torontonians and Ontarians, based on the supply and demand balance. PECs operations fluctuate season by season and year to year.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-19	There is a record from the Ontario Energy Board that indicates that PEC is licensed to operate until 2024. There is reference in the project materials that PEC is contracted to operate until 2029 and plans to extend this until 2034. What licenses and approvals does PEC need to operate to 2029 and 2034? Does 'contracted to operate' mean that PEC has a contract with a customer to produce electricity?	Appendix B3a: Summary of Public Questions/Comments by Category, and Atura Power's Responses	PEC is contracted to operate until April 2034.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-19	Did PEC/Atura conduct a communications test to determine if area residents/businesses were aware of the plan to expand PEC's generating capability?	n/a	Atura Power is undertaking the Environmental Screening Process according to Ontario Regulation 50/24 (previously Ontario Regulation 116/01) and the <i>Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects</i> .	n/a
n/a	2023-12-19	Are PEC's emissions limits based on the most recent guideline or have they been grandfathered from a previous guideline?	n/a	The PEC combustion turbines following the efficiency upgrades do not meet the Guideline A-5 (2021) definition of a modified combustion turbine and therefore, as verified by the MECP, Guideline A-5 (1994) applies. As per Guideline A-5 (2021), "this approach is meant to encourage upgrades in thermal efficiency and technology modernization of Existing SCTs that are intended to increase efficiency or reduce emissions but without expecting the more stringent emission limits of New SCTs to be met."	n/a
n/a	2023-12-20	Am I to take it that Atura is absolving itself from future increases in demand from IESO for more electricity that will lead to more GHG and NO from the facility? If so, isn't this counter to the Ontario approach of producer responsibility? I understand that PEC is already the biggest source of GHG and NO in Toronto while only operating for an average of 14 hours per day so far in 2023.	n/a	The assessment process requires Atura Power to undertake an Environmental Screening Process to identify whether any potential environmental effects of the project would occur. As such, the scope of this assessment is limited to understanding and identifying any effects of the proposed efficiency upgrades. As noted in Section 3.4 of the draft Screening Report, review of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades - which is limited to replacing parts of the existing turbines with more efficient parts - determined that the response to all questions	n/a

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
				<p>is "No", indicating that there are no potential negative environmental effects resulting from the activities associated with the efficiency upgrades.</p> <p>As noted in Section 3.4 of the draft Screening Report, review of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades - which is limited to replacing parts of the existing turbines with more efficient parts - determined that the response to all questions is "No", indicating that there are no potential negative environmental effects resulting from the activities associated with the efficiency upgrades.</p> <p>In recent correspondence to the project team, it was confirmed that, "MECP's technical staff have reviewed Table 3-1 and Section 3.4.3 of the draft environmental screening report (ESR) for the proposed upgrades at the Portland's Energy Centre. The proposed upgrades to the turbine generator will maintain air emissions levels at or below site permit levels. Based on the rationale provided, the ministry concurs that an air quality impact assessment is not needed for this undertaking".</p>	
n/a	2023-12-20	What detailed criteria were used to assess each of these items?	Section 3.4: Review of Screening Criteria	Per the <i>Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects</i> , the project was assessed against each Screening Criteria as it relates to the potential for the efficiency upgrades to cause negative effects.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-20	It seems that many of the answers in this section reflect a 'more of the same' response - which of the previous Screening reports answered these questions fully?	Section 3.4: Review of Screening Criteria	<p>See response to comment #10.</p> <p>[Response #10: Per the <i>Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects</i>, the project was assessed against each Screening Criteria as it relates to the potential for the efficiency upgrades to cause negative effects.]</p>	n/a
n/a	2023-12-20	Be inconsistent with municipal land use policies, plans and zoning bylaws? In view of the fact that Toronto City Council voted against the PEC expansion, would you add a note to indicate this fact in the answer to this item?	Section 3.4: Review of Screening Criteria	A municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The IESO has already awarded a contract for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023, including contracts for natural gas electricity generation facility upgrades. As such, text in this section remains accurate as is.	n/a



Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
	2023-12-20	Have negative effects on air quality due to emissions of nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, suspended particulates, or other pollutants? In view of the fact that the Toronto Star has reported that PEC is the largest source of GHG and nitrous oxides in Toronto based on the plant producing electricity for less than 24 hours per day, would you add a note to indicate this fact in the answer to this item.	Section 3.4: Review of Screening Criteria	<p>Owners or operators of facilities that meet published reporting requirements are required to report to the National Pollutant Release Inventory (NPRI) under the authority of the <i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act</i> (CEPA). The NPRI tracks over 300 pollutants.</p> <p>Greenhouse gas emissions are regulated by the Emissions Performance Standards Regulation (O. Reg. 241/19) under the <i>Environmental Protection Act</i>. Furthermore, information on GHG emissions from facilities across Canada who meet the requirements is collected under section 46 of the <i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act</i>.</p> <p>The net heat rate of the gas turbine generators (i.e., kilojoules/kilowatt-hours (kJ/kWh) higher heating value (HHV)) following the upgrades is expected to reduce by 2% at baseload and 15°C ambient temperature. The greenhouse gas intensity (i.e., the ratio of CO2 equivalent emissions to total electricity generation) of the facility is also expected to reduce by 2%.</p> <p>PEC will continue to operate as dictated by the IESO based on the supply and demand balance, which fluctuates season by season and year to year, and will continue to report annual emissions to all provincial and federal emissions reporting programs. As such, text in this section remains accurate as is.</p>	n/a
n/a	2023-12-20	If IESO requests PEC to operate 24 hours per day, what would the total of various gases and particulates be over an entire year? Understanding that with the shut down of Ontario's nuclear plants that the current plan is to use gas powered plants to make up much of the difference.	n/a	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-20	The draft Screening report seems to indicate that only the expansion project is being considered against the MECP's Areas of Interest and Screening criteria. Do you have agreement from MECP that it is only the project to be considered or whether the full PEC facility (after the expansion) needs to be considered?	n/a	<p>Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The advanced materials allow a higher power output per gigajoule (GJ) of fuel consumed.</p> <p>Please also see response to comment #9.</p>	Section 3.3: Environmental Effects Assessments



Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
				<p>[Response #9: The assessment process requires Atura Power to undertake an Environmental Screening Process to identify whether any potential environmental effects of the project would occur. As such, the scope of this assessment is limited to understanding and identifying any effects of the proposed efficiency upgrades.</p> <p>As noted in Section 3.4 of the draft Screening Report, review of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades - which is limited to replacing parts of the existing turbines with more efficient parts - determined that the response to all questions is "No", indicating that there are no potential negative environmental effects resulting from the activities associated with the efficiency upgrades.</p> <p>In recent correspondence to the project team, it was confirmed that, "MECP's technical staff have reviewed Table 3-1 and Section 3.4.3 of the draft environmental screening report (ESR) for the proposed upgrades at the Portland's Energy Centre. The proposed upgrades to the turbine generator will maintain air emissions levels at or below site permit levels. Based on the rationale provided, the ministry concurs that an air quality impact assessment is not needed for this undertaking".]</p>	
n/a	2023-12-20	Cause negative effects from the emission of greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide (CO2), methane)? I find the answer to this question, again, focuses just on the project rather than the full facility after the expansion project is completed. A further complication is the requests from the IESO to operate more hours per day. The answer does not identify any negative effects from GHG on people nor it's contribution to Canada's GHG inventory. Would you add a note to indicate these additional points in the answer to this item?	Section 3.4: Review of Screening Criteria	<p>See response to comment #13.</p> <p>[Response #13: Owners or operators of facilities that meet published reporting requirements are required to report to the National Pollutant Release Inventory (NPRI) under the authority of the <i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act</i> (CEPA). The NPRI tracks over 300 pollutants.</p> <p>Greenhouse gas emissions are regulated by the Emissions Performance Standards Regulation (O. Reg. 241/19) under the <i>Environmental Protection Act</i>. Furthermore, information on GHG emissions from facilities across Canada who meet the requirements is collected under section 46 of the <i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act</i>.</p>	n/a

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
				<p>The net heat rate of the gas turbine generators (i.e., kilojoules/kilowatthours (kJ/kWh) higher heating value (HHV)) following the upgrades is expected to reduce by 2% at baseload and 15°C ambient temperature. The greenhouse gas intensity (i.e., the ratio of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions to total electricity generation) of the facility is also expected to reduce by 2%.</p> <p>PEC will continue to operate as dictated by the IESO based on the supply and demand balance, which fluctuates season by season and year to year, and will continue to report annual emissions to all provincial and federal emissions reporting programs.</p> <p>As such, text in this section remains accurate as is.]</p>	
n/a	2023-12-20	Have negative effects related to increases in the demands on community services and infrastructure? There have been a number of public health studies - including from Toronto Public Health- which show that air pollution causes respiratory illness, hospitalizations, and death. Since the exhaust from PEC will add to the level of pollution in the neighbourhood, would you add a note to indicate that overall exhaust from PEC increases the risk related to respiratory illness, hospitalizations, and death as it relates to our health care system?	Section 3.4: Review of Screening Criteria	<p>See response to comment #2.</p> <p>[Response #2: Details of PEC's Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) (Air/Noise) are provided in Appendix B3a in the response to public comments under the air quality sub-category. The response can be expanded by noting that air standards under O. Reg. 419/05 are set by the MECP's Standards Development Branch to protect against health and environmental effects. Of the 5,208 air contaminant standards, guidelines and screening levels which the MECP currently requires to be assessed for contaminants released to the air, 5,099 are health based. PEC's Emission Summary and Dispersion Modelling (ESDM) report must be updated on an annual basis to reflect changes such as sources no longer in operation, updates to MECP's Air Contaminants Benchmarks List: standards, guidelines and screening levels for assessing point of impingement concentrations of air contaminants, as well as updates to the MECP approved air dispersion model versions.]</p>	n/a
n/a	2023-12-20	Have negative effects on the economic base of a municipality or community? Since business and residents may decide not to move into a neighbourhood that has Toronto's largest source of GHG and nitrous oxides in it, would you add a note to this effect in the answer?	Section 3.4: Review of Screening Criteria	The Environmental Screening Process determined that all Screening Criteria scored 'No' as a result of the PEC Upgrades project, and without any mitigation, all regulatory requirements will be met. Further, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades provided a letter	n/a

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
				stating that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels." Given the facility will continue to operate within all environmental permitting requirements, text in this section remains accurate as is.	
n/a	2023-12-20	Cause public concerns related to public health and safety? Would you add a note to the answer to this item to indicate that various individuals, groups and municipal representatives and offices have expressed concern relating to public health? Would you also add a note that concerns have been expressed since the inception of PEC? Would you also add a note to indicate that cumulative air pollution from all sources in the area is a concern? Would you add a note to indicate that area monitoring stations for pollution are located far from the PEC site? Would you add a note to indicate that a study on the high incidence of respiratory illness in the East End of Toronto was completed in the mid-2000s and no follow-up study has been completed since.	Section 3.4: Review of Screening Criteria	See response to comment #35.  The remainder of the questions provided are beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.  [Response #35: Appendix B contains copies of all comments from members of the public, municipal staff and elected officials, and agencies shared over the course of the project, from the date the project commenced on September 6, 2023, to early November 2023, when the draft Screening Report was being finalized. A full record of the comments and emails provided over the duration of the entire project will be provided in the final Screening Report.]	n/a
n/a	2023-12-20	Is there some reason that the Beaches MP was left off the list? Is there some reason that the Members of Provincial Parliament was left off the list? Why was York region put on the list? Is there some reason that the Ontario Ministry of Health and Public Health Ontario were left off the list? Why was the Ministry of Mines put on the list? Is there some reason that Toronto Public Health and Community Health Centres (e.g. South Riverdale Community Health, East End Community Health, others) were left off the list? Why were Cherry Beach Park and Cherry Beach Sports Field included on the list? Is there some reason that Anishinaabeg, Chippewa, Wendat Indigenous groups were left off the list? Is there some reason that local BIAs and Residents Associations were left off the list?	Section 4.2: Notice of Commencement	The project contact list was generated based on the requirements of Ontario Regulation 50/24 (previously Ontario Regulation 116/01) and the <i>Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects</i> and updated over the course of the project based on engagement with the agencies, updates to the Environmental Assessment Government Review Team Master Distribution List, and as communications developed with project contacts over the course of the Environmental Screening Process to date.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-20	A number of people that I know that attended the initial public meeting did not receive notice that the draft Screening report was available. What distribution list was used to send out the notification that the draft Screening report was available?	Section 4.8: Draft Screening Report	Notice that the draft PEC Screening Report is available was shared with key agencies and organizations, Indigenous communities and interested members of the public. Interested members of the public included individuals who requested to be added to the project contact list as well as any member of the public who contacted the project email inbox ( <a href="mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com">portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com</a> ) during the	n/a

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
				Environmental Screening Process. The draft PEC Screening Report was also made available on the project webpage.	
n/a	2023-12-20	I see Atura is planning on answering questions on the draft Screening report after the comment period has closed. What opportunity will I have to ask follow-up questions after you have published the answers to the questions? I understand that this is supposed to be a collaborative effort. Will the 30 day review period be interactive (with more than one cycle of questions and answers) with clarifications made to the final report?	Section 4.8: Draft Screening Report  Section 4.9: Notice of Completion	The project email inbox ( <a href="mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com">portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com</a> ) will continue to be available throughout the duration of the project. Comments on the draft PEC Screening Report that were provided by Mar. 8, 2024, will be incorporated and reflected in the final PEC Screening Report. Comments on the final PEC Screening Report will be responded to via email and are welcome until the end of the mandated 30-day review period. The Notice of Completion, which is released at the same time as the final Screening Report, marks the beginning of the 30-day mandated review period.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-20	Was the PEC Community Liaison Committee asked to provide input to Table 5-1?	Section 5: Environmental Advantages and Disadvantages	A committee has not been set up for this upgrades project.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-20	<p>While illness from pollution is difficult to attribute to a single facility, there are numerous studies identified by Toronto Public Health which link illness to pollution</p> <p>&gt; I would suggest that one of the disadvantages that should be identified is that of increased GHG and NO that will come as a result of the requests from the IESO to operate more hours as a result of the nuclear power plants being shut down.</p> <p>&gt; I would suggest that one of the disadvantages that should be identified is the potential for increased respiratory illness from residents as a result of increased pollution -especially the young whose lungs are still developing and the very old.</p> <p>&gt; I would suggest that one of the disadvantages that should be identified is the potential for increased morbidity and mortality of the residents (as well as the difficulties that will introduce to their lives and the lives of their families) as a result of increased pollution</p> <p>&gt; I would suggest that one of the disadvantages that should be identified is lost time from work for residents and the impact to employers from illness due to increased pollution</p>	Section 5: Environmental Advantages and Disadvantages	<p>The assessment process requires Atura Power to undertake an Environmental Screening Process to identify whether any potential environmental effects of the project would occur. As such, the scope of this assessment is limited to understanding and identifying any effects of the proposed efficiency upgrades.</p> <p>As noted in Section 3.4 of the draft Screening Report, review of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades - which is limited to replacing parts of the existing turbines with more efficient parts - determined that the response to all questions is "No", indicating that there are no potential negative environmental effects resulting from the activities associated with the efficiency upgrades.</p> <p>Additionally, please see response to #13.</p> <p>[Response #13: Owners or operators of facilities that meet published reporting requirements are required to report to the National Pollutant Release Inventory (NPRI) under the authority of the <i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act</i> (CEPA). The NPRI tracks over 300 pollutants.</p>	n/a

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
		<p>&gt; I would suggest that one of the disadvantages that should be identified is the increased in health care costs from illness due to pollution</p> <p>&gt; I would suggest that conservation, wind, and solar power are more cost-effective solutions but are not currently available to expand the electrical supply</p> <p>&gt; I would suggest that the increased GHG emissions expected from PEC will add to Canada's GHG emissions inventory which is counter to public policy of reducing emissions</p> <p>&gt; I would suggest that businesses looking to locate in a region that has clean power will be dissuaded from locating in a region that uses burned methane to create electricity</p>		<p>Greenhouse gas emissions are regulated by the Emissions Performance Standards Regulation (O. Reg. 241/19) under the <i>Environmental Protection Act</i>. Furthermore, information on GHG emissions from facilities across Canada who meet the requirements is collected under section 46 of the <i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act</i>.</p> <p>The net heat rate of the gas turbine generators (i.e., kilojoules/kilowatt-hours (kJ/kWh) higher heating value (HHV)) following the upgrades is expected to reduce by 2% at baseload and 15°C ambient temperature. The greenhouse gas intensity (i.e., the ratio of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions to total electricity generation) of the facility is also expected to reduce by 2%.</p> <p>PEC will continue to operate as dictated by the IESO based on the supply and demand balance, which fluctuates season by season and year to year, and will continue to report annual emissions to all provincial and federal emissions reporting programs.</p> <p>As such, text in this section remains accurate as is.]</p>	
n/a	2023-12-20	Would you provide me with a copy of the SENES Consultants Limited (2003). Environmental Review Report for the Portlands Energy Centre. Prepared for TransCanada Energy Limited. Prepared for TransCanada Energy and Ontario Power Generation.	n/a	Atura Power recently acquired a copy of the SENES Consultants Limited (2003) Environmental Review Report for the Portlands Energy Centre. Please find it attached to this email.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-20	<p>Other documents. These documents are no longer available at the indicated location - would you provide me with a copy of them:</p> <p><a href="http://www.portlandsenergycentre.com/docs/nov2003/PEC_Air_Impact_Assessment-Final.pdf">http://www.portlandsenergycentre.com/docs/nov2003/PEC_Air_Impact_Assessment-Final.pdf</a> and</p> <p><a href="http://www.portlandsenergycentre.com/docs/nov2003/PEC_Human_Health_Risk-Final.pdf">http://www.portlandsenergycentre.com/docs/nov2003/PEC_Human_Health_Risk-Final.pdf</a></p>	n/a	<p>The documents you reference relate to the 2003 Environmental Review Report by SENES.</p> <p>Please see response to #25.</p> <p>[Response #25: Atura Power recently acquired a copy of the SENES Consultants Limited (2003) Environmental Review Report for the Portlands Energy Centre. Please find it attached to this email.]</p>	n/a
n/a	2023-12-20	Is there some reason that the project to boost efficiency is also increasing the generating capability of PEC by 50 mw?	n/a	As stated in Section 3.3 of the draft Screening Report, the IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining	n/a

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
		Could the upgrade have been done without increasing the generating capability of PEC beyond 550 mw?		the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase electricity production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contract awarded by the IESO as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term Request for Proposal (E-LT1-RFP), in May 2023.	
n/a	2023-12-21	Do you know if IESO even considered some new renewable energy projects to partially account for the increase in demand? As the people who live with the consequences of other people's decisions, it is difficult to accept that no attempt was made to reduce the amount of gas being burned	Appendix B3a: Summary of Public Questions/Comments by Category, and Atura Power's Responses	Atura Power will not comment on the IESO regarding their process for determining the types of and/or alternatives to energy projects required to meet the province's energy demands in the future.  You may wish to review the IESO's latest Request for Proposal (RFP) referred to as the Long-Term 2 (LT2) RFP process, which includes the IESO's recent call for renewable energy production to support Ontario's electricity sector: <a href="https://www.ieso.ca/Sector-Participants/Resource-Acquisitionand-Contracts/Long-Term-2-RFP">https://www.ieso.ca/Sector-Participants/Resource-Acquisitionand-Contracts/Long-Term-2-RFP</a> .	n/a
n/a	2023-12-21	Good question that did not get answered - IESO Procurement Process: Did Atura Power lobby for the plant?	Appendix B3a: Summary of Public Questions/Comments by Category, and Atura Power's Responses	Atura Power responded to the IESO's call for efficiency upgrades under the E-LT1 process.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-21	Would you change the answer to point out that renewable energy can be used to reduce the demand for electricity from gas generation?	Appendix B3a: Summary of Public Questions/Comments by Category, and Atura Power's Responses	The current messaging in Appendix B3a of the draft Screening Report noting the role of gas in Ontario energy supply is accurate and reflects Atura Power's perspective on this topic.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-21	What is a P2 plan and why doesn't PEC have one? It sounds like it has to do with pollution reduction	n/a	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-21	Does PEC's draft Screening report adhere to the guidance from the Ontario Energy Board - Environmental Guidelines	n/a	Ontario Regulation 50/24 (previously Ontario Regulation 116/01) defines the type of environmental assessment (EA) to	n/a



Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
		for the Location, Construction and Operation of Hydrocarbon Pipelines and Facilities in Ontario?		be undertaken under the Ontario <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i> (the Act). Ontario Regulation 50/24 notes that any applicable facility undergoing a change that would increase the name plate capacity of the facility by five megawatts or more must undergo an Environmental Screening Process. Atura Power has undertaken the Environmental Screening Process according to the guidance in the <i>Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects</i> .	
n/a	2023-12-21	When PEC was first built it was seen as a temporary solution until renewables matured. While some people oppose off-shore wind because they don't like the interrupted view of the natural environment, it does not produce emissions and renewable energy has definitely matured. Would you provide a better response to the questions asking why renewable energy is not being used?	Appendix B3a: Summary of Public Questions/Comments by Category, and Atura Power's Responses	See response to comment #30.  [Response # 30: The current messaging in Appendix B3a of the draft Screening Report noting the role of gas in Ontario energy supply is accurate and reflects Atura Power's perspective on this topic.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-21	Gwh supplied to the IESO grid - this link leads to a page that requires a login id of a market participant. Would you provide the data requested on pg. 129 - Gwh supplied to the IESO controlled grid for each year from 2017 to 2022	Appendix B3a: Summary of Public Questions/Comments by Category, and Atura Power's Responses	The following link: <a href="https://ieso.ca/en/Power-Data/Data-Directory">https://ieso.ca/en/Power-Data/Data-Directory</a> indicates that all reports found through the IESO's public reports website can be accessed using the tabs on that webpage.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-21	Did Atura have any response from Mayor Chow, Councillor Fletcher, or MP Dabrusin?	Appendix B4: Correspondence Records with Municipal Staff and Elected Officials	Appendix B contains copies of all comments from members of the public, municipal staff and elected officials, and agencies shared over the course of the project, from the date the project commenced on September 6, 2023, to early November 2023, when the draft Screening Report was being finalized. A full record of the comments and emails provided over the duration of the entire project will be provided in the final Screening Report.	Appendix B5: Correspondence with Municipal Staff and Elected Officials
n/a	2023-12-21	Is there some reason Atura did not engage Councillor Brad Bradford, MPP Mary-Margaret McMahon, and MP Nathaniel Erskine-Smith?	Appendix B4: Correspondence Records with Municipal Staff	See response to comment #20.  [Response #20: The project contact list was generated based on the requirements of Ontario Regulation 50/24 (previously Ontario Regulation 116/01) and the <i>Guide to Environmental</i>	n/a



Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
			and Elected Officials	<i>Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects</i> and updated over the course of the project based on engagement with the agencies, updates to the Environmental Assessment Government Review Team Master Distribution List, and as communications developed with project contacts over the course of the Environmental Screening Process to date.]	
n/a	2023-12-21	Is there some reason the Ontario Ministry of Health and Toronto Public Health was not included in correspondence. Also, Ontario Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Indigenous Affairs, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing	Appendix B5c: Correspondence Records with Other Agencies	See response to comment #20.  [Response #20: The project contact list was generated based on the requirements of Ontario Regulation 50/24 (previously Ontario Regulation 116/01) and the <i>Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects</i> and updated over the course of the project based on engagement with the agencies, updates to the Environmental Assessment Government Review Team Master Distribution List, and as communications developed with project contacts over the course of the Environmental Screening Process to date.]	n/a
n/a	2023-12-21	Is there some reason that correspondence with all agencies listed were not included in the section starting on page 239?	Appendix B5a: List of Agency Contacts	See response to comment #35.  [Response #35: Appendix B contains copies of all comments from members of the public, municipal staff and elected officials, and agencies shared over the course of the project, from the date the project commenced on September 6, 2023, to early November 2023, when the draft Screening Report was being finalized. A full record of the comments and emails provided over the duration of the entire project will be provided in the final Screening Report.]	n/a
n/a	2023-12-21	Once again why was York Region included?	Appendix B5a: List of Agency Contacts	See response to comment #20.  [Response #20: The project contact list was generated based on the requirements of Ontario Regulation 50/24 (previously Ontario Regulation 116/01) and the <i>Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects</i> and updated over the course of the project based on engagement with the agencies, updates to the Environmental Assessment Government Review Team Master Distribution List, and as communications developed with project contacts over the course of the Environmental Screening Process to date.]	n/a

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
n/a	2023-12-21	<p>"If there are sensitive receptors in the surrounding area of this project, a quantitative air quality/odour impact assessment will be useful to evaluate alternatives, determine impacts and identify appropriate mitigation measures. The scope of the assessment can be determined based on the potential effects of the proposed alternatives, and typically includes source and receptor characterization and a quantification of local air quality impacts on the sensitive receptors and the environment in the study area. The assessment will compare to all applicable standards or guidelines for all contaminants of concern. " It seems to me that humans are sensitive receptors. Given the many studies which indicate the link between air pollution and respiratory illness, hospitalizations and death in humans and that PEC (while operating on average 14 hours per day this year and expected to operate more in the future) - did Atura conduct such a study?</p>	Appendix B5b: Correspondence Records with MECP	<p>See response to comment #9.</p> <p>[Response #9: The assessment process requires Atura Power to undertake an Environmental Screening Process to identify whether any potential environmental effects of the project would occur. As such, the scope of this assessment is limited to understanding and identifying any effects of the proposed efficiency upgrades.</p> <p>As noted in Section 3.4 of the draft Screening Report, review of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades - which is limited to replacing parts of the existing turbines with more efficient parts - determined that the response to all questions is "No", indicating that there are no potential negative environmental effects resulting from the activities associated with the efficiency upgrades.</p> <p>In recent correspondence to the project team, it was confirmed that, "MECP's technical staff have reviewed Table 3-1 and Section 3.4.3 of the draft environmental screening report (ESR) for the proposed upgrades at the Portland's Energy Centre. The proposed upgrades to the turbine generator will maintain air emissions levels at or below site permit levels. Based on the rational[e] provided, the ministry concurs that an air quality impact assessment is not needed for this undertaking".]</p>	Section 3.3: Environmental Effects Assessments
n/a	2023-12-21	<p>"Please include in the report a list of all subsequent permits or approvals that may be required for the implementation of the project" Why is this missing from the draft Screening report?</p>	Appendix B5b: Correspondence Records with MECP	<p>This information is available in Section 2: Permits and Approvals of the draft Screening Report.</p>	n/a
n/a	2023-12-21	<p>What response did you receive from Waterfront Toronto?</p>	Appendix B5c: Correspondence Records with Other Agencies	<p>In December 2023, Waterfront Toronto shared two comments with Atura Power regarding the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.</p> <p>i. One comment was to share a clarification regarding the description of the project location in the draft Screening Report. Atura Power thanked Waterfront Toronto for the information and took steps to update the description of the project location in the final Screening Report.</p>	Appendix B6b: Correspondence with Other Agencies

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
				<p>ii. The second comment Waterfront Toronto shared was to ask whether the upgrades proposed will result in an increase in discharge water temperature conditions, or whether the thermal impacts will remain relatively consistent with current operations. In response, Atura Power confirmed that the PEC efficiency upgrades to the gas turbines will have no impact on the cooling water discharged by the facility. Cooling water temperatures will remain within compliance of the existing ECA and thus no change to the Industrial Sewage Works ECA or limits are required.</p> <p>Please note a full record of the comments provided over the duration of the entire project up to Mar. 8, 2024 will be provided in the final Screening Report.</p>	
n/a	2023-12-21	Are there additional responses from stakeholders listed in the contact list for which no correspondence is provided?	Appendix B: Engagement Records	<p>See response to comment #35.</p> <p>[Response #35: Appendix B contains copies of all comments from members of the public, municipal staff and elected officials, and agencies shared over the course of the project, from the date the project commenced on September 6, 2023, to early November 2023, when the draft Screening Report was being finalized. A full record of the comments and emails provided over the duration of the entire project will be provided in the final Screening Report.]</p>	Appendix B: Engagement Records
n/a	2023-12-21	What response was provided to the TRCA questions?	Appendix B5c: Correspondence Records with Other Agencies	<p>In December 2023, Atura Power provided responses to TRCA's comments received in October 2023. Atura Power's response included:</p> <p>i. Confirming that the upgrades will take place within the existing facility and associated paved areas, the existing facility footprint will not change, and acknowledging that further engagement with TRCA should be initiated should the project extend beyond the building footprint and associated paved areas,</p> <p>ii. Recognizing the Highly Vulnerable Aquifer in the surrounding region, confirming that the upgrades will take place within the existing facility footprint and will not require excavation, and acknowledging that further engagement with</p>	Appendix B6b: Correspondence with Other Agencies

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
				<p>TRCA should be initiated should the project require excavation,</p> <p>iii. Confirming that all critical equipment is to be stored inside the facility, any equipment stored outside will be temporarily stored on tractor trailer/flatbeds located on existing paved or gravel parking areas and driveways, and Atura Power does not expect to affect or change the facility's existing stormwater management plan/program nor are effects to erosion or sediment anticipated, and</p> <p>iv. Acknowledging that the project is located within the Toronto Waterfront Screening Area and that while future permits under the Conservation Authorities Act regulations are not required, TRCA will continue to be involved in the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project throughout the EA process, and confirming that Atura Power will continue to notify the TRCA of EA milestones including the release of the draft Screening Report as well as the Notice of Completion and publication of the final Screening Report.</p>	
n/a	2023-12-21	Do your Indigenous contacts include both traditional and elected leadership?	n/a	Atura Power has communicated with the consultation departments of elected leadership for the Six Nations of the Grand River, Mississaugas of the Credit and Métis Nation of Ontario. Atura Power has also engaged with and communicated with the Haudenosaunee Development Institute. Atura Power has engaged Indigenous communities regarding the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project as guided by the MECP.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-21	Did Atura identify any environmental effect or issue in the screening process that will be addressed under another environmental approval (e.g., an approval under the Environmental Protection Act)?	Section 3: Environmental Screening	<p>See response to comment #41.</p> <p>[Response #41: This information is available in Section 2: Permits and Approvals of the draft Screening Report.]</p>	n/a
n/a	2023-12-21	Did Atura consider attempting to engage with the public through social media (e.g. Facebook, Instagram, X, etc.) or other means?	Section 4: Engagement	<p>See response to comment #7.</p> <p>[Response #7: Atura Power is undertaking the Environmental Screening Process according to Ontario Regulation 50/24 (previously Ontario Regulation 116/01) and the <i>Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects</i>.]</p>	n/a

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
n/a	2023-12-21	Did Atura identify any environment effects from the project that require mitigation or managing?	Section 3: Environmental Screening	As noted in Section 3.5 of the draft Screening Report, "the Screening identified that, without any mitigation, all regulatory requirements will be met, and no other impact management commitments will be required. Atura Power will continue to manage air emissions from PEC through ongoing continuous emissions monitoring per the terms and conditions of the facility's ECA."	n/a
n/a	2023-12-21	Will Atura conduct an Air Quality Test in the neighbourhoods surrounding PEC before and after project completion? Antidotally, I heard that a previous study was reviewed as being conducted in the fall rather than in the summer when pollution levels are higher and that monitoring stations were too far away from the neighbourhoods surrounding PEC.	n/a	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-21	Does Atura recognise that the public perception of and concerns about PEC have changed since it moved from being a peaker plant to a baseload plant?	n/a	PEC is a peaker plant and not a baseload plant. It can be operated as needed, during periods of peak demand or when intermittent energy sources like wind and solar are not available or cannot meet the electricity demands of Torontonians and the province.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-21	Was the Notice of Commencement mailed to households in the immediate vicinity of PEC? If so, what streets or neighbourhoods?	Section 4.2: Notice of Commencement	The Notice of Commencement was distributed according to the requirements set out in the <i>Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects</i> . As noted in Section 4.2 of the draft PEC Screening Report, the Notice was shared with adjacent property owners/tenants, provincial and federal ministries, regional and municipal contacts, a variety of other agencies/utilities, and several Indigenous communities.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-21	Where is the summary of public and agency concerns or issues in the Screening report?	Section 4: Engagement	This information is available in Section 4.3: Public Engagement and Section 4.5: Agency Engagement of the draft Screening Report.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-21	Is there other supporting documentation or correspondence related to the Screening Report that was not included in the Screening Report?	n/a	All information relevant to the screening is included in the report and associated appendices. With respect to records of correspondence between Atura Power and Indigenous communities, these are only being shared directly with each respective Indigenous community. All other documentation has been provided and made available in the screening report.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-21	Would you send me copies of previous Screening reports done for PEC. I understand that Atura does not have a copy of the original EA - is it available from OPG or TransCanada?	n/a	See response to comment #25.  [Response #25: Atura Power recently acquired a copy of the	n/a

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
				SENES Consultants Limited (2003) Environmental Review Report for the Portlands Energy Centre. Please find it attached to this email.]	
n/a	2023-12-21	Section 3.1 of the draft Screening report identifies current conditions as a description of the physical facility. The <i>EA Guide for Electricity Projects</i> suggests a description of the local environment and conditions. Would you modify this section to reflect local environment and conditions?	Section 3.1: Existing Conditions	The project will take place entirely within the facility; the facility footprint will not change. Section 3.1 of the draft Screening Report includes a description of the local environment and conditions relative to the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. As such, text in this section remains accurate as is.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-21	Which libraries, municipal offices or recreation centres are you planning on making the Screening report available in?	Section 4.1: Engagement Program	Based on the current project contact list, Atura Power will be sharing the Notice of Completion with the same project contacts who received the Notice of Commencement in September 2023 (see Section 4.2 of the draft PEC Screening Report), as well as project contacts who received the draft Screening Report in early December 2023. Additionally, it will be advertised in the same publications used to share the Notice of Commencement in September 2023, including the Toronto Sun, Toronto Star, and Beach Metro newspapers. Anyone who has contacted the project team via the project email ( <a href="mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com">portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com</a> ) will also receive a copy of the Notice of Completion. Finally, a copy of the Notice of Completion will also be posted on the project webpage.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-21	What residents, businesses and local interest groups are you planning on sending the EA Completion notice to?	Section 4.9: Notice of Completion	See response to comment #56.  [Response #56: Based on the current project contact list, Atura Power will be sharing the Notice of Completion with the same project contacts who received the Notice of Commencement in September 2023 (see Section 4.2 of the draft PEC Screening Report), as well as project contacts who received the draft Screening Report in early December 2023. Additionally, it will be advertised in the same publications used to share the Notice of Commencement in September 2023, including the Toronto Sun, Toronto Star, and Beach Metro newspapers. Anyone who has contacted the project team via the project email ( <a href="mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com">portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com</a> ) will also receive a copy of the Notice of Completion. Finally, a copy of the Notice of Completion will also be posted on the project webpage.]	n/a

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
n/a	2023-12-21	Have any commitments been made from previous EAs?	n/a	This question is beyond the scope of the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.	n/a
n/a	2023-12-21	Has a Climate Change Impact Assessment been completed for PEC? (As per Ontario's Considering climate change in the environmental assessment process) If so, would you please provide a copy of it.	n/a	A separate Climate Change Impact Assessment was not completed for the PEC Upgrades project.	n/a
n/a	2024-01-02	Thank you for inviting comments on your draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support.	n/a	It should be noted that a municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The Minister of Energy's quote noting the requirement for a municipal support resolution refers to the Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO's) current Long-Term (LT1) Request for Proposals (RFP) process which is not related to the upgrade projects for which the IESO has already awarded a contract to PEC. The PEC Efficiency Upgrades project was part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023.	n/a
n/a	2024-01-02	The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.	n/a	At this time, Atura Power is unable to share commercially sensitive financial details related to its efficiency upgrades.	n/a
n/a	2024-01-02	We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.	n/a	<p>The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contracted PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.</p> <p>Additionally, it should be noted that wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity; however, other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is not uncommon to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and, for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system.</p>	n/a



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n/a	2024-01-02	And finally, the screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.	n/a	<p>As per Section 3.2 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment is not required and has not been undertaken for the project.</p> <p>Greenhouse gas emissions from PEC are regulated under the Emissions Performance Standards Regulation (O. Reg. 241/19) under the <i>Environmental Protection Act</i>. Furthermore, information on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from facilities across Canada who meet the requirements is collected under section 46 of the <i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act</i>. Reviewed 2021 GHG data is currently available. 2022 GHG data has been submitted as per the reporting requirements and is under review.</p>	n/a
n/a	2024-01-02	<p>I have asthma, and so do some of my children and grandchildren. Toronto smog makes it worse.</p> <p>Thus, I do NOT support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council also doesn't support the expansion.</p> <p>The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers - AND the impact on our health (which will increase costs to our healthcare system, such as it is these days).</p> <p>Cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting are better alternatives. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives, and this MUST include the costs to our health (including work and school absenteeism and</p>	n/a	<p>Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about the proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project (below). A letter with our responses to your comments is attached. Thank you and please do not hesitate to contact us at <a href="mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com">portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com</a> with any questions.</p> <p>Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about our proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project. Your comments are noted and part of the project record. Before we respond to your comments, we would like to offer one clarification. Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient. In response to</p>	n/a

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		<p>healthcare costs).</p> <p>Do not inflict more pollution on the struggling people of Toronto.</p> <p>Fossil fuels are the technology of the last century. Renewables will help us survive the rising climate catastrophe of this century. Have the courage and integrity to act accordingly.</p>		<p>each of the questions/comments raised in your email, we offer the following responses in the table below.</p> <p>It should be noted that a municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The Minister of Energy's quote noting the requirement for a municipal support resolution refers to the Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO's) current Long-Term (LT1) Request for Proposals (RFP) process which is not related to the upgrade projects for which the IESO has already awarded a contract to PEC. The PEC Efficiency Upgrades project was part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023.</p> <p>At this time, Atura Power is unable to share commercially sensitive financial details related to its efficiency upgrades.</p> <p>The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contracted PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. Additionally, it should be noted that wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity; however, other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is not uncommon to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and, for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system.</p> <p>As per Section 3.2 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the</p>	

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				<p>footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator “will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels”. As such, an air quality assessment is not required and has not been undertaken for the project.</p>	
n/a	2024-01-02	<p>I totally support the points in the letter below!!</p> <p>Thank you for inviting comments on your draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support. The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers. We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives. And finally, the screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure. Thank you.</p>	n/a	<p>Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about the proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project (below). A letter with our responses to your comments is attached. Thank you and please do not hesitate to contact us at <a href="mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com">portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com</a> with any questions.</p> <p>Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about our proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project. Your comments are noted and part of the project record. Before we respond to your comments, we would like to offer one clarification. Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient. In response to each of the questions/comments raised in your email, we offer the following responses in the table below.</p> <p>It should be noted that a municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The Minister of Energy’s quote noting the requirement for a municipal support resolution refers to the Independent Electricity System Operator’s (IESO’s) current Long-Term (LT1) Request for Proposals (RFP) process which is not related to the upgrade projects for which the IESO has already awarded a contract to PEC. The PEC Efficiency Upgrades project was part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023.</p>	n/a

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				<p>At this time, Atura Power is unable to share commercially sensitive financial details related to its efficiency upgrades.</p> <p>The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province’s focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province’s request for upgrades to increase production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contracted PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. Additionally, it should be noted that wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity; however, other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is not uncommon to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and, for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system.</p> <p>As per Section 3.2 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator “will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels”. As such, an air quality assessment is not required and has not been undertaken for the project.</p>	
n/a	2024-01-02	In responding to the invitation to address the draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant, I wish to express my opposition to the expansion in strongest terms. Not only are there less polluting options but strong opposition to the plans has also emerged from Toronto City	n/a	Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about the proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project (below). A letter with our responses to your comments is attached. Thank you and please do not hesitate to contact us at <a href="mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com">portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com</a> with any questions.	n/a

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		Council. Atura must respect our right to a clean environment.		<p>Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about our proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project. Your comments are noted and part of the project record. Before we respond to your comments, we would like to offer one clarification. Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient. In response to each of the questions/comments raised in your email, we offer the following responses in the table below.</p> <p>It should be noted that a municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The Minister of Energy's quote noting the requirement for a municipal support resolution refers to the Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO's) current Long-Term (LT1) Request for Proposals (RFP) process which is not related to the upgrade projects for which the IESO has already awarded a contract to PEC. The PEC Efficiency Upgrades project was part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023.</p> <p>At this time, Atura Power is unable to share commercially sensitive financial details related to its efficiency upgrades.</p> <p>The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contracted PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. Additionally, it should be noted that wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity; however, other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is not uncommon to</p>	

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n/a	2024-01-02	<p>The science shows the health hazards to those who live within the air shed of such plants. It is breach of public trust to put at risk the health of those who reside within that air shed. And, of greatest concern, the most recent reports by IPCC, IEA and more sound the alarm on the use of fossil fuels to generate electricity. Surely the unprecedented, record-breaking fires of 2023, floods of 2023, heat waves of 2023 must give us all pause and trigger a rapid end to such profligate use of fossil fuels. We must not further endanger the security and health of those young people and our companion species who come after us. Continuing to use natural gas in this way is intergenerational betrayal.</p>	n/a	<p>Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about the proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project (below). A letter with our responses to your comments is attached. Thank you and please do not hesitate to contact us at <a href="mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com">portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com</a> with any questions.</p> <p>Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about our proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project. Your comments are noted and part of the project record. Before we respond to your comments, we would like to offer one clarification. Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient. In response to each of the questions/comments raised in your email, we offer the following responses in the table below.</p>	n/a

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				<p>It should be noted that a municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The Minister of Energy's quote noting the requirement for a municipal support resolution refers to the Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO's) current Long-Term (LT1) Request for Proposals (RFP) process which is not related to the upgrade projects for which the IESO has already awarded a contract to PEC. The PEC Efficiency Upgrades project was part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023.</p> <p>At this time, Atura Power is unable to share commercially sensitive financial details related to its efficiency upgrades.</p> <p>The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contracted PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. Additionally, it should be noted that wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity; however, other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is not uncommon to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and, for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system.</p> <p>As per Section 3.2 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of</p>	



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				the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment is not required and has not been undertaken for the project.	
n/a	2024-01-03	It is incomprehensible to me that an Environmental Screening Process would conclude that there are no potential negative environmental effects from the project by looking narrowly at the mechanics of the capacity upgrade installation with no acknowledgement of the negative environmental and health impacts of the facility when in operation	Section 3: Environmental Screening	<p>As per Section 3.2 of the draft Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment was deemed to be not required and has not been undertaken for the project.</p> <p>In recent correspondence to the project team, it was confirmed that "[Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks'] MECP's technical staff have reviewed Table 3-1 and Section 3.4.3 of the draft environmental screening report (ESR) for the proposed upgrades at the Portland's Energy Centre. The proposed upgrades to the turbine generator will maintain air emissions levels at or below site permit levels. Based on the rationale provided, the ministry concurs that an air quality impact assessment is not needed for this undertaking". This instruction from the MECP will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.</p>	Section 3.3: Environmental Effects Assessments
n/a	2024-01-03	The report notes that in 2003 an Environmental Review Report concluded that the negative net effects of the proposed PEC were "temporary or negligible" (p 1). There has never been a full environmental assessment of this facility. Given that PEC is reported to be the largest emitter of greenhouse gases in Toronto, the largest emitter of nitrogen oxides in Toronto (Environmental Defence) and on the list of Ontario's largest industrial emitters (CBC Oct 5, 2023), a full environmental assessment is needed.	Section 1.1: Background	The assessment process requires Atura Power to undertake an Environmental Screening Process to identify whether any potential environmental effects of the project would occur. The existing PEC facility went through an Environmental Assessment and is therefore not the subject of the Screening Report. As such, the scope of this assessment is limited to understanding and identifying any effects of the proposed efficiency upgrades. We can confirm that Ministry of the MECP is aware of the scope and assessment process that Atura Power is undertaking for the project.	n/a

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n/a	2024-01-03	The report should be expanded to provide specific quantitative data regarding the impact of PEC's operation on air quality because of emissions from the facility before and after the proposed capacity expansion. Information should also be provided regarding any potential adverse impacts on public health and climate of these emissions	n/a	<p>See Response #1.</p> <p>[Response #1: As per Section 3.2 of the draft Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment was deemed to be not required and has not been undertaken for the project.</p> <p>In recent correspondence to the project team, it was confirmed that "[Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks] MECP's technical staff have reviewed Table 3-1 and Section 3.4.3 of the draft environmental screening report (ESR) for the proposed upgrades at the Portland's Energy Centre. The proposed upgrades to the turbine generator will maintain air emissions levels at or below site permit levels. Based on the rational[e] provided, the ministry concurs that an air quality impact assessment is not needed for this undertaking". This instruction from the MECP will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.]</p>	Section 3.3: Environmental Effects Assessments
n/a	2024-01-03	The report states that the proposed project, "allows PEC to continue to provide electricity system reliability by operating on demand in times when intermittent energy sources (e.g., wind and solar) alone cannot meet energy demand" (Table 5-1 p. 48), giving the impression of an infrequently used "peaker plant". In light of the recent media report (Toronto Star, Oct 2, 2023) that many of the province's gas plants have effectively been transformed, "from rarely used peaker plants into baseload power plants" and that PEC ran "nearly 21 hours a day all summer long", the report needs to provide more transparent and complete information regarding the current extent of operation, the expected date of closure and the extent of operation projected to be	Section 5: Environmental Advantages and Disadvantages	<p>As stated in Appendix B3a of the draft Screening Report, PEC operations are dictated by the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) based on the electricity supply and demand balance, which fluctuates season by season and year to year. Historically, the plant has operated between 1,750 to 4,500 hours per year, always at the direction of the IESO.</p> <p>The following link <a href="https://ieso.ca/en/Power-Data/Data-Directory">https://ieso.ca/en/Power-Data/Data-Directory</a> indicates that all reports found through the IESO's public reports website can be accessed using the tabs on that webpage, should you like more information regarding the IESO's operations.</p>	n/a

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		ordered by the Independent Electricity Systems Operator until the expected closure.		PEC is contracted to operate until April 2034. It is unknown at this time if PEC will continue to operate beyond 2034.	
n/a	2024-01-03	This capacity expansion does not have the support of Toronto City Council. In May and June of 2023, the City of Toronto passed resolutions opposing Atura's proposal to increase PEC's capacity. This information was omitted from the draft report. This is especially relevant considering the recent cancellation of proposed plants in Halton Hills and Thorold when opposed by local councils. Damage to the environment from the operation of an expanded existing plant is not different from the damage that would have resulted from these proposed plants. An explanation is required justifying this disregard for local government.	n/a	A municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The IESO has already awarded a contract for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) Request for Proposal (RFP), results for which were announced in May 2023, including contracts for natural gas electricity generation facility upgrades.	n/a
n/a	2024-01-03	No consideration was given to possible alternative renewable energy sources such as wind, solar and hydro power from Quebec. These sources might assist in meeting the province's demand for electricity in a manner which is less harmful to health and climate and ultimately more cost effective. The report requires a more fulsome analysis of the cost and benefits of operating this facility compared to alternative renewable energy sources and this should take into consideration the cost of mitigating any adverse health and climate impacts.	n/a	The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase electricity production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contract awarded by the IESO as part of the competitive E-LT1-RFP, in May 2023. Given the recommendations of the IESO and government initiatives, other alternatives were not considered as part of the project, nor are they required as part of the Screening Process being followed for the project.	n/a
n/a	2024-01-05	The Emissions Limits (e.g. NOx, CO, Sulphur Dioxide) that PEC operates under - when these limits were determined, what were the assumptions made in the modelling? Was there an assumption that these gases would be dispersed? What would happen if the gases were not dispersed or built up in the area surrounding PEC?	Section 2: Permits and Approvals	See response to comment #1.  Note that the emissions limits are determined based on calculations completed in accordance with MECP's <i>Guideline A-5 Atmospheric Emissions from Stationary Combustion Turbines</i> .  [Response #1: PEC's Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) specifies facility-specific NOx, SO <sub>2</sub> , and CO emission concentration limits for the undiluted gases emitted from the heat recovery steam generator stacks which are based on MECP's <i>Guideline A-5 Atmospheric Emissions from Stationary Combustion Turbines</i> .]	n/a

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n/a	2024-01-05	<p>Let us not move backward! Thank you for inviting comments on your draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support. The final screening report should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers. We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives. And finally, the screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.</p>	n/a	<p>Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about the proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project (below). A letter with our responses to your comments is attached. Thank you and please do not hesitate to contact us at <a href="mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com">portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com</a> with any questions.</p> <p>Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about our proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project. Your comments are noted and part of the project record. Before we respond to your comments, we would like to offer one clarification. Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient. In response to each of the questions/comments raised in your email, we offer the following responses in the table below.</p> <p>It should be noted that a municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The Minister of Energy's quote noting the requirement for a municipal support resolution refers to the Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO's) current Long-Term (LT1) Request for Proposals (RFP) process which is not related to the upgrade projects for which the IESO has already awarded a contract to PEC. The PEC Efficiency Upgrades project was part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023.</p> <p>At this time, Atura Power is unable to share commercially sensitive financial details related to its efficiency upgrades.</p> <p>The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase production at existing facilities. Atura Power is</p>	n/a

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
				<p>responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contracted PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. Additionally, it should be noted that wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity; however, other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is not uncommon to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and, for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system.</p> <p>As per Section 3.2 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment is not required and has not been undertaken for the project.</p>	
Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE)	2024-01-05	<p>A full environmental assessment that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Examines the smog, climate, and health impacts of the PEC at present and until its expected closure.</li> <li>- Evaluates the cost and benefits of cleaner alternatives (e.g. energy efficiency, demand management, and renewables).</li> </ul>	Chapter 3: Environmental Screening	<p>See response to comment #3, #4 and #6.</p> <p>[Response #3: For a detailed response to public comments on Emissions of Greenhouse Gases please refer to the sub-category provided in Appendix B3a.</p> <p>Similarly, details of PEC's Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) (Air/Noise) are provided in Appendix B3a in the response to public comments under the air quality sub-category. The response can be expanded by noting that air standards under O.Reg. 419/05 are set by the MECP's Standards Development Branch to protect against health and environmental effects. Of the 5,208 air contaminant standards, guidelines and screening levels which the MECP</p>	<p>Section 3.3: Environmental Effects Assessments</p> <p>Appendix B4a: Summary of Public Questions/Comments by Category, and Atura Power's Responses</p>

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
				<p>currently requires to be assessed for contaminants released to the air, 5,099 are health based.]</p> <p>[Response #4: As per Section 3.2 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment was deemed to be not required and has not been undertaken for the project.</p> <p>In recent correspondence to the project team, it was confirmed that "MECP's technical staff have reviewed Table 3-1 and Section 3.4.3 of the draft environmental screening report (ESR) for the proposed upgrades at the Portland's Energy Centre. The proposed upgrades to the turbine generator will maintain air emissions levels at or below site permit levels. Based on the rationale provided, the ministry concurs that an air quality impact assessment is not needed for this undertaking". This instruction from the MECP will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.]</p> <p>[Response #6: The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase electricity production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contract awarded by the IESO as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term Request for Proposal (E-LT1-RFP), in May 2023.]</p>	
Toronto East Residents for	2024-01-05	The expected closure date of PEC.	n/a	PEC is contracted to operate until April 2034. As Atura Power responds to Ontario energy needs as directed by the IESO,	n/a

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
Renewable Energy (TERRE)				plans beyond PEC's contract period are not certain at this time.	
Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE)	2024-01-05	The projected power generation to be ordered by the IESO from 2024 through to PEC's expected closure.	n/a	PEC operations are dictated by the IESO based on the province's supply and demand balance. The plant will continue to operate as directed by the IESO.	n/a
Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE)	2024-01-05	The plans for PEC's replacement after its expected closure.	n/a	See response #8.  [Response #8: PEC is contracted to operate until April 2034. As Atura Power responds to Ontario energy needs as directed by the IESO, plans beyond PEC's contract period are not certain at this time.]	n/a
Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE)	2024-01-05	The financial cost of the proposed expansion and the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.	n/a	See response #5.  Atura Power does not dictate the price that customers pay for electricity, nor do we set government policies. Our business is to safely, reliably, and affordably generate electricity to meet the needs of Ontarians.  [Response #5: At this time, Atura Power is unable to share commercially sensitive financial details related to its efficiency upgrades. Additionally, the IESO sets the price of electricity in Ontario. Therefore, please direct your question regarding electricity costs for consumers to the IESO here: <a href="https://www.ieso.ca/en/Corporate-IESO/Contact">https://www.ieso.ca/en/Corporate-IESO/Contact</a> .]	n/a
Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE)	2024-01-05	In light of the above, it is clear that Atura Power's public consultation process and subsequent DSR has failed to provide key information about their proposal which has direct and immediate impacts on the community. The DSR fails to include any socio-economic impact or environmental disadvantages the proposed upgrades will have on the community. There is no evidence provided in the DSR to indicate that the proposed expansion would be a benefit to the local community, or that the proposed expansion would not pose a danger to the climate or public health. We are therefore demanding an immediate halt to the proposed expansion and that the DSR be revised to include:	n/a	See Response #1.  [Response #1: A municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The Minister of Energy's quote noting the requirement for a municipal support resolution refers to the Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO's) Long-Term (LT1) Request for Proposals (RFP) process which is not related to the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The PEC Efficiency Upgrades project was part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023 and for which the IESO awarded a contract to PEC.]	n/a



Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
		-An explanation why Atura believes PEC should be expanded without explicit support from Toronto City Council.			
Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE)	2024-01-05	By excluding the data on PEC's current greenhouse gas emissions, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, particulate matter (PM 2.5), and sulphur dioxide, and the increases in these emissions that the proposed expansion will have, the DSR fails to address local health and ongoing climate impacts of the proposed expansion.	Section 3: Environmental Screening	<p>As per Section 3.2 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment was deemed to be not required and has not been undertaken for the project.</p> <p>In recent correspondence to the project team, it was confirmed that "MECP's technical staff have reviewed Table 3-1 and Section 3.4.3 of the draft environmental screening report (ESR) for the proposed upgrades at the Portland's Energy Centre. The proposed upgrades to the turbine generator will maintain air emissions levels at or below site permit levels. Based on the rationale provided, the ministry concurs that an air quality impact assessment is not needed for this undertaking". This instruction from the MECP will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.</p>	Section 3.3: Environmental Effects Assessments
Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE)	2024-01-05	PEC is the largest emitter of greenhouse gasses and nitrous oxides in Toronto. In addition to worsening the climate crisis, these pollutants have immediate health impacts on local residents, hindering lung development in children, and contributing to respiratory illness that can lead to hospitalization and death. Many studies have shown increased asthma rates in areas with persistent air pollution.	n/a	<p>For a detailed response to public comments on Emissions of Greenhouse Gases please refer to the sub-category provided in Appendix B3a.</p> <p>Similarly, details of PEC's Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) (Air/Noise) are provided in Appendix B3a in the response to public comments under the air quality sub-category. The response can be expanded by noting that air standards under O. Reg. 419/05 are set by the MECP's Standards Development Branch to protect against health and environmental effects. Of the 5,208 air contaminant standards, guidelines and screening levels which the MECP currently requires to be assessed for contaminants released to the air, 5,099 are health based.</p>	Appendix B4a: Summary of Public Questions/Comments by Category, and Atura Power's Responses

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE)	2024-01-05	The Draft Screening Report (DSR) fails to address why this expansion should be approved despite the explicit opposition of Toronto City Council. In 2023 Toronto City Council passed two separate resolutions opposing Atura Power's plans to increase PEC's output capacity. This is directly counter to a 2022 directive by Energy Minister Todd Smith to the Independent Electricity Systems Operator (IESO) that municipal approval is required for Ontario's proposed energy procurement of 4,000 megawatts. As the PEC expansion is part of this procurement effort, it requires the support of Toronto City Council to proceed. The DSR fails to indicate why this expansion should proceed without the required support of Toronto City Council.	n/a	A municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The Minister of Energy's quote noting the requirement for a municipal support resolution refers to the Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO's) Long- Term (LT1) Request for Proposals (RFP) process which is not related to the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The PEC Efficiency Upgrades project was part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023 and for which the IESO awarded a contract to PEC.	n/a
Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE)	2024-01-05	The Draft Screening Report (DSR) fails to indicate alternatives to the proposed expansion.	n/a	The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase electricity production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contract awarded by the IESO as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term Request for Proposal (E-LT1-RFP), in May 2023.	n/a
Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE)	2024-01-05	<p>The DSR fails to provide the financial cost of the proposed expansion.</p> <p>The cost of living for all Torontonians is increasing, which amplifies the economic impact of the proposed upgrade as a pressing issue. As seen in the correspondence from your community outreach, Atura Power is unwilling to provide any information about the cost of the upgrade despite receiving many questions from the community about this matter. Since Atura Power is a wholly owned subsidiary of the crown corporation Ontario Power Generation, these costs should be made public, as the operational costs of PEC are ultimately borne by the taxpayer. There can be no meaningful discussion about the economic impact of the upgrade without this information, which Atura Power has declined to provide in the DSR.</p>	n/a	<p>At this time, Atura Power is unable to share commercially sensitive financial details related to its efficiency upgrades. Additionally, the IESO sets the price of electricity in Ontario. Therefore, please direct your question regarding electricity costs for consumers to the IESO here: <a href="https://www.ieso.ca/en/Corporate-IESO/Contact">https://www.ieso.ca/en/Corporate-IESO/Contact</a>.</p>	n/a

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE)	2024-01-05	<p>The DSR fails to address the climate and health impacts of the proposed expansion and increased operation.</p> <p>When PEC was first built it was communicated to the City of Toronto that it was a 'peaker plant', operating only during peak hours to top up baseload supply; however, recent studies found that the plant was operating up to 21 hours a day. Since 2018, emissions from PEC have increased 550 percent with further announced plans to increase output and emissions by 700 percent by 2043. It is clear that PEC is no longer intended to operate exclusively during peak hours, and it has instead become a base- load power plant without community consultation or the stated support of the City of Toronto.</p>	n/a	The purpose of the draft Screening Report is to assess the effects of the proposed efficiency upgrades (see Section 1.4: Project Description of the draft Screening Report). As such, this comment is beyond the scope of the draft Screening Report and associated Environmental Screening Process.	n/a
Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE)	2024-01-05	<p>The DSR fails to indicate alternatives to the proposed expansion.</p> <p>We are in a global climate crisis. Despite available alternatives to meet Ontario's power needs, Atura Power's DSR fails to indicate carbon neutral alternatives to its proposed expansion. Wind, solar and storage are among the most affordable on the market. Additionally, Ontario has the ability to import surplus hydro-electricity from Quebec. Atura Power's DSR fails to indicate alternatives to their proposal, and in doing so fails to justify the need for its proposed expansion.</p>	n/a	The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase electricity production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contract awarded by the IESO as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term Request for Proposal (E-LT1-RFP), in May 2023.	n/a
n/a	2024-01-07	I have read the draft screening report and find it lacking in several places: it should include definite figures of GHG emitted over the past 4-5 years (not "historical" amounts); it should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion; it should include the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers.	n/a	<p>Before we respond to your comments, we would like to offer one clarification. Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient.</p> <p>All PEC emissions reports are publicly available on the provincial and federal government websites. At this time, Atura Power is unable to share commercially sensitive financial details related to its efficiency upgrades. Additionally, it is the</p>	n/a

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
				<p>IESO which sets the price of electricity in Ontario, therefore, please direct your question regarding electricity costs for consumers to the IESO here:  <a href="https://www.ieso.ca/en/Corporate-IESO/Contact">https://www.ieso.ca/en/Corporate-IESO/Contact</a>.</p>	
n/a	2024-01-07	<p>We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives.</p>	n/a	<p>The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contracted PEC Efficiency Upgrades project.</p> <p>Additionally, it should be noted that wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity; however, other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is not uncommon to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and, for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system.</p>	n/a
n/a	2024-01-07	<p>The screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure.</p>	Chapter 3: Environmental Screening	<p>As per Section 3.2 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment is not required and has not been undertaken for the project.</p> <p>Greenhouse gas emissions from PEC are regulated under the Emissions Performance Standards Regulation (O. Reg. 241/19) under the <i>Environmental Protection Act</i>. Furthermore, information on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from facilities</p>	Section 3.3: Environmental Effects Assessments

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
				<p>across Canada who meet the requirements is collected under section 46 of the <i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act</i>. Reviewed 2021 GHG data is currently available. 2022 GHG data has been submitted as per the reporting requirements and is under review.</p>	
n/a	2024-01-07	<p>Thank you for inviting comments on your draft screening report for the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. I do not support the expansion of the Portlands gas plant. Toronto City Council does not support the expansion either. I ask Atura to explain how they can expand a polluting gas plant in our community without support from our municipal officials, since Minister Smith has required municipal resolutions of support. I have read the draft screening report and find it lacking in a number of places: it should include definite figures of GHG emitted over the past 4-5 years (not "historical" amounts); it should include the financial cost of the proposed expansion; it should include the expected impact on electricity costs to consumers. We know there are alternatives to increasing fossil gas burning, including cleaner and lower cost renewables, conservation and load shifting. The final screening report should include an analysis of the costs and benefits of cleaner alternatives. And finally, the screening report should include an analysis that examines the smog, climate, economic and health impacts of the Portlands Energy Centre at present and until its expected closure. Thank you.</p>	n/a	<p>Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about the proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project (below). A letter with our responses to your comments is attached. Thank you and please do not hesitate to contact us at <a href="mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com">portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com</a> with any questions.</p> <p>Thank you for your recent email sharing your comments about our proposed Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project. Your comments are noted and part of the project record. Before we respond to your comments, we would like to offer one clarification. Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period. The parts that are being replaced are the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls, but due to improved technology, will be more efficient. In response to each of the questions/comments raised in your email, we offer the following responses in the table below.</p> <p>It should be noted that a municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The Minister of Energy's quote noting the requirement for a municipal support resolution refers to the Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO's) current Long-Term (LT1) Request for Proposals (RFP) process which is not related to the upgrade projects for which the IESO has already awarded a contract to PEC. The PEC Efficiency Upgrades project was part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023.</p> <p>At this time, Atura Power is unable to share commercially sensitive financial details related to its efficiency upgrades.</p>	n/a

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
				<p>The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province’s focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province’s request for upgrades to increase production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contracted PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. Additionally, it should be noted that wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity; however, other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is not uncommon to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and, for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system.</p> <p>As per Section 3.2 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator “will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels”. As such, an air quality assessment is not required and has not been undertaken for the project.</p>	
Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE)	2024-02-23*	Counter to a letter from Energy Minister Todd Smith in December of 2022 indicating explicit directives to the Independent Electricity Systems Operator (IESO) requiring municipal approval for new power procurements, Atura Power has stated that this procurement of 50 MW does not require municipal support as it falls under “Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP [Requests For Proposals]”, which they claim the Minister was not referring to. TERRE found no	n/a	<p>Atura Power does not require municipal approval to complete the efficiency upgrade project for the following reasons:</p> <p>i) As stated in Section 3.3 of the draft Screening Report, the IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province’s focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province’s request for upgrades to increase</p>	n/a

Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
		subsequent communication which absolves Atura from complying with the Minister’s directive to obtain municipal support. Atura has provided no evidence which justifies disregarding the Minister’s statement.		<p>electricity production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contract awarded by the IESO as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term Request for Proposal (E-LT1-RFP), in May 2023. The IESO awarded a contract for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) RFP, results for which were announced in May 2023, including contracts for natural gas electricity generation facility upgrades; as such, municipal support resolution for E-LT1 is not required. The IESO’s May 2023 Resource Adequacy Update explains the upgrades to existing gas plants approved under the ELT1 process, while the ‘Results Table’ link provided in the Resource Adequacy Update (located under the ‘Expedited Process’ heading) identifies PEC as one of the seven existing facilities approved for efficiency upgrades.</p> <p>ii) While the IESO’s E-LT1 process does not require municipal approval, the PEC efficiency upgrades project is subject to the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects subject to Ontario Regulation (O. Reg) 116/01, under the Ontario <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i>, since the project proposes to increase the facility’s generation capacity by more than five megawatts (MW). The Environmental Screening Process is a proponent-driven process that Atura Power is carrying out, according to the requirements outlined in O. Reg 116.01. While municipal engagement is an important component of the environmental assessment process, municipal approval is not required.</p>	
Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE)	2024-02-23*	In response to questions about greenhouse gas, nitrogen oxides, and other harmful emissions from the PEC, Atura Power has indicated that questions about emissions are “beyond the scope of the draft screening report and associated Environmental Screening Process.” TERRE feels that if the environmental screening process does not take into account greenhouse gas and other harmful emissions related to the expansion then the screening process is not able to properly assess the project’s health and environmental risks.	n/a	<p>Several of your comments refer to the project as the “PEC expansion”; however, as we communicated to you, Atura Power is not proposing an expansion of the existing PEC facility. Atura Power is planning efficiency upgrades to the existing turbines during a scheduled maintenance period.</p> <p>The assessment process requires Atura Power to undertake an Environmental Screening Process to identify whether any potential environmental effects of the project would occur. The existing PEC facility went through an Environmental Assessment and is therefore not the subject of the Screening</p>	Section 3.3: Environmental Effects Assessments



Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
				Report. As such, the scope of this assessment is limited to understanding and identifying any effects of the proposed efficiency upgrades. We can confirm that Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) is aware of the scope and assessment process that Atura Power is undertaking for the project. This instruction from the MECP will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.	
Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE)	2024-02-24*	In response to questions about the financial cost of the expansion, Atura Power has not shared any information, stating they are "unable to share commercially sensitive financial details" about the expansion. TERRE feels that this information must be provided in order to assess the socio-economic impacts of the expansion. Atura Power is a crown corporation and therefore taxpayers are entitled to this information.	n/a	As noted previously, Atura Power is not sharing commercially sensitive financial details related to its efficiency upgrades. As the IESO sets the price of electricity in Ontario, please direct your question regarding electricity costs for consumers to the IESO here: <a href="https://www.ieso.ca/en/Corporate-IESO/Contact">https://www.ieso.ca/en/Corporate-IESO/Contact</a> .	n/a

\*Notes correspondence that began during the draft Screening Report review period from December 5, 2023 to January 7, 2024, and after the review period concluded.

## **Appendix C2: Comments from Municipal Staff and Elected Officials**

## Summary of Draft Screening Report Comments from Municipal Staff and Elected Officials

The following table captures questions and comment received from municipal staff and elected officials during the draft Screening Report review period from December 5, 2023, to January 7, 2024. Copies of the emails containing the comments referenced in the table below can be viewed in **B5: Correspondence Records with Municipal Staff and Elected Officials**.

Name/Title	Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
Support Assistant B on behalf of James Nowlan, Executive Director, Environment & Climate Division	City of Toronto	2024-01-05	<p>The planned upgrade would increase PEC's electricity generation capacity from 550 MW to 600 MW, counter to Toronto City Council's recent statements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In June 2023, Toronto City Council requested, "the Government of Canada to issue Clean Electricity Regulations that prohibit increasing the gas-fired generating capacity at the Portlands Energy Centre, effective immediately" (2023.MM7.25, Part 1).</li> <li>• In May 2023, Toronto City Council voted to "oppose any new power generation proposal involving increased burning of fossil fuels, including natural gas, in the City" (2023.MM6.13, Part 1).</li> <li>• City Council voted to "request the Province of Ontario to immediately invest in programs to deliver energy efficiency, demand management and conservation to meet the capacity and energy needs that would have been fulfilled by expansion of electricity production through burning of fossil fuels" (2023.MM6.13, Part 2).</li> </ul>	n/a	A municipal support resolution is not required for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) has already awarded a contract for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project as part of the competitive Expedited Long-Term (E-LT1) Request for Proposal (RFP), results for which were announced in May 2023, including contracts for natural gas electricity generation facility upgrades.	n/a
Support Assistant B on behalf of James Nowlan, Executive Director, Environment & Climate Division	City of Toronto	2024-01-05	<p>The draft Screening Report does not provide the following quantitative information, and we request that it be included in the final Screening Report to provide clarity about the project:</p> <p>1. If the upgrade is undertaken, is the quantity of natural gas consumed annually expected to increase, decrease, or stay the same? What quantity of natural gas will be consumed and how does this compare to PEC's current state?</p>	n/a	The quantity of natural gas consumed after the efficiency upgrades are completed will depend on the how often the IESO calls on PEC to operate. As stated in Appendix B3a of the draft Screening Report, PEC operations are dictated by the IESO based on the electricity supply and demand balance, which fluctuates season by season and year to year. Also note that, as per Section 3.3 in Table 3-1 of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report, the same amount of fuel used will produce more power after the upgrades.	n/a
Support Assistant B on behalf of James Nowlan, Executive Director, Environment & Climate Division	City of Toronto	2024-01-05	What emission intensity and total annual quantity of each relevant air pollutant (carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter (PM2.5) and sulphur dioxide) would be emitted, and how do these compare to PEC's current state?	Section 3: Environmental Screening	As per Section 3.2 of the draft Screening Report, Atura Power is confident that there will be no potential for negative effects associated with the screening criteria. All planned project activities will occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Additionally, letters from General Electric (GE) Gas Power Services, the manufacturer of the	Section 3.3: Environmental Effects Assessments

Name/Title	Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
			The required Screening Criteria Checklist, question 3.1 asks if the project would, "have negative effects on air quality due to emissions of nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, suspended particulates, or other pollutants?" A quantitative analysis of how the upgrade project would impact PEC emissions would answer this question.		equipment being installed for the upgrades, state that the upgrades to the turbine generator "will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels". As such, an air quality assessment was deemed to be not required and has not been undertaken for the project. In recent correspondence to the project team, it was confirmed that" [Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks'] MECP's technical staff have reviewed Table 3-1 and Section 3.4.3 of the draft environmental screening report (ESR) for the proposed upgrades at the Portland's Energy Centre. The proposed upgrades to the turbine generator will maintain air emissions levels at or below site permit levels. Based on the rational[e] provided, the ministry concurs that an air quality impact assessment is not needed for this undertaking". This instruction from the MECP will be included as part of the record of engagement in the final Screening Report.	
Support Assistant B on behalf of James Nowlan, Executive Director, Environment & Climate Division	City of Toronto	2024-01-05	<p>What total annual quantity of greenhouse gases (GHGs) would be emitted, and how does this compare to PEC's current state?</p> <p>The draft Screening Report, page 18, indicates that the upgrade project is expected to lower the facility's GHG intensity by two percent. What is not clear is how the upgrade project would impact total, annual GHG emissions.</p>	Section 3.3: Environmental Effects Assessment	The text on page 18 of the draft Screening Report indicating that the greenhouse gas intensity of the facility is expected to reduce by two per cent relates to the fact the same amount of fuel used will produce more power after the upgrades. The total annual quantity of GHGs emitted will depend on the how often the IESO calls on PEC to operate. As stated in Appendix B3a of the draft Screening Report, PEC operations are dictated by the IESO based on the electricity supply and demand balance, which fluctuates season by season and year to year.	n/a
Support Assistant B on behalf of James Nowlan, Executive Director, Environment & Climate Division	City of Toronto	2024-01-05	Achieving Toronto's goal of net-zero GHG emissions community-wide by 2040, as outlined in the TransformTO Net Zero Strategy, among North America's most ambitious climate plans, requires transition buildings and transportation from fossil fuels to clean electricity. A critical step for success is developing a resilient, carbon-free, affordable electricity supply in Ontario and increasing local renewable electricity generation, rather than increasing electricity generation from fossil fuels.	n/a	The IESO is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. Part of this process is the province's request for upgrades to increase production at existing facilities. Atura Power is responding to this need identified by the IESO through the contracted PEC Efficiency Upgrades project. Additionally, it should be noted that wind and solar generation are important resources and will continue to play an increasing role in supplying clean electricity;	n/a

Name/Title	Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
					however, other resources are required to maintain system reliability. It is not uncommon to have a week or more of low wind or overcast conditions and for these periods of time, it is critical to have generation resources available that can operate on demand. Natural gas generation operates on demand regardless of weather conditions to ensure electricity system reliability and ensures that wind and solar generation can be reliably incorporated into the electricity system.	
Support Assistant B on behalf of James Nowlan, Executive Director, Environment & Climate Division	City of Toronto	2024-01-05	As we think ahead, we are interested to hear if Atura plans to capture and store emissions from PEC, including emissions from any increased capacity by 2040. We look forward to discussions in the years to come, with Atura, other facility operators, utilities, other levels of government and their agencies, about collectively transitioning Ontario's electricity sector.	n/a	Atura Power is playing a leadership role in establishing the supply of low-carbon hydrogen in Ontario to help the province move towards a net-zero future with plans for low-carbon hydrogen facilities in Niagara, Windsor, and Nanticoke. We are also developing a 250 MW battery energy storage system (BESS) in Napanee, and have submitted proposals to develop additional BESS projects in Nanticoke, Napanee and Peterborough.	n/a

# Appendix C3: Comments from Agencies



## Summary of Draft Screening Report Comments from Agencies

The following table captures questions and comments received from agencies during the draft Screening Report review period from December 5, 2023, to January 7, 2024. Copies of the emails containing the comments referenced in the table below can be viewed in **B6: Correspondence Records with Agencies**.

Name/Title	Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
Liam Smythe, Heritage Planner  Citizenship, Inclusion and Heritage Division	Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism	2023-12-11	MCM recommends that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA), prepared by a qualified consultant, be completed to assess potential project impacts to the properties at 440 and 470 Unwin Avenue. Please send the HIA to MCM and the City of Toronto heritage planning staff for review and comment and make it available to local organizations or individuals who have expressed interest in review.	n/a	The upgrades will involve replacing the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls. All project activities will take place within the existing facility, and the existing facility footprint will not change in any way (no ground disturbance). For these reasons, we do not anticipate any effects to the MCM interests identified, and, as such, do not anticipate the need to conduct a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) or technical cultural heritage studies.	n/a
Liam Smythe, Heritage Planner  Citizenship, Inclusion and Heritage Division	Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism	2024-01-03	All technical cultural heritage studies and their recommendations are to be addressed and incorporated into EA projects. Please advise MCM whether any technical cultural heritage studies will be completed for this EA project and provide them to MCM before issuing a Notice of Completion and commencing any work on the site.	n/a	Thank you again for your letter to Atura Power dated Jan. 3, 2024, acknowledging our plans to make efficiency upgrades at our Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) and noting the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism's guidance for consideration during the Environmental Assessment process. Please find a copy of our response, as well as a copy of our draft PEC Screening Report referenced in the letter, in the attached PDFs.	n/a
Liam Smythe, Heritage Planner  Citizenship, Inclusion and Heritage Division	Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism	2024-01-03	The properties at 440 and 470 Unwin Avenue have been designated under Part IV of the <i>Ontario Heritage Act</i> (City of Toronto <i>By-laws #1144-2019 and #936-2020</i> ). MCM recommends that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA), prepared by a qualified consultant, be completed to assess potential project impacts to the properties at 440 and 470 Unwin Avenue.	n/a	The upgrades will involve replacing the same parts that would normally be replaced at regular maintenance overhauls. All project activities will take place within the existing facility, and the existing facility footprint will not change in any way (no ground disturbance). For these reasons, we do not anticipate any effects to the MCM interests identified, and, as such, do not anticipate the need to conduct a	n/a
Liam Smythe, Heritage Planner  Citizenship, Inclusion and Heritage Division	Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism	2024-01-03	This project may impact archaeological resources and should be screened using the Ministry's Criteria for Evaluating Archaeological Potential to determine if an archaeological assessment is needed. MCM archaeological sites data are available at <a href="mailto:archaeology@ontario.ca">archaeology@ontario.ca</a> .	n/a	Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) or technical cultural heritage studies. Further details regarding project activities are documented in our draft Screening Report, a copy of which is attached to this email. Note that we shared this draft report with Indigenous communities, key agencies who have responded to the Notice of Commencement, and interested members of the public. The report was shared to offer those interested with an additional opportunity to review the project details, the Environmental Screening Process undertaken, and	n/a

Name/Title	Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
					<p>assessment findings. Atura Power is voluntarily providing this opportunity so that comments can be incorporated into the final Screening Report. The report outlines the results of the Environmental Screening Process undertaken to identify whether any potential environmental effects of the project would occur ("Yes" or "No"). Notably, the Environmental Screening Process determined that the response to all questions is "No", indicating that there are no potential negative environmental effects resulting from the project. We invite you to review the draft report and share any comments via our project email address, <a href="mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com">portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com</a>. We will accept comments until Jan. 19, 2024, after which we will prepare and publish the final version of the Screening Report for a mandatory 30-day review period per the requirements of the screening process under Ontario Regulation 116/01. Thank you very much and please do not hesitate to contact us at <a href="mailto:portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com">portlandsupgrade@aturapower.com</a> with any questions.</p>	
Liam Smythe, Heritage Planner  Citizenship, Inclusion and Heritage Division	Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism	2024-01-17*	As no expansion of the existing facility footprint is proposed, and no ground disturbance is anticipated, it is understood that the project area was not screened for archaeological potential. Please be advised however, that if any construction-related activities are to occur outside of the existing facility footprint, including temporary storage, staging and working areas, etc., that may cause land-disturbance, then the area should be screened using the Ministry's Criteria for Evaluating Archaeological Potential to determine if an archaeological assessment is needed.	n/a	<p>Thank you for confirming that Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM) staff completed their review of the draft Screening Report for our Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project and sharing the letter detailing MCM's response. We would like to make a note of clarification as we noticed that your letter refers to the property at 440 Unwin Ave., namely, the Richard L. Hearn Generating Station. Please note that PEC, the site of the proposed efficiency upgrades, is located in the Port Lands industrial area at 470 Unwin Ave. The former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station is located to the southwest of PEC.</p> <p>In response to your feedback regarding Archaeological Resources, we understand that if the project description changes and any construction-</p>	n/a

Name/Title	Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
					related activities are to occur outside of the existing facility footprint at 470 Unwin Ave. that may cause land-disturbance, the area should be screened using the Ministry's Criteria for Evaluating Archaeological Potential to determine if an archaeological assessment is needed.	
Liam Smythe, Heritage Planner  Citizenship, Inclusion and Heritage Division	Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism	2024-01-17*	While it is understood that all proposed activities associated with the upgrades will take place within the existing facility, we would like to reiterate that the Portlands Energy Centre property is designated under Part IV of the <i>Ontario Heritage Act</i> (City of Toronto <i>By-laws #1144-2019 and #936-2020</i> ), and therefore activities associated with upgrades and maintenance may still have the potential to impact heritage attributes of the property. Atura Power is advised to consult with Heritage Planning staff at the City of Toronto to determine if the proposed activities will adversely impact any heritage attributes of the property. If adverse impacts to any heritage attributes are anticipated, then MCM recommends that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA), prepared by a qualified consultant, be completed to assess potential project impacts to the property.	n/a	In response to your feedback regarding Built Heritage Resources and Cultural Heritage Landscapes, please note we have shared the Notice of Commencement and draft Screening Report with the City Planning department and have not received any comments or questions to date. However, we will reach out to Heritage Planning staff within the City Planning department, to confirm that no Heritage Impact Assessment is required. Thank you again for your review of our draft Screening Report and project materials. As stated in your letter, we will reach out with further questions.	n/a
Sarah Bale, Regional Planner  Land Use Planning Unit	Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry	2023-12-11	Thank you for sending the draft Screening Report. Based on the information contained in the report, we do not have any concerns or further comment at this time. Please continue to circulate us on key stages/milestones in the process. You can send future circulations directly to me at <a href="mailto:sarah.bale@ontario.ca">sarah.bale@ontario.ca</a> .	n/a	Thank you for your message and quick review, Sarah. They are very much appreciated.	n/a
Sarah Bale, Regional Planner  Land Use Planning Unit	Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry	2023-12-11	The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) received the Notice of Commencement for the Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades on September 6, 2023. Thank you for circulating this to our office. Please note the ministry has not completed a screening of natural heritage, natural hazards, other natural resource values, or applicable ministry permits or approvals at this time.  This response provides information to guide you in identifying ministry interests and engaging the ministry	n/a	Thank you for confirming receipt of the Notice of Commencement for the Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades and sharing the information to guide us in identifying ministry interests and engaging the ministry for advice as needed over the course of the Environmental Screening Process. We will review the materials and reach out with any questions or concerns.	n/a

Name/Title	Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
			<p>for advice as needed. MNRF has prepared the attached to provide proponents an overview of MNRF mandated interests and the ministry's commenting role in respect of external requests for comment for projects subject to the Environmental Assessment Act. Please note it is the proponent's responsibility to be aware of, and comply with, all relevant federal or provincial legislation, municipal by-laws and/or other agency approvals.</p> <p>After reviewing the information provided, if you have identified that your project would not impact any MNRF interests there is no need to circulate any subsequent notices to our office. If you have identified MNRF interests and/or may require permit(s) or further technical advice, please direct your specific questions to the undersigned.</p> <p>If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.</p>			
<p>Chunmei Liu, Regional Environmental Planner</p> <p>Environmental Assessments Branch</p>	<p>Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks</p>	<p>2023-12-11</p>	<p>The ministry is requesting the full record of indigenous consultation information including emails, call logs, meeting notes, etc. for the review of the draft ESR for this project.</p> <p>If the requested information is not available at the draft ESR review stage, the ministry will request the full record of indigenous consultation information for our review when a Notice of Completion and the final ESR for the project is released during the 30-day public review period.</p>	<p>Section 4.6: Indigenous Engagement</p>	<p>In response to the MECP's request for the full record of Indigenous engagement information, we would like to note that the draft Environmental Screening Report (Section 4) summarizes our engagement with Indigenous communities during the Environmental Screening Process to date. We have not included the detailed correspondence records in the draft Screening Report as we are sharing these records with each Indigenous community first. And, as noted in your email, we will provide the correspondence with Indigenous communities to the MECP with the Notice of Completion and final Screening Report. Thank you again, and please let us know if you have further questions.</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>Chunmei Liu, Regional Environmental Planner</p>	<p>Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks</p>	<p>2024-01-05</p>	<p>MECP's technical staff have reviewed Table 3-1 and Section 3.4.3 of the draft environmental screening report (ESR) for the proposed upgrades at the Portland's Energy Centre. The proposed upgrades to the turbine generator will maintain air emissions levels at or below site permit levels. Based on the rational provided, the</p>	<p>Section 3.3: Environmental Effects Assessments</p>	<p>Thank you for your email dated Jan. 5, 2024. We appreciate the MECP's confirmation that an air quality impact assessment is not needed for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project, and that the MECP's Toronto District staff have reviewed the draft Screening Report and do not have further comments.</p>	<p>Section 3.3: Environmental Effects Assessments</p>

Name/Title	Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
Environmental Assessments Branch			ministry concurs that an air quality impact assessment is not needed for this undertaking.			
Chunmei Liu, Regional Environmental Planner Environmental Assessments Branch	Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks	2024-01-05	MECP's Toronto District staff have also reviewed the draft ESR from the lens of the district and do not have any further comments. It is understood that the proposed efficiency upgrades are occurring within the facility, will not require works beyond the footprint of the facility and are projected to cause no additional negative affects to the natural environment or species at risk.	n/a		n/a
Chunmei Liu, Regional Environmental Planner Environmental Assessments Branch	Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks	2024-01-05	Initial concerns with this project were centered around visible emissions as MECP's district staff regularly receive complaints regarding plumes originating from the plant due to the startup/shutdown procedures. In the report, the equipment manufacturer has demonstrated that the upgrades will maintain [air] emissions levels at or below site permit levels. Similarly, the manufacturer has stated that the upgrades are not expected to increase noise levels from the facility. This was previously assured through discussions with Atura Power representatives in June 2023 when the Environmental Compliance Approval amendment was submitted.	n/a	Thank you for your email dated Jan. 5, 2024. We appreciate the MECP's confirmation that an air quality impact assessment is not needed for the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project, and that the MECP's Toronto District staff have reviewed the draft Screening Report and do not have further comments.	n/a
Chunmei Liu, Regional Environmental Planner Environmental Assessments Branch	Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks	2024-01-05	Attached we have also asked the full record of indigenous consultation information including emails, call logs, meeting notes, etc. for the review of the draft ESR. If the requested information is not available at the draft ESR review stage, the ministry will request the full record of indigenous consultation information for our review when a Notice of Completion and the final ESR for the project is released during the 30-day public review period.	Section 4.6: Indigenous Engagement	In response to the MECP's request for the full record of Indigenous engagement information, we would like to note that the draft Environmental Screening Report (Section 4) summarizes our engagement with Indigenous communities during the Environmental Screening Process to date. We have not included the detailed correspondence records in the draft Screening Report as we are sharing these records with each Indigenous community first. And, as noted in your email, we will provide the correspondence with Indigenous communities to the MECP with the Notice of Completion and final Screening Report.	n/a
<b>Jackie Ho,</b> Planner I	Toronto and Region	2023-12-06	Be advised that this project is located within the Toronto Waterfront Screening Area and while TRCA will continue	n/a	Atura Power acknowledges that this project is located within the Toronto Waterfront Screening Area and	n/a

Name/Title	Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
Infrastructure Planning and Permits	Conservation Authority		to comment on this project throughout the EA process, future permits under the Conservation Authorities Act regulations are not required. Depending on the works that are proposed during detailed design, an application made pursuant to the TRCA Voluntary Project Review process may be recommended by staff. Voluntary Project Review applications are subject to the discretion of the applicant due to the location of the project within the Toronto Waterfront Screening Area.		that while future permits under the <i>Conservation Authorities Act</i> regulations are not required, TRCA will continue to be involved in the PEC Efficiency Upgrades project throughout the EA process. Note, following the successful completion of the EA process, Atura Power plans to move to construction of the planned upgrades in Fall 2024. Atura Power will continue to notify the TRCA of EA milestones including the release of the draft Screening Report (which Atura Power shared notification and a copy of the report with TRCA via email on Dec. 5, 2023) as well as the Notice of Completion and publication of the final Screening Report.	
Jackie Ho, Planner I Infrastructure Planning and Permits	Toronto and Region Conservation Authority	2023-12-06	TRCA advises of the Highly Vulnerable Aquifer in this location. Should works require excavation, consultation with TRCA should be initiated.	n/a	Atura Power recognizes the Highly Vulnerable Aquifer in this location. As noted above, the upgrades will take place within the existing facility footprint and will not require excavation. Atura Power acknowledges that further engagement with TRCA should be initiated should the project require excavation.	n/a
Jackie Ho, Planner I Infrastructure Planning and Permits	Toronto and Region Conservation Authority	2023-12-06	TRCA recommends use of erosion and sediment control measures for stockpiling or staging of equipment outside of the building.	n/a	All critical equipment is to be stored inside the facility. Any equipment stored outside will be temporarily stored on tractor trailer/flatbeds located on existing paved or gravel parking areas and driveways. Atura Power does not expect to affect or change the facility's existing stormwater management plan/program. No effects to erosion or sediment are anticipated.	n/a
Jackie Ho, Planner I Infrastructure Planning and Permits	Toronto and Region Conservation Authority	2023-12-06	TRCA seeks clarification if any work within "existing facilities" extends beyond the building footprint and associated paved areas. If any work is proposed beyond the built and paved areas, consultation with TRCA should be initiated to prevent indirect and/or direct impacts to the nearby wetlands.	Section 3.3: Environmental Effects Assessments	No; the upgrades will take place within the existing facility and associated paved areas. The existing facility footprint will not change. Atura Power acknowledges that further engagement with TRCA should be initiated should the project extend beyond the building footprint and associated paved areas.	n/a
Jackie Ho, Planner I	Toronto and Region	2023-12-06	TRCA staff note that there were no detailed responses to our comments included in the draft screening report.	n/a	We are sharing this letter and a populated copy of Appendix B: TRCA Comments and Responses in	n/a



Name/Title	Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
Infrastructure Planning and Permits	Conservation Authority		Please provide us with detailed responses for TRCA staff review in the attached appendix.		response to your Oct. 31, 2023, and Dec. 6, 2023, correspondence.	
<b>Jackie Ho,</b> Planner I Infrastructure Planning and Permits	Toronto and Region Conservation Authority	2023-12-21	TRCA staff are unable to meet the January 7 deadline proposed and request an extension of two weeks. Typically, our service delivery standards are up to 45 business days for reviewing draft EA reports, but staff expect to be able to provide comments by mid-January. Please confirm if Atura Power can accommodate.	n/a	Thank you for your update regarding TRCA's review of the draft PEC Efficiency Upgrades Screening Report and noting staff's need for a two-week extension beyond the January 7, 2024 deadline. We look forward to receiving TRCA's comments by January 19, 2024.	n/a

Name/Title	Organisation, if applicable	Date of Comment	Comment	Draft Screening Report Section Reference	How Atura Power Addressed the Comment/Question	Section of the Final Screening Report that was Updated, if applicable
<p><b>Jackie Ho,</b> Planner I</p> <p>Infrastructure Planning and Permits</p>	<p>Toronto and Region Conservation Authority</p>	<p>2024-01-17*</p>	<p>1. TRCA previously reviewed the Notice of Commencement received on September 6, 2023 and presentation materials from the Public meeting held on October 5, 2023. A response letter was provided on October 31, 2023. Atura Power has provided responses to these comments as part of this current submission.</p> <p>2. TRCA staff have completed the review of this submission and have objections in principle to the proposed work. Our comments on the Draft Screening Report are addressed. A record of TRCA comments is enclosed as Appendix B: TRCA Comments and Proposed Responses. Specifically staff note the following:</p> <p>a) The project is located within the Toronto Waterfront Screening Area. As such, a permit is not required.</p> <p>b) Continue to notify TRCA of EA milestones including the Notice of Completion and publication of the final Screening Report.</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>Thank you for your email and attached letter concerning the TRCA's review of our draft screening report for our proposed Portlands Energy Centre efficiency upgrades. Atura Power's response to your letter is in the attached PDF.</p> <p>Thank you for confirming TRCA staff have completed their review of the draft Screening Report for our Portlands Energy Centre (PEC) Efficiency Upgrades project and sharing the letter detailing TRCA's response. And thank you for confirming that TRCA has no objections to the proposed work and noting that your previous comments on the draft Screening Report shared in October 2023 have been addressed. In response to your letter shared on Jan. 17, 2024, we wish to provide two minor clarifications:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In your letter, PEC is described as "previously known as the Richard L. Hearn Generating Station on Villiers Island". Please note that PEC is located in the Port Lands industrial area at 470 Unwin Ave. The former Richard L. Hearn Generating Station is located next to PEC on the southwestern side.</li> <li>2. In your letter, TRCA notes that we plan to submit a Statement of Completion in February 2024. Please be advised that we plan to issue a Notice of Completion with the final Screening Report in February 2024 and will file a Statement of Completion once the screening process is complete. Thank you again for your review of our draft Screening Report and project materials. As requested, we will continue to notify the TRCA of project milestones including sharing the Notice of Completion and final Screening Report.</li> </ol>	<p>n/a</p>

\*Notes correspondence received during an extension of the draft Screening Report review period. The draft Screening Report review period was extended to January 19, 2024 for TRCA staff and MCM staff.