



357-2024-1979

May 23, 2025

Stephen Smith
Environmental Specialist
Atura Power
Email: Stephen.smith@aturapower.com

Dear Stephen Smith,

I am writing you today regarding elevation requests submitted to me for Atura Power's Portlands Energy Centre Efficiency Upgrades (the Project). During the public review period, I received 205 individual elevation requests asking that the Project be elevated to an Environmental Review within the Environmental Screening Process or to a comprehensive environmental assessment.

The Project is designated by Part II (Electricity Projects) of O. Reg. 50/24 under the *Environmental Assessment Act* (EAA) as a project subject to the EAA but is exempt from Part II.3 of the EAA (comprehensive environmental assessments) if the project is carried out in accordance with the Environmental Screening Process, subject to the project being elevated.

Based on all of the information before me, I have decided to deny the requests for elevation. My decision was made after careful consideration of the factors set out in section B.4.1.1 of the Environmental Screening Process, including the concerns raised in the elevation requests and Atura Power's responses, the Project documentation and consultation undertaken with Indigenous communities, the public and government agencies.

The reasons for my decision may be found in the attached letters to the requesters. In the interest of transparency, I encourage you to make this letter available to the public on the Project website.

With this decision having been made, Atura Power can now proceed with the Project, subject to any other required permits or approvals. Atura Power must ensure the Project is implemented in the manner described in the Project documentation, and inclusive of all mitigating measures, commitments, environmental and other provisions therein.

Please note that failure to comply with the EAA or the provisions of the Environmental Screening Process or failure to implement the Project in the manner described in the Project documents, are contraventions of the EAA and may result in prosecution under section 38 of the Act.

Stephen Smith
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I am confident that Atura Power recognizes the importance and value of the EAA and will ensure that its requirements and those of the Environmental Screening Process are satisfied.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Todd McCarthy", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Todd McCarthy
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Attachment

c: Kathleen O'Neill, Director, Environmental Assessment Branch, MECP,
Kathleen.oneill@ontario.ca