

# Environmental Impact Assessment

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is a proactive approach to environmental protection and management coordinated by the Department of Environment and Local Government (ELG).

## THE EIA

- ✓ Identifies harmful environmental effects that could result during the life cycle of the proposed development.
- ✓ Avoids, reduces, or mitigates potential effects before they happen.

## WHY ARE EIA REVIEWS IMPORTANT?

- Ensures that potential environmental, socioeconomic, and human health impacts have been addressed.
- Enhances transparency of GNB's decision-making process.
- Results in a more sustainable project design.

## WHO MUST REGISTER FOR AN EIA REVIEW?

- Individuals, companies, or public sector agencies proposing a project listed in the *EIA Regulation-Clean Environment Act*. Examples: waste disposal, mineral extracting, electric power generation facility, offshore drilling, causeways and bridges and highway projects.

## HOW LONG DOES AN EIA REVIEW TAKE?

- Reviews take on average six months but can take as little as three months. Complex projects can take longer to review.
- ELG is committed to administering the *EIA Regulation* in a timely, transparent and cooperative manner.

## EIA REVIEW PROCESS

For those undertaking development in NB:

### 1 Screening

Contact ELG as early as possible to learn if the proposed work may need an EIA review.

### 2 Registration

Submit a registration document that describes the location, activity, existing environment, potential impacts, and proposed avoidance or mitigation measures for the proposed work.

### 3 Review

The submitted registration document is reviewed by a Technical Review Committee.

### 4 Engagement

Registration documents are posted *online* where members of the public, as well as stakeholders and First Nations communities can review and provide feedback. From there, project-related feedback is addressed by the developer.

### 5 Outcome

An EIA review has three possible outcomes:

- The proposed project can proceed, subject to conditions.
- The proposed project requires a more in-depth Comprehensive EIA review (1% of completed EIA reviews are subject to comprehensive reviews).
- The proposed project is denied (0.5% of completed EIA reviews are denied).



## TO LEARN MORE

Visit: [GNB.ca/Environment](https://www.gnb.ca/Environment)

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