

# **Environmental Assessment Program**

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## **Glossary of Environmental Assessment Terms and Acronyms Used in Alberta Updated February 2010**

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## Introduction

The following terms and acronyms are commonly used in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) reports or are relevant to the environmental assessment process. This document is divided into two sections: Glossary of Terms and [Glossary of Acronyms](#).

## Citation

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## Section I: Glossary of Terms

Technical terms related to the various sciences supporting environmental assessment or related to the various industry sectors are described in other glossaries. Readers are encouraged to consult recent EIA reports for a more complete list of terms.

Terms on the right margin are related to the defined term and are also found in this Glossary.

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### A

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#### ***Aboriginal People***

#### ***Métis***

Refers to the descendants of the original inhabitants of Canada. Aboriginal people are defined in the *Constitution Act*, 1982 as all indigenous people including Indians, Métis and Inuit. The Constitution does not define membership in the individual groups.

#### ***Aboriginal and Treaty Rights***

The rights of a First Nation under the Alberta Schedule to the *Constitution Act*, 1930 (also known as the Natural Resources Transfer Agreement), individual Treaties or under section 35 of the *Constitution Act*, 1982.

#### ***Administrative Completeness***

#### ***Approvals Director/EIA Report Completeness***

A regulatory step in which the Approvals Director determines that the approval application addresses the information required by regulation and is sufficiently complete to commence a detailed technical review of the application.

#### ***Application Case***

#### ***Baseline Case/Planned Development Case***

The Application Case describes the Baseline Case with the effects of the project added. The Application Case provides information that is valuable to regulators in determining how project operations and emissions would need to be controlled to meet provincial emission requirements.

#### ***Approvals Director***

#### ***Environmental Assessment Director***

A person in Alberta Environment designated by Ministerial Order to administer Part 2, Division 2 of the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act* and the *Water Act*.

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## **B**

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### ***Base of Groundwater Protection***

The elevation above which groundwater is deemed to be non-saline or useable without treatment.

### ***Baseline Case***

### ***Application Case/Planned Development Case***

The Baseline Case establishes the conditions that exist or would exist prior to development of the project or the conditions that would exist if the project were not developed.

### ***Baseline Studies***

Initial scientific investigations that determine the present ecological state of an area and establish a basic reference necessary for further studies.

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## **C**

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### ***Capacity***

The ability of a biophysical, social or economic system or structure to adapt to or absorb change without irreversible effects.

### ***Community Capacity***

A collection of resources including skills, knowledge, human resources, and organizational structures which, when combined, improve the ability of a community to recognize and address key problems and realize their community's full potential.

### ***Community Protocol***

A protocol for communication and consultation best practices between a First Nation and Alberta.

### ***Compensation (fisheries)***

### ***Mitigation***

The replacement of natural habitat, increase in the productivity of existing habitat, or maintenance of fish production by artificial means, where other measures are not adequate to maintain habitats for fisheries resources.

### ***Concordance Table***

A table in the Environmental Impact Assessment report that identifies which sections of the report contain the information for each of the Terms of Reference requirements (i.e., a cross-reference system for TORs to EIA report sections).

### ***Conservation Offset***

### ***Compensation/Mitigation/Residual Effect***

Conservation actions intended to compensate for the unavoidable residual harm to the environment, populations and/or biodiversity.

### ***Constraint***

### ***Setback***

Site conditions (structural, geographic or environmental) that could result in potentially higher impact from project activities. The areas identified as having constraints should be avoided or special mitigation measures developed.

### ***Constraints Mapping***

A technique where environmental (and other) sensitivities or constraints are identified during the project design phase and are mapped on the proposed project area to help planners avoid or reduce the potential environmental impact of the project.

### ***Consumptive Use***

Water taken from a source that is not entirely, directly or immediately returned to that source and cannot be put to use by a downstream user.

### ***Return Flow***

### ***Cumulative Effects***

Changes to the environment that are caused by a project in combination with other past, present, and planned projects in the region.

### ***Effect***

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## **D**

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### ***Direct Effect***

An effect in which the cause-effect relationship has no intermediary effects.

### ***Effect/Indirect Effect***

### ***Direction***

The manner in which a valued ecosystem component may be affected by a project (i.e., adverse, beneficial or neutral). The ultimate long-term trend of the effect.

### ***Magnitude***

### ***Directly-Affected Party***

Parties who may experience direct environmental, health, socio-economic or lifestyle changes as a consequence of the actions or proposed actions of another party.

### ***Dispersion Model***

A computer model that calculates a concentration or deposition value at a particular point; this value changes from hour to hour, eventually reaching an absolute maximum concentration or deposition value for the particular point.

### ***Duration***

The period of time in which an effect on a valued ecosystem component may exist or remain detectable (i.e., the recovery time for a resource, species or human use).

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## **E**

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### ***Ecological Footprint***

An indicator of the magnitude, duration, frequency and distribution of environmental stressors and natural resource consumption associated with an activity.

### ***Project Footprint***

A Project's ecological footprint is determined by the amount of depletable raw materials and non-renewable resources it consumes, and the quantity of wastes and emissions that are generated in the process.

***Ecological Integrity***

The ability of an ecosystem to maintain its principal characteristics, within historical ranges of variability, over a long time frame.

***Effect*** ***Cumulative Effects/Direct Effect/Impact/Indirect Effect***

Any response by an environmental or social component to a proposed project's impact.

***EIA Report Completeness*** ***Administrative Completeness/Environmental Assessment Director***

A regulatory step in which the Environmental Assessment Director determines that the Environmental Impact Assessment report has met the Terms of Reference and that the Director understands the nature of the proposed activity and the Proponent's description of potential effects and mitigation.

***Environmental Assessment Director***

A person in Alberta Environment designated by Ministerial Order to administer Part 2, Division 1 of the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act*.

***Environmental Management System (EMS)***

A set of management processes and procedures that allows an organization to analyse and reduce the environmental impact of its activities.

***Environmental Monitoring***

Systematic, geo-referenced observations of the environment essential to detecting changes in ecosystems over time.

***Environmental Protection Plan (EPP)***

A practical tool that describes the actions required to minimize environmental effects before, during and after project implementation. The plan may include details about the implementation of the mitigation measures identified in the environmental assessment, such as who is responsible for implementation, where the measures are intended to be implemented, and within what timeframe.

***Expert Federal Authority*** ***Responsible Authority/Review Panel***

A federal authority that, upon request from a Responsible Authority, a mediator or a review panel, has the obligation to make available any specialist or expert information or knowledge that it possesses with respect to a project. This expertise can be used during any stage of the environmental assessment, from the commencement of the environmental assessment to the implementation of the mitigation measures or any follow-up program.

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## **F**

***Federal Environmental Assessment Coordinator (FEAC)*** ***Responsible Authority***

A role established under the Act with the mandate to coordinate the participation of federal authorities among themselves, and with any other persons, bodies or jurisdictions, using specific duties and powers outlined in the Act.

***First Nation (Band)***

A Band is defined in the *Indian Act* as a body of Indians for whose common use and benefit lands have been set aside or monies held by the Government of Canada or declared by the Governor in Council to be a Band. Most Bands prefer to be referred to as First Nations.

***Follow-Up Program (federal)***

Programs put in place to verify the accuracy of the Environmental Assessment of a project and/or to determine the effectiveness of any measures taken to mitigate the adverse environmental effects of the project.

***Fragmentation***

The breaking up of contiguous blocks of habitat into increasingly smaller blocks as a result of direct loss and/or sensory disturbance (i.e., habitat alienation).

***Frequency***

***Effect***

The number of times during the life of the Project that the effect may occur.

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**G**

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***Geographic Extent***

***Effect/Magnitude/Study Area***

The spatial boundaries within which an effect of a defined magnitude occurs.

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**H**

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***Habitat***

Land and water used by wildlife. This may include biotic and abiotic aspects such as vegetation, exposed bedrock, water, and topography.

***Habitat Alteration***

Any change in the structure or function of a habitat. Changes can be direct (e.g., habitat loss) or indirect (e.g., disturbance by human activity leading to habitat avoidance).

***Habitat Suitability***

The ability of the habitat to provide the life requisites of a species.

***Habitat Suitability Index (HSI)***

***Resource Selection Function***

The value of habitat for wildlife species estimated/modeled by relating a species' need for food and cover to structural and spatial attributes of vegetation types within a defined area. The HSI refers to the quality or suitability for a species or species group, and ranges from 1.0 (optimal value) to 0.0 (no value).

The relative potential of an area to support individuals or a population of wildlife species. HSI models are often used to quantify potential habitat losses or gains arising from the project's development and reclamation.

***Hearing Panel***

***Joint Review Panel/Review Panel***

A division of three or more members of the Alberta Utilities Commission, Energy Resources Conservation Board or Natural Resources Conservation Board (or any combination of them), and where appropriate, persons designated by the federal Minister of Environment appointed to hear evidence on a Proponent's application and any cross-examination of evidence by interested parties.

### ***Historic Resources Impact Assessment (HRIA)***

A review of the effects that a proposed development will have on the local and regional historic and prehistoric heritage of an area.

### ***Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA)***

A systematic and well documented process to define and quantify potential human health risks from exposure to chemicals released from a proposed project alone and in combination with other past, present, and future projects in the region.

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## **I**

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### ***Impact***

### ***Effect***

Any aspect of a project that may cause an effect; for example, land clearing during construction is an impact, while a possible effect is loss and fragmentation of wildlife habitat.

### ***Impact Model***

### ***Pathways Diagram***

A formal description of a cause-effect relationship that allows the assessing of various components of that relationship through the use of an Impact Statement, a Pathways Diagram, and the validation of linkages and pathways.

### ***Impact Statement***

The description of a suspected cause-effect relationship through the use of a formal scientific hypothesis.

### ***Indicator Species***

### ***Key Indicator Resource/Valued Ecosystem Component***

Species used to provide a measurable sign or symptom of change for the general population.

### ***Indirect Effect***

### ***Direct Effect/Effect***

An effect in which the cause-effect relationship (e.g., between the project's impacts and the ultimate effect on a Valued Ecosystem Component) has intermediary effects. As an interaction with another effect is required to have a cumulative effect (hence, creating intermediary effects), cumulative effects may be considered as indirect.

### ***Industry Relations Corporation (IRC)***

The corporation or organization that a First Nation has created to manage the First Nation's relations, including Consultation with Alberta, Canada and Industry.

### ***Infrastructure***

Any works, buildings, structures, facilities, equipment, apparatus, mechanism, instrument or machinery belonging to or used in connection with a Project, and includes any storage site or facility, disposal site or facility, access road, haul road, railway or telecommunication line.

### ***Infringement (of a Treaty or Aboriginal Right)***

An interference or limitation upon these rights which is unreasonable, imposes undue hardship or denies the holders of the rights their preferred means of exercising the right.

### ***Instream Flow Needs (IFN)***

The amount of water, flow rate, water level and water quality that is required in a river or other body of water to sustain a healthy aquatic ecosystem.

### ***Integrated Application***

An application to the appropriate regulatory bodies that contains both the EIA report and the relevant approval applications.

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## **J**

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### ***Joint Review Panel***

### ***Hearing Panel/Review Panel***

A review panel established jointly between the federal Minister of the Environment and another jurisdiction under subsections 40(2) and (3) of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA) that has powers, duties or functions in relation to the assessment of the environmental effects of the project.

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## **K**

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### ***Key Indicator Resource (KIRs)***

### ***Indicator Species/Valued Ecosystem Component***

Environmental attributes or components identified as a result of a social scoping exercise as having legal, scientific, cultural, economic or aesthetic value.

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## **L**

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### ***Life of the Project***

### ***Phase/Stage***

The length of time required to construct, operate, decommission and reclaim all phases of a development.

### ***Linkage***

### ***Effect/Pathways Diagram***

The relationship between a cause and effect in impact models. Linkages are illustrated in Pathways Diagrams as arrows between boxes.

### ***Local Study Area (LSA)***

### ***Regional Study Area***

The area existing outside the boundaries of the Project Area, where there is a reasonable potential for immediate environmental impacts due to ongoing project activities. Defines the spatial extent directly or indirectly affected by the project.

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## **M**

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### ***Magnitude***

### ***Direction***

A measure of how adverse or beneficial an effect may be.

### ***Media***

The physical form of the environmental sample under study (e.g., air, water, soil).

### ***Métis***

### ***Aboriginal People***

A French word meaning "mixed blood" which usually refers to people of mixed ancestry who emerged during the days of the fur trade when Europeans and Indian people had children. The Métis are recognized as Aboriginal people in the *Constitution Act, 1982*.



**Mitigation**

**Compensation/Residual Effect**

The elimination, reduction or control of the adverse environmental effects of the project. Mitigation includes restitution for any damage to the environment caused by such effects through replacement, restoration, compensation or any other means.

**Model**

A simplified representation of a relationship or a system of relationships. Modeling involves calculation techniques used to make quantitative estimates of an output parameter based on its relationship to input parameters.

**Movement Corridor**

Travel way used by wildlife for daily, seasonal, annual and/or dispersal movements from one area or habitat to another.

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**N**

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**Network Diagram**

**Pathways Diagram**

An illustration of cause-effect relationships between an action's impact and an effect.

**Non-Renewable Resource**

**Renewable Resource**

Natural resources that are in fixed supply such as coal, oil and minerals.

**Notice of Application**

See Notice of Filing.

**Notice of Filing**

A regulatory step in which the Regulatory Board issues a notice with respect to an application directly to local parties who have expressed an interest in the application. The Notice may also be placed in relevant local newspapers and in the Calgary and Edmonton newspapers. The Regulatory Board will issue the Notice if the application states that there are outstanding concerns between the company and the landowners/residents or if the Board wants to ensure that no such concerns exist.

**Notice of Hearing**

A regulatory step in which the Regulatory Board issues a notice directly to all persons and organizations potentially directly and adversely affected by the application to inform them of the hearing and allow them to file their submissions with the Regulatory Board.

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**P**

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**Pathway**

A series of consecutive valid linkages in a Pathways Diagram.

**Pathways Diagram**

**Network Diagram**

A simple diagrammatic representation of a cause-effect relationship between two related states or actions that illustrates an impact model. Pathways diagrams take network diagrams one-step further by evaluating each linkage and assessing the cause-effect relationship in the context of a scientific hypothesis.

***Phase (of a project)******Life of the Project/Stage***

When a project will be constructed over a period of time the Proponent may refer to various phases of development (e.g., Phase 1 of a SAGD Project may include four pads plus the processing plant, Phase 2 will add an additional four pads, Phase 3 may add more pads plus another processing plant, etc.).

***Planned Development Case******Application Case/Baseline Case***

The Planned Development Case includes past, existing and anticipated future environmental conditions, based on existing and approved projects or activities, plus planned projects and activities reasonably expected to occur. The Planned Development Case describes the environmental conditions that would exist as a result of the interaction of the proposed project, other existing projects and other planned projects.

***Primary Impact Area (socio-economic)******Secondary Impact Area***

Communities that are likely to experience the greatest impacts because of their proximity to the Project site and expected contribution to the Project workforce.

***Project***

The activity or group of activities proposed by the Proponent. The types of activities that could be subject to Alberta's environmental assessment process are listed in the Schedule of Activities in the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act* and in the *Water Act*. The Project includes all associated construction, operation, decommissioning and reclamation activities and all phases of development described by the Proponent.

***Project Area******Project Footprint/Study Area***

The area includes all lands subject to direct disturbance from the project and associated infrastructure.

***Project Components***

The different physical entities and activities that together make up the Project.

***Project Footprint******Ecological Footprint/Project Area***

The land or water area covered by a Project. This includes direct physical coverage (i.e., all lands subject to direct disturbance from the project and associated infrastructure) and direct effects (i.e., the disturbances that may directly emanate from the project, such as noise).

***Public Interest***

A benchmark for public policy and decision making in democratic societies that refers to the balance of societal interests and reflects the fundamental set of shared values which are held in common by all.

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## **R**

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***Regional Plan***

A provincial planning tool sanctioned under the *Alberta Land Stewardship Act*. There will be seven Regional Plans, plus separate plans for the Calgary and Edmonton regions.

***Regional Strategic Assessment (RSA)***

Regional Strategic Assessment is a strategic, region-based, future-focused systematic information-gathering and analytical process. It is a tool that can be used to support regional planning through assessment of cumulative effects associated with alternative development scenarios and identification of

the suite of land-use strategies and management approaches that best achieves desired environmental, social and economic outcomes.

***Regional Strategic Environmental Assessment (RSEA)***

A process designed to systematically assess alternative strategic options, plans, or programs for a particular region, including the potential cumulative environmental effects of alternative future development scenarios, in order to arrive at a preferred scenario(s) and recommendations for regional environmental management and downstream development decision making.

***Regional Study Area (RSA)***

***Local Study Area***

The area within which there is the potential for cumulative and socio-economic effects, and that may be relevant to the assessment of any wider-spread effects of the project.

***Regulatory Board***

The Alberta Utilities Commission, the Energy Resources Conservation Board or the Natural Resources Conservation Board. In some projects multiple Regulatory Boards will be involved.

***Renewable Resource***

***Non-Renewable Resource***

Natural resources that are naturally replenished, such as fish, wildlife, water, and trees.

***Residual Effect***

***Effect/Mitigation***

An effect that remains after mitigation has been applied.

***Resource Selection Function (RSF)***

***Habitat Suitability Index***

A statistical analysis of the preference of a species for certain habitat types. A Resource Selection Function is created from an analysis of data and is directly related to the probability that a given resource will be used by an animal

***Responsible Authority (federal)***

***Expert Federal Authority***

A federal authority that is required pursuant to subsection 11(1) of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* to ensure that an environmental assessment of the project is conducted. When a federal authority becomes responsible for ensuring that an environmental assessment of the Project is conducted in accordance with the Act, the federal authority is called a responsible authority.

***Return Flow***

***Consumptive Use***

Water that has been diverted under the terms of a *Water Act* licence for a specific purpose but does not get consumed in the process and is returned to the environment. Typically this is water that results from a temporary use, such as water recycling through a cooling pond, but it can also result from consumptive uses, such as municipal wastewater, that are treated and returned to the environment.

***Reversibility***

Capability of the environment to return to a capacity or condition equivalent to the baseline after the impact ceases.

***Review Panel (federal)***

***Hearing Panel/Joint Review Panel***

A panel whose members are appointed by the federal Minister of the Environment, in consultation with the responsible authorities, for the purpose of conducting an assessment by a review panel. A review panel is comprised of members who are unbiased and free from any conflict of interest relative to a project and who have knowledge or experience relevant to the anticipated environmental effects of the project.

## ***Review Team***

The multi-disciplinary group of technical experts that review the environmental impact assessment report and advise decision-makers if further information is required or if the report is complete. Review Teams are often made up of staff from various provincial and federal government departments. Staff from the Regulatory Board, depending on the project being reviewed, may also participate in the Review Team. An EA Coordinator from Alberta Environment leads the review team.

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## **S**

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### ***Scenario***

### ***Application Case/Baseline Case/Planned Development Case***

A description of environmental and development conditions at a certain time to allow comparisons of change (e.g., pre-development, current, and reasonably foreseeable). The common scenarios are: Baseline Case, Application Case and Planned Development Case.

### ***Scoping***

An activity that focuses the assessment on relevant issues and concerns and establishes the boundaries of the environmental assessment.

A consultative process for identifying and possibly reducing the number of items (e.g., issues, VECs) to be examined until only the most important items remain for detailed assessment. Scoping ensures that assessment effort will not be expended in the examination of trivial effects.

### ***Screening (federal)***

### ***Responsible Authority***

A systematic approach to documenting the environmental effects of a proposed project and determining the need to eliminate or minimize (mitigate) the adverse effects, to modify the project plan or to recommend further assessment through mediation or an assessment by a review panel. The Responsible Authority must ensure that the screening of the project is carried out.

### ***Screening (provincial)***

A regulatory step in which the Environmental Assessment Director determines if a project that is not subject to a mandatory environmental assessment should undergo an environmental assessment. The screening process is described in the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act*.

### ***Secondary Impact Area (socio-economic)***

### ***Primary Impact Area***

Geographically beyond the primary impact area, the secondary impact area represents other communities where project impacts may be notable.

### ***Setback***

### ***Constraint***

A setback is the minimum distance that must be maintained between a development and an environmental feature (e.g., river valley, lake) or human feature (e.g., dwelling, rural housing development, urban centre, or public facility). Setbacks may vary according to the type of development and the sensitivity of the environmental or human feature.

### ***Significance (of an Effect)***

A measure of the magnitude, duration, frequency, timing, probability of occurrence, ecological and social context, geographic extent, and degree of reversibility of an effect on a Valued Ecosystem Component.

***Socio-Economic Impact Assessment (SEIA)***

A systematic analysis which seeks to understand the economic impacts and the social consequences on communities that result from project employment, and from project-related expenditures and sales. The Socio-Economic Impact Assessment is intended to communicate the potential effects (including cumulative effects) of a project on the economy and population base and, in turn, the implications for local public services and infrastructure. It should also address other quality of life issues that are of interest to the communities affected.

An assessment of the effects that a project will have on the social and economic factors in the region.

***Stage***

***Life of the Project/Phase***

The steps in the development of a project – construction, operation, abandonment, remediation and reclamation.

***Study Area***

***Local Study Area/Project Area/Regional Study Area***

The sum of the areas included in the Project Area, Local Study Area and Regional Study Area.

***Sustainability***

The balancing of opportunities for growth with the need to protect the environment.

For renewable resources, sustainability involves managing natural resources and the environment (e.g., water, water quality, forests, fish and wildlife), so that their status, condition or use is maintained over time in accordance with management objectives or outcomes. In this context, the use of a renewable resource, or impacts on it from other human activities, should not exceed its capacity to maintain itself through regrowth, reproduction and management practices. For biological resources there is a maximum use that can be sustained within target limits for quantity, quality or other parameters.

For non-renewable resources, sustainability involves the development of resources (e.g., coal, oil and gas, minerals) for the benefit of Albertans in a responsible manner that protects the environment during the construction and operation phases and ultimately reclaims land disturbed by development. In this context, resource development is a temporary land use.

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**T**

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***Threshold***

***Effect/Valued Ecosystem Component***

A limit of tolerance of a Valued Ecosystem Component (VEC) to an effect, that if exceeded, results in an adverse response by that Valued Ecosystem Component.

***Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK)***

Knowledge and values that have been acquired through experience and observation, from the land or from spiritual teachings, and handed down from one generation to another.

***Traditional Land Use***

Activities involving the harvest of traditional resources such as hunting and trapping, fishing, gathering medicinal plants and travelling to engage in these activities. Land use maps can document the locations where the activities occur.

How a culture used (and uses) the land and its resources.

### ***Traditional Lands***

Lands used by aboriginal groups or individuals for purposes such as burial grounds, gathering sites, and historic or ceremonial locations, and existing constitutionally protected rights to hunt, trap and fish. Does not include proprietary interests in the land.

### ***Traditional Territory***

The lands which First Nations have historically and currently occupied or used. The geographical extent of a community's current and past traditional use of the land, and includes Traditional Use Sites.

### ***Traditional Use Site***

Includes, but is not limited to, trails, place names, subsistence resource areas, sacred and cultural sites, burials, settlements, camps, and other places, and uses related to life on the land. Traditional Use Sites can be tangible (e.g., cabin site) or intangible (spiritual/sacred area).

### ***Traditional Use Study (TUS)***

A document that captures patterns of traditional use in Aboriginal communities for a range of purposes including social, economic, cultural, and ecological. The study involves a complex process including: research into primary and secondary resources, interviews and discussions with Elders and other knowledge keepers, and mapping and recording of traditional uses. A range of experts are involved including archeologists, paleontologists, historians, environmentalists, mapping specialists and others.

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## **V**

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### ***Valued Ecosystem Component (VEC)***

### ***Indicator Species/Key Indicator Resource***

The environmental element of an ecosystem that is identified as having scientific, social, cultural, economic, historic, archaeological or aesthetic importance. The value of an ecosystem component may be determined on the basis of cultural ideals or scientific concern. Valued ecosystem components that have the potential to interact with Project components should be included in the assessment of environmental effects.

### ***Visual Aesthetics***

The study of the psychological responses to appearances. Most often used in the context of how visual impact of land disturbance or reclamation can be minimized.

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## **W**

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### ***Watershed***

All lands enclosed by a continuous hydrologic-surface drainage divide and lying upslope from a specified point on a stream.

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## **Z**

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### ***Zone of Influence***

A geographic area, extending from an action, in which an effect is non-trivial. This term is often used in describing hydrogeology impacts.

## Section II: Glossary of Acronyms

This section is divided into two parts: Part I – Acronyms Sorted by Subject Area and [Part II – Acronyms Listed Alphabetically](#).

### Part I - Acronyms Sorted by Subject Area

The following subjects are covered:

- [Environmental Assessment Process](#)
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### Environmental Assessment Process

CEA	Cumulative Effects Assessment
CEAR	Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry
CSR	Comprehensive Study Report (federal)
EA	Environmental Assessment
EARP	Environmental Assessment and Review Process
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement (federal)
FA	Federal Authority

FEAC	Federal Environmental Assessment Coordinator
FEAI	Federal Environmental Assessment Index
FEARO	Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office
FTOR	Final Terms of Reference
HRIA	Historical Resources Impact Assessment
HRIASA	Historical Resources Impact Assessment Study Area
LSA	Local Study Area
PDD	Preliminary (Public) Disclosure Document (replaced by term Disclosure Document)
PTOR	Proposed Terms of Reference
RA	Responsible Authority (federal)
RCSR	Replacement Class Screening Report
REA	Regional Environmental Assessment (federal)
RSA	Regional Strategic Assessment
RSA	Regional Study Area
RSEA	Regional Strategic Environmental Assessment
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment (federal)
SEIA	Socio-Economic Impact Assessment
SIR	Supplemental Information Request

SOC Statement of Concern  
(related to Alberta  
Environment approvals)

TOR Terms of Reference

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## **Air**

AAM Ambient Air Monitoring

GHG Greenhouse Gases

GLAC Ground-Level Air  
Concentration

PAI Potential Acid Input

PM Particulate Matter

PM<sub>2.5</sub> Particulate Matter less than  
2.5µm in diameter

PM<sub>10</sub> Particulate Matter less than  
10µm in diameter

PM<sub>x</sub> Particulate Matter (all sizes)

RAPIDS Regional Air Pollutant  
Inventory Development  
System

RELAD Regional Lagrangian Acid  
Deposition Model

VOC Volatile Organic Compound

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## **Water and Fisheries**

BGWP Base of Groundwater  
Protection

BOD Biochemical Oxygen  
Demand

COD Chemical Oxygen Demand

DO Dissolved Oxygen

DOC Dissolved Organic Carbon

EPL End Pit Lake

FWMIS Fisheries and Wildlife  
Management Information  
System

HADD Harmful Alteration,  
Disruption or Destruction of  
Fish Habitat (federal)

IFN Instream Flow Needs

NAWMP North American Waterfowl  
Management Plan

NNL No Net Loss (fisheries)

NNLL No Net Loss Lake

NNLP No Net Loss Plan

NRBS Northern River Basins Study

PAD Peace Athabasca Delta

PMF Probable Maximum Flood

RAMP Regional Aquatics  
Monitoring Program

SWQ Surface Water Quality

TDL Temporary Diversion  
Licence

TDS Total Dissolved Solids

TSS Total Suspended Solids

WCO Water Conservation  
Objective

W4L Water for Life

[Return to Categories List](#)

## **Terrestrial**

ABMP Alberta Biodiversity  
Monitoring Program

AFBMP Alberta Forest Biodiversity  
Monitoring Program

AGCC Alberta Ground Cover  
Classification

AVI Alberta Vegetation Inventory

AWI Alberta Wetland Inventory



BCRP	Boreal Caribou Research Program	IRIS	Integrated Risk Information System
C&R	Conservation & Reclamation	IRM	Integrated Resource Management
CEC	Cation Exchange Capacity	IRP	Integrated Resource Plan
ELC	Ecological Land Classification	LOC	License of Occupation (public lands)
ELU	End Land Use	LSAS	Land Status Automated System (public lands)
FWMIS	Fisheries and Wildlife Management Information System	LSD	Legal Subdivision
HSI	Habitat Suitability Index	LUF	Land Use Framework
KIR	Key Indicator Resource	NTDB	National Topographic Database
LCCS	Land Capability Classification System	OSL	Oil Sands Lease
RSF	Resource Selection Function (wildlife model)	OSMA	Oil Sands Monitoring Audit
VEC	Valued Ecosystem Component	OSP	Oil Sands Permit
WMU	Wildlife Management Unit	PNT	Protective Notation (public lands)

[Return to Categories List](#)

### **Land Management**

AAC	Annual Allowable Cut
ATRL	Alberta Tourism Recreational Leasing
CMA	Census Metropolitan Area
CNT	Consultative Notation (public lands)
DRS	Holding Reservation (public lands)
FMA	Forest Management Agreement
FMU	Forest Management Unit
ILM	Integrated Land Management
IMS	Integrated Management Strategy

RFMA	Registered Fur Management Area
RGE	Range (maps)
RMA	Resource Management Area
RMS	Reclamation Material Stockpile
RSDS	Regional Sustainable Development Strategy
TWP	Township (maps)

[Return to Categories List](#)

### **Sampling and Analysis**

ANC	Acid Neutralizing Capacity
BTEX	Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene, and Xylene
ESA	Environmental Site Assessment
PAC	Polyaromatic Compound

PAH	Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbon
QA	Quality Assurance
QAP	Quality Assurance Program
QC	Quality Control
QMP	Quality Management Plan
SAR	Sodium Adsorption Ratio
SIL	Survey Intensity Level
TOC	Total Organic Hydrocarbon

[Return to Categories List](#)

### Health Assessment

CAC	Criteria Air Contaminants
COPC	Chemical of Potential Concern
ERA	Environmental Risk Assessment
HEMP	Human Exposure Monitoring Program
HHRA	Human Health Risk Assessment
HSE	Health, Safety and Environment
ILCR	Incremental Lifetime Cancer Risk
LCR	Lifetime Cancer Risk
LEL	Lowest Effects Level
PSL	Permissible Sound Level
RAF	Relative Absorption Factor
RfC	Reference Concentration
RfD	Reference Dose
RQ	Risk Quotient
RSC	Risk-Specific Concentration
RSD	Risk-Specific Dose
TRV	Toxicity Reference Value

### OHS / Emergency Response

ERP	Emergency Response Plan
MSDS	Material Safety Data Sheet
OHS	Occupational Health and Safety
WHMIS	Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System

[Return to Categories List](#)

### Industry and Technology

BACT	Best Available Control Technology
BADT	Best Available Demonstrated Technology
BATEA	Best Available Technology Economically Achievable
CEMS	Continuous Emission Monitoring System
CSS	Cyclic Steam Stimulation
CT	Consolidated/Composite Tailings
DRU	Diluent Recovery Unit
ETA	External Tailings Area
FEED	Front-End Engineering Design
GIS	Geographical Information System
GPS	Global Positioning System
LEED	Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
MFT	Mature Fine Tailings
NRU	Naphtha Recovery Unit
OTSG	Once Through Steam Generators (in-situ)
SAGD	Steam-Assisted Gravity Drainage

SAP	Solvent Aided Process (a modification of SAGD)	CCEMA	Climate Change and Emissions Management Act
SCO	Synthetic Crude Oil	CEAA	Canadian Environmental Assessment Act
SOR	Steam to Oil Ratio (in-situ)	CEPA	Canadian Environmental Protection Act
SRU	Sulphur Recovery Unit	CRR	Conservation and Reclamation Regulation
THAI	Toe-to-Heal-Air-Injection (in-situ)	EAMEAR	Environmental Assessment (Mandatory and Exempted Activities) Regulation
VAPEX	Vapour Extraction	EAR	Environmental Assessment Regulation
VRU	Vapour Recovery Unit	EARPGO	Environmental Assessment and Review Process Guidelines Order

[Return to Categories List](#)

### **Guidelines**

AAAQG	Alberta Ambient Air Quality Guidelines	EPEA	Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act
AAAQO	Alberta Ambient Air Quality Objectives	FCR	Federal Coordination Regulations
AASWQG	Alberta Ambient Surface Water Quality Guidelines	HRA	Historical Resources Act
ASWQG	Alberta Surface Water Quality Guidelines	NWPA	Navigable Waters Protection Act
CDWQG	Canadian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines	OGCA	Oil and Gas Conservation Act
CWQG	Canadian Water Quality Guidelines	OSCA	Oil Sands Conservation Act
CWS	Canada Wide Standards	PLA	Public Lands Act
FHPG	Fish Habitat Protection Guideline	SARA	Species at Risk Act
FWALG	Freshwater Aquatic Life Guidelines	WA	Water Act
NAAQO	National Ambient Air Quality Objective		

[Return to Categories List](#)

### **Legislation**

ALSA	Alberta Land Stewardship Act	ACFN	Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation
CCA	Coal Conservation Act	AFN	Alexander First Nation
		AL1999	Athabasca Local 1999
		ANSN	Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation

ATC	Athabasca Tribal Council	FOS	Foothills Ojibway Society
ATK	Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge	GLMS	Gift Lake Métis Settlement
AWN	Aseniwuche Winewak Nation	HFML205	Hinton Foothills Métis Local 205
BCFN	Bigstone Cree First Nation	HLFN	Heart Lake First Nation
BFN	Beaver First Nation	HLFN	Horse Lake First Nation
BLCN	Beaver Lake Cree Nation	IRC	Industry Relations Corporation
BLMS	Buffalo Lake Métis Settlement	KCN	Kehewin Cree Nation
CL193	Conklin Local 193	KFN	Kapawe'no First Nation
CL214	Chard Local 214	KMS	Kikino Métis Settlement
CLFN	Cold Lake First Nations	LBT	Louis Bull Tribe
CML	Chard Métis Local	LLIN	Lubicon Lake Indian Nation
CPDFN	Chipewyan Prairie Dene First Nation	LRFN	Loon River First Nation
CRDAC	Conklin Resource Development Advisory Committee	LRRCN	Little Red River Cree Nation
DFN	Driftpile First Nation	LSFN	Lakeshore First Nation
DFN	Duncan's First Nation	MCFN	Mikisew Cree First Nation
DTFN	Dene Tha' First Nation	MCSC	Mountain Cree (Smallboy) Camp
EMS	Elizabeth Métis Settlement	MFN	Montana First Nation
ENCN	Enoch Cree Nation	MNA	Métis Nation of Alberta
EPMS	East Prairie Métis Settlement	NAABA	Northern Alberta Aboriginal Business Association
ETPL	Erminskin Tribe Pigeon Lake	NN	Nakcowinewak Nation
FCL125	Fort Chipewyan Local 125	OFN	O'Chiese First Nation
FLFN	Frog Lake First Nation	PB	Paul Band
FLMS	Fishing Lake Métis Settlement	PMS	Peavine Métis Settlement
FMFN	Fort McKay First Nation	PPMS	Paddle Prairie Métis Settlement
FMFN	Fort McMurray First Nation	SB	Sawridge Band
FML63	Fort McKay Local 63	SCFN	Sucker Creek First Nation
FML1935	Fort McMurray Local 1935	SCN	Samson Cree Nation
FML2020	Fort McMurray Local 2020	SFN	Sunchild First Nation
		SLCN	Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation

SLFN	Saddle Lake First Nation	AT	Alberta Transportation
SLFN	Smith's Landing First Nation	ATPR	Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation (formerly ATPRC)
SRFN	Swan River First Nation		
TEK	Traditional Ecological/Environmental Knowledge	ATPRC	Alberta Tourism, Parks, Recreation and Culture (now ACCS and ATPR)
TFN	Tallcree First Nation	ATSDR	US Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
TLE	Treaty Land Entitlement		
TLML108	Trout Lake Métis Local 108		
TLU	Traditional Land Use	AUC	Alberta Utilities Commission
TUS	Traditional Use Study	AWC	Alberta Water Council
WCFN	Woodland Cree First Nation	BCC	Boreal Caribou Committee
WLFN	Whitefish (Goodfish) Lake First Nation	CAC	Coal Association of Canada
WLL780	Willow Lake Local 780	CANMET	Canada Center for Mineral and Energy Technology
WML90	Wabasca Métis Local 90	CAPP	Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers

[Return to Categories List](#)

## Organizations

AAF	Alberta Agriculture and Food	CASA	Clean Air Strategic Alliance
ABMI	Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute	CCME	Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment
ACC	Alberta Caribou Committee	CDA	Canadian Dam Association
ACCS	Alberta Culture and Community Spirit (formerly ATPRC)	CEAA	Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
AENV	Alberta Environment	CEMA	Cumulative Environmental Management Association
AES	Atmospheric and Environmental Service	CFS	Canadian Forest Service
AHW	Alberta Health and Wellness	CONRAD	Canadian Oil Sands Network for Research and Development
AIT	Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation (now AT)	COSEWIC	Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada
ANHIC	Alberta Natural Heritage Information Centre	CPPI	Canadian Petroleum Products Institute
ASRD	Alberta Sustainable Resource Development	CSA	Canadian Standards Association
		CWS	Canadian Wildlife Service

DFO	Department of Fisheries and Oceans	LUS	Land Use Secretariat
DIAND	Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (see also INAC)	NGO	Non Governmental Organization
EAB	Environmental Appeals Board (under Alberta Environment)	NHRI	National Hydrology Research Institute
EC	Environment Canada	NRCan	Natural Resources Canada
EMAN	Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Network (Canadian)	NRCB	Natural Resources Conservation Board
EMAP	Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Program (USEPA)	NSMWG	NO <sub>x</sub> SO <sub>2</sub> Management Working Group
ENGO	Environmental Non-Government Organization	NWRI	National Water Research Institute
EPA	US Environmental Protection Agency	NWWG	National Wetlands Working Group
ERCB	Energy Resources Conservation Board	OSEC	Oil Sands Environmental Coalition
ESTAC	Environmental Science & Technology Alliance Canada	OSVRC	Oil Sands Vegetation Reclamation Committee
FAP	Fort Air Partnership	OSWWG	Oil Sands Wetlands Working Group
GOA (GoA)	Government of Alberta	PC	Parks Canada
HC	Health Canada	REAC	Regional Environmental Assessment Committee (under CEAA)
HRMB	Historical Resources Management Branch	RHA	Regional Health Authority
INAC	Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (see also DIAND)	RIWG	Regional Infrastructure Working Group
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change	RMWB	Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo
ISO	International Organization for Standardization	RWG	Reclamation Working Group (under CEMA)
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources	SEPAC	Small Explorers and Producers Association of Canada
LAD	Land Administration Division (in ASRD)	SEWG	Sustainable Ecosystems Working Group (under CEMA)
		SRB	Surface Rights Board

SWWG	Surface Water Working Group (under CEMA)
TC	Transport Canada
TEEM	Terrestrial Environmental Effects Monitoring (oil sands)
WBEA	Wood Buffalo Environmental Association
WD	Western Diversification
WHO	World Health Organization
WPAC	Watershed Planning Advisory Council
WSG	Watershed Stewardship Group

[Return to Categories List](#)

### Other

AIH	Alberta Industrial Heartland
BAU	Business as Usual (GHG)
BMP	Best Management Practice(s)
CALMET	Computer Aided Learning in Meteorology
CAMRIF	Canada-Alberta Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund
COP	Code of Practice
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
EMS	Environmental Management System
EPP	Environmental Protection Plan
MASL	Metres Above Sea Level
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NPRI	National Pollutant Release Inventory

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## Part II – Acronyms Listed Alphabetically

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#)  
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### A

AAAQG	Alberta Ambient Air Quality Guidelines
AAAQO	Alberta Ambient Air Quality Objectives
AAC	Annual Allowable Cut
AAF	Alberta Agriculture and Food
AAM	Ambient Air Monitoring
AASWQG	Alberta Ambient Surface Water Quality Guidelines
ABMI	Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute
ABMP	Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Program
ACC	Alberta Caribou Committee
ACCS	Alberta Culture and Community Spirit (formerly ATPRC)
ACFN	Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation
AENV	Alberta Environment
AES	Atmospheric and Environmental Service
AFBMP	Alberta Forest Biodiversity Monitoring Program
AFN	Alexander First Nation
AGCC	Alberta Ground Cover Classification
AHW	Alberta Health and Wellness
AIH	Alberta Industrial Heartland
AIT	Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation (now AT)

AL1999	Athabasca Local 1999	BADT	Best Available Demonstrated Technology
ALSA	Alberta Land Stewardship Act	BATEA	Best Available Technology Economically Achievable
ANC	Acid Neutralizing Capacity	BAU	Business as Usual (GHG)
ANHIC	Alberta Natural Heritage Information Centre	BCC	Boreal Caribou Committee
ANSN	Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation	BCFN	Bigstone Cree First Nation
ASRD	Alberta Sustainable Resource Development	BCRP	Boreal Caribou Research Program
ASWQG	Alberta Surface Water Quality Guidelines	BFN	Beaver First Nation
AT	Alberta Transportation	BGWP	Base of Groundwater Protection
ATC	Athabasca Tribal Council	BLCN	Beaver Lake Cree Nation
ATK	Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge	BLMS	Buffalo Lake Métis Settlement
ATPR	Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation (formerly ATPRC)	BMP	Best Management Practice(s)
ATPRC	Alberta Tourism, Parks, Recreation and Culture (now ACCS and ATPR)	BOD	Biochemical Oxygen Demand
ATRL	Alberta Tourism Recreational Leasing	BTEX	Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene, and Xylene
ATSDR	US Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry	<a href="#">Return to Alphabetical Listing</a>	
AUC	Alberta Utilities Commission	<b>C</b>	
AVI	Alberta Vegetation Inventory	C&R	Conservation & Reclamation
AWC	Alberta Water Council	CAC	Coal Association of Canada
AWI	Alberta Wetland Inventory	CAC	Criteria Air Contaminants
AWN	Aseniwuche Winewak Nation	CALMET	Computer Aided Learning in Meteorology
<a href="#">Return to Alphabetical Listing</a>		CAMRIF	Canada-Alberta Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund
<b>B</b>		CANMET	Canada Center for Mineral and Energy Technology
BACT	Best Available Control Technology	CAPP	Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers
		CASA	Clean Air Strategic Alliance
		CCA	Coal Conservation Act



CCEMA	Climate Change and Emissions Management Act	COSEWIC	Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada
CCME	Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment	CPDFN	Chipewyan Prairie Dene First Nation
CDA	Canadian Dam Association	CPPI	Canadian Petroleum Products Institute
CDWQG	Canadian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines	CRDAC	Conklin Resource Development Advisory Committee
CEA	Cumulative Effects Assessment	CRR	Conservation and Reclamation Regulation
CEAA	Canadian Environmental Assessment Act	CSA	Canadian Standards Association
CEAA	Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency	CSR	Comprehensive Study Report (federal)
CEAR	Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry	CSS	Cyclic Steam Stimulation
CEC	Cation Exchange Capacity	CT	Consolidated/Composite Tailings
CEMA	Cumulative Environmental Management Association	CWQG	Canadian Water Quality Guidelines
CEMS	Continuous Emission Monitoring System	CWS	Canada Wide Standards
CEPA	Canadian Environmental Protection Act	CWS	Canadian Wildlife Service
CFS	Canadian Forest Service		
CL193	Conklin Local 193		
CL214	Chard Lake 214		
CLFN	Cold Lake First Nations		
CMA	Census Metropolitan Area		
CML	Chard Métis Local		
CNT	Consultative Notation (public lands)		
COD	Chemical Oxygen Demand		
CONRAD	Canadian Oil Sands Network for Research and Development		
COP	Code of Practice		
COPC	Chemical of Potential Concern		
			<a href="#">Return to Alphabetical Listing</a>
		<b>D</b>	
		DFN	Driftpile First Nation
		DFN	Duncan's First Nation
		DFO	Department of Fisheries and Oceans
		DIAND	Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (see also INAC)
		DO	Dissolved Oxygen
		DOC	Dissolved Organic Carbon
		DRS	Holding Reservation (public lands)
		DRU	Diluent Recovery Unit

DTFN Dene Tha' First Nation

[Return to Alphabetical Listing](#)

## E

EA Environmental Assessment

EAB Environmental Appeals Board (under Alberta Environment)

EAMEAR Environmental Assessment (Mandatory and Exempted Activities) Regulation

EAR Environmental Assessment Regulation

EARP Environmental Assessment and Review Process

EARPGO Environmental Assessment and Review Process Guidelines Order

EC Environment Canada

ECN Enoch Cree Nation

EIA Environmental Impact Assessment

EIS Environmental Impact Statement (federal)

ELC Ecological Land Classification

ELU End Land Use

EMAN Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Network (Canadian)

EMAP Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Program (USEPA)

EMP Environmental Management Plan

EMS Environmental Management System

EMS Elizabeth Métis Settlement

ENGO Environmental Non-Government Organization

EPA US Environmental Protection Agency

EPEA Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act

EPL End Pit Lake

EPMS East Prairie Métis Settlement

EPP Environmental Protection Plan

ERA Environmental Risk Assessment

ERCB Energy Resources Conservation Board

ERP Emergency Response Plan

ESA Environmental Site Assessment

ESTAC Environmental Science & Technology Alliance Canada

ETA External Tailings Area

ETPL Erminskin Tribe Pigeon Lake

[Return to Alphabetical Listing](#)

## F

FA Federal Authority

FAP Fort Air Partnership

FCL125 Fort Chipewyan Local 125

FCR Federal Coordination Regulations

FEAC Federal Environmental Assessment Coordinator

FEAI Federal Environmental Assessment Index

FEARO Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office

FEED Front-End Engineering Design

FHPG	Fish Habitat Protection Guideline	HC	Health Canada
FLFN	Frog Lake First Nation	HEMP	Human Exposure Monitoring Program
FLMS	Fishing Lake Métis Settlement	HFML205	Hinton Foothills Métis Local 205
FMA	Forest Management Agreement	HHRA	Human Health Risk Assessment
FMFN	Fort McKay First Nation	HLFN	Heart Lake First Nation
FMFN	Fort McMurray First Nation	HLFN	Horse Lake First Nation
FML63	Fort McKay Local 63	HRA	Historical Resources Act
FML1935	Fort McMurray Local 1935	HRIA	Historical Resources Impact Assessment
FML2020	Fort McMurray Local 2020	HRIASA	Historical Resources Impact Assessment Study Area
FMU	Forest Management Unit	HRMB	Historical Resources Management Branch
FOS	Foothills Ojibway Society	HSE	Health, Safety and Environment
FTOR	Final Terms of Reference	HSI	Habitat Suitability Index
FWALG	Freshwater Aquatic Life Guidelines		
FWMIS	Fisheries and Wildlife Management Information System		

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## G

GHG	Greenhouse Gases
GIS	Geographical Information System
GLAC	Ground-Level Air Concentration
GLMS	Gift Lake Métis Settlement
GOA (GoA)	Government of Alberta
GPS	Global Positioning System

[Return to Alphabetical Listing](#)

## H

HADD	Harmful Alteration, Disruption or Destruction of Fish Habitat (federal)
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## I

IFN	Instream Flow Needs
ILCR	Incremental Lifetime Cancer Risk
ILM	Integrated Land Management
IMS	Integrated Management Strategy
INAC	Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (see also DIAND)
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IRC	Industry Relations Corporation
IRIS	Integrated Risk Information System

IRM	Integrated Resource Management
IRP	Integrated Resource Plan
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

[Return to Alphabetical Listing](#)

## K

KCN	Kehewin Cree Nation
KFN	Kapawe'no First Nation
KIR	Key Indicator Resource
KMN	Kikino Métis Nation

[Return to Alphabetical Listing](#)

## L

LAD	Land Administration Division (in ASRD)
LBT	Louis Bull Tribe
LCCS	Land Capability Classification System
LCR	Lifetime Cancer Risk
LEED	Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
LEL	Lowest Effects Level
LLIN	Lubicon Lake Indian Nation
LOC	License of Occupation (public lands)
LRFN	Loon River First Nation
LRRCN	Little Red River Cree Nation
LSA	Local Study Area
LSAS	Land Status Automated System (public lands)
LSD	Legal Subdivision
LSFN	Lakeshore First Nation

LUF	Land Use Framework
LUS	Land Use Secretariat

[Return to Alphabetical Listing](#)

## M

MASL	Metres Above Sea Level
MCFN	Mikisew Cree First Nation
MCSC	Mountain Cree (Smallboy) Camp
MFN	Montana First Nation
MFT	Mature Fine Tailings
MNA	Métis Nation of Alberta
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSDS	Material Safety Data Sheet

[Return to Alphabetical Listing](#)

## N

NAABA	Northern Alberta Aboriginal Business Association
NAAQO	National Ambient Air Quality Objective
NAWMP	North American Waterfowl Management Plan
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
NHRI	National Hydrology Research Institute
NN	Nakcowinewak Nation
NNL	No Net Loss (fisheries)
NNLL	No Net Loss Lake
NNLP	No Net Loss Plan
NPRI	National Pollutant Release Inventory
NRBS	Northern River Basins Study
NRCan	Natural Resources Canada

NRCB	Natural Resources Conservation Board	PAD	Peace Athabasca Delta
NRU	Naphtha Recovery Unit	PAH	Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbon
NSMWG	NOxSO <sub>2</sub> Management Working Group	PAI	Potential Acid Input
NTDB	National Topographic Database	PB	Paul Band
NWPA	Navigable Waters Protection Act	PC	Parks Canada
NWRI	National Water Research Institute	PDD	Preliminary (Public) Disclosure Document (replaced by term Disclosure Document)
NWWG	National Wetlands Working Group	PLA	Public Lands Act

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## O

OFN	O'Chiese First Nation	PM	Particulate Matter
OGCA	Oil and Gas Conservation Act	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Particulate Matter less than 2.5µm in diameter
OHS	Occupational Health and Safety	PM <sub>10</sub>	Particulate Matter less than 10µm in diameter
OSCA	Oil Sands Conservation Act	PMF	Probable Maximum Flood
OSEC	Oil Sands Environmental Coalition	PMx	Particulate Matter (all sizes)
OSL	Oil Sands Lease	PNT	Protective Notation (public lands)
OSMA	Oil Sands Monitoring Audit	PPMS	Paddle Prairie Métis Settlement
OSP	Oil Sands Permit	PSL	Permissible Sound Level
OSVRC	Oil Sands Vegetation Reclamation Committee	PTOR	Proposed Terms of Reference
OSWWG	Oil Sands Wetlands Working Group	PVMS	Peavine Métis Settlement
OTSG	Once Through Steam Generators (in-situ)		

[Return to Alphabetical Listing](#)

## P

PAC Polyaromatic Compound

## R

RA Responsible Authority (federal)

RAF	Relative Absorption Factor	RSEA	Regional Strategic Environmental Assessment
RAMP	Regional Aquatics Monitoring Program	RSF	Resource Selection Function (wildlife model)
RAPIDS	Regional Air Pollutant Inventory Development System	RWG	Reclamation Working Group (under CEMA)
RCSR	Replacement Class Screening Report	<a href="#">Return to Alphabetical Listing</a>	
REA	Regional Environmental Assessment (federal)	<b>S</b>	
REAC	Regional Environmental Assessment Committee (under CEAA)	SAGD	Steam-Assisted Gravity Drainage
RELAD	Regional Lagrangian Acid Deposition Model	SAP	Solvent Aided Process (a modification of SAGD)
RfC	Reference Concentration	SAR	Sodium Absorption Ratio
RfD	Reference Dose	SARA	Species at Risk Act
RFMA	Registered Fur Management Area	SB	Sawridge Band
RGE	Range (maps)	SCFN	Sucker Creek First Nation
RHA	Regional Health Authority	SCN	Samson Cree Nation
RIWG	Regional Infrastructure Working Group	SCO	Synthetic Crude Oil
RMA	Resource Management Area	SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment (federal)
RMS	Reclamation Material Stockpile	SEIA	Socio-Economic Impact Assessment
RMWB	Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo	SEPAC	Small Explorers and Producers Association of Canada
RQ	Risk Quotient	SEWG	Sustainable Ecosystems Working Group (under CEMA)
RSA	Regional Strategic Assessment	SFN	Sunchild First Nation
RSA	Regional Study Area	SIL	Survey Intensity Level
RSC	Risk-Specific Concentration	SIR	Supplemental Information Request
RSD	Risk-Specific Dose	SLFN	Saddle Lake First Nation
RSDS	Regional Sustainable Development Strategy	SLFN	Smith's Landing First Nation

SOC	Statement of Concern (related to Alberta Environment approvals)
SOR	Steam to Oil Ratio (in-situ)
SRB	Surface Rights Board
SRFN	Swan River First Nation
SRU	Sulphur Recovery Unit
SWQ	Surface Water Quality
SWWG	Surface Water Working Group (under CEMA)

[Return to Alphabetical Listing](#)

## T

TC	Transport Canada
TDL	Temporary Diversion Licence
TDS	Total Dissolved Solids
TEEM	Terrestrial Environmental Effects Monitoring (oil sands)
TEK	Traditional Ecological/Environmental Knowledge
TFN	Tallcree First Nation
THAI	Toe-to-Heal-Air-Injection (in-situ)
TLE	Treaty Land Entitlement
TLML108	Trout Lake Métis Local 108
TLU	Traditional Land Use
TOC	Total Organic Hydrocarbon
TOR	Terms of Reference
TRV	Toxicity Reference Value
TSS	Total Suspended Solids
TUS	Traditional Use Study
TWP	Township (maps)

[Return to Alphabetical Listing](#)

## V

VAPEX	Vapour Extraction
VEC	Valued Ecosystem Component
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound
VRU	Vapour Recovery Unit

[Return to Alphabetical Listing](#)

## W

W4L	Water for Life
WA	Water Act
WBEA	Wood Buffalo Environmental Association
WCFN	Woodland Cree First Nation
WCO	Water Conservation Objective
WD	Western Diversification
WHMIS	Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System
WHO	World Health Organization
WLFN	Whitefish (Goodfish) Lake First Nation
WLL780	Willow Lake Local 780
WML90	Wabasca Métis Local 90
WMU	Wildlife Management Unit
WPAC	Watershed Planning Advisory Council
WSG	Watershed Stewardship Group

[Return to Alphabetical Listing](#)