



**Written submission from the
Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First
Nation**

**Mémoire de la Première Nation
des Algonquins du Pikwakanagan**

In the Matter of the

À l'égard de

SRB Technologies (Canada) Inc.

SRB Technologies (Canada) Inc.

Application for the renewal of the licence for
SRBT Facility

Demande de renouvellement de permis pour
l'installation de SRBT

Commission Public Hearing

Audience publique de la Commission

April 27 and/or 28, 2022

27 et/ou 28 avril 2022



*Algonquins of Pikwakanagan
First Nation*

**AOPFN Written Submission on Request for Issuance of a Class IB
Licence Renewal to SRB Technologies (Canada) Inc. for Operation of
its Existing Tritium Processing Facility**

Date Submitted: March 14, 2022

Public Hearing

Scheduled for April 27-28, 2022

Regarding: Written Submission from Intervenors for Class IB Licence Renewal to SRB
Technologies (Canada) Inc. for Operation of its Existing Tritium Processing Facility

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1.0 Introduction

In June 2021, the SRB Technologies (Canada) Inc. (“SRBT”) applied to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) for the renewal of its operating license for its gaseous tritium processing facility in Pembroke, Ontario. The CNSC has sought input from interested parties, including the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn First Nation (AOPFN) on the proposed license renewal. AOPFN contracted the Firelight Research Group Inc. (Firelight) to perform a screening-level review of the license renewal application to determine if the proposed undertaking has the potential to result in significant adverse impacts to AOPFN rights and interests. With support from Firelight, the findings of AOPFN’s review are summarized in this document.

The following provides AOPFN’s comments on SRBT’s license renewal application (the Application) and CNSC’s recommendation to the Commission. AOPFN’s comments focus specifically on the degree to which actions to date and planned actions by SRBT and CNSC meet AOPFN’s expectations regarding the Indigenous role in engagement and consultation, monitoring, and oversight of the operations.

AOPFN has received participant funding from the CNSC to prepare this written submission with technical support from Firelight. The following facility is located within the traditional territory of AOPFN and has the potential to directly impact AOPFN and AOPFN territory:

- SRB Technologies (Canada) Inc. (SRBT) Class IB Nuclear Substance Processing Facility in Pembroke, Ontario.

AOPFN has Indigenous Knowledge and community insight relevant to the aforementioned project, as well as interests in potential project impacts on our lands and is therefore seeking deeper engagement with SRBT and CNSC through this submission. AOPFN looks forward to receiving response materials from the Proponent and/or CNSC and reviewing other Intervenor’s written submissions.

This Written Submission is organized as follows:

1. Introduction
2. About the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn First Nation
3. About the SRBT Facility
4. Anticipated Environmental Performance of the Facility
5. AOPFN Nuclear Sector Requirements and Prior AOPFN Recommendations to the CNSC
6. The Role of Indigenous Knowledge
7. Indigenous Consultation and Engagement
8. Indigenous Involvement in Monitoring

9. Conclusion and Next Steps

2.0 Algonquin of Pikwakanagan First Nation

AOPFN represents the rights and interests of our First Nation members in our traditional territory. AOPFN is currently working towards negotiating a Final Land Claim Agreement/Settlement with the Ontario Provincial Government and the Canadian Federal Government. We remain mindful that regardless of any final outcomes of that effort, AOPFN must be prepared to independently act in support of its members' interests and needs. As our First Nation community is a recognized band under the *Indian Act*, it is our responsibility to act responsibly and take this obligation seriously. Consequently, projects within AOPFN territory require full direct engagement and accommodation of AOPFN's rights.

AOPFN members are active harvesters across our territory, and rely on species including large land mammals, fish, and birds for both consumption and cultural use. AOPFN members are concerned about the number of projects in our territory and the separate and combined long-term effects of these projects on the environment and on the resources that we rely on. It is critical to understand that the consent to build and operate these facilities within AOPFN territory – including the SRBT facility - was never sought. AOPFN is seeking greater participation and collaboration on facility physical works and activities, monitoring and oversight, with both SRBT and CNSC going forward.

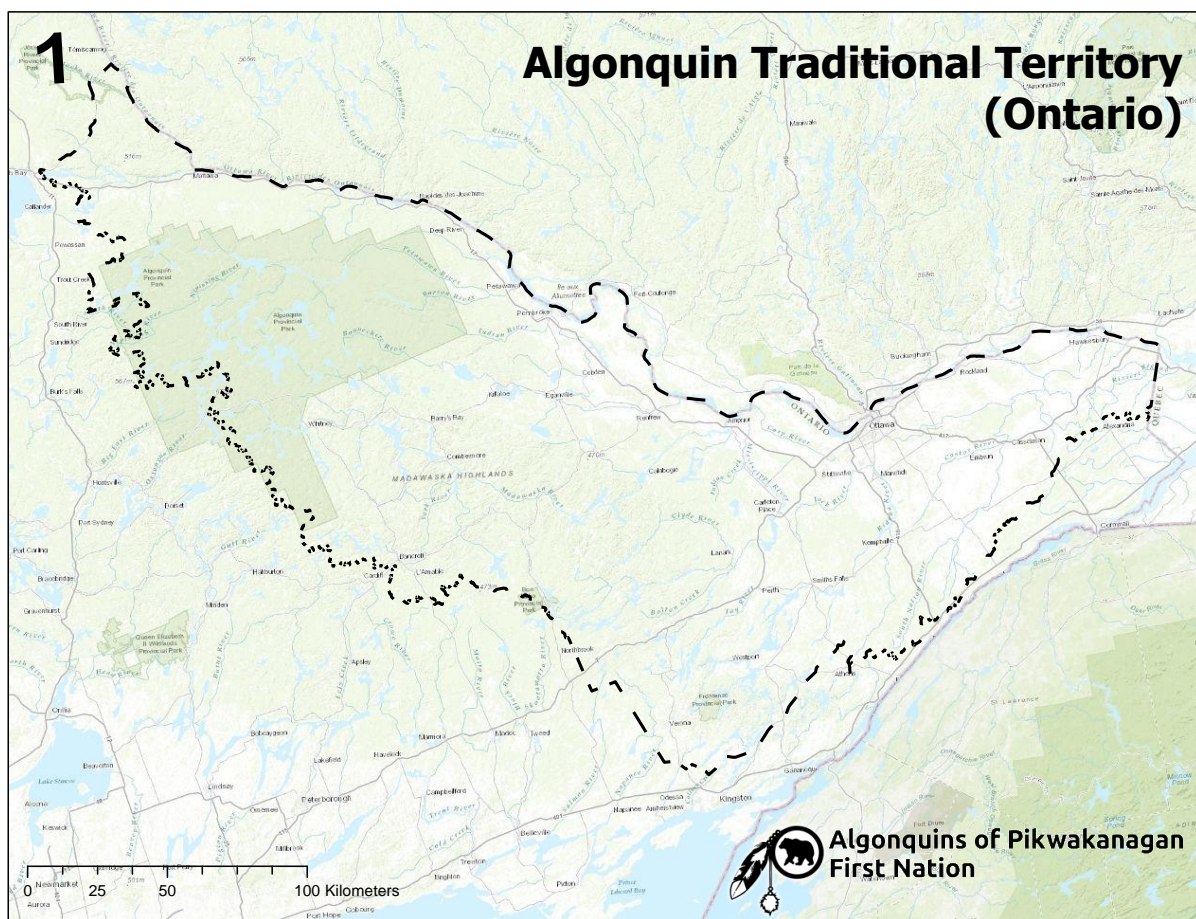
Since the 1940s, AOPFN territory has seen the rise of Canada's largest nuclear sector. Until recently, this has been done without AOPFN consultation as well as without AOPFN consent in every instance. The importation, production, use, and disposal of radioactive materials has had adverse impacts on the environment in AOPFN territory and constitutes an infringement of AOPFN rights. The nuclear sector has brought change to our lands and waters, closing off traditional areas to our access, real and perceived health risks, and alienation and fear associated with the wildlife, vegetation, and waters that our members rely on to practice our Algonquin culture and way of life on the land.

As priority rights holders under the *Constitution Act, 1982*, and as the traditional stewards of the land, these impacts on AOPFN rights and interests have always been and remain unacceptable to us as a people.

With Canada's rising recognition that reconciliation with Indigenous peoples is essential to Canada's future, and the embracing of the United Nations' *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)*, we are hopefully entering a new era. AOPFN has developed Consultation, Engagement, and Accommodation Requirements for all Nuclear Sector Proposed Developments in AOPFN Territory, (see Annex 1) to reflect its expectations as a Nation, to share openly and transparently with Canada and all proponents who would seek to build, conduct, and decommission nuclear sector-related projects on AOPFN territory. AOPFN has shared this document with SRBT, and indicated its expectation that SRBT, like

all nuclear sector proponents seeking to operate in AOPFN territory, will adhere to – and show evidence of adherence to – AOPFN’s Consultation, Engagement, and Accommodation Requirements for all Nuclear Sector Proposed Developments in AOPFN Territory (Annex 1). This includes, but is not limited to, SRBT developing and signing a long-term relationship agreement (LTRA) with AOPFN. At the time of submission, SRBT has yet to commit to a LTRA. AOPFN is concerned that SRBT has not committed as our support for this Project is contingent upon our involvement in decision-making and monitoring going forward. We ask that CNSC support our efforts with SRBT and that SRBT commit to solidifying our relationship through the LTRA.

Figure 1 - A Map of Unceded AOPFN Traditional Territory in Relation to the SRBT Facility



3.0 About the SRB Technologies Class IB Facility

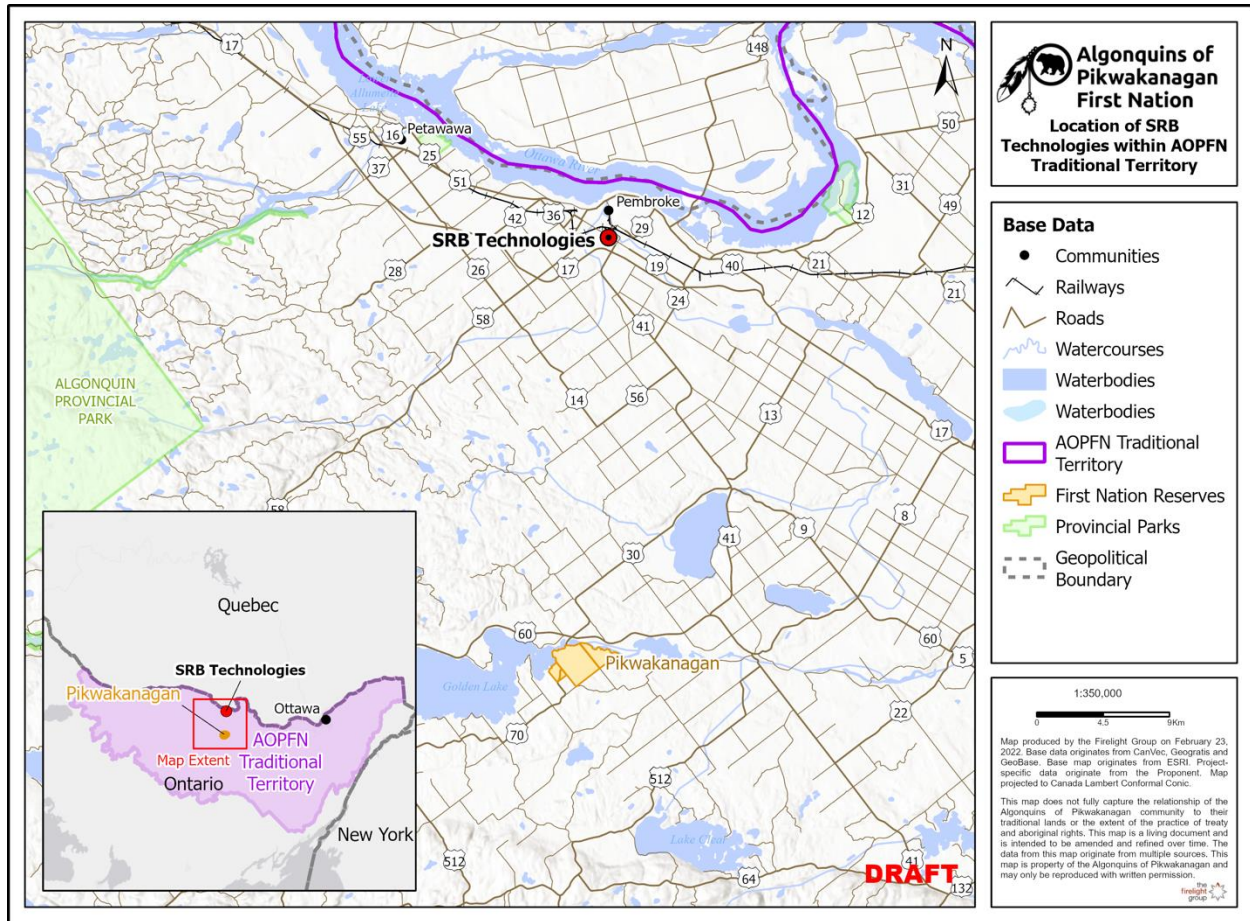
SRBT’s Class IB Nuclear Substance Processing Facility (the Facility) is located within, and has potential to directly and indirectly impact on, AOPFN territory. As such, the facility requires AOPFN consultation and engagement in reviewing and finalizing facility plans, including developing and implementing monitoring plans.

The activities described in the SBRT Class IB licence renewal application focus on processing tritium gas to produce gaseous tritium light source (GLTS) and manufactures radiation devices to produce GLTS devices. All of the licensed activities proposed by SRBT are currently authorized to be carried out at the facility (i.e., under SRBT's existing licence). In this respect, the licence renewal application does not involve any significant changes to the activities that occur at the site. The facility has been in operation since 1990 and the GLTS and radiation devices are distributed in Canada and internationally.

3.1 Project Location

As shown in Figure 2, SRBT's facilities are located in Pembroke, approximately 39 km from AOPFN's primary residential reserve at Golden Lake. Found in an industrial park, the area surrounding SRBT is mainly used for industrial and commercial purposes. The nearest residential area is approximately 250 metres to the northwest. The main part of the city of Pembroke lies north of the facility. The Ottawa River is approximately 4 km away from the facility. This is important to note as the Ottawa River is an important water crossing for AOPFN membership, is the habitat of important cultural aquatic species (including, but not limited to, eel and sturgeon), and is connected to various important water bodies throughout AOPFN territory. Refer to Figure 3 for an aerial view.

Figure 2 Location of SRB Technologies Canada Inc. Class IB Facility with respect to AOPFN territory



Source: Prepared for this submission by AOPFN and Firelight

Figure 3 Aerial view of the SRBT Facility



Source: CNSC Commission Member Document 22-H8 (14 January 2022)

4.0 Anticipated Environmental Performance

AOPFN has done a screening level review of the proposed Application and CNSC recommendation materials and has determined that the Class IB nuclear substance processing facility has a low likelihood for significant adverse impacts on AOPFN rights and interests, as long as SRBT works directly with AOPFN going forward. The screening has determined that:

- The activities at the SRBT facility are generally consistent with activities that have been demonstrated to have negligible negative impacts on human health and the environment;
- The amount of tritium found in the air, precipitation, and foods during SRBT's data collection indicate that it is highly unlikely that members of AOPFN residing in the community would be exposed to an unreasonable risk from operations of the SRBT facility;
- The activities conducted under the current licence have not changed since the licence was renewed in 2015, and no changes to SRBT licensed activities are requested as part of this application for renewal;
- CNSC's assessment determined that the application complies with the regulatory requirements; and
- The SRBT Financial Guarantee for decommissioning remains fully funded and held in escrow; as of December 31, 2021, the FG is funded to \$747,760.51, or 102.8% of the required guarantee of \$727,327.00. As a result, AOPFN will be satisfied that the proponent is fully committed to a safe and fulsome decommissioning process, provided AOPFN is engaged in decommissioning planning, implementation and monitoring activities. The nature of this engagement can be clarified through a long-term relationship agreement (LTRA) with AOPFN (discussed further below).

Based on our initial review of the data provided in the Application and recommendations prepared by CNSC Staff, it appears that the facility is meeting the standards set by CNSC for the protection of the health and safety of workers, the public and the environment, and with no changes in the activities under the new licence, this can be reasonably expected to continue. Based on these determinations, AOPFN has not identified any evidence indicating that the licence renewal might have significant adverse impact on the rights and interests of AOPFN, as long as SRBT commit to working directly with AOPFN.

Our priority concern is that the Application and the regulatory oversight process did not and do not take adequate steps to include or consider Algonquin Knowledge and AOPFN's expectations regarding Indigenous consultation, engagement, and monitoring. In the absence of risk, the process of engagement, consultation and involvement moving forward is both rightful and required. This is discussed further in Sections 6 through 8 of our submission.

5.0 AOPFN Nuclear Sector Requirements and Previous Recommendations to CNSC

In reviewing the Application and supporting material (e.g., records of engagement with SRBT, Environmental Risk Assessment, etc.) and Commission Member Document materials from CNSC staff, AOPFN compared those materials to AOPFN's expectations regarding nuclear sector projects, as well as prior recommendations made by AOPFN to the CNSC in relation to nuclear substance processing facilities, including the SRBT Facility.

5.1 AOPFN Nuclear Sector Requirements

AOPFN territory has one of the highest concentrations of nuclear-related projects in Canada. In the past and in some cases up to the present day, the federal government and proponents of nuclear-related projects, have not meaningfully engaged AOPFN in many if any aspects of planning, assessment, monitoring or management of nuclear-related projects. This has contributed to the accumulation of multiple areas with radioactive liabilities on AOPFN territory, as well as alienation, fear, stigma, and contamination effects on our people due to real and perceived changes to the environment.

As a result, and as part of AOPFN reclaiming its rightful governance and stewardship role in relation to developments in its territory, AOPFN has developed a strong and clear set of expectations for any nuclear-related physical works and activities in our territory. AOPFN expects that Proponents seeking to conduct a nuclear sector physical work or activity in AOPFN territory, will adhere to the following requirements:

1. Adherence to AOPFN's Consultation and Engagement Protocol, including deep engagement by the Proponent with AOPFN;
2. Commitment to cover all reasonable costs of AOPFN engagement in relation to the planning, assessment, and licencing of the proposed physical work and activity, including process and studies costs as required, through a Contribution Agreement negotiated as early as possible in the planning stage for the proposed project;
3. Commitment to conduct the environmental impact assessment according to the highest current standard of law and practice, and to respect and support AOPFN's expectations for the Nation's involvement in that assessment;
4. Commitment to involve AOPFN in a meaningful way in monitoring of the proposed project. This includes both independent Indigenous monitoring as well as in the CNSC'S Independent Environment Monitoring Program;
5. Adherence to the requirements of UNDRIP, including but not limited to adhering to free, prior, and informed consent decisions made by AOPFN in relation to the project;

6. Proponent willingness to work with AOPFN to develop a Project-specific AOPFN Benefits Maximization Plan for employment, training and business procurement opportunities;
7. Evidence of adherence to AOPFN’s “Principles” related to nuclear sector projects (see Annex 1);
8. Financial contributions, commensurate with the scope of the proposed physical work and activity, to support AOPFN’s Guardian Program, AOPFN’s Risk Communication Program, and AOPFN cultural protection and promotion programming;
9. Strong efforts to collect and integrate Indigenous Knowledge into Project assessment materials; and
10. A role for AOPFN in planning, management (including adaptive management) and oversight of the Project, including for example a role for AOPFN in the definition of end land use goals and criteria and closure planning for the Project, and a role for AOPFN regarding how waste from the facility should be handled, if it is going to be stored on AOPFN lands.

Requirement # 1: AOPFN expects SRBT to commit to following the AOPFN Principles and Nuclear Sector Requirements. AOPFN can provide guidance on the best way to do this, tied to the nature and scope of the SRBT Project. We encourage SRBT to engage with AOPFN on the above expectations prior to the Commission Hearing, through the negotiation of a long-term relationship agreement (LTRA) between the parties.

At the time of submission, SRBT indicated that it cannot afford to enter an LTRA with AOPFN at this time. While we understand that the past two years have impacted business, the facility has been operating in our territory since 1990 without a relationship in place to protect our members and respect our right to govern the lands, waters, and resources within our traditional territory. AOPFN expects SRBT to commit to working towards an LTRA and begin to engage with our members in a more in-depth and respectful manner.

5.2 Prior AOPFN Recommendations to CNSC re: Nuclear Substance Processing Facilities

At the November 2020 CNSC Public Meeting for the *Regulatory Oversight Report for Uranium and Nuclear Substance Processing Facilities in Canada: 2019* (referred to hereafter as “AOPFN’s November 2020 submission”), AOPFN provided a list of recommendations,¹ which are relevant to consideration of the SRBT Application:

¹ Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn First Nation (2020). *AOPFN Written Submission on Regulatory Oversight Report for Uranium and Nuclear Substance Processing Facilities in Canada: 2019*. Submitted to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, November 16, 2020.

1. AOPFN recommends that CNSC work with AOPFN and other Indigenous groups to develop methods for the meaningful inclusion of Indigenous Knowledge in regulatory oversight processes;
2. AOPFN recommends that CNSC work with AOPFN to identify more frequent and funded engagement opportunities (including involvement of AOPFN Knowledge Keepers and AOPFN leadership) concerning nuclear substance processing facilities within AOPFN territory;
3. AOPFN recommends that CNSC work with Indigenous groups to improve transparency and methods for accessing funding for post-environmental assessment engagement activities such as monitoring;
4. AOPFN recommends that CNSC work with Indigenous groups to develop indicators and metrics for reviewing effective Indigenous engagement;
5. AOPFN recommends the reporting on Indigenous participation in the Independent Environmental Monitoring Program (IEMP) in all future regulatory oversight reports;
6. AOPFN recommends that CNSC further engage with AOPFN on funded opportunities for AOPFN participation in the IEMP; and
7. AOPFN recommends that CNSC work with AOPFN and other Indigenous Groups to develop funded meaningful roles for Indigenous monitors in CNSC compliance and verification monitoring.

Requirement #2: AOPFN recommends that the CNSC work with AOPFN to ensure that conditions for any updated facility licence and other aspects of management and monitoring of the SRBT facility follow the recommendations made by AOPFN in its November 2020 submission to the CNSC. AOPFN can provide guidance on the best way to do this, commensurate with the nature and scope of the SRBT Project.

With these requirements and previous recommendations in mind, we now turn to outstanding issues that AOPFN has with the adequacy of the Application review process in relation to three main and critical themes:

- The role of Indigenous Knowledge in the Proponent’s Application and CNSC Staff Comments (Section 6);
- The degree of engagement and consultation with AOPFN in the process to date (Section 7); and
- Indigenous involvement in monitoring of the Project (Section 8).

6.0 The Role of Indigenous Knowledge

AOPFN is disheartened that no meaningful reference to Indigenous Knowledge integration is provided in any of the documents on the public record for the SRBT licence renewal

application. Principle 8 of AOPFN’s Principles related to Nuclear Sector Projects establishes the importance of including Algonquin Knowledge alongside western science:

Algonquin Knowledge will be used alongside western science in planning, monitoring and management of nuclear facilities; Indigenous monitors will require access to skills in both Algonquin Knowledge and technical monitoring fields.

Additionally, AOPFN expects recognition that Indigenous Knowledge (called Algonquin Knowledge in AOPFN territory) data collection plays a key role in identifying the current state, changes over time to date, and vulnerability of the physical environment. Algonquin Knowledge can be acquired through on-the-land site visits with AOPFN members. AOPFN members are subject matter experts on Algonquin Knowledge and must verify the Knowledge that is collected. AOPFN expects that Algonquin Knowledge is appropriately considered in the decision-making process and where Indigenous Knowledge has not been provided, that proponents provide evidence that Indigenous Knowledge was appropriately sought from AOPFN.

Section 4.2 pg. 85 of SRBT’s submission to the Commission on this matter makes brief reference to seeking Indigenous input:

In 2020, members of the community assisted our team with vegetation and environmental sampling activities in support of the ERA. We have continued to collaborate with the Pikwakanagan community as we have implemented the recommendations from the initial ERA report, which included the conduct of confirmatory sampling in the area.

There is a key distinction between Algonquin Knowledge and Indigenous input. Input refers to working with Indigenous communities in project planning and monitoring. AOPFN considers the steps taken by SRBT as part of the licence renewal application to be Indigenous input, and below the higher and expected standard of fully integrating Algonquin Knowledge into the project planning, monitoring and management. While we appreciate that SRBT sought the input of AOPFN, it is not up to the standard that AOPFN expects from proponents. This is discussed further in section 7.

Furthermore, AOPFN undertook a review of SRBT’s Environmental Risk Assessment² (ERA), which is an important component of its operating licence. While SRBT does incorporate some efforts to integrate AOPFN perspective into the monitoring programs, these efforts are not described in detail and therefore do not meet AOPFN standards, set in the Principles for Nuclear Sector Projects. Further detail on AOPFN issues with the Environmental Risk Assessment can be found in section 7.

² SRB Technologies (Canada) Inc. April 2021. Environmental Risk Assessment. Accessed from <http://srbt.com/Environmental%20Risk%20Assessment%20-%20Revision%20B%20-%20April%202021.pdf>

The CNSC’s submission on this matter does not demonstrate evidence that Algonquin Knowledge was sought or integrated into the considerations. Further, there are no licence conditions proposed by CNSC staff related to Algonquin Knowledge, for example nothing that would require SRBT to collect or otherwise consider Algonquin Knowledge on an ongoing or interval basis for the life of the proposed licence.

This Project is operating without any Algonquin Knowledge baseline. A first step to correct this is the collection of data from all four seasons about the Project and its surrounding environment, to set an Algonquin Knowledge Baseline.

Requirement #3: CNSC to implement a licence condition that requires SRBT to collect data from all four seasons about the Project and its surrounding environment, to set an Algonquin Knowledge Baseline.

Requirement #4: CNSC to implement a licence condition that requires SRBT to collect and consider Algonquin Knowledge on an interval basis for the life of the proposed licence.

The meaningful inclusion of Algonquin Knowledge in all stages of a Project lifecycle would improve the credibility and reliability of regulatory processes such as this for AOPFN members.

AOPFN understands that Canada has indicated it recognizes the importance of Indigenous Knowledge for regulatory decisions as section 3.1 of the 2021 draft *Indigenous Knowledge Policy Framework for Proposed Project Reviews and Regulatory Decisions* states that:

The Government of Canada recognizes that Indigenous knowledge improves federal decision-making and strengthens project reviews and regulatory decisions. For example, Indigenous knowledge helps federal organizations to have a more complete understanding of Indigenous worldviews, Indigenous cultures, the environment, and the social, health and economic conditions of Indigenous peoples during impact assessments. Indigenous knowledge enhances the understanding of the potential environmental, social, health and economic impacts of projects, and potential impacts to the rights of Indigenous peoples—and its consideration has led to improved project design. Indigenous knowledge can also strengthen mitigation and accommodation measures, help develop the project conditions that proponents must meet, and contribute to more effective, long-term monitoring of project impacts on Indigenous peoples.³

³ Government of Canada. 2021. Draft Indigenous Knowledge Policy Framework. Available at: <https://www.canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency/programs/aboriginal-consultation-federal-environmental-assessment/indigenous-knowledge-policy-framework-initiative/indigenous-knowledge-policy-framework-project-reviews-regulatory-decisions.html>

AOPFN also understands that the CNSC has recognized the importance of Indigenous Knowledge for regulatory decisions as is indicated in its framework vision of its 2021 Policy, Indigenous Knowledge Policy Framework which states:

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) acknowledges the importance of working with and including Indigenous knowledge (IK) alongside regulatory information contained in its assessments and regulatory processes. Indigenous ways of knowing and cultural context enhance the CNSC’s understanding of the potential impacts projects will have and strengthen the rigour of project reviews and regulatory oversight. This framework is intended to clearly articulate the CNSC’s approach to working with Indigenous peoples and their knowledge, and it is consistent with the federal approach and framework for working with IK⁴.

AOPFN would like to ensure that, in accordance with recommendations previously made by AOPFN, Algonquin Knowledge is integrated in a way that aligns with AOPFN standards and practices.

Requirement #5: AOPFN recommends that CNSC staff, SRBT, and the Commission clearly outline how licence conditions will establish the consideration of Indigenous knowledge alongside western scientific knowledge in data collection, analysis, and decision-making related to Project monitoring and management moving forward.

The continued absence of any such conditions in the draft licence is indicative that Algonquin Knowledge still is not a priority. Greater efforts must be made to make room in the CNSC’s regulatory system for Algonquin Knowledge to find a home and make a difference. Only through such actions will reconciliation be made real.

7.0 Indigenous Consultation and Engagement

7.1 Strengthening Indigenous Consultation and Engagement

Section 4.1 of the CNSC staff submission to the Commission on this matter (CMD22-H8) covers the CNSC staff’s analysis of “Indigenous Consultation and Engagement”. The CNSC staff concludes that that “CNSC Staff do not expect this license renewal to cause any new adverse impacts to potential or established Indigenous and/or Treaty Rights”⁵.

AOPFN is encouraged by the opportunity provided through the Participant Funding Program to participate in the review of the license renewal application. We understand that the CNSC has indicated it is committed to meeting its consultation obligations and continues

⁴ Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission. Indigenous Knowledge Policy Framework. Accessed from <https://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/resources/aboriginal-consultation/indigenous-knowledge-policy.cfm>

⁵ Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission. January 2022. Written submission from CNSC staff on the application from SRBT for licence renewal. Accessed from <https://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/the-commission/hearings/cmd/pdf/CMD22/CMD22-H8.pdf>

to build relationships with Indigenous peoples with interests in Canada’s nuclear processing facilities operating within their territory.

While AOPFN acknowledges that this is a smaller Project, as a self-governing Nation within our unceded territory, exercising our governance and stewardship responsibilities, we stress that it is up to AOPFN to determine whether the SRBT facility is likely to cause any new adverse impacts to AOPFN rights and interests. Prior impacts from the siting, construction, and operation of the SRBT facility have never been assessed, mitigated, or compensated for. The licence renewal application for the continued operation of the SRBT facility only considers new and novel impacts to AOPFN rights and interests, which is indicative that the CNSC is not making reasonable efforts to identify or deal with impacts that have been accrued to date. This is not acceptable to AOPFN or to the federal Crown’s commitment to reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.

AOPFN is somewhat disappointed that the portion of the CNSC submission on this matter is very short and lacks either detail or any recommended conditions. We would have thought that the recommendations AOPFN has made – for example our November 2020 submission recommendations noted previously, our recommendations related to incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge provided earlier this year to the CNSC, or our submission on BWXT Medical Ltd Class 1B License Application⁶, would have prompted expectations that embrace additional opportunities for Indigenous involvement in CNSC regulatory processes. This lack of progress does not fill us with confidence that the CNSC is taking AOPFN’s requirements and expectations regarding the need to properly condition an Indigenous role into project monitoring and management seriously.

AOPFN hopes to have more involvement in the Project, that extends beyond a review of the licence documents, and may require licence conditions to have these expectations come to fruition. Specifically:

Requirement #6: AOPFN expects the CNSC to implement a licence condition identifying the need for SRBT to engage affected Indigenous groups in defining end land use goals and criteria for the facility, and in Project closure planning.

Requirement #7: AOPFN expects adherence by both CNSC and SRBT to the requirements of the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, including Free, Prior and Informed Consent by Indigenous peoples for any future decisions about the SRBT Project.

While we encourage both CNSC and SRBT to engage us on these topics moving forward, the surest means to require Indigenous involvement in such project planning, monitoring and

⁶ On April 30th, 2021, AOPFN provided a written submission to the Commission for the matter of the BWXT Medical Ltd. Application for a Class IB nuclear substance processing facility operating licence.

management mechanisms is for the Commission to require them through license conditions. Without such conditions, compliance and enforcement with the spirit and intent behind these conditions, which is to engage Indigenous peoples fully and properly in management of facilities within their territory, may not occur.

Section 4.2 of SRBT’s submission to the Commission on this matter covers SRBT’s analysis of “Indigenous Consultation and Engagement”. In this section, SRBT states:

Going forward, SRBT fully intends to continue to build relationships with Indigenous communities in our vicinity, and to use these relationships to help inform how we can improve our operations, reduce our environmental impact, and ensure the continued safety and health of the people that live in these communities and in the surrounding area⁷.

AOPFN appreciates the conceptual approach voiced by SRBT. AOPFN seeks to cultivate a positive, working relationship with proponents of projects on our traditional lands. As a part of this process, AOPFN has indicated its expectation of developing a strong relationship with SRBT through a Long-Term Relationship Agreement (“LTRA”) between the parties. This is a standard approach taken by AOPFN to move forward the relationship with a proponent seeking to work – or to continue to work – in AOPFN territory. An LTRA is an agreement of good faith and is an expectation of all proponents with projects – existing and proposed - on AOPFN territory. Long-term relationship agreements include provisions covering priority issues for AOPFN members including:

1. AOPFN’s governance rights, including collaborative decision-making process and outcomes;
2. AOPFN’s role as stewards of the lands and waters, including monitoring and our guarding program;
3. AOPFN’s cultural initiatives, including cultural programming and cultural awareness;
4. Increasing the proportion of economic benefits from projects on AOPFN territory that are available to AOPFN, which due to systemic barriers for economic entry for Indigenous peoples, includes proactive measures to increase the ability of AOPFN members to take advantage of project benefits.

Requirement #8: SRBT to engage with AOPFN for the purpose of agreeing to terms on a Long-Term Relationship Agreement between the Parties for the life of the Project.

⁷ SRB Technologies (Canada) Inc. January 2022. Written submission from SRBT for licence renewal. Accessed from <https://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/the-commission/hearings/cmd/pdf/CMD22/CMD22-H8-1.pdf>

7.2 SRBT’s Environmental Risk Assessment

As previously mentioned, SRBT conducted an Environmental Risk Assessment⁸ (ERA) as a component of its operating licence in 2021. The ERA describes a “collaborative campaign of environmental sampling” which occurred in the fall of 2020. Information on the “collaborative campaign” occurs on Page 68 and describes SRBT employees conducting environmental sampling with the assistance of two AOPFN members to collect culturally important plants for testing. AOPFN would like to clarify that, since the engagement with AOPFN was minimal and below AOPFN expectations, it is incorrect to label this as a collaborative approach or a campaign with AOPFN. AOPFN has provided the CNSC and SRBT with correspondence on January 17, 2022, pointing this out.

Furthermore, the ERA lacks information regarding how the SRBT collaborative monitoring program reflected the full use of the land and plants by AOPFN membership. First, there was no indication of where the plants were harvested from. However, an email sent to Amanda Two-Axe Kohoko from Aimee Rupert on November 29, 2021, indicated that samples were limited to areas 25-35 km from the facility. AOPFN membership use all our traditional territory to practice our rights, and this “collaborative sampling campaign” did not account for any rights-based activities that AOPFN members may engage in closer to the facility. On page 48, the ERA describes the spatial boundary of the Environmental Monitoring Program as a 3,500 m radius around active ventilation air stacks, however, there is no discussion of how this spatial boundary was chosen or if AOPFN was consulted in this choice. Second, there is no information regarding what plant parts were tested and how that testing conforms with AOPFN use of the plants. Third, there is no information on what season the plants were collected or how that appropriately reflects seasonal use of plants by AOPFN members. Moving forward, the SRBT monitoring programs should provide these details, and other details developed through meaningful consultation with AOPFN membership.

Finally, page 115 of the ERA recommends that engagement with AOPFN community continues:

Continued engagement with the AOPFN community is also recommended going forth. Although routine monitoring may not be warranted, perhaps an annual monitoring campaign in this area would ensure that the results of the risk assessment remain valid and that the facility continues to operate in a fashion that is protective of this community⁹.

⁸ SRB Technologies (Canada) Inc. April 2021. Environmental Risk Assessment.

⁹ SRB Technologies (Canada) Inc. April 2021. Revision B Environmental Risk Assessment. Accessed from <http://www.srbt.com/Environmental%20Risk%20Assessment%20-%20Revision%20B%20-%20April%202021.pdf>

While the ERA is not a document properly informed by Algonquin Knowledge, its recommendation stumbles onto some important concepts that need to be further examined, such as continued engagement and monitoring on a regular basis. AOPFN need to define the scope of this joint monitoring, and there must be recognition that AOPFN Guardian Program will play a key role in this collaborative monitoring moving forward. Guardians work on the land and waters -- but their roles are much broader than natural resource management. Guardians are the “boots on the ground”, supporting the lands, culture, health and education departments of Indigenous Nations. Further discussion on Indigenous Guardians is found in Section 8.

SRBT should spend more time engaging with AOPFN to identify, describe, and meaningfully collaborate on these monitoring activities so that the understanding of any effects, or the understanding that there are no effects, to AOPFN values are clear. The gaps discussed above are symptomatic of a larger issue, which is the lack of a systematic, relationship-driven collaboration between SRBT and AOPFN. There must be significant improvement to the collaborative relationship moving forward, which will be raised by AOPFN during negotiations on the long-term relationship agreement between the parties.

Requirement #9: A clause on ongoing meetings should be established in the long-term relationship agreement between the parties.

Requirement #10: CNSC to add a condition to the licence that requires SRBT to provide evidence of joint monitoring work with Indigenous Peoples into its annual reporting.

8.0 Indigenous Involvement in Monitoring Programs

8.1 AOPFN’s Guardian Program

Monitoring programs that are inclusive of impacted Indigenous groups are critical for the successful operation of a project and its monitoring activities. They are being built across Canada, and AOPFN has been clear that they are a mandatory element for all projects in AOPFN territory.¹⁰ The benefits of Indigenous-led or co-led programs are clear. In our experience, they have been found to:

- ensure better integration of Indigenous knowledge alongside western science;
- allow for comprehensive involvement of individuals with an in-depth understanding of, connection to, and respect for, the areas being monitored;
- allow for reconciliation through retrenchment of Indigenous governance and stewardship in their traditional territories;

¹⁰ Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation. Consultation, Engagement, and Accommodation Requirements for all Nuclear Sector Proposed Developments in AOPFN Territory. Drafted June 30, 2021.

- support skill development for Indigenous monitors;
- reduce fear and stigma associated with the nuclear sector through communal learning and increased trust in the results reported by Indigenous peoples themselves; and more.

This is being recognized at other nuclear facilities in AOPFN territory, including at the Chalk River Laboratories.

While AOPFN appreciates that SRBT involved a few AOPFN members in its Environmental Monitoring Campaign, it is AOPFN's expectation that we conduct our own monitoring, through AOPFN's Guardian Program. Neither the CNSC staff submission nor the licence application from SRBT discuss the need for Indigenous participation in CNSC's Independent Environmental Monitoring Program (IEMP), or any commitments by SRBT to support independent or collaborative Indigenous monitoring programs for the life of the Project.

8.2 Independent Environmental Monitoring Program

AOPFN's previous Recommendation 5 made in its November 2020 submission focused on the need for reporting on Indigenous participation in the Independent Environmental Monitoring Program (IEMP) in all future regulatory oversight reports. Following email correspondence with CNSC staff, AOPFN understood that CNSC staff were committed to engaging with AOPFN on IEMP activities moving forward and that CNSC will share future funding opportunities with regards to AOPFN participation in the IEMP. Section 3.9.3 describes the CNSC IEMP activities of the SRBT facility.

CNSC staff conducted IEMP sampling around the SRBT facility in 2013, 2014, 2015, 2018 and 2021¹¹.

AOPFN understands that there may be future opportunities for AOPFN to collaborate and involve AOPFN members (inside or outside the Guardian Program) in the Commission's IEMP. For clarity, for AOPFN, real participation involves activities beyond simply reviewing reports. AOPFN recommends that the participation of Knowledge Keepers and Elders extend beyond the reviewing of reports and involved real on-the-land participation activities in CNSC's IEMP. AOPFN's level of involvement in the CNSC's IEMP can be scaled depending on the size of the Project. For the SRBT Project, the CNSC should work with AOPFN to determine the specifics of this initiative. AOPFN expects that support is provided for the involvement of at minimum two Indigenous monitors in all field activities, for all future IEMP sampling around the SRBT facility.

While there is a CNSC IEMP, in general AOPFN would like to see that projects include independent Indigenous monitoring programs as well. For AOPFN members, the credibility

¹¹ Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission. January 2022. CMD 22 - H8 – Written submission from CNSC staff on the application from SRBT for licence renewal.

of CNSC IEMP results are not particularly high. This is in part due to mistrust that has developed from many decades of Crown-Indigenous relations. Ensuring AOPFN members are conducting AOPFN-led independent monitoring and establishing AOPFN “boots” on the ground, can go a long way to improving the credibility of monitoring results and reducing fear and stigma associated with nuclear facilities. AOPFN recognizes that the level of involvement of AOPFN members in monitoring differs between facilities of different locations and risk profiles. The likely involvement of AOPFN required for the SRBT facility would need to reflect its relatively low risk profile. As a result, AOPFN would like to collaborate with SRBT to determine a framework for the involvement of AOPFN Guardians in SRBT’s monitoring activities.

Requirement #11: AOPFN expects collaboration with SRBT to scope out the level of involvement AOPFN’s Guardian Program will have in relation to this Project. As is the case with all Proponents seeking to operate on AOPFN territory, it is AOPFN’s expectation that SRBT will cover the costs associated of engagement and implementation of the Guardian Program.

Requirement #12: CNSC to consult with AOPFN prior to the hearing on this licence renewal, to identify concrete opportunities for AOPFN’s involvement in the IEMP for the duration of the proposed licence renewal, for presentation to the Commission at the hearing. In addition, please engage with AOPFN within 2 weeks of receipt of this submission so that this can be addressed.

8.3 Compliance and Verification Monitoring

There are real but as yet unfulfilled opportunities for Indigenous involvement in CNSC compliance and verification monitoring. Providing funding for and working with Indigenous groups to develop roles for Indigenous monitors in CNSC monitoring would also support the improved consideration of Indigenous Knowledge in relation to nuclear sector projects. AOPFN has identified this in previous interactions with the CNSC as a priority; however, this expectation has not been acted on by the CNSC to date.

AOPFN notes that the Canadian Energy Regulator (CER), another life-cycle regulator, has taken steps to include Indigenous monitors in compliance monitoring. The CER is committed to increasing Indigenous participation in their regulatory oversight of Canada’s energy infrastructure through collaboration with Indigenous Advisory and Monitoring Committees (IAMCs) and through the involvement of Indigenous groups in compliance

monitoring. The CER is also starting to introduce joint training sessions so that non-Indigenous CER Inspection Officers can learn from Indigenous Monitors.¹²

Requirement #13: AOPFN recommends that CNSC work with AOPFN to develop funded and meaningful roles for Indigenous monitors in CNSC compliance and verification monitoring, including for but not limited to in relation to the SRBT facility.

9.0 Conclusions and Next Steps

AOPFN appreciates the opportunity to provide our comments and recommendations in the interest of building a regulatory process for nuclear projects in our traditional territory that embraces Canada's commitment to reconciliation with Indigenous peoples and commitments to fully implement UNDRIP into Canadian law and practice.

To address the concerns identified in this submission regarding the consideration of Algonquin Knowledge, Indigenous consultation and engagement, and Indigenous involvement in monitoring, AOPFN formally recommends the following from the CNSC and SRBT:

- Requirement # 1: AOPFN expects SRBT to commit to following the AOPFN Principles and Nuclear Sector Requirements. AOPFN can provide guidance on the best way to do this, tied to the nature and scope of the SRBT Project. We encourage SRBT to engage with AOPFN on the above expectations prior to the Commission Hearing, through the negotiation of a long-term relationship agreement between the parties.
- Requirement #2: AOPFN recommends that the CNSC work with AOPFN to ensure that conditions for any updated facility licence and other aspects of management and monitoring of the SRBT facility follow the recommendations made by AOPFN in its November 2020 submission to the CNSC. AOPFN can provide guidance on the best way to do this, commensurate with the nature and scope of the SRBT Project.
- Requirement #3: CNSC to implement a licence condition that requires SRBT to collect data from all four seasons about the Project and its surrounding environment, to set an Algonquin Knowledge Baseline.
- Requirement #4: CNSC to implement a licence condition that requires SRBT to collect and consider Algonquin Knowledge on an interval basis for the life of the proposed licence.

¹² Canadian Energy Regulator. September 2020. Indigenous Monitoring. Available at: <https://www.cer-rec.gc.ca/en/consultation-engagement/indigenous-engagement/indigenous-monitoring.html>

- Requirement #5: AOPFN recommends that CNSC staff, SRBT and the Commission itself consider and further engage with AOPFN and other impacted Indigenous Nations on what licence conditions could entrench the need to consider Indigenous knowledge alongside western scientific knowledge, in the data collection, analysis and decision-making related to Project monitoring and management moving forward.
- Requirement #6: AOPFN expects the CNSC to implement a licence condition identifying the need for SRBT to engage affected Indigenous groups in defining end land use goals and criteria for the facility, and in Project closure planning.
- Requirement #7: AOPFN expects adherence by both CNSC and SRBT to the requirements of the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, including Free, Prior and Informed Consent by Indigenous peoples for any future decisions about the SRBT Project.
- Requirement #8: SRBT to engage with AOPFN for the purpose of agreeing to terms on a Long-Term Relationship Agreement between the Parties for the life of the Project.
- Requirement #9: A clause on ongoing meetings should be established in the long-term relationship agreement between the parties.
- Requirement #10: CNSC to add a condition to the licence that requires SRBT to provide evidence of joint monitoring work with Indigenous Peoples into its annual reporting.
- Requirement #11: AOPFN expects collaboration with SRBT to scope out the level of involvement AOPFN's Guardian Program will have in relation to this Project. As is the case with all Proponents seeking to operate on AOPFN territory, it is AOPFN's expectation that SRBT will cover the costs associated of engagement and implementation of the Guardian Program.
- Requirement #12: CNSC to consult with AOPFN prior to the hearing on this licence renewal, to identify concrete opportunities for AOPFN's involvement in the IEMP for the duration of the proposed licence renewal, for presentation to the Commission at the hearing. In addition, please engage with AOPFN within 2 weeks of receipt of this submission so that this can be addressed.
- Requirement #13: AOPFN recommends that CNSC work with AOPFN to develop funded and meaningful roles for Indigenous monitors in CNSC compliance and verification monitoring, including for but not limited to in relation to the SRBT facility.

Annex 1 – AOPFN Consultation, Engagement, and Accommodation Requirements for all Nuclear Sector Proposed Developments in AOPFN Territory

The Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation (AOPFN) have lived in our unceded traditional territory since time immemorial, practicing our ways and living according to our laws and culture. We are a self-defined people. AOPFN continues to assert and exercise Algonquin aboriginal title and aboriginal rights to and in all parts of AOPFN unceded traditional territory, to which AOPFN has not been a party to a treaty, including lands under water. AOPFN has an obligation to our members to plan for the future and to ensure self-determination, self-reliance, and self-governance. AOPFN is committed to respecting and protecting our unceded traditional territory and the interests of all our members and therefore AOPFN understands the value of establishing relationships while ensuring our Algonquin aboriginal rights, title and interest are fully recognized, respected, and protected.

In addition to Algonquin aboriginal title, AOPFN's Algonquin aboriginal rights and interests in AOPFN traditional territory include Algonquin aboriginal rights to hunt, fish and trap, to harvest plants for food and medicine, to protect and honour burial sites and other sacred and culturally significant sites, to sustain and strengthen its spiritual and cultural connection to the land, to protect the Environment that supports our members survival, to govern ourselves, and to participate in all governance and operational decisions about how the land and resources will be managed, used and protected. Our laws require AOPFN to preserve and enhance a mutually respectful relationship with the Environment, to co-exist with Mother Earth and protect this relationship. We have the responsibility to care for our unceded traditional territory for future generations, and to preserve and protect wildlife, lands, waters, air and resources. We rely on the health of the Environment in AOPFN Traditional Territory for our survival. The health of the lands and waters is essential to the continued existence of AOPFN as a people and our members' health, culture, laws, livelihood, and economy.

AOPFN must be recognized as a rightful, respected and principled steward of the Environment. Our input and perspective in any consultation and accommodation process will include the use of traditional ecological and cultural knowledge alongside knowledge from western scientific and technical sources.

AOPFN territory, since the 1940s, has seen the rise of one of Canada's largest nuclear sectors. This has been done without AOPFN consultation until recently, and without our consent in every instance to date. The importation, production, use and disposal of radioactive materials has had adverse impacts on the environment and constitutes an infringement of our Algonquin aboriginal rights, title, and interests to a degree that has yet to be assessed let alone recognized or compensated for. The nuclear sector has brought change to our lands and waters, closing off of traditional areas from our access, real and perceived health risks, and alienation and fear associated with the wildlife, vegetation and waters that our members rely on to practice their Algonquin culture and way of life on the land.

As priority Algonquin aboriginal rights holders under the *Constitution Act, 1982*, and as the traditional stewards of the land, these impacts on our Algonquin aboriginal rights, title and interests have always been and remain unacceptable.

With the rise of recognition by Canada that reconciliation with Indigenous peoples is essential to Canada's future, and the embracing of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), we are entering a new era. We have developed the requirements below to reflect our expectations as a Nation, to share openly and transparently with Canada and all proponents who would seek to build, conduct, and decommission nuclear sector-related projects in our AOPFN traditional territory.

AOPFN will update these requirements and communicate changes to Proponents at our discretion. AOPFN expects Proponents and government to stay informed of and respect AOPFN protocols and requirements and their evolution over time.

Evaluation of adherence to the following requirements must be determined jointly between AOPFN and the Proponent. Adherence to these requirements includes respect for AOPFN Free, Prior, and Informed Consent decisions. Accordingly, Proponents cannot assume AOPFN consent; it must be actively sought and explicitly provided. Importantly, while adherence to these requirements does not guarantee AOPFN Free, Prior, and Informed Consent, it does represent a positive initial step in the process for seeking Free, Prior, and Informed Consent and development of a relationship with AOPFN.

Requirements for Nuclear Developments in AOPFN Territory

AOPFN expects that each Proponent seeking to conduct a nuclear sector physical work or activity¹³ in AOPFN territory, will adhere to the following requirements. While these requirements may be scaleable to the size, nature and location of a proposed development, this can only be determined through engagement with AOPFN.

1. Adherence to AOPFN Principles Related to Nuclear Sector Projects
2. Adherence to AOPFN's Consultation and Engagement Protocol and recognition that because only AOPFN can speak for our members, engagement must occur directly with AOPFN.
3. Recognition of AOPFN participation and capacity constraints that may arise from time to time (e.g. Covid-19 or other unforeseen circumstances) and a commitment to

¹³ For greater clarity, this includes any new physical work and activity, or relicensing of existing facilities, that involves the importation, storage, disposal, handling, manipulation or creation of radioactive materials, whether for research, energy production, medical or other purposes, and includes decommissioning of existing facilities that meet the above criteria.

both negotiate solutions to accommodate these participation and capacity constraints and to respect the time required for AOPFN to make informed decisions.

4. Commitment to cover all reasonable costs of AOPFN engagement in relation to the planning, assessment, and licencing of the proposed physical work and activity, including process and studies costs as required, through a Contribution Agreement negotiated as early as possible in the planning stage for the proposed Project.
5. Commitment to co-develop a collaboration framework to guide engagement for any provincial or federal impact assessment or regulatory process required for the Project. Any collaboration framework developed for a full impact assessment process will require at minimum a commitment for monthly meetings.
6. Commitment to conduct the environmental impact assessment according to the highest current standard of law and practice, and to respect and support AOPFN's expectations for the Nation's involvement in that assessment.
7. Commitment to provide opportunity to AOPFN to participate in a meaningful way in any "alternatives to" and or "alternative means" assessment early in project planning.
8. Commitment to provide right of first refusal and financial support for AOPFN to identify and lead or collaborate on studies or research relevant to the assessment of impacts from the Project. Required studies will be determined by AOPFN on a case-by-case basis but examples include:
 - a. Algonquin Knowledge and Land Use Studies
 - b. Culture and Rights Studies
 - c. Participation in early biophysical fieldwork and site assessment or inventories.
9. Commitment to provide meaningful opportunities for AOPFN to identify, develop, and implement mitigations or offsets for project impacts specific to AOPFN members. This includes involving AOPFN in a meaningful way in monitoring and management of the proposed project including via AOPFN's Neya Wabun (Guardian) Program (See also requirement 13a).
10. Commitment to provide meaningful opportunities for AOPFN to identify, characterize, and determine the significance of effects from impacts occurring to AOPFN members and or values in AOPFN territory.
11. Adherence to the requirements of UNDRIP, including but not limited to adhering to free, prior and informed consent decisions made by AOPFN in relation to the Project.

12. Negotiation in good faith toward a Reconciliation Agreement with AOPFN, with the value of that agreement to be commensurate with the scope of the proposed physical work and activity.¹⁴
13. Financial contributions, commensurate with the scope of the proposed physical work and activity, to:
 - a. Support AOPFN’s Neya Wabun Guardian Program;
 - b. Support AOPFN’s Risk Communication Program;
 - c. Support and participation in AOPFN Cultural Awareness Training Program;
 - d. Support AOPFN’s Skill Inventory and Proficiency Collection Program;
 - e. Support AOPFN’s Cultural Revitalization Program; and
 - f. Support AOPFN Community Infrastructure needs.
14. Working with AOPFN to develop a Project-specific AOPFN Indigenous Benefits Maximization Plan for employment, education, training and business procurement opportunities associated with the proposed Project.

AOPFN Principles Related to Nuclear Sector Projects

Endorsed by AOPFN Chief and Council, June 22, 2021

AOPFN Principle
1. As a self-governing Indigenous Nation, AOPFN’s right of free, prior and informed consent for nuclear projects will be respected.
2. AOPFN, as a government retrenching its rightful stewardship and governance responsibilities, will have a co-management role for nuclear projects in AOPFN territory.
3. All projects will contribute positively to educational opportunities critical to AOPFN self-sufficiency, governance and relationships with other parties.
4. To meet the expectation of sustainable development, risks will not be passed on to future generations; radioactive materials cannot ever be abandoned and forgotten in AOPFN territory.
5. AOPFN must be meaningfully involved in any provincial or federal impact assessment for developments occurring in AOPFN territory and any associated studies supporting assessment. Meaningful involvement requires adequate funding and reasonable timelines for participation activities.

¹⁴ Where the parties have an existing agreement, the proponent is expected to commit to update it to reflect any change in scope of the relationship associated with the newly proposed physical work and activity.

AOPFN Principle
6. Study Areas and Valued Components for any impact Assessment must be identified in collaboration with AOPFN knowledge Keepers and based on the extent of potential impacts associated with the proposed project.
7. AOPFN will have a meaningful role in monitoring the effects of nuclear projects in AOPFN territory.
8. Algonquin knowledge will be used alongside western science in planning, monitoring and management of nuclear facilities; Indigenous monitors will require access to skills in both Algonquin knowledge and technical monitoring fields.
9. Water must be clean, readily accessible, and trusted by AOPFN members.
10. No nuclear wastes will be moved into or out of AOPFN territory without AOPFN explicit permissions.
11. AOPFN members Algonquin aboriginal rights, title, and connection/relationship to the lands and waters will be protected and promoted, and AOPFN will play a key role in this process.
12. Wildlife and wildlife habitat will be protected and promoted, and AOPFN will play a key role in this process.
13. AOPFN will be meaningfully involved in all aspects of decision-making related to nuclear project planning.
14. AOPFN’s cultural and spiritual values and resources will be vigilantly protected and promoted, and AOPFN will play a leading role in this process.
15. AOPFN will be accommodated for Project-specific and cumulative impacts that do occur as a result of nuclear projects, on biophysical and human environmental values and AOPFN Algonquin aboriginal rights, title, interest.
16. AOPFN must be provided adequate and timely access to funding and resources for exercise of its jurisdiction in relation to nuclear projects.
17. AOPFN has the right to preferentially economically benefit from projects that occur on its territory; in order to do so, systemic barriers need to be proactively removed
18. Nothing is more important to AOPFN members than safe and plentiful Algonquin foods and resources. Impacts on these will be monitored and communicated to AOPFN members in ways that have meaning to them.

AOPFN Principle

19. Reconciliation between Indigenous peoples and Canada will underpin the Nation-to-Nation relationship; each proponent to present to AOPFN and work to refine a "Reconciliation Plan", showing how they will contribute to making life better and a healthy and mutually beneficial relationship with AOPFN.