

Environmental Assessment Office

Minister Responsible OIC under the *Environmental Assessment Act*

The Minister Responsible OIC under the *Environmental Assessment Act* was approved and ordered on May 19, 2011. This OIC was updated in light of the changes to the provincial Cabinet announced on March 14, 2011.

The table below provides an overview of the updated Responsible Minister and Alternates as well as the explanation of the Responsible Minister role that was provided to respective ministries.

<i>Category of Reviewable Project</i>	<i>Responsible Minister</i>	<i>Alternate Responsible Minister</i>
<i>Industrial Projects</i>	Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations	Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation
<i>Mine Projects</i>	Minister of Energy and Mines and Minister Responsible for Housing	Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
<i>Energy Projects</i>	Minister of Energy and Mines and Minister Responsible for Housing	Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
<i>Water Management Projects</i>	Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development	Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
<i>Waste Disposal Projects</i>	Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development	Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
<i>Food Processing Projects</i>	Minister of Agriculture	Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
<i>Transportation Projects</i>	Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure	Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development
<i>Tourism Destination Resort Projects</i>	Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations	Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development

- Under the EA Act, a responsible Minister's primary role is to share with the Minister of Environment the responsibility for making the decision on whether or not to issue an Environmental Assessment Certificate for a proposed project that is subject to review under the EA Act.
- Reviewable projects fall into one of the following categories: industrial, mines, energy, water management, waste disposal, food processing, transportation and tourism destination resorts.

- Typically, the responsible Minister for a category is the Minister with the policy responsibility for those activities.
- The responsible Ministers are set out in the Responsible Minister Order (Order) under the EA Act.
- The updated Order also required alternate Ministers to be assigned in two situations. The first situation is when the project proponent is a Crown Corporation and the Minister that is designated for that category of reviewable project is the Minister responsible for the Crown Corporation. The second situation is when the project proponent is a provincial government ministry and the Minister that would otherwise be the responsible Minister is also the Minister responsible for that Ministry.