



ECA Update and Transition Plan

Presented to: Air Practitioners' Full Group

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ECA Update

- The 2015 Fall Economic Statement indicates that MOECC is committed to improve the ECA process by:
 - ✓ Reducing, by the fall 2017, the amount of ministry time taken to review air and noise ECAs by at least 50%;
 - ✓ Implementing a 1 year service standard for higher-risk ECA requests received after 2017, including an appropriate performance measure for meeting that service standard, that recognizes the complexities of some approvals.

ECA Update

- Number of air/noise ECA applications in EAB have been reduced significantly.
- Currently air/noise ECA applications are assigned technical reviewer(s) within 2 months of submission.
- In last 2 months of 2016, over 50% of ECAs issued by EAB and EAASIB had turnaround times less than 1 year.

Transition Plan

- ECA applications received by MOECC on or before December 31, 2016 have the option to remain in the ECA process or withdraw the application and register in the Air Emissions EASR.
- Since December 31, 2016, MOECC has been screening applications to determine if they meet the eligibility requirements in the Air EASR regulation and has been notifying proponents who may be required to register in the Air Emissions EASR.
- ECA applications submitted after December 31, 2016 will be returned when the proponent facilities are eligible for the Air Emissions EASR.

Transition Plan (continued)

- ECA with limited operational flexibility (LOF) templates will be updated with reference to the new Air Contaminants Benchmarks (ACB) List.
- Air Emissions EASR eligible activities operating under an ECA will be required to register when a modification not covered by the ECA (including LOF conditions expired), or January 31, 2027, whichever comes first.

Next Steps

- EAB will continue a concentrated effort into clearing old ECA applications.
- EAB will focus on completing current ECA applications for facilities that are eligible for the Air Emissions EASR and proponents decided to stay in the ECA world.
- EAB will strictly enforce timelines for submission of additional information. Failure to submit all requested additional information on time will have the application returned/refused.
- EAB will not accept a priority request with a requested turnaround time of less than 6 months. Companies should take into account MOECC's (future) service standard during projects scheduling.
- MOECC will audit the facilities that have registered in the Air Emissions EASR.
- MOECC will allow a facility that is eligible for the Air Emissions EASR to come back to the ECA world only under exceptional situations.
- MOECC will continually raise the bar on incoming ECA applications “deemed complete” so that it can pass to EAB for technical review.