

July 21, 2026

Engagement Team  
Privy Council Office  
85 Sparks Street, Room 1000  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A3

**Re: Getting Major Projects Built in Canada - Discussion Paper on Proposed  
Legislative, Regulatory, and Policy Reforms**

To whom it may concern,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Government of Canada's *Getting Major Projects Built in Canada - Discussion Paper on Proposed Legislative, Regulatory, and Policy Reforms*.

econext is a not-for-profit industry association dedicated to advancing environmentally sustainable economic growth in Newfoundland and Labrador (NL). With a network of approximately 200 member businesses, research institutions, governments, and organizations, econext serves as a leading voice for the province's green economy.

We connect members to opportunities in the green economy, champion supportive public policy, build capacity across businesses and communities, and advance innovation through research and sector insights.

We believe that strong environmental standards can be maintained in processes that are more efficient and direct. This position guides our feedback on the proposed legislative, regulatory, and policy reforms.

Our organization sees significant opportunities emerging from efforts to improve assessment and permitting processes for major projects. Project delays, cost overruns, regulatory uncertainty, and administrative barriers have created challenges for investment and economic development across Canada. A clearer, more predictable, and timely process will provide investors with greater certainty and confidence when considering major project investments, and provide more standardised and effective environmental oversight.

The proposed commitment to concurrent federal reviews and permitting decisions within a one-year timeline demonstrates that the Government of Canada is listening to industry concerns and taking meaningful steps to improve regulatory efficiency. In our experience, many government processes are unnecessarily sequential. Strategically allowing for concurrent processes - when doing so does not impact decision-making - is one of the most effective approaches to accelerating regulatory frameworks.

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We strongly encourage continued collaboration between provincial and federal governments to align regulatory systems and processes. Requiring project proponents to navigate two separate or conflicting systems creates confusion, duplication of effort, and unnecessary delays. Greater clarity regarding the operation of proposed economic zones and their interaction with provincial regulatory frameworks will be critical to achieving seamless coordination. There is little detail regarding how these zones will be defined and governed, and which activities will be permitted within them. Clear guidance is essential to reducing uncertainty and ensuring effective implementation.

Consideration should also be given to the resource capacity of the provincial departments responsible for participating in joint review and permitting processes. Ensuring that all jurisdictions have adequate capacity is necessary for preventing bottlenecks and maintaining efficient timelines. We also encourage the federal government to work with provinces to align permitting timelines, whenever possible, to support coordinated, predictable decision-making.

With respect to offshore regulatory modernization, we note the proposal to undertake further assessment with NL regarding a potential single-regulator model for projects currently overseen by the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Energy Regulator (C-NLOER). In the spirit of the Atlantic Accord and joint Federal-Provincial management of offshore resources, we urge the Federal government to assign responsibility for renewable and non-renewable offshore projects to the C-NLOER.

Overall, our organization strongly supports the principle of “one project, one review,” and believes this approach will promote sustainable economic development across Canada, and also address longstanding challenges within the current regulatory frameworks. We support the Government of Canada’s efforts to improve regulatory efficiency, reduce unnecessary administrative burden, and create a more competitive environment for investment and project development.

We look forward to the continued advancement of this legislation following the Government of Canada’s engagement process with communities, Indigenous partners, industry and individuals across Canada.

Thank you for your consideration.



Laura Barron  
CEO