

Major Projects Management Office

Bureau de gestion des grands projets



# Major Projects Management Office Initiative

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Environmental Forum  
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# Overview

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- Context
- Mandate and Objectives
- Progress to Date
- Current MPMO Projects
- Key Elements of the MPMO Initiative
- Key Challenges – System-Wide Improvement
- Key Outcomes



# ***Origins of the MPMO Initiative – A Regulatory System Under Pressure***

## **Capacity Constraints**

- High demand and strong commodity prices resulted in significant growth in the number of major resource projects - \$300 Billion in planned investments over the next 5+ years
- Insufficient resources in federal system for regulatory system

## **System Constraints**

- Complex regulatory system, unpredictable processes
- Major projects often subject to both federal and provincial reviews
- More intensive Aboriginal consultation responsibilities
- Many departments, agencies focused on their specific issues

## **Result**

- **Regulatory inefficiency compromising Canada's competitiveness**
  - Delays were having no bearing on environmental outcomes

## ***Government Response***

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- Budget 2007 allocated \$150 million over 5 years to key departments and agencies to address the two key issues
  
- **Capacity Investment in key areas**
  - Regulatory and environmental assessment functions
  - Aboriginal consultation responsibilities
  
- **System Improvements**
  - Cabinet Directive and MOU articulate a commitment to a new performance management approach
  - Major Projects Management Office created to provide focal point for system changes (opened February 26, 2008)

# ***Mandate of the MPMO***

- **Cabinet Directive created MPMO with dual mandate:**
  - To enhance the accountability, transparency and predictability of the federal regulatory system
  - To lead collaborative research and policy analysis on short-, medium- and longer-term initiatives to further improve the performance of the regulatory system, such as legislative options
  
- **What is a “Major Resource Project”?**
  - large-scale natural resource developments e.g. mining, nuclear, oil and gas, hydro projects
  - subject to one of the following environmental assessments under CEAA
    - Panel review
    - Comprehensive study
    - Screening (large or complex multi-jurisdictional)
  - south of 60

### ***Objective of the MPMO Initiative***

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*To create a more accountable, predictable, transparent and timely regulatory review process for major resource projects by:*

- Enhancing competitiveness of Canada's resource industries by improving predictability and timeliness of review process
- Ensuring the regulatory system is not only responsive to, but also strengthens environmental and social considerations
- Fulfilling Aboriginal consultation responsibilities in a more consistent, adequate and meaningful manner
- Providing a focal point for system improvements, including development of legislative options
- Improving the transparency of the regulatory system

### ***Key elements of the MPMO approach have been put in place***

#### **Greater senior-level accountability and oversight**

- Project Agreements are being signed by Deputy Heads that commit to target timelines for each project
- A committee of Deputy Heads is providing executive oversight

#### **A clearer and more consistent federal review process**

- Early and ongoing engagement with proponents and stakeholders
- A new Project Description Guide that clearly outlines federal information requirements

#### **Effective project management and issue resolution**

- A dedicated team of MPMO project managers is in place to coordinate federal efforts
- New management controls ensure timely issue resolution so projects remains on track



*53 projects currently managed under the MPMO initiative represent approximately \$100 billion in new investment*

## Key elements of the MPMO approach have been put in place

### Enhanced predictability and transparency

- Service standards are in place that cut the average review timeframe in half (2 year average)
- The *MPMO Tracker* - an online project tracking tool allows public monitoring of each project from start to finish

### A 'whole-of-Government' approach to Aboriginal consultations

- More effective consultations approaches are being used with a clear consultations coordinator identified and work plans that outline the roles and responsibilities of all federal departments and agencies

The screenshot displays the MPMO Tracker website interface. At the top, it features the Government of Canada logo and the text 'Major Projects Management Office' with the URL 'www.mpmo-bggp.gc.ca'. A navigation menu includes 'Français', 'Home', 'Contact Us', 'Help', 'Search', and 'canada.gc.ca'. The main content area is titled 'MPMO TRACKER' and contains a 'Project Search' form with the following fields: 'Keyword(s)', 'Responsible Authority' (dropdown), 'Province' (dropdown), 'Project Sector' (dropdown), 'Environmental Assessment Type' (dropdown, set to 'Comprehensive Study'), and 'Status' (dropdown). Below the search form are 'Search' and 'View All Projects' buttons. The 'Search Result' section shows a list of projects with the following details:

Project Name	Sector	Status	Province	Action
Hebron Offshore Oil Development	Oil and Gas	EA Phase	NL	Project Detail
Kerr-Sulphurets-Mitchell Copper-Gold Mine	Minerals and Metals	EA Phase	BC	Project Detail
Matoush Uranium Exploration Ramp Access	Minerals and Metals	EA Phase	QC	Project Detail
Midwest Uranium Mining and Milling	Minerals and Metals	EA Phase	SK	Project Detail

# Service Standards/Timelines

## Environmental Assessment

Screenings: 9-12 month target

Comprehensive Studies: 21 month target

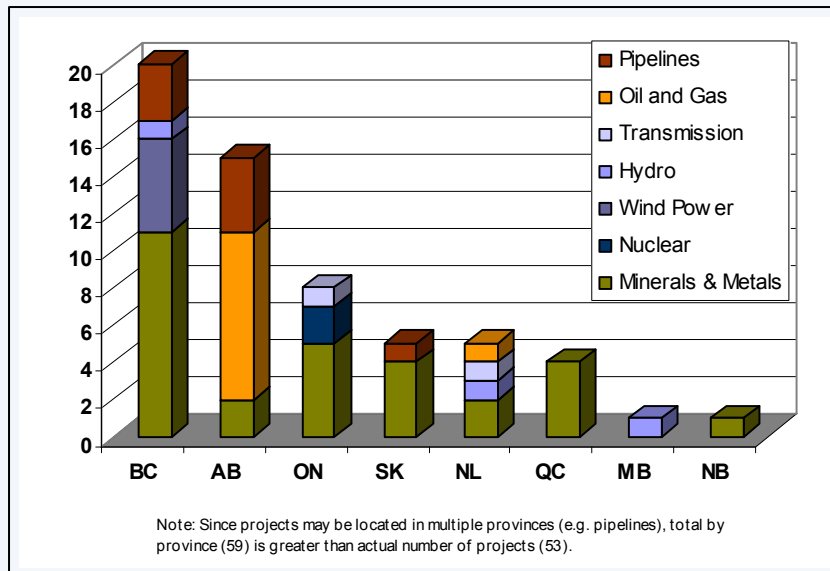
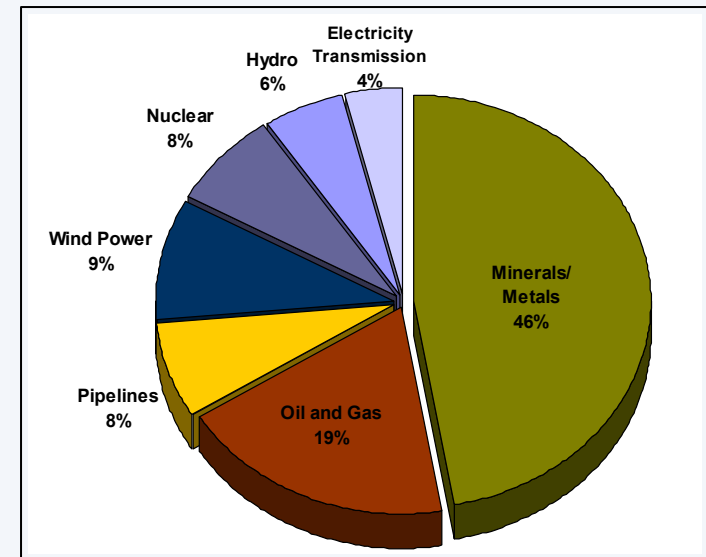
Review Panels: 14 month target

## Regulatory Permitting

Permit/Authorization	Responsibility	Target (post-EA)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SARA</li> <li>• Disposal at Sea</li> <li>• International Rivers Improvement License</li> </ul>	Environment Canada	60 days 90 days 90 days
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explosives Magazine or Factory License</li> </ul>	Natural Resources Canada	45 days
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 32 Fisheries Act Authorization</li> <li>• Section 35(2) Fisheries Act Authorization</li> <li>• GIC Listing of Fish Bearing Water-body as TIA</li> </ul>	Fisheries and Oceans Canada Environment Canada	90 days 90 days 8 months
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NWPA Approval</li> </ul>	Transport Canada	90 days

## Proportion of Projects by Sector and Province

- Energy-related project proposals account for over half of all MPMO projects
- Minerals and metals projects account for the other half
- 70% of MPMO Projects in Western Canada



### Alberta – 18 of 53 MPMO Projects

- 4 Oil Sands Mines
- 6 Oil Sands In-Situ
- 5 Pipelines
- 2 Mineral and Metal Mines
- 1 Hydro-electric

### System-wide challenges require a comprehensive solution

- **Legislation, regulation and policy governing environmental assessment and regulatory permitting operate as a system**
- **System-wide challenges are well known:**
  - Lack of timeliness, predictability and process certainty
  - Diffuse accountability
  - Duplication of federal and provincial processes
  - Insufficient follow-up and enforcement
  - Inconsistent approaches to Aboriginal consultation
- **Comprehensive approach required to address system-wide challenges**
  - Legislative, regulatory and policy action required as a next step

*To support responsible development of Canada's energy and mineral resources, our Government will untangle the daunting maze of regulations that needlessly complicates project approvals, replacing it with simpler, clearer processes that offer improved environmental protection and greater certainty to industry – 2010 Speech from the Throne*

### ***Proposed Legislative Amendments (Budget 2010)***

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#### *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*

- Strengthen the role of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
- Fewer process steps
- Scoping
- Infrastructure Projects

#### *Nuclear Safety and Control Act, National Energy Board Act*

- Participant funding program



## ***Conclusion***

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- MPMO working with departments and agencies to develop options to modernize regulatory system for project reviews
- At the same time, MPMO partner departments continue to optimize existing regulatory system performance and deliver whole-of-government management and accountability of regulatory reviews

### **Desired outcomes of system-wide improvements:**

- Predictable, more timely reviews
- Reduced regulatory burden and duplication
- Improved environmental protection
- Meaningful Aboriginal consultation



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Thank you/ Merci

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