



APPENDIX 3-E

Residual Impact Classification Definitions



VOLUME 3 - ASSESSMENT METHODS

Table 3.E-1: Definitions of Terms Used in the Residual Impact Classification for Vegetation, Terrestrial Wildlife and Birds, Surface Water Quality, Fish and Fish Habitat

Direction	Magnitude ^a	Geographic Extent	Duration	Frequency	Reversibility ^b	Likelihood
Negative: less favourable relative to baseline values Positive: an improvement over baseline values or conditions	Negligible: no predicted detectable change to measurement indicator from baseline values Low: impact is predicted to be within the range of baseline values Moderate: impact is predicted to be at or slightly exceed the limits of baseline values High: impact is predicted to be beyond the upper or lower limit of baseline values so that there is likely a change of state from baseline conditions	Local: small-scale direct and indirect impacts from the Project (e.g., footprint, and dust deposition) to measurement indicator Regional: the predicted maximum spatial extent of combined direct and indirect impacts from the Project that exceed local-scale effects (can include cumulative direct and indirect impacts from the Project and other developments at the regional scale) Beyond Regional: cumulative local and regional impacts from the Project and other developments extending beyond the regional scale	Short-term: Impact to measurement indicator is reversible at end of construction Medium-term: impact is reversible at end of closure Long-term: impact is reversible within a defined length of time beyond closure Unknown: Impact may be reversible however the length of time cannot be defined Permanent: impact will last into perpetuity	Isolated: impact to measurement indicator confined to a specific discrete period Periodic: impact occurs intermittently but repeatedly over the assessment period Continuous: impact will occur continually over the assessment period	Reversible: Impact to measurement indicator will not result in a permanent change of state of the population compared to “similar” environments not influenced by the Project Irreversible: impact is not reversible (i.e., duration of impact is unknown or permanent)	Unlikely: Impact to measurement indicator is likely to occur less than once in 100 years Possible: the impact will have at least one chance of occurring in the next 100 years Likely: the impact will have at least one chance of occurring in the next 10 years Highly Likely: the impact is very probable (100% chance) within a year

^a magnitude for surface water quality is as follows: **LOW:** Measurable change in water quality but concentrations will be less than screening values, and no measurable change to aquatic health or the sustainability of the aquatic ecosystem will occur. **MEDIUM:** Measurable change in water quality such that the concentrations of some parameters will be greater than screening values; however, no effect to aquatic health or to the sustainability of the aquatic ecosystem will occur. **HIGH:** Measurable change in water quality such that concentrations may be more than screening values such that aquatic health effects are predicted and the sustainability of the aquatic ecosystem could be affected.

^c “similar” implies an environment of the same type, region, and time period.



Table 3.E-2: Effect Classification Parameters for Socio-economics

Direction	Magnitude	Geographic Extent	Duration
<p><u>Positive</u> Effect to measurement indicator is beneficial</p> <p><u>Negative</u> Effect is adverse</p>	<p><u>Negligible</u> Effect to measurement indicator that does not result in a discernible change from baseline conditions</p> <p><u>Low</u> A discernible effect that represents a change from baseline conditions, but that is not expected to materially alter the socio-economic feature in question</p> <p><u>Moderate</u> A discernible effect that is potentially detrimental but manageable, or potentially beneficial to the socio-economic feature in question</p> <p><u>High</u> A discernible effect that is expected to substantially interfere with or enhance the socio-economic feature in question</p>	<p><u>Local</u> Socio-economic Local Study Area communities</p> <p><u>Regional</u> Territory of Nunavut</p> <p><u>National (Economic Impact Assessment)</u> Canada</p>	<p><u>Short-term</u> Effect is reversible at end of construction</p> <p><u>Medium-term</u> Effect is reversible at end of operations</p> <p><u>Long-term</u> Effect is reversible within a defined length of time beyond closure</p> <p><u>Permanent</u> Effect not reversible</p>