



## Decision making phase

**Who:**

The Review Board

**What:**

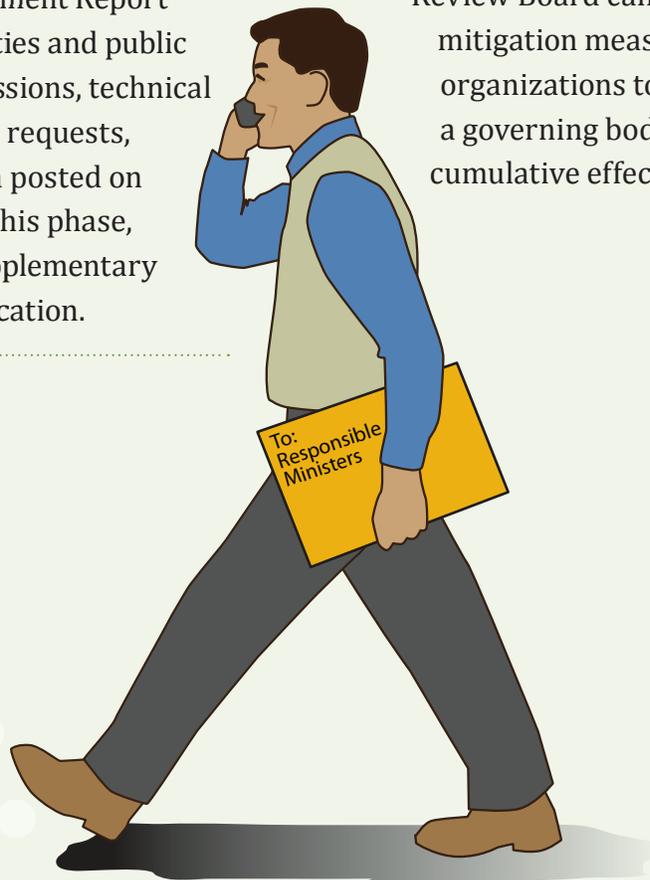
Once the Review Board has received the evidence, the public record is closed and the Review Boards begins the decision making phase.

In this phase, the Review Board carefully considers all of the evidence that was gathered throughout the environmental assessment and placed on the public record. The evidence includes the Developer's Assessment Report and all the information the parties and public provided during the scoping sessions, technical sessions, rounds of information requests, and anything else that has been posted on the public record. Throughout this phase, the Review Board can issue supplementary information requests for clarification.

The Review Board must decide whether or not the project is likely to cause significant adverse impacts or significant public concern. Based on this the Review Board will decide whether the development should be approved, and if so, with what mitigation measures.

Mitigation measures are actions that are meant to reduce the adverse impacts that will likely occur. These measures can include programs for the developer to do follow-up such as monitoring, analysis and management of the proposed project. The

Review Board can also create mitigation measures for other organizations to carry out, like a governing body that manages cumulative effects.





## Decision making phase

If the Review Board finds that the proposed development is likely to cause significant adverse impacts, and there are no obvious measures that can mitigate those impacts, it can recommend an environmental impact review or it can recommend that the proposed development be rejected.

If the proposed development is likely to cause significant public concern, an environmental impact review is required.

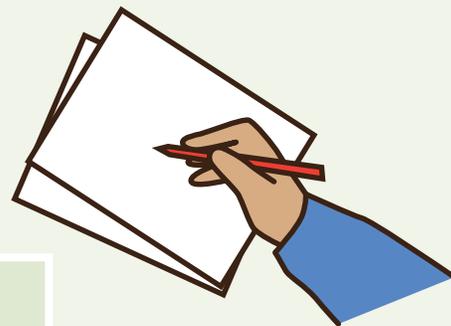
The Review Board will write its Report of Environmental Assessment once a decision has been reached. In this report, the Review Board describes its decisions and its reasons for the decision.

This report is then sent to the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, the developer, the preliminary screener, the referral bodies, and in some cases, to the National Energy Board. The Review Board also places the report on the public registry for the public to read.

Reports of environmental assessment are usually accompanied by a non-technical description of the decision.

### Tools

The Report of Environmental Assessment for a particular assessment can be found on the Review Board public registry. Go to [reviewboard.ca/registry/](http://reviewboard.ca/registry/) and fill out the developer, project and select the Report of Environmental Assessment stage in the search engine fields.





## Minister's decision and completing the environmental assessment stage

### Who:

Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs and responsible ministers

### What:

When the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs receives the Report of Environmental Assessment from the Review Board, the Minister will pass it on to other ministers that are also responsible for regulating that project. All of them then consider the report and decide the outcome. The four possible decisions they can make are to:

- adopt the Review Board's recommendation;
- refer it back to the Review Board for further consideration;
- consult the Review Board and then adopt the recommendation with modification; or
- consult the Review Board and then reject the reasons for decision and order an environmental impact review.

The Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs runs the consult to modify process. This process typically involves the Review Board and the federal and responsible ministers meeting to find ways to modify the recommendations for a more satisfactory outcome.

The environmental assessment is completely finished when the Report of Environmental Assessment is accepted by all the federal and responsible ministers, or it is referred to environmental impact review.

### Tools

The ministerial correspondence and final decision for a particular assessment can be found on the Review Board's public registry. Go to [reviewboard.ca/registry/](http://reviewboard.ca/registry/) and fill out the developer, project and select the Post REA Materials and Consult to Modify stage or the Minister's decision and final measures stage in the search engine fields.

