



# Highland Valley Copper 2040 Fact Sheet: B.C. Environmental Assessment Process



## About Highland Valley Copper 2040

Teck's **Highland Valley Copper Operations (HVC)** is proposing the **Highland Valley Copper 2040 Project (HVC 2040)** to extend the life of the operation to at least 2040, through an extension of the existing site infrastructure. HVC 2040 allows for the continuation of social and economic benefits, while also helping to meet the growing demand for copper driven by the transition to a low-carbon future. HVC 2040 would yield approximately 1.95 million tonnes of additional copper over the life of the Project.

Teck is committed to responsible resource development and dedicated to protecting the health and safety of local communities, as well as the environment we work in.

## B.C. Environmental Assessment Overview

The purpose of an environmental assessment is to understand and assess the range of potential positive or negative effects that may occur over the life of a project including consideration of the environment, economy, social, health, and culture. The Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) oversees the environmental assessment process (EA process) in B.C.

The EAO conducts its extensive EA process using input and expertise from the proponent, Indigenous Governments and Organizations, local governments, scientific experts, federal and provincial agencies, and members of the public to thoroughly explore potential effects and mitigation measures to address effects that may occur as a result of a proposed project. The environmental assessment is a rigorous process that includes the collection of existing conditions data, development of predictive modelling scenarios to analyze potential effects, and mitigation planning.

A key aspect of the EA process includes the development of the Valued Components Proposal (VC Proposal) and Application Information Requirements (AIR).

## Valued Components (VCs)

The EAO defines VCs as elements of the biophysical and human environment that are considered to have scientific, ecological, economic, social, cultural, archaeological, and/or historical importance to Indigenous Peoples, advisory committees, local governments, provincial and federal government agencies, stakeholders, and the public.

VCs are identified through engagement and input from Indigenous Governments and Organizations, working groups, advisory committees, the public, local governments, provincial and federal government agencies, and the proponent involved in the EA process.

VCs identified for HVC 2040:

- Air Quality
- Noise
- Groundwater
- Surface Water
- Fish and Aquatic Resources
- Vegetation and Ecosystems
- Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
- Human Health
- Economic
- Infrastructure and Services
- Land and Resource Use
- Culture
- Heritage Resources



## Application Information Requirements (AIR)

Once finalized, the AIR will form the terms of reference that the Environmental Assessment Certificate Application will be evaluated against. It outlines the valued components selected and the methodology that will be used to assess the potential effects of the Project on those identified VCs. The AIR is used by the EAO to identify and determine whether an application contains all of the relevant information to proceed and pass successfully through the EA process.

## Who is Involved and How

Throughout the regulatory process, there are multiple consensus seeking opportunities for Indigenous Governments and Organizations, relevant stakeholders, and the public to provide feedback on the Project's potential environmental, economic, social, health, and cultural effects. Opportunities for this include, but are not limited to, the EAO-facilitated public comment periods and open houses.

HVC has developed a Public Consultation Plan which outlines the steps that HVC is taking to engage with local communities and members of the public throughout the EA process. HVC is committed to engaging and collaborating with Indigenous Governments and Organizations through the Indigenous Engagement and Collaboration Plan and our participation in independent Indigenous-led processes.

## Indigenous Collaboration and Engagement

Teck has been engaging with Indigenous Governments and Organizations regarding the Project since 2015. The EA process emphasizes the importance of engagement with, and the protection of, rights of participating Indigenous Governments. The overarching objective is to provide opportunities for Indigenous Governments and Organizations to meaningfully engage and collaborate during the B.C. EA process, specifically in the development of the Project's Environmental Assessment Certificate Application materials.

Unique considerations from Indigenous Governments and Organizations on issues such as ethnography, traditional governance, language, and health and social conditions are used to guide the EA process as the Project passes through the various environmental assessment phases. HVC is committed to supporting the collaborative preparation of the application and meaningful review and input from Indigenous Governments and Organizations.

In addition to engagement with communities and Indigenous Governments and Organizations through the B.C. EA process, HVC is committed to engaging in Indigenous-led assessment processes.

## Engage with Us

As HVC advances through the EA process, we are eager to hear your feedback and answer any questions you may have. Email [HVC2040.feedback@teck.com](mailto:HVC2040.feedback@teck.com) or call 1.855.523.3429 to share your feedback, and visit [hvc2040.teck.com](http://hvc2040.teck.com) to learn more.