

## 10 key principles

The EPA is seeking feedback on practical/operational issues associated with revisions to the EPA's EIA procedures to implement the EP Act 2020 amendments.

The revisions to implement the amendments have been designed on a consistent set of 10 key principles. These are:

1. Need to ensure efficient processes and maintain strong environmental protection
2. Need to facilitate implementation of the Bilateral Agreement and efficient and certain cost recovery processes
3. The EPA will have a clear, consistent focus on, and will need clear, focussed information about, the following key principles for EIA:
  - a. Proposal elements which are likely to have a significant effect on the environment
  - b. How the mitigation hierarchy has been applied to proposals
  - c. Assessment of significance of residual impacts, including by assessment of key environmental factors, cumulative impact assessment, and holistic assessment
  - d. Specific likely environmental outcomes, and whether these are consistent with the EPA's factor objectives
  - e. Where there are significant residual environmental impacts: Assessment of whether offsets are likely to counter-balance significant residual impacts
4. Proportionality of information – information needs are dependent on the nature and risk of potentially significant impacts
5. Quality of information and complexity of issues affects assessment timeframes and outcomes
6. Outcomes based conditions are preferred to management plans
7. Proponent primary role for defining and adaptively managing their proposals to meet EPA objectives and specific environmental outcomes
8. DMAs' potential to mitigate environmental impacts will be considered more fully and formally as part of EIA process
9. Definition and aims of EIA are needed to provide guidance
10. Transparency

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