

Clean Energy and Major Projects Office



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ'S)

1) What is the Clean Energy and Major Projects Office (CEMPO) and when was it created?

- In March 2023, B.C. announced a new energy action framework, which included an action to establish a clean energy and major projects office to fast track investment in clean energy and technology and create good, sustainable jobs in the transition to a cleaner economy.
- Formed in May 2023, the Clean Energy and Major Projects Office is the primary government liaison for provincial matters related to clean energy and major projects, with responsibility for project management, coordinating inside and outside government to ensure that projects are meeting the Province's priorities and objectives.

2) Is the CEMPO involved in all types of energy projects in BC?

- CEMPO is currently involved in supporting
 - The decarbonization and Indigenous engagement of current major energy projects in the province;
 - The development of hydrogen projects;
 - Other clean energy projects, including but not limited to biofuels, carbon capture, utilization, and storage, and other emerging energy storage technologies; and
 - Renewable energy project proponents through regulatory and Indigenous engagement processes.

3) What are the goals of the CEMPO?

- Collaborate on implementing climate solutions in accordance with the CleanBC Roadmap to 2030, in partnership with various levels of government, non-government organizations, and project proponents. This includes ensuring B.C.'s clean energy industry is well supported in driving decarbonization across all sectors.
- Position B.C. as a prime destination for clean energy investments by providing project management support to clean energy proponents and investors.
- Support First Nation leadership in climate action and the transition to a clean energy economy.
- Support local governments and communities where energy projects are being proposed or built.

4) What current energy projects are underway in B.C.?

- The CEMPO team is in the process of developing an interactive map to clearly identify energy projects in B.C.
- In the interim, consider visiting [EPIC](#) for details on current projects in the province projects that are subject to government review or already have an Environmental Assessment Certificate.

5) What is an Environmental Assessment Certificate?

- When a major project is proposed in British Columbia, it must undergo an environmental assessment. In B.C. environmental assessments are managed by the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO), a neutral regulatory agency within the provincial government. For more information, please visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/environmental-assessments>.

6) When should proponents contact the CEMPO?

- Project proponents can engage with the CEMPO as early as the conceptual stage of their project. There will be a need to connect with other ministries and regulators as well, but the CEMPO can provide guidance through each phase of a project lifecycle.

7) What is the CEMPO doing to support Indigenous Nations in participating in clean energy opportunities in B.C.?

- The CEMPO works closely with the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation as well as with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs to ensure meaningful engagement occurs with First Nations communities that are impacted by or interested in clean energy projects.

8) How does the BC Hydrogen Office (BCHO) fit into the CEMPO?

- What was formally known as the BCHO is now part of the CEMPO, which continues to provide focused support to hydrogen projects.

9) How does the CEMPO work with other government agencies?

- Through working groups and other communication channels, the CEMPO collaborates with other government agencies in various ways to promote clean energy initiatives and achieve environmental goals. These collaborations typically include policy coordination and development, research and development, data sharing, as well as education and outreach.

10) If I have a question that is not listed here, how can I get an answer?

- Please contact CEMPO@gov.bc.ca