

# Overview of CEAA Requirements

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# Presentation Outline

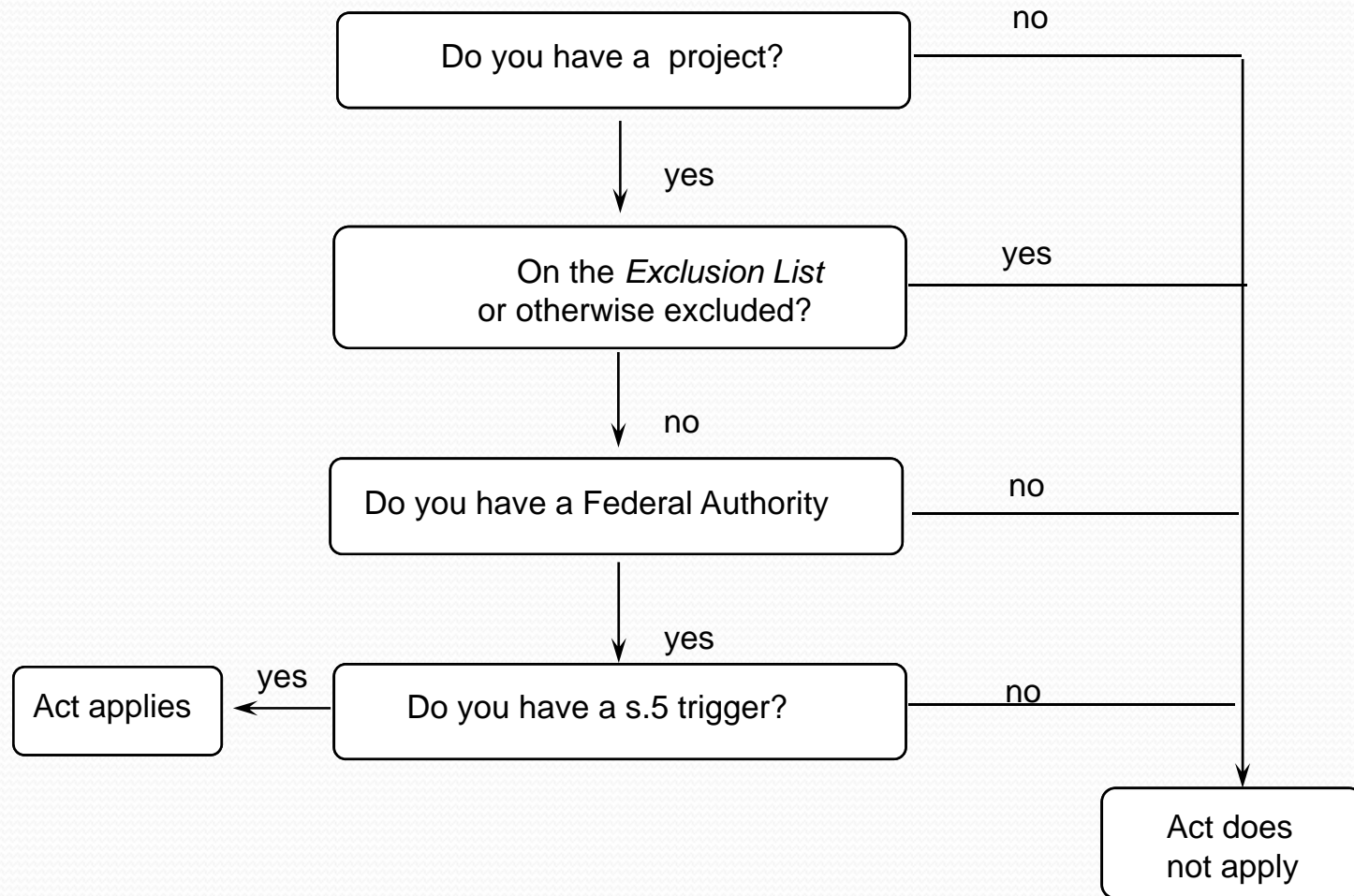
- Purpose and characteristics of CEAA
- When does CEAA apply?
- What are the different types of EAs
- What is involved in conducting an EA
- Roles and responsibilities



# Purpose of CEAA

Ensure federal government considers environmental effects of projects before taking action in support of project (e.g. providing funding; providing permit)

# Does CEAA Apply?





# CEAA Triggers

CEAA triggered if federal authority:

- is the proponent of the project;
- provides financial assistance to project;
- grants an interest in land ; or
- exercises a regulatory duty.



# Responsible Authorities and Expert Departments

- Responsible Authority (RA) is federal agency with decision making responsibility under CEAA
- Expert Departments provide specialist advice to RAs (e.g. Health Canada)



# Types of EAs

- Self Directed Assessment
  - Screenings \*
  - Comprehensive Studies \*\*
- Independent Assessment (Panel or Mediation)

\* account for over 90% of all federal projects assessed

\*\* projects prescribed in Comprehensive Study List Regulations



# Screenings

- Vary in scope and depth of analysis, depending on:
  - proposed project
  - existing environment
  - likely environmental effects
- Undertaken where a project is not on the Comprehensive Study List or the Exclusion List





# Screening Factors

- Environmental effects of the project, including cumulative effects and malfunctions or accidents
- Significance of environmental effects
- Mitigation measures to reduce effects
- Public comments, if any
- Any other matter RA considers relevant



# Comprehensive Study (CS)

- Identified on Comprehensive Study List
- Early in process Minister of Environment decides if project continues as CS or refers for public review
- If continue as CS can't be referred for public review later in process



# Comprehensive Study Factors

- All factors required for screenings
- Purpose of project
- Technically and economically feasible alternatives
- Follow-up programs
- Capacity of renewable resources



# Conducting Screening under CEAA

- RA obtains project description from proponent
- RA determines if CEAA assessment required and what type
- Other RAs and expert departments identified
- Scoping decisions made by RA(s) based on information from proponent



# Conducting Screening under CEAA

- EA completed by proponent consistent with CEAA to satisfaction of RA
- RA makes EA decision
- Proponent implements mitigation measures and/or follow-up identified in EA
- RA ensures mitigation and/or follow-up is implemented



# Public Consultation

- For screenings, public involvement is at the discretion of the RA
- Depends on the nature of the project, environmental setting and public concerns
- RA may provide the opportunity for review and comment on screening report
- For comprehensive studies it is mandatory



# CEAA Decisions

- Project can proceed - unlikely to cause significant adverse environmental effects
- Project cannot proceed - likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects that can not be justified in the circumstances



# CEAA Decisions

- Or, further review required if:
  - Uncertain whether project will result in significant adverse environmental effects
  - Project is likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects and it is not known if they can be justified
  - Public concern warrants it





# Summary

- Act applies to federal government
- Need project not otherwise excluded, federal authority and trigger
- RA responsible for defining scope of project and scope of assessment
- Consideration of significance of adverse environmental effects
- Screenings and Comprehensive Studies
- Public Review: panel or mediation