

# Notice of Study Commencement

## Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment Study for Development of a New Rest Centre on Highway 11 in the vicinity of Opatatika/Kapuskasing, Ontario (G.W.P. 5133-22-00)

### THE PROJECT

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) has retained the services of Egis to carry out the Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment Study for the development of a new rest centre on Highway 11 in the vicinity of Opatatika/Kapuskasing, Ontario. A key map showing the study area is shown below. The study area represents the limits for where the new rest centre is being considered for development.

The scope of work is expected to include development of a new rest centre to support motorists, the widening of the existing highway platform to accommodate left and right turn lanes, the widening of the existing highway platform to accommodate acceleration lanes (as required), and the replacement or extension of impacted centreline culverts. There are no commercial amenities (i.e. gas & food) being included at the proposed new rest centre.

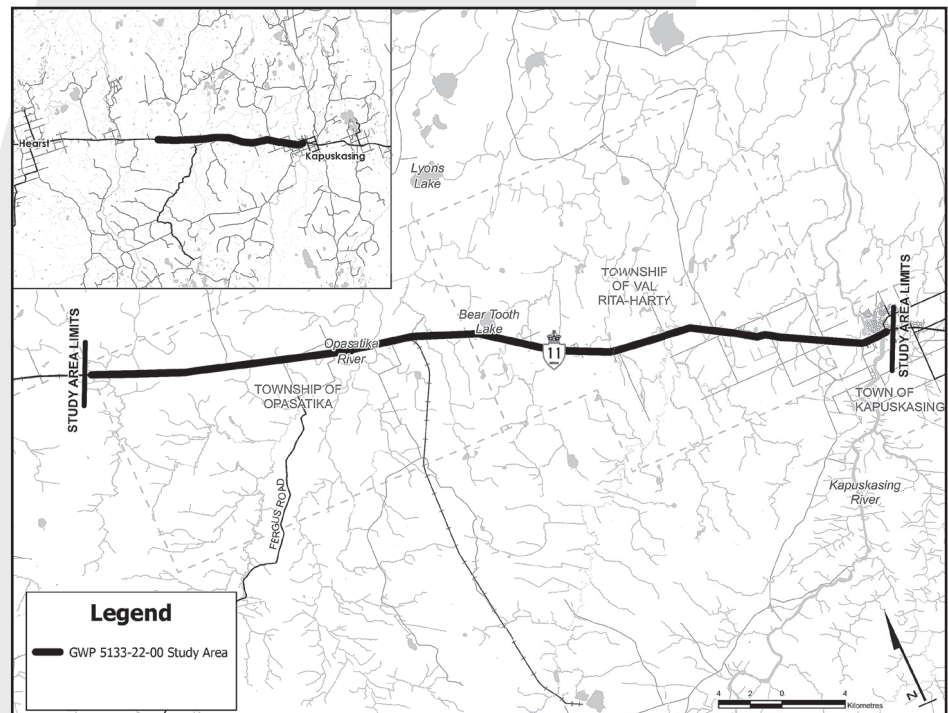
### THE PROCESS

The project is following an approved planning process under the *Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Transportation Facilities and Municipal Expressways (2024)* for a Group "B" project.

The Preliminary Design will include the generation of potential location options along Highway 11 and selection of a technically preferred location. The selection of the technically preferred location will be based on technical and environmental factors specific to the site. Consultation will take place throughout Preliminary Design.

One Public Information Centre (PIC) will be held during Preliminary Design to provide an opportunity for stakeholders to view the potential location options that MTO considered, review the evaluation criteria that MTO used to select the preferred location and provide comment. Throughout the study, information will be updated on the Project Website at: [www.NorthernHighwayRestAreas.com](http://www.NorthernHighwayRestAreas.com).

Upon completion of the Preliminary Design, a Transportation Environmental Study Report (TESR) will be prepared. The TESR will document the existing conditions of the study area, the evaluation of the alternatives, and identify the preferred plan and commitments to future work. The TESR will be made available for a 30-day comment period at the completion of the Preliminary Design. Following the TESR comment period the Class EA will be complete and can proceed to Detail Design and construction.



### COMMENTS

We encourage you to visit the Project Website at any time during the study for updates on this project. If you require further information or have accessibility requirements in order to participate, please contact one of the individuals named below. Comments or questions are respectfully requested by **November 1, 2024**:

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Information collected will be used in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. With the exception of personal information, all comments become part of the public record. If you have accessibility requirements in order to be able to participate in this study, please contact one of the project team members listed above.