

# Study Implementation Report Meeting

## *Study 15.8 Health Impact Assessment*

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Prepared by

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# Study 15.8 Status

## ISR Documents (ISR Part D Overview):

- Initial Study Report: Parts A, B, and C (June 3, 2014)
- Study Implementation Report (SIR) (November 4, 2015)

## Status:

- Developed Project-specific criteria for establishing potentially affected communities (PACs) analysis framework.
- Coordinated engagement programs to gather information to meet Health Impact Assessment (HIA) needs.
- Identified potential Project-related health concerns.
- Initiated analysis of available household level health data
- Implemented community health facilities and service field activities
- Conducted data gap review

## Study 15.8 Objectives

- Identify **potentially affected communities** (PACs) and establish a community engagement plan (where relevant)
- Through a review of the FERC scoping meetings and ongoing community engagement, identify public issues and concerns about how **community health might be affected** during construction and operation of the Project
- Collect baseline health data at the state level, borough, or census area level, tribal level, and at the potentially affected community level, as possible
- Identify data gaps and determine the most efficient method to fill those gaps, through community consultation and **coordination with other studies**, such as the Subsistence Resources Study (Study 14.5), Regional Economic Evaluation Study (Study 15.5), Social Conditions and Public Goods and Services Study (Study 15.6), and Recreation Resources Study (Study 12.5)
- Evaluate the baseline data against the Project description to initially determine the **nature and extent of potential impact pathways**, both positive and negative
- Prepare an HIA baseline data report document which is transparent, scientifically rigorous, and understandable to the public

## *Study 15.8 Components*

- Identify PACs and establish a community engagement plan.
- Identify public issues and concerns regarding how community health might be affected during construction and operation of the Project.
- Collect baseline health data at the state, borough, or census area level, tribal level, and PAC level, as available.
- Identify data gaps and determine the most efficient method to fill those gaps, through community consultation and coordination with other interdependent studies.
- Evaluate the baseline data against the Project description to initially determine the nature and extent of potential impact pathways, both positive and negative.

## *Study 15.8 Variances*

AEA implemented the methods as described in the Study Plan with no variances

## *Study 15.8 Summary of Results in ISR (ISR Part A, Section 5)*

- Documented baseline data collected through literature review, community observations and health discussions
- Data reviewed from other study areas (as available) from a health perspective
- Potentially Affected Communities (PACs) identified by potential risk
- Potential health issues documented

## ***Study 15.8 Summary of Results in SIR (SIR Section 5)***

Since the filing of the June 2014 ISR:

- Performed health related community facilities and services observations **in the Middle Copper River Basin communities of Tazlina, Gakona, and Gulkana.**
- **Completed data gap review to determine steps needed to complete this study.**
  - Reviewed **interdependent study ISRs.**
  - Reviewed **Engineering Feasibility Study** (December 2014).
  - **Identified sources of more current data** and compiled a list (with locations) of resources that can be used to update the baseline data reported in the ISR.

# ***Study 15.8 Summary of Results in SIR - Data Gaps (SIR Section 6.1)***

## **Interdependent Studies reviewed:**

- **Social Conditions and Public Goods and Services Study Plan Section 15.6 ISR (AEA 2014a).**
- **Air Quality Study Plan Section 15.9 ISR (AEA 2014a)**
- **Groundwater Study Plan Section 7.5 ISR (AEA 2014a)**
- **Transportation Resources Study Plan Section 15.7 ISR (AEA 2014a)**
- **Baseline Water Quality Study Plan Section 5.5 ISR (AEA 2014a)**
- **Water quality data collection was not yet complete at the time of the writing of the HIA ISR. For example, a complete set of the sediment monitoring data required for assessment of potential effects from mercury bioaccumulation is needed.**
- **Mercury Assessment and Potential for Bioaccumulation Study Plan Section 5.7 ISR (AEA 2014a)**
- **Subsistence Resources Study Plan Section 14.5 ISR (AEA 2014a)**



Project Description Information
Percentage of local hires – from what communities
Construction workforce countries/locations of origin
Worker scheduling and transportation methods
Social impact management strategies
Open or closed work camps?
Permanent work camp locations
Temporary work camp locations – what size and for what period of time?
Camp catering facility & service plans/protocols
Camp laundry services & service plans/protocols
Camp living area space & ventilation plans
Infrastructure description & locations
Transportation routes
Transportation hubs
Construction Equipment types/level of usage (size of engine (kw, HP), hours per day, area disturbed per day)
Type of fuel burning equipment used/usage
Air emissions inventory & projections
Water emission inventory & projections
Hazardous wastes to be utilized, generated
Hazardous waste management plans
Non-hazardous waste management plans
Water and sanitation management plans
Medical emergency response plans, including project related emergencies in the community
Spill/inadvertent emissions response plans, including those that may occur in communities
Workforce Occupational Health Plan; particularly pre-placement requirements
Employee health education plans

## Study 15.8 Summary of Results in SIR Data Gaps – Project Description

## ***Study 15.8 Summary of Results in SIR - Data Sources (SIR Section 4)***

- **Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (2011-2014)**
- **Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics (2012-2013)**
- **Alaska Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (2013)**
- **Alaska Trauma Registry (2007-2011)**
- **Alaska Wildfire Emissions Inventory (2014)**
- **The University of Alaska Fairbanks, Cooperative Extension Service Food Cost Survey is updated quarterly**
- **Vaccination rates: Updated epidemiology bulletins available for 2015**
- **Tuberculosis rates: Updated epidemiology bulletins available for 2015**
- **Sexually Transmitted Infection rates: Updated epidemiology bulletins available for 2015**
- **Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development (2015)**

## *Study 15.8 Modifications*

- The HIA analysis included in the Updated Study Report (USR) will not serve as a final HIA for the Project. The analysis included in the USR will serve as a template that can be updated and included in the FERC License Application once the AEA Project proposal is finalized. The USR, therefore, will not describe specific impacts or include a ranking and rating, but will include a “high level” overview of potential impact mechanisms and effects
- AEA will update baseline health data to the most current available to perform the HIA

# *Steps to Complete Study 15.8*

## *(ISR Part D, Section 8)*

- The baseline health data reported in the ISR will be updated to the most current available.
- Review all interdependent study results relevant for HIA input and communicate with study leads regarding these results, to evaluate potential impact mechanisms.
- Continue follow up as appropriate with key informant interviews in Health related PACs after TLK workshop processes to identify cultural health beliefs and concerns.
- Continue to fill baseline data gaps identified during the ISR process, and develop methodology to fill data gaps, as appropriate, where no data currently exists.
- Identify potential impact mechanisms and potential health effects by Health Effects Category to provide input into Project design, construction, transportation routes, housing, etc.
- All health-related data collected will undergo complete analysis for compliance with the ADHSS Section of Epidemiology's recently updated data release protocols before being included in the final HIA document, or released to other agencies or entities.
- Results of key informant interviews will be aggregated geographically according to HEC and by potential impact mechanisms

# *Licensing Participants Proposed Modifications to Study 15.8?*

- Agencies
- CIRWG members and Ahtna
- Public