

7. ENVIRONMENTAL ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES

In concluding the Environmental Review, the overall advantages and disadvantages of the NGS need to be articulated and assessed. Advantages are positive net environmental effects, and disadvantages are negative net environmental effects identified when the project is compared to existing conditions. The purpose of this section is to provide an overall conclusion as to whether the negative net environmental effects of the project are acceptable, based on a balanced assessment against the positive benefits.

Table 7.1 summarizes the key advantages and disadvantages of the NGS.

Table 7.1 Advantages and Disadvantages of the NGS

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGS will deliver on-demand power to replace retiring coal generating facilities, help manage changes in nuclear capacity and address the need to backstop intermittent wind and solar generation in Ontario. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negligible effect on air quality during operation with all emissions meeting federal and provincial requirements.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGS will result in the creation of approximately 30 new permanent positions that are expected to be staffed from within the region. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal, localized and short-term effects during construction and minimal long-term effects during operation on the aquatic environment.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced stormwater management on the entire NGS site. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terrestrial effects are expected to be negligible with a minor loss of nesting birds.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGS site has no archaeological or cultural heritage resource concerns. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If operated continuously, the NGS could result in 5-20 hours of fogging and 2-10 hours of icing over Loyalist Parkway per year.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGS will result in the creation of 600-750 construction jobs at peak over a 32 month construction period. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal effects on surface and ground water due to construction and operation.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal effects are expected to the socio-economic indicators such as community character, aesthetics and local recreation, cottaging and tourism.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal effects on noise as a result of both construction and operation of the NGS

A review of Table 7.1 illustrates that the NGS is expected to have positive economic benefits through the creation of jobs and investment in the Town of Greater Napanee and the surrounding economic region. The NGS will fill a need for additional on-demand power generation in Ontario. Effects on the natural environment such as air quality and the aquatic and terrestrial environment on and surrounding the NGS site are expected to be negligible or minimal.

In conclusion, the negative net environmental effects of the NGS, which are considered to be overall negligible, are on balance offset by the positive contributions of the NGS.