



EASR or ECA

What is the difference?

If your company emits pollutants into the air or land, you will require approval from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP). The purpose of this approval is to ensure your business activities do not have any adverse effects on the environment and individuals. Depending on the type of business, there are established rules to ensure compliance, which are categorized into three areas:

- Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA)
- Environmental Activity and Sector Registry (EASR)
- Renewable Energy Approval



Environmental Activity and Sector Registry (EASR)

- Typically businesses with less complex operations and activities that pose minimal risk to the environment and human health
- Online registration process with approvals upon an update
- Requires less annual reporting requirements
- All activities and sectors go through EASR unless specifically excluded.

EASR eligible activities include:

- Automotive refinishing facilities
- Commercial printing facilities
- Waste management systems (non-hazardous waste transport)
- Small ground - mounted solar facilities
- Facilities processing end-of- life vehicles

The process includes screening:

- Air Emissions Summary
- Dispersion Modelling report
- Potential for: Noise and Odour emissions and possible mitigation control plans, Substances and Toxicology assessment

Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA)

- Businesses with complex and/or unique operations with higher potential for environmental impacts.
- Approvals needed for emissions and discharges related to air, noise, waste and sewage.
- A formal application to MECP is required and approvals can take up to a year.
- Requires detailed annual reports in most cases.

ECA required for specific industries including

- Cement
- Waste
- Oil refineries
- Manufacturing

The process includes screening:

- Air Emissions Summary
- Dispersion Modelling report
- Potential for: Noise emissions and possible mitigation control plans, Substances and Toxicology assessment
- Formal application/review with MECP
- Annual updates and/or amendments with MECP when necessary