













S1: Beaufort Development

-  • The Mackenzie Gas Project is implemented, with a pipeline constructed through multiple Aboriginal communities, opening access to resources in the Beaufort Sea, Mackenzie Delta, Sahtu and Dehcho regions
-  • The boom-bust nature of pipeline construction is dampened by economic diversification in tourism (particularly Aurora Borealis-related), small businesses and reduced dependence on goods and services outside the NWT
-  • Agreements on land/resource rights and self-government are finalized for Aboriginal groups which ensure revenue sharing from resource projects
-  • Despite attempts to balance social, economic and environmental values in pipeline construction and operation, adverse impacts on species habitat reduce harvesting opportunities for food and the fur trade
-  • Oil revenues enhance Aboriginal community infrastructure as well as social, health and educational services
-  • Despite some adverse impacts on traditional livelihoods and subsistence, healthy economic growth generates resources to address adaptation needs and bolsters regional adaptive capacity

S3: Beaufort Sustainability

-  • The drop in oil and gas development and slowing of the minerals and metals sector was foreseen, resulting in strategic public-private partnerships to support development of alternative, renewable forms of energy for the NWT
-  • The GNWT incentivises investment in economic diversification toward more locally-beneficial and regionally-sustainable activities. This includes sustainable infrastructure, tourism industry focused on the Aurora Borealis and the use of digital technologies to facilitate access to niche markets
-  • Strong collaborative partnerships emerge between Aboriginal communities, the GNWT, and private enterprises
-  • Concerted efforts are made to protect ecosystem services that support the emerging new economy and to repair legacy damage from industrial activities
-  • Economic diversification, self-governance and culturally-appropriate educational opportunities enhance the capacity and resilience of Aboriginal communities to adapt to climate and other changes
-  • Investments in renewable energy and economic diversification create a soft-landing for communities in the region that enables the region to avoid exceeding critical socioeconomic, cultural, and environmental thresholds

S2: Beaufort Inequality

-  • There is renewed interest in oil and gas extraction in the Mackenzie Delta and off-shore in the Beaufort Sea. The Mackenzie Gas Project is implemented, with a pipeline system running through the Mackenzie Valley to the south
-  • Energy resource development drives economic growth, but this slows once pipeline construction is complete. Aboriginal land claim negotiations stall, with groups with unsettled claims excluded from revenue sharing
-  • Aboriginal groups such as the Inuvialuit have a mandated role in co-managing resources, but antagonism emerges between them and the GNWT. The legal mediation process slows investment in infrastructure and development
-  • Local environmental damage from oil and gas and pipeline development goes unaddressed
-  • The benefits of the energy boom are unevenly distributed among Aboriginal communities creating significant social and economic disparities
-  • The erosion of cooperation among regional actors and the uneven distribution of the profits from energy development contribute to sharp differences in the capacity of different communities to adapt to the changing climate

S4: Beaufort Fragmentation

-  • Energy extraction activities in the north slow significantly, leaving mining in the south that targets specific areas with valuable minerals (diamonds, gold, copper, tungsten etc) as the region's primary extractive industry
-  • Limited revenues from resource development serve to concentrate investment by the GNWT in the urban centers, with remote communities being marginalized from economic opportunities
-  • Despite some persistent national interest in the protection of coastal waters and Arctic sovereignty, the federal government's investments in the region contract while frequent disputes emerge among various regional actors
-  • Cost-cutting efforts drive companies to follow minimum environmental standards with little concern for environmental and social impacts
-  • Limited economic opportunities for northern local communities drives a brain drain that leaves them under-populated and vulnerable
-  • With financial, social, and human capital contracting, capacity is limited to isolated locations and sectors and applied toward modest, incremental adjustments

Institutions  Governance

Global Energy Demand  Economic Growth

Low Demand / Weak Growth

Collaborative / Rule-based

Competitive / Risk-based



Energy



Economy



Governance



Environment



Communities



Adaptive capacity