



**Environment and Climate Change**

Environmental Approvals Branch  
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File No.: 3253.00

January 4, 2024

Allison Zacharias  
Manager  
Manitoba Hydro – Selkirk Generating Station  
360 Portage Avenue  
Winnipeg MB R3C 0G8  
[azacharias@hydro.mb.ca](mailto:azacharias@hydro.mb.ca)

Dear Allison Zacharias:

**Re: Manitoba Hydro - Selkirk Generating Station - Environment Act Licence  
No. 1645 R6**

Thank you for your notice of alteration submitted January 17, 2023. You wish to revise the current Environment Act Licence No. 1645 R5 since the generating station discontinued power generation on April 1, 2021.

The requested alteration per Section 14(2) of The Environment Act has been approved, and a revised Environment Act Licence No. 1645 R6 is enclosed.

All licence requirements and federal, provincial, and municipal regulations and by-laws must be followed. The licensee must get approval from the director per The Environment Act to alter the development.

Anyone affected by this decision may appeal, in writing, to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change at [minecc@manitoba.ca](mailto:minecc@manitoba.ca) February 3, 2024. The licence is available on the public registry at <https://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/eal/registries/index.html>.

If you have any questions regarding this approval, please contact Kim Kmet, Acting Regional Supervisor, Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch at [EnvCEInterlake@gov.mb.ca](mailto:EnvCEInterlake@gov.mb.ca) or 204-641-4091.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By  
Agnes Wittmann  
Director  
The Environment Act

Enclosure

c. Kim Kmet

# LICENCE

File No.: 3253.00

Licence No. / Licence n°:	<u>1645 R6</u>
Issue Date / Date de délivrance :	<u>March 31, 1993</u>
Revised:	<u>February 14, 1994</u>
	<u>December 13, 1999</u>
	<u>October 25, 2000</u>
	<u>May 15, 2002</u>
	<u>April 30, 2008</u>
	<u>January 4, 2023</u>

In accordance with The Environment Act (C.C.S.M. c. E125)  
Conformément à la Loi sur l'environnement (C.P.L.M. c. E125)

Pursuant to Section 11(1) and 14(2) / Conformément au Paragraphe 11(1) et 14(2)

**THIS LICENCE IS ISSUED TO:/CETTE LICENCE EST DONNÉE À:**

**Manitoba Hydro Selkirk Generating Station; "the licensee"**

for the continuing operation of the existing development located on parts of River Lots 73 to 80 (inclusive) of the Parish of St. Clements in the Rural Municipality of St. Clements in Manitoba, being the 132 MW Selkirk Thermal Generating Station as outlined in the licensee's:

- proposal dated September 24, 1990, together with the Environmental Impact Assessment report (Volumes I and II) dated February, 1992, and the addendum Volume III dated September, 1992;
  - letter of May 5, 1999, and supporting report, requesting revisions to the MWAT values;
  - letter of August 28, 2000 respecting fish impingement;
  - notice of alteration dated January 5, 2001, complemented with an environmental assessment report dated July 11, 2001 respecting the fuel switching project;
  - revision request of June 5, 2001 respecting the temperature decline rate limit specified in Clause 27 of Licence No. 1645RRR;
  - updated "Environmental Impact Statement", Volumes 1 & 2, dated October 17, 2005, as submitted pursuant to part D(a) of Review and Revocation section in Environment Act Licence No. 1645 RRRR, for maintaining the ongoing operation of the development beyond the year 2005; and
  - notice of alteration dated December 12, 2022 indicating that the power generating operation ceased at the facility and associated request to revise Licence No. 1645 R5;
- and subject to the following specifications, limits, terms, and conditions:

## DEFINITIONS

In this licence;

**"accredited laboratory"** means an analytical facility accredited by the Standards Council of Canada (SCC), or accredited by another accrediting agency recognized by Manitoba Environment and Climate Change to be equivalent to the SCC, or be able to demonstrate, upon request, that it has the quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) procedures in place equivalent to accreditation based on the international standard ISO/IEC 17025, or otherwise approved by the director;

**"acid-soluble"** means extractable, where the liquid sample is acidified with 5 millilitres of 1:1 nitric acid per litre of sample at the time of collection, and shaken well before analysis;

**"affected area"** means a geographical area, excluding the property of the development;

**"approved"** means approved by the director or assigned environment officer in writing;

**"approved facility"** means a facility operating in accordance with the requirements of The Environment Act and the regulations thereunder;

**"composite sample"** means a quantity of effluent consisting of a minimum of 24 equal volumes of effluent collected at approximately equal time intervals over a sampling period of approximately 24 hours, or a quantity of effluent collected continuously at an equal rate over a sampling period of approximately 24 hours;

**"day"** means calendar day;

**"director"** means an employee so designated pursuant to The Environment Act;

**"effluent"** means a liquid released from the plant through its discharge pipes, or released from the plant site as surface runoff, and comprised of or having come in contact with any pollutant used at, generated at, or brought onto the plant site;

**"environment officer"** means an employee so designated pursuant to The Environment Act;

**"hour"** means any time span consisting of 60 consecutive minutes, or a calendar hour for the purposes of the Continuous Emission Monitoring System;

**"noise nuisance"** means an unwanted sound, in an affected area, which is annoying, troublesome, or disagreeable to a person:

- a) residing in an affected area;
- b) working in an affected area; or
- c) present at a location in an affected area which is normally open to members of the public; if the unwanted sound
- d) is the subject of at least 5 written complaints, received by the director in a form satisfactory to the director and within a 90-day period, from 5 different persons falling within clauses a), b), or c), who do not live in the same household; or

- e) is the subject of at least one written complaint, received by the director in a form satisfactory to the director, from a person falling within clauses a), b), or c) and the director is of the opinion that if the unwanted sound had occurred in a more densely populated area there would have been at least 5 written complaints received within a 90-day period, from 5 different persons who do not live in the same household;

**"plant site"** means the property described by the legal property boundary lines for that land owned by Manitoba Hydro on which the Selkirk Thermal Generating Station is located;

**"pollutant"** means a pollutant as defined in The Environment Act;

**"Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater"** means the most recent edition of Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater published jointly by the American Public Health Association, the American Waterworks Association and the Water Environment Federation;

**"weekly average"** means the arithmetic mean of a minimum of 24 discrete measurements taken equal time intervals throughout each day for a total of 7 consecutive days; and

**"wastewater"** means any liquid containing a pollutant as defined in The Environment Act, associated with or resulting from the development which is discharged into the environment.

### **GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

1. The licensee shall at all times maintain a copy of this licence at the development or at the premises from which the development's operations are managed.
2. The licensee shall submit all information required to be provided to the director or environment officer under this licence, in written and electronic format, in such form (including number of copies), and of such content as may be required by the director or environment officer, and each submission shall be clearly labelled with the licence number and file number associated with this licence.
3. In addition to any of the limits, terms and conditions specified in this licence, the licensee shall, upon the request of the director:
  - a) sample, monitor, analyze and/or investigate specific areas of concern regarding any segment, component or aspect of pollutant storage, containment, treatment, handling, disposal or emission systems, for such pollutants or ambient quality, aquatic toxicity, leachate characteristics and discharge or emission rates, for such duration and at such frequencies as may be specified;
  - b) determine the environmental impact associated with the release of any pollutant(s) from the development;
  - c) conduct specific investigations in response to the data gathered during environmental monitoring programs; or
  - d) provide the director, within such time as may be specified, with such reports, drawings, specifications, analytical data, descriptions of sampling and analytical procedures being used, bioassay data, flow rate measurements and such other information as may from time to time be requested.

4. The licensee shall, unless otherwise specified in this licence:
  - a) carry out all preservations and analyses on liquid samples in accordance with the methods prescribed in the most current edition of Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater or in accordance with equivalent preservation and analytical methodologies approved by the director;
  - b) carry out all sampling of, and preservation and analyses on, soil and air samples in accordance with methodologies approved by the director;
  - c) have all analytical determinations undertaken by an accredited laboratory; and
  - d) report the results to the director, in writing and in an electronic format acceptable to the director, within 60 days of the samples being taken.
5. The licensee shall carry out all monitoring activities, data collection and interpretations requested through the provisions of this licence by individuals properly trained or qualified for these tasks.
6. The licensee shall actively participate in any future watershed based management study, plan or nutrient reduction program, approved by the director.
7. The licensee shall designate an employee, within 14 days of the date of issuance of this licence, as the licensee's environmental coordinator, whose job description will include assisting the licensee in complying with the limits, terms and conditions in this licence and assisting Senior Management of the licensee to manage environmental issues at the development. The name of the environmental coordinator shall be submitted in writing to the director within 14 days of appointment and any subsequent appointment.

#### **SPECIFICATIONS, LIMITS, TERMS, AND CONDITIONS**

8. The licensee shall not, notwithstanding any of the limits terms and conditions laid out in this licence, cause a condition or conditions, with respect to storm water discharge into Cooks Creek and/or the Red River, such as to cause a degradation or alteration of the quality of the receiving water, or such as to cause, or form part of a process of degradation or alteration of the quality of that water to the degree that it is rendered deleterious to fish or fish habitat or to the use by man of fish that frequent the receiving water, within the meaning and intent of the federal Fisheries Act as enforced by Environment and Climate Change Canada.
9. The licensee shall not cause or permit a noise nuisance to be created as a result of the construction, operation, or alteration of the development, and shall take such steps as the director may require to eliminate or mitigate a noise nuisance.

#### **Respecting Water Withdrawals and Releases**

10. The licensee shall confirm that the effluent released from the station drain pipe is of such quality that:
  - a) in any composite sample collected of that effluent at either the station drain sump or at the discharge point of the station drain pipe at the Red River:

- i. the pH is not less than 6.5 nor greater than 9.5 pH units;
  - ii. the acid-soluble copper concentration is not greater than 0.5 milligrams per litre;
  - iii. the total nickel concentration is not greater than 0.5 milligrams per litre; and
  - iv. the total zinc concentration is not greater than 0.5 milligrams per litre; and
- b) in any grab sample collected of that effluent, at either the station drain sump or at the discharge point of the station drain pipe at the Red River, the oil and grease content is not greater than 15 milligrams per litre.

### **Respecting Monitoring, Record Keeping and Reporting**

11. The licensee shall:

- a) once each week, collect a grab sample, either at the outfall on the Red River or at the station drain sump, of the effluent being released from the station drain pipe, and analyze the sample for:

- i. pH (pH units);
- ii. total dissolved solids (milligrams per litre);
- iii. suspended solids (milligrams per litre );
- iv. hardness (as CaCO<sub>3</sub>) (milligrams per litre );
- v. chlorides (milligrams per litre );
- vi. total phosphorous (milligrams per litre);
- vii. soluble boron (milligrams per litre );
- viii. total iron (milligrams per litre );
- ix. acid-soluble copper (milligrams per litre);
- x. total nickel (milligrams per litre );
- xi. total zinc (milligrams per litre); and
- xii. acid-soluble lead (micrograms per litre);
- xiii. acid-soluble cadmium (milligrams per litre );

unless otherwise specified by the director;

- b) once each week, collect a grab sample, either at the outfall on the Red River or at the station drain sump, of the effluent being released from the station drain pipe, and analyze the sample for oil and grease (milligrams per litre);
- c) report the weekly data determined pursuant to Sub-clauses 11(a) and 11(b) of this licence, along with the monthly averages, to the director within 30 days of the end of the month in which the samples were collected;
- d) once each week, collect a water sample from the Red River, upstream of the outfall of the station drain, and analyze it for the parameters listed in sub-clauses 11(a) and 11(b) as well as hardness, to enable the calculation of loadings to the Red River from the station drain and
- e) record and report estimated storm water/ groundwater maximum monthly discharge volume along with the estimated monthly averages, to the director within 30 days of the end of the month.

12. The licensee shall, unless otherwise specified by the director:

- a) monitor the 14 groundwater observation wells (except well OW6) identified in Appendix 'A' attached to this Licence at such frequencies and for such water quality parameters and characteristics as are specified in Appendix 'B' attached to this licence; and

- b) submit an annual report to the director by the 1st day of October of each year, on the data collected pursuant to Sub-clause 12(a) of this licence.

### **Respecting Decommissioning**

- 13. The licensee shall, at least one year in advance of the projected date for commencing the decommissioning and permanent closure of the development:
  - a) submit a detailed decommissioning plan to the director, for approval, respecting the measures proposed to address environmental and environmental health issues which might arise in the course of, and subsequent to, the decommissioning of the development, and the disbursement or disposal of liquid and solid wastes as may be associated with the development at that time; and
  - b) implement the approved decommissioning plan to the satisfaction of the director.

### **REVIEW AND REVOCATION**

- A. This licence replaces Environment Act Licence No. 1645 R5 which is hereby rescinded.
- B. If, in the opinion of the director, the licensee has failed or is failing to comply with any of the specifications, limits, terms or conditions set out herein, the director may, temporarily or permanently, revoke this licence.
- C. If, in the opinion of the director, new evidence warrants a change in the specifications, limits, terms or conditions of this licence, the director may require the filing of a new proposal pursuant to Section 11 of The Environment Act or a notice of alteration pursuant to Section 14 of The Environment Act.
- D. This licence may be reviewed by the director if any studies or monitoring programs undertaken in compliance with this licence, or at the request of the director, or otherwise, give rise to new evidence to warrant a change to this licence.

Original Signed By  
Agnes Wittmann  
Director  
The Environment Act



APPENDIX 'A'

Selkirk Generating Station – Site Plan



**APPENDIX 'B'**

**Groundwater Monitoring Program**

<b>PARAMETER</b>	<b>Annual Monitoring</b>
Water Table Elevation	X
pH	X
Calcium	X
Magnesium	X
T. Hardness	X
CO <sub>3</sub> Alkalinity	
HCO <sub>3</sub> Alkalinity	
T. Alkalinity	X
Conductivity	X
Chlorides	X
Sulphates	X
Total Dissolved Solids	X
Nitrate	X
Diss. Sodium	X
Diss. Potassium	X
Diss. Arsenic	X
Diss. Barium	X
Sol. Boron	X
Diss. Cadmium	X
Diss. Chromium	X
Diss. Copper	X
Diss. Iron	X
Diss. Lead	X
Diss. Manganese	X
Diss. Nickel	X
Diss. Selenium	X
Diss. Zinc	X