Notice of Environment Act Proposal

Manitoba Conservation has received a proposal pursuant to The Environment Act from the following operation and invites public participation in the review process:

MANITOBA HYDRO – BI-POLE III TRANSMISSION PROJECT : A MAJOR RELIABILITY INITIATIVE (FILE: 5433.00)

Manitoba Hydro has filed an Environment Act Proposal Form (EAPF) and Draft Environmental Assessment Scoping Document for the Bi-Pole III Transmission Project: A Major Reliability Initiative (the Project).

Manitoba Hydro plans to construct a new 500 kV HVdc (high voltage direct current) transmission line and associated facilities including converter stations, ground electrode facilities and connections. The transmission line would run from northern to southern Manitoba along a corridor in the western part of the Province.

Manitoba Hydro has initiated an extensive stakeholder and aboriginal consultation program and a Site Selection and Environmental Assessment process for the proposed Project. The Draft Environmental Assessment Scoping Document outlines the assessment approach, scope of baseline studies and the proposed format and content of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project. The EIS is scheduled to be completed in June 2011.

Anyone likely to be affected by the described development, or who wishes to provide comment on the Proposal and Draft Scoping Document pursuant to *The Manitoba Environment Act*, should contact Manitoba Conservation in writing. Comments must be received not later than <u>February 10, 2010</u>. Further information is available from the Public Registries located at the Conservation Library (Union Station), 123 Main St. Main Floor, Winnipeg; Millennium Public Library, 4th Floor, 251 Donald St., Winnipeg; Manitoba Eco-Network, 3rd Floor, 303 Portage Ave., Winnipeg; Thompson Public Library, 81 Thompson Dr. & MKO, 200-701 Thompson Dr.; The Pas Public Library, 53 Edwards Ave.; Dauphin Public Library, 504 Main St.; Northwest Regional Library, 200-6th Ave. N., Swan River; Minitonas Library; Snow Lake and Gillam Town Offices; Western Manitoba Regional Library, 638 Princess Ave., Brandon; Jake Epp Public Library, 255 Elmdale Ave., Steinbach; Portage la Prairie Public Library, 40-B Royal Rd. N. or by contacting Bryan Blunt, Senior Environment Officer at (204) 945-7085 or bryan.blunt@gov.mb.ca.

Information submitted in response to this proposal is considered public information and will be made available to the proponent and placed on the public registry established in accordance with Section 17 of The Environment Act.

A separate notice will be published following receipt of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project. The EIS will also be made available for public review and comment following the June 2011 filing date.

Environmental Assessment & Licensing Branch Manitoba Conservation

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Ad No. 083EA for publication in:

SNOW LAKE NEWS, Tues. Jan. 5, 2010
ROBLIN REVIEW, Tues. Jan. 5, 2010
SWAN RIVER STAR & TIMES, Tues. Jan 5, 2010
DAUPHIN HERALD, Tues. Jan. 5, 2010
THE PAS OPASQIA TIMES, Wed. Jan. 6, 2010
STEINBACH CARILLON, Thurs. Jan. 7, 2010
CARMAN VALLEY LEADER, Fri. Jan. 8, 2010
NEEPAWA BANNER, Fri. Jan. 8, 2010
THOMPSON CITIZEN, Fri. Jan. 8, 2010
BRANDON SUN, Sat. Jan. 2, 2010
CROSSROADS THIS WEEK (SHOAL LAKE), Sat. Jan. 2, 2010
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE DAILY GRAPHIC, Sat. Jan. 2, 2010
WINNIPEG FREE PRESS, Sat. Jan. 2, 2010