

6.0 Indigenous engagement

Manitoba Hydro developed an Indigenous engagement process (IEP) to provide the First Nations and Metis with meaningful opportunities to participate in the process, including receiving timely and pertinent information to voice any concerns and share input into the environmental assessment processes. This process started in June 2017 and will continue throughout the regulatory review and construction processes as project information becomes available. Manitoba Hydro presented the Project and created opportunities to share information and receive feedback from the Manitoba Metis Federation, Peguis First Nation and Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation.

6.1 Approach

Manitoba Hydro uses the following principles to guide our approach to engagement for station projects, including:

- the diversity of Indigenous cultures and worldviews should be understood and appreciated;
- Manitoba Hydro should work with Indigenous people to better understand perspectives and determine mutual approaches to address concerns and build relationships; and
- Indigenous peoples should be provided opportunities to communicate on an ongoing basis and early on in the process.

In addition to the shared Engagement Process goals provided in the PEP section, the IEP had the following specific goals:

- continue to build and strengthen working relationships with First Nations and Metis in Manitoba; and
- provide opportunities for First Nation and Metis to have meaningful input and contributions to the Project.

6.1.1 Engagement criteria

Manitoba Hydro considered a number of factors in determining whom to contact, including:

- interest in the Project; and

- proximity to the study area.

Based on these factors, Manitoba Hydro made initial contact with Peguis First Nation, Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation and the MMF as outlined in Table 6-1.

Table 6-1: Who was contacted and the rationale for their inclusion

First Nations and the MMF	Rationale for Engaging in the Project
Manitoba Metis Federation	Interest in the Project
Peguis First Nation	Interest in the Project
Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation	Proximity to the Project

6.1.2 Notification methods

Manitoba Hydro began communicating project information with the MMF, Peguis First Nation and Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation in June 2017. Manitoba Hydro used the following communication tools to inform the MMF, Peguis First Nation and Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation of the Project (detail on each method can be found in the Public Engagement Section):

- direct letters including the Project newsletter;
- advertisement in local newspapers; and
- project website.

Manitoba Hydro offered engagement methods that would provide direct opportunities for input. These methods included:

- meetings;
- telephone calls; and
- emails.

6.1.3 Engagement activities

6.1.3.1 Manitoba Metis Federation

Manitoba Hydro informed the MMF of the Project and asked if they would like to engage in the process. On June 15, 2017, Manitoba Hydro sent a letter to the MMF to introduce the Project. The letter included a copy of the Project newsletter and indicated that Manitoba Hydro will be holding a walk-in information session in Kleefeld on Wednesday, July 12, 2017 from 12:00 to 7:00 p.m. The letter requested that the MMF contact Manitoba Hydro if the MMF would like to schedule a meeting to discuss the Project. To date, MMF has not contacted Manitoba Hydro to discuss the Project.

6.1.3.2 Peguis First Nation

Manitoba Hydro informed Peguis First Nation of the Project and asked if they would like to engage in the process. On June 15, 2017, Manitoba Hydro sent a letter to Peguis First Nation that included a copy of the Project newsletter and indicated that Manitoba Hydro will be holding a walk-in information session in Kleefeld on Wednesday, July 12, 2017 from 12:00 to 7:00 p.m. The letter requested that Peguis First Nation contact Manitoba Hydro if there is interest in scheduling a meeting to discuss the Project. To date, Peguis First Nation has not contacted Manitoba Hydro to discuss the Project.

6.1.3.3 Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation

Manitoba Hydro informed Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation of the Project and asked if they would like to engage in the process. On June 13, 2017, Manitoba Hydro staff shared project information about the Project at a meeting with representatives from Chief and Council.

On June 15, 2017, Manitoba Hydro sent a letter to Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation that included a copy of the Project newsletter and indicated that Manitoba Hydro will be holding a walk-in information session in Kleefeld on Wednesday, July 12, 2017 from 12:00 to -7:00 p.m. The letter requested that Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation contact Manitoba Hydro if there is interest in scheduling a meeting to discuss the Project. Manitoba Hydro has not received a request for an additional meeting to discuss the Project.

6.2 Next steps

Manitoba Hydro looks forward to continuing to share information with Peguis First Nation, Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation and the MMF.