SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPOONENT: Manitoba Hydro
PROPOSAL NAME: Transmission Line Rebuild Project - Brandon
CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: 2
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: Transmission
CLIENT FILE NO.: 4352.00

OVERVIEW:

The Proposal was dated June 25, 1998 and was received on July 8, 1998. The advertisement of the Proposal read as follows:

“A Proposal filed by Manitoba Hydro to rebuild a portion of the 115 kV double circuit transmission line BD 52/BK 41 located Sections 20 and 17 in 10-18WPM in the industrial east end of Brandon. The Transmission Line Rebuild Project is needed to improve the reliability of the ring of 115 kV transmission lines around Brandon and to meet anticipated electrical demand in the industrial east end of Brandon including the Maple Leaf Meats new hog processing facility. The project involves the construction of 2.6 km of new 115 kV double circuit transmission line on an expanded right-of-way adjacent to the existing BD 52/BK41 transmission line and the salvage of 2.6 km of the existing BD 52/BK41 transmission line once the rebuilt portion of the transmission line is in service. The anticipated in-service date is May 1, 1999. An Environmental Impact Statement has been filed by Manitoba Hydro in support of their Application.”

The Proposal was advertised in the Brandon Sun on Saturday, July 18, 1998. It was made available for public review at registries located at the Main Library, the Centennial Public Library, Manitoba Eco-Network and the Western Manitoba Regional Library in Brandon. It was also distributed to the “Transmission” TAC members for comment. All comments were requested by August 14, 1998.

PUBLIC RESPONSE

No public response was received as a result of the Environment Act advertisement of the Proposal.

TAC COMMENTS

Natural Resources  Note that three rare species of grassland birds, (Ferruginous Hawk, Baird Sparrow and loggerhead Shrike have been identified near or along the proposed
route. Recommend that the Department of Natural Resources Regional Wildlife Manager be contacted with regard to these bird sightings and be kept informed of the construction schedule.

Disposition: Comment can be accommodated as a condition of licencing.

**Environment (Water Quality)** Water Quality Management’s concerns have been addressed in the Proposal.

(Park-West Region) No concerns with the construction and dismantling of the transmission line provided that construction occurs as outlined in the Proposal and complies with regulations MR 150/91 *Waste Disposal Grounds* and MR 439/87. *Environmental Accident Reporting.*

**Mines Branch** No concerns

**Highways** Note that Manitoba Hydro has previously been aware of highways recommendations by their District Office. Highways reports no additional comments or concerns with this development as outlined in the Environment Act Proposal.

**Rural Development** No concerns from a land use planning perspective.

**Historic Resources** No concerns with regard to the project’s potential to impact heritage resources.

**Health** Note that inclusion in the Environment Act Licence of the proposed environmental management practices as per section 6 of the Proposal are expected to prevent or mitigate potential health hazards from the project.

Disposition: The comments can be accommodated by including a general reference in the licence to the proposed mitigation and management practices documented in the Proposal.

**Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CCEA)** Based on responses from Federal reviewing Departments and Agencies, application of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* will not be required.

**Recommendation**

A public hearing on the proposal is not recommended. It is recommended that the proposal be licenced as applied for and in accordance with limits, terms and conditions provided in the attached draft Environment Act Licence. It is further recommended that the enforcement of the Licence be assigned to staff of the Manitoba Environment Park-West Region.