SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPOSED NAME: Manitoba Hydro
PROPOSAL NAME: Manitoba Hydro
CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: Flin Flon Border 115 kV Station Project
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: 2
CLIENT FILE NO.: Transmission

OVERVIEW:

The Proposal was dated and received May 5, 2000. The advertisement of the Proposal read as follows:

“A Proposal has been filed by Manitoba Hydro to construct a new 115 kV switching station to enhance electrical reliability in the Flin Flon area and provide electrical supply to Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting’s new mine development known as Project 777. The station and associated transmission facilities are to be located immediately outside the Flin Flon city limits. An Environmental Assessment Study has been undertaken by Manitoba Hydro in support of the Proposal. The proposed Flin Flon 115 kV Station Project is targeted to be in-service by April, 2001.”

The Proposal was advertised in Flin Flon Northern Visions Gazette on Friday, May 12, 2000. It was placed in the Manitoba Eco-Network, the Centennial Public Library, the Flin Flon Public Library. It was also distributed to the "Transportation" TAC members for comment. All comments were requested by June 12, 2000.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No comments were received from the public in response to the Environment Act advertisement of the Proposal.

COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Historic Resources - No concerns.

Mines Branch - No concerns.

Intergovernmental Affairs - No land use or development concerns.

Conservation (Policy Coordination Branch) - No concerns.

Conservation (Water Quality Management) - Water Quality Management's concerns have been addressed in the Proposal. Recommend that further precautions should be taken in order to contain potential oil spills from entering surface waters.
Disposition: The risk to surface and ground water pollution can be minimized by including a condition in the Licence which requires that the Licencee submit for the approval of the Director, Plans and Specifications for the construction, supply and installation of oil containment equipment prior to beginning construction of the Development.

Conservation (Environmental Operations Northern Region) - Recommend that all station site drainage should eventually be directed towards the drainage area known by HBM&S as the “Lake Bottom” and not towards ponds of the “Tailings Impoundment System” or the “ZPL Pond,” as shown on the drawing of the HBM&S Flin Flon Tailings Impoundment System – Figure 3 attached to the Northern Region comments.

Recommend that a formal site access agreement be developed between Manitoba Hydro and HBM&S to ensure personnel and environmental safety due to heavy truck traffic on the internal HBM&S internal road system, including the hauling of ore and concentrate. HBM&S site security personnel should be advised prior to Manitoba Hydro personnel or dangerous goods entering the HBM&S smelter complex and mine area.

The 115 kV Station design should include provisions for the containment of insulating oil spills.

Sewage generated on site during the construction phase shall comply with MR 95/88R, the Private Sewage Disposal System and Privies Regulation. New systems can be registered with the Flin Flon Environment Officer.

Disposition: The comments can be accommodated as licencing conditions.

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CCEA) - Application of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act will not likely be required. Natural Resources Canada has requested additional information with regard to the use of explosive.

Disposition: Manitoba Hydro has been advised of the request for additional information on the use of explosive by the Regional CCEA office.

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing is not recommended for this project on the basis that no comments or concerns were received in response to the Environment Act advertisement of the Proposal.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION:
The comments received from the technical review of the Proposal can be accommodated as conditions of licencing. It is therefore recommended that the project be licenced pursuant to the Environment Act in accordance with the terms and conditions described in the attached draft Environment Act Licence.

PREPARED BY:

Bryan Blunt
Environmental Approvals
Environmental Land Use Approvals

Telephone: (204) 945-7085
Fax: (204) 945-5229
E-mail: bblunt@gov.mb.ca