

Community Engagement Summary

Licensing and Environmental Assessment

- On-going tripartite discussions are taking place – details below. Meeting to discuss Bipole III status (January 14, 2009)
- Round 4 Meeting to discuss the status of the TLUK study- August 24, 2010
- Funding was provided for a Manitoba Metis Federation Traditional Use, Values and Knowledge of the Bipole III Project Study Area (May 2010)
- Meetings between the MMF, the Province and MH to discuss how to move forward have occurred (March 13, 15 and 20, 2013)
- Meeting with the MMF, MH and the Province. General discussion about the Bipole III Project was had; the MMF indicated that they are developing a work plan and budget for activities they would still like to undertake in relation to Bipole III (April 16, 2013)
- The MMF provided a document outlining their proposed negotiation process and draft budget (May 3, 2013)
- Tripartite meetings have continued at the executive level; a meeting which included MMF and MH technical staff was held (June 21 2013).
- President Chartrand met with Minister Chomiak on July 3rd to outline the MMF current position regarding Bipole III; a letter in response to the MMF position was sent by MH to the MMF (July 10, 2013). Efforts are underway to initiate a meeting of MMF and MH technical staff on the EPP.
- A staff level tri-partite meeting was held and progress was made towards reaching agreement on how the MMF would be engaged in EPP discussions; follow-up meetings were agreed to, but dates could not be confirmed (July 26th,2013)
- MH provided copies of MH reimbursement Policy and provided dates when Manitoba Hydro staff are available for Bipole III Agreement discussion and for EPP discussion, asked to know if tomorrow could work for conference call with the MMF EPP experts (July 30, 2013)
- Sent EPP CDs to the MMF - August 6, 2013 including:
 - Draft Transmission Access Management Plan
 - Draft Construction Access Opportunities Mapbook
 - Draft Keewatinoow Converter Station Access Management Plan
 - Draft Bipole III Transmission AC Collectors and Construction Power Construction Environmental Protection Plan (CEnvPP)
 - Draft Cultural and Heritage Resource Protection Plan

- MH continued to try to confirm EPP meetings indicating the need to have EPP experts meet ASAP to finalize EPP workplan and budget. MMF indicated that they are developing budgets and looking into attendance availability of experts. MMF to contact Hydro with options (August 12, 2013)
- MMF provided proposed budgets for engagement for further discussions around Economic Development and EPP (September 6th, 2013) - MH provided feedback to the proposal
- MH met with MMF to discuss economic opportunities and the EPP and MMF proposed budgets. A jointly revised budget was developed to engage in next steps around both activities (October 9th, 2013) Meetings with technical experts re: the EPP are tentatively scheduled for November 1st, 2013

Category	Summary of Feedback	Response and/or Mitigation	EPP Component
Access	Concerns regarding improved human access (hunting and recreational travel), increased predation and/or species avoidance of landscape, and safety risk from harvesters harvesting in few remaining areas open to moose hunting in combination with new access created by the HVDC right-of-way.	Manitoba Hydro will continue to work with MMF regarding the EPP. A copy of the draft Access Management Plan was sent to the MMF on August 2, 2013	Access Management Plan
ATK	Concerns that the ethnography used for the ATK workshops did not specifically address Metis issues or involve the Metis nation.	The MMF completed a Traditional Knowledge and Land Use Study for the Bipole III Project. The purpose was to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • document traditional and contemporary uses of lands and waters, traditional knowledge about plants and animal species of interest, focusing additional research on those species and their traditional Metis uses in the Bipole III study area, and • to identify potential positive and negative effects of the project on Metis land use and way of life, including Metis spiritual, cultural, socioeconomic, harvesting, and other traditional and contemporary practices in the project 	Site specific concerns will be addressed through the Environmental Protection Plans

Category	Summary of Feedback	Response and/or Mitigation	EPP Component
		study area.	
Fragmentation	Concerns regarding well-known and documented impacts of linear features	To address concerns regarding the potential impacts of linear features, linear access and sight lines will be taken into account when siting any new access routes. Vegetation and terrain features will be used to break up line of sight along the access points to the ROW. Manitoba Hydro plans to address concerns by confirming sensitive sites and ensuring limited access to sensitive sites through the Access Management Plan	Access Management Plan
Harvesting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern regarding harvesters potentially avoiding harvesting of plants and medicines for the long term within the footprint and adjacent areas of the HVdc right-of-way due to concerns about herbicide contaminants 	Manitoba Hydro plans to further discussions with the MMF to further review concerns regarding vegetation management . Manitoba Hydro would consider non-chemical vegetation management in clearly identified sensitive sites.	Environmental Protection Plans

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern regarding the interruption of traditional use during the project construction phase due to noise and general disturbance. Concern that Manitoba Metis harvesters may travel long distances to engage in traditional use and find the area they wish to utilize is subject to activity and disturbance. • Concern regarding the interruption of traditional use during the Project construction phase due to access management restrictions. • Concern regarding the interruption of traditional use during the Project operational phase associated with Provincial restrictions on hunting in the vicinity of permanent Project-related infrastructure (e.g. repeater stations, converter stations); 	<p>Manitoba Hydro will not impose access restrictions on any existing access roads/trails to traditional users, except as may be required temporarily for safety purposes. Manitoba Hydro will restrict non-project related traffic at the construction site for reasons of safety. Manitoba Hydro will not restrict traditional use/harvest of resources (e.g. trapping) except as it may pertain to access on the project footprint for reasons of worker and resource user safety. All project workers will not be allowed to hunt or fish at the construction site. For reasons of safety, the construction site and approaches to it may be posted with no hunting signs.</p> <p>Clear communication of restrictions and safety measures, included in the construction access management plan, to workers, resource harvesters, stakeholders and local Aboriginal communities will contribute to safe work practices and the prevention of conflicts. Community liaison positions will be the primary contact for disseminating information regarding the project to their community, including access restrictions and protocols. Manitoba Hydro is continuing engagement with the MMF to see if there are other opportunities to facilitate communication to MMF membership</p>	Access Management Plan
Moose	Concern regarding additional closures of Game Hunting Areas (GHA) and/or longer term closure of GHAs already closed to moose harvesting for conservation reasons, due to Project-related effects. Concerns	Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship (MCWS) is the resource manager for wildlife and is responsible for developing harvest management strategies for moose, deer and elk. Manitoba Hydro is currently discussing	Monitoring Plans

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	<p>regarding changes in harvesting focus from moose to elk due to diminished moose populations and/or harvest success rate, resulting in increase pressure on elk populations</p>	<p>mitigation and monitoring strategies with MCWS and will participate in any future stakeholder meetings as and when requested. As such, MCWS is kept aware of the Bipole III Transmission Project and continues to provide input on mitigation and monitoring.</p>	