

## Dagdick, Elise (CON)

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**From:** gninc.ca\_faith.loewen@gninc.ca  
**Sent:** March-15-12 10:54 PM  
**To:** Dagdick, Elise (CON)  
**Subject:** Bipole III EIS

Dear Ms. Dagdick,

Here is my submission to the Bipole III EIS:

Bipole III will cross the field about 725 metres from our house. As the EIS mentions, "The presence of a transmission line can influence the visual landscape in urban and rural settings." In our case, due to the flat topography of surrounding farmland, the transmission conductor line and steel towers (tallest ever built in Manitoba, taller than any tree that will ever grow in Manitoba) will dominate our southern view. The prairie skyline from our windows and yard will become a much diminished, industrial landscape.

The consultant firm, MMM Group Ltd., has this to say in their technical report attached to and referenced by the EIS:

There will be an unavoidable residual impairment (i.e., aesthetic effect) on properties in the immediate vicinity of the HVdc transmission line. Residual effects are expected to be associated with perceived changes in aesthetics on rural residences with respect to the visibility of the high voltage transmission line once it is operational. The residual effects may be mitigated to the extent possible through application of measures and/or landowner discussions related to structure placement for the HVdc transmission line.

Further, Dave Wotton Consulting--in their technical report supporting the EIS package--emphasizes the negative impact from transmission lines on individuals:

To most people the aesthetic effect of a transmission line is likely to be negative, particularly where the proposed lines cross the view of a surrounding terrain from a personal or a community property or affects a natural landscape.

. . . In some cases the planting of trees as visual or wind barriers may provide a mitigative measure to address areas where aesthetic concerns have been raised.

As such, we look forward to compensation and mitigation for 'taking one for the team' (i.e., the electricity which will benefit all Manitobans) by agreeing to have these ugly towers in our front yard. This could include:

Tree planting (including care for five years or until the trees are established) for future generations who will live here. It will take many years before any tree can come close to obscuring a 50m tower,

Tower placement discussions to reduce impairment of prairie skyline from our residence, and

Compensation for perceived diminution of property values (see negative effect reported above). Note: a property valuation survey (mentioned in the EIS) of a much smaller line in Birds Hill where topography can hide transmission lines is probably not adequate to represent property value devaluation in other flatter parts of Manitoba. Perhaps, as part of its long

term impact monitoring obligations, Manitoba Hydro could undertake a new study on property value impacts to farmland and residences whose viewscape is crossed by Bipole III towers in southern Manitoba.

Sincerely,

Faith Loewen

## Dagdick, Elise (CON)

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**From:** D Human [dmhuman@shaw.ca]  
**Sent:** March-19-12 8:07 PM  
**To:** Dagdick, Elise (CON)  
**Subject:** Bipole3

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Im just a hydro paying, tax paying manitoba resident. I am strongly against the planned bipole 3 down the western side of the lake. Why have I not heard the real reason for this ridiculous plan. Why have I not heard more from native communities saying this is an opportunity for road access. I hear them complain about the price of food flown into the commities. Is a all weather road not something they want.

I bring this up because common sense from the average taxpayer to this government is oil and water and someday I hope that the people who make these choices are held accountable. If this is the currents governments idea of economic growth wake up.

Owen Skafffeld  
Portage La Prairie

## **Dagdick, Elise (CON)**

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**From:** Braun, Tracey (CON)  
**Sent:** January-31-12 3:51 PM  
**To:** Dagdick, Elise (CON); Blunt, Bryan (CON)  
**Subject:** FW: Study of High Voltage Power transmission Line Effects on Human Health & Safety  
**Attachments:** Blank Bkgrd.gif; Power Transmission Lines Highway Accidents 572011Rev 2.doc; Bi-Pole 3 Power Transmission annd Traffis Incidents Press release 5.doc

This was submitted in regard to Bipole EIS.

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**From:** John Roschuk [<mailto:jroschuk@mymts.net>]  
**Sent:** January-25-12 12:00 PM  
**To:** Braun, Tracey (CON)  
**Subject:** Study of High Voltage Power transmission Line Effects on Human Health & Safety

Province of Manitoba  
Manitoba Conservation Department,  
Environmental Assessment

**Re: Study of High Voltage Alternating and Direct Current  
Power Transmission Lines Electromagnetic Field Effect on  
Public Health & Safety at Roadway Crossings and Off Road.**

Attn: Ms. Tracey Braun  
Director of Environmental Approvals

Dear Ms. Braun,

Further to our telephone conversation with reference to the above captioned, I have attached a draft copy of a study I conducted and a copy of a summary article I wrote that has been published by a number of print media. In the past three years I have written a number of articles on this subject that have been published.

The study is based on empirical data and a review of many global studies conducted by world renowned scientists. Some of which are referenced in the study. The key issue in my study is the impact of magnetic fields on vehicular traffic driving in close proximity to and/or passing under power lines. The study documents a series of highway traffic accidents in close proximity to power line crossings over highways. The study also has identified other human health and safety issues,

In addition to the above, the study has confirmed other health and safety issues, namely magnetic field impact on medical implanted devices such as pacemakers etc, as well as potential negative impact on above ground and subterranean infrastructure. As an example, stray ground currents associated with high voltage direct current power transmission can and do cause corrosion of metallic structures such as pipe lines, tanks, structural steel, etc. One Ampere of direct current flowing through an iron structure will erode 20 pounds of iron in one year. Natural and man-made stray currents have been the cause of numerous environmental disasters from ruptured oil and gas pipelines and tanks. There are other hazards associated with high voltage power

transmission lines, The State of Oregon has decided to ban stubble burning after a number of high voltage flash-overs caused power failures that resulted in hundreds of thousands of dollars in property damage. Grain dust from combines and irrigation spray potentially can cause a flashover.

The potential negative impact of other power transmission line "by-products" such as corona and harmonics have to be taken into consideration in an environmental impact assessment.

In summary, the west side Bi-Pole III will compromise the public health and safety as well as have a very costly impact on industry in general and the farming community in particular.

I have documentation to support the conclusions drawn in my study and I am prepared to share these with you.

Thank you for this opportunity and I am looking forward to your response.

Respectfully,

John Roschuk C.E.T.

Ph. (204) 837-6907

Cell (204) 791-8377

## **Bi-Pole 3 West Side Route Toll on Human Lives, Health and Property**

There is no doubt that the unwarranted financial burden of the proposed west side Bi-Pole 3 line will be horrendous. However, if the effects on public health and safety are factored in it will be virtually impossible to put a price tag on this ill fated project simply because one cannot put a price on human suffering and life. The question whether high voltage power transmission lines have a negative impact on human lives and property has been more than adequately substantiated by the number of incidents on highway 6 between Warren Manitoba and the junction of perimeter highway 101A. Fig. MIT-TO-068 documents clusters of accidents along this section of highway 6 that occurred in 2002 to 2006 inclusive. Fig.6101A-HVPTL confirms that the clusters of accidents occurred directly under or in the general vicinity of high voltage alternating current (HVAC) power transmission lines and Bi-Poles 1 & 2. The severity of the incidents ranged from property damages and injuries to fatalities.

Four locations along the Winnipeg north side perimeter highway 101A have recorded similar clusters of accidents. [Two locations (Fig.101A –W) on the west side and two locations (Fig. 101A-N) on the north side of highway 101A.] All four locations are directly under or in close proximity to high voltage alternating current power transmission lines. The severity of the traffic accidents ranged from property damage to injury and fatalities. It is reasonable to assume that similar accidents will be confirmed on other roads and highways where high voltage power lines cross roads and highways. The attached charts are based on historic data provided by others and our own onsite observations. The highway 6 and perimeter 101A conclusions are based strictly on undisputable empirical data and global scientific studies [1] [2] [3] [4] [5] [6] [7] [8] [9] [10] [11] [12] [13] [14].

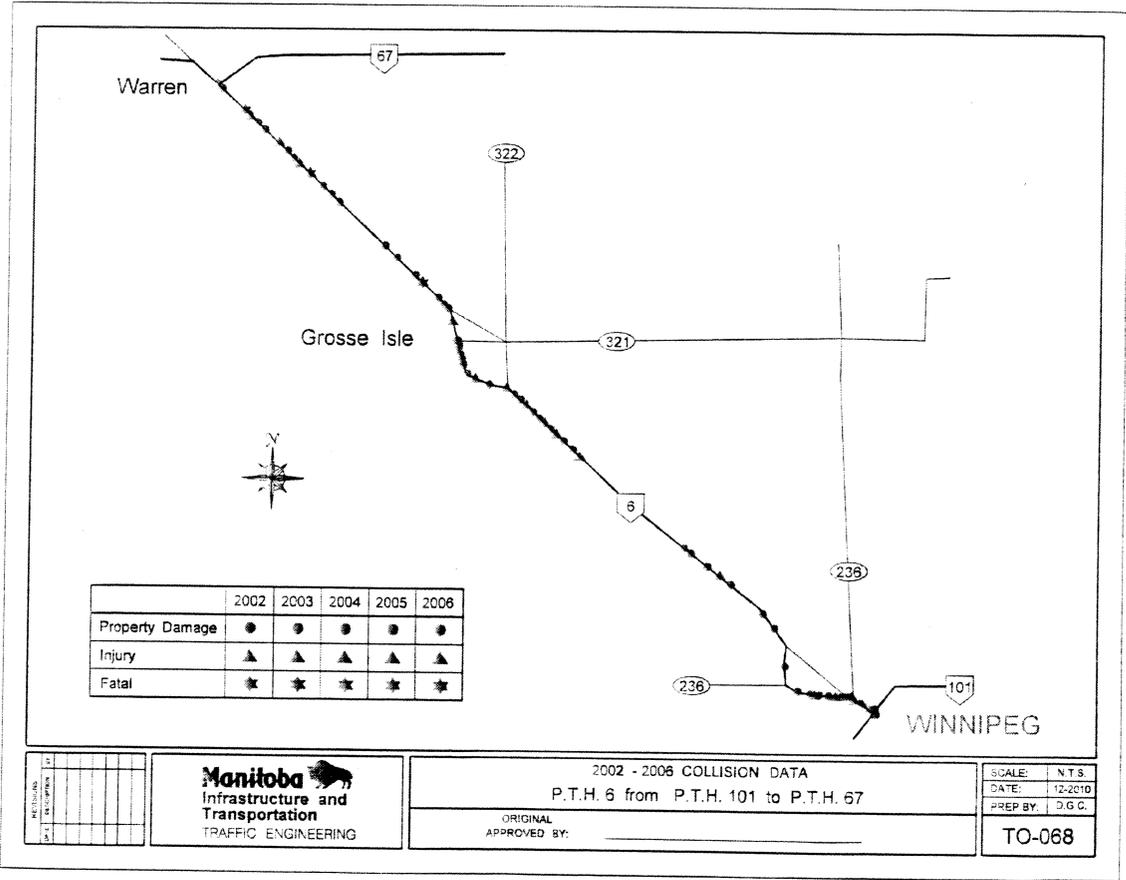
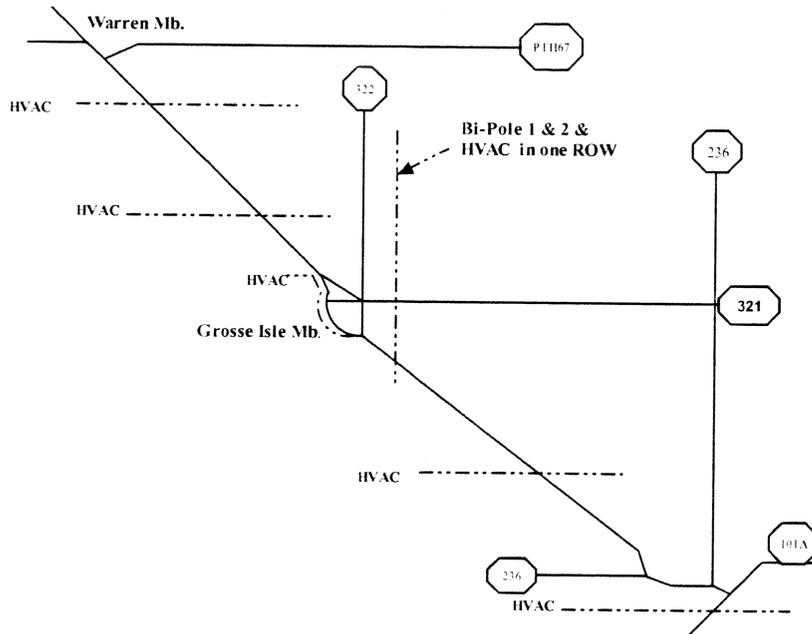
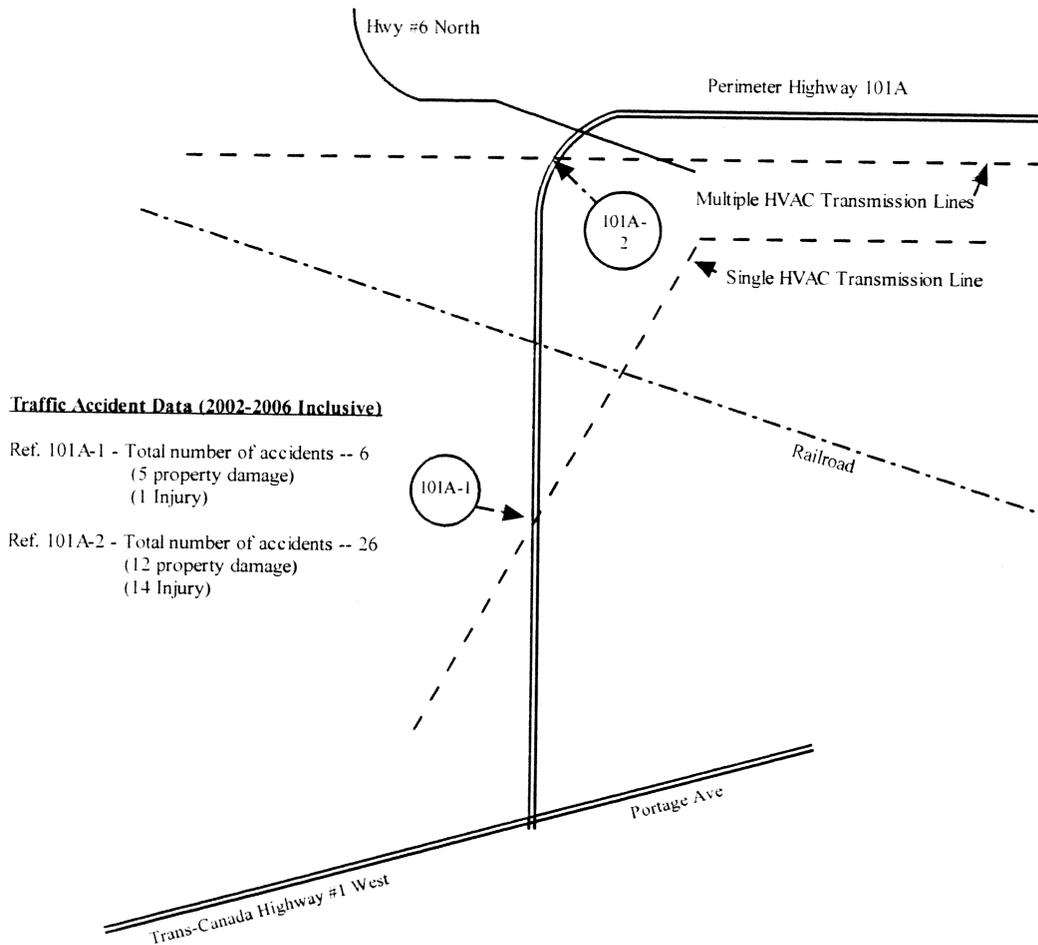


Fig. MIT-TO-068 Original document . Note: High Voltage Power Transmission Lines are not shown.



Traffic Accidents on PTH #6 between Warren MB & Perimeter Highway 101A  
 Accident Data for 2002 - 2006 inclusive.  
 Note:1 Only accidents that occurred within 1.5 KM from  
 High Voltage Power Transmission Lines are included in this analysis.  
 Note:2, Not all accidents may be directly attributed to HVAC transmission line  
 electric fields, magnetic fields, harmonics or corona generated ozone or nitrogen oxide.

Fig. 6101A -HVPTL. Not to scale version of Fig. MIT -TO-068, HVAC and Bi-Poles 1 & 2. The exact locations of the power transmission lines were verified by on site measurements and satellite imagery.



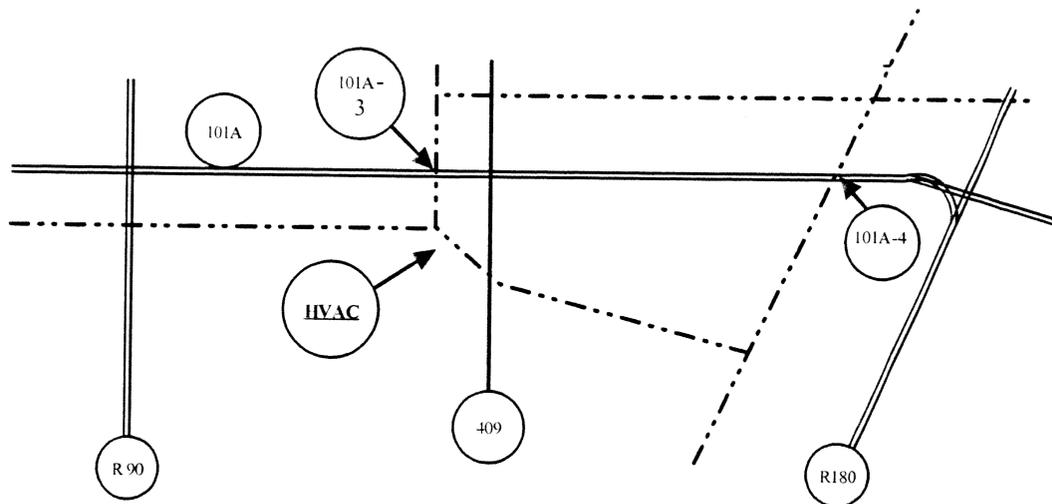
Highway traffic accidents on perimeter highway 101A west side  
 Accident Data for 2002 - 2006 inclusive.

Note:1 Only accidents that occurred within 1.5 KM from  
 High Voltage Power Transmission Lines are included in this analysis.

Note:2, Not all accidents may be directly attributed to HVAC or the HVDC transmission lines  
 electric fields, magnetic fields, harmonics or corona generated ozone or nitrogen oxide.

Compiled by John Roschuk C.E.T.

Fig. 101A –W documents condensed accident data and the location of the HVAC power transmission lines on the west side of perimeter highway 101A. It is possible that more accidents occur around curves and in dense traffic because more concentration is required by the driver. The reduction in concentration could be attributed to “electromagnetic influence”.



**Traffic Accident Data (2002-2006 inclusive)**

Ref.101A -3 - Total number of accidents -- 63  
 (35 property damage)  
 (24 Injury)  
 (4 Fatality)

Ref. 101A - 4 -Total number of accidents -- 15  
 (9 property damage)  
 (6 injury)

Highway traffic accidents on perimeter highway 101A west side  
 Accident Data for 2002 - 2006 inclusive.

Note:1 Only accidents that occurred within 1.5 KM from

High Voltage Power Transmission Lines are included in this analysis.

Note:2, Not all accidents may be directly attributed to HVAC or the HVDC transmission lines  
 electric fields, magnetic fields, harmonics or corona generated ozone or nitrogen oxide.

Compiled by John Roschuk C.E.T.

The objective of this study is to confirm that High Voltage Power Transmission Line electric and magnetic fields have a sufficient negative impact on some human beings to cause them to lose partial or complete control of their vehicle. The conclusions drawn from the empirical data in this report are supported by many scientific studies conducted globally. Documentation supporting the conclusions drawn are on file and could be made available for scrutiny if deemed warranted.

Fig. 101A-N documents condensed accident data and the location of the HVAC power transmission lines on the north side of perimeter highway 101A.

Although, the mechanism of the power transmission line negative influence on highway traffic is not fully understood at this time, many global scientific studies confirm that electric and magnetic fields can and do affect the human neurological systems to varying degrees [1] – [11] The extent of the effects depends on the individual's predisposition to magnetic and electric fields. The effects range from not being noticeable to being a nuisance, loss of concentration, muscle spasm to loss of consciousness and in rare cases death. (See cited references) Our in-depth review of countless studies and documents and empirical data strongly supports our conclusions that electric and/or magnetic fields from high voltage power transmission lines are a major factor in the cause of the traffic accidents by affecting the driver's neurological system sufficiently to cause partial or total loss of control of the vehicle.

The preferred west side Bi-Pole 3 line will cross most major highways and numerous secondary roads. It will cross the Trans-Canada Highway twice. Based on the Manitoba Highways Branch 2008 Annual Daily Traffic on Manitoba Highways report [14] approximately 70,000 vehicles will pass under the Bi-Pole 3 line per day. If the highway 6 and the perimeter 101A scenarios are any indication, the Bi-Pole 3 west side route will be a colossal disaster in terms of property damage, injuries and fatalities. The highway 6 and perimeter 101A scenarios do not only apply to roadways and highways, operators of off-road vehicles such as farm equipment will be subject to similar consequences.

#### **Additional Health Risks and Recommended Management**

- a.) Pregnant women who walk or drive under high voltage transmission run a high risk of miscarriage. Scientists strongly recommend that pregnant women should avoid driving or entering areas that may be under the influence of power transmission line electric and magnetic fields [8].
- b.) People with implanted medical devices such as pace-makers should avoid close proximity to, or passing under, high voltage power transmission lines as the magnetic field induced current can interfere with the safe operation of an implanted medical device. [2]  
Unlike electric fields, which can be shielded, magnetic fields cannot be shielded. Magnetic fields can and do induce currents into animate and inanimate object inside buildings (regardless of the type of construction material) and vehicles.
- c.) At road crossings, vehicles should be aligned perpendicular to the power line conductors to minimize magnetic & electric field induced current. Vehicles traveling parallel to high voltage power transmission lines should be outside the influence of the power line electric and magnetic fields. According to the California Department of Health Services and the Public Health Institute, the magnetic field will reach the magnetic field back-ground level around 60-200 feet from a distribution line and 300-1000 feet from a transmission line.[12] [13]
- d.) Vehicles should not be refuelled near or under high voltage power transmission lines unless the vehicle and the fuel source are both grounded.
- e.) Global studies have concluded that there is a correlation between childhood leukemia and power transmission line electromagnetic fields. Some studies claim that children living in close proximity to high voltage power transmission lines had a 3 – 4 times higher incidence of leukemia.

- f.) The scientific community appears to be divided on the maximum permissible magnetic field levels. In the USA, the EPA states that only one milligauss is the maximum safe level. However, some Russian researchers claim that only 1/1000<sup>th</sup> milligauss should be the maximum permissible level. It is virtually impossible to set a fixed level as a standard for human beings. There are many factors that determine the level of magnetic field exposure any one human being can safely tolerate.

According to the Manitoba Hydro's Bi-Pole III DC EMF Brochure – Oct 2009 [15], a public information brochure widely circulated at the various public forums and other mediums, states in part “The static magnetic field level associated with the existing Bipoles I and II is less than the natural Earth's magnetic field for Manitoba. The proposed Bipole III transmission line is expected to produce fields in the same range”. (The magnetic fields are not static because of changing electrical loads.) However, a study conducted by the Manitoba HVDC Research Centre, HVDC Transmission [15] article stated that the electromagnetic fields under a high voltage direct current transmission lines would be similar to the fields which exists beneath thunder clouds; clearly a contradiction. The Manitoba HVDC Research Centre paper conclusions are deemed to be credible and are supported by many global studies.

### **Conclusions**

In the past 3 years I have reviewed hundreds of studies, standards and other related publications as well as conducting our own tests in a effort to determine what if any impact the routing of a 500 KV high voltage direct current line routed through a highly populated and industrialized area on the west would have on public health and safety. I have concluded that the risk to human beings, animals and property is real and extremely high and therefore should not be allowed. When human health and lives are placed in jeopardy, it is non-negotiable. The extra costs and negative impact on all phases of the industry and in particular the farming community from the west side Bi-pole 3 will be astronomical. The farming community will likely be affected more than any other industry. The safety issues to humans and property have not been addressed adequately. Following are just some of the issues that will have a direct negative impact on farming;

- 1.) The IEEE -1542 -2007 Guide for Installation, Maintenance, and Operation of Irrigation Equipment Located Near or Under Power Lines, if adhered to, will significantly be more labour intensive. Failing to follow the guide lines could severely compromise operator and equipment safety.
- 2.) The IEEE 1542 Guideline recommends that irrigation systems such must be oriented perpendicular to the power transmission line conductors and grounded to optimize safety
- 3.) The distance between the irrigation nozzle and the power line conductors is critical and varies with water conductivity, ground resistance and the body resistance of the operator as well as the power line voltage.
- 4.) Operation of irrigation and other farm machinery in parallel to the power line increases the potential for electric shock significantly. Here again, there are many variables, such as ground resistance, equipment size and so on. We strongly recommend that farmers become familiar with the IEEE 1542 Guide line. Besides

- compromising their health and safety, other issues such as third party liabilities, i.e. insurance claims may be challenged if the guide lines are not followed.
- 5.) According to Dr. A.S. Gerasimow (St-Petersburg, High Voltage Direct Current Power Transmission Research Institute) paper on Environmental, Technical, and Safety Codes Laws and Practices Related to Power Line Construction in Russia [10]. on the issue of safety Dr. Gerasimow writes “Strong electric fields near overhead transmission lines of 500KV or higher levels produce “electrical discomfort” for humans. The currents and voltages induced by these fields can be fatal for a human in cases where he or she comes in contact with a large vehicle with rubber tires placed under a transmission line of 500KV or higher voltage. ***To eliminate this type of risk, vehicles must be grounded or must be provided with “conductive tires”*** or the height of the transmission line should be sufficient to reduce the field intensity to less than 10KV/m”. We included this item to further illustrate that there are many globally recognized issues and mitigating standards that cannot be met on the west side Bi-Pole 3 route therefore jeopardizing human health, safety and negatively affecting industrial, commercial and farming operations. The cost of injury and the loss of life cannot be justified under any circumstance.

The traffic on Manitoba highways and roadways is not restricted to Manitobans only, people from all over the world travel on Manitoba highways. Therefore, this becomes a global issue which in turn becomes a Federal Government issue from a public safety perspective.

It is difficult to understand why none of the political and/or public debates on the pros & cons of the Bi-Pole 3 West side vs. East side route have not addressed the impact that the west side route will have on human health and safety and the long term and short term negative impact on all phases of infrastructure that will result from stray ground current corrosion. In a bi-polar mode the ground currents are a function of the two conductor dissymmetry, which typically results in ground currents of 1 – 3 % of the line current [4]. The degree of dissymmetry may increase with the line length. The adverse effects of stray ground current on the west side is expected to be significantly greater than on the east side due to the significantly greater concentration of above ground and subterranean conductive infrastructure, such as pipelines, railroads, electrical conductors, reinforcing rebar, etc. Stray currents will take the path of least resistance and not the shortest geographic distance. In a mono-pole mode, the ground current will be equal to the line load current.

I urge the Manitoba Government to;

- a.) abandon the ill conceived west side route and
- b.) allow Manitoba Hydro Engineering to do the engineering and build a suitable transmission line corridor on the east side of Lake Winnipeg which will accommodate Bi-Pole 3 and future transmission lines. The east side corridor could be routed to avoid any and all future roads and not put the health and lives

of people at risk. The east side route will bring much a needed economic boost for the First Nations People.

- c.) come clean with the mythical boreal forest fiasco.
- d.) suspend the gag order that the Manitoba Government placed on Manitoba Hydro employees.
- e.) realize that Manitoba Hydro should be operated in the most efficient manner for the sole benefit of Manitobans. This can be achieved if Manitoba Hydro is allowed to operate as a Crown Corporation without undue Government interference. As a crown Corporation Manitoba Hydro belongs to all Manitobans Local and foreign special interest groups should be accommodated only if there is an excessive functional or financial burden on the people of Manitoba.

The Manitoba Government needs to realize that their political interference with a sophisticated and high tech facility like Manitoba Hydro is doomed to failure if this Government stays the course; Manitoba Hydro will face the same faith as the once mighty Ontario Hydro did.

In closing, I appeal to the scientific and professional communities, the media, politicians and the public to step forward and do the right thing. Bi-pole 3 routed on the west side simply is too costly financially and will jeopardize human safety and lives, as well as west side infrastructure.

John Roschuk C.E.T

## References

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2. Dr. Neil Cherry – 8<sup>th</sup> April 2001, Environmental Management and Design Division, Lincoln University New Zealand – “Evidence that Electromagnetic fields from high voltage power lines and in buildings, are hazardous to human health, especially young children.
3. European Commission – Health & Consumer Protection Directorate-General , Scientific Committee on Emerging and Newly Identified Health Risks (SCENIHR) Preliminary Opinion on Possible effects of Electro magnetic Fields (EMF) on Human Health .19 July 2006
4. Prof. L.A. Koshchev – (St-Petersburg, High Voltage Direct Current Power Transmission Institute) Environmental Characteristics of HVDC Overhead Transmission Lines.
5. Duane Dahlberg – Ground Currents – An Important Factor in Electromagnetic Exposure.
6. IIT Research Institute, Chicago II. Prepared for U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Radiation Programs, Washington D.C. - May 1978. - Evaluation of Health and Environmental Effects of Extra High Voltage (EHV) Transmission.
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8. Power Line Health Facts – <http://www.powerlinefacts.com/faq.htm> - FAQ for Health Effects of Transmission Power Line Magnetic and Electric Fields
9. National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, National Institutes of Health-EMF – Electric and Magnetic Fields Associated with the Use of Electric Power. Sponsored by the NIEHS/DOE EMF Rapid Program. June 2002.
10. Dr. A.S. Gerasimov – (St-Petersburg High Voltage Direct Current Power Transmission Research Institute) – Vladivostok, Russia, September 30, 2003. Environmental, Technical and Safety Codes, Laws and Practices Related to Power Line Construction in Russia
11. Health Physics - April 2009 Volume 96 Number 4. Excerpt. Laboratory Studies in Humans.
12. Diana M. Bonta R.N. Dr. P.H. Director of Department of Health Services for the State of California – Short Fact Sheet on EMF 1999.
13. Diana M. Bonta R.N. Dr. P.H. Director of Department of Health Services for the State of California – ELECTRIC & MAGNETIC FIELDS measurements and possible effect on human health – what we know and we don’t know in 2000.
14. Manitoba Highways Department – 2008 Annual Average Daily Traffic on Manitoba Highways.
15. Manitoba Hydro Public Information Brochure “ Direct Current Electric and Magnetic Fields” and Manitoba HVDC Research Centre- 18 March 1998 Paper “Titled HVDC Transmission”

16. David Hafemeister, California Polytechnic State University, Physics Department, "Background Paper on "Power Line Fields and Public Health"
17. Federal-Provincial-Territorial Radiation Protection Committee – Canada , Position Statement for the General Public on the Health Effects of Power Frequency (60Hz) Electric and Magnetic Fields – Issued on January 20, 2005
18. Bonneville Power Administration /Grand Coulee – Bell 500 KV Transmission Line Project, Appendix B -1: *Electrical Effects*.
19. Army Corps of Engineers – Engineer Research and Development Center. Freshwater Corrosion in the Duluth – Superior Harbour – Summary of Initial Workshop Findings 9 September 2004.

## Bi-Pole 3 West Side Route Toll on Human Lives, Health and Property

By John Roschuk C.E.T

A study has confirmed that there is a definite link between high voltage alternating current and direct current power transmission lines and vehicle accidents on roadways when travelling adjacent to and/or crossing under high voltage power lines. The study, based on empirical data and scientific studies supports the conclusions that transmission line electro-magnetic fields affect the human neurological system and therefore are a major factor in many highway traffic incidents. The study is based on historic (2002-2006 inclusive) accident data on highway 6 between Warren Manitoba and the 101 perimeter highway and the west and north side perimeter 101. The severity of the incidents varied from property damage and injury to fatalities.

Global scientific studies confirm that electric and magnetic fields can and do affect the human neurological systems to varying degrees. Depending on the individual's predisposition, the effects range from no noticeable effects, to nuisance effects, lose of concentration, involuntary muscle action to lose of consciousness and in rare cases death. and therefore are major factors in the cause of the traffic accidents by affecting the driver's neurological system sufficiently to cause partial or total lose of control of the vehicle.

The provincial government's preferred west side Bi-Pole 3 line will cross most major highways and numerous secondary roads and the Trans-Canada Highway twice. Based on the Manitoba Highways Branch 2008 Annual Daily Traffic on Manitoba Highways report approximately 70,000 vehicles will pass under the Bi-Pole 3 line every day. This will increase the incidents of property damage, injuries and fatalities significantly. The highway 6 and perimeter 101A scenarios do not only apply to roadways and highways, off-roads vehicles such as farm equipment will be subject to similar consequence. Other health and safety issues associated with electro-magnetic fields have been identified. Some of these are;

- a.) Pregnant women who walk or drive under high voltage transmission run a high risk of miscarriage.
- b.) Medical professionals caution people with implanted medical devices such as pace-makers should avoid close proximity to, or passing under, high voltage power transmission lines.
- c.) At road crossings, vehicles should be aligned perpendicular to the power line conductors to minimize magnetic & electric field induced current. Vehicles traveling parallel to high voltage power transmission lines should be outside the influence of the power line electric and magnetic fields. Power line electro-magnetic field can extend 300-1000 feet from a transmission line.
- d.) Vehicles should not be refuelled near or under high voltage power transmission lines unless the vehicle and the fuel source are both grounded.
- e.) Global studies have confirmed that children living in close proximity to high voltage power transmission lines have a 3 – 4 times higher incidence of leukemia.

In conclusion, the risk to human beings, animals and property is real and extremely high and therefore should not be allowed. When human health and lives are placed in jeopardy, it is non-negotiable. The west side Bi-pole 3 route extra costs and negative impact on all phases of the industry and in particular the farming community will be astronomical. However, if the effects on public health and safety are factored in, it will be impossible to put a price tag on this ill fated project simply because one cannot put a price on human suffering and life.

The farming community will likely be affected more than any other industry. The safety issues to humans and property have not been addressed adequately. The IEEE - 1542 -2007 Guide for Installation, Maintenance, and Operation of Irrigation Equipment Located Near or Under Power Lines, if adhered to, will be significantly more labour intensive. Failing to follow the guide lines could severely compromise operator and equipment safety.

The traffic on Manitoba highways and roadways is not restricted to Manitobans only, people from all over the world travel on Manitoba highways.

I urge the NDP Government to;

- a.) abandon the ill conceived west side route and
- b.) allow Manitoba Hydro Engineering to do the engineering and build a suitable transmission line corridor on the east side of Lake Winnipeg which can accommodate Bi-Pole 3 and future transmission lines. The east side corridor could be routed to avoid any and all future roads and not put the health and lives of people at risk. The east side route will bring much needed economic boost for the First Nations communities. Contrary to what the NDP Government wants the public to believe, the east side First Nations have petitioned the Provincial Government to build Bi-Pole 3 on the east side.
- c.) realize that Manitoba Hydro should be operated in the most efficient manner for the sole benefit of Manitobans. As a crown Corporation Manitoba Hydro belongs to all Manitobans and not just the NDP. Local and foreign special interest groups should be accommodated only if there is no unreasonable functional or financial burden on the people of Manitoba.

The government needs to realize that political interference with a sophisticated and high tech facility like Manitoba Hydro is doomed to failure if this government stays the course; Manitoba Hydro will face the same faith as the once mighty Ontario Hydro did.

I appeal to the scientific and professional communities, the media, politicians and the public to step forward and do the right thing. Bi-pole 3 routed on the west side simply is too costly if the sacrifice of human lives is part of the cost.

John Roschuk C.E.T

## Dagdick, Elise (CON)

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**From:** jgraham [jgraham@cc.umanitoba.ca]  
**Sent:** March-13-12 10:39 AM  
**To:** Dagdick, Elise (CON)  
**Cc:** 'Karen Friesen'; 'GARLAND Email'; 'Art Derry'; 'Jim Collinson'  
**Subject:** Submitted comments on Bipole III EIS  
**Attachments:** image001.png; image003.png; 120313 Bipole III EIS comments to Conservation\_submitted.pdf

13 March 2012

Ms. Elise Dagdick  
Environmental Officer,  
Environmental Assessment and Licensing Branch  
Manitoba Conservation  
123 Main Street, Suite 160  
Winnipeg MB R3C 1A5  
Email: [elise.dagdick@gov.mb.ca](mailto:elise.dagdick@gov.mb.ca)

### ***Comments from the Bipole III Coalition on the Bipole III EIS***

Dear Ms. Dagdick

On behalf of the Bipole III Coalition ([www.bipoleiiiicoalition.ca](http://www.bipoleiiiicoalition.ca)), I am sending you the attached document which contains our comments on the Bipole III Environmental Impact Statement. We understand the deadline for submissions is 16 March 2012 and that is the date we have used on the document.

The document is being sent to you first as a pdf in an email attachment. A paper copy will be sent by mail today.

Please consider our submission during your review of the severely flawed process that led to the proposed western route for Bipole III.

I shall be grateful if you will confirm you have received our document.

If you feel that Coalition members can assist Manitoba Conservation in any way during the review,



please contact me.

Sincerely

James Graham PhD DSc FEIC PEng  
Secretary, Bipole III Coalition  
Professor Emeritus, University of Manitoba

**Comments on the Bipole III Environmental Impact Statement  
prepared by the Bipole III Coalition  
and submitted to Manitoba Conservation  
on 16 March 2012**

**What is the Bipole III Coalition?**

The Bipole III Coalition was formed in late October 2010. The Coalition includes in its membership: retired senior Hydro executives and employees, Manitoba professional engineers retired from distinguished consulting and academic careers, leaders from the Manitoba Chapter of the Canadian Society for Senior Engineers, the Canadian Taxpayers Federation, the Canadian Aerial Applicators Association and the Manitoba Aerial Applicators Association, landowners and a growing number of concerned tax payers and citizens of Manitoba.

**The Bipole III Coalition Mission Statement**

The Bipole III Coalition is a grass-roots organization of concerned citizens that aims to promote increased public awareness among Manitobans that a route for the Bipole III transmission line on the east side of Lake Winnipeg is superior to the one on the west side of the province. The east-side route is superior because of greater economic, social and technical benefits for all Manitobans and reduced global environmental impact. More broadly, the Coalition aims to promote awareness of how the chosen route for Bipole III will impact on, or will be impacted by, Manitoba Hydro's legislated obligation to engage in and promote economy and efficiency in the development, generation, transmission, distribution, supply, and end use of power. The Coalition is not affiliated with any political party.

## **The Bipole III Project—a Flawed Process**

The Bipole III Coalition submits that the Bipole III environmental review process and, in fact, the entire planning process for the Bipole III project is flawed in many respects. Among the most obvious are:

- planning for and construction of the components of an expanded system for generating and transmitting northern power to the south of which the Bipole III project is only one component has begun before an independent quasi-judicial evidence-based public review of the “need for and alternatives to” those components has been completed;
- notwithstanding the integral role that the Bipole III project could play in a system expansion, recent announcements of an after-the-fact “need for and alternatives to” (NFAAT) analysis reveal that it is the intent to exclude the Bipole III project from that analysis;
- notwithstanding that a better routing is available, the only routing option considered in the Bipole III Environmental Impact Statement is a far western route.

This submission looks at each of these flaws, one by one.

## **System Expansion before Review**

- Even before a NFAAT review has started, pre-construction of infrastructure (roads, campsite and other amenities) and negotiation of ownership and operating agreements has begun for Keeyask. No serious consideration has been given to alternatives to Keeyask as the next generation plant. Deals are being struck with west-side communities and east-side planning is proceeding that includes roads but not a transmission line.
- Over the past five years, demand for exported power has dropped precipitously, prices being realized from exported power have plummeted and domestic requirements have declined.
- A proper NFAAT review could reveal that reliability requirements arising from line failure could be satisfied without the immediate construction of new conversion equipment in a system whose components could be more

compatible with each other and better sized to match demand. But that finding would be difficult, perhaps impossible, to integrate into projects that are already underway even before approvals and licensing is in place.

### **Exclusion of Bipole III from System Review**

A system review that excludes one of the key components of that system is no review at all. A Bipole III transmission line is required for reliability reasons. But conversion equipment needed at the ends of the transmission line to satisfy future growth in domestic and export requirements may not be required for some time yet. Both the Bipole III transmission line and its associated conversion equipment, once required, are part of that system. A system review that assumes that both the transmission line and its conversion equipment are required immediately is flawed and the result of another bad decision—the decision to build the line on the west side of the province (see below). That decision has resulted in a line that will be poorly compatible with existing conversion equipment and which will, therefore, unnecessarily limit system capacity. Furthermore, excluding Bipole III from the review precludes any consideration of developing or extending southern generation capacity.

### **Exclusion of Consideration of an East Side Bipole III Line**

The Bipole III Environmental Impact Statement states, in its project overview, that “this EIS ... is of no value in weighing the impacts of a transmission line routed on the west side of the Province of Manitoba as against the impacts of a transmission line routed on the east side of the Province,” effectively closing the door in the public review to comparisons with the east side. It is ironic that the Environmental Impact Statement affords space to the Government of Manitoba (see then-Minister Selinger’s letter of 20 September 2007) providing the Government with an opportunity to justify its decision to exclude consideration of the east side while denying the opportunity to the general public to argue in favour of the east side. The Bipole III Coalition considers this limitation unfair and it does not accept it.

Accordingly, the following paragraphs present the reasons that an east-side Bipole III is superior to the chosen west-side Bipole III.

- (1) The probability of losing a west-side Bipole III due to a windstorm is greater than with an east-side line.

- (2) The probability of losing all three bipoles due to windstorms is more than twice as great with a west-side Bipole III as with an east-side line.
- (3) The probability of losing all three bipoles due to an ice storm is greater with a west-side Bipole III than with an east-side line because of the greater proximity of a west-side line to the existing bipoles in the storm-prone areas near Gillam and near Winnipeg.
- (4) There is a greater probability with a longer west-side Bipole III of line faults and outage events caused by other than wind and ice than with an east-side line.
- (5) A west-side Bipole III will be more expensive than an east-side line even if the only consideration is its added length.
- (6) The construction time will be longer for a west-side Bipole III than for an east-side line.
- (7) Maintenance requirements will be greater for a west-side Bipole III and outage times will be longer than for an east-side line, even if line length were the only consideration.
- (8) Power losses will be greater with a west-side Bipole III than with an east-side line.
- (9) The impact on migratory birds will be considerably greater with a west-side Bipole III than with an east-side line and the cost of mitigation significantly greater
- (10) The impact on woodland caribou will be appreciable with a west-side Bipole III because a west-side line will pass through four significant caribou ranges, one of which is the calving ground for this endangered species.
- (11) Aboriginal resistance to a west-side Bipole III can be expected to be greater than to an east-side line because of the impacts of previous hydro-electric development in communities which will be traversed by the line.

- (12) A west-side Bipole III will leave unresolved the need to deal with the socio-economic disadvantages that are part of the reality of life in the east-side communities.
- (13) Unlike the east side, a west-side Bipole III will pass through some of the most productive agricultural land located in one of the best agro-climatic regions of western Canada, creating operational and management risks and impediments for some of the most progressive people in the province who are major contributors to the Gross Provincial Product.
- (14) A greater requirement for expropriation can be expected with a west-side Bipole III than with an east-side line because of the significantly greater extent of private ownership of land on the west side.
- (15) The system capacity with a west-side Bipole III to minimize unserved load during an extended outage will be sufficient only until 2025 because a west-side line cannot be paralleled with Bipoles I and II but the capacity with an east-side line would be sufficient for 13 years longer until 2038.
- (16) The transmission power density west of Lake Winnipeg after the addition in the future of 2000 MW of AC power on the west side will be much higher with a west-side Bipole III (5800 MW of DC carried by Bipoles I, II and III plus 2000 MW of AC) than it would with an east-side Bipole III (3800 MW of DC carried by Bipoles I and II plus 2000 MW of AC); in this situation, the 2000 to 3000 MW of DC transmission capacity of an east-side Bipole III operating in parallel with Bipoles I and II would result in a considerably improved balance of power density across the province.

### **Recommendation**

The Bipole III Coalition recommends that the Bipole III project be delayed until a proper independent review can be conducted and until a site selection and environmental assessment process unconstrained by an artificial exclusion of the east side has been completed.

## Dagdick, Elise (CON)

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**From:** Victoria Pugh [victory@mymts.net]  
**Sent:** December-12-11 2:25 PM  
**To:** Dagdick, Elise (CON)  
**Subject:** Emailing: 100\_0030Why Farmers Do Not Want Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Project Coming On There Land.

Dear Elise Dagdick

This one of the reasons why we do not want Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers and Lines coming on our land.

A couple of months ago when my husband and brother in law where combining their crop of Pedigreed Seed Flax therewas only a foot of space for the combine from touching this bottom hydro line of this leaning hydro pole that was leaning over my husband and brother inlaws crop which now has been fixed,but now Manitoba Hydro want to put Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers on the same field down the middle of the section of the land for three miles and we are saying no if this is how Manitoba Hydro are going to take care of their Hydro Poles and Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers and Lines this is too dangerous.

Also this field has had two major cyclones go through it and lots of high windstorms go through it also,in 1976,1996,2007,2011.

When Elie Manitoba had there F5 Tornado that Tornado was right above our farm before it hit Elie Manitoba. When you are in the Pedigreed Seed Business you also have alot of rouging to do which is hand pulling of noxious weeds around hydro poles and in the fields in general like Leafy Sprugeand will be exposed to these BiPole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers for several hours at a time which is not good for your health especially the noise coming from the Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers and Lines.

We rely heavily on the Aerial Applicators and they will not spray our crop for diseases if we have Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers and Lines going down the middle of the section of our land for three miles as it will be too dangerous for the spray planes to do there manoeuvres and procedures and our neighbors also rely heavily on the aerial applicators to spray there crops for diseases also like there potatoe crops and corn,sunflowers and the list goes on.For us in the Pedigreed Seed Business you will also have a over lap of chemicals ,fertilizers ,seed grain,mowing ,extra culivating to keep the weeds down,rouging around the Transmission Hydro Towers for noxious weeds like Leafy Spruge,10ft isolation strip and the list goes on.When you are in the Pedigreed Seed Business lets say that you where in a Pedigreed Seed Wheat field and some Pedigreed Seed Barley got into the field well you would have to hand pull all of the Pedigreed Seed Barleyout of the Pedigreed Seed Wheat Field and the same goes for your equipment you are using you also have to make sure it is also clean of weeds and other debree before you can ever go into that field and you have to make sure that the combine is clean for the next field before you enter it also and the list goes on.

Last Fall Minister Rosanne Wowchuck said that the Aerial Applicators could fly there spray planes under neith the Hydro Lines of the Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers well sorry to say but it is totally illegal for the Aerial Applicators to do that and too dangerous for them.Manitoba Hydro never thought of the safety of the spray plane pilots when they where planning this hydro project.Manitoba Hydro shoul;d of had a vote on this hydro project before they ever planned it.

Last fall at Gross Isle Manitoba another Pedigreed Seed Grower came into contact with one of the Bi Pole Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers there with his large farming equipment and took the Hydro Transmission Hydro Tower right off of its base and cost several thousand of dollars to fix ,now farmers ,land owners and property owners now have to carry extra liability insurance which is more moeny out of every ones pockets. This spring alot of farmers relied on the aerial appllicators to plant their crops as the fields where to wet to bring there ;large farming equipment into the fields.

We live not far from Agrium Distribution Terminal and the aerial applicators are very scared when they are spraying everyone crops that they will knock over one of the Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers onto the CN Railway and derail a train causing it to hit Agrium Distribution Terminal then everyone health would be at risk if this was ever to happened and the same goes for the high windstorms that we also get we are scared that it also will knock over one of the Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers onto the CN Railway and derail a train causing it to hit Agrium Distribution Terminal then everyone shealth would be at risk if this was ever to happened.

That is why all of this hydro needs to be going on the East side of Lake Winnipeg put this hydro under ground so itis away from the Ice storms ,High windstorms and Tornaodes. and so that farming equiptment and spray palnes do not come into contact with these high voltage hydro lines and towers.It would be safer for every one and Manitoba Hydro saying is that they are committed to safety,and that your over head hydro lines should be under ground,for safety reasons.

Manitoba Hydro have not told us where Bi Pole 4,5,6,and 9 are going neither and how much more prime agriculture land is going to be wasted in this province and taken out of production for the rest of its life.

Sincerely

Pam Pugh

R.R.4

Box 33

Portage La Prairie

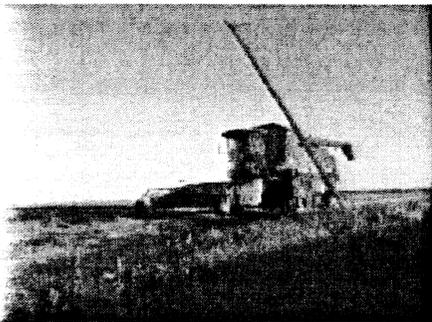
Manitoba

R1N 3A4

Phone 1-204-252-2424

Fax 1-204-252-2424

Email [victory@mymts.net](mailto:victory@mymts.net)



Manitoba Hydro had left these hydro poles leaning like this for a year which have now been fixed.But when my husband and brother inlaw where combining there crop of Pedigreed Seed Flax they only had a foot of space form touching this bottom hydro line of this leaning hydro pole that was leaning over there Pedigreed Seed Flax and now Manitoba Hydro want to put Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers down the middle of the crop for three miles .We are saying no fi this is how Manitoba Hydro are going to look after hydro poles and Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers.

Pam Pugh

## Dagdick, Elise (CON)

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**From:** Victoria Pugh [victory@mymts.net]  
**Sent:** December-12-11 3:00 PM  
**To:** Dagdick, Elise (CON)  
**Subject:** Emailing: scan0001 (6)This How Low The Spray Planes Half To Be In Order To Spray Every Ones Crops For Diseases And Why We Do Not Want Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers  
**Attachments:** Slideshow.gif; Savelmages.gif; 598F.jpg

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Dear Elise Dagdick

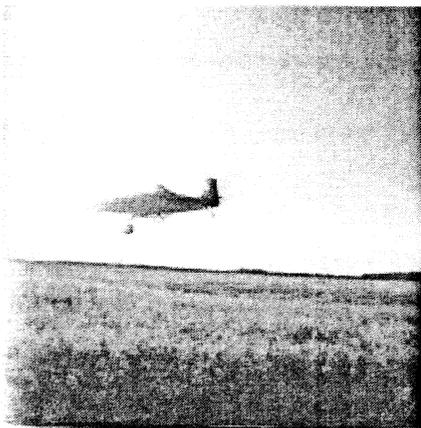
This is how low the spray planes have to be in orde to spray every ones fields for diseases and why the aerial applicators will not spray my husband and brother in laws crops if we have Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers going down the middle of there land for three miles it will be too dangerous for the spray planes to do there manoeuvres and procedures.The aerial applicator are also very scared that they willnock over one of the Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers on to the CN Railway and derail a train causing it to hit Agrium Distrbution Terminal then everyones health would be at risk if this was ever to happened.As we live close to Agrium Distribution Terminal

This spring farmers in our area rely heavily on the Aerial Applicators to plant there spring crops as the fields where too wet to bring in there large farming equiptment in the fear of getting stuck and causing more headaches.That is why it would be alot safer for everyone if all fo this hydro was going under ground away from the high windstorms ,ice storms Tornadoes and farming equiptment would'nt come into contact with the hydro transmission hydro towers and the spray planes either the same if the hydro was under ground and on the east side of Lake Winnipeg the more direct route to the United States.

Then last fall Minister Rosanne Wowchuck said that the aerial applaicators could fly there spray planes under neith the Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers with there spray planes which is totally illegal.

Sincerely

Pam Pugh



This how low the spray planes have to be in order to spray everyone crops for diseases and why also they do not want to spray my husband and brother inlaws crops if they have Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers going down the middle of the field for three miles.It will be too dangerous for them to do their

manouevers and procedures.They are also very scared tha they willnock over one of the Bi Pole III Hydro Transmissio Hydro Towers on to the CN Railway and derail a train causing it to hit Agrium Distribution Terminal then everyones health would be at risk if this was ever to happened.

Pam Pugh

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## Dagdick, Elise (CON)

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**From:** Victoria Pugh [victory@mymts.net]  
**Sent:** December-12-11 5:06 PM  
**To:** Dagdick, Elise (CON)  
**Subject:** Emailing: 100\_0073We Also Live Close To Agrium Distribution Terminal And The Aerial Applicators Won't Spray Our Crop If We Have Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers And Lines On It. It Will Be Too Dangerous.  
**Attachments:** 74E5.jpg

Dear Elise

We also live not far from Agrium Distribution Terminal and the Aerial Applicators are very scared when they are spraying our crop and our neighbors crops they are scared that they will knock over one of the Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Towers onto the CN Railway and derail a train and it will hit Agrium Distribution Terminal then everyone's health would be at risk if this ever happens, the same goes for when we have high windstorms which we have been having lately we are very scared that one of the Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers will do the same thing fall over and land on the CN Railway and derail a train then everyone's health would be at risk if this was ever to happen. Everyone in our neighborhood depends on the Aerial Applicators either for spraying their crops for diseases and to spray for potato bugs, corn, sunflowers and the list goes on to planting this year's spring crops because the fields were too wet for the farmers to get to their fields with their farming equipment. When the Aerial Applicators are planting your crop you want them to be precise because you are using expensive seed, fertilizers and chemicals so it is very costly and you don't want to monkey around. That is why it would be a lot safer if all of this hydro was on the east side of Lake Winnipeg put under ground so it is away from the high windstorms, ice storms, tornadoes so that also farming equipment and spray do not come into contact with Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers and Lines. Manitoba Hydro saying is they are committed to safety and they also say put your overhead hydro lines under ground for safety reasons. Please help us to move Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers and Lines to the east side of Lake Winnipeg where it will be a lot safer if it all under ground and you can export it that way to the United States and they can do it because before Gary Doer left for the United States he said to put Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers on the East side of Lake Winnipeg. A lot of Manitoba Hydro employees on this side of Lake Manitoba do not want Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers coming this way because they said that you are losing your line power, and it is much more dangerous on the west side of Lake Manitoba, with violent weather, and so forth.

Sincerely

Pam Pugh



The aerial applicators are very scared if we have Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers on our land they are scared that they will knock over one of the Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers on to the CN Railway and it will derail a train causing it to hit Agrium Distribution Terminal then everyone's health will be at

risk if this was ever to happened and everyone going down the Trans Canada Highway there health also would be ay risk if this was ever to happened.The same goes for the high wind storms that we have been having lately we are scared that the high windstorms will also do the same thingnock over one of the Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers on to the CN Railway and derail a train causing it to hit Agrium Distribution Terminal then everyones health would be at risk if this was ever to happened and everyone going down the Trans Canada Highway there health also would be at risk if this was ever to happened.

**Dagdick, Elise (CON)**

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**From:** Victoria Pugh [victory@mymts.net]  
**Sent:** January-05-12 11:28 AM  
**To:** Dagdick, Elise (CON)  
**Subject:** Bi Pole III Issues and Concerns

Dear Elise Dagdick

Minister David Chomiak is doing a study on the caribou herds on the east side of Lake Winnipeg when all he has to do is talk to Laursis Kleven who works for Manitoba Hydro and he said that they have tracking devices on the caribou herds and there is hardly any caribou herds left on the east side of Lake Winnipeg ,there is more caribou herds on the west side of Lake Manitoba .Mr.Chomiak needs to talk to the people that have already done the study and quit spending the tax payers money it is just nuts.So please tell Mr.Chomiak to talk with Manitoba Hydro .

Sincerely  
Pam Pugh

**FAX MESSAGE**

**FROM:** Pam Pugh

**PUGH SEEDS LTD  
PEDIGREED SEED GROWERS**

**R.R. 4 Box 32.  
Portage La Prairie, MB  
R1N 3A4**

252-2424  
**Phone (204) 252-2424  
Fax: (204) 252-2424**

Email  
victy@mymts.net

**DATE:**

**TO:**

**ATTN:** Environment Officer

Elise Dagdick

Here is a copy of the letters I got back from the Minister of Agriculture Gerry Ritz MP about Bi Pole III & a letter from Honourable Peter Kent, P.C. MP on about Bi Pole III. Agreement Distribution Terminal should come under an Environmental Issue we have not for from it and if we have Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers come on our land The aerial applicators will not spray our crop We are also Pedigreed Seed Growers & we have to work underneath the Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers for several hours at a time which is also not good for your health. Please help us.

Sincerely

Pam Pugh



Ottawa, Canada K1A 0C5

Quote: 157673

MAR 16 2011

Ms. Pam Pugh  
Pugh Seeds Ltd.  
RR 4, Box 32  
Portage La Prairie, Manitoba R1N 3A4

Dear Ms. Pugh:

I am writing in response to your correspondence to your member of Parliament, Ms. Candice Hoepfner, regarding your concerns about the potential impacts of the Bipole III project on your farm operation and family. I trust that the following information is of assistance to you.

Issues related to land use and development planning in Manitoba are the responsibility of the provincial government and are guided by Manitoba's *Planning Act*. Under this act, policies have been developed to guide the development of individual projects and to ensure that such projects are environmentally sound and are compatible with existing land uses.

While the Province of Manitoba has jurisdiction over land use and planning, energy and energy development are shared responsibilities between the federal and provincial governments. Provinces have the jurisdictional responsibility for resource management within their borders, including the production, transmission, and distribution of electricity, which would include projects like the Bipole III project.

The federal government's responsibilities lie primarily with international movements of energy and energy-using equipment, and with works extending beyond a province's borders. Natural Resources Canada is the lead department in overseeing federal responsibilities associated with energy. Accordingly, I am sharing your concerns with my colleague, the Honourable Christian Paradis, Minister of Natural Resources.

Thank you for taking the time to write with your concerns on this issue.

Sincerely,

Gerry Ritz, PC, MP

c.c.: Ms. Candice Hoepfner, MP  
The Honourable Christian Paradis, PC, MP

Canada



JUN 14 2011

Ms. Pam Pugh  
Pugh Seeds Ltd.  
R.R. 4, P.O. Box 32  
Portage la Prairie MB R1N 3A4

Dear Ms. Pugh:

Thank you for your correspondence regarding Manitoba Hydro's proposed Bipole III Transmission Reliability Project.

It is expected that an environmental impact statement for this project will be completed by Manitoba Hydro in June 2011, and will then be submitted to Manitoba Conservation for review. For a project of this nature, a federal review under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* would be required if certain conditions were met, such as if the federal government grants money or other financial assistance to the proponent of the project; if federal land is leased, sold or otherwise transferred to allow the project to proceed; or if a licence, permit or approval listed in the *Law List Regulations* must be issued.

Manitoba Hydro has not yet submitted a proposal for the construction of the Bipole III Project to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency, and the project has not been referred to my department for review through the environmental assessment process. Should the project be referred to Environment Canada by the Agency, the Department will participate in the environmental assessment process. Such an assessment would present opportunities for public comment.

For more information on the provincial review of this project, I suggest that you contact the Honourable Bill Blaikie, Manitoba's Minister of Conservation, at 330 Legislative Building, 450 Broadway, Winnipeg MB R3C 0V8; 204-945-3730 (telephone); 204-945-3586 (fax); [mincon@leg.gov.mb.ca](mailto:mincon@leg.gov.mb.ca).

I trust that this information is of assistance, and extend my best wishes.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Peter Kent, P.C., M.P.



## Dagdick, Elise (CON)

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**From:** Victoria Pugh [mailto:victory@mymts.net]

**Sent:** February-28-12 3:23 PM

**To:** Blunt, Bryan (CON)

**Subject:** Bi Pole III Concerns and Issues.

Dear Bryan

The Telecommunications Company Telus put up a Cellular Tower half a mile where Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers are suppose to go and our neighbors made the deal with Telus three years ago. Do you know if Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers will interfere with the Telus Communications Tower or not like with the frequency waves or not. Also Cathy Johnson said that Agrium Distribution Terminal is in the Clean Environment Proceedings and I don't know if they are going to be talking about it or if we have to talk about it, I know it is a environment issues and the aerial applicators won't spray our crops because we live to close to the Agrium Distribution Terminal and they are afraid if we have the Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers coming on our land and our neighbors land that it will be too dangerous for them to do their procedures and manoeuvres they are scared that they will catch one of the Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers and it will land on the CN Railway and derail a train causing it to hit Agrium Distribution Terminal or the Andhyrous Amonia Tank and if that ever got hit everyones health would be in jepordy if that ever happened and we depnd on the aerial applicators to spray our crops. Please let me know what we are suppose to do thankyou for all of your help.

Sincerely

Pam Pugh

## **Dagdick, Elise (CON)**

---

**From:** Victoria Pugh [mailto:victory@mymts.net]

**Sent:** February-29-12 12:09 PM

**To:** Blunt, Bryan (CON)

**Subject:** Bi Pole III Issues and Concerns

Dear Bryan

What do we do with the situation concerning Agrium Distribution Terminal which falls under the Environment Act. The aerial applicators will not spray our crops if we have Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers coming on our land for three miles they are scared the aerial applicators are very scared that they will knock over one of these Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers onto the CN Railway and derail a train causing it to hit Agrium Bloom Distribution Terminal, the aerial applicators are afraid of hitting the ammonia anhydrous fertilizer tank we have to many farmers beside us with irrigation systems and rely heavily for the spray planes to spray their crops of potatoes. We have Faurichou to the east of us we have Sawatzky to the south of us and Wiebes to the west of us rely heavily on the spray planes to spray their crops of potatoes in the summer time so the spray planes are constantly spraying our area and with having the Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers in the way it will be too dangerous for the spray planes to do their procedures and manoeuvres and Manitoba Hydro just moved Karen Friesens Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers from her area where farmers in her area had manure injector systems. Agrium Distribution Terminal is a lot more dangerous than that. Agrium Bloom Distribution Terminal is even watched out for Terro Alerts which tells you that they want anything to happen to the Ammonia Anhydrous Tank. If a train ever derailed and hit that fertilizer tank we would be all dead even all of our animals would be dead I mean people do not realize how serious this is. This is worse than your manure injector systems. If you have a 70km windstorm the same time when the fertilizer tank was hit the fumes coming from that fertilizer plant would even reach Portage and it would also affect the people going down the Trans Canada Highway. That is why it is so important that Manitoba Hydro reroute Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers from coming on our land. Cathy Johnson also said that Agrium Distribution Terminal is now in the proceedings so I don't know if they are going to talk about it in the panel discussions of if we have to. I think this is an Environment Issue and that Manitoba Hydro need to reroute their Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers because of all of the danger factors. Please let me know what we are supposed to do because we have never done this kind of thing before and we are scared and our nerves are shot. Please help us. And Thankyou for all of your help your words are always comforting and it means a lot to know that you are there. I don't understand why Mr. Selinger does not realize how dangerous this is I really don't and I don't realize why he does not listen to Manitoba Hydro they know it is too dangerous bringing Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers coming this way. My cousin is one of the Superintendents here at Portage Hydro and he said that it is too dangerous bringing Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers this way the field that they want to put Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers on has had two major cyclones go through it where it also took our neighbors barn down and up rooted trees. The other factor is that my husband and brother in law are Pedigreed Seed Growers and they will be exposed to these Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers for several hours at a time as they have to route around the Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers for several hours at a time which is not good for your health, especially the noise coming from the Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers. And if you do not pull these noxious weeds that grow up around these Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers you can lose your Pedigreed Business and there would also go your income. We have a friend that is also in the Pedigreed Business and he caught one of the Bi Pole Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers on his land with his cultivator and took the Bi Pole Hydro Transmission Hydro Tower right off of its base, when you are a Pedigreed Seed Grower you have to get a lot closer to the Hydro

Transmission Hydro Towers with your equipment to get all of the weeds and there is alot more work involved.Lets say that you where in a field of Pedigreed Seed Wheat and that some Pedigreed Seed Barley got into that field you would have to hand pull all of the Pedigreed Seed Barley out of the Pedigreed Seed Wheat field in order for the Pedigreed Seed Wheat Field to pass inspection.We have asked Manitoba Hydro to reroute Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers but I don;t think they realize how dangerous this is and I don't think they realize that Agrium Distribution Terminal is a Environment Issue.

Sincerely

Pam Pugh

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## Dagdick, Elise (CON)

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**From:** Victoria Pugh [victory@mymts.net]  
**Sent:** March-22-12 10:54 AM  
**To:** Dagdick, Elise (CON)  
**Subject:** Bi Pole III Issues and Concerns and Safety Issues.  
**Attachments:** 64ED.jpg; 64EE.jpg

Dear Elise

My name is Pam Pugh and my husband and brother in law are Pedigreed Seed Growers and belong to the Canadian Seed Growers Association.

I have been in contact with Mr. Blunt so he also knows where I am coming from with this Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Project.

Manitoba Hydro had left these live leaning hydro poles leaning like this for a year and if I had not phoned Manitoba Hydro they would have not fixed them until 2012. Last Fall when my husband and brother in law were combining their crop of Pedigreed Seed Flax the combine only had a foot of space from touching the bottom hydro line of this live leaning hydro pole, now Manitoba Hydro want to put Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers and Lines on the same field down the middle of the section for three miles which is too dangerous and unsafe and if this is how Manitoba Hydro are going to look after their hydro poles and hydro transmission hydro towers and lines then no way do we want them coming on our land. When you are in the Pedigreed Seed Business you also have a lot of hand pulling of noxious weeds and will be exposed to the Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers for several hours at a time and if you do not pull the noxious weeds you can lose your Pedigreed Standards and there would go your income and your Seed Business. Let's say that you were in a field of Pedigreed Seed Wheat and some Pedigreed Seed Barley got income your Pedigreed Seed Wheat field, you would have to hand pull all of the Pedigreed Seed Barley out of the Pedigreed Seed Wheat Field and if you don't do that you will lose your Pedigreed Seed Standards and there would go your livelihood and your income and you can not afford for that to happen. A couple of years ago another Pedigreed Seed Grower caught one of the Bi Pole Towers on his farm with his large farming equipment and took the Bi Pole Hydro Transmission Hydro Tower right off of its base which is too dangerous so where is Manitoba Hydro Safety Planning when developing the Bi Pole Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers and Lines Project. I do not think that they care about the Agriculture Industry at all. When you are in the Pedigreed Seed Business you have a lot more work involved to try and keep weeds down so then you have to also have isolation strips and you have to cultivate around the Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers and you have to get every close to them which is very dangerous. So we do not want that happening and that is why we do not want Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers and Lines coming on our land and they are also not good for your health especially when you have to work around the hydro transmission hydro towers for several hours at a time. This same field has also had two major cyclones go through it and also when Elie Manitoba had their F5 Tornado that Tornado was right above our farm before it hit Elie Manitoba.

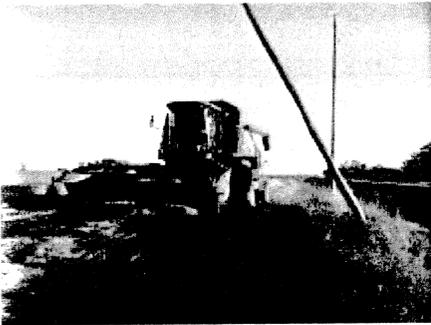
We also live not far from Agrium Bloom Distribution Terminal and our local Aerial Applicators will not spray our crops in fear of them clipping the Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers and Lines and the Towers and Lines then landing on the CN Railway and derailing a train and causing it to hit the Anhydrous Ammonia Fertilizer Tank and the same they can also spin out of control and hit the Anhydrous Ammonia Fertilizer Tank. It is not unusual for spray planes to have these problems when spraying people's crops for diseases and potato bugs it is pretty risky business and very dangerous for the Aerial Applicators and people to do seem to realize this. There have been lots of Aerial Applicators that have caught hydro lines with their spray planes [crop dusters] it is not unusual. So it would be nice if the Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers were rerouted and not so close to Agrium Distribution Terminal because if anything happens to the Huge Anhydrous Ammonia Fertilizer Tank everyone's health would be in jeopardy and that is for sure so please think

about this next time you are driving down the Trans Canada Highway because Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers and Lines are supposed to go 2 miles West of Agrium Distribution Terminal. Last year the Aerial Applicators did a lot of spring seeding for farmers as the fields were very wet and the farmers could not get their equipment into the fields in fear of them getting their farming equipment stuck. There were 15 land owners and Land Producers met with Minister Rosanne Wowchuck in the Fall of 2010 and she told us that the Aerial Applicators could fly their crop dusters under neither the Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers and Lines which is totally illegal for the crop dusters to do that and too dangerous. This is why we need help in rerouting the Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers and Lines so that it is safer for the Aerial Applicators in our area because they have to spray a lot of Potatoe Farmers Fields for Potatoe Bugs when the Potatoe Bugs are really bad and that can be at least once a week or more sometimes. And then it will be safer for them and you will not have to worry about the Huge Anhydrous Ammonia Fertilizer Tank at Agrium Bloom Distribution Terminal the same neither. We also get a lot of high windstorms and we fear of the same thing happening also the Transmission Hydro Towers landing on the CN Railway and derailing a train. So Please help us reroute Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers and Lines.

Sincerely

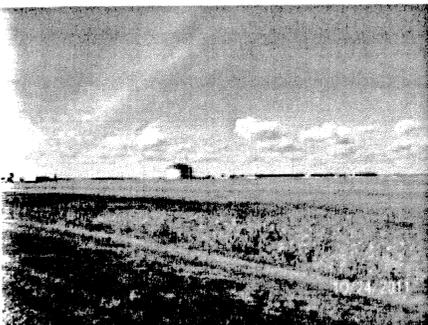
Pam Pugh

email victy@mymts.net



This is how Manitoba Hydro had left there live leaning hydro poles for a year. When my husband and brother in law were combining their crop of Pedigreed Seed Flax the combine only had a foot of space from touching the bottom hydro line of this live leaning hydro pole, now Manitoba Hydro want to put Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers down the middle of the same field for three miles. This same field has also had two major cyclones go through it and when Elie Manitoba had their F5 Tornado that Tornado was right above our farm before it hit Elie Manitoba.

Pam Pugh



We also live close to Agrium Distribution Terminal and the aerial applicators [crop dusters will not spray our crops and our neighbors crops in fear of them clipping the Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers and the Towers then landing on the CN Railway and derailing a train or them spinning out of control and hitting the Huge Anhydrous Ammonia Fertilizer Tank.

Pam Pugh

## Dagdick, Elise (CON)

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**From:** Victoria Pugh [victory@mymts.net]  
**Sent:** April-09-12 12:45 PM  
**To:** Dagdick, Elise (CON)  
**Subject:** Fw: Another Reason Why Farmers Do Not Want Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers Coming On Their Pedigreed Seed Land.

Dear Elise

Here is another reason why farmers do not want Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers coming on their Pedigreed Seed Land.

Last Fall after we where done combining Manitoba Hydro decided to fix the live leaning hydro poles that Manitoba Hydro left leaning live for a year they had put them up then they decide to get the ones they left laying down the thing that is so mading is they never asked if they could come across our Pedigreed Seed Field and we told them they would half to have their equiptment in spected before they enter our fields and they came when the fields where wet and they left huge ruts in the field,then they want you to allow them to put Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers and Lines down the same field down the middle of the section for three miles no way if this is how Manitoba Hydro are going to look after things and leave things in a big mess,now we will have to spend all summer hand pulling all of the noxious weeds and any other weeds or what ever else they brought in on their equiptment from other farmers fields.

Sincerely

Pam Pugh



This is how Manitoba Hydro look after farmers Pedigreed Seed Land and they never asked before they could come on my husband and brother in laws land ,now Manitoba Hydro want to put Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers on the same field down the middle of the section for three miles.No way if this is how Manitoba Hydro are going to look after our land .

Pam Pugh



Manitoba Hydro never asked my husband and brother inlaw last fall if they could come across there Pedigreed Seed Field and came when the field was wet and left huge ruts in the field ,now we will have to spend all summer hand pulling noxious weeds and what ever else weeds they had on there equiptment that

never got inspected before they entered the field. This is another reason why we do not the Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers coming on our land.

Pam Pugh

**From:** [victory@mymts.net](mailto:victory@mymts.net)

**Sent:** Thursday, April 05, 2012 7:37 AM

**To:** [Ian Wishart](#)

**Subject:** Another Reason Why Farmers Do Not Want Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers Coming On Their Pedigreed Seed Land.

Dear Ian and Michele

Last Fall after we where done combining Manitoba Hydro decided to fix the Hydro Poles after leaving them leaning live for a year but after they had put them up then they decided to get the ones they left laying down the thing that is so mading is they never asked if they could come across our Pedigreed Seed Field and we told them that they would have to have their equipment in spected before they enter our fields and they came when the fields where wet so and left huge ruts in the field, then they want you to allow them to put Bi Pole III Hydro Transmission Hydro Towers and Lines down the middle of the section for three miles no way not if this is how they are going to look after things and leave things in a big mess, now we will have to spend all summer hand pulling all of the noxious weeds and any other weeds and other wheat seeds or whatever else they brought in on their equipment from other farmers fields.

Sincerely

Pam Pugh



This is how Manitoba Hydro look after farmers Pedigreed Seed Fields left behind huge ruts and never asked if they could come on our land and never had their equipment inspected before they entered the field, and came when the fields where wet.

Pam Pugh



Manitoba Hydro never asked if they could come across our Pedigreed Seed Field with there equipment and came when the fields where wet and left huge ruts in the fields then expect you to let them put Bi Pole III Hydro Transission Hydro Towers down the middle of the section for three miles.

Pam Pugh

## **Dagdick, Elise (CON)**

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**From:** James Beddome [jbeddome@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** December-12-11 3:09 PM  
**To:** Conservation, Minister (LEG)  
**Cc:** dan.mcnaughton@ceaa-acee.gc.ca; Johnson, Cathy (CON); threno@hydro.mb.ca; cbjohnson@hydro.mb.ca; Dagdick, Elise (CON); Premier (LEG)  
**Subject:** Re: Bipole III Hearings  
**Attachments:** image003.jpg

Dear Acting Conservation Minister Dave Chomiak,

I would like to thank your government for taking the step of initiating public hearings regarding Manitoba Hydro's proposed Bipole III Transmission project. As you are no doubt aware this has been a rather contentious project, and therefore allowing for public hearings is vital. I will undoubtedly be very active in both the 90 day review and hearing process, but I have some central concerns for which I would like some clarifications. Also I would ask that you please file these comments in Manitoba public registry 5433.00.

### **1. Federal Assessment**

The June 2011 Scoping document for Bipole III states:

"It is anticipated that Manitoba Conservation will coordinate a cooperative environmental assessment process with the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) in accordance with the "Canada-Manitoba Agreement on Environmental Assessment Cooperation". The cooperative process will ensure provincial-federal coordination and compliance with respective legislated mandates under The Environment Act and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act." (pg. 3)

Yet the December 2011 EIS for Bipole III now states:

"In the case of Bipole III, Manitoba Hydro is of the opinion that an environmental assessment will not be required pursuant to federal legislation." (pg. 1-11)

Why has there seemingly been a change in opinion? Is the Government of Manitoba also of the opinion that no federal responsible authority will be triggered by Bipole III? Is your Government aware of whether this 'Manitoba Hydro opinion' is shared by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency and potential federal responsible authorities?

It would seem to be a rather strange finding that the construction of Bipole III would not have any significant impacts to fisheries, navigation, or species at risk. Can you provide any further clarification, as to whether a federal review under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act will, or will not, be required?

### **2. Scope of Review**

There are large general issues surrounding energy use in Manitoba that need to be answered. Manitoba truly needs a comprehensive energy plan! In many ways it is impossible to disentangle Bipole III from the new hydro-electric dams (Keeyask and Conawapa) also being proposed. Bipole III is not so much a stand alone project, but rather one component of ~\$20 billion in planned hydro electric developments in Manitoba's North.

I recognize that the general scope of this review is whether a Manitoba Environment Act license should be issued to Manitoba Hydro for the Bipole III project, but I feel that what would be most beneficial would be a broader public review that would result in an energy plan for Manitoba. To this end I would note that the Keeyask Generation Project is also in the preliminary stages of applying for a Manitoba Environment Act license, as well as a CEEA review. Such a broad review should consider not only the environmental impacts of the proposed projects, but should also examine: how energy conservation could be enhanced in Manitoba to reduce Manitoba's long-term total energy demand, the sustainability of Manitoba Hydro's present debt load, the profitability and forward-thinking risks from long-term energy export contracts entered into by Manitoba Hydro, and other means of generating energy in Manitoba such as wind and solar.

Is your government willing to implement public hearings on such a broad review of Manitoba's Crown utility?

### **3. Conflict of Interest**

The waters of ministerial responsibility surrounding Manitoba Hydro have been muddied with concerns over potential conflicts of interest following issuance of Manitoba Order in Council (374/2011). Minister Chomiak has been given interim ministerial responsibility for the Department of Conservation (which includes Manitoba's *Environment Act* among other acts) as well as responsibility for the *Manitoba Hydro Act*. (Stan Struthers, as interim Finance Minister, is charged with the ministerial responsibilities for the *Crown Corporations Public Review and Accountability Act*). What dirties these waters is to have a minister responsible for a Crown Corporation, also being responsible for issuing licenses under the *Environment Act* to the same corporation. This is a clear conflict of interest!

How does the Minister of Conservation intend to deal with this conflict of interest? Keeping in mind that Manitoba Hydro is in the process of requesting licenses for both Bipole III Transmission Corridor and Keeyask Generating Station, with more expected to follow soon. Obviously the same conflict of interest also exists for other hydro projects which are presently, or which will soon be, seeking a license.

I thank you in advance for attention to these matters and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

James Beddome

CC: Elise Dagdick, Manitoba Environment Officer; Clean Environment Chair (CEC) Chairperson Terry Sargeant (c/o CEC Secretary Cathy Johnson); Dan McNaughton, Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) Prairies Region Director; C.B. (Carl) Johnson, J. Trent Hreno, Manitoba Hydro Coordinator Southern Community Consultation Licensing & Environmental Assessment Dept.; C.B. (Carl) Johnson, Manitoba Hydro Coordinator Northern Community Consultation Licensing & Environmental Assessment Dept; Premier Greg Selinger