

2010 06 18

Ms. Tracey Braun, Ba.Sc.
Director
Environmental Assessment & Licensing Branch
Manitoba Conservation
Suite 160-123 Main Street
Winnipeg MB R3C 1A5

Dear Ms. Braun:

Re: Pointe du Bois Spillway Replacement Project

On August 1, 2007 Manitoba Hydro submitted an Environment Act Proposal Form (EAPF) with you to modernize the Pointe du Bois generating facilities by constructing new generating facilities adjacent to the existing facilities. As a result of rising construction costs and the change in the economic climate, Manitoba Hydro has decided that the Pointe du Bois project will now take the form of new spillways and new concrete and earth dams. With this change to the scope of the project, the name of the project has been changed to the Pointe du Bois Spillway Replacement Project. There are no plans to rebuild the powerhouse at this time. The existing powerhouse will continue to operate with on-going activities to maintain safety and reliability. With these improvements, modern dam safety guidelines will be addressed.

Accordingly, I am withdrawing the August 1, 2007 EAPF and replacing it with the enclosed EAPF for the new Pointe du Bois Spillway Replacement Project (the Project). New spillways and concrete and earth dams will be constructed just downstream of the existing spillway. The forebay will continue to be controlled within historical operating levels. The existing spillway will operate during the construction of the new facilities and then will be decommissioned.

As you know, Manitoba Hydro initiated an environmental assessment on the previous project. The assessment will now be completed for the Spillway Replacement Project. The enclosed Draft Environmental Assessment Scoping Document has been modified from that approved by you in January 2008 to reflect the details of the new Project. Once the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is completed, scheduled for spring 2011, it will be forwarded to you for review and comment.

It is our interpretation that the new facilities will require a Class 2 Development Licence pursuant to *The Environment Act* and a screening review pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*. We also expect that authorization under the *Fisheries Act* and permitting under the *Navigable Waters Protection Act* will be required.

We anticipate that you will implement a cooperative environmental assessment review of the Project pursuant to the *Canada/Manitoba Agreement on Environmental Assessment Cooperation*. Manitoba Hydro welcomes such a cooperative process.

It would assist our environmental assessment process if you could review our Draft Environmental Assessment Scoping Document and provide any further guidance that you deem necessary for the preparation of the EIS for the Project.

Thank you for your cooperation and guidance in this matter. We are available to discuss this Project with you further as may be required.

Yours truly,



R. Kustra
Manager
Major Projects Assessment & Licensing
Power Projects Development Division
Power Supply

JM/sk

Enc.

c: Peter Boothroyd - Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency