

Pointe du Bois Spillway Replacement Project

SOCIO ECONOMIC EFFECTS MONITORING PLAN

DRAFT



 Manitoba
Hydro

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POINTE DU BOIS SPILLWAY REPLACEMENT PROJECT

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Environmental monitoring, which provides the means to verify impact predictions and the effectiveness of mitigation measures, is an important component of any project. This document describes the Socio-Economic Effects Monitoring Plan for the Pointe du Bois Spillway Replacement Project (the Project). The Project is planned to replace the existing spillway and water retention structures, this will maintain public and dam safety and provide a safer working environment. The predicted environmental effects of the Project were described in the Pointe du Bois Spillway Replacement Project Environmental Impact Statement (Manitoba Hydro 2011) (the EIS) and the Pointe du Bois Spillway Replacement Alteration report (Manitoba Hydro 2012). The Project will be constructed and operated by Manitoba Hydro.

The socio-economic environment encompasses economic components (employment, business, and income), and social components (traffic, and personal family and community life). The monitoring program focuses on key components of the socio-economic environment that may be affected by the Project, including both indirect and direct effects.

2.0 OVERALL PURPOSE AND APPROACH

The socio-economic monitoring plan for the Project is intended to document conditions over time for Valued Environmental Components (VECs) and other environmental parameters to:

- Confirm impact predictions in the EIS Report;
- Identify unanticipated effects;
- Confirm adherence to EIS commitments regarding mitigation measures;
- Monitor the effectiveness of mitigation measures;
- Identify other mitigation or remedial actions that may be implemented;
- Confirm compliance with regulatory requirements including Project approvals and environmental regulations;
- Support recommendations for modifications to the environmental protection plans where implementation difficulties are identified or unexpected circumstances arise; and
- Provide baseline data and development information and experience for other users.

The monitoring program does not attempt to address all potential changes to the environment described in the EIS, but rather focuses on potential important effects to key components of the socio-economic environment. The program builds on the assessment studies conducted for the EIS Report using established methods for data collection and analysis. The proposed program will be adaptive in that results of monitoring will be used to modify the program on an on-going basis, as appropriate. Separate monitoring programs have been developed in relation to physical, terrestrial and aquatic components.

3.0 STUDY AREA

The nature and degree of socio-economic effects resulting from the Project are expected to vary depending on, among other things, proximity to the Project and geographic location relative to the Project Preference Zone (PPZ) (EIS Figure 8.10 Project Preference Zone – attached). The study areas identified below were considered in the EIS (Figure 7.26 Socio-economic Study Area – attached).

Local Study Area – The Local Study Area captures the potential local effects of the Project primarily related to construction, transportation, and accommodation and services. The local study area includes the Pointe du Bois townsite, the existing Pointe du Bois GS, and lodges and outfitters in the Pointe du Bois area. The local study area also includes the local communities of Pinawa and Lac du Bonnet, potential material sources for the Project at Seddons Corner, and roadways (Provincial Road 313, Provincial Road 520, and parts of Provincial Trunk Highways 11 and 44).

Regional Study Area – The broadest spatial scope used for the assessment is the Regional Study Area. The regional study area captures potential regional effects of the Project, primarily related to transportation, beyond the local study area, and is similar to the PPZ which has been established for determining eligibility for opportunities related to the Project.

The regional study area includes the following:

- The Rural Municipalities (RMs) of Alexander, Brokenhead and Lac du Bonnet;
- Parts of the RMs of St. Clements, Whitemouth and Reynolds;
- The Towns of Lac du Bonnet, Powerview-Pine Falls, and Beausejour;
- The Local Government District of Pinawa; and
- Sagkeeng First Nation and Brokenhead Ojibway Nation.

4.0 OVERALL SCHEDULE

The socio-economic monitoring program focuses on the construction period of the Project reflecting the magnitude of employment, business and income opportunities available during that time.

5.0 ECONOMIC MONITORING

Economic monitoring will include monitoring of employment and business associated with the Project. The objectives of economic monitoring for the Project are as follows:

- Track employment outcomes, with a particular focus on Aboriginal and other full-time residents of the PPZ;
- Track construction business opportunity outcomes, with a particular focus on Aboriginal and other businesses in the PPZ; and
- Track the effect of the Project on labour income resulting from direct employment.

5.1 EMPLOYMENT

Background

Monitoring of employment outcomes will provide data on the success in attracting and retaining Aboriginals and other full time residents in the PPZ during Project construction.

Methods

Data collected during construction will include total employment opportunities and uptake of opportunities available including the amount (i.e., total person hours, number of hires and employees, and average duration of work on the Project) and type (i.e., job classification) of work available.

Analysis will include consideration of the breakdown of employment uptake among the categories of PPZ Aboriginal resident, PPZ resident and Manitoba resident other than a PPZ resident. Total number of employees by each category as well as duration of employment and rates of turnover, will also be considered.

During construction, employment data will be collected on site by contractors through an employee self-declaration form designed specifically for the Project. All completed forms will be provided by on-site contractors to Manitoba Hydro, and stored in a central database for the Project. Contractors will also provide information to Manitoba Hydro on hours worked and labour income on a monthly basis to enable calculations of person hours and income estimates during construction.

5.2 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Background

Project construction will present direct and indirect business opportunities in the PPZ and in the province. Monitoring of business outcomes will provide data on the direct expenditures (e.g. concrete/steel) of the Project with a focus on Aboriginal and other businesses in the PPZ.

Methods

Data collected during construction will consist of direct expenditures of the Project with a focus on Aboriginal and other business purchases in the PPZ.

6.0 SOCIAL MONITORING

6.1 BACKGROUND

Social effects of the Project are expected to vary depending on proximity to the Project. The widest scope and magnitude of effects is expected to occur in the Local Study Area. Anticipated social effects were identified in the EIS Report. The proposed social monitoring program has been designed to address these potential effects and to identify and respond to any unanticipated effects of the Project.

The objectives of social monitoring for the Pointe du Bois Spillway Replacement Project are as follows:

- Monitor enjoyment of the local area, focussing on traffic levels; and
- To document and follow-up on Manitoba Hydro's ongoing communications with local stakeholders regarding potential Project impacts.

The EIS Report identified potential effects on communities in the Local Study Area including Pointe du Bois. Manitoba Hydro will maintain communication with Aboriginal groups and local stakeholders during the construction period of the Project. This aspect of monitoring will include any concerns (i.e., noise, safety, security, and inconvenience) identified through the communication, as well as traffic monitoring. Measures taken to address any concerns will be documented and reported on.

6.2 ENJOYMENT OF THE LOCAL AREA

6.2.1 Traffic

During construction of the Project, there is the potential for an increase in traffic on Provincial Road 313. In addition, in the EIS, Manitoba Hydro committed to monitoring traffic levels along PR 313 east of the PR 315 junction which will include the new public/townsite access. During construction, traffic surveys will be conducted annually during the summer months and will include information on traffic volumes.

6.3 ONGOING COMMUNICATIONS

During construction of the Project, Manitoba Hydro will undertake regular communications with Aboriginal groups and local stakeholders to address issues as they arise. Manitoba Hydro is currently preparing a Communication Plan for the Project. Additional details will be provided once the Plan has been completed. As part of the Plan, the Pointe du Bois Spillway Replacement Project website has sections for construction status updates, notices about activities within the Project area, hiring in the local Project area, and links to Project tenders and Project contacts. Updates are being done immediately, as required, to the community notices, hiring and tenders sections. Construction status will be updated in the Spring and Fall. In addition to website postings, newsletters providing Project activity updates are being mailed to Aboriginal groups and local stakeholders. During construction of the Project, a Site Liaison Officer will be on-site to address issues that may arise with stakeholders in the area.

Once the Communication Plan is drafted, Manitoba Hydro will consult with Aboriginal groups and local stakeholders to present the Plan and to obtain feedback on it. Following the consultation process, the Communication Plan for the Project will be finalized.

7.0 SCHEDULE

Impact management and monitoring outcomes will be summarized annually during Project construction. Data will be used by Manitoba Hydro on a more frequent basis as it becomes available for the purpose of adaptive management.

8.0 REPORTING

A Project monitoring report, detailing the results of the socio-economic monitoring activities, will be prepared annually and submitted to Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship. The first monitoring report will be completed following the first complete year of construction. Modifications will be made to the monitoring program in response to monitoring results, where required.