



Sustainable Development

Environmental Stewardship Division
Environmental Approvals Branch
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September 13, 2017

Kevin D. Toyne
Suite 2670, 360 Main Street
Winnipeg, MB R3C 3Z3

Dear Mr. Toyne:

Thank you for your recent correspondence to Honourable Rochelle Squires on behalf of the Southeast Stakeholders Coalition pertaining to the Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project (MMTP). In particular, you have noted in your letter that should the Minister decide to issue a licence to Manitoba Hydro, it would be your client's intention to request that the Minister suspend that licensing decision pending your appeal to Cabinet. In this regard, the Minister has asked that I respond on her behalf.

I would like to thank the members of the Southeast Stakeholders Coalition for their participation in the environmental assessment process under The Environment Act as well as in the Clean Environment Commission (CEC) public hearings for this project. As you have noted in your letter, the CEC will be providing its Report to the Minister in the near future with its advice and recommendations relative to Manitoba Hydro's licence application for the MMTP. Comments received from the public through both of these processes are carefully reviewed, assessed, and documented for the Minister's review and consideration prior to the making of any licensing decision.

Appeals of the Minister's licensing decision, which includes issuance of an Environment Act licence, may be appealed within 30 days of the date of the decision in accordance with section 28(1) of The Environment Act. Section 30 of The Environment Act allows for the Minister to suspend the operation of the decision, in whole or in part, until an appeal is disposed of. The Minister may consider this option upon receipt of any appeals to an Environment Act licence issued for the project. As such, should the Minister make a licensing decision that your client wishes to appeal, we would respectfully suggest, concurrent with that appeal, that your client confirm the request for a suspension under section 30.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact Ms. Elise Dagdick, Environment Officer, at Elise.Dagdick@gov.mb.ca.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tracey Braun". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tracey Braun
Director

cc: Honourable Rochelle Squires