

SUBJECT AREA: ATK, engagement funding

REFERENCE: SCO-IR-002 Hydro Response

QUESTION:

- a) How many ATK or land use and occupancy proposals were submitted by First Nation communities and Indigenous organizations to MH?
- b) How many ATK or land use and occupancy proposals were funded by MH?
- c) What was the dollar value of the funded agreements in total?
- d) Were the results of the funded ATK or land use and occupancy projects valuable to the development of the MMTP EIS? Explain please.
- e) What is the percentage of the planning budget for MMTP that was used for ATK studies?

RESPONSE:

- 1 a) Manitoba Hydro received seven ATK or land use and occupancy proposals from First Nations
2 and the MMF.
- 3 b) Seven were funded by Manitoba Hydro.
- 4 c) The total dollar value for ATK or land use and occupancy proposals was approximately 1.8
5 million dollars.
- 6 d) Yes, the results of the funded ATK or land use and occupancy projects were valuable to the
7 development of the MMTP EIS. The ATK that was shared through the studies assisted Manitoba
8 Hydro with:
 - 9 • developing a greater understanding of the Project area
 - 10 • identifying key concerns in the study area
 - 11 • identifying potential Project effects
 - 12 • planning and designing the Project
 - 13 • developing potential mitigation measures

- 14 e) The updated total project cost estimate is \$453.2 million.

SUBJECT AREA: Mitigation, surveys, monitoring

REFERENCE: SCO-IR-003 Hydro Response

QUESTION:

Please provide a list and description of the Spring 2017 monitoring and fieldwork MH has planned for the proposed MMTP route. Please describe the pre-construction abundance/flight path surveys that MH will be conducting Spring 2017.

RESPONSE:

- 1 **Please note the filing of an updated draft Environmental Monitoring Program (Appendix 22C).*
- 2 A description of the fieldwork being conducted in 2017, including spring, is outlined in Figure 4-
- 3 1 of the Draft Environmental Monitoring Program (Appendix 22C). Details of the fieldwork for
- 4 each activity are outlined in Section 7.0 Monitoring Methods.
- 5 As outlined in Figure 4.1 of the Draft Environmental Monitoring Program, Manitoba Hydro is
- 6 not proposing preconstruction abundance/flight path surveys in spring 2017. The pre-
- 7 construction surveys for this program were conducted in 2014 as part of the environmental
- 8 assessment. A description of how they were conducted is outlined in Section 9.3.1.4 of Chapter
- 9 9.

SUBJECT AREA: Bird mortalities
REFERENCE: SCO-IR-003 Hydro Response
QUESTION:

Please describe what other methods aside from bird diverters could be used to reduce bird mortalities?

RESPONSE:

1 As outlined in SCO-IR-003, Manitoba Hydro is committed to reporting bird collision information
2 with the Manitoba Sustainable Development regional wildlife manager/biologist and jointly
3 identifying what additional mitigation measures should be implemented as a part of adaptive
4 management. As outlined in the EIS and APLIC (2012), a primary method of reducing bird
5 collision is the installation of bird diverters. The arrangement, type, color, and quantity of bird
6 diverters can be altered if the current prescription is not effective. However, there may be
7 circumstances along some spans where managing the surrounding vegetation on, or adjacent,
8 to the ROW could also lower the bird-collision risk.

9 **References**

10 APLIC (Avian Power Line Interactions Committee). 2012. Reducing avian collisions with
11 power lines: the state of the art in 2012. Edison Institute and APLIC. Washington DC.

SUBJECT AREA: MMTP planning 2007

REFERENCE: SCO-IR-004 Hydro Response

QUESTION:

Please describe the specific planning for MMTP that began in 2007. This would include but not be limited to: engineering, engagement, discussions with stakeholders, First Nations and Indigenous organizations, costs evaluation, field studies etc.

RESPONSE:

- 1 Requests for Transmission Service between Manitoba and the U.S. were submitted by the
- 2 customer between May 2007 and April 2008. Engineering planning studies began in the fall of
- 3 2008 to define potential transmission options that could fulfill the customer's requirements.

SUBJECT AREA: **Blasting Period Communication Plan**

REFERENCE: **SCO-IR-005**

QUESTION:

We note that Manitoba Hydro will notify rural municipal offices when blasting/implosions are undertaken for the project. Will Manitoba Hydro inform First Nation Governments when blasting/implosions are undertaken for the project?

RESPONSE:

- 1 Yes, Manitoba Hydro will contact Indigenous Governments that have identified potential
- 2 resource-use and other activities that may be affected by the construction project.

SUBJECT AREA: **Blasting Period Communication Plan**

REFERENCE: **SCO-IR-005**

QUESTION:

- a) What is meant by coordinate letters or mailers to be distributed near the “timing of these events”?
- b) What time period before blasting?
- c) Will more than one notice be sent? Will MH do follow-up to confirm the information was received?
- d) Why only letters and mailers?
- e) Why not use public notices in the media or emails or faxes to local governments including First Nation government?

RESPONSE:

- 1 Letters or mailers notifying of a blast/implode will be distributed once the window of applicable
- 2 blast/implode dates is known. Issuing notification one to two weeks in advance of a sequence
- 3 of blasts/implodes has typically proven effective.

- 4 The usual notification protocol involves distributing one letter or mailer to a particular
- 5 community or group and following up to ensure the notification was received and discuss any
- 6 questions or concerns of the recipient(s). There will be follow up with residents and identified
- 7 resource-users in close proximity (typically within two kilometers) of a blast/implode several
- 8 days to hours ahead of the activity to provide accurate timing information.

- 9 Letters and mailers have proven to be effective means of notification in the past. Manitoba
- 10 Hydro is open to email correspondence and broader notification such as Facebook, Twitter,
- 11 311-Winnipeg and local radio stations to notify the public.

SUBJECT AREA: **Blasting**

REFERENCE: **SCO-IR-005**

QUESTION:

Please identify the sites along the proposed MMTP route that will require blasting in map form

RESPONSE:

- 1 Implosions will take place at almost all angle tower locations and selected features such as the
- 2 tower locations adjacent to the Red River crossing and Bipole III crossing. Angle tower and
- 3 major crossing locations are identified on the Construction Environmental Protection Plan
- 4 maps.

- 5 Implosions for splicing conductor cables will occur intermittently between angle towers and
- 6 crossing features. Conductor reels are typically 3200 metres in length, therefore implosion
- 7 splicing will be required approximately every 3200 metres to create a continuous conductor
- 8 cable from one angle tower to another. These locations cannot be determined until the reels
- 9 are purchased and the stringing plan is established immediately prior to that stage of
- 10 construction.

SUBJECT AREA: **Emergency response plan**

REFERENCE: **SCO-IR-012**

QUESTION:

Please provide a copy of the emergency preparedness/response plan.

RESPONSE:

- 1 Manitoba Hydro is not able to share this detailed plan due to the sensitive nature of
- 2 information related to Manitoba Hydro's capacity and procedures in responding to
- 3 emergencies related to critical transmission infrastructure. Please see MWL-IR-103 for
- 4 Manitoba Hydro's Corporate Emergency Management Plan.

SUBJECT AREA: **Emergency Response Reporting**

REFERENCE: **SCO-IR-013**

QUESTION:

Will MH commit to making public all fires and spills that occur during construction of MMTP?

RESPONSE:

- 1 Wildfires and reportable spills are reported to the regulator and therefore the information
- 2 becomes public domain. An annual report will be available upon request.

SUBJECT AREA: Heritage resources

REFERENCE: SCO-IR-015

QUESTION:

Please provide a real world example of an occasion where MH did “arrange for and facilitate an appropriate ceremony”. The names of individuals and community names may be left out to protect privacy.

RESPONSE:

- 1 Recently several prayer trees were discovered on a right-of-way. Local Indigenous communities
- 2 were notified and after discussion, Elders were identified for a ceremony. The ceremony
- 3 included tobacco and prayers. After the Elders removed the prayer cloths, the Elders gave
- 4 permission for construction to continue.

SUBJECT AREA: Heritage resources

REFERENCE: SCO Round 2 IRs 28-43

QUESTION:

Please provide a real world past example of involvement in this process by First Nations. Please elaborate on how “First Nation and Metis will have the opportunity for involvement in the HRIM field investigations” to share results and processes with their respective communities.

RESPONSE:

1 Manitoba Hydro is committed to continuing engagement and sharing of information with
2 communities and organizations during construction monitoring activities. In the event of a
3 HRIM field investigation, Manitoba Hydro is planning to use the communication mechanisms
4 developed through the Cultural and Heritage Resources Protection Plan (CHRPP) to share
5 results and processes with their respective communities. This includes the following
6 opportunities for participation and involvement of First Nations and Metis in the MMTP
7 heritage monitoring program:

- 8 • Community Representatives are provided the opportunity to participate in heritage
9 resource identification training and CHRPP training initiatives.
- 10 • The CHRPP has a protocol that can be used by communities to share new information
11 on cultural or heritage sites. Any identified sites can be included in the monitoring
12 program along with recommended mitigation measures within the Construction
13 Environmental Protection Plans (CEnvPPs).
- 14 • The CHRPP also provides details about how Communities will be notified of any find(s)
15 and if sacred or ceremonial objects are found, Community Representative(s) may
16 arrange for and facilitate an appropriate ceremony.
- 17 • Involvement of First Nation and the MMF in ground-truthing fieldwork with on-site
18 training in standard archaeological techniques and methods.

- 19 • Sharing of results of heritage monitoring activities with interested local stakeholders,
20 First Nations and the MMF.

21 The Bipole III Transmission Project heritage monitoring program has incorporated heritage
22 resource training for First Nation and Metis community members. The CHRPP has been
23 successfully implemented on the Bipole III project. Rock features were discovered during
24 clearing activities by a project worker, who followed the CHRPP and notified Manitoba Hydro
25 staff who contacted the Project Archaeologist and Community Liaisons who invited the local
26 Elders to participate in the HRIM field investigation. In another instance, an archaeological site
27 at the Red River crossing was recorded, First Nations and the MMF were notified of the find and
28 were asked if there was an interested in participating in mitigation measures.

SUBJECT AREA: First Nation Engagement

REFERENCE: SCO-IR-019

QUESTION:

a) What factors or criteria were included in selecting the distance of “40 km as a reasonable distance to consider whether communities may have an interest in the project based on proximity”?

b) Which MH MMTP team members were part of the decision making process to select a “40 km as a reasonable distance to consider whether communities may have an interest in the project based on proximity”?

RESPONSE:

- 1 a) As noted in SCO-IR-19, proximity was only one factor when determining whom to engage
2 with regarding the project and it was not used as a means to exclude communities from being
3 engaged. Manitoba Hydro used 40 km for determining proximity based on experience with
4 previous projects.
- 5 Manitoba Hydro considered a number of broad factors in determining whom to contact
6 regarding participation in the FNMEP, taking into account that the Project is located on Treaty 1
7 territory. These factors included, but were not limited to communities located within 40 km of
8 the Project region. As noted in Chapter 4, many of the First Nations, engaged on the Project,
9 are of the view that their traditional land use extends far beyond their reserves. Organizations
10 with broader interests were also invited to participate in the process.
- 11 b) The FNMEP team in discussion with the Project Team.

SUBJECT AREA: First Nation Engagement

REFERENCE: SCO-IR-021

QUESTION:

Why are no First Nation communities from the Interlake Region other than Peguis First Nation on the 'list of the First Nations and Aboriginal community representatives who MH intend to contact prior to start-up'?

RESPONSE:

- 1 Section 4.3.1 of Chapter 4 of the MMTP Environmental Impact Statement outlines factors used
- 2 to determine who to contact regarding participation in the FNMEP.
- 3 Manitoba Hydro has remained open and flexible throughout the First Nation and Metis
- 4 Engagement Process and has reached out to other communities where it was subsequently
- 5 understood there might be an interest or concern related to the project area. Manitoba Hydro
- 6 has not to date received any information that any additional communities from the Interlake
- 7 area had interests in the Project area.

SUBJECT AREA: First Nation Engagement

REFERENCE: SCO-IR-022

QUESTION:

How long before project startup, will MH notify local resource users and First Nation communities through direct mail and email?

RESPONSE:

- 1 Manitoba Hydro will endeavor to notify local resource users and First Nation communities at
- 2 least two weeks ahead of startup.

SUBJECT AREA: Elk, Wildlife

REFERENCE: SCO-IR-025, MCWS-MH-I-81

QUESTION:

Will MH share the results of the “Home Range and Seasonal Movements of the Caribou-Vita Cross Border (Manitoba-Minnesota) Elk Herd” study, specifically maps of the GPS collar data collected since February 2016 of the 8 collared Elk with the CEC hearing participants and CEC Panel? Why or why not?

RESPONSE:

- 1 Due to concerns raised during the public engagement process regarding the potential for
- 2 project related effects on elk in southeast Manitoba, Manitoba Hydro has provided support to
- 3 the “Vita Cross-Border Elk Monitoring Partnership” (*RM of Stuartburn, Nature Conservancy*
- 4 *Canada, Manitoba Sustainable Development, Manitoba Hydro*) and their study of the “Home
- 5 *Range and Seasonal Movements of the Caribou-Vita Cross Border (Manitoba-Minnesota) Elk*
- 6 *Herd”*. Results of the project after more than 12 months have shown no interaction of elk
- 7 within the Project RAA.

- 8 Since Manitoba Hydro does not own the project data, it is not in a position to share the results.
- 9 However, project partners are developing a Project Summary document as part of the outreach
- 10 portion of the project in the spring of 2017.

SUBJECT AREA: Economic Opportunities

REFERENCE: SCO-IR-024

QUESTION:

“There is a role at a smaller scale for manual labour methods in maintaining sensitive sites such as riparian areas and medicinal/traditional plant harvesting areas. It is in these locations Manitoba Hydro believes economic and cultural opportunities for Indigenous peoples have the greatest potential to be realized.”

Please identify in map form and provide to participants the sensitive sites where MH believes economic and cultural opportunities for Indigenous peoples have the greatest potential to be realized.

RESPONSE:

- 1 Manitoba Hydro has not developed its integrated vegetation management plan (IVMP) for
- 2 MMTP. This is typically done post construction as vegetation regrowth along the ROW is
- 3 correlated to timing and methods of initial clearing. Within the IVMP, sensitive sites will be
- 4 delineated in map form and prescriptions for vegetation management will be developed. As an
- 5 indication of sensitive sites that may be included in the IVMP, please refer to Appendix 22A
- 6 Construction Environmental Protection Plan as it has identified sensitive sites such as riparian
- 7 areas, plant species of concern, and wetlands.