

May 01, 2019

Client File No. 5750.00

Licence No. 3288

Ms. Tracey Braun
Director
Environmental Approvals
Manitoba Sustainable Development
1007 Century Street
Winnipeg, MB R3H 0W4

Dear Ms. Braun:

**RE: Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project (Licence 3288) – Pre-Construction
Licence Conditions***

Pursuant to the Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project *Environment Act* Licence #3288, please find attached the following submissions related to pre-construction requirements and the associated conditions:

- **Condition 10 –Environmental Protection Plans –Construction only at this time**

The Licencee shall submit, for approval of the Director of the Environmental Approvals Branch, a construction Environmental Protection Plan prior to construction, and an operations Environmental Protection Plan at least 90 days prior to in-service of the Development. The plans shall describe the approach to be used by the Licencee to ensure that mitigative measures are applied systematically, and in a manner consistent with the commitments made in the EIS and supporting information, during construction or operation of the Development. The plans shall:

- a) include information obtained from Indigenous communities prior to and during construction and operation of the Development regarding the locations of specifically identified sites used for the exercise of Aboriginal rights-based activities in the vicinity of the project (such as plant harvesting, ceremonial practices, hunting, and trapping);*

Environmentally sensitive sites (ESS) have been established along the right-of-way for water crossings, wetlands, trails, cultural and heritage sites, species

of traditional use, etc. that overlap plant harvesting, ceremonial practices, hunting and trapping sites specifically identified by Indigenous communities. ESS can be found in the attached Construction Environmental Protection Plan Mapbook. Should any additional sites be identified during the ongoing engagement activities, the Mapbooks will be updated.

- b) *include mitigation measures and/or buffer zones for the specific sites identified to minimize impacts to the sites from construction and operation activities;*

Mitigation measures to protect the environmentally sensitive sites identified by communities can be found in the attached Construction Environmental Protection Plan Mapbook. In addition to what can be found in the Mapbook, the Communication Plan (attached as condition 14) outlines how Indigenous communities and resource users will be made aware of construction activities in order to minimize impacts to resource use due timing of construction activities.

- c) *for specifically identified plant harvesting sites, identify measures to minimize impacts to the sites by implementing mitigation measure such as flagging of the area, buffers zones, selective clearing, construction matting, and non-chemical vegetation management;*

Mitigation measures to minimize impacts to the sites are identified in the attached Construction Environmental Protection Plan Mapbook.

- d) *include mitigation measures to reduce adverse effects on wildlife and wildlife habitat (e.g., timing windows, setbacks, and buffers).*

This can be found in the attached Construction Environmental Protection Plan and Mapbook.

- Condition 12 – Environmental Protection Plans cont'd

The Licencee shall, prior to construction of the Development, submit management plans addressing the following topics for review by the Eastern Region IRMT and approval by the Director of the Environmental Approvals Branch:

- a) erosion protection and sediment control;*
- b) rehabilitation and invasive species management, and*
- c) waste and recycling.*

Please find Erosion and Sediment Control, Rehabilitation and Invasive Species, and Waste and Recycling Management Plans attached that fulfill this licence condition.

- Condition 14 – Communication Plan

The Licencee shall submit a communication plan for the Development to the Director of the Environmental Approvals Branch, prior to construction. The plan shall describe how the Licencee will communicate to individuals and communities with an interest in the Development regarding information about activities, such as commencement and completion of construction, clearing, blasting, and vegetation management.

Please find a Communication Plan attached that fulfills this licence condition.

- Condition 21 – Cultural & Heritage Resources Protection Plan

The Licencee shall, prior to construction, submit a Cultural and Heritage Resources Protection Plan for the Development, as described in the EIS, for approval of the Director of the Environmental Approvals Branch. Cultural & Heritage Resources Protection Plan

Please find a Cultural and Heritage Resources Protection Plan attached that fulfills this licence condition.

- Condition 23 – Access Management

The Licencee shall, prior to construction of the transmission line component of the Development, submit a construction access management plan for review by the Eastern Region IRMT and approval of the Director of the Environmental Approvals Branch. The construction access management plan shall include, but not be limited to, the anticipated types and locations of roads, trails, and water crossings required to access the Dorsey international power line right-of-way for construction purposes and a plan for review and approval of unanticipated new access trails and by-pass trails along the right-of-way. The Licencee shall ensure construction access is not located in specifically identified sites used for the exercise of Aboriginal rights-based activities in the vicinity of the project.

Please find a Construction Access Management Plan attached that fulfills this licence condition. As far as Manitoba Hydro is aware planned construction access is not located on sites commonly used by Indigenous peoples for activities such as plant/berry harvest or ceremonies that have been identified by communities.

- Condition 28 – Clearing During Construction

The Licencee shall, prior to construction of the Development, submit a plan for clearing of the transmission line right-of-way for approval of the Director of the Environmental Approvals Branch. The plan shall:

- a) describe the clearing methods to be used; and*
- b) describe opportunities for retention of low-growth vegetation along the*

transmission line right-of-way, to the extent possible, without impeding maintenance activities or vegetation clearance requirements.

Please find a Clearing Management Plan attached that fulfills this licence condition.

- Condition 37- Golden-Winged Warbler Habitat Management Plan

The Licencee shall implement the plan titled "Right-of-Way Habitat Management Plan for Managing Critical Golden-winged Warbler Habitat during Construction and Operation of the Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project" submitted as supporting information on April 29, 2016, or any subsequent versions approved by the Director of the Environmental Approvals Branch.

Please find an updated "Right-of-Way Habitat Management Plan for Managing Critical Golden-winged Warbler Habitat during Construction and Operation of the Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project" (Golden-Winged Warbler Habitat Management Plan) attached that fulfills this licence condition.

- Condition 39 – Invasive Species

The Licencee shall, prior to construction of the Development, submit a detailed biosecurity plan for approval of the Director of the Environmental Approvals Branch. The plan shall describe measures to be implemented to control the spread of invasive species as well as the spread of soil borne diseases from field to field in agricultural areas during construction of the Development.

Please find a Biosecurity Management Plan attached that fulfills this licence condition.

- Condition 49 - Vegetation Management

The Licencee shall, within six months of the completion of construction of the Development, submit for review by the Eastern Region IRMT and approval of the Director of the Environmental Approvals Branch, a plan for the management of vegetation along the Dorsey international power line right-of-way. The plan shall describe the methods to be used for vegetation control and for communication to the public and Indigenous communities during operation of the Development.

Please find an Integrated Vegetation Management Plan attached that fulfills this licence condition.

- Condition 53 – Monitoring

The Licencee shall, prior to construction, submit a monitoring plan for the Development for the approval of the Director of the Environmental Approvals Branch. The plan shall

describe monitoring programs to be undertaken in relation to the Development, including proposed programs for:

- a) collection of baseline information;*
- b) pre-construction surveys of the eastern tiger salamander and mottled duskywing butterfly obligate plant host, in areas of likely habitat;*
- c) inclusion of the least bittern and the short-eared owl in surveys;*
- d) pre-construction surveys for traditional use plant species and invasive plant species in areas of the Development where information on these plant species is insufficient; and*
- e) monitoring of peregrine falcon interactions with the Dorsey international power line in the vicinity of the Park land Mews breeding site and reporting of mortalities.*

Please find an Environmental Monitoring Plan attached that fulfills this licence condition.

Should you have any questions or require further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me at 204-360-4394.

Regards,

Original signed by

Shannon Johnson
Manager
Licensing and Environmental Assessment Department
Manitoba Hydro
360 Portage Ave (5)
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0G8

Attachment: 1 USB

Cc: Glenn Miller, Eastern Region IRMT

* Please note that all of these plans were made available for public comment and feedback from Indigenous communities. Comments and feedback have been incorporated, where applicable, and can be found in appendices to these documents. In these appendices, Manitoba Hydro used the term “consultation” with potentially affected persons, organizations, Indigenous communities, and federal and provincial authorities regarding the updated CEPP to be consistent with the terminology used by National Energy Board.