



Conservation and Water Stewardship

Environmental Stewardship Division
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File: 5750.00

March 9, 2016

Shannon Johnson
Manitoba Hydro
820 Taylor Avenue
Winnipeg MB R3M 3T1

Dear Ms. Johnson:

Re: Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project – Information Request No. 1

Please note this replaces the request dated December 22, 2015.

The public comments on the Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission project Environment Impact Statement (EIS) have been received. Additional information is required based on the public comments.

Please provide the following information in reference to the public comments located in the public registries for this project.

1. Please provide details on routing through proposed Protected Areas and an explanation of the following discrepancy: Section 2.11.1 of the EIS states that proposed and existing protected areas will be avoided, however Section 2.6.3 states that the transmission line route travels through parcels of proposed protected area.
2. Section 4.7 states that as a result of funded ATK studies, the MMF was provided an opportunity to be actively involved in the project during pre-planning. Please explain given that the MMF has not yet entered into an agreement with Manitoba Hydro for an ATK study for this project.
3. Section 11.4.3 of the EIS states that Metis identified hunting and trapping among the current use of land and resources for both economic and cultural purposes, and Section 11.4.4 states that Metis continue to use long-established trails and travelways. Please clarify these statements given that the MMF has not provided specific information on hunting, trapping, trails, and travelways to Manitoba Hydro regarding this project to date.
4. The literature review, *Manitoba Metis: A Review of Available Information on the Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes in the MMTP Study Area with Gap Analysis* is missing from the appendix in Chapter 11. Please provide this document.

5. Provide information on whether traditional plant species were considered during the wetland survey and in the assessment of potential effects on wetlands.
6. Provide comments on whether Manitoba Hydro will consider the recommendations in the comments from Parkland Mews.
7. The comments from Mr. Bernard Fournier indicate that the location of his farm is marked incorrectly on the map in the EIS. Please provide a map with the correct location and indicate how the change in location of the farm impacts the environmental and socio-economic assessment of the project.
8. Please provide comments on the concerns from Mr. and Mrs. Alain and Jacqueline Fournier regarding the potential long term impacts on cattle grazing under the transmission line, specifically relating to conception rates, birth defects, and health problems.
9. Please provide comments on the concerns from Mr. Edward Rak regarding fragmentation of his property by the existing and the proposed transmission lines and that there will be no bush left on the property as a result of the proposed line.
10. Please provide comments on the concerns from Mr. and Mrs. Mikel and Ashley Poiron regarding fragmentation of their property by the proposed transmission line; noise, disruption, hunting, and poaching on private land from public access to the transmission line right-of-way by all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles; and liability to owners of land to be expropriated for damage to the transmission towers.
11. Please provide comments on the concerns from Mr. Darren Bouchard regarding the potential impacts of the proposed tree clearing on his property.
12. Please provide comments on the concerns from Mr. Darryl Beger regarding fragmentation of his property by the proposed transmission line.
13. Please provide comments on the concerns from Mr. Mike Lambert regarding the potential impacts of the proposed tree clearing on his property.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at elise.dagdick@gov.mb.ca.

Yours sincerely,

“originally signed by”

Elise Dagdick, B.Sc
Environment Officer

c: Public Registries