

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPONENT: Manitoba Hydro
PROPOSAL NAME: BP6/BP7 Transmission Project
CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: 2
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: Transportation and Transmission
CLIENT FILE NO.: 6105.00

OVERVIEW

The department received an Environment Act Proposal (proposal) from Manitoba Hydro on April 22, 2021. The proposal was for the construction of an 8.3 kilometers long double circuit 115kV transmission line in the Portage la Prairie Bypass area.

The department advertised the proposal in the Portage Graphic Leader on May 13, 2021, for public comments. It was also placed in the Public Registry at:
<https://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/eal/registries/6105/index.html>

The department distributed the proposal to Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members for comments on May 11, 2021.

The closing date for comments from the public and TAC was June 13, 2021.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No public comments were received during the public comment period.

COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TAC responses are summarized in Table 1 below. Substantive comments and their dispositions follow the table. TAC comments are provided in full in the Public Registry at:

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/eal/registries/6105/index.html>

Table 1: Technical Advisory Committee Comments

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER	RESPONSE PROVIDED
Manitoba Conservation and Climate:	
Environmental Approvals:	
Air Quality Management	No response
Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch	2021-06-11
Office of Drinking Water	No concerns
Drainage and Water Use Licensing Branch:	
Water Use Licensing Section	No response
Water Control Works and Drainage Licensing Section	No response
Climate Change and Clean Technology	No response
Parks and Protected Spaces Branch	No response
Manitoba Agriculture and Resource Development:	
Agri-Resource Branch	No response
Wildlife and Fisheries Branch (wildlife)	No concerns
Wildlife and Fisheries Branch (fisheries)	No response
Forestry Branch	2021-06-15
Lands Branch	No response
Regional Land Manager / Integrated Resource Management Team	No response
Water Branch:	
Water Quality Management Section	No response
Groundwater Management Section	No response
Mines Branch	No response
Petroleum Branch	No response
Manitoba Sport, Culture, and Heritage – Historic Resources Branch	No concerns
Manitoba Municipal Relations:	
Community and Regional Planning Branch	No response
Manitoba Infrastructure – Highway Planning and Design Branch, Environmental Services	2021-06-10
Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living – Environmental Health Unit	No response
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada	No response

Manitoba Environment, Climate and Parks (formerly, Conservation and Climate) - Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch

Summary of Comments:

Requested additional information on solid waste management and hydro-vac slurry or a related licence condition.

Disposition:

The draft licence contains a clause requiring disposal of all solid waste, which is not recycled, to a waste disposal ground. Disposal of hydro-vac slurry would be in accordance with existing legislations.

Manitoba Agriculture and Resource Development - Forestry Branch

Summary of Comments:

Ensure all timber is disposed of appropriately as per The Forest Health Protection Act.

Disposition:

This comment was forwarded to the proponent for their information.

Manitoba Infrastructure – Highway Planning and Design Branch, Environmental Services

Summary of Comments:

Placements of any temporary machinery/equipment or structures near or within the right-of-way of PR 240 and PTH 1 and the Portage Diversion would require departmental permissions.

Disposition:

The comments were forwarded to the proponent for their information.

PUBLIC HEARING

As no requests were received for a public hearing, a public hearing is not recommended.

CROWN-INDIGENOUS CONSULTATION

The Government of Manitoba recognizes that it has a duty to consult in a meaningful way with Indigenous communities when any proposed provincial law, regulation, decision or action may infringe upon or adversely affect the exercise of treaty and Aboriginal rights of that community.

The proposal involves clearing of trees in natural areas near Crescent Lake and the Assiniboine River. Therefore, the project has the potential to impact treaty and Aboriginal rights. A consultation process with Indigenous communities was completed by the Crown. The process was consistent with the objectives identified in the “Interim Provincial Policy for Crown Consultations with First Nations, Métis Communities and Other Aboriginal Communities” and in accordance with the legal principles.

RECOMMENDATION

TAC Comments have been addressed by providing information to the proponent and through licence conditions. It is recommended that the development be licensed under The Environment Act subject to the limits, terms and conditions as described on the attached draft Environment Act licence. Administration of the Licence should be assigned to the Central Region of the Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch.

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