



**Environment and Climate Change**  
Environmental Approvals Branch  
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File No.: 6234.00

November 28, 2025

James Matthewson  
Department Manager  
Manitoba Hydro  
360 Portage Avenue (18)  
Winnipeg MB R3C 0G8  
[JMatthewson@hydro.mb.ca](mailto:JMatthewson@hydro.mb.ca)

Dear James Matthewson:

**Re: Manitoba Hydro - Silver to Rosser Tap Transmission Project - Environment Act Licence No. 3456**

Please find enclosed the Environment Act Licence in response to your proposal dated August 9, 2024. You wish to build a 19.4 kilometre-long, 230-kilovolt transmission line from the existing Silver to Rosser transmission line to the Diageo Canada Inc.'s plant in the RM of Gimli.

All licence requirements and federal, provincial, and municipal regulations and by-laws must be followed. The licensee must get approval from the director per The Environment Act to alter the development.

Anyone affected by this decision may appeal, in writing, to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change at [minecc@manitoba.ca](mailto:minecc@manitoba.ca) by December 28, 2025. The licence is available on the public registry at <https://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/eal/registries/index.html>.

If you have any questions regarding this approval, please contact Tyler Kneeshaw, Regional Supervisor, Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch at [EnvCEInterlake@gov.mb.ca](mailto:EnvCEInterlake@gov.mb.ca) or 204-870-1598.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By  
Agnes Wittmann  
Director  
The Environment Act

Enclosure

c. Tyler Kneeshaw – Environmental Compliance and Enforcement  
Bryce Wood – Environmental Approvals

# LICENCE

File No.: 6234.00

Licence No. / Licence n°: 3456  
Issue Date / Date de délivrance : Nov 28, 2025

In accordance with The Environment Act (C.C.S.M. c. E125) /  
Conformément à la Loi sur l'environnement (C.P.L.M. c. E125)

Under Section 11(1) / Conformément au Paragraphe 11(1)

THIS LICENCE IS ISSUED TO: / CETTE LICENCE EST DONNÉE À:

**Manitoba Hydro; "the licensee"**

for the construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of the development being a new 19.4 kilometre-long, 230-kilovolt transmission line from the existing Silver to Rosser transmission line to the Diageo Canada Inc.'s plant in the RM of Gimli, as identified in Schedule A of this licence, and in accordance with the proposal information dated August 9, 2024, filed under The Environment Act and additional information dated October 21, 2025, subject to the following specifications, limits, terms, and conditions:

## **DEFINITIONS**

In this licence,

**"accredited laboratory"** means an analytical facility accredited by the Standards Council of Canada (SCC), or accredited by another accrediting agency recognized by Manitoba Environment and Climate Change to be equivalent to the SCC, or be able to demonstrate, upon request, that it has the quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) procedures in place equivalent to accreditation based on the international standard ISO/IEC 17025, or otherwise approved by the director;

**"affected area"** means a geographical area, excluding the property of the development;

**"approved"** means approved by the director or assigned environment officer in writing;

**"contractor"** means any party entered into a contract with the licensee;

**"director"** means an employee so designated under The Environment Act;

**"environment"** means air, land, and water, or plant and animal life, including humans as defined in The Environment Act;

**"environment officer"** means an employee so designated under The Environment Act;

**"Environmental Approvals Branch"** means the Environmental Approvals Branch of Manitoba Environment and Climate Change, or any future branch responsible for administration of The Environment Act or any future amendments;

**"herbaceous understory vegetation"** means the non-woody plants that grow beneath the forest canopy, typically in the understory layer of a forest or woodland;

**"Historic Resources Branch"** means the branch of Sport, Culture, Heritage and Tourism, or any future branch responsible for the administration of The Heritage Resources Act or any future amendments;

**"noise nuisance"** means an unwanted sound, in an affected area, which is annoying, troublesome, or disagreeable to a person:

- a) residing in an affected area;
- b) working in an affected area; or
- c) present at a location in an affected area which is normally open to members of the public;

if the unwanted sound

- d) is the subject of at least five written complaints, received by the director in a form satisfactory to the director and within a 90-day period, from five different persons falling within clauses (a), (b), or (c), who do not live in the same household; or
- e) is the subject of at least one written complaint, received by the director in a form satisfactory to the director, from a person falling within clauses (a), (b), or (c) and the director is of the opinion that if the unwanted sound had occurred in a more densely populated area there would have been at least five written complaints received within a 90- day period, from five different persons who do not live in the same household;

**"pest"** means an animal, a plant or other organism that is injurious, noxious or troublesome, whether directly or indirectly, and an injurious, noxious or troublesome condition or organic function of an animal, a plant or other organism as defined in The Pest Control Products Act or any future amendments;

**"pesticide"** means any chemical or biological agent registered under The Pest Control Products Act of Canada and used or represented as a means for preventing, destroying, mitigating, or controlling any pest;

**"qualified environmental inspector"** means an individual who possesses sufficient relevant education, training and experience necessary to monitor project activities and determine compliance with environmental protection plans;

**"record drawings"** means engineering drawings complete with dimensions which indicate all features of the development as it has actually been built;

**"waste disposal ground"** means an area of land designated by a person, municipality, provincial government agency, or crown corporation for the disposal of waste and approved for use under the Waste Management Facilities Regulation, or any future amendments, or a licence under The Environment Act or any future amendments; and

**"waterbody"** means any body of flowing or standing water, whether naturally or artificially created, and whether the flow or presence of water is continuous, intermittent or occurs only during a flood, including but not limited to a lake, river, creek, stream, slough, marsh, swamp and wetland, including ice on any of them, as defined in The Water Protection Act.

## **GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### **Retain Copy of Licence**

1. The licensee must at all times maintain a copy of this licence at the development or at the premises from which the development's operations are managed.

### **Environmental Accidents**

2. The licensee must, in the case of physical or mechanical equipment breakdown or process upset where such breakdown or process upset results or may result in the release of a pollutant in an amount or concentration, or at a level or rate of release, that causes or may cause a significant adverse effect, immediately report the event by calling the 24-hour environmental accident reporting line at 204-944-4888 (toll-free 1-855-944-4888). The report must indicate the nature of the event, the time and estimated duration of the event, and the reason for the event.
3. The licensee must, following the reporting of an event following clause 2 of this licence:
  - a) identify the repairs required to the mechanical equipment;
  - b) undertake all repairs to minimize unauthorized discharges of a pollutant;
  - c) complete the repairs following any written instructions of the director; and
  - d) submit a report to the director about the causes of breakdown and measures taken, within one week of the repairs being done.

### **Sampling**

4. In addition to any of the limits, terms, and conditions specified in this licence, the licensee must, upon the request of the director:
  - a) sample, monitor, analyze and/or investigate specific areas of concern regarding any segment, component or aspect of pollutant storage, containment, treatment, handling, disposal or emission systems, for such pollutants, ambient quality, aquatic toxicity, leachate characteristics and discharge or emission rates, for such duration and at such frequencies as may be specified;
  - b) determine the environmental impact associated with the release of any pollutant(s) from the development;
  - c) conduct specific investigations in response to the data gathered during environmental monitoring programs; or
  - d) provide the director, within such time as may be specified, with such reports, drawings, specifications, analytical data, bioassay data, flow rate measurements, descriptions of sampling and analytical procedures being used, and such other information as may from time to time be requested.

5. The licensee must, unless otherwise specified in this licence:
  - a) carry out all preservations and analyses of liquid samples in accordance with the methods prescribed in the most current edition of “Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater” or in accordance with equivalent preservation and analytical methodologies approved by the director;
  - b) carry out all sampling of, and preservation and analyses on, soil, compost, air samples or other samples in accordance with methodologies approved by the director;
  - c) have all analytical determinations undertaken by an accredited laboratory; and
  - d) report the results to the director, in an electronic format acceptable to the director, within 60 days of the samples being taken.

### **Reporting Format**

6. The licensee must submit all information required to be provided to the director or environment officer under this licence, in written and electronic format, in such form (including number of copies) and of such content as may be required by the director or environment officer, and each submission must be clearly labelled with the licence number and file number associated with this licence.

### **Compliance**

7. The licensee must adhere to the commitments made in the proposal dated August 9, 2024, additional information dated October 21, 2025, any supporting documents, and any future alterations approved following Section 14(2) of The Environment Act during construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of the development, except as otherwise required by this licence.
8. The licensee must obtain approval from the director for any proposed alteration to the development before proceeding with the alteration.
9. The licensee must, prior to construction of the development, arrange a meeting with the Manitoba Hydro construction project manager(s) and the assigned environment officer to review Environmental Protection Plans associated with construction of the development.
10. The licensee must, during construction of the development, submit a report every three months regarding construction, environmental protection, and emergency response issues to the assigned environment officer. The first report must be submitted two weeks after a three-month period from the construction start date.
11. The licensee must submit an annual report to the director documenting the licensee's process and outcome of engagements with Indigenous Nations and affected landowners during construction of the development. The report must be submitted by June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year until the end of the construction.

The report must include:

- a) a summary of engagement activities;
- b) environmental issues raised by Indigenous Nations and affected landowners; and
- c) how the licensee responded or plans to respond.

12. The licensee must, during right-of-way clearing and the installation of steel lattice transmission towers and foundations, have a qualified environmental inspector(s) to monitor the work on a daily basis to ensure that all the environmental practices outlined in the proposal, supporting information, and the plans submitted pursuant to this licence are carried out.

### **Compliance With Other Acts and Regulations**

13. The licensee must obtain all necessary federal, provincial and municipal permits and approvals for construction of relevant components of the development.

## **SPECIFICATIONS, LIMITS, TERMS, AND CONDITIONS**

### **Notification**

14. The licensee must notify the assigned environment officer prior to beginning construction of the development. The notification must include the intended starting date of construction and the name of the contractor responsible for the construction.
15. The licensee must, prior to construction, provide a copy of this licence to the contractor and subcontractor(s) involved in the development.
16. The licensee must, prior to construction of the development notify engaged Indigenous Nations and other nearby communities when and where construction will be occurring and provide them with a construction schedule.
17. The licensee must, prior to the occurrence of any implode blasting period, notify affected Indigenous Nations and other nearby communities.
18. The licensee must notify the assigned environment officer, no less than two weeks prior to the completion of the construction of the development, to allow for a final inspection.
19. The licensee must:
  - a) between 10 and 60 days prior to spraying, notify local Indigenous Nations and affected landowners about the location and timing of planned pesticide use; and
  - b) not spray pesticide on important sites as identified by engaged Indigenous Nations and the Environmental Protection Plans.

### **Environmental Protection Plans**

20. The licensee must develop, implement, maintain, and amend as necessary Environmental Protection Plans and management plans for the development.
21. The licensee must, upon request from the assigned environment officer, submit the Environmental Protection Plans to the department within a timeframe stipulated by the environment officer.

The assigned environment officer may request separate Environmental Protection Plans for the construction, operation, and/or decommissioning phases, or for different components of the development.

The Environmental Protection Plans must:

- a) describe the approach to be used by the licensee to ensure that mitigation measures are applied systematically;
- c) present mitigation measures in a manner consistent with the commitments made in the proposal;
- d) include mitigation measures to address environmental concerns raised by affected landowners; and
- e) include mitigation measures to address concerns raised by engaged Indigenous Nations or Indigenous monitors about important sites they have identified and potential adverse effects on rights-based activities as summarized in the proposal.

22. The licensee must:

- a) monitor the effectiveness of Environmental Protection Plans; and
- b) during the pre-construction and construction of the development, provide engaged Indigenous Nations:
  - i. a schedule of construction activities; and
  - ii. the opportunity to be present to identify unmarked burial sites, heritage resources, or Indigenous cultural resources.

23. The licensee must provide opportunities for engaged Indigenous Nations to participate in field tours, ceremonial events, and Indigenous Nation meetings.

### **Pre-Construction**

24. The licensee must, prior to construction of the development in agricultural areas:

- a) discuss with affected agricultural landowners to determine the tower placement that meets technical and design requirements that would have the least impact on agricultural operations; and
- b) incorporate those changes into the final design of the development unless there is compelling rationale to deviate from the tower placement referenced in clause 24 a) of this licence.

25. The licensee must restrict construction and operational activities to only such lands to which the licensee possesses legal control, by ownership or by rental, lease, or other agreement.

26. The licensee must provide engaged Indigenous Nations opportunities to participate in a ceremony or ceremonies prior to construction or decommissioning, and at project milestones identified by the engaged Indigenous Nations, at times that work for those who are interested in leading and/or participating in the ceremony or ceremonies.

### **Construction, Operation and Maintenance**

27. The licensee must not cause or permit a noise nuisance to be created as a result of the construction, operation, or alteration of the development, and must take such steps as the director may require to eliminate or mitigate a noise nuisance.

28. The licensee must:
  - a) comply with the requirements of The Heritage Resources Act;
  - b) prior to construction, submit for approval of the Director of the Historic Resources Branch a Heritage Resource Protection Plan for the development;
  - c) if heritage resources (as defined within The Heritage Resources Act) are encountered during the construction of the development, suspend construction and immediately notify the Historic Resources Branch and affected Indigenous Nations; and
  - d) if other Indigenous cultural resources are encountered during construction of the development, suspend construction and immediately notify affected Indigenous Nations.
29. The licensee must provide cultural awareness training for staff working in construction areas within the development that is reflective of the Indigenous cultures in the area. The training must include recognizing cultural sites and management of any resources encountered.
30. The licensee must dispose of non-reusable construction debris from the development at a waste disposal ground.
31. The licensee must, unless otherwise approved by an environment officer, locate fuel storage and equipment servicing areas established for the construction and operation of the development a minimum distance of 100 metres from any waterbody, and must comply with the requirements of the Storage and Handling of Petroleum Products and Allied Products Regulation, or any future amendments.
32. The licensee must collect and dispose of any hazardous waste following The Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act, and other federal, provincial, and municipal regulations.
33. The licensee must, during construction and maintenance of the development, operate, maintain, and store all materials and equipment in a manner that prevents any deleterious substances (fuel, oil, grease, hydraulic fluid, coolant, paint, uncured concrete and concrete wash water, other similar substances, etc.) from contaminating soil or entering any waterbody. Emergency spill kits for both land and in-water use must be readily available on site during construction.
34. The licensee must, during construction, operation and maintenance of the development, take all appropriate measures to prevent erosion and the deposition of sediment into any waterbody.
35. The licensee must adhere to the Pesticides Regulation, or any future amendments, for the storage, handling, and application of pesticides in conjunction with the development.
36. The licensee must, within six months of the completion of construction of the development, submit for approval of the Director of the Environmental Approvals Branch, a plan for the management of vegetation along the transmission line right-of-way. The plan must describe the methods to be used for vegetation control and for communication to the public and Indigenous Nations during operation of the development.

37. The licensee must install bird diverters on the transmission line in areas of high collision risk to reduce impacts to birds in accordance with the Environmental Protection Plan.
38. If the licensee observes any trees containing large nests of sticks, cavity nests, or active animal dens or burrows, the licensee must:
  - a) maintain buffer and setback distances, and leave the nests, dens or burrows undisturbed, as outlined in the Environmental Protection Plans; and
  - b) contact the Manitoba Hydro environmental officer for direction and follow their requirements.
39. The licensee must, in riparian buffer areas:
  - a) maintain shrub and herbaceous understory vegetation a minimum distance of 30 metres upslope from the ordinary high-water mark for all natural waterbodies and waterways. The distance must follow Schedule B of this licence;
  - b) where access trails or stringing corridors are required:
    - i. limit the width of clearing to no more than 9 metres; and
    - ii. carry out construction activities on frozen or dry ground or use additional mitigation measures, including construction matting, if required to minimize surface damage, rutting and erosion;
  - c) where towers are required:
    - i. use specialized equipment and methods if necessary to minimize surface damage, rutting and erosion; and
    - ii. monitor the site post-construction for effectiveness of revegetation; and
  - d) maintain a machine free zone a minimum distance of 7 metres from riparian habitats except where access trails, stringing corridors, or towers are required. The distance must follow Schedule B of this licence.

### **Drawings**

40. The licensee must:
  - a) prepare "record drawings" for the development and must label the drawings "record drawings". The drawings must include the transmission line route and the tower locations; and
  - b) provide to the director, within four months of the completion of the development, "record drawings" of the development as identified in clause 40 a) of this licence.

### **Decommissioning**

41. The licensee must, at least six months prior to decommissioning of the development or portion of the development, submit a formal decommissioning plan for the approval of the director. The licensee must provide opportunity for engaged Indigenous Nations and affected landowners to provide input on the plan.
42. The licensee must implement the approved decommissioning plan as identified in clause 41 of this licence.

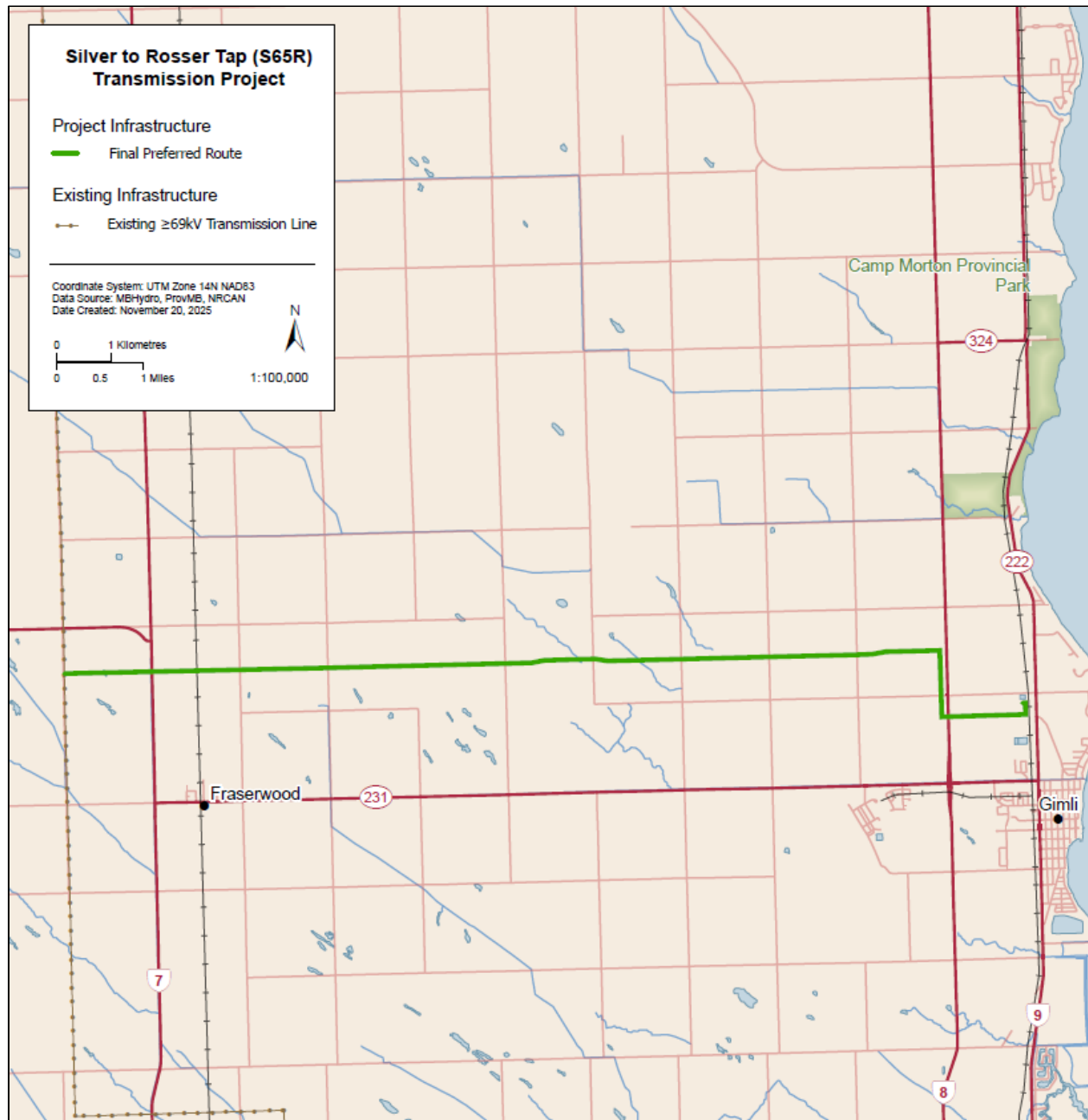
### **REVIEW AND REVOCATION**

43. If, in the opinion of the director:
- a) the licensee has exceeded or is exceeding or has or is failing to meet the specifications, limits, terms, or conditions set out in this licence, the director may, temporarily or permanently, revoke this licence; or
  - b) for purposes of effective environmental management, a change in the specifications, limits, terms, or conditions of this licence is necessary, the director may amend the licence accordingly and thereafter the licensee must comply with the licence as amended.
44. If, in the opinion of the director, new evidence warrants a change in the specifications, limits, terms or conditions of this licence, the director may require the filing of a new proposal pursuant to Section 11 of The Environment Act or a notice of alteration pursuant to Section 14 of The Environment Act.
45. If the licensee has not commenced construction of the development within three years of the date of this licence, the licence is revoked.

Original Signed By  
Agnes Wittmann  
Director  
The Environment Act

**Schedule A to Environment Act Licence No. 3456**

**The layout of the Silver to Rosser Tap Transmission Line.**



**Schedule B to Environment Act Licence No. 3456**

**Riparian Buffer and Machine Free Zone Distances Based on Slope**

**Pursuant to clause 39 of the licence**

<b>Slope of Land Entering Waterway (%)</b>	<b>Width of Machine Free Zone (m)</b>	<b>Width of Riparian Buffer (m)</b>
10	7	30
20	10	40
30	15	55
40	20	70
50	25	85

\*Except where access trails, stringing corridors, or towers are required