

MANITOBA-MINNESOTA TRANSMISSION PROJECT

Clean Environment Commission Hearing



- Introduction & Project Description
- Engagement
- Routing
- Construction, Operations & Property
- Methods
- EMF
- Socio-Economic Environment
- Biophysical Environment
- Environmental Protection Program & Conclusion

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Regulatory
Lessons learned
Design
Process
Ongoing communication

2

Engagement overview

- Engagement
 - Public Engagement Process (PEP)
 - First Nations and Metis Engagement Process (FNMEP)
- Routing
- Assessment

3

Guiding principles

- Adaptive
- Inclusive
- Timely
- Respectful
- Transparent
- Accessible
- Clear
- Relevant
- Responsive

4

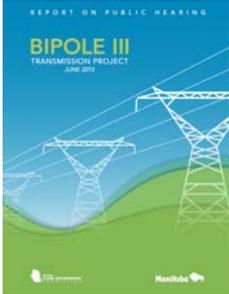
Goals of the process

- Share project information;
- Obtain feedback for use in the route selection and environmental assessment processes;
- Gather and understand local interests and concerns;
- Integrate interests and concerns into the routing and assessment processes; and
- Review potential mitigation measures.

5

CEC Report on Bipole III Transmission Project

- Timing of events
- Early and not reactively
- Spend more time
- Comprehensive and not overwhelming
- Phone line
- Consulted personally



6

Lessons learned

- Regulatory adjustments and feedback
- Other Manitoba Hydro projects
- Ongoing feedback from participants
- Social media use
- More frequent notification

7

Overview of process



8

Pre-engagement

- Present the project
- Broad notification
- Identify stakeholders
- Understand and document interests
- Develop process



9

Round 1

Round 1

October 2013 to April 2014

- Describe the project and present alternative routes and proposed border crossings.
- Answer questions, identify and document concerns.
- Use input to guide the preferred border crossing selection.

- Broad area to begin discussions
- Primary concerns
- Route design concerns
- Feedback to develop alternatives
- Material development

10

Round 2

- Segment focused
- More information received
- Mitigative segments
- Relationship development
- Notification

Round 2

April to August 2014

- Present alternative routes to the preferred border crossing area and what we heard from Round 1.
- Answer questions, identify and document concerns.
- Use input to guide preferred route selection.

11

Border modification

Border crossing modification

October to November 2014

- Present the border crossing modification which was determined by Manitoba Hydro and Minnesota Power.
- Answer questions, identify and document concerns.

- RM of Piney
- Localized
- Stakeholder notices
- Site visits
- Route suggested

12

Round 3

- Increase in campaigns
- Attendees increased
- One-on-one focus
- Mitigative routes developed
- Mitigation discussed
- Ongoing communication

Round 3

January to regulatory filing

- Present the preferred route and what we heard from Round 2.
- Answer questions, identify and document concerns.
- Discuss potential effects and mitigation measures.
- Use input to assist in determining final route placement.

13

Incorporation of feedback

A round of public engagement: overview

Identification for public project consultation

- Landowners
- Municipalities
- Government departments
- Environmental groups
- Agriculture groups
- Resource users
- Recreation groups
- Infrastructure and services
- Conservation districts
- Other groups with potential interests
- General public

Engagement opportunities

- Public open houses
- Stakeholder workshops
- Landscape information centres
- Meetings

Feedback mechanisms

- Comment forms
- Online surveys
- Focus groups
- Public meetings
- Social media
- Displays
- Open mail address
- Hotlines
- Email campaigns
- Postcards

Public engagement collects feedback

Feedback consideration and investigation

- Feedback and information is provided to decision specialists to review and inform the development of decision.
- Feedback is compiled and consideration of issues, questions, comments, and mitigation of mitigation route segments and the potential of the route.
- Feedback is used to inform the development of the route.
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Feedback incorporation and investigation

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14

Participant identification

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- Landowners
- Municipalities
- Government departments
- Environmental groups
- Agriculture groups
- Resource users
- Recreation groups
- Infrastructure and services
- Conservation districts
- Other groups with potential interests
- General public

- Early
- Understand their level of engagement
- Inclusive
- Interest change

15

Engagement mechanisms

Engagement mechanisms

- Public open houses
- Stakeholder workshops
- Landowner information centres
- Meetings

- Variety
- In person
- Allowed for one-on-one discussions
- Sharing
- Understanding other values
- Getting to know landowners

16

Public event locations

17

Notification

Notification to share project information

- Letters
- Newspapers
- Press releases
- Radio
- Social media
- Posters
- Phone calls
- Website
- Email campaigns
- Postcards

- Early
- Ongoing
- Multiple methods
- Aimed to capture potentially affected individuals
- Broad coverage
- Direct notices

18

Feedback mechanisms

Feedback mechanisms

- Comment forms
- Online surveys
- Project toll free information line
- Project email address
- Landowner forms
- Letters/faxes

- Collect data
- Ongoing mechanism to contact Hydro
- Assisted in understanding and categorization
- Considered in routing and the environmental assessment

19

Feedback categorization

Public engagement collects feedback

➔

Concerns/issues are identified and coded

➔

20

Feedback consideration

Feedback consideration and incorporation

Environmental assessment

- Feedback and information is provided to discipline specialists to enhance and inform the environmental assessment.

Transmission line routing

- Feedback is compiled and considered as part of route determination, development of mitigative route segments and final placement of the transmission line.

Public engagement

- Feedback regarding level of information, information needs, and modification to engagement activities is considered to improve and adapt to needs of participants.

- Environmental assessment processes
- Engagement considerations
- Customer service
- Routing
- Mitigation

21

Feedback consideration (cont)

Design considerations
• Feedback is used to inform tower placement and right-of-way width.

Property
• Information is collected and shared with property agents for background information during easement negotiations.

Land information
• Information is collected and provided to the property department and construction teams to understand potential access concerns and sensitive areas.

Future projects and processes
• Manitoba Hydro uses feedback received to improve future environmental assessment, transmission line design and public engagement processes.

Responses and comments
• Questions and comments left through comment sheets or through discussions with participants were addressed and responses provided.

- Tower placement
- Land information for future steps
- Follow-up

22

Material development

- 60+ pieces developed
- Plain language
- EA focused
 - Plain Language Summary
- Mapping
- Responding to concerns heard



23

Relationship building

- Early involvement
- Individual concerns and priorities
- Personalized and ongoing
- Build trust

24

Mitigation throughout: Ridgeland Cemetery

- Material
- Council involvement
- Field surveys
- Visual assessment
- Tower design
- Mitigative segment
- Construction mitigation



25

Early routing feedback

Table 5-2: Criteria for Transmission Line Routing

Factor	Total #1 Ranks	Total #2 Ranks	Total #3 Ranks	Total #4 Ranks	Total #5 Ranks	Total All Ranks	Overall Ranking
Routing Criteria – Concerns							
Separation from residences and urban areas	57	30	10	2	7	106	1
Avoid agricultural lands	28	22	10	8	11	79	2
Avoid wetlands/marshes	7	10	11	8	8	44	3
Avoid forested/natural areas	11	6	7	7	12	43	4
Cost	7	6	8	7	14	42	5
Separation from heritage/cultural sites	9	4	9	11	6	39	6
Length of line	5	4	6	5	9	29	7
Routing Criteria – Preferences							
Follow existing transmission lines	17	12	20	11	15	75	1
Follow undeveloped roadways	7	7	17	13	7	51	2
Following existing highways or roadways	3	9	14	13	11	50	3
Follow existing drainage ditches	2	2	8	6	14	32	4
Other	5	3	0	0	4	12	N/A

Note: that the numbers in the table above are total responses, not numbers of respondents

26

Ongoing engagement

- Liaison role
- Website
- Email campaigns
- Project information line
- Email address
- Meetings
- Letters



27

First Nation and Metis Engagement



28

Lessons learned

- "...providing information that is comprehensive but not overwhelming, offering a dependable and rational methodology, effectively summarizing technical details and fairly synthesizing information from other sources such as ATK, involving stakeholders earlier rather than in a reactive way, being inclusive of all views and communities, integrating different kinds of knowledge rather than fragmenting information into discipline-defined silos, having a process that achieves goals, and having clear norms of respect in all interactions." (CEC 2013).

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35

First Nation and Metis Engagement Process goals

- Continue to build and strengthen working relationships with First Nations and Metis in Manitoba
- Provide opportunities for First Nation and Metis to have meaningful input and contributions to the Project.

36

Principles

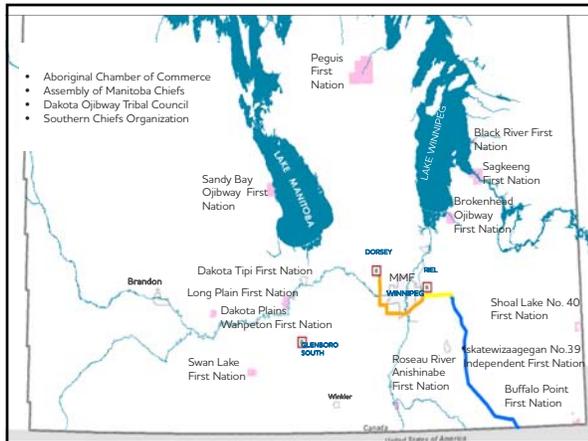
- Diversity of cultures and worldviews should be understood and appreciated
- Better understand perspectives and determine mutual approaches to address concerns
- Build relationships
- Provide opportunities to communicate early and on an ongoing basis

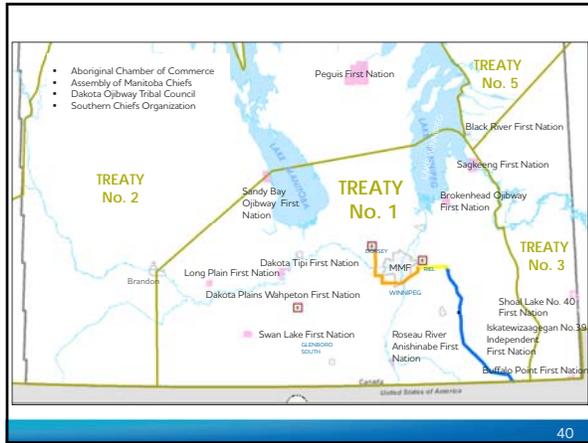
37

First Nation and Metis Engagement

- Treaty 1 signatories
- Proximity to the study area
- Located within Treaty 1 area but not a signatory to the numbered treaties,
- Aboriginal organizations with interests or mandates related to the project area, and
- Interest in the project

38

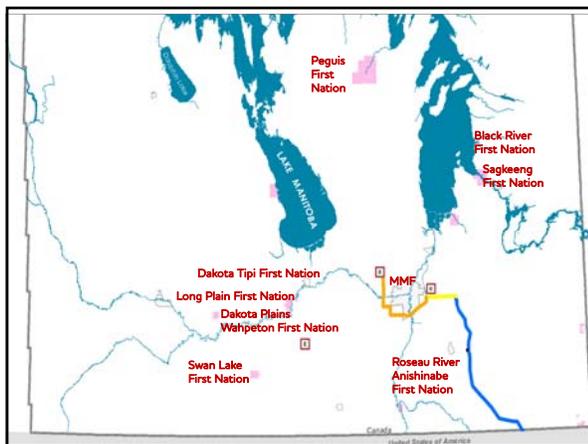




Community preferences

- Longer schedule
- Reinitiating early engagement steps after leadership changes
- Working collaboratively
- Involving youth
- More interesting presentations
- More field trips and events

41



Overview of process

November 2016,
March 2017
Community
monitoring
meetings



43

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44

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46

How feedback was considered



47

Feedback heard



48

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49

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