



6.0

Conclusion

White Birch Trees

This Report considered changes to two MSIs: Lands Available for Metis Use and Harvesting. Based on the results as well as information expressed by Participants throughout the Survey, the Study Team concluded that potential Residual Effects will occur if sufficient mitigation cannot be developed in partnership with Manitoba Hydro.

Should sufficient mitigation not occur, these residual effects will be considered significant by the Manitoba Metis Federation and the Study Team. Deciding significance is a central concept in environmental assessments¹⁹⁶. The magnitude for these effects is high in the PDA. As this is a central criterion, it adds weight to the definition of the effects as significant.

The probability of occurrence¹⁴⁸ for the potential effects is high; especially for effects on 'Lands Available for Metis Use'. The removal of Unoccupied Crown Land is a certainty, should the Project be approved. Based on the Study Team's experience and

¹⁹⁶ Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office 1994, A Reference Guide for the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, Determining Whether A Project is Likely to Cause Significant Adverse Environmental Effects, Accessed June 2016 https://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/Content/D/2/1/D213D286-2512-47F4-B9C3-08B5C01E5005/Determining_Whether_a_Project_is_Likely_to_Cause_Significant_Adverse_Environmental_Effects.pdf

judgment, the confidence¹⁹⁷ associated with this determination is high.

Therefore, the effects to 'Lands Available for Metis Use' and 'Harvesting', without mitigation, are significant. These effects must be addressed in some manner prior to Project approval to ensure the continuation of the Manitoba Metis Federation's Metis rights and interests in the Project area.

¹⁹⁷ Similar to 'uncertainty' used in the EIS

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