

May 22, 2017

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you today to voice my concerns regarding the Manitoba Minnesota Transmission Line Project. This line will be passing within a mile of our home and we are quite concerned about the health risks involved not to mention noise pollution in our neighbourhood and affect the value of our property and our neighbours property.

I (Alain) have lived in this area all my life (55 years). My parents and brothers still live and work on the farm ½ mile east of our house. Although I currently am not employed on the farm, I still help out when needed (which is quite often) and I am hoping to one day work back on the farm. This farm has been in the family since 1899. My great grandfather farmed this land, my grandfather farmed this land, my father farmed this land and eventually it will be passed down to my brothers and I. This line will be passing on land that at one time was bush and was cleared by our family with a lot of hard labour to make it usable land for crops. These crops are then in turn used to feed our cattle. We are very conscious of trying not to use chemical fertilizers or chemicals for weed control so we are not feeding our cattle such things which would transfer to the meat which we eat. We have done some research on the internet on the "safespaceprotection.com" website under the heading of "Electric fields, Magnetic Fields and power lines are a Health hazard" It states the side effects of magnetic fields and the pollution from living near these types of power lines increases your risk of cancer and other health problems. "The electric fields can easily be shielded but the magnetic fields can penetrate stone, steel and human flesh. In fact when it comes to magnetic fields human flesh and bone has the same penetrability as air." We find that quite concerning as our cattle graze in the field that they want to pass that line on as well in the winter the cattle are kept in a fenced-in area close to the house which is approximately 600 ft from those lines exposing them to these EMF's all year round. We are concerned on how that line will affect the health of our cattle as conception rate is known to be affected by these transmission lines also.

Although our house is in the R.M. of Ste. Anne, I went to school in La Broquerie and have many family and friends in this town. Most of my graduating class still live in La Broquerie, have raised their families here and now there children are now making

their homes to raise their children in La Broquerie. We are very proud of this fact. We are concerned that the transmission line route 208 will threaten the growth of our town as it is within ½ a mile from town, the schools, the golf course, the store, the arena and new developments in the area.

Manitoba Hydro would have us believe that these transmission lines will not affect the value of our homes. With health issues on the forefront of peoples minds today, I am sure the risks associated with this transmission line will affect their decisions as to whether to move to La Broquerie or somewhere else that may not have those lines. This in turn will affect the economy of our town...no new homes, no new families, which in turn affects taxes charged on the homes as well as the monies they spend on gas and groceries, at the restaurants etc....it is all related somehow.

According to Manitoba Hydro's announcement in the Dawson Dispatch of February 2015, the preferred route was based on environmental assessment and **public feedback**. At the public meeting held at La Broquerie Municipal office on February 2, 2015 the consensus of the people was to have the route 207 (further east of La Broquerie) be the preferred route. A motion was even passed at the R.M. of La Broquerie meeting on May 14th, 2014 stating that "The R.M. of La Broquerie, on behalf of its citizens, strongly urge Manitoba Hydro to consider route 207 as the logical alternative for the project". I would be interested to see what public feedback they received that was in favor of route 208...

In reference to "What we heard - round 1" on the MMTP site, one of the concerns voiced, specifically talks to the Centennial Farm issue and the response was..."**they are avoided where possible.**" In that same round of concerns there were also statements that were made stating that the "**alternate routes utilize paralleling options where possible**" and "**locaton of urban centres and residential areas are major considerations in refining routes**"; "**Proximity to individual residences and farmsteads are a major consideration in transmission line routing**". and "**Transmission line corridors avoid residences to the greatest extent possible.**" (See attached for these references).

Based on their own words, they are contradicting themselves and I have a hard time trusting that what they are proposing will not have long term effects on our health and on the future of the family farm which has been running for over a century.

We purchase land, pay taxes on it every year and assume the property belongs to us but in reality the government can decide they need it or just want it and you have no choice in the matter, they can take it.

We are Manitoba residents, Canadian citizens and are told how important it is for us to vote and that every vote counts. Hopefully our concerns are just as important and that they count also.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alain Fournier". The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent initial 'A'.

Alain Fournier (also on behalf of Jacqueline Fournier, Bernard Fournier, Marge Fournier, Renald Fournier and Gilles Fournier)

What we heard - Round 1

Manitoba Hydro held public open houses, meetings and workshops to gather information on routing criteria as well as feedback on route segments.

The following table presents some of the most frequent comments or concerns heard throughout Round 1 (including phone and email).

JUNE 11, 2014
R M OF ST ANNE
MINUTES

| Comment/Concern | How the comments/concerns were addressed |
|--|--|
| Proximity to cities, towns, villages and rural residential development | Locations of urban centres and rural residential areas are a major consideration in refining routes. |
| Proximity to individual residences and farmsteads | This is a major consideration in transmission line routing. Transmission line corridors avoid residences to the greatest extent possible. |
| Perturbed health effects due to electric and magnetic fields (EMFs) | These concerns will be addressed in the environmental assessment process. Information from Health Canada, the World Health Organization and other international health entities is provided in the public engagement process. These sources state that no scientific evidence suggests that exposure to EMF will cause any negative health effects on humans, vegetation and wild or domestic animals. For more information on EMFs go to www.hydro.mb.ca/safety/emf/index.shtml |
| Loss of high-quality farm land | While routing considers the value of these lands based on crop production and soil classification, avoidance is not always possible. To reduce the potential effects on agriculture, the preference is to align the route on the half-mile line or parallel to other linear features. Self-supporting towers with a smaller footprint are used in agricultural areas to lessen the effect on crop production. |
| Avoid aerial applicator airstrips | Locations of airstrips were identified in the early planning phases and will be avoided where possible in route selection. |
| Compensation for private landowners | Manitoba Hydro provides a one-time compensation payment for transmission line easements as well as a one-time tower payment related to loss of annual production. Manitoba Hydro also compensates landowners for any damages related to construction and operation. |
| Avoid sacred, historical and heritage sites, including Centennial Farms. | Heritage resources, including archaeological resources, are identified as part of the route planning process and are avoided where possible. This information will continue to be collected and considered as project planning proceeds. |
| Potential impacts on land available for future Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) selections | Manitoba Hydro encourages communities to share information about potential future TLE selection. This information will be considered in the site selection and environmental assessment processes. |
| Parallel existing transmission lines | Parallel existing transmission lines |
| Concerns about use of herbicides | Manitoba Hydro does not use herbicides for right-of-way clearing. For right-of-way maintenance, an integrated vegetation management program reduces the amount of herbicide required. |
| Stream crossings can impact riparian habitat | Riparian zones of streams and rivers are important habitat and are considered in route selection. As a result, vegetation buffer zones are protected at watercourse crossing areas. |
| Potential impact on wildlife habitat for bears, deer, birds, including vegetation, riparian areas and wetlands | The environmental assessment process identifies potential sensitivities. Manitoba Hydro will work with communities to identify sensitive sites. Important to the community and will consider specific mitigation or construction scheduling to reduce effects. |
| Environmental degradation and reduced opportunities for hunting, trapping, gathering of berries and medicinal plants | The environmental assessment process identifies potential sensitivities. Manitoba Hydro will work with communities to identify sensitive sites. Important to the community and will consider specific mitigation or construction scheduling to reduce effects. |
| ATV access and hunting in wilderness areas | Manitoba Hydro will work with local authorities to manage access along rights-of-way once a final route is selected. Increased access in natural areas is a consideration in route selection. |
| Locate transmission line infrastructure adjacent to linear infrastructure such as provincial and municipal highways and roads and drains to reduce land requirements | Existing linear features were identified in the route selection process and used as routing opportunities where possible. With 500-kV transmission lines, towers cannot be placed immediately adjacent to the edge of road allowances. Alignment with roads may not always be possible when infield placement of towers is necessary for reliability reasons. Routing does consider drains as possible alignments. |
| Parallel existing transmission lines | Parallel existing transmission lines was considered as part of route selection. The refined alternative routes utilize paralleling options where possible. |
| How the comments/concerns were addressed | How the comments/concerns were addressed |