

Hello my name is Cal Penner and I farm south and east of Elm Creek. Bipole III is proposed to come across my farm on which I have lived on over fifty years.

Date: Oct 24, 2012
Received by: [Signature]
(Commission Secretary)

Thank you for hearing my presentation. I am afraid though that this process is only a formality that is slowing down the inevitable. This inevitability was confirmed to me by the person who came to our farm to ask us to sign the right of way agreement. He asked us to sign before this commission had even started, let alone come to a conclusion. He told us that we might as well sign and get on with the inevitable. So you have to understand that what we are doing today and this process is something I view with very deep suspicion.

Still I want to tell you how I feel about this Bipole line that will come across our farm.

Webster's Dictionary defines the word bully. I will quote and then you can decide if it applies. 1- a person who hurts, frightens, tyrannizes or browbeats those who are smaller or weaker

I have owned this farm for many years. Now I am being told by someone who is bigger and stronger than I that they can take away my property rights and in all reality there is nothing I can do about it. Manitoba Hydro and the Government of Manitoba can force me do whatever they want. I am being bullied. Now in life as in a school yard

we are trying to stop bullying. Well, I say stop it here. I think that some of the same principles apply in this situation as do in school yards. If you look at a playground bully you will find that they are this way because someone has bullied them and so on and so on. Someone has to break the cycle of bullying. I hope it can be this commission.

Manitoba Hydro was bullied into choosing this more expensive route by the Manitoba Government who were in turn bullied by the well funded but poorly informed Eco movement in the US. This is usually how the cycle of bullying works. I say stand up to the American eco bullies who are trying to force us into something that is not logical.

Now I would find it more acceptable to come across my farm if I was on a direct route from the generation station to the end user. I can understand giving up some of my rights for the common good if there is some logic to it. But, going to the Saskatchewan border and then back to Winnipeg defies this farmers logic when by going almost straight south you would end at the Ontario border. There have been no good explanations for this more expensive route just a few weak excuses that really don't have much logic.

I also feel that we have been lied to in the process so far. We have been told that the lines will be definitely a certain height and then later gone to another consultation meeting and been told no, they will be higher. It seems to me that the final specifications have not been done. So you can understand my suspicion.

As a business owner I wish I could do what Manitoba Hydro does. They misread a market and loose money and then basically say oops we screwed up so we have to charge you more and as they just did in September. I wish I could do this as a farmer.

I could say oops I screwed up and didn't do proper grain marketing so now you have to pay me because of my poor business practices. Only in the world of government and crown corporations does this happen. I wonder if this is as good as the highly paid executives and civil servants can do. They do not take a pay cut like I have to when I make a poor decision. This does not give me any confidence in the sales projections that have been done to try and justify Bipole III. I am afraid that there will be many large rate increases as we are forced to pay for the huge mistake of the Bipole route that is being proposed.

What makes this even more unpalatable that I will have to farm around this power line that I am certain will cost me much more in hydro rates. I think that compensation for landowners should include free hydro rates. I am certain that with all the new natural gas reserves that are being

found there will be hydro generation from natural gas that will keep hydro rates down for users of this type of electricity. There are also new technologies that will be developed to make coal electrical generation much cleaner. These do not bode well for Manitoba Hydro sales. We all know that Manitobans will have to pay much more for their hydro. At least pick the more direct, less expensive route.

Another concern I have as a farmer is the liability I have with a huge power line that I don't want, going across my farm. I am liable for any damage that I do to this line that I don't want. I hope never to have an accident with the line or poles that I didn't want. Accidents do happen however and I can see that I will have to bear all of the liability with the current agreement. In the event of a catastrophic accident I or my insurance company would be forced to pay for loss of use for Hydro as well as repair costs. There would also loss of life costs. These would bankrupt me. I would like to propose that the liability be shared with Manitoba Hydro. I would propose that they should look after their repair and loss of use costs and I would look after my repair and loss of use costs. Did I mention this is something I did not ask for, yet there will be costs that I will have to pay for.

The compensation should be similar to what cel phone companies are doing. They pay a negotiated monthly rental for each tower and after five years there is the right

between parties to cancel the agreement or to renew the agreement.

I feel that the costs and risks of Bipole III and the proposed route far exceed any benefits to me and my fellow landowners. Please reconsider the route and or the compensation.

I just had a new grandson on Saturday. I am afraid he will be the one who will be forced to pay the costs of this big mistake called Bipole III. What will I tell him when he sees the line on what will be then his farm? What will I tell him when he sees what very well could be cheaper rates in the US with natural gas generated electricity? What will I tell him when he asks me why I let this happen?