

360 Portage Ave (22) • Winnipeg Manitoba Canada • R3C 0G8 Telephone / N° de téléphone : (204) 360-4655 • Fax / N° de télécopieur : (204) 360-6147 jmayor@hydro.mb.ca

2013 02 21

"WITHOUT PREJUDICE"

Mr. Cory Grant All Terrain Bear Hunts and Johnson Road Outfitters Email: <u>atbh@mymts.net</u>

Dear Mr. Grant:

RE: BIPOLE III TRANSMISSION PROJECT

Thank you for your letter (emailed November 23, 2012) expressing your concerns about the potential effect of Bipole III on your outfitting operation. I applaud your initiative and success in establishing and operating your outfitting business over the past 14 years in the Thompson area.

Manitoba Hydro has consulted extensively on this project in determining a preferred route for the Bipole III transmission line. Many of your concerns have been identified through that process. A number of mitigation measures have been developed in regards to access, encountering denning sites, and disturbance as listed below.

- Access to clearing areas will utilize existing roads and trails to the extent possible.
- Access to transmission line rights-of-way will be closed, signed and/or controlled in accordance with an Access Management Plan.
- Public use of access roads and trails during construction will be controlled through the Access Management Plan.
- Construction access roads/trails that are no longer required will be decommissioned and rehabilitated to prevent access.
- Trees containing active nests and areas where active animal dens or burrows are encountered will be left undisturbed until unoccupied
- Wildlife will not be fed, befriended or harassed at construction areas.
- Construction camps will be kept clean, food will be kept in sealed storage areas, and kitchen wastes will be stored in bear-proof containers in northern and rural areas.
- Hunting and harvesting of wildlife by project staff will not be permitted while working on the project sites.
- No firearms will be permitted at construction sites

In addition winter construction is planned for the northern part of the transmission line at a time when outfitting activity is often limited by closed hunting seasons. This will reduce disturbance on local wildlife populations as it pertains to your outfitting business.

The above mitigation measures and many other measures are incorporated in the Environmental Protection Plan for the project which will be a mandatory part of project implementation. For further information, The Environmental Impact Statement for the project and the Environmental Protection Plan can be found on our website at the following web address. <u>http://www.hydro.mb.ca/projects/bipoleIII/eis.shtml</u>

In regards to any impact or loss to your business you believe may occur as a result of the construction or operation of the Bipole III Transmission Line you would need to submit a claim to Manitoba Hydro's law department, once such an event occurred. To substantiate a claim, past and present accounting and business records would be required to determine if a loss has arisen directly as a result of the Bipole III project.

As indicated in earlier correspondence, The Clean Environment Commission is currently conducting a public hearing on the Bipole III Transmission Project as part of the review and licensing process under Manitoba's *Environment Act*. The public hearing will resume in early March 2013. Members of the public are encouraged to participate in the CEC review process through written submissions or presentations to the Commission. Further information on the CEC hearing process can be found at <u>www.cecmanitoba.ca</u>.

If you would like further information please contact me at <u>pmcgarry@hydro.mb.ca</u> or by phone at 204 360-3016.

Sincerely,

Patrick McGarry Senior Environmental Assessment Officer Licensing & Environmental Assessment Department Transmission Planning & Design Division

Cc: J. Mayor