

MANITOBA CLEAN ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION

BIPOLE III TRANSMISSION PROJECT  
PUBLIC HEARING

VOLUME 6

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Transcript of Proceedings

Held at the Rec Centre

Gillam, Manitoba

OCTOBER 10 AND OCTOBER 11, 2012

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## APPEARANCES

## CLEAN ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION

Terry Sargeant - Chairman  
Pat MacKay - Member  
Brian Kaplan - Member  
Ken Gibbons - Member  
Wayne Motheral - Member  
Michael Green - Counsel to the Board  
Cathy Johnson - Commission Secretary

## MANITOBA CONSERVATION AND WATER STEWARDSHIP

Elise Dagdick

## MANITOBA HYDRO

Janet Mayor - Counsel  
Shannon Johnson

## MANITOBA METIS FEDERATION

Julyda Lagimodiere

## FOX LAKE CREE NATION

Ms. Karen Anderson

## INDEX OF EXHIBITS

EXHIBIT NO.		PAGE
GIL-1	Ms. Lagimodiere's presentation	1106
GIL-2	Map from Ms. Lagimodiere	1106
GIL-3	Letter package from Ms. Lagimodiere	1106
GIL-4	Mr. Neufeld's presentation	1229
GIL-5	Trapper presentation	1229
GIL-6	Ms. Anderson's presentation	1229
GIL-7	Map	1229

## INDEX OF PROCEEDINGS

Opening remarks by Commission	1090
Presentation by MMF Ms. Julyda Lagimodiere	1092
Hydro presentation Mr. G. Neufeld	1108
Mr. R. Phin	1135
Questions by the Board	1156
Questions by Mr. Massan	1161
Questions by Mr. Moose	1162
Hydro presentation Mr. V. Kuzdak	1167
Questions by the Board	1176
Presentation by Fox Lake Cree Nation Ms. K. Anderson	1183
Questions by the Panel	1223
Presentation by Mr. Samson Dick	1229
Presentation by Ms. Sophie Lockhart	1234
Presentation by Mr. John Spence	1237
Presentation by Ms. Sara Peters	1247
Presentation by Ms. Catherine Beardy	1250
Presentation by Ms. Elizabeth Beardy	1253
Presentation by Mr. Ivan Moose	1255
Presentation by Mr. Noah Massan	1261

1 Wednesday, October 10, 2012

2 Upon commencing at 7:00 p.m.

3 THE CHAIRMAN: Good evening ladies and  
4 gentlemen. Welcome to the Clean Environment  
5 Commission hearings here in Gillam. My name is  
6 Terry Sargeant, I'm the chair of the Manitoba  
7 Clean Environment Commission as well as the chair  
8 of this panel.

9 With me on the panel, starting on my  
10 far left is Wayne Motheral, Brian Kaplan, Patricia  
11 MacKay and Ken Gibbons. We also have support  
12 staff with us, Commission secretary Cathy Johnson,  
13 our legal counsel Kelly Dixon, and our report  
14 writer Bob Armstrong, and at the back of the room,  
15 our administrative assistant, Joyce Mueller.

16 Part of our travelling road show  
17 includes representatives of the Department of  
18 Conservation and Water Stewardship, as well as a  
19 number of officials from Manitoba Hydro.

20 Manitoba Hydro will be making a  
21 presentation tomorrow morning describing the  
22 project to some extent. Hydro officials are also  
23 available this evening if anyone -- any members of  
24 the public wish to ask questions of them about the  
25 Bipole project. That includes the two converter

1 stations and the transmission line between here  
2 and just outside of Winnipeg.

3           We're here today, the reason for  
4 holding these hearings is that last December the  
5 Minister of Conservation asked us to hold public  
6 hearings into the proposed Bipole III project.  
7 The purpose of these hearings is to review the  
8 Environmental Impact Statement prepared by  
9 Manitoba Hydro about the project, to recommend to  
10 the Minister whether or not we feel a licence  
11 should be issued. And if we feel a licence should  
12 be issued, to include any conditions that we might  
13 think are necessary to mitigate any potential  
14 damage.

15           Part of the terms of reference, or  
16 included in the terms of reference that the  
17 Minister sent to us was a request that we hold  
18 hearings, not only in the City of Winnipeg, but in  
19 communities that are near to the Bipole project.  
20 So last week we began in Winnipeg and held five  
21 days of hearings. This is the first of our  
22 hearings outside of the City of Winnipeg. We  
23 arrived here yesterday. We had a tour of some of  
24 the facilities today, just to familiarize  
25 ourselves with not only the generation of

1 electricity, but the conversion of electricity to  
2 go onto the Bipole lines.

3 We have two hours of hearings  
4 scheduled for this evening and a full day tomorrow  
5 in this room. Next week we're in Thompson and The  
6 Pas, the following week in some other rural  
7 communities, Dauphin, Portage la Prairie and  
8 Niverville, and then back to Winnipeg.

9 So tonight we will open the floor,  
10 give an opportunity to anybody from this community  
11 who wishes to say something about the Bipole,  
12 express their views on it, or as I noted earlier,  
13 to ask questions about Bipole. I understand we  
14 have a representative of the local Manitoba Metis  
15 Federation who will be making a presentation, and  
16 I invite you to come up now and make that  
17 presentation.

18 Now, first, we ask people who are  
19 giving evidence to affirm that the evidence they  
20 are going to give is the truth. So I'd ask the  
21 Commission secretary to --

22 MS. JOHNSON: Could you please state  
23 your name for the record?

24 Julyda Lagimodiere: Sworn

25 MS. LAGIMODIERE: Good evening and

1 thank you very much for the opportunity to be able  
2 to be here today and to make my presentation. I'm  
3 going to read my notes because I'm extremely  
4 nervous.

5 THE CHAIRMAN: That's fine.

6 MS. LAGIMODIERE: It will help me stay  
7 focused.

8 THE CHAIRMAN: That's okay.

9 MS. LAGIMODIERE: I'm the elected  
10 vice-president for the Thompson region of the  
11 Manitoba Metis Federation, otherwise known as the  
12 MMF. For convenience, I did provide a map that  
13 was attached to the notes that had been  
14 circulated, that generally outlines the governance  
15 structure of the MMF. I have also provided some  
16 additional information about the Metis rights  
17 claims, and it's in the back as appendices A and  
18 B, and Metis information about Metis demographics  
19 in the north at the end of my presentation for the  
20 Commission's convenience.

21 You are going to hear a lot from the  
22 Manitoba Metis as you proceed with these hearings  
23 since Bipole III's proposed route goes through  
24 some of the most significant Metis populations in  
25 the province, as well as important and sensitive



1 areas of the Manitoba Metis community's  
2 traditional territory.

3           So since I am the first presenter from  
4 the MMF in these hearings, I want to start with  
5 some general background information on the MMF.  
6 The MMF was formed in 1967, and brought Metis  
7 people and Metis communities in Manitoba together  
8 through a common self-governance structure. The  
9 structure represents Metis at the local, regional  
10 and provincial levels. More specifically, the  
11 MMF's governance structure includes MMF locals  
12 which represent MMF citizens at the settlements,  
13 town or city level. MMF regions, which represent  
14 MMF citizens and locals, and that's the level I'm  
15 at, the MMF region. And throughout Manitoba,  
16 there are seven identified regions within the  
17 province, which the map will have -- it divides it  
18 into those seven regions.

19           The MMF also has a Provincial Board of  
20 Directors which is lead by the provincial  
21 president, along with regional representatives  
22 like myself, who are elected by ballot box every  
23 four years. These various levels of Metis  
24 government work together to represent the Manitoba  
25 Metis community throughout the province.

1                   The 2006 census estimates that there  
2    are approximately 100,000 self-identifying Metis  
3    within Manitoba.  Currently, the MMF has over  
4    52,000 registered members who live throughout the  
5    province.  In order to ensure credibility and  
6    integrity and its Metis identification system, the  
7    MMF maintains a centralized registry of Metis  
8    citizens, and that registry is held in -- the  
9    office is held in Winnipeg.  For individuals  
10   applying to MMF for citizenship, the MMF's  
11   registry requires documented proof of Metis nation  
12   ancestry, as well as verification that an  
13   individual self-identifies as Metis and is  
14   accepted as Metis.

15                   In the Thompson region we have over a  
16   thousand registered Metis citizens on the MMF's  
17   registry living in locations such as Gillam,  
18   Churchill, Thompson, Thicket Portage, Nelson  
19   House, Wabowden and Pikwitonei, and of course  
20   other communities as well within a region.

21                   The 2006 census estimates that there  
22   are over 2,500 Metis citizens in the Thompson  
23   region, which is the largest region, as you will  
24   note from the map that's been provided to you,  
25   inside Manitoba.  In the Gillam area there are

1 approximately 140 Metis based on that census.

2 I, along with the Metis leadership at  
3 the local and regional level, as well as the MMF  
4 president, work together to represent the Metis  
5 population throughout the Thompson region. That  
6 work is often challenging because of the sheer  
7 size of this MMF region, as well as the realities  
8 of the north such as weather, access issues,  
9 increased costs and so forth. We do our best of  
10 course with what we have in order to protect our  
11 people's rights and way of life in the north.

12 As well, for the record, Metis in this  
13 region are not represented by Northern Affairs  
14 Community Councils, which is a purely  
15 administrative body created by the Manitoba  
16 Government and under the complete control of the  
17 Manitoba Minister responsible for community  
18 councils.

19 These provincially created entities  
20 have no mandate to speak for our community on  
21 issues relating to Metis rights. The Metis have  
22 established our own governance structure, the MMF,  
23 to give our people a Metis specific voice.

24 With that said, my presentation is  
25 going to be on the Metis in the north generally

1 and Gillam specifically. However, as a starting  
2 point, I think it's important to stress that the  
3 Metis up here in the north are an indivisible part  
4 of the larger part of the Manitoba Metis  
5 community, also called the Metis Nation. We are  
6 not different to our relations in the south, but  
7 we do face different realities, economies and  
8 challenges. These factors make large projects  
9 like Bipole III have a more dramatic effect on our  
10 traditional practices and way of life. In this  
11 region of the province, we have a long and deep  
12 history and connection to the land, since before  
13 Manitoba was Manitoba and Canada was Canada, as a  
14 part of the fur trade industry that was here in  
15 the early 1800s. Specifically, the Nelson River  
16 system was a strategic highway that connected  
17 Churchill and York Factory to the Red River, as  
18 well as the rest of the fur trade network in the  
19 old northwest. As a result of the strategic  
20 importance of this area to the fur trade, a  
21 sustained and identifiable collective of Metis  
22 families emerged, lived, used, and moved  
23 throughout this region of the province in the  
24 early 1800s to present day.

25 In the historic record, well known

1 Metis surnames such as Campbell, Sinclair, Dyck,  
2 McPherson, Swain, Anderson, Grey, Isbister --  
3 there's a typo there -- it should be Isbister --  
4 Swanson, McIvor, McLeod, MacKay or MacKay,  
5 McDonald, Collin, appeared in censuses and Metis  
6 scrip records for this particular region. These  
7 Metis families, amongst many others, continue to  
8 live in this region and call it home today. Our  
9 communities in this region is not simply made up  
10 of mixed ancestry individuals who can't get Indian  
11 status or Treaty rights. We have our own unique  
12 identity, history, language, culture and way of  
13 life as a part of the larger Metis Nation. We  
14 assert we are a distinct, rights bearing Metis  
15 community as a part of a larger Metis Nation. We  
16 ground our claims on the Supreme Court of Canada's  
17 decision in Regina versus Powley with respect to  
18 Metis rights.

19 I make these points to the Commission  
20 because increasingly the narrative of the north  
21 appears to be only about two or more dominant  
22 groups in this region, First Nations and the  
23 Crown. This narrative that excludes the Metis is  
24 enabled and financially supported by the Crown's  
25 agent, Manitoba Hydro.

1                   With my presentation I want to put it  
2    on the record that there is another Aboriginal  
3    people here in this region. We are no less worthy  
4    or less Aboriginal because we do not have a  
5    recognized land base or because the Crown has  
6    historically ignored us. I want to make it clear  
7    that the MMF acknowledges and respects the  
8    significant and distinct history and place of  
9    First Nations in the north. First Nation peoples  
10   in the north are our family, relations, friends  
11   and neighbours. Our disagreement is not with  
12   them, it is with the Crown and its agent, Manitoba  
13   Hydro.

14                   I want to draw the Commission's  
15   attention to a recent decision from the Supreme  
16   Court of Canada which has an extremely insightful  
17   quotation about our struggle for recognition as  
18   Metis. Specifically, the Supreme Court wrote the  
19   following, and I quote:

20                   "The history of the Metis is one of  
21                   struggle for recognition of their  
22                   unique identity as the mixed race  
23                   descendants of Europeans and Indians.  
24                   Caught between two larger identities  
25                   and cultures, the Metis have struggled

1 for more than two centuries for  
2 recognition of their own identity,  
3 culture and governance. The  
4 constitutional amendments of 1982, and  
5 in their wake, the enactment of the  
6 MSA..." ,

7 which of course means the Metis Settlements Act in  
8 Alberta,

9 "...signal that the time has finally  
10 come for recognition of the Metis as a  
11 unique, distinct people."

12 The struggle continues for the Metis  
13 in the north. As you can see in Manitoba Hydro's  
14 Environmental Impact Statement and supplemental  
15 filing on the socioeconomic on Gillam, there is  
16 extensive information about the Fox Lake First  
17 Nation and other first nations, but nothing about  
18 the Metis community.

19 This is an unacceptable deficiency in  
20 the Environmental Impact Statement. All that  
21 appears to be important to people is how many  
22 Metis people work for Manitoba Hydro as  
23 individuals. No one sees us or respects us as a  
24 distinct Aboriginal community. No one looks at  
25 what impact Bipole III and other projects will

1 have on us as a distinct rights bearing  
2 collective. We will not accept this any longer.  
3 We reject Manitoba Hydro's response to the MMF's  
4 information request, which essentially states that  
5 no other group has raised concerns about the  
6 Bipole III project in the Gillam area. This  
7 response is incorrect and disingenuous. For years  
8 the MMF has been attempting to meaningfully engage  
9 Manitoba Hydro in this region in relation to  
10 Bipole III and the Keeyask project to no avail.

11 As part of my presentation, I have  
12 provided just some of the letters -- and I believe  
13 you have received those letters through e-mail?  
14 Yes -- the MMF has sent to the Crown and Manitoba  
15 Hydro setting out Metis claims and requesting  
16 meaningful engagement. While hundreds of millions  
17 of dollars have been spent on engagement of First  
18 Nations in this region, up until very recently,  
19 Manitoba Hydro has refused to undertake a  
20 socioeconomic impact study on Metis in the Gillam  
21 area and larger region.

22 We ask how Manitoba Hydro rely on its  
23 refusal to engage the Metis as justification to  
24 say there were no concerns identified? Clearly,  
25 you are never going to find something if you



1 refuse to look for it. We say that Manitoba Hydro  
2 should not be allowed to rely on its own inaction  
3 to silence Metis concerns. We ask the Commission  
4 to ensure Manitoba Hydro is directed to understand  
5 the impacts of Bipole III on the Metis in this  
6 region, and attempt to mitigate and offset those  
7 impacts before it is granted any licence. As a  
8 Crown agent, Manitoba Hydro should not be allowed  
9 to be willfully blind to the Metis community that  
10 lives in this area.

11           With my presentation, I want to draw  
12 your attention to some of the concerns we have  
13 already raised by MMF members living in Gillam and  
14 surrounding areas. And these concerns include,  
15 Metis are concerned that an increased population  
16 in Gillam will increase rent amounts  
17 significantly. The Metis are often the working  
18 poor and rent increases hit us the hardest. While  
19 First Nations have the reserves and the government  
20 and Manitoba Hydro working with them to address  
21 their significant housing needs, Metis have no  
22 supports and fall through the cracks or get  
23 squeezed out of communities they have called home  
24 for generations.

25           Metis are concerned about the

1 significant changes that are coming to the north  
2 because of all the construction. Their way of  
3 life is going to change over the next decade.

4 While Manitoba Hydro is negotiating mitigation  
5 measures and offsetting programs with First  
6 Nations, similar arrangements are not being  
7 implemented with the Metis. This makes the Metis  
8 feel like they are now outsiders in a territory  
9 they have called home for close to 200 years.

10 Metis are concerned about the amount  
11 of increased development in relation to impacts on  
12 caribou and access to traditional harvesting  
13 areas. While Manitoba Hydro is committed to  
14 engaging an access management plan for First  
15 Nations, Metis are concerned that similar  
16 arrangements will not be negotiated with them.

17 Metis are concerned about the  
18 increased racism from outsiders coming into the  
19 Gillam community, as well as racism from some of  
20 their First Nation relations who are partners with  
21 Manitoba Hydro, because Metis asserting their  
22 rights is wrongfully perceived as a threat to  
23 other Aboriginal peoples in the region.

24 MMF members are afraid to politically  
25 organize in Gillam because many of them work for

1 Manitoba Hydro. Gillam is still largely a  
2 Manitoba Hydro company town and Metis are afraid  
3 of retribution by the company if they take  
4 positions that question Manitoba Hydro's ability  
5 to do what it wants.

6           These are just some of the concerns  
7 the Metis community has raised. In our opinion,  
8 the Environmental Impact Study is deficient  
9 because, while it acknowledges that there will be  
10 impacts in Gillam and area, there is no process in  
11 place with the Metis to address those impacts.

12           Right now, unlike First Nations, Metis  
13 have no table to discuss or address their  
14 concerns. We ask that until the needed  
15 information about Bipole III's impacts on Metis  
16 and Gillam environments is provided, the project  
17 not be recommended. Further, we ask that a  
18 condition for any Bipole III approval be that a  
19 negotiated agreement be in place between the Metis  
20 and Manitoba Hydro to address mitigation in  
21 offsetting issues.

22           Put simply, the Metis community must  
23 be provided the same opportunity as First Nations  
24 to address the identifiable impacts of Bipole III.  
25 Anything less would be inconsistent with the EIS

1 scoping document and discriminatory towards the  
2 Metis.

3 In closing, I want to thank the  
4 Commission for their time and willingness to  
5 listen. It is much appreciated, and I hope that  
6 my presentation has been helpful to you in your  
7 deliberations. Miigwech.

8 And the appendices which I won't read,  
9 you have the appendices.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Yes, we  
11 have them and we will read them. Thank you for  
12 your presentation.

13 Anybody have any questions of  
14 Ms. Lagimodiere? Thank you very much,  
15 Ms. Lagimodiere.

16 MS. LAGIMODIERE: I recognize you will  
17 be in Thompson, if there are any questions that  
18 you wanted me to address at a later time, I will  
19 be in Thompson as well. That's where I live.

20 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you very  
21 much. And I know that counsel for the MMF,  
22 Mr. Madden, will also be making a presentation in  
23 Winnipeg, so we may have questions for him at that  
24 time as well. But we will be in Thompson next  
25 week, as you noted. So thank you very much for

1 your presentation here tonight.

2 MS. LAGIMODIERE: Okay. Thank you  
3 kindly.

4 THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any other  
5 members of the public who have statements or  
6 questions? Janet?

7 MS. MAYOR: Sorry, I believe there was  
8 another individual that had come forward that  
9 wanted to speak, so I am not sure if he is  
10 still --

11 MS. JOHNSON: He's going to speak  
12 tomorrow.

13 THE CHAIRMAN: He's still working on  
14 his presentation and indicated he would rather go  
15 tomorrow.

16 MS. JOHNSON: But I will put some  
17 exhibits on the record. Ms. Lagimodiere's  
18 presentation is GIL number 1, the map is number 2  
19 and the letter package is number 3.

20 (EXHIBIT GIL 1: Ms. Lagimodiere's  
21 presentation)

22 (EXHIBIT GIL 2: Map from Ms.  
23 Lagimodiere)

24 (EXHIBIT GIL 3: Letter package from  
25 Ms. Lagimodiere)

1                   THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. We won't  
2 close the session just yet, but we may take a  
3 break and hang around for about a half an hour,  
4 and if anybody else wishes to make a presentation,  
5 just please let us know and we'll give you that  
6 opportunity. So we can take a bit of a time out,  
7 but don't go too far.

8                   (Proceedings adjourned at 8:00 p.m.)

9  
10 Thursday, October 11, 2012

11 Upon commencing at 9:00 a.m.

12                   THE CHAIRMAN: Good morning ladies and  
13 gentlemen, we will resume our hearings here in  
14 Gillam. We're going to start this morning with a  
15 presentation by Manitoba Hydro on the project, as  
16 well as another element related to the project.  
17 Following that, we will have some -- we've got a  
18 couple of scheduled presentations by local people,  
19 and following that we'll open it up to anybody in  
20 the public who wishes to either make a  
21 presentation or ask questions of Hydro officials.

22                   So having said that, I don't think we  
23 have any official business to take care of, so  
24 I'll turn it over to Mr. Neufeld to make the  
25 presentation on behalf of Hydro.

1 MR. NEUFELD: Thank you.

2 Mr. Chairman, Commissioners and members of the  
3 public, my name is Gerald Neufeld. I work at  
4 Manitoba Hydro as a division manager of  
5 transmission planning and design. What that means  
6 is, I am responsible for, first of all, the high  
7 level planning of the Bipole III facility, and  
8 also the area of licensing. I have been in the  
9 role I currently have as division manager for ten  
10 years. I graduated from the University of  
11 Manitoba with a Bachelor of Science degree in  
12 electrical engineering, and I have been at  
13 Manitoba Hydro for 27 years, and most of those  
14 years I have worked in the area of transmission,  
15 and organizationally I report to the  
16 vice-president of transmission.

17 What I'd like to talk about today is a  
18 bit about the existing system, and describe the  
19 project at a very high level. I'd like to talk to  
20 you about Bipole III as it relates to reliability,  
21 a few details about the environmental assessment  
22 process and also construction planning.

23 So with that I'll move into the  
24 details.

25 The existing system at Manitoba Hydro

1 that I'd like to describe for you is the  
2 functionality of this system from a high level  
3 standpoint as it relates to the high voltage  
4 transmission. So from the operational point of  
5 view at Manitoba Hydro, we have two electrical  
6 systems in Manitoba. One of them feeds the DC  
7 system, and the generating stations that are in  
8 our vicinity here at Gillam include Kettle, Long  
9 Spruce and Limestone. Those three generating  
10 stations feed into the existing Bipole I and  
11 Bipole II systems. That DC system is electrically  
12 separated from the AC transmission system.

13           And the AC transmission system, as you  
14 can see on this map, is depicted by these green  
15 lines. That's 230 kV AC transmission. And the AC  
16 transmission is supplied by the remaining units,  
17 generating stations in Manitoba Hydro, including  
18 Kelsey, Jenpeg, Wuskwatim, Laurie River and the  
19 Winnipeg River plants, as well as Selkirk and  
20 Brandon.

21           And when we lose Dorsey, and Dorsey is  
22 the southern converter station at which both  
23 Bipole I and II are terminated, when we lose  
24 Dorsey, or if we lose Bipole I and II, all the  
25 load in Manitoba has to be supplied by all the



1 generating stations in Manitoba, except for the  
2 biggest generating stations in the province, which  
3 include Kettle, Long Spruce and Limestone.

4 In addition, what we rely upon is  
5 imports from our neighboring provinces, from  
6 Saskatchewan, Ontario, and also from the United  
7 States.

8 During much of the year, if we were to  
9 lose Dorsey or Bipole I and II, there wouldn't be  
10 enough capability to supply the energy demand in  
11 Manitoba if we rely just on the remaining  
12 generation and the imports from our neighbours.

13 On a day like today, which is a bit  
14 colder, our shortfall would likely be in excess of  
15 a thousand megawatts. And to put -- to translate  
16 that into meaningful terms, a thousand megawatts  
17 is probably around 200,000 homes that would be  
18 without electricity.

19 On our high voltage system, we have  
20 existing about 1800, over 1800 kilometres of high  
21 voltage DC transmission that operates at 500 kV,  
22 500,000 volts. And that's represented by Bipole I  
23 and II. We also have 500 kV AC, which runs from  
24 our Dorsey station here on its way down to  
25 Minneapolis. So that stretch of line is about 209

1 kilometres. In this province, again, as I  
2 described earlier, we've got shown in green here  
3 the 230 kV transmission. This isn't  
4 comprehensive, there's more actually than what you  
5 see on the map. We have about 5000 kilometres of  
6 230 kV AC, 138 kilometres of -- sorry, 1400  
7 kilometres of 138 kV AC, and that includes -- some  
8 of you may be familiar with the line from Radisson  
9 to Churchill, that runs at 138 kV, and so that's  
10 encompassed in the 1400 kilometres. And of  
11 course, 115 kV AC, there is 2900 kilometres. So  
12 that's how we distribute the power at the high  
13 voltage level.

14 In addition, I have identified the  
15 various interconnections that we have with our  
16 provinces, neighboring provinces; to Saskatchewan  
17 there are five lines, to Ontario there are three  
18 lines, and to the United States there are four  
19 lines in total, and that one is the big one at  
20 500,000 volts.

21 In this province in total we have  
22 installed about 18,500 kilometres of AC  
23 transmission over the last 60 years.

24 On our existing system as well there  
25 have been, since the Environment Act was

1 proclaimed in 1988, there was a requirement of  
2 Manitoba Hydro to gain an environmental licence  
3 for any transmission facilities that were rated in  
4 excess of 115,000 volts. And in order to do this  
5 work, that's the licensing work, we have a  
6 department of experts, and there are ten in total  
7 and that's all they do, they are dedicated to  
8 conducting environmental assessment. And these  
9 people are professionals, they are well-trained in  
10 the environmental sciences, and they manage this  
11 important work for Manitoba Hydro, and they are  
12 dedicated to doing work on transmission  
13 facilities.

14                   Since 1988, we have successfully  
15 developed and managed the high voltage  
16 transmission system, including regulatory review  
17 and licensing of numerous large scale transmission  
18 projects in all parts of Manitoba, both the north  
19 and the south. And you can see the list of  
20 projects here for which we have gained licences.  
21 During the process of working on developing  
22 environmental assessments and applications for  
23 licence, we have grown in knowledge about  
24 licensing, about the environment, and about the  
25 environmental assessment process. We have a long

1 history of putting in transmission, and a  
2 successful track record of gaining environmental  
3 approvals.

4 Part of the Manitoba Hydro -- the  
5 Manitoba Hydro Act states that the purpose and  
6 objective of this Act is to provide for the  
7 continuance of a supply of power adequate for the  
8 needs of the province. What that means is that  
9 Manitoba Hydro has as a duty the obligation to  
10 ensure that there's electricity for all the  
11 requirements in the province.

12 I'd now like to talk to you about the  
13 shortfall that we have in this province if we lose  
14 Bipole I and II, or if we lose Dorsey. I had  
15 mentioned earlier that on a day like today there  
16 would be a shortfall in excess of a thousand  
17 megawatts. And with this graph, I can show you  
18 some of the details on how the shortfall has grown  
19 over the years.

20 And if we start back toward the mid --  
21 it's hard to read but I think that's the early to  
22 mid '90s. What we have on the top graph, the  
23 green line will show the load growth in the  
24 province. So every year the load in the province  
25 gets larger and larger. And also if we look at

1 the blue line, in this province every year the  
2 supply capability, the capability of supplying  
3 electricity changes somewhat. And I'd like to  
4 describe some of those reasons for you.

5           So if you see some changes in the line  
6 here, as an example in about 1995, there are four  
7 units at Brandon, four generating units at Brandon  
8 generating station that were taken out of service.  
9 And so there was a drop in the capability of  
10 supply by 132 megawatts.

11           If we move ahead to the late '90s, you  
12 can see that there's a jump up, that's actually a  
13 360-megawatt increase in capability which is  
14 represented by adding Brandon units, two units at  
15 Brandon, Brandon units six and seven. And then  
16 it's constant for a while, until we get to mid  
17 2006 or 2007, somewhere in there. The slight drop  
18 is represented by a change in the import limits  
19 that resulted from our interconnections with the  
20 midwest independent system operator, which is  
21 located in the United States.

22           And moving ahead further to about 2012  
23 to 2013, this increase is reflected by adding  
24 Wuskwatim. This should actually be probably moved  
25 back a bit, because at the present point in time

1 there are two units, there are three units in  
2 total at Wuskwatim and only two of them are  
3 running. The third one is currently still in the  
4 process of being completed.

5 Move ahead to 2013 to 2014, and this  
6 rises 300 megawatts, and that would come as a  
7 result of a project that I won't get into a lot of  
8 detail, it's called Riel sectionalizing. Riel  
9 station is the southern future proposed  
10 termination point for Bipole III. And at a very,  
11 very high level, what's happening is that because  
12 of the concern we have for reliability and the  
13 loss of significant supply if we lose Bipole I and  
14 II, we have undertaken to provide an alternate  
15 point in Manitoba for import from the United  
16 States, and that alternative point is at Riel. So  
17 we now have two larger stations in the south. And  
18 if we lose Dorsey, then at least we can still pull  
19 in power on the 500 kV AC line.

20 Then we move ahead to 2017, which is  
21 the proposed inservice date for Bipole III, and at  
22 that point in time our forecast shows that we'll  
23 be short about 1500 megawatts.

24 Following into about 2020, there's  
25 another short drop on the supply capability. If

1 we don't have Bipole III in, we'll lose another  
2 105 megawatts as a result of retiring Brandon unit  
3 five.

4           So you can see that over the span of  
5 time, we have some opportunities to improve the  
6 energy supply capability. Not always, sometimes  
7 it goes the other way when equipment gets worn  
8 out. But the demand curve continues to grow year  
9 after year, and so that gap is getting greater  
10 with advancement of time.

11           So the problem we have today is a lack  
12 of redundancy in the DC system, and insufficient  
13 energy backup resources to meet our growing load.  
14 We have a load serving deficiency, under  
15 catastrophic contingencies, and the deficiency gap  
16 grows with time due to load growth and the  
17 resources capacity is relatively constant, as I  
18 described on the blue line at the bottom of that  
19 graph.

20           The existing Bipole I and II lines are  
21 in excess of 900 kilometres long and they are on  
22 the same right-of-way. They are closely placed  
23 geographically one to the other. The two lines in  
24 the southern Dorsey station transmits 70 percent  
25 of northern hydro generation. So Kettle, Long

1 Spruce and Limestone represents 70 percent of the  
2 northern hydro generation. 70 percent of power  
3 going through one corridor is substantial, and if  
4 we want to compare it with some other utilities in  
5 the world, for example, Hydro Quebec, although  
6 they are a far larger system than we are, they  
7 have only a maximum of 11 percent of their energy  
8 that's generated that would ever go along one  
9 corridor. In Brazil, if you're familiar with the  
10 Itaipu dam in Brazil, and as large load in Sao  
11 Paulo at Rio de Janerio, the largest amount of  
12 power in Brazil that is transmitted down one  
13 corridor is 20 percent. In China with Three  
14 Gorges, and it's got the biggest generating  
15 station in the world, the largest amount of power  
16 that would be going down a single corridor is  
17 15 percent.

18           So today, as I mentioned, we have  
19 70 percent of the power going down one corridor.  
20 If we, and when we install Bipole III, that drops  
21 to 45 percent. So we're still not as good as some  
22 of the larger facilities in the world, but it's  
23 certainly a lot better than we have today.

24           So one of the questions you might have  
25 is, what are the risks of actually losing Dorsey



1 or Bipole I and II? And I'd like to go through  
2 very quickly, some of the near misses that we have  
3 had, and various events in Manitoba over the  
4 last -- within the last 17 years.

5           So September 5th, 1996, we had a  
6 significant event. It was called a downburst, a  
7 downburst wind which was just north of Dorsey.  
8 And I'm going to get into that in a bit more  
9 detail on a future slide. That really was the  
10 event that was the call of awakening in terms of  
11 the need for Bipole III.

12           In 2006, there were two significant  
13 storms that collided over Winnipeg, and I can tell  
14 you, with these storms there was a tremendous  
15 amount of electrical activity, a lot of lightning,  
16 and transmission lines were tripping off across  
17 the province as a result of the storm.

18           In June 2007, we had the first  
19 recorded F5 rated tornado near Elie, which is only  
20 about 25 kilometres from Dorsey station, and it  
21 created a tremendous amount of damage, the details  
22 of which, again, I'll speak to you in a few  
23 slides.

24           On August 9, 2007, significant storm  
25 hit Dorsey, Bipole I.

1                   On May 2008, there was a Marchand  
2 forest fire. And what happens with forest fires  
3 is the air becomes what they call ionized, and  
4 what that means is it becomes an electrical  
5 conductor when you've got two very large voltages.  
6 And the end result of having air that's a  
7 conductor is that there's a short circuit on the  
8 line and the line will trip out. And so these  
9 forest fires sometimes, as we know, burn for long  
10 periods of time, and it's difficult to get the  
11 transmission lines back into service when there's  
12 a lot of smoke in the air. And we have had many  
13 forest fires. Buffalo Lake is an example, which  
14 is just north of Grand Rapids, was a big fire in  
15 2008. In January 2011 there was a significant  
16 winter risk where we had flood waters and ice  
17 buildup on some of the waterways just upstream  
18 from the Kelsey Generating Station, and there was  
19 substantial amount of flooding. And this is in  
20 the middle of winter and, of course, also at a  
21 time when there was a substantial amount of  
22 freezing, and there were a stretch of about 170  
23 kilometres of DC line where structures were frozen  
24 into the ice, into three feet of ice. And there  
25 was a significant amount of damage resulting to

1 the towers because of the icing and the ice moving  
2 up and down as the water beneath either elevated  
3 or receded.

4 In May 2012, there was the forest  
5 fires in southeast Manitoba. Again, we tripped  
6 out our large high voltage line to the United  
7 States.

8 In July of this year, we had very  
9 strong winds, 150 kilometre per hour. These are  
10 called plow winds, they are also called down  
11 bursts, in St. Laurent and area. I believe there  
12 were about 29,000 customers out of service on that  
13 one.

14 In October 4 and 5, last week we had a  
15 significant ice storm in the southern part of the  
16 province, and there were 6,000 customers that were  
17 without power on the morning of October 5th,  
18 mostly in the Beausejour, La Broquerie, Marchand,  
19 Pointe Du Bois, Piney, Vita, Hadashville, and  
20 througout the Whiteshell area, hundreds of poles  
21 were broken. If that ice storm had occurred  
22 closer to Dorsey, one can only imagine the amount  
23 of damage that could have been caused to our  
24 critical system.

25 So a few details about some of these

1 near misses. The downburst event in  
2 September 1996, which I mentioned earlier, was our  
3 call of awakening. This was, this micro burst,  
4 which was really the end result of a lot of  
5 electrical activity and different strong charges  
6 inside these clouds, and it's like if you have a  
7 balloon and you prick the bottom of the balloon  
8 and it just gushes out. And there's these winds,  
9 they come straight down from the sky onto the  
10 ground, and they are so strong they can cause a  
11 tremendous amount of damage. And on this  
12 particular storm we believe that the micro burst  
13 had gusts of 150 to 180 kilometres an hour, and  
14 that it was that amount of wind intensity that was  
15 responsible for bringing down the HVDC towers.

16 In total we lost 19 towers on that  
17 weather event. And these towers were just  
18 immediately north of Dorsey. We can see on this  
19 map that it was extremely close. So I think this  
20 would be a good example of a near miss. If this  
21 is Dorsey station, the towers that were lost were  
22 starting about four kilometres north, and then  
23 extending north from there. And so if it had been  
24 just slightly further south and if that downburst  
25 had hit Dorsey, we could have been in real

1 trouble.

2                   The reason we would have been in real  
3 trouble is because when Dorsey, if we were to lose  
4 Dorsey, it could take up to three years to get  
5 rebuilt. So while on that immediate day, or in  
6 that immediate week when we had good weather, the  
7 loads were low, might not have created a big  
8 problem. The real difficulty lies with having to  
9 go through a winter season or multiple winter  
10 seasons without Dorsey.

11                   We were also very fortunate in being  
12 able to repair those towers very quickly. We had  
13 spares. And it was easy access as a result of  
14 good roadways and being in the southern part of  
15 the province.

16                   In June 2007, I mentioned earlier the  
17 tornado at Elie. And this, as I also indicated,  
18 was the first F5 tornado that was recorded in  
19 Manitoba. It created a significant amount of  
20 damage in Elie, it destroyed four houses. It  
21 lifted one house some 50 feet off the ground, it  
22 flipped over cars, and even tossed one homeowner's  
23 Chrysler Fifth Avenue onto a neighbour's roof.  
24 The tornado lingered over the same area of Elie  
25 for approximately four minutes before it cut

1 sharply to the south and rapidly dissipated.

2           At the same time as the Elie tornado,  
3 there was another tornado that touched down nearby  
4 Oakville, and that tornado was rated as an F3 with  
5 winds of 295 kilometres per hour. And it  
6 destroyed a number of outbuildings and many trees.  
7 Again, fortunately not at Dorsey, and again a rare  
8 occurrence, particularly to have two tornadoes at  
9 the same time.

10           In August 2007, when we hit the -- it  
11 damaged a number of pieces of equipment at Dorsey,  
12 there was a fairly significant impact to the  
13 system. And I'd like to describe some of the  
14 details of what happened as a result of that  
15 damage.

16           First of all, our line to the United  
17 States, the Dorsey to Forbes line, the 500,000  
18 volt line, it tripped. We also had a 230 kV line  
19 from, we call it the Ridgeway line. And if we can  
20 visualize Winnipeg, just on the east side of  
21 Highway 59 close to the floodway is what we refer  
22 to as our Ridgeway Terminal Station. And Richer,  
23 of course, is in eastern part of Manitoba. There  
24 was a significant line that got taken out, and so  
25 you can appreciate the breadth of outages that

1 would have taken place in Manitoba.

2 Over and above that, we had the Dorsey  
3 to Brandon line. So in terms of our province, the  
4 Brandon to Dorsey connection was gone. The  
5 Ridgeway to Richer connection was gone, which  
6 probably covers two-thirds of the southern part of  
7 Manitoba, and also the 500 kV line to the United  
8 States.

9 So a number of actions had to take  
10 place as a result of those losses. First of all,  
11 to compensate for the significant loss of DC,  
12 which was 1348 megawatts that were lost, we made  
13 phone calls to MISO to take action on two things.  
14 Number one, to enact what is called a loading  
15 relief. And what that means is there's strict  
16 transfer limits that are allowed on transmission  
17 lines, and when an emergency call of that nature  
18 is made, they'll back off on enforcing those  
19 limits, just to allow the remaining system to stay  
20 intact and to ensure that Manitoba stayed  
21 connected electrically to the larger system. And  
22 the second thing that happened was that there was  
23 an emergency call to help us offset the loss of  
24 this amount of power on DC, and that allowed us to  
25 start importing the power to be able to keep

1 everyone's lights on, if you will.

2 I'd now like to talk to you about a  
3 few details about the project. And so we have the  
4 Keewatinoow Station, which is just north of here.  
5 And the purpose of the Keewatinoow Station, which  
6 is connected to the Radisson and Henday and Long  
7 Spruce facilities here in the northern part of the  
8 province, and the purpose of the Keewatinoow  
9 Station is to convert the AC power to DC, so we  
10 can move it down the Bipole III line.

11 In the south we have the Riel Station,  
12 and the Riel Station will also have a converter  
13 station, and its purpose is just the opposite of  
14 Keewatinoow. Where Keewatinoow, as I mentioned,  
15 converts from AC to DC, at Riel we convert from DC  
16 back to AC, and then we can inject it into the  
17 existing transmission system, and of course the  
18 line, the 500 kV DC line that runs from  
19 Keewatinoow to Riel.

20 The plans for these facilities are to  
21 have them come in service in the year 2017.

22 I'd like to talk to you now about the  
23 different kinds of towers that we'll be using on  
24 the Bipole III line. So in the north, our plans  
25 are to use guyed towers. These are similar to the



1 towers that you might be familiar with that exist  
2 on Bipoles I and II, and they look similar to the  
3 Bipole I and II towers. And this is a guy anchor,  
4 and these are just long cables that extend up to  
5 the top of these towers which sit on a concrete  
6 pad as a single pedestal.

7           In the south of the province, in the  
8 agricultural areas, we are planning to install  
9 what we call self-supporting towers. And these  
10 are towers that don't need the guy wires. And the  
11 advantage of this type of tower on the  
12 agricultural areas is that it takes away less of  
13 the arable land. It makes it easier for the  
14 farmers to continue moving their equipment around  
15 these types of towers. And what we see here are a  
16 variety of different towers that are being used.  
17 And we need different towers in order to turn  
18 corners and to accommodate strains that are  
19 imposed by the line when the line doesn't run in  
20 an exactly straight line. So if, for example, we  
21 go to the tower here on the far right, this is a  
22 far more robust tower, and this is a heavy angle.  
23 This can take the strain from 25 degrees to  
24 92 degrees as we turn the corner. And your  
25 typical tower that you'll see is the suspension

1 tower which can manage very small amount of forces  
2 in the lateral directions, but there will be many  
3 of those, because these are the ones that you see  
4 where the line goes straight down a right-of-way.

5 At the Keewatinoow Station, converter  
6 station, it currently is not developed. There is  
7 a road access into the area but the site has yet  
8 to be developed. It's a remote construction  
9 location which will require full scale worker  
10 accommodations, and the employment for the work at  
11 Keewatinoow Station will be governed under the  
12 Burntwood/Nelson labour agreement.

13 And what this means is that there's  
14 hiring preferences given, including priority for  
15 northern Aboriginal residents. And there is  
16 certain benefits, such as overtime and turnarounds  
17 in terms of shifts that are applied to the workers  
18 for the Burntwood/Nelson agreement.

19 The agreement also contains provisions  
20 relating to recruitment, referral, placement  
21 training and retention of northern Aboriginal  
22 people.

23 In the south we have the Riel  
24 Converter Station, and this will be a partially  
25 developed site. Because since I -- as I indicated

1 earlier, the sectionalization part of that project  
2 is currently under way. There will be no camp  
3 requirements and standard practices for any  
4 Manitoba Hydro station facility would apply in  
5 terms of hiring and awarding of contracts at Riel.

6           This slide is just a high level  
7 illustration of how AC electricity gets converted  
8 to DC for long distance transmission on the Bipole  
9 III line. So if we could consider the generating  
10 station to represent Kettle, Limestone and Long  
11 Spruce, the power is transmitted through AC lines  
12 to -- it would be transmitted through AC lines to  
13 the Keewatinoow Converter Station. As I mentioned  
14 earlier, at Keewatinoow the power gets converted  
15 from AC to DC. And just to give you some idea of  
16 a function that you might be familiar with that  
17 does the same thing, this is a charger cord for a  
18 Blackberry. And as we know, we've got two  
19 terminals to plug it into an AC outlet, and what  
20 comes out of it is DC. So this is from AC to DC.  
21 And that's what the Keewatinoow Converter Station  
22 will do.

23           From the Keewatinoow Converter  
24 Station, we transmit on DC from the north to the  
25 south. And to gain an understanding of what DC

1 might look like, I have here a one and a half volt  
2 battery, it's a D sized battery, which we're  
3 familiar with on our flashlight. And simply,  
4 500,000 volts is probably over 300,000 of these  
5 batteries all stacked up one on top of the other,  
6 and that would get you 500,000 volts. We have two  
7 poles on the line, or two sets of wires, so one of  
8 them goes from ground to plus 500,000 volts, and  
9 the other one goes from ground to negative 500,000  
10 volts. So that's very simply an illustration of  
11 the kind of power that comes down that line.

12           And thirdly, when we get to Riel, at  
13 the Riel Station, we convert back from DC to AC.  
14 And I have another useful device here that is  
15 plugged into a cigarette lighter in a car, and  
16 this is an inverter. So we plug in and we inject  
17 DC into this device. And then there are two  
18 plug-ins here that we can use to plug in regular  
19 household devices, small. And these are very  
20 small obviously, small power transformation  
21 capability as compared to Keewatinoow and Riel.  
22 But nonetheless, the functions are the same. And  
23 then of course at Riel, once we have converted  
24 back to AC, we connect into the existing AC  
25 transmission network, and that's how we move the

1 power around.

2 A bit about our environmental  
3 assessment process. Our final preferred route is  
4 we'll run down the length of line 1384 kilometres.  
5 And the line you will see here is shown in green,  
6 and it's moving all the way through the west side  
7 of Lake Manitoba, Lake Winnipegosis, Cedar Lake,  
8 all the way down into the southern part of the  
9 province. The area that we started with, with  
10 regard to the environmental assessment, covered  
11 this, the band width in yellow. So that's where  
12 we started in 2008, was we were searching for a  
13 corridor that would fall into the area that's  
14 covered by the shade in yellow. And so what we  
15 see here, again, is the final preferred route.

16 The right-of-way for that line is 66  
17 metres. The Crown lands that we cover are 931  
18 kilometres, or 60 percent of the line length. The  
19 private lands, the line will go over about 454  
20 kilometres or about 33 percent of the line. In  
21 that distance of private lands, there are about  
22 436 private landowners.

23 So when we start with the  
24 environmental assessment, we go through a  
25 comprehensive, what we call a comprehensive site

1 selection and environmental assessment process.  
2 We have embraced engagement with the public  
3 through four rounds of consultation. And using  
4 the input from the public consultation, and using  
5 the results of various studies that we have  
6 undertaken over the span of the last four years,  
7 we have been able to start with that broad study  
8 area, which is shown in yellow, and fine-tuning as  
9 we moved along over the four years to the point  
10 where the information that was collected through  
11 both research and consultation resulted in the  
12 final preferred route, as you see in green.

13                   This is a high level flow chart or  
14 activity chart of what we -- the work that we did  
15 with the environmental assessment process. And  
16 you can see here round one, round two, round  
17 three, and round four public consultations, a  
18 number of activities that occurred between those  
19 open houses.

20                   And we respect that there are very,  
21 very many issues that need to be accounted for in  
22 routing a transmission system of this magnitude.  
23 And we believe that we have selected a route that  
24 will have the least impact on the environment, on  
25 the communities and the residences along the

1 proposed path of the transmission line, including  
2 the Keewatinoow Converter Station and its  
3 associated facilities, and that will meet Manitoba  
4 Hydro's needs for reliability and the supply of  
5 electricity.

6                   From a construction standpoint, there  
7 are a few details as well that would be good for  
8 us to talk about. And one of them is the fact  
9 that, again, in this study area you will see that  
10 there are, for the transmission line there are  
11 eight segments, eight construction planning  
12 segments that have been broken out. They are  
13 denoted by N1, N2, N3, N4, and then in central  
14 Manitoba there's C1 and C2. And in the south we  
15 have S1 and S2.

16                   And with regard to the Keewatinoow  
17 Converter Station, there is construction planning  
18 that is going underway there as well, and  
19 similarly with Riel.

20                   So during the course of the  
21 construction, we will work with stakeholders and  
22 the public, and ensure that expectations that have  
23 been laid out and commitments we have made are  
24 met.

25                   So some final comments as well

1 relative to the transmission line construction  
2 process. The process entails detailed design. As  
3 it relates to the tower locations, the exact  
4 towers are not committed at the time of design.  
5 They are fairly accurate but they are not exactly  
6 accurate. And there's a good reason for that, and  
7 that is that the exact tower spotting will occur  
8 in the field, and it will take into account  
9 different ground constraints and construction  
10 logistics, and any additional input from  
11 landowners or other stakeholders as required.

12 For example, we are currently working  
13 with Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation to  
14 avoid quarries that would be of interest to them,  
15 and we can do that by ensuring appropriate tower  
16 placement. And it might not have to go far from  
17 where the design showed, but if we move it just a  
18 bit, it will allow, and it will accommodate some  
19 of those reserves to be easily accessed.

20 So it's important from a construction  
21 and design standpoint not to finalize details too  
22 early and too quickly. And that's similar to what  
23 I described with the environmental assessment  
24 process.

25 Very quickly, high level on the



1 environmental protection, on the site selection  
2 process, this part of the process is used to avoid  
3 impacts wherever feasible through routing. The  
4 Environmental Protection Program provides a  
5 framework for the delivery, management and  
6 monitoring of environmental mitigation measures.

7           The Environmental Protection program  
8 actually describes how Manitoba Hydro is organized  
9 and how it functions to deliver timely, effective  
10 and comprehensive solutions and mitigation  
11 measures, and to address potential environmental  
12 effects and the roles and responsibilities of  
13 different parts of the organization are defined.

14           The Environmental Protection Plans  
15 prescribe general protection measures. They  
16 ensure compliance with regulatory requirements and  
17 identify and prescribe mitigation for specific  
18 sites, and the Environmental Protection Plan  
19 documents measures that will ensure that we can  
20 demonstrate compliance.

21           And with that, I'd like to thank you  
22 very much for allowing me to give this  
23 presentation.

24           THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Neufeld.  
25 Are there any questions of Mr. Neufeld and the

1 presentation he's made so far? Thank you.

2 MS. MAYOR: Our next presentation will  
3 be on Gillam from Mr. Phin, and I believe that's a  
4 presentation that's already been filed in the  
5 proceedings.

6 THE CHAIRMAN: The trapper  
7 notification -- oh, the Gillam, I am sorry.

8 MS. MAYOR: Mr. Phin is providing  
9 Mr. MacInnes' presentation as Mr. MacInnes wasn't  
10 available.

11 MR. PHIN: Good morning, Mr. Chairman,  
12 Commissioners, ladies and gentlemen.

13 THE CHAIRMAN: Good morning, Mr. Phin.  
14 Before you proceed, since you'll be giving  
15 evidence in effect, we need to swear you in.

16 MS. JOHNSON: Could you please state  
17 your name for the record?

18 Richard Phin: Sworn.

19 MR. PHIN: My current title is manager  
20 of the Gillam Services Department within  
21 Generation North. That department is responsible  
22 for the commercial buildings, Manitoba Hydro  
23 infrastructure, the maintenance of the commercial  
24 and residential buildings within the Gillam area.  
25 A little background on myself. I have worked for

1 Hydro for the past 35 years, 24 of those years I  
2 spent in Northern Manitoba, the last 17 of those  
3 have been in the Gillam area. The last six years  
4 I have spent as manager of Gillam Services working  
5 within the community of Gillam, mostly with Town  
6 of Gillam, Fox Lake and people in the area.

7 I believe that experience over that  
8 time and throughout my career has given me a  
9 pretty good understanding of how Bipole III will  
10 affect, or may affect the Town of Gillam during  
11 development.

12 This slide is meant to show the  
13 geographic area that Generation North is  
14 responsible for, the generating facilities within  
15 that area. The majority of our facilities are  
16 located in the immediate Gillam vicinity, with  
17 Long Spruce, Limestone, Kettle Generating  
18 Stations. We also have the Kelsey Generating  
19 Station a little farther down the Nelson River in  
20 the vicinity of the Split Lake, York Landing, and  
21 Ilford area communities. As well, we'll be taking  
22 over operational responsibilities for Wuskwatim in  
23 the very near future as the last unit comes on  
24 line.

25 Farther to the west on the Churchill

1 River, we also have the Laurie I and II facilities  
2 and control structures on the Churchill River.

3 This picture depicts the welcome to  
4 Gillam signs, anyone arriving through the airport,  
5 on leaving the airport, this is what you'll see.  
6 These signs are important in that they help people  
7 to understand and realize that Gillam was built on  
8 Fox Lake Cree Nation traditional territory, and  
9 that we want to work together with Fox Lake and  
10 with the Town of Gillam to ensure everyone's needs  
11 are met.

12 The Town of Gillam currently has a  
13 population of about 1300 people. This population  
14 could grow significantly, possibly doubling over  
15 the next 15 to 20 years as development proceeds.  
16 Within the community, Fox Lake has about 350  
17 members living within the direct community of  
18 Gillam. They have an urban reserve within the  
19 community in the Kettle Crescent area. Also in  
20 the immediate vicinity in the community of Fox  
21 Lake, there is another roughly 200 residents  
22 living there.

23 I'll talk a little bit about the  
24 history of development of Gillam. This slide  
25 shows Gillam sometime after 1935. Initially, the

1 first phase of Gillam development, where it grew  
2 was where the railroad was established.

3 Initially, Gillam was end point for the railroad  
4 until the bridge was built across the Kettle  
5 Rapids, and the line was extended to Churchill.

6 In this slide you can see the existing railway  
7 station which was built in approximately 1935.

8           This slide shows some of the initial  
9 development when Hydro began development of the  
10 Kettle Generating Station.

11           In this slide we can see Nelson  
12 Crescent, the beginning of the houses being built  
13 there. Gillam Drive is there, but there's just  
14 the houses on the one side. In the background,  
15 Churchill Drive has been established but there's  
16 nothing there. You can see the airport, and at  
17 the airport none of the existing buildings are  
18 there. As Hydro built facilities, we had to build  
19 the housing to house the workers, and you will see  
20 that a lot of Gillam was built in bigger  
21 subdivisions of 40 or more houses at a time to  
22 accommodate the workers for each facility.

23           This picture was a little later. The  
24 last one was mid to late '60s. This slide is how  
25 Gillam looked in the mid 1970s. Here you can see

1 along Railway Street, it was full of trailers, a  
2 trailer court area in the background here. This  
3 is the area that was shown in the previous slide,  
4 Nelson Crescent and Gillam Drive. The existing  
5 school during the rapid expansion, they had to  
6 bring a lot of trailers to accommodate the number  
7 of students. We are already seeing a similar  
8 increase in students. I think over the past  
9 couple of years, our student population has  
10 increased by about a hundred students right now.  
11 And there is a study underway, and replacement of  
12 the school or expansion of the school is on the  
13 Frontier School Division five-year capital plan.

14 The hospital is here. This hospital  
15 burnt down in the late '80s and the current ten  
16 bed hospital that replaced it is in the same  
17 location. The original Gillam mall was a trailer  
18 complex that was established back in the late  
19 1960's, early '70s as well, and currently we are  
20 looking at replacing it. And I'll talk about that  
21 a bit later in some of the slides.

22 This slide shows Gillam a little more  
23 as we see it today. The subdivision we see in  
24 this area here was the last major subdivision that  
25 was built, and that was to accommodate the staff

1 from the Limestone Generating Station.

2 From that time forward, there has been  
3 a few more residences built by Hydro in Gillam,  
4 and we have replaced some of the older housing and  
5 trailers with new housing, but there has been no  
6 new subdivisions built.

7 This slide is an aerial view. You can  
8 see this area here, it's a little hard to see in  
9 this slide, but it's an area where we began work  
10 for a new subdivision. In this photo you will see  
11 it's very low lying area. A lot of the better  
12 land in Gillam has been developed, and so new  
13 residential areas are going to be in the -- not as  
14 great as conditions to build on. But what we have  
15 to do is remove the existing trees and overburden,  
16 and there's a layer of peat that we're removing.  
17 And by removing that, that will help facilitate  
18 the melting of a lot of the permafrost that we  
19 find in areas. There's pockets of permafrost  
20 throughout. We'll remove the peat from that area,  
21 and then next summer we'll begin hauling back in  
22 fill to bring that level up to an area. And then  
23 subdivision, the water and sewer infrastructure  
24 will be put in after that.

25 Physical work began on this, this

1 summer, but the process and the planning process  
2 began several years back. The process that we  
3 have used in getting to this point was developed  
4 through our harmonized Gillam Development  
5 Committee, which is a committee that is organized  
6 of members of Manitoba Hydro, Fox Lake Cree  
7 Nation, the Town of Gillam, and the Province of  
8 Manitoba. I'll talk a little bit more about that  
9 committee later, but the committee itself has,  
10 along with the help of consultants, Hilderman  
11 Thomas Frank Cram, have met and held town hall  
12 meetings and involved the community in how we are  
13 going to proceed in developing Gillam.

14           The committee has undertaken a land  
15 use planning study and a needs assessment  
16 identifying the needs of all groups. For example,  
17 Manitoba Hydro sees its needs as, if all  
18 development goes ahead, somewhere in the range of  
19 possibly 150 to 200 residents over the next 15 to  
20 20 years. The community of Fox Lake sees their  
21 needs being similar numbers of families possibly  
22 returning to Gillam, so their requirements are  
23 there. The Town of Gillam and the public and any  
24 other groups, we have numbers and estimates for  
25 them as well. So over the next 15 to 20 years, we



1 could see an increase of doubling the population  
2 of Gillam.

3 The land use planning study that was  
4 done identified all of the available areas in the  
5 immediate Gillam vicinity that could be utilized  
6 for housing subdivisions, commercial use, and that  
7 will help guide things as we go forward.

8 This is a little bit better view of  
9 the subdivision. Some of the things that came out  
10 of the town hall meetings, and the input from the  
11 public and Fox Lake and the town, was that we  
12 didn't want to -- the people didn't want to see  
13 subdivisions like you would see in the city where  
14 each house is side by side and you can reach out  
15 and touch your neighbour. Living in the north, it  
16 was felt that people wanted bigger lots and they  
17 wanted to see trees behind their lots and not  
18 other houses. So this subdivision was designed  
19 that it will actually go around the green space in  
20 the middle. Everyone will have some type of green  
21 space behind them, access to go out on skidoos or  
22 quads. So we feel that by involving the  
23 community, the finished product is going to be  
24 something that everybody will appreciate and  
25 enjoy.

1                   This subdivision is about 75 lots, and  
2 through the entire development, we could see three  
3 to four more subdivisions that size, along with  
4 redevelopment of the existing trailer court. And  
5 by doing the subdivisions in smaller chunks, it's  
6 phased in. If development gets delayed, we can  
7 delay some of the subdivisions. So we'll build  
8 them in a just-in-time fashion to ensure that  
9 there are always some lots available for the  
10 public, and enough to meet Hydro and Fox Lake's  
11 and the town's needs.

12                   With new development, it creates  
13 opportunities. We can see the picture here of the  
14 Northern Grocery back in the '60s. You know, what  
15 was required back prior to Hydro development  
16 wasn't near as big a store and not as many  
17 opportunities. This is a shot of the current  
18 Gillam Co-op, a much expanded grocery facility.  
19 And even this existing co-op is going to be  
20 undersized and they are looking at going into the  
21 new mall, just based on the needs of the community  
22 this size, they are looking at expanding as well  
23 over the next period of time.

24                   As opportunities come up, we try to  
25 ensure that we work with the local community and

1 with Fox Lake Cree Nation to help build capacity  
2 and create opportunities. Mile 326 is -- there  
3 was an existing restaurant, it was closing down,  
4 and this was going to create a void in the town.  
5 We would be down to one restaurant that wasn't  
6 open at all hours, and contractors coming to town  
7 to work on Hydro or non Hydro projects were  
8 concerned that they wouldn't be able to get meals.  
9 So Manitoba Hydro leased the existing building and  
10 we went into an agreement with Fox Lake Sodexo  
11 joint venture to have them operate the restaurant  
12 for us. It's been very successful to date, and  
13 has ensured that there is available meals for  
14 contractors, people, anybody who is looking.

15 This is a picture of the staff at the  
16 grand opening. It's been a great employment  
17 opportunity and training opportunity. Some of the  
18 members here will go onto work in other jobs in  
19 some of the camps that are being established, and  
20 it gives them good experience in working with the  
21 public.

22 And through this we are also working  
23 to ensure that, where possible, Fox Lake members  
24 are also able to get some of the leadership  
25 training. Right now the restaurant is being

1 managed by one of the Fox Lake members, under the  
2 direction of a Sodexo manager who is looking after  
3 the Kettle camp.

4           This was another joint venture project  
5 where Manitoba Hydro had 39 double-wide trailers  
6 that were 1970's vintage, and we have been slowly  
7 replacing them over the years, removing the  
8 trailer off the existing basement and building a  
9 conventional house on that same basement. For  
10 this project we have scoped it out and broken it  
11 into a smaller amount each year, and have worked  
12 with Fox Lake over the life of this project to  
13 build the houses.

14           In this picture, Fox Lake was working  
15 as a joint venture with MacDiarmid Lumber to  
16 complete it. Currently they are working on three  
17 more as a joint venture with Stefan Homes.

18           As I mentioned before, the harmonized  
19 Gillam Development Committee is a venue that  
20 creates an opportunity for the Town of Gillam, Fox  
21 Lake Cree Nation, Manitoba Hydro and the Province  
22 of Manitoba to get together to make sure that  
23 everybody is on the same page, to ensure that  
24 everybody has an opportunity to voice their  
25 opinions and to help with the planning process for

1 future development.

2 Under the harmonized Gillam  
3 Development Committee there is sub committees, the  
4 Land Use Planning Committee, which undertook the  
5 planning study. There is a Town Centre Committee.  
6 Originally we were looking at replacing the old  
7 mall. Through some of the townhouse forums, it  
8 was decided that rather than just replace the mall  
9 with just another building, that we redevelop that  
10 area of town into a town centre. So now rather  
11 than just one bigger building, they are going to  
12 redevelop the town centre area. There will be a  
13 new mall and a new wellness centre and a new  
14 street put through to help with the flow of  
15 traffic. So we've got some very good input from  
16 the public, and some of the ideas and feedback  
17 that we've gotten through the committee has helped  
18 us to hopefully develop Gillam in a better way  
19 than we may have if we had just gone ahead on our  
20 own.

21 This statement is part of the  
22 statement -- this is taken from the statement that  
23 was signed in 2007 by then Chief George Neepin and  
24 Manitoba's Hydro's president and CEO at the time,  
25 Bob Brennan. And this portion or excerpt from the

1 statement is fundamental to the concept of  
2 harmonized Gillam development. And I will just  
3 read it out.

4 "Harmonized Gillam Development is the  
5 harmonization of the respective  
6 interests and ambitions of the  
7 stakeholders in the area. Moreover,  
8 harmonized Gillam Development must  
9 focus on building a community where  
10 all residents live, work, play and  
11 prosper together, where there is a  
12 mutual use and enjoyment of the  
13 community facilities and services, and  
14 where residents respect and support  
15 the interests and ambitions of their  
16 neighbours."

17 So this has become a guiding template  
18 for us for future.

19 With development in Gillam, Hydro  
20 development in Gillam, it's created opportunities  
21 for more skilled high paying jobs. Some of these  
22 jobs aren't always available if somebody doesn't  
23 meet the education requirements. We have a large  
24 population in the north, but if they don't meet  
25 the education requirements to get into the

1 training for these jobs, it excludes them.

2                   So back in the mid 1990s, Manitoba  
3 Hydro introduced a pre-placement training program.  
4 What this program does is each year we hire ten  
5 individuals in the north from Aboriginal groups,  
6 any of the Aboriginal groups, including the  
7 Manitoba Metis. And there is ten pre-placements  
8 hired in the north and ten in the south each year.  
9 And what it does is the candidates that meet the  
10 physical capabilities of the job, but not  
11 necessarily the education requirements, if they  
12 meet a certain number of the requirements, we will  
13 bring them in and put them in a ten month program.  
14 During that ten months they need to upgrade their  
15 math and physics to meet our requirements for the  
16 apprenticeship programs. Also during that time,  
17 we give them experience in operating mechanical  
18 and electrical trades, so that prior to their  
19 entering into an apprenticeship program, they can  
20 make a better decision on what field they are more  
21 interested in. At the end of the ten months,  
22 successful candidates are hired into the  
23 apprenticeship program.

24                   We have had a very good success rate  
25 with this over the years. I believe they had

1 approximately an 85 percent success rate since the  
2 program began.

3 Another recent change that has been a  
4 benefit as well is the establishment of the Gillam  
5 Technical Training Centre at Radisson. Manitoba  
6 Hydro currently had a training centre in  
7 Stonewall, and in the past historically trainees  
8 would go out to Stonewall for in-house training  
9 and to Red River normally for their course  
10 requirements. We found that this put a lot of  
11 stress on people leaving their families, and the  
12 Red River requirements are up to ten weeks at a  
13 time away from home. By establishing a Technical  
14 Training Centre in Gillam, we can do a lot more of  
15 the training locally. We keep families together.  
16 It creates a lot less stress on employees and  
17 families, and it gives us a better opportunity to  
18 do better training in the north.

19 This is just a shot of one of the  
20 training sessions at Radisson. We can provide  
21 safety training, first aid training, and I believe  
22 now they are doing the first two levels of  
23 mechanical schools at training centre, all the  
24 in-house CPT training courses that we used to send  
25 people out to Selkirk for are done there now. And



1 also by doing more training in the north, we have  
2 the opportunity to extend some of that training to  
3 the local community as well. If we're doing first  
4 aid safety training out at Limestone, we have  
5 included the Fox Lake members from the community  
6 there and teachers from the school that may have  
7 that same requirement for some of those courses.  
8 So rather than them having to bring in somebody to  
9 do specific training just for a few, we can  
10 include them in some of our training. So it works  
11 well.

12                   This slide is a photo of an open house  
13 at Limestone a couple of years ago. The plants up  
14 here, everybody is encouraged to establish  
15 relationships with the local communities. And by  
16 holding an open house and making the plants open  
17 for the community to come in and see what we do,  
18 it gives us an opportunity to meet more of the  
19 people. It gives the local people a chance to see  
20 what we do and meet more of our staff. And we  
21 found that when we have held these functions, they  
22 are well attended and it's a benefit to everybody.  
23 We try to encourage people to bring kids. If we  
24 can get kids into the plants, maybe there's an  
25 opportunity for them to see what's going on and

1 hopefully those will become our future employees.

2                   This was a table set up at the open  
3 house at Limestone by the community liaison  
4 officer for Fox Lake. This position is one that  
5 was initiated through the HPD committee and  
6 supported by Hydro. The community liaison officer  
7 acts as a venue for Fox Lake employees working at  
8 Manitoba Hydro who may have concerns, but don't  
9 want to raise them through the normal process,  
10 through our supervisory staff or management staff  
11 within Hydro, it creates an opportunity where they  
12 can talk to somebody. And if there are problems  
13 that need to be dealt with, she will approach line  
14 management in a confidential manner so that issues  
15 can be raised without people feeling intimidated.

16                   Currently the position is vacant, but  
17 it's been reposted, and I believe they are just in  
18 the process of setting up interviews to fill that  
19 position again.

20                   Christine, in that position, she made  
21 regular visits out to the plants and all the  
22 sites, and was available if anybody wanted to meet  
23 her there, or open to talking with people after  
24 hours. So it's an important piece of the puzzle  
25 to give everybody the opportunity to have a voice.

1                   As I mentioned before, the plants are  
2 encouraged to create relationships. And this  
3 slide shows a bingo that was held at Limestone.  
4 Some of the Fox Lake elders were brought out for a  
5 tour of the plant, but as a means of helping  
6 create that relationship between employees and  
7 local people, they held a little bingo and had  
8 bingo and coffee with the employees. And it  
9 creates a better relationship than just walking  
10 through the plant and leaving right after, it  
11 creates more opportunity to create those  
12 relationships.

13                   Within the community of Gillam,  
14 recreation is very important, and we have  
15 benefitted from development over the years with  
16 some pretty nice recreation facilities. The  
17 pictures in this video are the pool and -- the  
18 inside of the pool and the rec centre and the  
19 curling rink. Facilities in the community are  
20 designed for all to enjoy. And as the town grows,  
21 we anticipate that our recreation facilities will  
22 also grow, and there has already been needs that  
23 have been identified through the Harmonized Gillam  
24 Development process. And we are looking for input  
25 from all stakeholders, and we hope to meet as many

1 of the wishes as we can going forward.

2 This is another shot of some of the  
3 outdoor recreation activities that take place.  
4 And baseball is always a popular activity in  
5 Gillam. Tournaments are well attended.

6 The next picture in the top right  
7 corner shows them setting up for the annual Return  
8 to Gillam Weekend fireworks display, the weekend  
9 after the long weekend -- I'll go back a little  
10 bit farther. In the summer in Gillam, a lot of  
11 the residents or the employees of Hydro take time  
12 off and go south to visit families and that, so  
13 the population tends to drop over the summer. And  
14 with the long weekend in September, everybody  
15 returns and kids go back to school. So the  
16 weekend after that each year we hold a Welcome  
17 Back to Gillam weekend with a huge fireworks  
18 display at the end of the weekend that everybody  
19 enjoys.

20 The next picture is a picture of  
21 staff, residents enjoying the driving range,  
22 trying to keep the swings in tune for those that  
23 enjoy golf. And the bottom left corner, it shows  
24 the RCMP holding a bicycle safety and training  
25 rally. It's an annual event that they do each

1 year. They have I believe six RCMP members in the  
2 detachment here.

3           This slide is a concept of the phase  
4 one or stage one of the new town centre that is  
5 being developed. This first stage will be built  
6 in front of the existing mall, and once it's  
7 complete, the businesses in the mall will be moved  
8 into the bottom level of this building, which will  
9 allow us to demobilize or decommission the old  
10 mall and start phase two of that. The upper  
11 levels are going to be apartments. Real estate is  
12 at a premium, so building on top of the mall is a  
13 way we can add housing to Gillam without taking up  
14 more space or creating lots prior to the  
15 development of a subdivision. These lots will be,  
16 or these apartments will be managed by the Town of  
17 Gillam and rented out by the Town of Gillam to  
18 help subsidize the costs of the mall and create  
19 more housing for non Hydro residents within  
20 Gillam.

21           As I said before, originally we were  
22 looking at just changing the mall, building a new  
23 mall. But through the focus groups, this will be  
24 one of the focal points of the new town centre.

25           In a separate building, this is the

1 wellness centre, and it will house the dentists,  
2 the physiotherapists, chiropractor, optometrist,  
3 fitness centre, with some additional office space.  
4 Currently, most of these services aren't available  
5 on an ongoing basis in Gillam, but Manitoba Hydro  
6 brings the dentists up twice a year, spring and  
7 fall, where they accommodate the needs.  
8 Physiotherapists are brought up on a monthly or  
9 bi-monthly basis. The optometrist I believe comes  
10 in twice a year. So the facility and services  
11 that aren't available, we try to make sure that we  
12 can make them available to the staff. So this  
13 will give us a better building to do that in.  
14 Currently we squeeze wherever we can and are using  
15 some of the old space in the mall, but this will  
16 give us a much better facility.

17           This final slide shows the past, the  
18 present, the future of Gillam. And again, we  
19 include the welcome to Gillam signs, because  
20 Gillam has gone through development in its  
21 history, and we want to ensure that any future  
22 development is based on the wants and needs and  
23 opinions of everybody, not just Hydro's ideas of  
24 how it should go forward. And through the  
25 Harmonized Gillam Development Committee, we feel

1 the future of Gillam will be to develop a  
2 community rather than just a Hydro town.

3 So that's all I have. Thanks.

4 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Phin.

5 Just out of curiosity, the pictures you show of  
6 the town centre and the wellness centre, are those  
7 actual designs or are those just very conceptual?

8 MR. PHIN: The town centre, the phase  
9 stage one is probably about 98 percent complete.  
10 Plans and construction on that will begin in the  
11 spring. There may be some piling work done  
12 through the winter if we can to accommodate an  
13 earlier start in the spring. But our existing  
14 mall is way past the point of retirement.

15 The wellness centre isn't quite as far  
16 along, but it's, I think it's about 70 percent  
17 designs are done. So those are pretty close to  
18 what the finished products will look like. With  
19 the town centre there will be two more stages.  
20 The co-op is looking at putting space into the new  
21 town centre and becoming part of that building.  
22 So it will be quite a bit bigger structure.

23 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Mr. Kaplan?

24 MR. KAPLAN: Mr. Phin, I'm not sure  
25 that you are the one to answer this, but I need

1 some assistance. Some may say I need a lot of  
2 assistance, but here in particular. I'm going to  
3 preface my remarks by saying there might be  
4 something in an information request response that  
5 Hydro has given, that I just couldn't carry the  
6 extra 7 pounds of information requests with me on  
7 the plane in my briefcase. But you started to  
8 mention, and I'll get more specific, that some  
9 people coming to the open houses can speak to  
10 someone other than Hydro people. And I believe  
11 you said, and I noted it down, so they don't feel  
12 intimidated. Is that fair?

13 MR. PHIN: Yeah, I think that was the  
14 term I used, and I believe you were talking about  
15 the CLO position.

16 MR. KAPLAN: All right. Now to my  
17 question, and again, if you can't answer I  
18 understand. And if any of your colleagues are  
19 here that wish to answer, I'd appreciate it. But  
20 yesterday we had a presentation by a young lady by  
21 the name of Lagimodiere, and I can't recall if you  
22 were present or not last night?

23 MR. PHIN: Yes, I was.

24 MR. KAPLAN: All right. Then you may  
25 have heard her presentation, and then she gave us



1 a written document containing that presentation.  
2 And I'm going to quote you one of the short  
3 paragraphs, one of her point forms, and ask for  
4 your opinion, your input, anything that can assist  
5 at least me in understanding the relationship.  
6 But she says, and I quote, and I'll repeat it  
7 again if you don't follow what I'm saying entirely  
8 the first time. I quote:

9 "MMF members are afraid to politically  
10 organize in Gillam because many of  
11 them work for Manitoba Hydro. Gillam  
12 is still largely a Manitoba Hydro  
13 company town and Metis are afraid of  
14 retribution by the company if they  
15 take positions that question Manitoba  
16 Hydro's ability to do what it wants."

17 Again, I just put it to you, and if  
18 you can answer, wonderful, and if somebody else  
19 could, that would also be good.

20 MR. PHIN: Probably the terminology, I  
21 maybe didn't use the best terminology, but in some  
22 of the instances that I was referring to where  
23 somebody may feel intimidated is, there's  
24 instances where through a disciplinary process an  
25 employee may be talked to by a supervisor where

1 the supervisor is following up, for whatever  
2 reason. And if the employee doesn't feel  
3 confident in raising a concern, the normal process  
4 would be that if the employee wasn't satisfied  
5 with what had taken place that they would talk to  
6 the next line management person in the protocol,  
7 or to an IBEW rep. And in some instances  
8 employees don't feel comfortable talking to other  
9 supervisory staff or maybe going to the IBEW. I  
10 guess that was the situations that I was referring  
11 to, that if there is an opportunity with the CLO  
12 position, it creates another venue for employees  
13 or members of the public to raise a concern  
14 without having to talk to people directly. I'm  
15 not sure if that satisfies your --

16 MR. KAPLAN: I'm not sure either.

17 THE CHAIRMAN: Ms. Mayor?

18 MS. MAYOR: I think Mr. Phin was just  
19 clarifying the role of the community liaison  
20 officer in the first place, and IBEW relating to  
21 our union, the International Brotherhood of  
22 Electrical workers. If your question is more  
23 related to Manitoba Hydro's staff's relationship  
24 with the Metis, is that perhaps maybe more where  
25 you are going?

1 MR. KAPLAN: Yes.

2 MS. MAYOR: Mr. Phin perhaps can  
3 comment on that, or if he would like to refer to  
4 someone else of the Hydro folks that are here, he  
5 can do that as well.

6 MR. PHIN: The only comment I can  
7 really make is for my period in Gillam. I know,  
8 there was in the past a greater presence of the  
9 Metis as a group. And since, I think it was  
10 Andrea Cramer, when she moved out of Gillam, I am  
11 not aware of them having a local office in Gillam.  
12 Though, I don't know of any instances where we  
13 would discourage or not support another voice in  
14 Gillam, that we have worked with the Metis  
15 Federation in the past on some hiring strategies,  
16 and I can think of a couple of people that were  
17 hired into positions in Hydro through programs  
18 through the Metis Federation. So locally I can  
19 think of no reason that there would be any form of  
20 intimidation from Hydro towards forming a local  
21 factor of the Metis Federation.

22 MR. KAPLAN: You say in the past, how  
23 far in the past are we talking?

24 MR. PHIN: I'm thinking when  
25 Ms. Cramer left was probably six or eight years

1 ago. I'm not exactly sure.

2 MR. KAPLAN: Thank you.

3 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Anyone else  
4 have questions of Mr. Phin? Anyone in the  
5 audience have questions of Mr. Phin? Do you want  
6 to come up to the mic at the front, Mr. Massan?

7 MR. MASSAN: Hello. I just want to  
8 talk about what you guys just talked about, the  
9 issue is still going on. About a couple of weeks  
10 ago I got a call from my Chief and Council, the  
11 issue about Manitoba Hydro. Our First Nation  
12 people are not treated right. And then they  
13 called me up to go, and said I'm in a meeting.  
14 Because the reason why they called me, because I  
15 worked in all these dams, about 40 years working  
16 on these dams, maybe longer, but just to go list  
17 the issues of the workers in Gillam service, and  
18 the other stations, the First Nation people. I  
19 listened to them, and then after what they talked  
20 about, I didn't like what I heard. And then they  
21 asked me what happens? Then they come to me after  
22 the Chief and Council, what do you think about  
23 this meeting? I don't agree to what's going on.  
24 I said, where is the union representing for these  
25 people? But they said, those guys didn't do

1 nothing. The question is now why Hydro brought  
2 these union people to help workers deal with  
3 what's going on and their problems. You know,  
4 this is Hydro town, it has been going on as long  
5 as I've lived here, ever since Hydro come in here,  
6 Hydro control the town. Like I live here over 50  
7 years, I know right from the start at the Kettle  
8 dam, I seen what's happening in our community.  
9 That's all I'm going to say for now.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Massan.

11 MR. MASSAN: Thank you.

12 THE CHAIRMAN: Come forward, sir?

13 MR. MOOSE: Good morning. My name is  
14 Ivan Moose, I'm from the Fox Lake Cree Nation.  
15 I'm supposed to be the interpreter here but I'll  
16 do that after I guess. I do have comment in  
17 regards to the liaisons to whatever, the board,  
18 your Commission here. In the past we have had  
19 problems, many problems within the Hydro works  
20 with not only Fox Lake, but other workers  
21 complaining. And they had this mistrust because  
22 every time someone is appointed to represent them,  
23 the first thing they always comment on is, well,  
24 they are getting paid by Hydro so they are going  
25 to do what Hydro wants anyway, or says.

1                   Every time they say they are going to  
2    have an independant review of something, Hydro is  
3    paying for that independant review. And then the  
4    people still have that mistrust when they have the  
5    word Hydro involved. Even with the Commission,  
6    when I heard about this Commission one of the  
7    first comments I heard was, well, the Commission  
8    is being funded by Hydro, so they're going to do  
9    what Hydro says anyway. And you're supposed to be  
10   an independent commission, right? I think, I'm  
11   not sure, I'm not familiar with what the  
12   Commission really does other than deal with  
13   environmental issues and that. But that is the  
14   ongoing problem here that's been happening within  
15   Hydro and Gillam. But everything that's done is  
16   supposed to be independent, it's funded by Hydro,  
17   and that's where the mistrust comes. And that's  
18   what Noah I think is talking about too.

19                  Even with the union stewards, they do  
20    have stewards that represent their workers, but I  
21    know some of our people have gone to see them but  
22    they haven't received no help. Every time  
23    something comes up, it's funded by Hydro. So  
24    that's where the mistrust comes. I just thought  
25    I'd make the comment.

1                   THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Moose.  
2    I can tell you that -- you asked about the Clean  
3    Environment Commission. We are established under  
4    the Environment Act in Manitoba. So it's set up  
5    by law in the Province of Manitoba. In its  
6    current form, the Clean Environment Commission has  
7    been in place since 1987, or in '87 the  
8    legislation was passed, '88 it came into effect.  
9    So, I know last night just in casual conversation,  
10   Noah asked me whether there was a Clean  
11   Environment review of Kettle and Long Spruce. And  
12   the answer is no, that they were built before this  
13   Commission came into being in this form, and  
14   before there was a requirement for environmental  
15   reviews of projects of this nature. Actually, the  
16   first Hydro, large Hydro project reviewed under  
17   this legislation, and the first one reviewed by  
18   the Clean Environment Commission was the Wuskwatim  
19   Generating Station and the transmission lines, and  
20   that was in 2004.

21                   One of your points about funding is  
22   accurate up to a point. By regulation, and  
23   regulation is a government law, by regulation for  
24   projects of a certain scale, they call them class  
25   three projects in the law. For class three

1 projects, the proponent has to cover the costs of  
2 the environmental review. So most of the costs  
3 associated with the Clean Environment Commission's  
4 review are being paid by Manitoba Hydro. And  
5 while that may raise some concerns of a potential  
6 bias, I can assure you that, in fact, it is not.

7 My salary, I am a full-time employee  
8 of the Government of Manitoba, and the Commission  
9 secretary is the same. Our salaries are not paid  
10 by Manitoba Hydro. And if you review the work  
11 that we have done where the proponent has paid our  
12 costs, the Wuskwatim or the floodway expansion, I  
13 don't think that's any evidence that it influenced  
14 our decisions in the end.

15 We are an independant body. We're not  
16 influenced by the proponent or by the government.

17 MR. MOOSE: I appreciate your  
18 explanation and I will look into what the  
19 Commission does. Like I said, I'm not familiar  
20 with it. Like you said, it came into effect in  
21 the '80s, and we never had any relationship in any  
22 way with a Commission of your kind. I appreciate  
23 your explanation, I understand, I wasn't trying  
24 to -- I just wanted an explanation and I  
25 appreciate it.



1 THE CHAIRMAN: Those were good  
2 questions that you asked. This is the first time  
3 the Clean Environment Commission has ever been to  
4 Gillam. I suspect, given Hydro's planned  
5 developments over the next few years, it will not  
6 be our last. In fact, I can almost guarantee,  
7 perhaps almost a year to the day from today we'll  
8 be back here reviewing Keeyask, sometime next year  
9 anyway.

10 Are there any other questions of  
11 Mr. Phin? Okay. Thank you, Mr. Phin.

12 You have another presentation,  
13 Ms. Mayor? Is that to be made now? Is that the  
14 plan?

15 MS. MAYOR: Yes, it's another brief  
16 ten to 15 minute presentation by Mr. Kuzdak on the  
17 trappers policy.

18 THE CHAIRMAN: Perhaps we'll take a  
19 short break then for five or ten minutes. We will  
20 arrange for this and then we will reconvene.

21 (Hearing recessed 10:45 a.m. and  
22 reconvened at 10:57 a.m.)

23 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Can we come back  
24 to order, please?

25 Could you state your name for the

1 record, and then the Commission secretary will  
2 swear you in?

3 Vincent Kuzdak: Sworn.

4 THE CHAIRMAN: Go ahead.

5 MR. KUZDAK: Good morning,  
6 Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, members  
7 of the communities of Fox Lake Cree Nation and to  
8 the elders. My name is Vince Kuzdak. I am a  
9 consultant working with Manitoba Hydro on various  
10 projects, but I also worked specifically on the  
11 Bipole III project. I was involved with the four  
12 rounds of consultation. I own my own natural  
13 resources consulting company. I have been in  
14 business for ten years now, and my company name is  
15 Eagle Vision Resources, and my background is  
16 primarily in natural resources.

17 I grew up on the eastern shores of the  
18 South basin of Lake Winnipeg, I grew up there  
19 trapping, commercial fishing with my grandparents.  
20 I participated in a lot of forestry related  
21 activity in the area, and went on to natural  
22 resource management school at University College  
23 of the North. And I worked as a forester for a  
24 couple of the larger forestry companies in the  
25 province.

1                   In 2001, I established my own business  
2   and I have been working with Manitoba Hydro ever  
3   since.

4                   What I'm going to present to you today  
5   is the policy for trapper notification and  
6   compensation for transmission line development.  
7   It's not project specific to Bipole III, but I'll  
8   get into the details a little later.

9                   So this slide is, I think you're  
10   getting quite familiar with it by now, it is the  
11   final preferred route of Bipole III. It is the  
12   same map that is behind me. The only difference  
13   on this map is the boundaries of the RTL, or  
14   registered trapline sections in Manitoba depicted  
15   in red. There are 46, just for your information,  
16   there are 46 registered trapline sections in the  
17   province, and there are upward of 800 registered  
18   traplines in Manitoba.

19                  A little bit on the policy background.  
20   It was established back in the 1980s. The policy  
21   was created to compensate trapline holders where  
22   new transmission development was occurring. So it  
23   was used prior to the Commission and it was used  
24   for various projects such as Split Lake, the north  
25   central project was one of the major ones.

1                   In 2002, Wuskwatim transmission  
2 project was coming on line, community relations at  
3 Manitoba Hydro, with assistance of myself, looked  
4 to review the policy and see if we could enhance  
5 it or improve it in any way. At that time we  
6 decided to move into not just a compensation  
7 policy, but we also brought in a notification or  
8 communication component to it.

9                   So the idea behind bringing in the  
10 notification and communication component was to  
11 build stronger relationships with trappers where  
12 the facilities were being planned or being built.  
13 We looked to work with the trappers to gather  
14 information on their traplines. We'd assess  
15 locations for future trapline development if that  
16 was needed. We would like to reduce project  
17 related impacts. And to further this for the  
18 Wuskwatim project, through Manitoba Hydro we  
19 decided to conduct a two-year pilot study in the  
20 Snow Lake region to try to get a better  
21 understanding what the furbearer, the animal's  
22 behaviour, what change in dynamics were occurring  
23 around the transmission line construction. We  
24 wanted to determine if our impacts, or our  
25 compensation to the trappers was sufficient. So

1 we had worked with two local trappers in that area  
2 to support us on that project. So it just  
3 demonstrates that Hydro is committed to looking to  
4 improve and continue to understand, you know, the  
5 transmission facilities and how they interact with  
6 trappers and furbearers in general.

7           Manitoba Hydro also strives to respect  
8 trappers' values. Trappers are quite unique. It  
9 is a traditional -- it's a cultural lifestyle in  
10 fact. Not too many trappers, I don't believe in  
11 my personal opinion, that go out and make a living  
12 from day to day to day. It is more, it runs  
13 through the blood of people who grow up, and the  
14 members of Fox Lake here would certainly agree  
15 with me on that. Certainly to getting to respect  
16 trappers' values, we need to have that solid  
17 two-way communication. So we could put all our  
18 efforts forward to work with the trappers, but we  
19 also need that dialogue back and forth. So that  
20 is an ongoing work in progress.

21           As far as the policy, it has two  
22 programs. It has the compensation program, again,  
23 that was brought in back in the '80s. And in  
24 2002, we brought in the notification or  
25 communication program.

1           The compensation program is for  
2 registered trapline holders affected by new  
3 transmission facilities, that's 115 kV and  
4 greater. Compensation may include trapline  
5 improvements, employment opportunities, equipment  
6 replacement, and/or monetary settlements.

7           For the notification and communication  
8 program, all licensed trappers in the vicinity of  
9 the T line are attempted to be contacted. When I  
10 say -- and the difference between the two top  
11 bullets is, RTL holders will have helpers on their  
12 registered traplines. And so keep it in mind that  
13 the registered trapline holder has exclusive  
14 rights to the trapline, so that's who we work with  
15 the compensation factor. However, we also try to  
16 communicate with the helpers to the best of our  
17 abilities.

18           For the notification program, we have  
19 a participation aspect to it, and it is primarily  
20 for the development in the stages for new  
21 transmission projects.

22           So what does participation mean? So  
23 we are working with trappers right now, and again  
24 we had a kind of a very well-defined and focused  
25 pilot project at Snow Lake where we recorded

1 trappers' data and their traditional knowledge on  
2 the traplines around the proposed development  
3 sites.

4           The example of a map on the left is a  
5 registered trapline where the trapper had  
6 identified his or her trapping trails, cabins,  
7 special trapping areas that were unique to the  
8 trapline.

9           In addition to that we provide  
10 trappers with a trappers handbook or a diary, if  
11 you will. With that handbook, they can record  
12 different weather elements, what the conditions  
13 are, animal movements, if the caribou herds come  
14 by for example, or they can track their expenses,  
15 or they could also record other disturbances, man  
16 made or natural, whether it's other natural  
17 resource developments, or forest fires or whatnot.

18           We have three stages to the  
19 notification program. We have an initial  
20 notification, and this occurs during the latter  
21 stages of the site selection and environmental  
22 assessment process, or after the EIS has been  
23 filed. At the time Manitoba Hydro will contact  
24 the Manitoba Trappers' Association, active local  
25 fur councils, and individual trappers. At that

1 time we may initiate the collection of trapline  
2 data, like trails and cabins and such.

3 All right. Now right now this is  
4 presently where we're sitting with Bipole III.  
5 It's right now during the government and public  
6 review of the EIS, Hydro will contact trappers to  
7 update them on project plans and schedules. We  
8 look again to record additional information. We  
9 may get into discussing possible employment or  
10 business opportunities. Getting to the timing of  
11 the project on the trapline specifically, and at  
12 that time we would begin discussing a settlement  
13 agreement if the trapper was eligible.

14 And finally for notification, we have  
15 a pre-construction notification and this occurs,  
16 not hours, but hopefully days or weeks just ahead  
17 of construction beginning. At that time we looked  
18 to determine a fair and reasonable type of  
19 compensation for the trapline holder.

20 For eligible trappers, monetary  
21 settlements for disturbance period is offered, and  
22 I'll explain that coming in a further slide. A  
23 release agreement is signed by the trapper and  
24 Manitoba Hydro. Trappers, again, are updated on  
25 the project schedules. And at the time we would



1 request trappers to remove equipment as required  
2 to avoid any damages to their gear.

3           We also have a replacement and  
4 improvement part of the compensation program. We  
5 would compensate, if we weren't successful in  
6 having all equipment removed, or in a case where  
7 traps are run over, or whatever the case may be,  
8 we would replace that equipment. If we had to  
9 remove a building where the right-of-way would  
10 occur, if there was no other alternative, we would  
11 help that trapper relocate or provide a new  
12 trappers cabin. And we would also compensate the  
13 trapper for building new trails on the trapline.

14           The monetary settlement, when there is  
15 an anticipated reduction in trapping income due to  
16 transmission construction activities, we start  
17 looking at the monetary aspect. Settlement  
18 packages may be provided for disturbance period  
19 based on a formula, which I'll get into. And  
20 again, the line holders of the affected registered  
21 traplines, so it's the head trapper of the  
22 trapline.

23           So determining the monetary  
24 settlement, we look at the overall area of a  
25 trapline in square kilometres. And we have a ten

1 kilometres disturbance zone on either side of the  
2 right-of-way. So we look at the entire area. We  
3 use a geographic information system, determine the  
4 percentage of the disturbance zone on a trapline.  
5 We go to Manitoba Conservation fur management unit  
6 and we collect the trapline production from that  
7 trapline, not the trapper, but all furs caught on  
8 the trapline over the last ten years. And we take  
9 the best three year average gross income over the  
10 ten years, and come up with a net income which is  
11 minus 50 percent of assumed expenses out on the  
12 trapline.

13                   From that net income, we add  
14 50 percent of that for domestic losses, which is  
15 basically when a trapper is out on a trapline, he  
16 or she is typically going to use country foods,  
17 perhaps take a moose or small game or upland game  
18 birds and that. They may use the moose hide, for  
19 example, for tanning or crafts. So we add that  
20 domestic loss to the net income and we come up  
21 with a one year total loss. And we multiply that  
22 one year over a five-year period.

23                   The five years comes in typically  
24 because when transmission lines are being built,  
25 one year is for clearing, one year for the

1 construction period, and we apply three years so  
2 that we believe the animals will adapt back into  
3 the local area.

4 So once agreed to, the details of the  
5 compensation is confirmed within an agreement and  
6 a trapper is then asked to sign an agreement  
7 indicating his or her approval. And then, of  
8 course, the monetary settlement is provided.

9 This is contact information at  
10 Manitoban Hydro. So if anybody would like further  
11 information, they can phone that number and go  
12 from there.

13 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Kuzdak.  
14 I have a couple of quick questions, I think they  
15 are quick anyway.

16 On slide six you talked about sort of  
17 the older program, the compensation program, and  
18 then the newer one. Under the compensation  
19 program, near the bottom, you talk about  
20 employment opportunities. What might those be?

21 MR. KUZDAK: Employment opportunities  
22 could be small scale or large scale. In fact, we  
23 have worked with trappers to identify creek  
24 crossings, or better river crossings, for example,  
25 where we'd hire a trapper to go out with surveyors

1 for anywhere from a day to a week to work on a  
2 small scale.

3 In the case for Bipole III, we have  
4 already entered into discussion with a trapper in  
5 the Pikwitonei area who has ice building, like  
6 winter road construction abilities, so that will  
7 be more of a larger scale. So that will be an  
8 example, or perhaps if there's any type of  
9 security requirements, you know. So those are a  
10 couple of examples I could think of.

11 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. The other  
12 question I have is, on the second last, or the  
13 third last slide, 13, when you talk about the five  
14 year multiplication and the three years for  
15 wildlife to adapt, what's the three years based  
16 on? Is that experience? Is that a reasonable  
17 number of years?

18 MR. KUZDAK: That was applied back in  
19 the '80s. I was certainly not involved with that,  
20 but I think at the time three years was thought to  
21 be, you know, sufficient. We are looking at the  
22 pilot study at Snow Lake and we're finding that  
23 the animals are adapting quite more readily than,  
24 you know, within the three years. But we're not  
25 looking to change our policy.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Is the Snow Lake pilot,  
2 is that on the Wuskwatim transmission line?

3 MR. KUZDAK: That's right.

4 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. I don't  
5 have any other questions. Anybody else?  
6 Mr. Gibbons?

7 MR. GIBBONS: Yes. It's about the  
8 time line of the consultation with the trappers,  
9 just so I can get some clarity as to what is  
10 included there. It relates to slides, I guess  
11 slides four, six and eight. And the question I  
12 suppose is that I am wondering when the  
13 consultation occurs? From the slides I get the  
14 impression it occurs after decisions have been  
15 made to the point where an EIS has been issued.  
16 So there is already some commitment to an idea of  
17 a preferred route. So if that were the case, is  
18 the involvement of the trapper then only after  
19 that point, and then relates only to minor  
20 adjustments in what is a final preferred route, or  
21 is there earlier consultation that might go into  
22 the choice of the final preferred route in the  
23 first place? I'm not sure if that's terribly  
24 clear, but I'm trying to get a sense of where the  
25 consultation occurs in the time line.

1                   MR. KUZDAK: Yeah. We actually  
2 brought out brochures on the policy during all  
3 four rounds of consultation for the site selection  
4 environmental assessment period. So although we  
5 weren't focusing directly, because obviously we  
6 started with the yellow zone, we had the project  
7 area, we couldn't target our focus on specific  
8 trappers, so we were kind of in a general mode at  
9 that point in time. We moved on to the  
10 alternative route stages where we could start  
11 identifying, okay, this trapline section could be  
12 impacted, or these perhaps could be impacted. But  
13 again because in the alternate route stage, and  
14 there's so many traplines, that we didn't get too  
15 precise.

16                   Once we had a preliminary preferred  
17 route, we started focusing more on the trapline  
18 holders in the areas. So we are attempting to get  
19 them out to the public open house forums, and we  
20 are making contacts with the local fur councils at  
21 that time, as well as working with the Manitoba  
22 Trappers Association.

23                   So it wasn't until we came up with the  
24 final preferred route that we knew we could do our  
25 geographic information system work to identify

1    which traplines would be eligible in that ten  
2    kilometre zone.

3                    So I'm not sure if that answers  
4    correctly, Mr. Gibbons.

5                    MR. GIBBONS:  Thank you.

6                    THE CHAIRMAN:  Mr. Kaplan.

7                    MR. KAPLAN:  This may be difficult to  
8    imagine, but assume I'm a trapper.  Assume you  
9    make me an offer of compensation.  And further  
10   assume that I am not very happy with it.  What are  
11   my options as a trapper?

12                   MR. KUZDAK:  That's a very common  
13   scenario that we deal with.  In fact, we actually,  
14   when we approach a trapper, I had indicated that  
15   we get our trapping records from Manitoba  
16   Conservation.  It's our first starting point,  
17   because they are responsible for collecting like  
18   the pelts caught or sold under commercial licence.  
19   I should emphasize that the policy is for  
20   commercial trappers.  It doesn't have any impacts  
21   to Aboriginal Treaty rights.

22                    So we collect the data from Manitoba  
23   Conservation and we build that into the formula,  
24   and we come up to say, okay, Mr. Kaplan, we have  
25   this proposed offer based on our formula.  We will

1 show the table with the trapping records for the  
2 last ten years, and we'd say, do these look right  
3 to you, for example? Because what we had been  
4 finding in the north, and even on -- like for the  
5 Wuskwatim project, that many of the trappers will  
6 sell their wolves, for example, to a local  
7 taxidermist, or they may sell them to outfitters  
8 who sell them to guests from out of province or  
9 out of country. So we -- actually it's a mini  
10 negotiation, if you will, but there's a lot of  
11 effort to work in good faith. So they can put  
12 their information in and a lot of times we will  
13 take that into consideration. There are times  
14 where I would have to say where we can recognize  
15 where people may want to over embellish the  
16 numbers. Being a trapper myself, it kind of  
17 helps.

18           So it's a respectful process, it is  
19 somewhat informal, in fact. So at the end of the  
20 day, we leave the table where we're happy, the  
21 trapper is happy, and a lot of times we have to  
22 make two or three visits before that handshake  
23 occurs.

24           MR. KAPLAN: Assume I don't wish to  
25 make the handshake, what are my options?



1 MR. KUZDAK: Unfortunately, there are  
2 no options. If Hydro is provided environmental  
3 licence to proceed, we'll continue to do our best  
4 to work with the trapper who refuses to sign off  
5 on the agreement, but the project will go forth.

6 MR. KAPLAN: I'm reminded to ask you  
7 how often it comes to that?

8 MR. KUZDAK: For the Wuskwatim  
9 transmission project, we had 39 registered  
10 traplines eligible under the policy. I signed off  
11 on 38. We had one who just narrowly got under the  
12 five kilometres disturbance zone. It was hardly  
13 impacted, but it was more of a personal battle  
14 with Hydro that he had I believe. But I'm very  
15 happy to say that we were quite successful with  
16 Wuskwatim, so I'm hoping it goes the same way for  
17 Bipole III.

18 MR. KAPLAN: Okay. Thank you.

19 THE CHAIRMAN: Anybody else? Any  
20 members of the public have questions for  
21 Mr. Kuzdak? Thank you very much, Mr. Kuzdak.

22 MR. KUZDAK: Thank you.

23 THE CHAIRMAN: We now have  
24 representatives of the Fox Lake Cree Nation, Karen  
25 Anderson?

1 MS. ANDERSON: She's just going to put  
2 up a couple of maps on the screen for me. My name  
3 is Karen Anderson, Cree Nation --

4 MS. JOHNSON: Just before we get  
5 started --  
6 Karen Anderson :Sworn.

7 MS. ANDERSON: So I just want to first  
8 acknowledge the Commission. Thank you from coming  
9 to Gillam and having Fox Lake able to participate  
10 in the hearings right in our own community, in our  
11 territory. And I'd also like to acknowledge all  
12 the elders that have come out to listen to our  
13 presentation also, and also all the members of the  
14 public and all the employees of Hydro. Thanks for  
15 their presentations.

16 So I want to first of all begin, I  
17 think all of you received a copy of the position  
18 paper that Fox Lake has submitted to the  
19 Commission. I wanted to first start off with the  
20 map. Maybe I'll start with the other map first,  
21 sorry.

22 Like throughout the hearings I have  
23 been -- I attended the first ones in Winnipeg --  
24 and all of the maps that I have seen, like none of  
25 them reference Fox Lake Cree Nation on their maps.

1 So I just wanted to show where Fox Lake is located  
2 in the whole area of the construction, the  
3 development of the Hydro development.

4 So we are located like between  
5 Limestone, Long Spruce and Kettle, Bird and  
6 Gillam, this is our whole territory. And we have  
7 been in this whole area our whole existence. And  
8 I just wanted to acknowledge that because I don't  
9 see on any of the other maps that Fox Lake is  
10 there. Gillam is there, yes, but Fox Lake Cree  
11 Nation is not referenced on the maps. And I'd  
12 like to just go to the next map then. Thanks.

13 So the second map here I just wanted  
14 to kind of give a reference to the Commission  
15 members of the footprint, like where the -- each  
16 of these maps, like there's a whole series of  
17 lines in here, diagrams, and I've got a couple of  
18 copies -- I forgot to make some, I'm sorry. These  
19 were maps done through the Aboriginal traditional  
20 knowledge studies in our community. And the  
21 workers talked to a lot of the elders and the  
22 resource users, and they did their own areas of  
23 where they used the land, and then they overlaid  
24 all the maps together. That's why there's so many  
25 different lines on this one map. So we wanted to

1 show how Fox Lake resource users and the elders  
2 used the land. And I'll get a copy of each -- of  
3 this map, sorry, for the members shortly.

4           But the whole footprint, like where  
5 Bipole III and the converter station, it shows  
6 it's around this area. And it's not like just  
7 that we're in the town, like in our community of  
8 Bird, it's the whole area that we utilize. And  
9 that the project and the Bipole are a converter  
10 station, and the Bipole line is going to affect  
11 all the traditional activities that our members  
12 use. And there's various different ones, hunting  
13 trapping, there's sites, there's spiritual places,  
14 there's places where the youth go and learn from  
15 the elders. And so that whole area is going to be  
16 impacted, like that type of use is going to be  
17 impacted by this project.

18           So I wanted to kind of give that  
19 reference before I begin into the position paper.  
20 We had wanted to have more presenters to do our  
21 position paper, so I'm going to do kind of a  
22 summary, and I'm going to read through it, but I'm  
23 going to focus more on the area of adverse  
24 effects. And there's going to be three more  
25 presenters but we're going to do those ones in the

1 Winnipeg hearings. And I think we have already  
2 scheduled that for November 8th or 7th in the  
3 evening. So we weren't able to get everybody up  
4 into the community for this whole presentation.

5           And another comment before I begin, I  
6 wanted to, as a representative of Fox Lake, I  
7 wanted to make a comment on Hydro's -- you had  
8 asked the question on the CLO, the community  
9 liaison officer, I don't know if I can do that now  
10 or at the end?

11           THE CHAIRMAN: Whenever you'd like,  
12 Ms. Anderson.

13           MS. ANDERSON: Okay. Maybe I'll do it  
14 now. I know Mr. Phin from Hydro had spoke about  
15 the CLO, the community liaison officer. Yes, that  
16 position is funded through Hydro, but the employee  
17 is of Fox Lake Cree Nation. Like we hired a  
18 person. And you know, with every I guess project  
19 or new proposal, new idea, there's always kinks,  
20 and we are working to do a review of the position  
21 and a review of, you know, the activities of the  
22 CLO, and I guess the objectives. Because there  
23 are concerns, like where the person cannot -- or  
24 the employees still have the mistrust. Like one  
25 of the community members said, the mistrust is

1 still there. And we want to address them, but  
2 there's like -- I guess kind of the same way that  
3 MMF made their comment, you know, some of the  
4 employees, again, they don't want to sign their  
5 names to complaints, you know, for that same type  
6 of fear. So the CLO is an avenue to kind of try  
7 to address those issues. But at the same time I  
8 know the employees feel that the CLO has  
9 limited -- like limited in their actions they can  
10 take. And then there are formal processes that  
11 the employees can take through the union and that,  
12 but still there are concerns that they don't have  
13 the full support, I guess, of that union. I just  
14 wanted to make that comment.

15 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

16 MS. ANDERSON: I wanted to speak like  
17 as a Fox Lake rep, but later I wanted to say a few  
18 more comments as a community member. So I'll just  
19 continue with the position paper.

20 So Manitoba Hydro had requested that  
21 Fox Lake accommodate Manitoba Hydro's timeline for  
22 the submission of the Environmental Impact  
23 Statement for the Bipole III Keewatinoow Converter  
24 Station project by providing information regarding  
25 Fox Lake's main concerns with the project,

1 although the initial request was made without  
2 Manitoba Hydro having provided Fox Lake with all  
3 of the pertinent information regarding the  
4 project. A number of issues have changed since  
5 the initial letter was drafted in December 2011.

6 Fox Lake's position continues to be  
7 valid as of the summer of 2012, when Fox Lake  
8 negotiations office received the Bipole III  
9 transmission project EIS. Although it was  
10 received in May 2012, Fox Lake was never a part of  
11 the process and as a result has identified major  
12 concerns and knowledge gaps in the EIS.

13 These major problems require further  
14 need for scientific study and inclusion for our  
15 Aski Keskentamowin studies into the final report.  
16 And these concerns will be outlined below.  
17 Nonetheless, Fox Lake continues to negotiate with  
18 Manitoba Hydro on this project.

19 However, Fox Lake's agreement to  
20 provide the preliminary information in this  
21 document shall not be interpreted as support for  
22 the project, nor shall it be interpreted as  
23 agreement that the concerns identified herein are  
24 exhaustive. As such, it is agreed between Fox  
25 Lake and Hydro that the information provided in

1 this document is entirely without prejudice to Fox  
2 Lake's rights with respect to the project.

3 Fox Lake Cree Nation only recently  
4 received and reviewed the EIS, which we reference  
5 information in this document, and does not endorse  
6 any of the provisions thereof.

7 So the ability of Fox Lake to comment  
8 meaningfully on the project is further hampered by  
9 delays in the negotiation of the terms of Fox Lake  
10 Cree Nation's roles and rights as the leading  
11 First Nation proponent in the proposed Conawapa  
12 hydroelectric generating station. Manitoba Hydro  
13 have long since promised these negotiations.

14 The role of Fox Lake in the Conawapa  
15 project has important implications for the Bipole  
16 III Keewatinoow Converter Station, as well as all  
17 other Manitoba Hydro projects in Fox Lake Cree  
18 Nation's homeland and traditional territory.

19 So no discussions or consultations in  
20 relation to any project can be considered to be  
21 complete until Fox Lake Cree Nation's right in  
22 Conawapa have been addressed.

23 So the purpose, Fox Lake will outline  
24 its preliminary views and position on Hydro's  
25 proposal to construct Bipole III and the



1 Keewatinoow Converter Station on our homeland and  
2 traditional territory. It was the original intent  
3 of Manitoba Hydro to present and include Fox Lake  
4 Cree Nation's position in its document, in the  
5 socioeconomic technical report component.  
6 However, Fox Lake's position and views cannot be  
7 adequately represented in a joint document and,  
8 therefore, we will set out our position on the  
9 proposed construction within this document.

10           It is important that both Manitoba  
11 Hydro and the regulators understand Fox Lake Cree  
12 Nation's world view and our understanding of the  
13 interrelationship between humans and the  
14 environment, of our responsibility to protect  
15 Aski, which is a Cree word for the land, water,  
16 resources, animals and their interrelationships  
17 for future generations.

18           The time frame surrounding the  
19 submission of this document prevents any  
20 significant level of detail with respect to the  
21 adverse effects that the Fox Lake Cree Nation will  
22 experience and any specific mitigation efforts  
23 required as a result of the project. However, we  
24 endeavour to describe how we foresee the efforts  
25 of further destruction and damage of the Project

1 on Aski, and how the effects of the previous  
2 constructions will be compounded to have even  
3 further effects on the people of Fox Lake Cree  
4 Nation.

5           Just a summary of Manitoba Hydro's  
6 current proposal, it's been said again. Manitoba  
7 Hydro is proposing the construction of the Bipole  
8 III high voltage direct current and Keewatinoow  
9 Converter Station on Fox Lake Cree Nation homeland  
10 and traditional territory, our resource management  
11 area under the 2004 Impact Settlement Agreement,  
12 and the community interest zone under the 1997  
13 Treaty Land Entitlement framework agreement.

14           The proposed construction would follow  
15 the construction of Manitoba's hydroelectric  
16 generating stations situated on and around Fox  
17 Lake homeland and traditional territory. These  
18 are: Kelsey, built on the Kischi Sipi, which is  
19 the Nelson River, in 1960; Kettle in 1971; Long  
20 Spruce in 1971; Jenpeg in 1977; and Limestone in  
21 1990 generating stations, sorry -- as well as two  
22 converter stations, Henday and Radisson, and two  
23 sets of transmission lines, Bipole I and II, which  
24 are all additional constructions built to  
25 transport electricity to Southern Manitoba and

1 elsewhere in North America.

2           So the proposed project infrastructure  
3 and proposed development includes; final preferred  
4 route of the Bipole III HVDC transmission line;  
5 Keewatinoow Converter Station; the AC collector  
6 line; the ground electrode line; the ground  
7 electrode site; construction power line;  
8 construction power station site; Keewatinoow  
9 construction camp site; Keewatinoow start-up camp  
10 site; Manitoba Hydro and contractor work area  
11 site; the Keewatinoow lagoon, it's under a  
12 separate licence and has been approved as of  
13 June 2012; access roads; deposit sites, which  
14 includes burrow deposits and quarry stockpiles;  
15 excavation site; rock quarries and wells. So the  
16 proposed line would begin south of the present day  
17 Conawapa camp, approximately 25 kilometres north  
18 of the Bird Reserve At the Keewatinoow Converter  
19 Station. The project would include a HVDC  
20 transmission line; energy conversion facilities  
21 and system connections. Although Manitoba Hydro  
22 indicates the construction is for reliability  
23 purposes, Manitoba Hydro's forecast loads,  
24 including export to the United States and Ontario,  
25 necessitate a new transmission infrastructure to

1 transport this electricity from the Keeyask and  
2 proposed Conawapa construction.

3 Working definition of wellness:

4 Wellness or Mino pimatisiwin is a concept that  
5 refers to the overall health of the people in  
6 Aski. Human health is dependant upon the health  
7 of Aski, including our perceptions of the health  
8 of Aski. Therefore, it is our responsibility to  
9 care for and nurture Aski so that it can provide  
10 for future generations. Mino pimatisiwin  
11 constitutes a balance of human relationships with  
12 the ability to harvest, keep warm, and consume  
13 foods from Aski. Mino pimatisiwin, as our right  
14 and responsibility and knowing that our survival  
15 as a community has been compromised as a result of  
16 previous Manitoba Hydro forms the basis of our  
17 position on the proposed constructions.

18 The ultimate goal of Fox Lake Cree  
19 Nation's position is that Mino pimatisiwin must be  
20 restored and maintained. Fox Lake must be able to  
21 again find balance within itself as a community  
22 but also with Aski.

23 Specifically a focus on Mino  
24 pimatisiwin will include human health and social  
25 well-being, socioeconomic prosperity, integrity of

1 culture and language, integrity of governance and  
2 autonomy, protection of Aski and protection of Fox  
3 Lake Aski.

4           Meaningful involvement in processes  
5 that affect Fox Lake Cree Nation as a community  
6 and its relationship with Aski are significant in  
7 our efforts to live Mino pimatisiwin. Fox Lake  
8 Cree Nation must have active involvement in all  
9 aspects of the project. These include:

- 10 1. Fox Lake's active involvement in defining  
11 terms utilized in the negotiations. For example,  
12 what constitutes partnership, baseline and  
13 cumulative effects, and shared responsibility for  
14 aspects of the constructions.
- 15 2. The consultation process must provide adequate  
16 time for Fox Lake Cree Nation to absorb all of the  
17 necessary information on each specific negotiated  
18 topic, its relationship to other topics being  
19 negotiated, and its possible adverse effects and  
20 potential benefits to Fox Lake Cree Nation to, in  
21 turn, consult with the larger Fox Lake Cree Nation  
22 community and to properly participate in informed  
23 decision-making.
- 24 3. Timely, detailed, relevant and appropriate  
25 information and personnel on proposed

1 construction, including construction plans.

2 4. Fox Lake Cree Nation driven research and  
3 studies on the potential impacts of the proposed  
4 constructions on human and Aski health and  
5 wellness from a Fox Lake Cree Nation theoretical  
6 and methodological perspective.

7 5. Consideration of potential impacts in terms of  
8 Fox Lake Cree Nation history and in terms of an  
9 accumulation of risk hypothesis.

10 6. Participate in the timing and scheduling of  
11 events and the opportunity to act as opposed to  
12 react in negotiations, signifying that equal  
13 weight is given to community interests and  
14 development plans as Manitoba Hydro construction  
15 interests and development plans.

16 7. Adequate resources and expertise to ensure  
17 proper engagement in decision-making process.

18 8. Adequate time for meaningful community level  
19 engagement, information sharing and decision  
20 making. These may include meetings, workshops,  
21 weekly activities, newsletters and more.

22 So the relationship between Fox Lake  
23 and Manitoba Hydro extend back to the early 1960's  
24 when Manitoba Hydro first arrived in our  
25 territory. Therefore, given the historical

1 relationship between Fox Lake Cree Nation and  
2 Hydro, it is critical that Fox Lake be given the  
3 time and opportunity to ensure the involvement of  
4 our community, and in particular our elders and  
5 their Aski Keskentamowin, knowledge of Aski.  
6 Involvement must occur in conceptualizing,  
7 planning and monitoring opportunities, including  
8 infrastructural development; ensuring that the  
9 knowledge of both genders and diverse generations  
10 are included in the activities that will allow for  
11 such meaningful engagement and discussions to  
12 transpire. Fox Lake Cree Nation is rebuilding  
13 itself as a community and a people. Manitoba  
14 Hydro, as a major protagonist in the destruction  
15 of Aski and our people, must take a proactive role  
16 in Fox Lake Cree Nation's rebuilding process, and  
17 therefore, must include Fox Lake Cree Nation and  
18 its people.

19                   The management and development of  
20 resources to improve the quality of life of  
21 people, nationally, internationally must not be to  
22 the detriment of the integrity of Fox Lake Cree  
23 Nation and Aski. A process must be established  
24 for effectively dealing with conflict and for  
25 addressing the diverse views and opinions of Fox

1 Lake Cree Nation so that safety is assured and  
2 issues may be resolved meaningfully and to the  
3 satisfaction of Fox Lake Cree Nation.

4 The consultation process must respect  
5 and incorporate Fox Lake Cree Nation's cultural  
6 differences and overall wellness and community  
7 development interests.

8 Fox Lake's position on Manitoba Hydro  
9 constructions: So as a nation, we do not see  
10 Manitoba Hydro constructions as a series of  
11 disconnected activities, rather you see all of the  
12 constructions as one big construction project  
13 which began on Fox Lake homeland and traditional  
14 territory more than 50 years ago, and which has  
15 intensified considerably in recent years.

16 Although we have lived our lives consistently in  
17 the shadow of these constructions, and we continue  
18 to raise our families here, we have been excluded  
19 from community development activities previously,  
20 and are now only peripherally involved. Manitoba  
21 Hydro has not treated Fox Lake Cree Nation as  
22 equal partners sharing in governance and economic  
23 prosperity, but rather as a problem to be solved,  
24 compensated and mitigated. This must change so  
25 that we are partners in growth and all aspects of



1 a unified community that benefits from the  
2 constructions.

3 The sheer magnitude of construction  
4 and the fact that every generation has seen  
5 continual construction and further destruction on  
6 Aski limits community development other than those  
7 that take into consideration that the territory is  
8 now fundamentally a Manitoba Hydro project.

9 The Manitoba Hydro settlement of  
10 Gillam was specifically set up to meet the  
11 operational needs of Manitoba Hydro. Significant  
12 amounts of resources continue to be dedicated to  
13 the interests and needs of the Town of Gillam,  
14 resulting in the systemic exclusion of Fox Lake  
15 Cree Nation. With this reality, our position  
16 focuses on Fox Lake Cree Nation Mino pimatisiwin  
17 within the context of an ongoing Manitoba Hydro  
18 project.

19 Fifty years of Manitoba Hydro  
20 construction on Aski have left devastating effects  
21 on Mino pimatisiwin -- so 50 years of Manitoba  
22 Hydro construction on Aski has left devastating  
23 effects on Mino pimatisiwin. With this  
24 construction came new development to enhance the  
25 power generating potential of the Province of

1 Manitoba. However, with each new project our  
2 people have progressively, or have become  
3 progressively weaker and Aski has become  
4 increasingly depleted. Historically, we have been  
5 excluded from meaningful engagement in the  
6 constructions and from potential benefits of the  
7 structures.

8           Manitoba Hydro's focus has been on  
9 mitigation and compensation activities and not on  
10 partnership and prosperity. The focus of  
11 discussions must change so that the latter are  
12 goals for discussions between Fox Lake and Hydro.

13           Clarity regarding what partnership  
14 means and what it will entail in terms of Fox Lake  
15 Cree Nation, and overall prosperity, in face of  
16 continued constructions on Aski is of crucial  
17 importance, particularly concerning past  
18 experience, unresolved traumatic stresses  
19 associated with these for members of the Nation  
20 and their families.

21           Fox Lake must reclaim the power and  
22 well-being that has been lost in the long history  
23 of Manitoba Hydro's construction and achieve a  
24 strategy for increased wellness, thriving  
25 community development, social, cultural and

1 economic prosperity. For such reclamation and  
2 development to occur, the current model of  
3 offsetting programs is insufficient. The process  
4 will require better evolution mechanisms.

5           The adverse effects of Hydro  
6 developments: Fox Lake members are promised  
7 numerous potential benefits from the hydroelectric  
8 development projects initiated by Hydro. Some of  
9 the benefits that Fox Lake has indeed received  
10 include short-term employment, specialized  
11 training opportunities, reinstallation of  
12 self-worth and a renewed work ethic that comes  
13 from employment and pride to support own families.  
14 Some form of community involvement can also be  
15 empowering, if done adequately, but this has not  
16 been the case with the Bipole III EIS, where  
17 community input in the drafting process was  
18 clearly absent.

19           Fox Lake Cree Nation members are  
20 hesitant or doubtful about potential benefits  
21 stemming from any future Manitoba Hydro project,  
22 because Aski is compromised and long-term job  
23 security, as well as sustainable economic business  
24 opportunities based on reclamation are not part of  
25 the proposed items.

1                   In spite of this, Fox Lake has entered  
2   into discussions with Manitoba Hydro on an  
3   agreement that will compensate Fox Lake Cree  
4   Nation for the adverse effects of this project.  
5   The position of the people of Fox Lake is the  
6   acknowledgement that they have minimal impact on  
7   future developments in their homeland, and with  
8   each project the community hopes that equal power  
9   at the negotiating table one day affect change.  
10   The turmoil, the social destruction and the  
11   disconnect that divide many of our community  
12   members are direct consequences of Manitoba  
13   Hydro's handling of each project.

14                   Hydroelectric development projects are  
15   seen by Fox Lake members as giving a false sense  
16   of opportunities because members believe that  
17   their only future is with Hydro. Therefore, how  
18   will the new constructions reflect further impact  
19   or deviate from a history of non inclusion, and  
20   lack of real choice in developing a Fox Lake  
21   controlled future?

22                   Each successive generation since the  
23   initial constructions of the early 1960's has seen  
24   a further demise of natural lands and resources,  
25   and alongside this a forced transformation of

1 culture, language, ways of life, knowing and  
2 trusting in the ways of the world. All of these  
3 issues have become embodied in personal health and  
4 interpersonal relationships. The impact  
5 assessment has been the subject of intense study  
6 over the past several years, although the true  
7 extent of the damage is not yet determined  
8 scientifically, nor is it truly understood even by  
9 the people themselves.

10 Manitoba Hydro constructions have  
11 caused severe trauma to Fox Lake Cree Nation with  
12 symptoms ranging in severity between individual  
13 members. Trauma has resulted from construction of  
14 the dams, destruction of Aski, forced adaptation  
15 to drastic changes to the surrounding environment  
16 way of life, change of lifestyle, blatant  
17 disregard for the Inniniwak morals and values,  
18 mass influx of workers into the Fox Lake area,  
19 discrimination policies and practices at  
20 institutional as well as at individual levels,  
21 lack of meaningful inclusion of the community into  
22 matters that concern our livelihood, our lives and  
23 the lives of our children, multiple levels of  
24 violence, sexual and physical exploitation of our  
25 women, as well as children and youth,

1 appropriation of our cultural and intellectual  
2 knowledge, including knowledge of the land and  
3 resources.

4           Trauma has immediate negative effects  
5 to health processes, including appraisal  
6 processes, coping mechanisms, neuronal activity,  
7 lifestyles, parenting and family behaviours, and  
8 physical, psychological and spiritual health.

9           As a consequence of Manitoba Hydro and  
10 our government's failure to acknowledge and  
11 include Fox Lake Cree Nation in the discussions,  
12 planning and mitigation of impacts, Fox Lake  
13 spiritual and epistemological systems were  
14 seriously compromised and fractured. The impacts  
15 on Manitoba Hydro's and government's actions on  
16 our people will be felt for generations.  
17 Therefore, Fox Lake Cree Nation's right to examine  
18 all actions affecting community, individual and  
19 Aski must be thought through on the potential  
20 effects the actions will have for the next seven  
21 generations. That Fox Lake continues to struggle  
22 with its identity is a testament to the severity  
23 of the implications of exclusion. Ramifications  
24 of identity loss include emotional scarring,  
25 social and cultural breakdown, increased violence,

1 alcohol and substance addictions, unacceptable  
2 standards of living.

3           Our health, social and cultural  
4 standards, once balanced, are now diminished,  
5 making it extremely difficult to recover to the  
6 thriving community we once were. In Fox Lake  
7 traumas continue to occur at every level of  
8 personal and collective well-being, including  
9 vehicle and hit and run incidents, drownings,  
10 house fires, violence, rape, imposed poverty,  
11 marginalization, prejudice and discrimination,  
12 disorganization, exclusion from employment and  
13 other economic activities and governance,  
14 respectively. There is a legacy of immediate and  
15 intergenerational impacts of traumatic events in  
16 Fox Lake history with Manitoba Hydro  
17 constructions.

18           For us, collective trauma has been  
19 relived with each successive Manitoba Hydro  
20 project. A condition that will be relived again  
21 with the proposed constructions. Our collective  
22 trauma is more than post memory, it is layers of  
23 trauma existing within living memory. Within the  
24 psyches of our people, we see the unresolved  
25 trauma generation after generation. The

1 culmination of all of this exacts a heavy toll on  
2 Fox Lake Cree Nation health and well-being. This  
3 must be resolved and wellness must be reclaimed.

4           The Adverse Effects Agreement that Fox  
5 Lake signed with Manitoba Hydro on the Keeyask  
6 construction can offer a number of insightful  
7 lessons for addressing the adverse effects of this  
8 project. The Keeyask adverse effects agreement  
9 provided for programming meant to target aspects  
10 of mental, cultural, environmental health at Fox  
11 Lake.

12           The current implementation of these  
13 programs is revealing the limitations of the  
14 programs, both in scope and resourcing. A  
15 cultural awareness workshop to workers at the  
16 start of employment does little to address  
17 ingrained biases and perspectives. A sincere  
18 effort must be made to not only enhance those  
19 programs, but to go beyond social programming and  
20 focus on rebuilding a community and a people, and  
21 ultimately building a unified community that  
22 consists of both Gillam and Fox Lake.

23           These efforts cannot be done by Fox  
24 Lake alone. It requires a redirection of current  
25 resources, as well as additional resources.



1                   In addition to any adverse effects of  
2 Manitoba Hydro construction, there are obstacles  
3 associated with the current system of support  
4 provided by Fox Lake -- excuse me, provided by  
5 Hydro to Fox Lake Cree Nation. The employment  
6 training and business opportunities provided to  
7 Fox Lake do not include the necessary resources  
8 required in order for Fox Lake to be able to take  
9 advantage of these opportunities. These supports,  
10 as they are currently structured, assume a level  
11 of readiness in Fox Lake Cree Nation which simply  
12 does not currently exist. Substantive issues  
13 limiting employment, training and business  
14 opportunities must be addressed in order to ensure  
15 that actual benefits are provided to Fox Lake Cree  
16 Nation. All employment training and business  
17 opportunities must not be limited to construction  
18 phases of the project, but also in the operation  
19 phases and into the long-term future. Further, a  
20 diversity of opportunities must also be considered  
21 with Fox Lake Cree Nation actively engaged in the  
22 processes of determining what are the necessary,  
23 appropriate and desirable opportunities for  
24 community, social, cultural, business and economic  
25 development.

1                   I just wanted to comment a little bit  
2 further than what is in the paper on the adverse  
3 effects. For the community itself, there has been  
4 a lot of personal incidences that have affected  
5 their lives and their children's lives since the  
6 beginning of these projects occurring. It's not  
7 only in the construction phase or in the  
8 construction project, but it is also at the  
9 community level, at a personal level. So we  
10 wanted to make sure that that was conveyed to the  
11 Commission, that it was throughout the community,  
12 it's systemic, and it was in the services provided  
13 to the community.

14                   It was a very difficult stage or  
15 difficult period for the people of Fox Lake. It  
16 continues today. A few years back when the new  
17 construction we talked about, I guess in planning  
18 stages, I know that a lot of the people started to  
19 get anxious, you know, kind of going to relive the  
20 experience of that era. I guess thinking of their  
21 children and not wanting them to have that same  
22 experience, I guess.

23                   I'll continue on with the paper, on  
24 the position paper.

25                   Transformation of Cree homeland

1 territory: The onslaught of Manitoba Hydro  
2 construction has brutally transformed Fox Cree  
3 Nation homeland and traditional territory. The  
4 transformation was evident following initial  
5 construction of the 1960's, and as revealed in Fox  
6 Lake historical interviews by members describing  
7 returns to the community of the years in  
8 residential school, not being able to recognize  
9 any sense of the home they left behind.

10           Researchers are studying an effect  
11 that -- excuse me, I just need to take a moment  
12 here. So researchers have studied an effect that  
13 corporate mining has had on indigenous nations  
14 worldwide known as solastalgia. It's a term  
15 coined by Albrecht, 2003, describing a form of  
16 psychic or existential distress caused by  
17 environmental damage, such as that which occurs  
18 through mining. As opposed to nostalgia, which is  
19 the melancholia or home sickness occurred by  
20 individuals when separated from home, Solastalgia  
21 is the distress produced by environmental change  
22 impacting on people while they are directly  
23 connected to their home environment. An example  
24 is the feeling of home sickness that occurs when  
25 one is already at home.

1                   Previous Manitoba Hydro constructions  
2    have left gapping wounds on Aski, consistent with  
3    the cumulative impact theory noted above, each  
4    subsequent construction further aggravates already  
5    vulnerable environments. Side effects to  
6    environmental health have been detected.  
7    Environmental impacts range from being permanent  
8    to semi-permanent and requiring remedial measures  
9    in order to reverse the damage, or at least stop  
10   further progression of that damage.

11                   With the constructions comes various  
12   additional, permanent and transitory  
13   constructions. These are the converter stations,  
14   electrode sites, worker camps, sewage lagoons,  
15   transmission lines, roads and highways, excavation  
16   sites, including rock quarries and wells, and  
17   deposit sites. Each of these constructions poses  
18   its own list of nuisances, and the damage they  
19   leave on Aski remaining long after they have  
20   served their original purpose.

21                   The immediate and long-term  
22   implications of the proposed activity must be  
23   fairly considered based on complete access to  
24   appropriate technological information.  
25   Significant environmental impacts of the proposed

1 constructions are predicted based on the findings  
2 from Fox Lake Cree Nation impact studies and  
3 historical knowledge such as cumulative habitat  
4 alteration, fragmentation and loss, which  
5 translate into animal displacement and mortality,  
6 and by extension long-term population declines.  
7 Noise, road, and human construction activities  
8 will magnify the negative effects. Species of  
9 greatest concerns whose habitat constitute the  
10 entire area to be transformed include lake  
11 sturgeon, brook trout, which currently spawn and  
12 live out various of their life stages in the  
13 Limestone River, and Goose, Tiny, McMillan and  
14 Swift Creeks.

15                   Migratory birds which utilize the  
16 proposed construction area during spring and fall  
17 migration, as well as woodland caribou, currently  
18 listed under SARA but not acknowledged by Manitoba  
19 Hydro as woodland, Pen Island and barren ground  
20 caribou, which calve, reside and seasonally  
21 migrate to the proposed construction area.

22                   The area is home as well to a variety  
23 of plant species, including wild ginger,  
24 blueberries, cloudberries, raspberries and  
25 Labrador tea, all of which are highly valued by

1 Fox Lake Cree Nation.

2 In addition our burial grounds are  
3 located within the Bipole III project areas, as  
4 are culturally relevant stories, sacred sites and  
5 places of our oral histories.

6 As these pieces of our being are part  
7 of our intangible cultural heritage, as defined by  
8 UNESCO, they require respect and protection by Fox  
9 Lake and Hydro. Our advisors are also  
10 re-examining the Bipole III EIS to incorporate the  
11 data gathered in the Fox Lake final traditional  
12 knowledge project.

13 Prior to Manitoba Hydro constructions,  
14 the territory was abundant with plant and animal  
15 species that included multiple types of berries  
16 and other edible and medicinal plants, most fur  
17 bearing animals, brook trout, sturgeon and  
18 migratory birds and animals. The construction  
19 extirpated species from some areas and endanger  
20 others. An example is the once plentiful brown  
21 trout that no longer exist anywhere in the Kettle,  
22 Limestone and Butneau Rivers, or the Sky Pilot,  
23 Brook, Wilson, Leslie or mile 328 creeks.

24 Although modest recovery of some  
25 species is evident, it cannot be assured that

1 recovery with future developments will occur. As  
2 well, insufficient studies have been made to  
3 determine the effects of the direct currents on a  
4 cellular and/or biological level, and how these  
5 high voltage direct currents may affect wildlife  
6 and migration patterns.

7                   No one can be certain of the point  
8 then at which cumulative species displacement and  
9 loss, coupled with habitat transformation and  
10 loss, will result in irreversible ecosystem  
11 damage. And after a half century of non-stop  
12 construction, it can be hypothesized that that  
13 time is fast approaching or has already been  
14 reached. The maintenance of intact and  
15 functioning ecosystems has immense value to Fox  
16 Creek Cree Nation, which if lost or diminished is  
17 incommensurable with monetary compensation.

18                   Thus far the current methods of  
19 environmental impact assessment have fallen short  
20 in terms of adequately documenting, predicting,  
21 mitigating and monitoring the extent of the  
22 cumulative impacts.

23                   A loss of Aski based activities: The  
24 proposed construction area is one of intense Aski  
25 based activity for members of Fox Lake Cree

1 Nation. Relevant activities include but are not  
2 limited to trapping, hunting, fishing, harvesting,  
3 travelling, camping, recreation, social and  
4 spiritual gathering, and living in general.

5 As our Fox Lake final traditional  
6 knowledge report shows, the land is not devoid of  
7 human presence. Fox Lake Inniniwak have used the  
8 spaces and places of their homeland extensively.  
9 This fact, however, was not mentioned in the EIS  
10 at all.

11 Constructions, including the  
12 side-effects that constructions have and will  
13 continue to greatly impact our traditional Aski  
14 based activities. Beyond the impacts of the  
15 physical construction, increased accessibility to  
16 pristine areas resulting from the construction of  
17 roads, transmission lines, and other linear  
18 features may also lead to destruction caused by  
19 overharvesting by outsiders.

20 The economic implications of these  
21 impacts and compromises to Cree food consumption  
22 are predicted to be substantial, based again on  
23 experiences with the previous constructions. The  
24 increased access to our lands and resources has  
25 motivated us to develop not -- the increased



1 access to our lands and resources has motivated us  
2 to develop our own Aski management plan, where our  
3 own people will work as Aski officers ensuring no  
4 abuses against Aski are made. This community lead  
5 conservation team will function according to Fox  
6 Lake's Aski protocols to safeguard our resources  
7 for our people and future generations. Details of  
8 our plan are part of our access management plan.  
9 However, funding for this initiative should be  
10 largely contributions from Manitoba Hydro.

11           General living and governance  
12 activities are also considered within this section  
13 on Aski based activities. Fox Lake Cree Nation  
14 Treaty settlements have been impacted as a result  
15 of Hydro constructions. Historically, the  
16 proposed area is identified as potential Treaty  
17 land, therefore the extent to which Aski will be  
18 impacted by further construction poses a major  
19 threat to Fox Lake Cree Nation security.

20           The health and social consequence of  
21 environmental change: The continued practice of  
22 Aski based activities is critical for our overall  
23 wellness, physical, intellectual, social,  
24 spiritual health and healing benefits are derived  
25 from our people's connection to Aski. Lands and

1 water are associated with the Cree Nation, and  
2 sustainability of our values, the forging and  
3 reinforcing of kinship relations, passing on of  
4 our place specific knowledge, and the maintenance  
5 of personal and group identity.

6 Wellness is intrinsically connected to  
7 Aski and the health of its resources.  
8 Availability, quality, and diversity of natural  
9 flora and fauna are of critical importance to  
10 human wellness, and yet have been so readily  
11 dismissed in the race towards technological and  
12 further economic developments. The developments  
13 have also negatively impacted on our safety and on  
14 the aesthetics of both natural outdoor and built  
15 indoor environments. Predictability of the  
16 environment has been compromised, leading over  
17 decades to significant injury and death tolls.  
18 Elders often refer to the aspects of the natural  
19 environment as spoiled. In our view, much has  
20 already been lost and must be re-established in  
21 terms of aesthetics, safety and nourishment.

22 A lack of predictability of the  
23 environment caused by Manitoba Hydro construction  
24 negatively affects the relationship between humans  
25 and Aski. This lack of predictability has

1 negative health and social effects by nature of  
2 distancing people from the knowledge they have  
3 traditionally held regarding what to expect from  
4 Aski for the land.

5 Manitoba Hydro constructions have thus  
6 impacted language, human land interactions, and  
7 behaviour of Aski and its implications to ways of  
8 living off the land.

9 That ecosystems experience flips comes  
10 from basic ecology theory. Humans can alter  
11 ecosystems and they will continue to provide us  
12 with services we need to survive, example, clean  
13 water, but often only to a certain point. Once a  
14 threshold has been surpassed, the ecosystem may  
15 transform into something else that may or may not  
16 be desirable to us, and it is very difficult to  
17 predict when and how it will be transformed. For  
18 us a relevant question is, how much destruction  
19 can Aski tolerate before Mino pimatisiwin is no  
20 longer attainable?

21 So Fox Lake critiques of the Bipole  
22 III EIS: Some of the points are lack of inclusion  
23 of the community in the entire research, writing  
24 and presentation process prior to filing to the  
25 Clean Environment Commission; lack of references

1 to Fox Lake traditional knowledge studies in their  
2 local resource areas. In fact, ignorance of the  
3 entire document is evident. No mention of how  
4 Aboriginal traditional knowledge was used and  
5 presented in a document. Indeed it is difficult  
6 to see how Fox Lake interests are reflected in any  
7 way. Since the concentration of construction  
8 activities and long-term impacts are in Fox Lake's  
9 homeland, there is little effort to identify these  
10 issues and how they differ from other areas  
11 affected by the transmission lines only.

12 Most maps in the EIS do not show Fox  
13 Lakes's uses on the land, or the First Nation  
14 itself. For example, maps appear as devoid of  
15 humans, because neither Bird nor Fox Lake are part  
16 of the landscape on the maps.

17 Much of the information appears to be  
18 guesses or "arm chair biology" and very little  
19 data actually gathered from the site. Manitoba  
20 describes how First Nations will be impacted by a  
21 Bipole III project, but no voices from Fox Lake  
22 are incorporated.

23 Little focus is made on important  
24 species such as brook trout and lake sturgeon.

25 The name Keewatinoow is inappropriate

1 and should be changed. I think it's the spelling  
2 that is referred to.

3 No mention of past rehabilitation. No  
4 discussion ensued in regards to leasing Fox Lake's  
5 land to Manitoba Hydro for the transmission line.

6 Manitoba Hydro is not respecting the  
7 boundaries of traplines, rather only relying on  
8 the RMA's. For example J. Massan's trapline  
9 number 18 is located in Split Lake's RMA.

10 Inappropriately calling the Fox Lake  
11 Keewatinoow Converter Station and Bipole III- Aski  
12 Keskentamowin report as additional information in  
13 support of the Bipole III transmission project.  
14 The views in this report may contradict this title  
15 and only show that our report was not read by  
16 Manitoba Hydro.

17 So in conclusion, to address adverse  
18 effects of the proposed project, funding and  
19 benefits must be provided to achieve the following  
20 objectives:

- 21 1. Community and individual health and wellness,
- 22 2. Health of Aski,
- 23 3. Aesthetically beautiful and functional  
24 landscapes and natural surroundings,
- 25 4. Richness of language and culture,

- 1 5. Rebuilding of intergenerational relationships,  
2 communication and trust,
- 3 6. Housing, public meeting places, and other  
4 building infrastructure supportive of thriving  
5 social, economic, political, spiritual and  
6 cultural spheres of community life,
- 7 7. Information and communication systems  
8 technology,
- 9 8. Community safety,
- 10 9. Excellent and diverse education, training and  
11 employment,
- 12 10. Food security and culturally relevant food  
13 sovereignty,
- 14 11. Freedom, equity of human rights, respect for  
15 diversity of individual expression regarding  
16 gender, religion and spiritual expression,
- 17 12. Community expansion and the right to define  
18 inclusion into community with ever widening  
19 criteria,
- 20 13. Diversity, entrepreneurship, social and  
21 sustainable community economic development,
- 22 14. Fox Lake driven Aski planning and  
23 implementation, including project effect,  
24 environmental reclamation and rehabilitation,
- 25 15. Meaningful collaboration in regional and

1 national cultural, scientific, economic and  
2 political programs,  
3 16. Fox Lake driven reclamation of pre-heritage  
4 beyond reserve boundaries,  
5 17. Rebuilding and establishment of our  
6 government and autonomy,  
7 18. Implementation of Fox Lake Cree Nation's nine  
8 step plan for Sturgeon recovery strategy for the  
9 lower Nelson River below Keeyask,  
10 19. Acknowledgement, respect and inclusion of our  
11 traditional knowledge and intellectual property  
12 without appropriation or encumbrance.

13 Fox Lake must be given meaningful  
14 opportunities to benefit economically from the  
15 project. The opportunities must be in those areas  
16 where Fox Lake and its members have targeted  
17 expertise and training to maximize advantage and  
18 benefits from such opportunities. For example, in  
19 the context of the converter station, Fox Lake  
20 Cree Nation has strategic partnerships that give  
21 it expertise to be an active participant in the  
22 realization of the project.

23 Fox Lake views participation as key in  
24 assisting the prevention of imbalances in benefits  
25 experienced by Fox Lake in relation to past

1 projects. It would also give Fox Lake Cree Nation  
2 a legacy of expertise, personnel and resources  
3 that it can carry forward into future projects for  
4 both Hydro and others.

5 Fox Lake acknowledges that the  
6 relationship between itself and Manitoba Hydro,  
7 through projects such as Keeyask, have improved,  
8 but Fox Lake continues to believe and, therefore,  
9 insists that improvements can be made. And  
10 Keewatinoow Converter Station presents an  
11 excellent opportunity for such improvements.

12 While Fox Lake Cree Nation values  
13 continued adverse effects compensation, Fox Lake  
14 believes that business opportunities provide a  
15 similar value and impetus for Fox Lake in  
16 attaining Mino pimatisiwin.

17 Fox Lake Cree Nation has survived,  
18 despite years of exclusion and marginalization  
19 from Hydro development in our territory. Hydro  
20 development has brought and will continue to bring  
21 both temporary and long-term disruption to our  
22 lives. The impact will remain with Fox Lake Cree  
23 Nation long after the construction.

24 Fox Lake Cree Nation will continue to  
25 survive after the Hydro structures are once again



1 built in our territory. Regardless of  
2 compensation, we will be left with the daily  
3 reminder that our landscape will forever be  
4 altered, and we will be left to our own devices,  
5 again, to live mino pimatisiwin.

6           It is our hope that by providing our  
7 views, position, goals and objectives for future  
8 Hydro constructions, that Manitoba Hydro and the  
9 Province of Manitoba will have an understanding  
10 for the need for adverse effects measures and the  
11 business and employment opportunities to assist  
12 Fox Lake Cree Nation to regain its health as a  
13 community, but also for the health of Aski and  
14 mino pimatisiwin. Thank you.

15           THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you,  
16 Ms. Anderson. I think we obviously need to have  
17 more discussion. Now, we may have some questions  
18 from the panelists now or after lunch, or when you  
19 come before us in Winnipeg. Do you have any  
20 preferences?

21           MS. ANDERSON: I could take questions  
22 related to some of the adverse effects  
23 programming, but we have other staff and employees  
24 that can answer regarding the traditional  
25 knowledge project and the other negotiations.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: I think maybe what  
2 we'll do then, I'll just ask other Commissioners  
3 if they have any questions of clarification about  
4 what you presented today. And then we'll limit it  
5 to that for today. And then we'll, when we when  
6 you come before us again in Winnipeg, we'll get  
7 into some other discussion when you have the other  
8 staff with you. Does that sound reasonable?

9 MS. ANDERSON: Yes.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: Any specific questions  
11 of clarification? Mr. Gibbons?

12 MR. GIBBONS: Thank you for this  
13 report. I have a couple of questions, and perhaps  
14 only short answers. I'm not sure, they might  
15 require longer answers. I guess I'll find out  
16 when I ask them.

17 One is about a general point made  
18 early on about the perception of Aski. And could  
19 you, just for a moment, elaborate on what you mean  
20 by that and how you see that as being a wellness?  
21 I think it's in the context of a wellness issue.  
22 It would help me understand that position more  
23 clearly.

24 MS. ANDERSON: The perception or  
25 the -- sorry, the perception you said?

1 MR. GIBBONS: Yes. On top of page 3  
2 it says wellness, and I'm afraid I won't be able  
3 to pronounce that word, is a concept that refers  
4 to the overall health of the people and Aski.  
5 Human health is dependent upon the health of Aski,  
6 including our perceptions of the health of Aski.  
7 And I think it would help me understand more  
8 clearly if I had a better idea of what you meant  
9 by that, or what is meant by that?

10 MS. ANDERSON: Well, what we define it  
11 as is, our perception would be how the land would  
12 be like an unspoiled state, where there's no  
13 development, where it's all natural, and I guess  
14 thriving with the animals, thriving with the  
15 different flora and fauna, medicinal plants.  
16 That's the perception that we have of this Aski.  
17 As a healthy state, not destructed by any  
18 development.

19 MR. GIBBONS: Is it tied to the  
20 aesthetic question as well, the appearance that it  
21 looks natural? It's not just natural, but it even  
22 looks natural, is that part of it.

23 MS. ANDERSON: Well, for aesthetic, I  
24 guess it would be the natural unspoiled state,  
25 which would be almost like a wildlife, but I guess

1 different -- looking at aesthetically, to me I  
2 find that as you change it to look better I guess,  
3 but in a natural state.

4 MR. GIBBONS: It is better in a  
5 natural?

6 MS. ANDERSON: Yeah.

7 MR. GIBBONS: The second question  
8 relates to, and this is a more specific, that was  
9 more about the philosophy, the second is more  
10 specific. On page 11, your item number 18, you  
11 mentioned the implementation of FLCN's nine point  
12 step plan for sturgeon recovery. Has that -- the  
13 way that's written, it sounds like there has been  
14 a plan that Fox Lake has put forward. Is it your  
15 sense that it's not been responded to adequately,  
16 and as a result the sturgeon recovery is not  
17 occurring as it should? Because I'm not familiar  
18 with that.

19 MS. ANDERSON: Okay. I can't give a  
20 full answer on that, but there is a working group  
21 of our community members, it's called the core  
22 harvesters working group, and I think they put  
23 forward this plan to -- there's another working  
24 group within Hydro and the First Nations because  
25 of the partnership, and I think that's where that

1 was presented. But I'm not sure if it's still in  
2 discussions stage or if it's been rejected. So I  
3 can -- one of the other staff members can, in  
4 Winnipeg, answer that question.

5 MR. GIBBONS: So I'll save that  
6 question.

7 MS. ANDERSON: Yes, I'll make note of  
8 it for them also.

9 MR. GIBBONS: Thank you very much.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: Are you able to come  
11 back after lunch?

12 MS. ANDERSON: Yes.

13 THE CHAIRMAN: I think maybe we should  
14 take a break now for lunch. We can think a little  
15 bit about, we on the panel can think a little bit  
16 about the presentation you made. We may have more  
17 questions after lunch or we may just wait till  
18 Winnipeg. But if you can come back after lunch  
19 that would be very helpful to give us a bit of  
20 time to digest.

21 MS. ANDERSON: Okay.

22 THE CHAIRMAN: Let's break for lunch  
23 now and we'll come back at 1:30.

24 (Hearing recessed at 12:30 p.m. and  
25 reconvened at 1:30 p.m.)

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. I think we'll  
2 come back to order. Thank you, Ms. Anderson.  
3 Thank you for your presentation this morning. I  
4 think one or two of the panelists have some  
5 questions of clarification. I know we'll want to  
6 discuss this again when you come before us in the  
7 city, because we'll have time to digest more and  
8 then we'll have an opportunity to talk with the  
9 other people that will be able to come to  
10 Winnipeg.

11 I have one question, I know I'm not  
12 the only one. I noted this when I first read your  
13 report a few weeks ago, and then again this  
14 morning, that you noted on page ten that the name  
15 Keewatinoow is inappropriate and should be  
16 changed?

17 MS. ANDERSON: I think it's more for  
18 the spelling of it, that's what the --

19 THE CHAIRMAN: Oh, the spelling.

20 MS. ANDERSON: Yes, yes.

21 THE CHAIRMAN: How would you spell it?

22 MS. ANDERSON: K-E-E-W-A-T-I-N-O-K.

23 THE CHAIRMAN: So not two O's, and a K  
24 instead of a W.

25 MS. ANDERSON: Yes.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: And it has the same  
2 meaning?

3 MS. ANDERSON: Yes, yes.

4 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Pat, did you  
5 have some questions?

6 MS. MacKAY: Yes, I was wondering if  
7 you could share with us exactly where you are in  
8 the development of your own Aski management plan  
9 and the development of Aski officers, and how you  
10 see those officers operating?

11 MS. ANDERSON: Okay. Again, this is  
12 probably a question best suited for our impact  
13 assessment unit. But I know that it's an idea  
14 right now that members of the resource user  
15 harvester group, that they would like to see,  
16 similar to the conservation officers, so that's  
17 what they are looking at, but I guess from the  
18 perspective of Fox Lake and their -- the way they  
19 use the land. But it could be another question  
20 posed at the Winnipeg presentation.

21 MS. MacKAY: Okay.

22 THE CHAIRMAN: I guess you get off  
23 easy this afternoon. So again, thank you very  
24 much for the presentation today. We're glad you  
25 were able to make it up and do it here. We

1 thought it was important that a presentation be  
2 made in Gillam. And we look forward to seeing you  
3 and others in Winnipeg in a few weeks.

4 MS. ANDERSON: Yes. Thank you very  
5 much.

6 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

7 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, just while  
8 we have a couple of minutes, we have to put some  
9 things on the record here. Mr. Neufeld's  
10 presentation will be GIL number four. The trapper  
11 presentation will be number five. And the other  
12 presentation was MH 047, that was the repeated  
13 presentation. Ms. Anderson's presentation is GIL  
14 number six and the map is number seven.

15 (EXHIBIT GIL 4: Mr. Neufeld's  
16 presentation)

17 (EXHIBIT GIL 5: Trapper presentation)

18 (EXHIBIT GIL 6: Ms. Anderson's  
19 presentation)

20 (EXHIBIT GIL 7: Map)

21 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Dick,  
22 Samson Dick.

23 MR. DICK: Thank you everyone. We're  
24 glad to be here. I was able to speak pretty good,  
25 but I lost my voice, but I'm going to try anyway.



1 I hope you guys can hear me.

2 THE CHAIRMAN: Just a moment,  
3 Mr. Dick, and we'll we have to affirm that you'll  
4 tell us only the truth.

5 MS. JOHNSON: Could you state your  
6 name for the record, please?

7 MR. DICK: Yes.

8 MS. JOHNSON: Can you tell me your  
9 name just so we make sure it's in the record?  
10 Samson Dick: Sworn.

11 THE CHAIRMAN: You may proceed.

12 MR. DICK: First of all, my name is  
13 Samson Dick, Fox Lake citizen. I have been living  
14 in Gillam since mid 1930's. At that time some  
15 people were still living off of the land, hunt,  
16 trap and fish. They eat what they catch, caribou,  
17 chicken and fish. In the springtime they shoot  
18 geese and ducks, and late fall they hunt caribou  
19 and moose. But they didn't have to do it, overdo  
20 it, they just caught what they need, not like they  
21 do today. They don't care how much they kill,  
22 right. And that looks bad to me anyway.

23 And some people used to live all  
24 around Gillam. Before everybody started moving in  
25 Gillam, they were at their permanent home, people

1 used to live just about a mile from the overpass,  
2 near Kettle Bridge. Also, some people used to  
3 live in Fox Lake, but the Hydro -- I think they  
4 changed the name of the lake to Atkinson. They  
5 shouldn't be -- should be Fox Lake all the time.  
6 Some people don't like that, the lake changes,  
7 hey. Also, some people are living at Cass Lake in  
8 the early '40's, late 1930's. And some people  
9 were living at Moose Lake, that's way down closer  
10 to the highway, also changed to Stephens Lake.  
11 But there was no Stephens Lake at all. All that  
12 water you see by the airport, that's all flooding  
13 area. The rivers way down about five, six miles.  
14 But where you see the island on the other side of  
15 the river, it was running on the other side of the  
16 island. When you see the water at the airport,  
17 there is no Stephens Lake at all, it's all  
18 flooding area. I don't know how you call it  
19 Stephens Lake, it shouldn't be. You should call  
20 it Moose, Moosenoose, it's been Moosenoose ever  
21 since I remember.

22                   And today I see a lot of changes. I  
23 see a lot of water and powerlines that's affecting  
24 everything, affect our land, even our birds and  
25 small animals, and large animals, and fish, all

1 kinds of animals. And even our way of life  
2 traditional way of life, they are all affected.

3           And later on, again, Hydro moved into  
4 Gillam. You know what they do? They bulldoze all  
5 their houses. The people used to make log houses,  
6 hey, so they bulldoze everything. Some people  
7 didn't even know their house was knocked down.  
8 And that is a shame to me, probably everybody else  
9 too. And I hope -- well, they build houses with  
10 cheap lumber, they didn't last long. They tear  
11 them down already long time ago. That's their  
12 return for the houses they knock down, they  
13 bulldoze. And that looks, I don't know, it  
14 doesn't look very good to me anyway the way they  
15 treat us.

16           This is our land because our ancestors  
17 were living here way before railway comes into  
18 Gillam. All our ancestors were living all around  
19 Gillam before they start moving into Gillam and  
20 make their permanent home. And still, they  
21 didn't -- I suppose they thought it was better in  
22 Gillam, they do that to themselves, hey. This is  
23 our own land, this is how we were brought up in  
24 around Gillam here, everybody who is born here,  
25 died here. All the people I used to know, the old

1 folks, and then young people I used to play with,  
2 they are all gone. They are all laying in Gillam.  
3 They are all dead in Gillam.

4           So they are trying to say this is  
5 Hydro town. This is our town too, not only Hydro.  
6 This is where, we lived here way before white man  
7 came, hey.

8           So I don't know, we had a store here,  
9 that shopping centre. Hydro was supposed to  
10 support us. I never seen Hydro support that store  
11 at all. They promised when they open up they will  
12 support it, and I never seen Hydro come in there,  
13 Until they closed down, you know, they sell  
14 everything out, and now they come around after  
15 that, they grab everything because the prices were  
16 so low. They never did that before while the  
17 store was going.

18           And I don't think about natural  
19 resources. I went to throw my garbage out the  
20 other day at the dump and I didn't like what I  
21 see. I seen a lot of caribou and moose bones all  
22 over, and meat all scattered all over, and the  
23 birds, they don't even bother with. So I don't  
24 know, one time here too I seen four caribou laying  
25 in there, someone had thrown them out without

1 being skinned. They just took horns, that's it.  
2 They just threw the whole thing away. I told the  
3 game warden but they didn't even do nothing. I  
4 don't know, that's really surprising. I didn't  
5 like what I seen. All the stuff, all the stuff I  
6 said, you know, that's true.

7 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Dick.  
8 Thank you very much for your presentation today.

9 MR. DICK: Yeah, thank you.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: Anyone else wish to  
11 make a presentation this afternoon?

12 MS. JOHNSON: Could you state your  
13 name for the record, please?

14 Sophie Lockhart: Sworn.

15 MS. LOCKHART: I just wanted to refer  
16 to Karen's presentation on page 6, where she says,  
17 where it says Fox Lake dramas continue to occur at  
18 every level of personal collective well-being,  
19 including vehicle and hit and run incidents.

20 Well, I have lost a brother when  
21 Limestone was going there, I was living in Gillam.  
22 And this hurts because my brother was only 21  
23 years old when he was in a hit and run accident  
24 with the Hydro van, Hydro employees driving the  
25 van. And I guess they got on from Limestone bar

1 there to go to Sundance, and my brother and his  
2 friend were hitchhiking, and I guess he got hit on  
3 the road there and he died instantly.

4           And another thing I wanted to share is  
5 how Fox Lake Cree Nation people are treated around  
6 the Gillam area by non native people. We are  
7 discriminated against. With my brother, when they  
8 did find that person that hit him, they found him  
9 a couple of days after the accident. When he went  
10 to court, he only received a \$400 fine, no jail  
11 term or nothing. Whereas if it was a native  
12 person, he would have certainly served jail time.

13           And today, there's stuff that happened  
14 to us too, as women, young women in Fox Lake, when  
15 the dam started, when they started with Kettle and  
16 then Long Spruce and Limestone. Now our young  
17 girls are at that age where some of them are like  
18 12 and up, like we try to talk to these girls to  
19 have respect for themselves, and we tell them, you  
20 know, there's all kinds of men going to be here  
21 again in our territory and, you know, things are  
22 going to happen. And you have to learn how to  
23 respect yourself and, you know, I think that's  
24 where all our -- that's a part where it scares us  
25 the most is once again all these people will be

1 here again. I'm talking about the men.

2 And the elders were saying to, when we  
3 go to meetings, that Conawapa is the one that's  
4 going to kill us. Like we have been through, we  
5 survived three dams, and a whole bunch of us are  
6 still in the process of healing from those past  
7 dams, and a lot of us are still stuck with their  
8 addictions. And a lot of people turn to alcohol,  
9 I guess, just to numb the pain that they are  
10 feeling.

11 For me, I have -- I am living a  
12 different lifestyle now, like I'll be sober 27  
13 years on Saturday. And I'm a counsellor, I talk  
14 to the kids.

15 And when I say about discrimination  
16 too is, I live on Kettle Crescent, you know, it  
17 was named, oh, people on Sesame Street. Like you  
18 know over here, right across from the hospital.  
19 But it took us a lot of years to try to get an  
20 urban reserve there. Finally, back in  
21 September 9, 2010, we did get a reserve status,  
22 urban, and it's called A Kwis Ki Mahka, where the  
23 term, it means where it turns, because the switch  
24 for the train turns around over here.

25 And I think a couple of these elders

1 wanted to talk and that they were comfortable with  
2 me translating for them. So that's all I wanted  
3 to share. Thank you.

4 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much,  
5 Mrs. Lockhart. Is there anyone else who wishes to  
6 make a presentation this afternoon?

7 MR. SPENCE: Good afternoon ladies and  
8 gentlemen, my name is John Spence. I'm a Fox Lake  
9 band member and I've lived here all my life. What  
10 they speak of today is truly true of the past that  
11 Hydro had. I guess in your world, new things  
12 which is great.

13 THE CHAIRMAN: Could I interrupt, sir,  
14 Mr. Spence? We'd just like to have you affirm  
15 your testimony will be true.

16 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Spence, are you  
17 aware that it is an offence in Manitoba to  
18 knowingly mislead this commission?

19 MR. SPENCE: I suppose, yeah.  
20 John Spence: Sworn.

21 MR. SPENCE: Once again, my name is  
22 John Spence. I'm a happy to be here, I was  
23 shortly informed that there was a big thing  
24 happening here with Manitoba Hydro. I'm a  
25 permanent resident of Gillam, I am affiliated with



1 Fox Lake band and with my band members also. I  
2 guess from day one, I have been living here all my  
3 life.

4           When Hydro started from the beginning  
5 they came in here and, boom, they just developed  
6 and didn't consult with the people that live here.  
7 But there were -- I still had the names stomped on  
8 my head, they called us squanderers, squanderers  
9 of our own land. I said how can we be squanderers  
10 of our own land? And yet these people come here  
11 and develop power for the world, which is great I  
12 say for the new world. But in the process that we  
13 were more like stepped on or neglected. All these  
14 procedures are created, like today there are  
15 trying to develop Keeyask dam, and then they talk  
16 about Conawapa dam, which is great. But the thing  
17 I want to talk about is that more and more, Sophie  
18 mentioned that more southerners are going to be  
19 coming down here. We went through these  
20 obstacles, and I guess diversity of changing our  
21 way to the English way of life, which was hard.

22           Like a lot of us don't have the grade  
23 12 education and all the nice paperwork that you  
24 guys did. But I went to school too and did some  
25 upgrading. I came from an alcoholic family in

1 this town. When Hydro came in there was a lot of  
2 parties and good times. I guess that was the good  
3 part of it.

4                   We let Hydro do what they wanted to  
5 do. But in the process of all of this, I just  
6 want to explain that there's still a lot of  
7 hardship out there by Hydro people that are, I  
8 guess the word will be cold shoulders towards us.  
9 And then whenever they see us walking around or  
10 something, maybe on this Hydro street, and they  
11 will be, oh, there's a guy walking, I wonder what  
12 he is doing there? Right away they get curious if  
13 we're doing wrong, you know, getting slandered,  
14 for example.

15                   Every day I get harassed when I just  
16 live next door from this building, I live in a Fox  
17 Lake band house that was built in 1970. And I  
18 changed my ways too. Like I said, I came from an  
19 alcoholic family. I had four heart attacks. Now  
20 I'm a staying sober for 15 years and I'm raising  
21 my son. He's ten years old. And I'm making it by  
22 as I sober up. In the process, I'm raising my  
23 boy.

24                   With all these years that I lived here  
25 and Hydro was developing and all that, like it's

1 bullying and harassing and slander going on here  
2 among the Hydro people and us people. But most of  
3 all, like with me personally, they are watching me  
4 because I'm a big boy, you know. And I tell  
5 people, man to man, we'll talk. Like I don't want  
6 nothing happening to my boy today what they used  
7 to do to me, bullying me in school. Anybody  
8 bullies my boy today, I'll go deal with it. I  
9 even told the RCMP that it's a right, it's a law  
10 now that kids don't get bullied. And my son has  
11 been getting bullied. And I used to get bullied  
12 too in Gillam school. Like Hydro built this town,  
13 I used to get bullied.

14           The thing is, when I go complain about  
15 my son getting bullied, then a Sergeant will say  
16 get out, go complain to the school. And this is  
17 part of the diversity that we live through, it's  
18 part of neglecting us. You're okay, get out. For  
19 years and years, people are treated like that in  
20 Gillam, cold shoulder.

21           Like today I'm still getting watched  
22 by Hydro. I went to the RCMP, for example, Gillam  
23 services worker almost ran me over and I reported  
24 to the RCMP about four times. All they did was go  
25 talk to him, stay away from me. But I talked to

1 one official in Gillam services named Rick, I  
2 don't know his last name, but Rick. I complained,  
3 and yet today that person will use the Hydro  
4 vehicle, drive by my place stalking me, watching  
5 me. And then on weekends he'll use his vehicle,  
6 drive by my place and watch me, stalk me. I  
7 remember the last words he said to me, this  
8 Clifford Spence. He says, I'm going to make sure  
9 you lose your child. And I turned around, you'd  
10 better watch it because I'll do something. That's  
11 my blood, and I'm looking after my son today,  
12 sober, and things like this.

13           There's much more I could say about my  
14 place that's just a block from here. Even retired  
15 Hydro employee fired me when I used to work for  
16 Gillam services, no cause. I got class one, I'm  
17 an operator driver. He fired me, here is a pink  
18 slip, sign this, I don't want no trouble. Me too,  
19 I don't want no trouble. So I was forced to sign  
20 that. And ever since then I never got called back  
21 to Gillam services. The retired guy that fired  
22 me, he gave my job I, think it was George Buttson.  
23 Now he's a truck driver-operator.

24           Well, that's good for them, I hope  
25 they do good work in this town. Because I like

1 this town the way they built, look at this nice  
2 building, this building they built too. It never  
3 was here when I was a little kid living across the  
4 track in a little shack. My dad worked for CN.  
5 And the thing is, I hope in the future when there  
6 are more people that come into this community from  
7 down south to build dams have a little more  
8 respect to us people.

9           Like I'm getting old and I had four  
10 heart attacks. I don't know how much more  
11 borrowed time I can ride on to defend whoever is  
12 getting bullied. I do my thing out there on the  
13 road. I go, hey, come and fight me, leave that  
14 guy alone, he's drunk. Things happen like that.  
15 And I'm expressing that I am in pain too.

16           Like you look at page 6, they talk  
17 about this, all these things they mention on page  
18 6, grievance and all that. You can see -- where  
19 is my people? They are all protesting not to come  
20 here. This is part of that echo that Manitoba  
21 Hydro is developing, dictating to this land of  
22 ours.

23           And I have my differences too but I  
24 don't exercise them. I speak to different people  
25 like you senior people. I have friends out there,

1 teachers, judges and that, I talk to them. The  
2 best thing they tell me is put your hands in your  
3 pocket, maybe get a tape-recorder, record these  
4 guys. I don't know. I don't need to do nothing  
5 like that. Like I get things out of my head, not  
6 to keep it there, hey. Because I had been abused  
7 too by the system.

8 I was going to start a taxi business  
9 right in just next block from here I live, I got a  
10 house. I built a garage, a garage already. I had  
11 a Dodge van, a rebuilt motor, a rebuilt  
12 transmission, I was going to use it for taxi, for  
13 storage. But I had my family in Nelson House and  
14 get together, my common-law and that. Every time  
15 I go there, there's stuff missing and tear down.  
16 Hydro people going there tearing it down. And yet  
17 it is my property, Crown land, reserve land, and  
18 my house is on Crown land and reserve land and  
19 they trespass.

20 Today I could take you there, just  
21 next door, just in the corner, one clothes line  
22 there. Where is the other clothes line? Hydro  
23 tore it down, just like they tore my garage down.  
24 I still have ambition to start a taxi business for  
25 my son, for his future.

1                   Like I said, there's a lot of pain  
2    that us people that are caring, and the way they  
3    are protesting is not showing up to these very  
4    important meetings like this. Like I go around  
5    and talk to the people on the street and  
6    everything, hey. And I try to encourage, come to  
7    the meeting, let's hear this out. Nah, we are not  
8    going to get nothing, they are going to go ahead  
9    and do it like they did when they did the Kettle  
10   dam. They just went right ahead, bulldozer, built  
11   things and everything like that. And yet I still  
12   live here, and I got my old house and I'm trying  
13   to maintain it.

14                  I learned a little bit -- I went to  
15   school in grade five up here, and I was getting  
16   abused and that. No more, I turned 15, out the  
17   back door I went. Today I cry, I kick myself in  
18   the pants I did it that, because I wish I can read  
19   and write like you guys, nice writing, typing.  
20   But I went back on the street and learned. And I  
21   have my class one today, I got class one there and  
22   I am an operator-truck driver. I changed my life,  
23   because I had four heart attacks and I'm on  
24   borrowed time to look after my son.

25                  I couldn't get the rest of my five

1 kids and my common-law to come because still  
2 alcohol was in the picture. And today I do not  
3 drink. I'm always pretty happy. I get shaky, I'm  
4 scared to confront people like you guys. I'm  
5 happy that you get to hear us, the little people  
6 that come out to hear you important people. And I  
7 say it's good work. It's a step for us too that  
8 you hear us, you could hear my voice. I'm all  
9 shaky and all trembling. Maybe I'm happy or sad.  
10 But still today I walk the streets, I get  
11 intimidated by Hydro people that come by my house.  
12 Every morning, 7:00, come down the road by my  
13 house, ooh, I can't sleep in.

14                   And another thing, it is a constant  
15 thing, but I don't know what else to say. I think  
16 things will turn out good for our people that you  
17 guys hear us, and I hope also like all the  
18 authorities like the RCMP and the game wardens,  
19 whenever we go do something, right away they are  
20 onto our neck. Hey, you got licence, you got a  
21 permit for that? When they confront to me, I pull  
22 out my Treaty card. Hey, this is the Federal  
23 Treaty, you're talking to a Treaty Indian. And  
24 they don't care about that. And yet the  
25 government made the Treaty for us, didn't they?



1 Hey? Didn't they write it up? Yet we are trying  
2 to live -- I go do things, I go to the game  
3 warden, I tell him I'm going to go get a gun and I  
4 am going to walk that way and go hunting. And I  
5 hope nobody goes there because I'm actually using  
6 my Treaty Rights and my Treaty card right here.

7                   And they say, I hope you got a permit.  
8 Why? You look under Treaty 5. I thought all  
9 these laws and regulations are all for you modern  
10 people that come up here. But instead you use  
11 that as a tool to corrupt our traditional ways. I  
12 can't even go out there with a gun today or I'll  
13 get arrested or charged or harassed.

14                   And yet I see Hydro guys take a skidoo  
15 or plane, they go hunting. Just like papa said,  
16 they see moose and caribou at the dump. We don't  
17 throw those things away, we eat them, make soup,  
18 we still have our ways. And yet development is --  
19 they are not going to hear us, but gradually built  
20 their way like they did when they built Kettle  
21 dam. We didn't exist they said. We're talking  
22 today. And just want to say that I hope things  
23 turn out a bit better.

24                   And I still like -- well, I'm not  
25 being in a way objective against Hydro, but in a

1 way I favour the development, like people will all  
2 work, like Canada, Canadian, I don't know. I'm a  
3 little confused too maybe, but I hope the best  
4 like I said. Thank you very much. That's all I  
5 wanted to say.

6 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Spence.  
7 Does anyone else wish to say anything?

8 MS. PETERS: My name is Sara Peters  
9 from Fox Lake.  
10 Sara Peters: Sworn.

11 THE INTERPRETER: She just said she  
12 just wants to tell a little bit about how she was  
13 brought up, you know, along on the trap lines.  
14 She said she never went to school. She says she  
15 was on the land all the time. She says she was  
16 taught all the skills at a young age, she was  
17 taught a lot of stuff. She said the hardest time  
18 was in the winter time. She said there was hard  
19 work for people in those days. She said with her  
20 family, they worked hard. She says nowadays when  
21 trappers go out there, it's a lot easier for them,  
22 they have skidoos. A long time ago it wasn't that  
23 easy, they only had dog teams. She said they went  
24 all over, like by dog team in the winter time,  
25 they went all over the place, camping along the

1 trap lines. She said long time ago there was no  
2 registered trap lines like now today. In those  
3 days everybody just trapped wherever they camped.

4 She says she got to Gillam in 1958.  
5 She said there was hardly anybody here, just the  
6 native people and some Metis people. I guess the  
7 only employment around here was the Canadian  
8 National Railways, which is CNR. She says they  
9 used their means -- way of survival was they did a  
10 lot of hunting and fishing. She said she wanted  
11 to share how trapping was done a long time ago.

12 I just told her she can.

13 Oh, she said when Hydro started, they  
14 heard that Hydro was going to start working here,  
15 I guess she said the chief they had, the first  
16 Chief, what was his name -- Seminan Beardy, didn't  
17 really speak English and he didn't understand what  
18 he was being told, like what was going to happen  
19 here.

20 I guess it was the Indian agent that  
21 said pick the land here. That's when the old  
22 chief, they used to call him, didn't understand.  
23 It wasn't interpreted to him.

24 I jumped ahead of her because I know a  
25 little bit of that story, how that old chief

1 didn't understand it. And she says you have to  
2 tell them that he didn't understand how everything  
3 was interpreted. I says, well, I told them  
4 already.

5 She figures that Manitoba Hydro first  
6 came here in 1962, or somewhere around there. She  
7 said they just came right in and started their  
8 work. They didn't even consult with the members  
9 what they were going to do.

10 And she says that's all she wanted to  
11 share because that's all she knows. She knows  
12 that there's always -- I want to say non native  
13 people working here all the time.

14 Okay. She says today too she's got  
15 children that don't speak our language, the Cree  
16 language, because that's all they hung around with  
17 is, when they were young, is non native kids.

18 She says she would like to stop there  
19 because she is getting too emotional. Ekosi.

20 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much  
21 Mrs. Peters, and thank you Mrs. Lockhart for  
22 helping her.

23 MS. BEARDY: My name is Catherine  
24 Beardy from Fox Lake.

25 MS. JOHNSON: You stated your name.

1 Catherine Beardy: Sworn.

2 THE INTERPRETER: She got here in 1956  
3 from York Factory. I used to live at Fox Lake.  
4 That's what they were talking about Atkinson, but  
5 it was Fox Lake.

6 There was no work yet -- oh, there was  
7 no Hydro work yet. They used to live across at  
8 Limestone. We used to go fishing at Limestone.  
9 The fish they used to catch were beautiful fish,  
10 they were good. Not today, there's a big change  
11 in the fish. Now today they don't taste the same,  
12 they taste terrible. Some of the Sturgeon that is  
13 caught today can't even be eaten.

14 We used to pick berries all the time,  
15 now we can't do that anymore. Right now where  
16 they used to pick berries, it's all sand. All the  
17 things that our children grew up on was all  
18 destroyed. There was a creek, they used to get  
19 fish from a little creek. They used to dry them.  
20 And today there's nothing.

21 There used to be a lot of trees there  
22 but now there's none, they have been all  
23 destroyed, probably because of the clearing and  
24 that, hey. When Hydro came they cleared it all  
25 out.

1                   They used to go fishing in Conawapa.

2   And again, today there's nothing. It's just  
3   getting dry, the water is dry. Ever since they  
4   built the dams, it's been dry.

5                   Hydro doesn't even know how the people  
6   used to live and they didn't seem like to care  
7   about it. And now they want to help us. The  
8   trapline, my husband used to have a trapline,  
9   totally destroyed.

10                  It bothers me a lot now what had  
11   happened. I live here in Gillam now, and it's  
12   because of all the flooding, there's been a lot of  
13   flooding.

14                  There's water by the airport, it might  
15   be the pumphouse she's talking about, that her  
16   daughter almost drowned there.

17                  THE CHAIRMAN: I'm sorry, I didn't  
18   hear you?

19                  THE INTERPRETER: There's water there  
20   where people go swimming, where the water went  
21   high and her daughter almost drowned there.

22                  The youth today still think they can  
23   do what was done before today, but can't be.  
24   There's nothing for them today. The ducks even  
25   don't -- they don't stay because what they eat,

1 that's in the river, because of what's happened in  
2 the river, so they don't taste like they used to.

3 My husband used to trap down at  
4 Conawapa, and now his boat was destroyed in the  
5 water. When they open the floodgates, whenever  
6 they do open the floodgates the water rises. Even  
7 though his canoe or his boat is further down the  
8 river, when they open the gates, the water floods  
9 down and still destroyed his boat. It washed away  
10 the boat and motor.

11 That's where my husband used to trap,  
12 just my grandson has ridden on the trapline as a  
13 helper I guess. She's afraid because her grandson  
14 William is doing the trapline, trapping there, and  
15 they don't really know how it is. He traps across  
16 the river so he has to cross I guess. That's  
17 where it worries her a lot.

18 Hydro really destroyed a lot of things  
19 and a lot of people know it. Trees, land, water  
20 and fish, Hydro has destroyed.

21 That's enough for now, my interpreter  
22 is not too good she says. She says thank you, I  
23 just wanted to let you know what has been hurting  
24 us through Hydro. She is glad you came and she  
25 thanks you for it.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

2 MS. BEARDY: Thank you.

3 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much,  
4 Mrs. Beardy.

5 MS. JOHNSON: Could you tell us your  
6 name, please?

7 Elizabeth Beardy: Sworn.

8 THE INTERPRETER: She just said she  
9 wants to share a little bit since she has been  
10 here.

11 She says the people that talked before  
12 her, she says she knows the stuff that they went  
13 through, like how they lived long time ago and  
14 that's how she lived too.

15 She says her parents brought them up  
16 as best as they can. She said whatever they ate,  
17 she said it was really nice. Because even though  
18 they didn't get anything from the store, it was  
19 wild food.

20 She said they only stayed in  
21 Shamattawa for you know, but when her dad started  
22 trapping that's when they started going out on the  
23 land with them.

24 She says in the summer time they would  
25 go back to Shamattawa. The only way they survived



1 over there is by fishing and hunting.

2 She says she doesn't remember what  
3 year they got here but -- she's my aunt by the  
4 way. She says your uncle came here to look for  
5 work and that's why they ended up over here.

6 She says now everything has changed.  
7 Even the taste in the fish and the wild food  
8 doesn't taste the same. She said she got a piece  
9 of sturgeon from someone. She says when the meat  
10 like the sturgeon was really black, she said she  
11 couldn't eat it, they had to throw it out. She  
12 says not only the fish and everything else doesn't  
13 taste right, ever since hydro started work here.  
14 Even sometimes she says they can't drink the  
15 water.

16 She said they were driving by Long  
17 Spruce and they happened to look down you know  
18 where the water is and it was icy. She said there  
19 was a caribou that was stuck there in the ice.

20 Okay. Another thing, she said  
21 something about the caribou, is I guess she kind  
22 of found it funny when Manitoba Hydro said they  
23 were going to build a bridge for the caribou to  
24 cross. And I don't know, she didn't really  
25 understand I guess, like build a bridge. Manitoba

1 Hydro is going to build a bridge for the caribou  
2 to go across? She says to me she didn't  
3 understand why you know, it's going to be done  
4 that way, if it's going to be done.

5 And she said that's all she wanted to  
6 share.

7 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

8 MR. MOOSE: Again my name is Ivan  
9 Moose, yes and yes.

10 The reason why I wanted to come up I  
11 wanted to give you an idea, these stories you are  
12 hearing should give you an idea of why our  
13 distrust of hydro. In the 1960's, my  
14 brother-in-law was a chief right after the old  
15 chief. My brother-in-law Neepin was the chief  
16 when Hydro was up here and they started having  
17 these town hall meetings. Everybody was invited  
18 except the chief of Fox Lake. Everything that  
19 happened excluded Fox Lake. And a decision made  
20 in the town or about the town about the area that  
21 we lived here, Fox Lake was excluded. If you look  
22 across the tracks there we had good homes there.  
23 One time they were talking to the people, at the  
24 time the chief was the one they talked about  
25 Beardy, the lady that raised me, that was her

1 brother. They didn't speak very good English.  
2 What happened was he was told there was going to  
3 be some work done by Manitoba Hydro and the  
4 government. At the time there was no really  
5 interpretation of any kind provided. So  
6 agreements were easy. One party doesn't  
7 understand what the other party is saying.

8 Little did they realize what was  
9 happening was their homes were going to be moved  
10 or destroyed because of a power line that was  
11 going to be put across the tracks.

12 I remember them telling my  
13 grandfather, the one that raised me, that we have  
14 to move across the tracks. They are going to  
15 build houses for us because the powerlines they  
16 were going to put in, it was going to be healthy.

17 The other story he told the old  
18 people, so many people getting killed by the  
19 freight trains going across. If you check in  
20 history, I think there was only two or three  
21 people in those days when the trains were real  
22 busy that got killed.

23 Because there was nobody to speak for  
24 us in those days, we were very taken advantage of  
25 our elders and our elders chief. That's one of

1 the reasons Wes Neepin quit too. He worked for  
2 CN, but he was the chief at the same time. He had  
3 no understanding of certain letters. He had a  
4 young man at the time to help him read the  
5 letters, his name was Tommy and he became chief  
6 later on.

7                   What we're building up for you guys to  
8 understand is we are trying to build a foundation  
9 for you to understand that our distrust, we had  
10 been lied to, stepped on, spit on, raped,  
11 everything, and we want to get past that.

12                   To this day we're having a hard time  
13 getting past because we're still being lied to,  
14 not told the whole truth. We're consulted after  
15 everything is started. It's very rare that we're  
16 consulted before anything starts or in the process  
17 of something happening. Then we're told we're  
18 going to have a meeting. Many times these little  
19 workshops or meetings we do have are considered  
20 consultations. Many times it's specified in our  
21 meetings, these are not consultations for us,  
22 we're not supporting any projects. We have always  
23 said that, always made sure that it was clear. At  
24 times it has been taken that we support projects  
25 because we sit down and talk to Hydro employees or

1 hydro reps or whatever, province.

2 I just want to make that clear for you  
3 to understand how we feel about Hydro. Nothing  
4 personal with the people or for Hydro, it's the  
5 corporation. It's owned by Manitoba. So there's  
6 a certain distrust with Manitoba, too. I want you  
7 to understand that. I want you to understand why  
8 we feel the way we feel. It's never personal.  
9 It's the corporation at Fox Lake that aren't  
10 walking in the same area right now, even today.  
11 We're still having problems. Until they sit down  
12 and treat us like they treat their people, give us  
13 the same things they are getting. Like every year  
14 I see houses being built. I see Fox Lake people  
15 building houses, not for us, for Hydro.

16 It gets very hurtful when I see my  
17 elders, all the suffering they did and they are  
18 still doing a lot of suffering. Nothing has  
19 changed. They told us when Hydro came things are  
20 going to be different for us, beautiful homes and  
21 better homes, better education. Many of us quit  
22 school because while in school we were ignored.  
23 We'd have our hands up but we were never paid  
24 attention to. They had yard sticks to stomp our  
25 hands or whatever.

1           The people that got attention were the  
2 kids, non Native, we called them then hydro kids.  
3 We still do, but you know what I mean. It's hard  
4 even for me today to really fully trust Hydro.

5           I have a brother in Grand Rapids. He  
6 always told me the people you negotiate with that  
7 is the government and Hydro are not your friends.  
8 You deal with them as -- I forget the word he  
9 used, but he always said make sure there's not too  
10 much trust in it. Because they are not your  
11 friends. Friends don't do what Hydro did to us,  
12 or partners. They want a partnership with us,  
13 partnership is when you treat each other equally,  
14 trustfully, honestly, you know, not do things  
15 behind each other's back.

16           So there again, I say that's the  
17 distrust we have with Hydro. I want to make sure  
18 you guys understand that. You know, it's going to  
19 be hard for us to really have full trust until  
20 we're given full benefits with Hydro. Thanks. I  
21 could say more, but we only got till five.  
22 Thanks.

23           THE CHAIRMAN: I think you may have  
24 said it. Where do you start or where do we or  
25 where does the whole community start to build that

1 trust?

2 MR. MOOSE: I think it was brought up  
3 in that adverse effects. Give us what we need to  
4 heal ourselves, give us the resources, help us  
5 rebuild our homes, not trailers: We need to be on  
6 equal ground. That's all we're asking. This is  
7 our land, we were here long before anybody was.  
8 You know, even the government, reserve in Cree, it  
9 means leftover land. It's exactly where we are.  
10 We are still on that leftover land, everywhere we  
11 go. Thanks.

12 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you Mr. Moose.,  
13 Are there any others who wish to make  
14 a presentation? Maybe we should take a short  
15 break and then if anyone decides in the next ten  
16 or 15 minutes they want to make a presentation,  
17 we'll give them an opportunity. Let's come back  
18 at 3:00 o'clock, please.

19 (Proceedings recessed at 2:45 and  
20 reconvened at 3:00 p.m.)

21 THE CHAIRMAN: Can we come back to  
22 order, please. Are there any more members of the  
23 public who wish to make presentations? Anybody  
24 have any questions for hydro officials while we're  
25 here? Mr. Massan? Are you just going to ask a

1 question or make some comment as well?

2 MR. MASSAN: Maybe I can make some  
3 comment as well.

4 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. We'll have you  
5 affirm then.

6 MR. MASSAN: Okay.

7 MS. JOHNSON: Could you please state  
8 your name for the record.

9 MR. MASSAN: Noah Massan, Fox Lake.  
10 Noah Massan: Sworn.

11 THE CHAIRMAN: Go ahead.

12 MR. MASSAN: First of all I'll tell  
13 you a little bit about our little town. As far as  
14 I can remember, I've been living here since, I  
15 don't know, late 50's. It was a beautiful little  
16 town. We had three stores, we had two restaurants  
17 and a station, post office. It was real good.  
18 Everybody -- there was few white people here like  
19 Len Gordon, Billy Grey. There was three stores  
20 right beside each other. Everybody worked  
21 together, just like a big family, happy family.  
22 And then as time passed, I remember the elders  
23 talking about Kelsey about building a dam. I used  
24 to wonder why there were changes, old people.  
25 There goes our food, our water. I keep thinking



1 about that.

2 Later on, I see the fish tastes  
3 different and you can't drink the water on the  
4 Nelson River. Before it was clear, you can just  
5 get a cup while you are travelling around. Them  
6 days are gone.

7 And another thing, in Gillam, we used  
8 to open our door, how beautiful those rapids used  
9 to be. There used to be a rapids by Kettle.  
10 That's gone. How come Manitoba Hydro -- there's  
11 no one in the world that can pay for what damage  
12 they did to our -- that was our road. Long time  
13 ago people used to go back and forth on the Nelson  
14 River. That was our road a long time ago.  
15 Because my dad used to tell me, my grandfather,  
16 learn to respect the water, and just take what you  
17 want. So I have been doing this all along too.  
18 When my dad and grandparents taught me.

19 Another thing when Hydro first  
20 started, I remember Hydro, it was in the 60's when  
21 they started drilling in Kettle, that place they  
22 call Keeyask, called rapids. When they come here  
23 they were drilling, that was Midwest at that time,  
24 and they were drilling all the way right toward  
25 Limestone. That's when they started. And then

1 BACM come here in 1964, I think it's in '64. I  
2 was 14 years old at that time. I got kicked out  
3 of school, there was three of us, because we  
4 talked in our own language, our own Cree language.  
5 So we got kicked out. But instead of going home,  
6 BACM had an office there by our school. So I knew  
7 my dad was going to get me heck for getting kicked  
8 out. But my language, they can't tell me I can't  
9 talk my language in school.

10 Then '64, BACM come here. They were  
11 going to put water and sewer. I think Hydro come  
12 sometime around that area too. I remember Hydro  
13 didn't give our people a chance to take their  
14 belongings out of their houses. They were pushed.  
15 There's one on railway there, what you call it,  
16 that old lady whose husband was working for CN.  
17 He couldn't understand English. He's going to  
18 wait until five o'clock until his old man comes  
19 off the CN, you know. He was on the rails. But  
20 by the time he come home, Hydro just pushed that  
21 house, all his belongings. That happened right  
22 along the railway, just where you go there's a  
23 stop sign there. I remember that place.

24 There was a Hydro guy by the name of  
25 Mr. Veen. I remember him, because I started

1 working at that time too because that guy gave you  
2 a chance to work because I told him I don't want  
3 to go home, I'd rather work. He gave me a chance  
4 to work, just clean around the office. That's  
5 when my work started.

6                   Anyways BAC Mwas putting water and  
7 sewer in our community. You guys going to have  
8 running water. But where LDD sits there was  
9 fences in the sands over there. They knocked  
10 their houses down. Just for that town, like Hydro  
11 took over that land. Right now it is LDD's  
12 property over there.

13                   Sorry I'm getting braver now as I talk  
14 here. First I was nervous.

15                   After consultants come in, they call  
16 them McNamara when that first construction come  
17 in, McNamara, and they changed their name to  
18 Kettle. I think you remember that. I think you  
19 were here. And then everything went wrong. Like  
20 the diversion in our beautiful river, Butneau  
21 river, that was a beautiful river. They diverted  
22 to Cass Lake, it goes around the Kettle river.  
23 And then that is my trapline area, that used to be  
24 my dad's and other people. I'm holding that  
25 trapline now. But my dad said always keep

1 fighting about trapline issues. I've been going  
2 to a lot of meetings in Manitoba Hydro projects  
3 description. I always bring it up about that  
4 diversion, how beautiful our river used to be,  
5 lots of fish. Now it's gone, you know. There's a  
6 diversion there. And the fish haven't come around  
7 there yet. Used to be beautiful white fish there,  
8 too. And animals too, same thing. After the  
9 flood, I seen when that flood happened, I seen it  
10 too, I was walking in the right place at the  
11 powerhouse.

12                   You know, I seen Hydro, they had a tug  
13 boat, after that forebay started to come, before  
14 that they were cutting brush along the shoreline.  
15 Hydro said they are only going to flood this far  
16 back, 300 feet I think they cut brush. All the  
17 other bush stayed. I'm looking at the river now,  
18 they lied to the people in my community. You  
19 know, why didn't they say we're going to flood so  
20 far out and they should have cut all those trees.  
21 But a lot of those islands, when the trees floated  
22 up, and then there was birds nests on these  
23 islands, seagulls. They all got flooded out.  
24 Hydro didn't care. I used to see things floating  
25 in that -- when Hydro was pushing these islands.

1 After the dam was there, they let the water in the  
2 spillway so all that debris will go out. And then  
3 they are on a tug boat, they had a rake. These  
4 guys were pushing these islands through the  
5 spillway. They had no concern about what's down  
6 the river that time. Hydro didn't care. But I  
7 seen it, look, there was an island there. They  
8 had an eagle nest on top of the big trees. And  
9 caribou too, moose, same thing happened, beavers,  
10 they all got flooded out. You know, how come  
11 Manitoba flood this thing during the spring?  
12 During the summer time, so the beavers will have  
13 better chance to make their houses, not when they  
14 start flooding, all those things around, they  
15 don't have time to make their new houses.

16 That's what I seen in my days, you  
17 know. Because I work in all these dams too, all  
18 the way down right to Conawapa. You know, there  
19 were a lot of nice people back in -- like back in  
20 the '80s, a lot of nice Hydro people. No  
21 discrimination, everybody was just like a family,  
22 like there was Oscar, the guy from Gimli here, all  
23 different names. But I work with a lot of people  
24 too, when I was working in these dams. I knew  
25 some of them gave me a hard time but I show them

1 I'm not a quitter.

2 But I managed to work all these dams.

3 I understand the people that gave me the job, one  
4 of them was Terry -- Tom Cummings. Henry Hiebert,  
5 Don, those are the people I can name. There were  
6 a lot of nice people in Hydro too. They used to  
7 come to my house when there was work, they used to  
8 say I never refused a job. I like work and I  
9 still do. I'm 62 now. I still train with --  
10 Manitoba heavy equipment get me to come do some  
11 training, heavy equipment. I still move around.  
12 Like I might not get up in those big machines now,  
13 but still --

14 I notice everything was running well.  
15 I noticed things started changing in late '80s,  
16 like discrimination, First Nation people. That's  
17 when it -- that's when I feel it started. Because  
18 when I first started working for the outfit, the  
19 Yanke, like from the States, in Limestone, I was  
20 the second -- the guys they said you are a little  
21 bit too young to be a cat skinner. But I didn't  
22 tell them I can be an operator. Well, John  
23 Banville didn't tell them, I can run all them  
24 machines. I just kind of proved it that I can do  
25 it, because when that camp in '72 when they shut

1 that down, the government, after they made the  
2 culvert and the new government come in, they shut  
3 it down for a while. So we had to clean our mess  
4 there by the office. I pushed all those rocks.  
5 And the Yanke asked me see if you can level that.  
6 But I dug all the big rocks. I pushed them  
7 anyway, so. But I proved I can do a job. And  
8 they learned to respect me at that outfit. I  
9 worked for them for right till the job started.  
10 And they even gave me a chance to go to Kosovo,  
11 two years after the dam was finished, to go  
12 training those people, they didn't know how to  
13 push rock. I got a call from San Francisco. But  
14 my other half didn't want me to go. I wanted to  
15 go. But there was another guy from Winnipeg when  
16 they were learning those people to be drillers.  
17 And, you know, five guys during the day, drilling  
18 they got stabbed. That's what he told me. I seen  
19 him in Winnipeg, I think he used to be a  
20 Finlander. He was a jeweler, a boss over here in  
21 Kettle and that. Everybody first name anyways.  
22 Okay. I will now get back to stuff I  
23 know about my community. You know, what I see.  
24 Like all these rapids we are losing and the fish  
25 are all going away, fish are not the same. Look

1 at Limestone, starting to ship here, building it,  
2 all that blasting and all that. Now they are  
3 starting to come back and now you want to go build  
4 Conawapa. You know, you guys went touring in the  
5 dams the other day. But too bad Hydro didn't give  
6 you guys a chopper ride to look at the river from  
7 Limestone to Conawapa, see how beautiful it is.  
8 Island over the rapids, they call Spider Island,  
9 sturgeon spawn there, what is going to happen to  
10 that area? And the moose used that island in the  
11 winter, because there's a chopper who told me one  
12 time there was 12 moose there to get away from the  
13 wolves and that, I guess. It's a little island.  
14 So what is going to happen to that? You know,  
15 when it's flooded, you guys should get Hydro to  
16 give you a chopper ride. Look at it, it's a  
17 beautiful river. One side Conawapa goes. That's  
18 another line for the sturgeon and trout, and our  
19 people have got to go further down the rivers to  
20 go fishing. And the people don't have money to go  
21 just jump on the boat and Hydro is to provide  
22 something. They are the ones blocking our river  
23 to make that Keeyask project. Where you going to  
24 put the dam? I've been sitting on that project  
25 description meeting too. Where you are going to



1 put that dam, sturgeon spawn right in that area.

2 What's going to happen to those sturgeon?

3           You know, a long time ago, our people  
4 when they were talking about Kelsey building, my  
5 dad and some other people they said they should  
6 build fish ladders for these fish to go up. But  
7 my dad talked to Hydro people over here, some  
8 people, but they didn't listen to him. You know,  
9 and I brought that up in this meeting. We had a  
10 fish passage. They are talking about fish  
11 passage, Manitoba Hydro. I went there a couple of  
12 times. They talk about we brought that up about  
13 fish ladders. We should have fish ladders in  
14 these dams, but they keep saying our overhead is  
15 too high. But Quebec Hydro is right in there in  
16 Thompson and telling them that it works. Because  
17 there's a picture of it, they were helping  
18 sturgeon. They were even see flying sturgeon in a  
19 chopper over the dam in the start before they got  
20 the ladder. How come Hydro can't do that for the  
21 other fish? I know they are going to have a  
22 hatchery go in, but you know.

23           Like there's hardly any water --  
24 North/South too they are studying fish. How come  
25 they are not sitting here with these Hydro people

1 to hear about our animals and our fish. They  
2 should be here around this meeting. That is  
3 another thing, I was wondering why they are not  
4 here. You know --

5 THE CHAIRMAN: I can answer that,  
6 Noah, that our intention when we came into Gillam  
7 and other communities outside of Winnipeg is not  
8 to bring the whole gang of people. And we will  
9 hear from officials from those other companies,  
10 North/South and various other companies that did  
11 work for Manitoba Hydro. Actually I should  
12 correct myself. I'm not sure if North/South did  
13 any of the work on the Bipole, so we won't be  
14 hearing from North/South in this set of hearings.  
15 But if they did work for Keeyask, then we will  
16 hear from them at that time, and it's about a year  
17 from now. But there are other officials that we  
18 will be hearing from Hydro when we resume the  
19 hearings back in Winnipeg. And, you know, some of  
20 the questions, like the questions about sturgeon  
21 aren't related to Bipole, but when we get to  
22 Keeyask we'll certainly be asking those questions  
23 of the officials.

24 MR. MASSAN: But the way I look at it,  
25 it does relate to it. Why build a power line?

1 You need a dam. It's going to be related, you  
2 know, that's how I see it. All these powerlines,  
3 like they need a dam in that Keewatinoow. You  
4 know that station there. You're going to have a  
5 dam. And now they are going to build Keeyask? I  
6 don't know what's going on here.

7 THE CHAIRMAN: You are right, they are  
8 all --

9 MR. MASSAN: It's all related.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: They are all  
11 interrelated. Our review right now though is just  
12 in respect of the two converter stations and the  
13 transmission line. So it's narrow in some  
14 respect. Our review is narrow to that. But your  
15 comments are very valid. And if they won't come  
16 into play in this set of hearings, they will come  
17 into play during the Keeyask hearings, which will  
18 be next year.

19 MR. MASSAN: Okay. There's another  
20 thing. My trapline is Keeyask area. I don't know  
21 if I should bring this power line issue on the  
22 road to you guys then. Who do I talk to? Hydro?

23 THE CHAIRMAN: If it's related to the  
24 power line then that's part of our review.

25 MR. MASSAN: Okay. All right. That's

1 good because the last meeting we were in Hydro  
2 brought up the transmission line. They are trying  
3 to put some power lines in my trapline. I don't  
4 agree to that. How come they don't use the  
5 existing power line that runs along Kelsey line?  
6 But they are building a power line just a couple  
7 miles south of Gillam. Along there they are  
8 putting that south access road, just to please  
9 Manitoba Hydro. That's how I look at it. How  
10 come they can't use our road? The road is there.  
11 And they are making a road to Keeyask dam right  
12 now as we speak, they are building a road there.  
13 You know, why build a road? And that power line,  
14 they told me it's going to be, in that meeting  
15 that I was in, two football fields they are going  
16 to clean. You know trees will be gone, animals  
17 will be gone, not going to be the same no more.  
18 You're going to see powerlines and hydro lines.  
19 You know, there's going to be a lot of damage in  
20 my area. I know Hydro is trying to buy me out to  
21 move me away. What do I do about that? There's  
22 going to be a road and power line. And then they  
23 are going to put a converter station there too, a  
24 little one, just near where the caribou migrate,  
25 they young ones there in the summer. I've been

1 telling North/South that before the woodland  
2 caribou but they don't want to listen to us. Now  
3 they are putting cameras down and now they are  
4 starting to see caribou in these islands where I  
5 was talking about, or seeing caribou on the  
6 islands, little ones there, you know.

7 THE CHAIRMAN: And these were around  
8 Keeyask?

9 MR. MASSAN: Yeah. Like that Kelsey  
10 line too, down the line about 12 miles, they are  
11 there all summer long. When Kettle was built, you  
12 don't see them no more. You know, what happened  
13 to them? It's got something to do with that power  
14 line I think. That mile board is 312 by the way,  
15 where that used to be. I don't hardly see them.  
16 Once in a while we see a few.

17 THE CHAIRMAN: We will be hearing from  
18 actually different caribou experts, when we get  
19 back to Winnipeg, to talk about some of the  
20 concerns with caribou along this transmission  
21 line.

22 MR. MASSAN: Oh, yeah. Okay. I think  
23 that's fair. I'm going to talk to the  
24 transmission people. I have got an issue about,  
25 he was talking about near misses and other events

1 in Manitoba. I asked him how come that thing is  
2 not on here when the tower went down by Radisson,  
3 the corner tower, it collapsed? I asked him how  
4 come it's not on there. I don't know who I talk  
5 to about that.

6 MR. NEUFELD: My name is Gerald  
7 Neufeld. You are referring to on the  
8 vulnerabilities of the transmission system. I  
9 think if I heard you correctly, you're asking why  
10 there's a tower near Radisson station that  
11 collapsed and it wasn't on the list?

12 MR. MASSAN: Yeah. Corner one, yeah,  
13 right close across the road there. There's two  
14 powerlines that goes to Long Spruce and Limestone.  
15 How come they are not over here? Everything  
16 should be important in the south, what is  
17 happening. How come you don't bring that up on  
18 this side, I noticed.

19 MR. NEUFELD: Yes, and you know our  
20 intent here wasn't to overlook the vulnerabilities  
21 in the north. I can tell you that the -- if you  
22 recall, I referred to the 138,000-volt line that  
23 goes from Radisson to Churchill --

24 MR. MASSAN: It's just across the road  
25 when you go to Long Spruce, the corner tower went

1 down. Now they have got a different tower that  
2 look like L shaped.

3 MR. NEUFELD: Right. So the events  
4 that I talked about here weren't meant to overlook  
5 that things don't happen here, but rather these  
6 events are ones that have the potential of taking  
7 out either Dorsey station or both Bipole I and II.  
8 And so the event that you're speaking of close to  
9 Radisson would take out Radisson, but Henday would  
10 still be in operation. So we could still have one  
11 Bipole. So that's okay for Manitoba.

12 MR. MASSAN: You are going to use two  
13 towers?

14 MR. NEUFELD: No, two lines.

15 MR. MASSAN: Two lines right now?

16 MR. NEUFELD: Yes, two lines or Dorsey  
17 that's the problem.

18 MR. MASSAN: The question I want to  
19 ask is what are those two lines for? Like, all  
20 that power come from all those stations, those two  
21 lines like, two powerlines?

22 MR. NEUFELD: Okay. The Bipole I and  
23 II are fed by Kettle, Long Spruce and Limestone.

24 MR. MASSAN: No, this one is coming  
25 out from Long Spruce and they go to Radisson.

1 MR. NEUFELD: From Long Spruce to  
2 Radisson?

3 MR. MASSAN: I can take you there,  
4 show you that tower standing there.

5 MR. NEUFELD: Okay. So the Long  
6 Spruce to Radisson lines, those are what we call  
7 the collector lines. Those are the lines that are  
8 separate from the AC system in the rest of the  
9 province and they allow Long Spruce power to go to  
10 Radisson or to Henday. So if we lose one or two  
11 of those lines it's a problem, but it's not near  
12 as big a problem as if we lose Dorsey or if we  
13 lose both Bipole I and Bipole II.

14 MR. MASSAN: It had to be a big  
15 problem because Hydro is scrambling, I seen that.

16 MR. NEUFELD: Oh, absolutely, I don't  
17 mean to understate. It is a problem, but it's not  
18 as big a problem as if we lose Dorsey.

19 MR. MASSAN: Okay. Thank you. Next  
20 guy I want to talk to is something to do with  
21 trapping. Where is that? Okay. On the second  
22 page there, respect of trapper value. Okay,  
23 because my trapline runs between dyke four and  
24 dyke five, just a couple of miles down the road  
25 there. I want to tell you, Hydro, they started a



1 skidoo trail. And the game branch didn't even  
2 come to the trappers to let them know what Hydro  
3 is doing, not once. Nobody ever says anything to  
4 the trappers. The way I look at it, Hydro, like  
5 they don't care about the trappers. That's what I  
6 think about it. They put a skidoo trail there,  
7 Hydro pushed it with the dozer from Gillam  
8 service. They pushed it right through to Butneau,  
9 you know where the boat launch is, and then they  
10 pushed it several miles there, it went towards  
11 Cass Lake to go to that DC line, that line that  
12 goes to Kelsey. They push a road out along there.  
13 And then I decided to go for a ride there one  
14 time. There was a sign there. They said you have  
15 to belong to this snow club. The Hydro starteded  
16 this skidoo club. But they didn't even come to  
17 me, like, they didn't even try to find out who is  
18 holding that trapline. You know, that would bug  
19 me.

20                   But then I brought it to chief and  
21 council, I took a picture of that, the people at  
22 Snow Pass, you are going to have to pay ten bucks.  
23 I thought to hell with that, I'm not paying no ten  
24 bucks.

25                   So I brought it to a few Hydro people.

1 They didn't agree to that too. There are some  
2 nice people at Hydro too, they are not all --  
3 there's some people they know me pretty good, they  
4 talk to me. We'll talk to this guy, we'll talk to  
5 this guy. No, get them to come talk to me I told  
6 them. It's my trapline.

7                   So all this has been done. Now there  
8 was a paper, I gave it to the last transmission  
9 people I was talking to, Baker, Travis Baker, I  
10 gave him that paper. It says you get discounts in  
11 these major hotels and discounts in the warehouse.  
12 How come I can't get cards from them without me  
13 paying, you know? It's in my trapline.

14                   And they are trying to build shacks on  
15 my line too, you know. I don't agree to that.  
16 Now you can tell it's Hydro town. I know I am  
17 going on and on. They are like that.

18                   I want to bring you another story.  
19 That marina in Butneau, I think it was built in  
20 1974, because I was with my dad, we went fishing  
21 in the rapids, there was no boat launch there. We  
22 started our boat there. We come back later that  
23 evening, we come to a lot of commotion going on in  
24 there. They are putting in these boat launches.  
25 So there were two people left there, there was a

1     guy by the name of Tom, his name was Tom but I  
2     don't know his last name, and there was another  
3     guy there, a good friend of mine, Ian McIsaac but  
4     he's gone. But that Tom guy, he come running to  
5     my dad, hey, hey, he said, you don't belong to  
6     this club, you can't have your boat here. But  
7     knowing my dad, he told him what he can do with  
8     his boat launch. You know, my dad used to be --  
9     he didn't take no BS from nobody. Ian McIsaac  
10    come running in, Tom, Tom, keep quiet, he said.  
11    So they sort of calmed him down. And my dad was  
12    kind of mad, because we were coming home about ten  
13    o'clock in the summer, we were swimming.

14                   And then a couple of days later, this  
15    Tom guy come and apologize to my dad. He was  
16    already close to the hospital there, he lives  
17    there. I'm sorry what happened, he says. We can  
18    have two docks there, after he found out it's our  
19    trapper area, we've got more rights to be there  
20    than they do, without telling us what was going  
21    on, you know. Nobody ever tell us.

22                   When there was another -- yeah, that  
23    one, I'm okay with that. And then there is  
24    another one -- I don't know, I just want an answer  
25    about what I'm saying, Vince, about the skidoo

1 trail and that.

2 MR. KUZDAK: Vince Kuzdak, Eagle  
3 Vision Resources. Thanks, Noah, for your points  
4 and your concern. Certainly I hear what you're  
5 saying about the impacts of other recreational  
6 groups in the area. We quite frankly heard that  
7 all along the Bipole III preferred route. The  
8 trappers were expressing their concerns about  
9 future impacts after the transmission line is  
10 built. Quite often Snow Man will come and  
11 establish a snowmobile trail. But that I believe  
12 is under the control or responsibility of Manitoba  
13 Conservation. Hydro has no authority over it at  
14 that time.

15 In your case here, our policy is  
16 certainly, speaking to new transmission lines,  
17 we're trying to improve the way we're working with  
18 trappers. And unfortunately for on your trapline  
19 in this case, I had no involvement with that,  
20 Mr. Chairman, and I can't answer any further.

21 MR. MASSAN: Okay. There's another  
22 question. When they were talking about trapper  
23 getting paid out, I got paid out a couple of  
24 times. But I had to negotiate hard, kind of hard.  
25 And the last one I did, Hydro was kind of pushy

1 about it. The last -- like, they say when they  
2 offer you so much, they offer you so much. And  
3 there was work going on there, they were drilling  
4 for burrow pits where the quarry is going to be,  
5 gravel pits and I asked Bob Monkman at that time,  
6 so am I getting a job there, since this is my  
7 trapline? Because they had a contract with their  
8 partners. At that time he said, yeah, you'll get  
9 a job. Because when I was dealing with Hydro,  
10 that job was going to go on, and then I saw they  
11 held back a little bit. Split Lake got all  
12 excited because they brought equipment, they want  
13 to go do that job. Split Lake always says I  
14 belong to Split Lake resource area. There's three  
15 band members -- I mean Split Lake resource area.  
16 Like Fox Lake resource area, Split Lake,  
17 Limestone. For any work to happen in our  
18 trapline, Split Lake gets it. But Hydro promised  
19 me a job, and I never got it. I can still run  
20 machines like dozers, I can push the winter trail,  
21 I know the trail, but Hydro didn't even give me a  
22 job.

23 But when I was negotiating that time,  
24 they were going to do that, they were pushy, they  
25 wanted me to sign these right away. Hydro -- I

1 mean Split Lake called me, you want to sign this,  
2 we want to get this job on the road. But I didn't  
3 care about Split Lake, I'm concerned about my  
4 trapline, what's going to happen, you know. I had  
5 traps on that thing, you know. They going to be  
6 scaring (inaudible) away, but Hydro was kind of  
7 pushy about my negotiation at that time. They  
8 were kind of pushy. They wanted to get it signed  
9 right way. But you can hold them back. I think I  
10 held them back, but I sort of let go a little bit,  
11 you know.

12 But they never give me a job. You  
13 know, anything that's going to happen, my family  
14 should be able to go to my helpers. Give them a  
15 job. It might be a month or two months, you know.  
16 But they would rather give it to Split Lake  
17 because it is their resource area they say.  
18 That's where I've got my trapline right in Keeyask  
19 office.

20 So that's how much I want to talk  
21 about.

22 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much,  
23 Mr. Massan.

24 MR. MASSAN: Okay. I want to thank  
25 everybody. Ekosi.

1                   THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any other  
2 presentations this afternoon? I think we have  
3 heard from just about everybody in the room which  
4 is pretty good.

5                   So I think that appears to be the end  
6 of the proceedings for today. I think we have had  
7 some very good presentations this morning and this  
8 afternoon. They have been very interesting and  
9 informative. I'd like to thank all of the people  
10 who made presentations today. I'd also like to  
11 thank in particular Sophie Lockhart and Ivan Moose  
12 for their help in translation. That was -- well,  
13 we couldn't have had the presentations without  
14 them, so thank you both.

15                   Thank you all for all of your  
16 participation last evening and today. We will end  
17 this round of hearings in Gillam. The CEC  
18 hearings resume next week in Thompson. And as I  
19 noted earlier, we'll be back here sometime next  
20 year when we're looking at Keeyask. So look  
21 forward to seeing many of you at that time as  
22 well. We stand adjourned.

23                   (Proceedings adjourned at 3:30 p.m.)

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