

Keeyask Generation Project



Environmental Assessment Process

Tracey Braun, M. Sc.

Director, Environmental Approvals Branch

Conservation and Water Stewardship

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Legislation

- Environmental assessment and licensing are regulated by ***The Environment Act***.
- Classes of Development Regulation:
 - Keeyask Generation Project = electrical generating facilities > 100 megawatts
 - Class 3 Development
 - Section 12 of ***The Environment Act***
 - Ministerial Decision

Regulatory Process

- Proposal filed December 9, 2011, by the Keeyask Hydropower Limited Partnership (the Partnership).
- The proposal was accompanied by an Environmental Assessment Scoping Document.
- Advertised for public review (jointly with feds):
 - online; and,
 - in newspapers in Winnipeg and Thompson

Regulatory Process

- Copies of the proposal and the scoping document were placed in public registries in Winnipeg, Thompson and the project area.
- Public comments invited to January 31, 2012.
- Copies of both documents were provided to members of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for review, with the same requested date for comments.

Regulatory Process

- Public and TAC comments on the Environmental Assessment Scoping Document were provided to the Partnership.
- The Scoping Document was deemed equivalent to Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) because it had the same content and review process.

Federal Regulatory Process

- Proposal advertised jointly with the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA).
- Comprehensive Study Report (CSR), not a panel review
- All project information requested and received through the federal and provincial processes has been shared.
- Parallel processes where possible

Environmental Assessment Process

- The EIS was filed on July 6, 2012.
- It was placed in the public registries and advertised for public review in Winnipeg and northern Manitoba newspapers between July 14 – 21, 2012.
- Comments were invited to September 20, 2012.
- The EIS was circulated to TAC members for review, with the same requested date for comments.

Environmental Assessment Process

- Following the receipt of public and TAC comments on the EIS, additional information was requested.
 - Iterative Information Request (IR) Process
 - Parallel CEC IR Process
- Requested information items to address provincial requirements were filed on November 19, 2012 and April 26, 2013.
- Additional information was provided subsequently to address federal requirements (Edmonton).

Environmental Assessment Process

- The CEC was advised on June 26, 2013 that the Environmental Approvals Branch supported proceeding with public hearings.
- Hearings commenced in September (northern locations) and resume in Winnipeg October 21st.

Material Available for the Hearing

- The Partnership's project description, EIS and additional information for the project are available at <http://keeyask.com/wp/the-project/environmental-assessment-process/eis>
- Additional material on the provincial and federal environmental assessment for the project, and links to the Partnership's material, is available on the Environmental Approvals Branch webpage at <http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/eal/registries/550keeyask/>

Next Steps

- The Environmental Approvals Branch looks forward to hearing public comments on the project during the hearings.
- The Branch also looks forward to the Commission's recommendations to the Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship following the hearing.