

Project, before the Clean Environment Commission:
Presentation of an Objection towards the creation of the Keeyask Hydro Electric Dam

November 4th, 2013

I have asked to appear before the Commission in order to register my objection towards the proposed Keeyask Hydro Dam and project.

My position comes from a twofold reasoning. The first being the method in which Manitoba Hydro operates, and also the way it projects its corporate strategies. The Project totally involving Tataskweyak Cree First Nation, along with three other Northern Cree First Nations has already started the preliminary work of access roads and construction camp facilities as opposed to waiting for the completion of these hearings and receiving permission from the Clean Environment Commission (CEC).

My concern encompassing the Tataskweyak First Nation is because my family consisting of wife Kaneena Joyce Nelson, daughter Kaneena Inga Vanstone and son Gustav Roderick Nelson along with two grandsons are band members.

To date, none of the people mentioned have been approached either personally or by other communication from either the band, Manitoba Hydro, the Provincial government or the Clean Environment Commission explaining the process, advising band members as to the positive and negative long term aspects as the project relates to the immediate and future well being or to the methods which will be available in the event of misunderstandings, misdirection or outright cheating.

Negotiations, which I believe have being ongoing for a number of years already, have not been communicated and are not open and transparent to the band members. Could this practice be deemed to be a form of prejudice in the sense that the band members cannot be trusted to comprehend the details or to share in benefits rumored to be available to the select few. Should band members ask questions if they are not recognized citing confidentiality agreements? Example, Solange Garson, a band councillor with Tataskweyak, is on record as having asked for information from Manitoba Hydro regarding millions of dollars in funding it has dispersed. These monies are confirmed by the Canadian Taxpayers Association.

If the councillor is denied information who can then receive it? Can Manitoba Hydro be relied on or even trusted in their contracts and obligations to all participants. What other information will be hidden and to who, the Band, Provincial government or to this Commission?

If this is the manner in which Manitoba Hydro now operates, what of the future, how will they satisfy questions as to their ongoing procedures, maintenance and administration?

What then is recourse to the band member to knowingly choose their best representative to deal with delivery of services, investments, and mechanics of dispute situations which are bound to arise?

My second concern is the perceived assumption that water derived from the Nelson River will continue to be available. That water comes from Lake Winnipeg. Manitoba Hydro has an interim license to regulate the Lake but in seeking a full license has decided to hold that request in abeyance. I do not understand the strategy, but that water is not guaranteed as Hydro must ask for permission from this Board again. Should for some unforeseen reason the license is not approved or is restricted, the entire Keeyask project would be put at risk. That concern of course would not happen if Manitoba Hydro already is confident of not being affected.

Baldur Nelson

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

EXHIBIT NUMBER: WPK-001
File Name: Keeyask.

Date: Nov 4, 2013
Received by: [Signature]

(Official Signature)