

Ms. Solange Garson
Councillor
Tataskweyak Cree Nation

September 17, 2013

Terry Sargeant, Chairman
& Members of the
Manitoba Clean Environment Commission
305-155 Carlton Street
Winnipeg MB R3C 3H8

Re: Keeyask Dam Bipole III and Canowapa, Manitoba Hydro's projects

Tansi Mr. Sargeant;

My name is Solange Garson from Split Lake, also known as Tataskweyak Cree Nation. I've been very outspoken on these Keeyask Negotiations from as early year 2000. I had no knowledge of hydro negotiations till I moved back in year 1999, than hearing the disgusting stories how these consultants and lawyers have been taking advantage of their position to have hydro projects to be pushed on our community. These same people have businesses of their own, possibly hiding behind TCN not to pay taxes.

I was stunned when I returned home; I remembered how TCN was with six beautiful beaches, clear water and fish that were edible. Now, ugly, jagged rocks hydro had dumped on the shore lines, water is murky brown, with manure & dead logs (from the erosion from fluctuating water level), and fish are likely with high level of mercury and some are rotten with sickness, animals that are sick from the Kelsey, Limestone and other hydro dams that are dumped with toxic chemicals by covering the lagoons with dirt. They don't follow the guidelines to keep the environment clean but cutting corners to cut waste of money.

My dad, Johnny Garson, worked all his life as a CNR labour and he was also a trapper by trade. We moved back to TCN in the early 70's and I noticed the changes with surrounding environment, our members and our culture way of life slowly but dramatically destroying our dignity. I saw my dad's eyes slowly fading from the hurt he couldn't provide for us; we lived on Hudson Bay's groceries. This was a double whammy for my parents, first the government came along took the children away; he couldn't pass on his knowledge to his son's. I'm the third youngest and I know for fact I was hidden from the "*Indian Agents*" not to be taken away. My older siblings were taken, one is still missing and we have no knowledge if he's alive. Now, TCN members are being ripped apart again from hydro's

I had no knowledge what was happening to our community. Then I went home year 1999, I was so shocked to see the devastating effect it had on our community; men were slowly drifting away from our cultural ways; nothing was passed on, hydro's lawyers & consultant's busy having our former leaders being wine and dined to sign agreements or paying themselves extremely well and leaving the bill on TCN's expense. I saw many of our elders succumb to the life style these outsiders provided with alcohol and drugs; we buried more of our members than we put them to work.

Hydro promised jobs and prosperity. Now, I'm hearing these contractors (Britco, BC owners, which received \$207 million for the Keeyask Dam) are not giving any jobs to the First Nations, they get laid off for months on end, no training is provided or they take the training dollars away from the community.

I met with former AANC Minister with the private investigator's report to clearly show we are in need of transparency and accountability in all First Nations leaders throughout Canada. This private investigator was bullied and threaten as I was when we were inquiring why Manitoba Hydro's millions of dollars that are missing. We clearly see corruption and how the consultants are made to be extremely wealthy. We contacted the RCMP in Thompson MB and it was mentioned there is money laundering. Then to make matters worse, I have been thrown at with Hydro's agreements to sign under duress or TCN will not get any money if I don't sign the documents. TCN lawyer

has been instructed not to contact me before I became a councillor and he knows he was involved with the former chief's removal due to him questioning their activities. TCN has 44 accounts, why? No wonder we can't get anywhere, now I'm being ousted out with intimidations, threats and bullied for speaking out against this Keeyask's negotiations. **Now my payroll has been stopped with no written letter to explain their actions.** I cannot attend no hydro meetings or to be given any financial information for fear of showing to TCN members. I got in as Councillor to protect the rights of my members and I will not stand by allowing hydro to ruin our community with their lies or having our leaders to sign contracts under duress.

Where does this organization step in to force Accountability and Transparency to all First Nation leaders' right across Canada? No person should get attacked or verbally, threaten, bullied for trying to help their members. I am standing for those who can't speak and I refused to be intimidated by MB Hydro's tactics to get leaders to sign agreements. No money they say if we don't sign but we don't get no money to build houses, businesses or other crucial matters, example; water & sewage and water treatment center to accommodate all TCN homes. What happened to the money? Why isn't AANC turning a blind eye to this matter, I'm sure other communities are also under duress from corrupt leaders.

I want an explanation why my payroll has been denied and my right as councillor has been attacked due to me speaking out. I am distressed and very cautious of how hydro displayed their honesty and integrity; they don't have any honesty, Period!!

Thank you and I am hoping AANC at Ottawa will help with this crucial matter.

Ekosi ;

Councillor Solange Garson

CC: TCN Chief and Councils

Ron Schuler, Hydro critic for MB Hydro

Colin Craig, CTF

Scott Thomson, CEO MB Hydro

Winnipeg AANC

Ms. Solange Garson
Councillor
Tataskweyak Cree Nation
Split Lake MB RoB 1Po

September 18, 2013

Nathalie Nepton
Director, Band Governance
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development
Band Governance Directorate
72 Laval Street, 6th floor
Gatineau QB K1A 0H4

RE: Reprisals for Requesting for Accountability and Transparency

I'm submitting my letter to request a forensic audit to be done with Tataskweyak Cree Nation. I continuously requested this to TCN former leaders and now this current chief Michael Garson. I have worked for transparency and accountability since year 2000 and I don't have much faith with AANC at Winnipeg office. They always made me feel my fears are unfounded and they don't need to look into the affairs of other financial matters especially Manitoba Hydro's. This is provincial matter and why are they interfering Federal First Nations, maybe they get the share of the pot and don't say nothing. Basically why AANC is there, just a front, nothing is done by this organization.

Now, I've been forced to leave my community fearing for my safety. I have grave concerns regarding the TCN's head constables to protect my safety. There are numerous complaints how these constables are abusing their authority and practically misusing the constable's vehicle to go to a nearest town to buy drugs and alcohol or reselling the confiscated alcohol. I had questioned their activities & now people are calling me also fearing of reprisals for speaking out. Teachers and nurses that are desperately needed and now they are leaving the community also fearing for their safety. Just recently, a complaint was made to the RCMP how they are threatening the staff and other member for speaking out and this lady was told he would kill her if people weren't around to witness. These kinds of actions are not tolerated by any person.

From: [Johnson, Cathy \(CWS\)](#)
To: [Kagaon, Carmencita \(CWS\)](#)
Subject: FW: Councillor Solange Garson for Tataskweyak Cree Nation.
Date: September-25-13 4:00:10 PM
Attachments: [CEClettersig.docx](#)
[AANC.docx](#)
[Councillor Solange Garson.docx](#)
[Scott Thomson.docx](#)
[Councillor Solange Garso1.docx](#)

From: +WPG725 - Clean Env. Commission (CWS)
Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2013 4:00:08 PM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)
To: Johnson, Cathy (CWS)
Subject: FW: Councillor Solange Garson for Tataskweyak Cree Nation.

From: Solange Garson
Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2013 3:59:38 PM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)
To: +WPG725 - Clean Env. Commission (CWS)
Cc: infopubs@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca; info@manitobachiefs.com; info@mmf.mb.ca;
webmaster@manitobawildlands.org; ckobliski@yahoo.ca; editor@firstnationdrum.com;
chunruth@shaw.ca; bmatkin@britco.com; publicaffairs@hydro.mb.ca; publicutilites@gov.mb.ca;
manitoba@fcpp.org; earthaction@nrdcaction.org; Schuler, Ron (PC Caucus); Innovation, Energy &
Mines, Minister (LEG); Karen Friesen; info@greengreenwater.com
Subject: Re: Councillor Solange Garson for Tataskweyak Cree Nation.

Good day to all; I am writing to inform others how Manitoba Hydro is not living up to their promises. I imploring this CEC should be stopped. Manitoban's are not giving a chance to voice their concerns especially the northern communities that didn't benefit from these hydro's projects.

Councillor Solange Garson

Councillor Solange Garson
Tataskweyak Cree Nation
Split Lake MB ROB 1P0
General Delivery

July 12, 2013

Chief Michael D. Garson
Councillor Mike Keeper
Councillor Melanie Spence
Councillor Chris Young
Councillor Nathan Neckoway

Open Letter to all TCN Members

Tansi Chief and Council;

I am so very disappointed how we became as a team; I was very excited thinking this corruption would be stopped and hold those responsible for their actions. I know I'm not perfect but I cannot continue on this masquerade having our TCN Members think everything is ok when in fact it isn't going the way it should for this "Keeyask" Manitoba Hydro's project. I am not going to resign until the Forensic Audit is done; I am appalled how

continues to this day to hang on to our finances. Reason why hundreds of millions went missing and we are not doing anything to hold them responsible. How can you pretend nothing is happening when in fact MB Hydro will take the Partnership away if we don't pay our end? How can we? When these consultants, lawyer, and others had squandered our "Partnership money" and no one is being held responsible.

Here are the lists of reasons why we should have this Forensic Audit done:

- Water & Sewage that wasn't completed, yet huge amount was put into this project from Federal and MB Hydro.
- Keeyask Center that wasn't build, yet money was deposited into this project, 4 million plus \$750 thousand in 2011, and again 2012, for operations that's not even there.
- , our Auditor, says huge amount is missing and he doesn't get all financials reports, so how the audits are passed each year?
- Numerous others concerns where this Private Investigator uncovered hundreds of millions being transferred around.

All this is done at Hydro office in their "Clean Renewable Energy" at Winnipeg. We are not part of any partnership, then we should rip up their Agreements or don't build the dam in our land, don't matter if its crown land, still ours.

This Clean Environment Commission Hearings is being dictated by these consultants and MB Hydro employees; they say they speak for the Trappers, fisherman and our members when actual fact, we can't speak at these Hearings. They don't want the public to know the truth the damage is being done to the environment, devastating our way of life. No amount of money can replace what was done to the northern Manitoba (irreversible and impacted our way of life along with the animals and water life). I don't need to be a trapper, environmentalists or brain scientist to know what's happening to the land. We don't need outsiders to come to decide our future while they are getting extremely rich with their lies. Other communities (Easterville, Moose Lake, Grand Rapids, Fox Lake, Nelson House and South Indian Lake) had suffered most when hydro bulldozed their resident's home or forced them to leave their homes when they hired these "Indian Agents" to force the leaders or bribe them to sign off their lands.

This is back in the early 60's when First Nations were treated as insignificance with no regards of lives that were being impacted by hydro's "Clean Renewable Energy" Dams. NFA: Schedule E: "joint action program for the eradication of mass poverty and unemployment". Well, this is year 2013, still no jobs, maybe cleaning up after them but no training, nothing!! Now, we have more mass poverty and no jobs for our members; the dams clearly damaged the environment. I will not apologize for my letter; we are not being treated fairly along with other Manitoban's. This is our lives and our land to protect, not too be extinguished by hydro and others that lied to the public and wasting the tax payer's money to gain personal wealth. This is serious and millions of dollars are unaccounted and mysteriously disappeared. Possibly money laundering and no honesty or integrity is being displayed by MB Hydro and consultants. We asked for Forensic Audit; then I was ousted out or was treated like an outsider immediately. Does it pay to be honest? I would believe so?

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter of why CEC Hearings should be stopped until this matter is resolved by the RCMP to find where hundreds of millions disappeared. I do apologize if my English is not eloquent but as long my views on this is out along with those who can't speak.

Ekosi;

Councillor Solange Garson

CC:

NRDC, President.

MMF, President

Britco, President

Manitoba Wild Lands

Green, Green Water

Hydro, CEO Scott Thomson

Frontier Center, Graham Lane

Bipole Coalition, President

MLA Ron Schuler

MLA Dave Chomiak

Minister of AANC, Aboriginal Affairs.

Inter-faith Task Group

Drum Magazine Editor

TCN Chief and Councillors, Winnipeg Free Press and others.

Councillor Ms. Solange Garson
General Delivery
Split Lake MB RoB 1Po
Tataskweyak Cree Nation

July 11, 2013

Scott Thomson
President & CEO of Manitoba Hydro
360 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg MB R3C 0G8

RE: OPEN LETTER TO TATASKWEYAK CREE MEMBERS

I know you recently just came on as a CEO for Manitoba Hydro and I'm sure you are aware of my actions to get the true financial records to find out exactly where hundreds of millions of dollars went or how much was spent on these hydro projects. I have read your eloquent words of how much you admire MB Hydro low rates; this only shows how little you know the true picture how MB Hydro are dishonest to the "Aboriginals, First Nations, or Natives" or however we are being called. I have been asking these questions since 1999 and still nothing is given. You know why Scott? Manitoba Hydro lied to the Public Utility Board to raise the hydro rates to cover up the mess you are left to clean up.

Now, I understand you had signed the Confidential Agreement, I wonder if you would allow this huge mismanagement of hydro's to be kept secret? You are left with a big mess and why should we sign anything that would ruin us forever? There is nothing to this meaning "Clean Renewable Energy" when they destroyed the land forever. Only Clean Renewable Energy is the building they build on Portage Avenue. I refused to sign any agreements without consulting a lawyer, TCN lawyer is not allowed to speak to me. Why should I sign Conawapa or Bipole III if we weren't consulted; tossing us agreements to sign, bullying those who don't sign or making threats we wouldn't get no money; well, what happened to the millions that was spent? Nothing is done in our community, maybe a few things from all those years we were promised (1977).

I understand the consultants, Lawyers and others are being paid by hydro's money that was given to us; this is where I find very hard to believe Manitoba Hydro will be honest with us. They never did and I will not stop fighting until we have answers to find out where all that hundreds of millions went missing. This is MB Hydro's code of ethics and I wonder where they lost the meaning.

"Manitoba Hydro's activities will be conducted in a lawful, responsible and ethical manner so that our reputation for honesty, integrity and the faithful performance of our undertakings and obligations are maintained and enhanced".

I can list all the corruptions but I will be writing a book; **this has to stop**, Chief and we cannot allow this to continue. I am not doing anything wrong and I wouldn't rest until this Forensic Audit is done. I will resign as soon as this done and all the finances never to be turned over (ever) again. I will not apologize for my actions, I am not doing anything wrong, once this is cleared, and then maybe we can have a chance to better our community.

Ekosi

Solange Garson

CC: Prime Minister of Canada, Stephen Harper
MLA Ron Schuler
Honorable Bernard Valcourt for AANC
Auditor General of Canada, FCA, Michael Fergurson
Minister Responsible for Manitoba Hydro, Dave Chomiak
Canada Taxation Association, Colin Craig
Public Utility Board Members
Manitoba Hydro Board Members
Duncan Investigations, Janie Duncan.
Tataskweyak Cree Nations Members
