

**Local Union No. 2034**

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**INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD  
OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS**

EXHIBIT # OTH-1030  
WUSKWATIM GENERATION  
& TRANSMISSION PROJECT  
CLEAN ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION

26B-1313 Border Place • Winnipeg, Manitoba • R3H 0X4

**RE: CLEAN ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION REVIEW OF  
THE WUSKWATIM HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECT**

**Presented by: Garnet Boyd  
Business Manager  
IBEW Local 2034**

Wuskwatim is a 250MW hydraulic generating station with a low head design. This design will keep flooding to a minimum of ten (10) acres therefore limiting the environmental damage.

There has also been a lot of discussion whether Manitoba Hydro should build Wuskwatim Generating Station or consider wind power as an alternate energy source. There are many environmental concerns with wind generation just due to the sheer number of wind turbines that would be required plus there is the inefficiency of this alternative method due to our extreme climate.

We are well aware that previous projects created systemic barriers and we want to ensure that this does not happen again. To do this we all have to work together, so this review along with the partnership of NCN and the local communities on this project are pivotal.

IBEW Local 2034 and Manitoba Hydro have negotiated incentives to address training and employment with Manitoba Hydro:

- Aboriginal Pre Placement Training Programs
- Technical Trades Aboriginal Placement Training Program
- Construction Work Associated With Northern Aboriginal Communities Employment of Local Residents
- We have also have a Gull/Wuskwatim Employment Task Team

These initiatives along with the Allied Hydro Council Agreement to build Wuskwatim will ensure that the aboriginal communities will receive the education, training and employment not only on the construction but also in the operation and maintenance of the generating station.

Once the construction is completed we will require Administration Staff, Utility Workers, Storekeepers, Mechanical Technicians, Electrical Technicians, Station Operators, Supervisors and Managers to operate the generating station.

There have also been presentations addressing concerns of this project being financially viable:

- Once Wuskwatim is completed it will be in operation for decades therefore it will more than pay for itself
- The additional dollars spent on training initiatives is an investment in the local communities.

Our biggest pool of employees for all Manitoba employers not just Manitoba Hydro is our aboriginal communities and we must work with them to ensure that they are afforded every opportunity to receive the education and training to be able to fill the void we have in the labour force.

All projects have pros and cons and I believe the positives of this project far outweigh the negatives because this is a **joint venture** that:

- minimizes flooding due to its design
- addresses systemic barriers by educating, training and employing local residents
- includes the local communities as stake holders
- will help maintain Manitoba Hydro rates for all Manitoban's as the lowest in North America

Energy is in great demand in North American as was demonstrated by the blackout in Ontario, the east coast of the United States.

Hydraulic Generation is a clean and cheap producer of Electricity and Hydro Electric Power is one of Manitoba's greatest resources.