

Answers to Undertakings Provided by Manitoba Hydro - #3

Undertaking # 7 (May 17, 2017 – Page 1719)

Advise if east of the Watson Davidson Wildlife Management Area is being used for commercial forestry purposes.

Yes, east of the Watson Davidson Wildlife Management Area is being used for commercial forestry.

Undertaking # 8 (May 17, 2017 – Page 1754)

Provide a rough estimate of how many health incidents were referred to local regional health authorities in the Bipole III project.

On the Bipole III project, the workforce size varied from over 1200 workers during peak winter months to 300 during summer months. There have been no incidents that involved more than one employee injured.

There were 59 hospital visits between January 2014 and April 2017. This equates to a frequency of 1.5 visits per month in multiple health centres. Of the 59 visits, 45 employees returned to work the next day. For the remaining 14 visits, the injury resulted in an average 12 days of lost time before the employee returned to work.

There has been no indication that Bipole III has strained the rural health care system. In the case of MMTP, the workforce will be considerably smaller due to the project size.

Undertaking # 11 (May 18, 2017 – Page 2238)

Provide copy of (Bipole III) annual report (Monitoring & Mitigation Report).

These reports can also be found on the Manitoba Hydro website at https://www.hydro.mb.ca/projects/bipoleIII/document_library.shtml under Environmental protection and Annual monitoring reports.

Undertaking # 13 (June 1, 2017 – Page 3667)

Provide draft communication plan.

Please see attached. In addition, further demonstrating Manitoba Hydro's commitment to communication, the following was submitted as part of the National Energy Board filing for the Project.

5.3.5 Ongoing Engagement

Manitoba Hydro is committed to sharing information with the public throughout the regulatory, construction and operation phases of the Project. Mechanisms for ongoing engagement include the following: (i) updates to the Project webpage will be made regarding the provincial and federal regulatory review processes (including regulatory contact information), the status of the Project and environmental monitoring reports; (ii) email contact regarding upcoming milestones with those on Manitoba Hydro's list of email contacts; (iii) letters to potentially affected landowners, stakeholder groups regarding regulatory approvals; (iv) continuation of Manitoba Hydro's toll-free information line and dedicated Project email address for asking questions and voicing concerns; (v) meetings on request; and (vi) discussions with impacted parties during easement negotiations. Formal inquiries and concerns will be recorded and reviewed by members of the Environmental Protection Management Team for response. Further details on these ongoing engagement activities and others can be found in the EIS.

Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project – Draft Communication Plan

Objective

To continue providing timely and meaningful information to potentially affected landowners, stakeholders and Indigenous communities and organizations as the Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project continues, in a manner consistent with the original goals of both the Public Engagement Process (PEP) and the First Nations and Metis Engagement Process (FNMEP). The strategy will provide an open and responsive process to address concerns and continue to build long term relationships.

Overall Strategy

During the course of the Public Engagement Process, Manitoba Hydro worked with various departments to document information relating to property, access and construction to facilitate sharing information at various stages in the Project, including regulatory, construction and maintenance. Ongoing engagement processes will include continuation of the work of the Public Engagement and First Nation and Metis Engagement Teams and will also include construction and operations staff.

Communication Activities

Should the Project be approved, Manitoba Hydro will update their website with the communication strategy and activities as outlined in this document. Communication on this Project is ongoing with many groups, and includes activities currently taking place, as well as those planned for the construction and maintenance components of the Project, as described below.

Broad Communications

The Project website will continue to be updated with information in regards to the regulatory process, and construction and operation information. The document library will continue to maintain Project materials.

Email campaigns will be used to notify the +790 individuals who have signed up for notices throughout construction and operation. These campaigns will be sent out as new information becomes available and at Project milestones. Manitoba Hydro will also accept new requests to be added to the email campaigns.

Local newspaper ads will be used to notify the public of noteworthy upcoming construction activities.

Manitoba Hydro, through the regulatory review process, submits a variety of draft plans for review and approval, such as the Access Management and Construction Environmental Protection Plans. Updated drafts will be made available on both the Project website and on the Province of Manitoba Public Registry.

As part of the Access Management Plan, affected landowners, stakeholder groups, First Nations, the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) and Indigenous organizations will be also notified by letter/email regarding right-of-way safety and restrictions to active construction sites. This will be sent out prior to construction start and information will also be placed on the Project website.

Public Engagement Process (PEP)

Rural Municipalities will continue to be notified of Project developments and Manitoba Hydro will continue to meet with them regularly to provide updates and to address any concerns they may have regarding their infrastructure or concerns of their constituents.

Stakeholder groups will continue to be notified regarding key milestones in the regulatory and construction phases of the Project to assist in the dissemination of information to their membership.

The landowner liaisons will continue to communicate through email, phone and letter with potentially affected landowners at key milestones in the Project. The landowner liaison role will continue following construction to address any concerns raised by the affected landowner. The current number of liaisons is 7, but that may change, depending upon the nature of the ongoing landowner concerns.

During the operation phase of the Project, maintenance staff will continue discussions with landowners in regard to activities and access to their land. In addition, the 1-800 toll free information line will remain available throughout operation of the Project.

First Nation and Metis Engagement Process (FNMEP)

Manitoba Hydro is committed to sharing information with the participants of the First Nation and Metis Engagement Process (FNMEP) throughout the regulatory, construction and operation phases of the Project.

Regulatory Phase: Activities planned during the ongoing regulatory review phase include providing Project updates to the First Nations, the MMF and interested Indigenous organizations, as well as continued discussions in regard to the Environmental Protection Program, the proposed Indigenous Community Monitoring Working Group and the Cultural and Heritage Resources Protection Plan.

Individual First Nations and MMF representatives have been invited to participate in an environmental monitoring working group and have participated in initial meetings. Manitoba Hydro will continue to work with those representatives to find a mutually acceptable way to monitor components of value.

Construction Phase: Methods of engagement will be respectful of community preferences similar to Project engagement and will continue through the construction Phase of the Project. Manitoba Hydro will continue to meet with First Nations, the MMF and interested Indigenous organizations regarding the Environmental Protection Program and Cultural and Heritage Resources Protection Plan during the construction phase of the Project.

Operation and Maintenance Phase: Monitoring reports related to the Environmental Monitoring Plan will be shared with interested First Nations and the MMF and will also be published on the Project webpage. Manitoba Hydro will also meet with communities upon request during this phase of the Project to discuss matters, such as vegetation management.

Manitoba Hydro is also receptive to considering other methods of communication and languages, if raised, during the course of the above ongoing discussions and communications.

Ongoing review and update of the communication plan

This Communication Plan will be updated based on feedback from the activities described above. It will also be updated at milestones which could include:

- Completion of the Clean Environment Commission hearing
- Provincial Decision
- National Energy Board Decision
- Construction start/stop (over 2 years)
- Completion of Construction
- In-service
- Ongoing operation next steps