

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPONENT: Manitoba Hydro
PROPOSAL NAME: Gillam 138 - kV Transformer Station Project
CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: 2
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: Transmission
CLIENT FILE NO.: 5025.00

OVERVIEW:

The Proposal was dated February 25, 2004 and received on March 1, 2004. The advertisement of the Proposal read as follows:

“A Proposal has been filed by Manitoba Hydro to construct and operate a new 138 - 12 kilovolt transformer station in the Town of Gillam. The new station is required to meet electrical load growth requirements in the community. A 250 m long transmission line tap from the existing 138 kV transmission line (Kelsey Station to Kettle Rapids Station) will be required to connect to the proposed transformer station to Manitoba Hydro's existing system. The existing Gillam Station and transmission line tap will be salvaged once the new station is in service. In service is targeted for the fall of 2004.”

The Proposal was advertised in the Thompson Nickel Belt News on March 15, 2004. It was placed in the Manitoba Eco-Network, the St. James – Assiniboia Public Library, the Flin Flon Public Library. It was also distributed to the "Transportation" TAC members for comment. All comments were requested by April 14, 2004..

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No comments were received from the public in response to the Environment Act advertisement of the Proposal.

COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Historic Resources No concerns

Mines Branch No concerns

Petroleum Branch No concerns

Agriculture No concerns

Intergovernmental Affairs No land use or development concerns

Conservation (Policy Coordination Branch) Note that there may be an adverse impact by the encroachment of the dead-end tap on a nearby snowmobile trail.

Disposition: Several solutions have been proposed, and it is anticipated that the matter will be resolved between the proponent and the local snowmobile club.

Transportation No concerns. The Environment Act Proposal notes that MT&GS will be consulted by Manitoba Hydro on the placement of the dead end tap structure and associated guy wires relative to the road allowance. The Proposal also notes that approval from MT&GS may also be required for the installation of a culvert access from PR 280 to the proposed switch structure.

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CCEA) Application of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act will not likely be required. Natural Resources Canada offered to provide specialist advice on the project, if requested.

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing is not recommended for this project on the basis that no comments or concerns were received in response to the Environment Act advertisement of the Proposal.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION:

The comments received from the technical review of the Proposal can be accommodated as conditions of licencing. In addition, it is recommended that the station design should include provisions for the containment of insulating oil spills. It is recommended that the project be licenced pursuant to the Environment Act in accordance with the terms and conditions described in the attached draft Environment Act Licence.

Bryan Blunt
Environmental Approvals
Environmental Land Use Approvals
April 21, 2004

Telephone: (204) 945-7085
Fax: (204) 945-5229
E-Mail Address: bryan_blunt@env.gov.mb.ca