



**Environment and Climate**

Environmental Approvals Branch  
Box 35 - 14 Fultz Boulevard  
Winnipeg MB R3Y 0L6  
T 204-945-8321 F 204-945-5229  
[EABDirector@gov.mb.ca](mailto:EABDirector@gov.mb.ca)

File No.: 3117.00

August 21, 2024

Marcus Smith  
Head – Compliance Support & Monitoring  
Distribution Environment and Engagement  
Manitoba Hydro  
360 Portage Avenue (18)  
Winnipeg MB R3C 0G8  
[MOSmith@hydro.mb.ca](mailto:MOSmith@hydro.mb.ca)

Dear Marcus Smith:

**Re: Notice of Alteration Approval - Manitoba Hydro  
Environment Act Licence No. 1741**

Thank you for your notice of alteration dated July 11, 2024, seeking approval to use herbicide to control vegetation within the footprints of two transformer stations at Oxford House and God's Lake Narrows First Nations. Manitoba Hydro received a Notice of Alteration approval on August 11, 2023, to use herbicide to control vegetation within the footprints of transformer stations at Garden Hill and Wasagamack First Nations.

I approve the alteration per Section 14(2) of The Environment Act. In executing the work, I amend clause 7 of the licence as follows:

The licensee:

- a) must use mechanical or other non-chemical means to control unwanted vegetation for the development; or
- b) may, if there are no other feasible means to control unwanted vegetation available, use herbicide within the footprints of the Garden Hill, Wasagamack, Oxford House, and God's Lake Narrows transformer stations.

If herbicides are used, the licensee must comply with the Pesticides Regulation or any future amendments for the storage, handling, and application of herbicides.

All other clauses of Environment Act Licence No. 1741 remain in effect. This approval is available on the public registry at <https://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/eal/registries/index.html>.

Anyone affected by this decision may appeal in writing, with reasoning, to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change at [minecc@manitoba.ca](mailto:minecc@manitoba.ca).

If you have any questions regarding this approval, please contact Bryce Wood, Environment Officer, Environmental Approvals Branch at [Bryce.Wood@gov.mb.ca](mailto:Bryce.Wood@gov.mb.ca) or 204-781-7226.

For questions relating to the ongoing administration of the licence, please contact Cristal Huculak, Regional Supervisor, Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch at [EnvCENorth@gov.mb.ca](mailto:EnvCENorth@gov.mb.ca) or 204-620-5797.

Sincerely,

Siobhan Burland Ross  
Original Signed For  
Agnes Wittmann  
Director  
The Environment Act

- c. James Matthewson - Manitoba Hydro  
Bryce Wood - Environmental Approvals Branch  
Cristal Huculak - Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch



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File No.: 3117.00

August 11, 2023

James Matthewson  
Department Manager  
Transmission & Distribution Environment and Engagement  
Manitoba Hydro  
360 Portage Avenue (18)  
Winnipeg MB R3C 0G8  
[JMatthewson@hydro.mb.ca](mailto:JMatthewson@hydro.mb.ca)

Dear James Matthewson:

**Re: Manitoba Hydro - Environment Act Licence No. 1741 - Notice of Alteration Approval**

Thank you for your notice of alteration dated May 15, 2023. The department understands you wish to use herbicide to control vegetation within the footprints of two transmission stations at Garden Hill and Wasagamack First Nations.

I approve the alteration per Section 14(2) of The Environment Act. In executing the work, I amend clause 7 of the licence as follows:

The licensee:

- a) must use mechanical or other non-chemical means to control unwanted vegetation for the development; or
- b) may, if there are no other feasible means to control unwanted vegetation available, use herbicide within the footprints of the Garden Hill and Wasagamack transformer stations. If herbicides are used, the licensee must comply with the Pesticides Regulation or any future amendments for the storage, handling, and application of herbicides.

All other clauses of Environment Act Licence No. 1741 remain in effect. This approval is available on the public registry at <https://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/eal/registries/index.html>.

If you have any questions regarding this approval, please contact Bryce Wood, Environment Officer, Environmental Approvals Branch at [Bryce.Wood@gov.mb.ca](mailto:Bryce.Wood@gov.mb.ca) or 204-781-7226.

For questions relating to the ongoing administration of the licence, please contact Cristal Huculak, Regional Supervisor, Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch at [EnvCENorth@gov.mb.ca](mailto:EnvCENorth@gov.mb.ca) or 204-620-5797.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By  
Agnes Wittmann  
Director  
The Environment Act

c. Bryce Wood  
Cristal Huculak

# Environment Act Licence

Manitoba  
Environment



Licence No. 1741  
Issue Date FEBRUARY 22, 1994

In accordance with the Manitoba Environment Act (C.C.S.M. c. E125)

THIS LICENCE IS ISSUED TO:

## MANITOBA HYDRO: " the Licencee"

subject to the following specifications, limits, terms and conditions for the construction, maintenance and operation of the Development known as the North Central Transmission Project. The North Central Transmission Project involves the construction of 520 kilometers of electrical transmission and distribution lines linking the electrical power source at the Kelsey Generating Station located on the Nelson River to the communities of Oxford House, God's Lake Narrows, God's River, Red Sucker Lake, Garden Hill, Wasagamack, Island Lake and St. Theresa Point, including all facilities and equipment related to the transmission and distribution lines.

## DEFINITIONS

In this Licence:

"A-weighted sound level" means the sound level measured with a sound level meter set on the A-weighted network, being a filter designed to approximate the relative sensitivity of the normal human ear to different frequencies of sound. The unit of measurement is denoted dBA;

"dB (decibel)" means a dimensionless measure of sound level or sound pressure level.  $\text{Sound level} = 20 \log_{10} \frac{\text{pressure (actual)}}{\text{pressure (reference)}}$  ;

"dBA" means a denotation used to indicate a unit of sound measurement;

"Leq(1)" means the Leq level for a 1 hour period;

"Leq" (equivalent continuous sound level) means a constant or steady A-weighted sound level which, over a specified period of time, has the same total A-weighted energy as the actual fluctuating sound;

"wetlands" means those areas where the water table is at or above the land surface for a long enough period each year to make the area capable of supporting aquatic or hydrophilic vegetation, and which have soils with characteristics indicative of wet conditions.

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**SPECIFICATIONS, LIMITS, TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

1. The Licencee shall construct the Development in accordance with the *North Central Project Route/Site Selection and Environmental Assessment, April 1993*, filed by Manitoba Hydro with the Federal-Provincial Environmental Assessment Panel for the North Central Transmission Line Project on April 13, 1993.
2. The Licencee shall, prior to the commencement of each year's construction activities related to the Development, submit to the Director for his approval, a North Central Project Environmental Protection Plan for the works to be undertaken during the related construction season. Each Environmental Protection Plan shall describe an integrated approach to be used by the Licencee to monitor the effects of construction activities and related environmental conditions both during and after construction to ensure that mitigative measures are applied systematically and in manner consistent with the commitments made in the *North Central Project Route/Site Selection and Environmental Assessment, April 1993*. Each Plan shall also:
  - a) describe any existing controls of access to sensitive areas, and
  - b) describe any proposed access controls to be implemented during construction to reduce impacts on the fishery resources of the areas affected.
3. The Licencee shall conduct all works with respect to the necessary stream crossings related to the Development in accordance with the Manitoba Natural Resources' Guidelines titled *Recommended Fish Protection Procedures for Stream Crossings in Manitoba* and *Recommended Buffer Zones for Protecting Fish Resources in Lakes and Streams in Forest Cutting Areas*.
4. The Licencee shall, during the execution of any works associated with the Development involving the use explosives, ensure that the work is conducted consistent with Fisheries and Oceans Canada draft *Guidelines for the Use of Explosives in Canadian Fisheries Waters*.
5. The Licencee shall ensure that all contractors working on the Development maximize their use of the existing winter road system and the transmission and distribution line rights-of-way for access during clearing and construction activities associated with the Development. Any clearing and/or use of other access trails shall require prior approval of the Environment Officer assigned to the Development.
6. The Licencee shall adhere to Manitoba Natural Resources' *Forest Damage Appraisal and Valuation* policy with respect to timber removal and forest damage related to the Development.
7. The Licencee shall use mechanical or other non-chemical means to control unwanted vegetation for the Development.

8. The Licencee shall, in wetlands related to the Development where wooden structures are required, use wood poles treated with chromated copper arsenate (CCA).
9. The Licencee shall, prior to commencement of construction activities at the transformer stations located near Oxford House, God's Lake Narrows, Garden Hill and Wasagamack, submit for the approval of the Director, plans and specifications for the construction, supply and installation of oil containment equipment planned for those stations. The plans and specifications must be approved by the Director prior to the commencement of the related construction activities.
10. The Licencee shall construct and install oil containment equipment consistent with the plans and specifications approved by the Director under Clause 9.
11. The Licencee shall ensure that the emission of sound from each of the Oxford House, God's Lake Narrows, Garden Hill or Wasagamack transformer stations, when measured in a residential area beyond the property line of the station, does not exceed an Leq(1) of 45dBA between the nighttime hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. local time.
12. The Licencee shall, prior to beginning construction activities associated with the Development, submit to the Director for his approval, a plan for the establishment of local liaison committees to ensure there is community based monitoring of the commitments to mitigation of environmental impacts made in the *North Central Project Route/Site Selection and Environmental Assessment, April 1993* .
13. The Licencee shall, during construction activities associated with the Development, ensure that any fuel storage areas and refueling stations established for the construction of the Development are located a minimum distance of 100 meters away from any waterbody, and ensure the storage areas comply with the requirements of *Manitoba Regulation 97/88R - Storage and Handling of Gasoline and Associated Products Regulation*.
14. The Licencee shall, during and upon completion of construction of the Development, collect and dispose of all waste, including waste petroleum products, in accordance with all applicable regulatory requirements.
15. The Licencee shall, prior to beginning the decommissioning activities associated with the existing diesel power generating sites and related facilities in the project communities, submit to the Director for his approval, a report on measures proposed to salvage and/or remove the diesel generators, to dispose of or upgrade fuel storage facilities and to rehabilitate the diesel generating sites.



Manitoba Hydro ( the "Licencee")  
North Central Transmission Line Project  
Licence No.: 1741  
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**REVOCATION**

If in the opinion of the Director the Licencee has not complied or is not complying with the specifications, limits, terms or conditions set out herein, the Director may revoke, temporarily or permanently, this Licence.



*Larry Strachan*  
Larry Strachan, P.Eng.  
Director, Environment Act

File No: 3117.0