

Community Engagement Summary

Licensing and Environmental Assessment

Community	Fox Lake Cree Nation
Methods of Engagement	<p>On-going agreement discussions November, 2009 - present</p> <p>Community Open House (Round 3) February 22, 2010</p> <p>Project meeting (Round 3) May 18, 2010</p> <p>Community Open House (Round 4) October 7, 2010</p> <p>TK Report (Draft) May 27, 2011</p> <p>Final TK Report December, 2011</p> <p>Email regarding the Keewatinoow Access Management Plan and Bipole III Environmental Protection Plan Meeting - December 14, 2012</p> <p>Keewatinoow Access Management Plan and Bipole III Environmental Protection Plan Meeting March 6, 2013</p> <p>Email regarding the Environmental Protection Program – August 1, 2013</p> <p>EPP cds including Draft Transmission Access Management Plan, Draft Construction Access Opportunities Mapbook, Draft Keewatinoow Converter Station Access Management Plan, Draft Bipole III Transmission AC Collectors and Construction Power Construction Environmental Protection Plan (CEnvPP), Draft Culture and Heritage Resource Protection Plan sent to Fox Lake Cree Nation - August 2, 2013</p> <p>Email invite to EPP meeting – August 14, 2013</p> <p>Email response to invite – August 18, 2013</p> <p>Email including schedule – August 21, 2013</p> <p>Email acknowledging receipt of the cds – August 26, 2013</p> <p>EPP meeting with Fox Lake Elders, a workshop in Bird and a community meeting in Gillam that evening September 5, 2013</p> <p>Email to request a meeting to discuss Environmental Protection Plan review and the request to review the Keewatinoow Converter Station Construction Phase Environmental Protection Plan – September 26, 2013</p>

Category	Summary of Information	Response and/or Mitigation	EPP Component
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Access	A FLCN consultant asked about the number of years FLCN would have restricted access to the Project area.	Manitoba Hydro anticipates that the gate may be down in 2017/18, but the schedule could change depending on schedule for the proposed Conawapa Generating Station.	Keewatinoow C.S. Access Management Plan
	A FLCN consultant made a comment about linking data - cumulative impacts, construction timelines, and incorporating ATK Study into plans. There was some concern that the ATK Study hadn't been sufficiently incorporated into the AMP. There was a question as to whether MH used the TK Report to establish the AMP.	MH reviewed and considered the TK Report when drafting the Access Management Plan. A Draft of this plan was shared and Fox Lake Cree Nation's input into how to further incorporate TK into the Access Management Plan was requested.	Keewatinoow C.S. Access Management Plan
	FLCN wants to be specifically referenced in the Access Management Plan. There was some discussion on the inclusion of the word "rights-holders".	Manitoba Hydro will continue to work with Fox Lake Cree Nation regarding the EPP. A copy of the draft Access Management Plan was sent to Fox Lake Cree Nation on August 2, 2013.	Transmission Access Management Plan
	Will people be able to access / use the Nelson River?	Use of the river will not be restricted. Use of the boat launch will be via the security gate	Keewatinoow C.S. Access Management Plan
Birds	Are there any rare birds or rare plants identified in the area?	Yes rare birds and plants have been identified and mapped. An important bird crossing was identified by Limestone River and no known nesting sites were identified. Rare plants have also been identified and mapped. The Environmental Protection Plan includes mitigation measures for rare birds and plants.	Construction Environmental Protection Plan

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Camps	<p>There was some discussion about the camp, timelines for establishing it, licensing, and water treatment/wastewater lagoon. There was a concern about provincial guidelines for wastewater and for bears entering the camp. There was a question about camp rules.</p>	<p>Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship requirements will be followed regarding wastewater. The rules are currently under development and Fox Lake will have an opportunity to review and make suggestions regarding the rules.</p>	<p>Construction Environmental Protection Plan</p>
	<p>Why is a security gate needed? There were some questions about shots being fired from across the river and into the camp. A FLCN consultant asked about the boat launch. FLCN had some questions about the location of the parking lot and the camp, vis-à-vis the security gate. Where will the workers park? Where is the shuttle pick-up? There was a request for a parking lot. There was a question as to how long people may have to wait at the security gate. FLCN asked a question about security at the gate</p>	<p>Rock trucks will be pulling material from borrow pits and the area will be a construction site so safety is a concern. Sign will be put up around the site to warn people that there are workers in the area. Signs will also remind people who are across the river to not shoot towards the work site. People will still have access to the boat launch but will be escorted through the site as a way to ensure safe travel through the work site. This access will be all year and 24/7. There will be a parking pad at the gate too. Blasting and heavy truck traffic could cause delays. Patrol vehicles will be used to guide people to the boat launch. Prior notification will assist in reducing wait times. Safety is the primary concern.</p>	<p>Keewatinoow C.S. Access Management Plan</p>

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Caribou	<p>Discussion regarding caribou migration. The area contains migration and mating areas for caribou. The proposed converter station / Bipole III area conflict with well known migration route for Pen Island and barren ground caribou and habitat for woodland caribou. Detailed information about these herds is provided. MH continues to refer to woodland caribou as the "summer resident: variety, despite Cree knowledge. Recently, caribou movements have shifted, especially after the construction of the Conawapa road. Frustrations that MH and their consultant dismiss knowledge and expertise of elders and resource users, especially the existence of woodland caribou in the local environment.</p>	<p>Project Partnership with existing ongoing caribou project within TCN and Fox Lake RMAs to monitor Caribou movements and behaviours through existing collaring programs. Manitoba Hydro provided detailed maps so FLCN members can identify areas of interest in respect of caribou.</p>	<p>Monitoring Program</p>
	<p>Discussion regarding the effects on caribou migration specifically between Split Lake and Fox Lake.</p>	<p>Manitoba Hydro is partnered with Resource Management Boards to study Pen Island and Cape Churchill herds.</p>	<p>Monitoring Plan</p>
Clearing	<p>What types of clearing is done for transmission lines?</p>	<p>Manitoba Hydro will use selective cutting which retains shrubs and herbs in permafrost, riparian and other sensitive sites. Generally berries, willows and other shrubs will be left</p>	

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Culture	Concern regarding an identified cultural/ceremonial site and do not want workers to desecrate our cultural areas because we use these areas for traditional purposes.FLCN expressed the need to notify workers about cultural sites and ceremonials sites	Manitoba Hydro intends to continue discussions with FLCN in an effort to address the community's concerns related to the Bipole III Transmission Project. Manitoba Hydro acknowledges the need for careful protection and respect for all culture and heritage resources. The EPP includes a Culture and Heritage Resource Protection Plan to safeguard and appropriately handle culture and heritage resources discovered during the construction of the Project. Manitoba Hydro anticipates working with the community to develop a protocol for in the event of a discovery of a previously unrecorded heritage or culture resource.	Culture and Heritage Resources Protection Plan
	FLCN advised of the importance of cultural awareness training. There are language and social barriers.	Manitoba Hydro plans to implement cultural awareness training for workers at the Keewatinooow Converter Station.	
Engagement	A FLCN consultant suggested that MH establish a single hotline, for all MH projects and issues in the area.	The Licensing and Environmental Assessment Department has Project Phone Line, which is 1-877-343-1631.	Communications Plan
EPP	A FLCN consultant inquired as to the status of the EPP and expressed concerns that it would represent "minimum standards".	Manitoba Hydro strives to meet or exceed best practices with the Environmental Protection Program	

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Fires	Concern was expressed in relation to downed power lines on Bipole III and fires that may result	Bipole III line design has adopted a high reliability level (1 in 150 year) accepted by the industry to design its transmission towers. This means that a tower may fail once in a 150 years for expected ice and wind conditions in Manitoba. This is a marked improvement in comparison to the existing Bipole I & II tower design that incorporated an approximately 1 in 50 year failure rate. The Bipole I & II towers have only experienced one catastrophic failure in their life time. Some portions of the Bipole III line will be designed with an expected 1 in 500 year failure rate.	
Harvesting	The site of Keewatinoow is an area people use to harvest plants and berries and there are also known heritage resources in that area.	Manitoba Hydro continues to work with community Elders and harvesters to identify sites and mitigation measures. The latest meeting was held in September 2013.	Culture and Heritage Resources Protection Plan
Heritage	Concerns that the Keewatinoow converter station may disturb an ancient ancestors' final resting place. FLCN is in discussion to develop a heritage policy protocol.	Manitoba Hydro will work with Fox Lake Cree Nation to ensure that their concerns regarding the disturbance of their ancient ancestors' final resting place are addressed. Manitoba Hydro has developed a Bipole III cultural and heritage protection plan that has been shared with Fox Lake Cree Nation. Manitoba Hydro will continue to seek input and review from FLCN in the development of this plan.	Culture and Heritage Resources Protection Plan

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	Request that the review process be re-initiated from a meeting in October. FLCN representatives will send the notes so the discussion can be re-initiated. There are concerns with the draft Heritage Resources Protection Plan (HRPP).	Manitoba Hydro asked FLCN to please send their comments regarding the Culture and Heritage Resources Protection Plan.	Culture and Heritage Resources Protection Plan
	Two heritage sites were identified at the location of the proposed converter station. Recommendation: further investigation during the next field season and steps should be taken not to further damage the sites.	Following the identification of the two heritage resource sites during a routine Heritage Resource Impact Assessment, meetings and on-site visits with Fox Lake Cree Nation Elders were held. These activities assisted in providing cultural information regarding the stone features that were identified by Project Archaeologists. Appropriate cultural mitigation was suggested by the Elders and implemented by Manitoba Hydro. Accordingly, these two heritage sites were identified in the Bipole III Environmental Protection Plan as an area of concern. It is Manitoba Hydro's intention to develop a Bipole III Culture and Heritage Protection Plan. Manitoba Hydro will seek input and review from FLCN in the development of this plan. Permanent fences are being installed and the site monitored for damage.	Culture and Heritage Resources Protection Plan
Medicine	A FLCN member expressed a concern regarding medicinal plants and the ground electrode site.	Manitoba Hydro will work with Fox Lake Cree Nation to identify sensitive sites that contain plants that are of importance to the community and will consider non-chemical vegetation management in those sites.	Construction Environmental Protection Plan

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Monitoring	<p>FLCN is proposing a "FLCN Aski Protection Plan" as follows:1. Monitoring: independent FLCN monitoring, training, reflective of FLCN values and beyond minimum regulatory requirements. Access management: comprehensive, entire resource area, FLCN Conservation Officers, traplines, Traditional Knowledge and Western Science3. Restoration/rehabilitation: a possible FLCN business, for all past impacts</p>	<p>Manitoba Hydro is working with Fox Lake Cree Nation in the development of the monitoring programs.</p>	<p>Monitoring Plans</p>
	<p>Questions regarding what was being done for mammal monitoring in the Fox Lake area. There is a concern with the lack of studies on burbot, rabbit, and chickens. The community would like MH research practices to allow for greater community collaboration in the determination of what species to study</p>	<p>Manitoba Hydro anticipates involving community liaisons in First Nation and Northern Affairs communities as there was a strong interest identified during the community engagement process for communities to be involved in the monitoring program. The community will select and employ the liaison who will be supported by Manitoba Hydro. The liaison will participate on site with the environmental inspector and the monitor when they are there, identifying environmentally sensitive sites, providing mitigation measure inspection and implementation assistance.</p>	<p>Project Environmental Project Plan</p>
Road	<p>The community asked if the road will be widened and what the speed limit will be (there was a concern about game trails, and whether there was baseline data).</p>	<p>Manitoba Hydro understands the safety concerns of the community about road safety including vehicle speeds, road conditions and the potential for wildlife collisions. Through Manitoba Hydro's access management plans and monitoring plans, Manitoba Hydro will adapt speed limits as required. In the access management plan, a communication strategy including road safety will be shared with project personnel.</p>	<p>Access Management Plan</p>

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Socio-economic	FLCN members inquired as to whether it is expected that wait times at the Gillam Hospital will increase in light of additional workers coming into the area.	MH is having discussions with social service providers in Gillam and will be monitoring the situation.	Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan
Towers	Questions regarding the types of towers that would be used through the traditional area and how wide the right of way would be.	With the exception of specific environmentally sensitive areas, the cleared right-of-way width for the guyed structures used in the northern portion of the lines will be 62 m (203 ft.) within the total 66 m (217 ft.) right-of-way	Construction Environmental Protection Plan
Trapping	Questions regarding the trapper compensation policy and concerns about impacts to trappers overall.	Manitoba Hydro has a Trappers Notification and Compensation Policy that compensates trappers for disturbances while clearing and constructing transmission lines greater than 115kV in capacity. In the case of the Bipole III Transmission Project, the implementation of the Policy is underway and will include discussions with individual registered trappers and users of Open Trapping Zones. Manitoba Hydro is also developing a trapping monitoring program for the Bipole III Transmission Project.	Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan
Vegetation management	Concerns about whether Manitoba Hydro was planning to re-seed during construction	Manitoba Hydro's general approach to re-vegetating areas where construction or maintenance activities have been undertaken is to allow the area to naturally re-vegetate. A Rehabilitation and Vegetation Management Plan is being developed that will prescribe site specific rehabilitation measures.	Rehabilitation and Vegetation Management Plan

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Wildlife	Concerns about impacts on wildlife, in particular, regarding moose and caribou were highlighted. Fox Lake members see Hydro development as one project and there are concerns about the fragmentation of the landscape.	Specific fragmentation sensitivities have been identified along the route and mitigation measures developed to address them (e.g. wildlife corridors, line of sight buffers, discontinuous clearing, access management, etc.).	Construction Environmental Protection Plan
	Discussion regarding the impacts of construction (roads, access ways, transmission lines) on wildlife have seen the decline of animal populations such as caribou and moose since the start of hydro development in the region. Also, excessive noise from construction will scare away the fur bearing animals. This will impact hunting and trapping	Routing power lines through registered trapline areas may disrupt both furbearers and line holders. In general, species that are trapped for fur, food and income respond similarly to disturbance as any other species of wildlife. However, some furbearing animals are generally not affected by winter transmission line construction. Given the short-term duration of construction activities in any one area, effects on furbearing animals and other wildlife are expected to be minor. Manitoba Hydro has a Trappers Notification and Compensation Policy that compensates trappers for disturbances while clearing and constructing transmission lines greater than 115kV in capacity. Biophysical and Socio-Economic Monitoring Plans developed with the community will attempt to address these concerns. Manitoba Hydro is also developing a trapping monitoring program for the Bipole III Transmission Project.	Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan

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Worker interaction	Discussion regarding the influx of workers into the territory increased hunting, fishing by outsiders which may lead to a decrease in species populations and a decrease in the ability of FLFN members to hunt, fish There were concerns that workers would increase pressure on local resources and cause social problems.	Manitoba Hydro will continue to work with Fox Lake to identify and implement programs to manage worker influx effects. These discussions will primarily occur through the Harmonized Gillam Development committee however, identified measures could be incorporated into the Bipole III/Keewatinoow Agreement that Manitoba Hydro is currently negotiating with Fox Lake for the Bipole III Project. In the Access Management Plans, hunting, fishing and the storage of recreation vehicles are prohibited on the Project site by the Project personnel.	Access Management Plan
