

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPONENT: Manitoba Hydro
PROPOSAL NAME: Rapid City 115-12 kV Station
CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: 2
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: Transmission
CLIENT FILE NO.: 4245.00

OVERVIEW:

The Proposal was dated and received on March 27, 1997. The advertisement of the Proposal read as follows:

"A Proposal filed by Manitoba Hydro to construct and operate a new Rapid City 115 -12 kV Station located in SW 25-13-19W. This facility is required for in-service in October 1998 to improve electrical reliability in the area. The station will be supplied power from an adjacent existing 115 kV transmission line. Once the new station is in service, the existing station located in NW 19-13-18W will be salvaged. An Environmental Impact Statement has been filed by Manitoba Hydro in support of the Proposal."

The Proposal was advertised in the Minnedosa Tribune on Tuesday, April 15, 1997. It was placed in the Manitoba Eco-Network, the Centennial Public Library, the Western Regional Library in Brandon and the Town Office in Rapid City. It was also distributed to the "Transportation" TAC members for comment. All comments were requested by May 7, 1997.

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:

Manitoba Natural Resources No comments

Historic Resources No concerns

Mines Branch No concerns

Rural Development No land use concerns

Environment Water Quality Management's concerns have been addressed in the Proposal. Recommend that any new wood pole structures associated with the project are required in wet areas, the preferred preservative is chromium copper arsenate (CCA) as opposed to creosote or pentachlorophenol. The Park West Region recommends that limits be included in the Licence to limit any impact from noise on residential areas.

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Disposition: Comments regarding the preservative for wood poles located in wet areas and noise level limits on residential areas can be accommodated as a condition of licencing.

Health Note that the inclusion in the Environment Act Licence of the proposed environmental mitigation and management practices described in the Proposal are expected to prevent or mitigate potential health hazards from the project.

Disposition: The comments can be accommodated by including a general reference in the licence to the proposed mitigation and management practices documented in the Proposal.

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CCEA) Application of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act will not be required.

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:

Other similar Manitoba Hydro distribution stations licenced under the Environment Act have required that the Licencee comply with the Province of Manitoba Sound Pollution Guidelines. The guidelines state that the Licencee shall not cause or permit the emission of sound from the station which when measured at the property line of the station in a residential area, to exceed an hourly equivalent of 45 dB(a) during the hours of 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. As a result of discussions between TAC and Hydro concerning acceptable station sound levels for stations at the 115 kV level or greater, it was concluded that the Provincial Guidelines could be achieved and should therefore generally apply to all stations of this size licenced under the Environment Act. The 45dB(a) maximum sound level should therefore be included as a condition of Licencing of the Rapid City Station.

The comments received from the technical review of the Proposal can be accommodated as conditions of licencing. It is therefore 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.

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