

ELECTRIC GENERAL RATE APPLICATION 2015**Manitoba Hydro Undertaking #22**

Manitoba Hydro to make inquiries as to whether or not Manitoba Hydro examined an alternative to Bipole III that involved the hardening of the Bipole I and II system with respect to the tower design, spare converters, foundations, and other infrastructure.

Response:

Manitoba Hydro has assessed alternatives to Bipole III involving hardening of the Bipoles I and II lines and stations and do not consider them practical and viable solutions. This is consistent with the findings of consultants which shows that the greatest gains in reducing multi-bipole transmission line catastrophic probabilities is in physical separation rather than strengthening. Any amount of realistic tower strengthening cannot overcome the lack of physical separation. The consultant report (Teshmont Report on "A Weather Risk Assessment of the Existing and Proposed HVDC Transmission Lines", Report No.: 1660-10000, October, 2006.) was filed as an evidence in the Bipole III Clean Environment Commission hearing.