



MANITOBA PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

Re:

MANITOBA HYDRO
NEEDS FOR AND ALTERNATIVES TO
REVIEW OF MANITOBA HYDRO'S
PREFERRED DEVELOPMENT PLAN
PRESENTATIONS

Regis Gosselin	- Chairperson
Marilyn Kapitany	- Board Member
Larry Soldier	- Board Member
Richard Bel	- Board Member
Hugh Grant	- Board Member

HELD AT:

Public Utilities Board
400, 330 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
February 27, 2014
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APPEARANCES

Sven Hombach) PUB Counsel

Odette Fernandes) Manitoba Hydro

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1 --- Upon commencing at 9:05 a.m.

2

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Bonjour and good
4 morning, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Regis
5 Gosselin. I'm the chairman of the Public Utilities
6 Board and will be chairing the panel conducting the
7 Needs For and Alternatives To, NFAT, review of Manitoba
8 Hydro's preferred development plan.

9 The review is taking place pursuant to
10 the terms of reference issued to the Public Utilities
11 Board by the Province of Manitoba. I have requested
12 that copies of the terms of reference be placed at the
13 back of the hearing room should anyone want a copy.
14 The terms of reference are also available on the
15 Board's website.

16 There are a total of five (5) members of
17 the NFAT panel, and I would like to introduce my four
18 (4) colleagues. They are Marilyn Kapitany on my
19 extreme right, Mr. Rick Bel, Hugh Grant, and Mr. Larry
20 Soldier.

21 In conducting the review, the panel is
22 also assisted by the PUB's executive director, Hollis
23 Singh, and associate secretary, Kurt Simonsen,
24 regulatory assistants, Nancy-Anne Cribbs and Diana
25 Villegas, and project manager Josee Lemoine, as well as

1 legal counsel and technical advisors.

2 Manitoba Hydro's preferred development
3 plan involves the largest infrastructure project ever
4 undertaken in the Province of Manitoba. And the
5 province is relying on the NFAT panel to make informed
6 recommendations as to the need for Hydro's preferred
7 development plan, and then overall assessment as to
8 whether or not the plan is the best -- is in the best
9 long-term interests of the Province of Manitoba when
10 compared to other options and alternatives.

11 The oral portion of the NFAT hearing
12 will start next Monday, on March 3rd, 2014.

13 Aside from Manitoba Hydro, there are
14 several other participants in the hearing. Firstly,
15 the Board has approved five (5) Intervenor will full
16 participation rights.

17 Secondly, pursuant to the terms of
18 reference, the Board has appointed eight (8)
19 independent expert consultants that have examined
20 different aspects of Manitoba Hydro's preferred
21 development plan, have filed reports and will be
22 testifying at the hearing.

23 While the NFAT involves a review of some
24 commercially sensitive information that cannot be
25 disclosed publically, it's the Board intention to

1 conduct as transparent a hearing as possible and have
2 as much information as possible accessible to the
3 public. On the PUB's website there is a designated
4 site for the NFAT that includes Manitoba Hydro's
5 filing, answers to Information Requests, expert reports
6 filed by Intervenors, and expert reports by -- filed by
7 independent expert consultants.

8 The proceedings starting next Monday
9 will also be transcribed and hearing transcripts will
10 be published on the NFAT website on a daily basis. The
11 Board encourages all members of the public with an
12 interest in the proceedings to review these materials.

13 As part of the NFAT review, the Board
14 also wants to hear from interested members of the
15 public. The public has been encouraged to provide
16 input and comments on Manitoba Hydro's plan. The Board
17 has received several written presentations from
18 citizens and organizations. Those written
19 presentations from citizens and organizations have been
20 posted on the Board's website and will also be included
21 in a transcript of proceedings. For those citizens and
22 organizations that have expressed an interest in making
23 oral presentation, today is the day reserved for such
24 presenters.

25 On behalf of the panel, I'd like to

1 welcome you all to the hearing room. The Public
2 Utilities Board looks forward to hearing the
3 perspective each of you will bring forward.

4 Before we get started I will now ask the
5 Board's legal counsel, Sven Hombach, to explain the
6 procedure to be followed today. Me. Hombach, s'il vous
7 plait.

8 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Merci. Bonjour, M.
9 le President. Good morning, members of the Board. I
10 too would like to welcome all the presenters to the
11 hearing room today, as well as members of the public
12 that may be attending.

13 The Public Utilities Board rules of
14 practice and procedure allow for two (2) types of
15 participants in a hearing before the Board: The first
16 are Intervenors. Intervenors have a full right of
17 participation. They can adduce evidence. They can
18 cross-examine parties in the Hearing.

19 And the second group are presenters, who
20 have the right to file a written submission to the
21 Board and to make an oral presentation to the Board
22 outside the evidentiary record of the hearing. And
23 today is the day reserved for presenters.

24 Now, since the Province of Manitoba
25 issued its terms of reference last April, a notice of

1 hearing has been published in major newspapers in
2 Manitoba on two (2) separate occasions. And Manitoba
3 Hydro has also served the Notice of Hearing on all
4 prior Intervenor of record in Manitoba Hydro
5 proceedings before the PUB, as well as before the Clean
6 Environment Commission. And the Public Utilities Board
7 has received an affidavit of public -- publication and
8 service indicating that this has happened. The Notice
9 of Hearing also advised members of the public that they
10 could register for presenter status if they so wished.

11 And, Mr. Chairman, to date the Public
12 Utilities Board has received a number of written
13 presentations. All of those are available to the
14 public on the NFAT website. And in addition to that, a
15 number of individuals have registered with the Board to
16 deliver an oral presentation today. And I would like
17 to refer everyone to the computer screens in front of
18 you that show the presenter's schedule for today.

19 The morn -- most of the morning has been
20 reserved for members of Pimicikamak, a Cree Nation in
21 Manitoba. I was advised shortly before the Hearing
22 though, Mr. Chairman, that the schedule of presenters
23 for Pimicikamak has changed compared to what is
24 currently on the screen, and perhaps I can ask Ms.
25 Villegas to flash up the newest version of the

1 schedule.

2 Before you, you have the current
3 schedule of Pimicikamak presenters and, Mr. Chairman,
4 the panel has been provided with written copies of
5 that, as well. There's extra copies of the schedule in
6 the back if anybody would like them.

7 In the morning, you will also hear
8 presentation from Mr. Melvin on behalf of Lake of the
9 Pembina Project. In the afternoon there is currently
10 four (4) additional presenters: Allan Ciekiewicz, an
11 individual presenter; Ed Lohrenz speaking on behalf of
12 Geo-Xergy Systems Inc. and the Manitoba Geothermal
13 Energy Alliance; Daniel Lepp Friesen speaking on behalf
14 of 50by30; and Bruce Duggan, speaking on behalf of the
15 Buller Centre.

16 Now, I would like all presenters to take
17 note of a few procedural matters. First of all, as the
18 Chairman mentioned, presentations do not have the
19 status of evidence, so you will not have to swear an
20 oath to speak today, nor will you be subject to cross-
21 examination by myself or any legal counsel from
22 Manitoba Hydro or the Intervenors.

23 However, presentations do form part of
24 the public hearing process and the public record. So
25 there will be a written transcript prepared of today's

1 presentations. That transcript will be made available
2 on the NFAT website once it is ready.

3 If you've delivered a written
4 presentation, that presentation will be taken as read
5 by the court reporter. What that means is, if you have
6 a written presentation you do not need to read it into
7 the record today. It will form part of the transcript.
8 And the written presentations have been provided to the
9 court reporters.

10 Now, to deliver your presentations, you
11 should have a microphone in front of you. On the base
12 of that microphone is a button. The microphone will be
13 live if the red light is flashing. If the red light is
14 on, your speech will be recorded for the court
15 reporter.

16 Each of the presenters will have fifteen
17 (15) minutes allotted to their presentations this
18 morning, and I'd ask each one of your to aim to abide
19 by that time limit. Now, the Board will not cut you off
20 in mid-sentence after the expiry of fifteen (15) minute
21 but it will enforce reasonable time limits to the
22 presentation because there are a number of presenters
23 all looking to speak today.

24 If after the conclusion of oral
25 presentations today you would still like to file a

1 written presentation, that can be done. You can file
2 that presentation in paper copy or by email with the
3 Public Utilities Board, and it will be made available.

4 Now, there are a number of parties that
5 have asked to deliver a presentation by PowerPoint. The
6 Board has technology available that will allow you to
7 advance a PowerPoint from your own laptop computer and
8 have it flashed up on the screens in front of you. If
9 any of you are looking to have a written presentation
10 put up, that can be done in a few minutes. We'll just
11 take a short break and we'll get that ready.

12 Now, before we get started with the
13 first presentation this morning, are there any
14 procedural questions from registered presenters?

15

16 (BRIEF PAUSE)

17

18 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: If there aren't any
19 questions, Mr. Chairman, then I would suggest that the
20 panel -- yes?

21 MR. DAVID MUSWAGGON: Okay, sorry. My
22 name is David Muswaggon, Muswaggon is spelled M-U-S-W-
23 A-G-G-O-N. I am a member of the executive council of
24 Pimicikamak Okimawin. I decided to let the panel know,
25 and the people that are here today, that our Chief is

1 unable to make it because he -- she sustained an injury
2 that's pretty much sidelined her for a couple weeks.
3 So she's asked me to produce her statement on her
4 behalf. And -- and we've combined our presentations,
5 hers and mine, in -- in one (1) package. And we also
6 have some CDs we have here that we want to present to
7 the panel with -- about our map and a history of our
8 people, and a backgrounder on Pimicikamak.

9 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Thank you, Mr.
10 Muswaggon. If you'd like to flash any of those
11 materials on screen, please let us know, and we can
12 arrange that.

13 MR. DAVID MUSWAGGON: Yeah, that will
14 be part of the presentation. And I brought two (2)
15 copies here, so I don't know who I give this one (1)
16 copy to, in terms of -- for your records.

17 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Mr. Chairman,
18 perhaps we can take a short break to see if that
19 material can be put on screen and then the panel will
20 reconvene.

21 THE CHAIRPERSON: Yes, let's do that.

22

23 --- Upon recessing at 9:16 a.m.

24 --- Upon resuming at 9:30 a.m.

25

1 PRESENTATION BY PIMICIKAMAK:

2 MR. DAVID MUSWAGGON: Okay, good
3 morning, the panel and all the people that are present
4 here. I have a presentation here on behalf of Chief
5 Cathy Merrick. Like I said, I am an executive council
6 member Pimicikamak Okimawin.

7 And our presentation is not specifically
8 geared towards the issue of ratepayers, but the
9 indirect cost leading up to the concerns raised by
10 ratepayers. So if you can bear with us, how we look at
11 this issue from a Pimicikamak perspective based on our
12 laws and our system of governance, I would appreciate
13 that.

14 First of all, I want to say tanisi,
15 meaning, hi, good morning, how are you, in our
16 language.

17

18 (BRIEF PAUSE)

19

20 MR. DAVID MUSWAGGON: Okay, I'm here to
21 present a statement for Cathy Merrick, our Chief of the
22 Nation, on behalf of Pimicikamak Okimawin. She sends
23 her regrets and cannot be here. As I stated earlier,
24 she sustained in injury and actually hasn't been able
25 to present this herself.

1 We have presented to your technicians
2 here a copy of our Pimicikamak map so people can
3 appreciate our homeland, our traditional territory,
4 where we come from. And it looks like this: It shows
5 a map that was signed off by the Surveyor General of
6 Canada in 1877 that honoured recognition of our
7 existence as a people, and our traditional territory
8 when the treaties were entered into with the British
9 Crown in 1877. So that has been provided to your
10 technical support workers here.

11 And we've also provided a digital copy
12 of a document called 'The History of Pimicikamak
13 Peoples'. And I will cover that throughout the
14 statement, what -- what -- who we are and where we come
15 from.

16 As you can see, this map, it's a vast
17 tract of land throughout Manitoba and parts of Ontario
18 and Saskatchewan. After the treaty was entered into by
19 our forefathers, Tepastenam was his name, a spiritual
20 leader who led his people throughout its territory at
21 the time, when the British treaty commissioners came.
22 This is the tract of land that they would set aside for
23 the use and benefit of her Indian subjects.

24 In moving forward with the presentation,
25 so since we are holistic people, we're not used to

1 dealing with compartmentalized issues. We look at
2 things holistically, and that's what we are here to
3 present. So they're not -- like I said, they're not
4 directly related to ratepayer concerns that come before
5 you, PUB, but rather the cumulative effects of hydro
6 projects that generate electricity which enables your
7 governing body to oversee how rates are established for
8 consumers.

9 Pimicikamak is here to share their
10 concerns of the continuing -- continuing escalating
11 costs of using hydro electricity we receive in our
12 homes throughout Pimicikamak territory. This service
13 is provided by Manitoba Hydro.

14 Most of this electricity generated comes
15 from the wealth of our natural resources from our
16 homeland. We understand that Hydro has requested PUB
17 to increase the established rates with it -- which it
18 expects ratepayers to absorb. We do not support such a
19 request since the increasing cost from Hydro results
20 from plans to construct more dams and destroy more of
21 our home and our ways of life.

22 We say this because we know that
23 existing Hydro dams from Hydro generate enough
24 electricity to provide adequate electricity to all
25 homes and businesses throughout Manitoba.

1 So why would Manitoba Hydro ask for an
2 increase in these rates? Pimicikamak people have
3 suffered enough through the environmental, social, and
4 economic, and human costs. The price tag has been too
5 high and continues to spiral out of control.

6 Our traditional economies and ways of
7 life have been turned upside down. There is no
8 regulatory body to address these costs and how they --
9 how they are to be paid for; only hydro rates through
10 PUB. As the original people who owned this land, a
11 once beautiful land with a wealth of natural resources,
12 is now decimated as a result of the power of economics.
13 We can no longer subsidize Hydro's plans to continue to
14 construct more dams and suffer the consequences to
15 destroy more lands, our ways of life, and increase our
16 social and economic misery.

17 Pimicikamak can no longer sustain its
18 survival as a result of these things. And I will give
19 you examples of why we say ratepayers can no longer
20 continue to absorb this burden.

21 We continue to suffer in silence as a
22 result of the treaties not being honoured in good
23 faith. We believe that there are other alternatives
24 that are reasonable in cost and more environmental
25 friendly that can generate electricity so it does not

1 impact ratepayers as a whole in the long run to keep
2 paying for these absorbent cost -- exorbent (sic)
3 costs. Pardon me, excuse me.

4 Further, how can PUB continue to
5 establish regulating hydro rates and increase those
6 rates incrementally to appease the Crown Corporation's
7 appetite for the need to construct more dams and result
8 in more destruction to our traditional territory, our
9 way of life, and expect ratepayers to carry that burden
10 of the environmental and economic cos -- costs of just
11 doing business?

12 What is more disrespectful, in our view,
13 as a Pimicikamak people is the fact that Hydro has been
14 operating its dams throughout our traditional territory
15 without permits. And this is a concern to us because
16 this gen -- electricity that is being generated comes
17 from our river systems, and we're paying the costs for
18 that, and it's way too high.

19 Where is the moral, social, and
20 environmental and economic justice? Why are the
21 disparities so great?

22 In the Northern Flood Agreement we were
23 promised our charter rights and benefits, but they have
24 been so one-sided in the past 40 years or so.

25 Our Elders always mentioned they were

1 promised to pay elec -- hydro electricity bills at
2 eight dollars (\$8) a month per household. This has not
3 materialized.

4 Our Elders were promised that the water
5 levels and ways of life would not be adversely
6 affected. They were told that the water would only go
7 as high as the height of this pen, or as low as the
8 height of this pen, and that hasn't happened. As a
9 matter of fact, in some years water dropped as high as
10 9 feet. We were able to walk across the lake. Our
11 once clean water has been turned upside down.

12 Our ways. We can no longer practise
13 most of our traditions, because there is a risk of
14 exercising our rights: people dying, people getting
15 hurt, people getting stranded. The list goes on.

16 Yet the hydro electricity and the
17 project generated billions of dollars, and the south
18 has lived in luxury at the expense of our misery, just
19 like the lights you see here that you enjoy today in
20 these big buildings.

21 We can go on and on with more examples
22 of this. Our commentary is the voices of many of our
23 Pimicikamak citizens, not just mine and the statement
24 of our Chief of the Nation. Our views are holistic
25 based on our history, our system of laws, our system of

1 government; and it's a system of reality.

2 When we speak about integrity about this
3 process, in our language we say tapwaywin. How do we
4 deal with the truth in addressing these constant
5 increases, the cost of doing business, and at whose
6 expense.

7 For our people, the promises made in
8 those treaties are sacred. Right from Treaty 5 to the
9 modern day treaty of the Northern Flood Agreement. We
10 view them as sacred covenants. Where is the law of
11 equity and fairness?

12 As a ratepayer, our costs are holistic,
13 not just on the Hydro bills we get monthly. Our Hydro
14 bills are outrageous. How can Pimicikamak peoples
15 afford to pay such rates when unemployment is at 85
16 percent, yet governments and Hydro promise to eradicate
17 mass poverty and mass unemployment? Some pay as much
18 as four (4) to six hundred dollars (\$600) a month on
19 their Hydro bills, yet they only get thirteen hundred
20 dollars (\$1,300) a month on welfare. And that's just
21 the Hydro bill alone. That does not take into account
22 their food, their clothing, feed all their kids.

23 Hydro has opted to turn to financial
24 deals with the Cross Lake Band of Indians which does
25 not have Aboriginal and treaty rights, or title to the

1 land. This was done to cap the cost of honouring their
2 promises, so they continue to enjoy the luxuries
3 generated from our homeland. So we have to ask
4 ourselves, in -- increasing ratepayers, if its
5 justified. Pimicikamak says no.

6 PUB, we ask you that you see the big
7 picture in the cost of the power of economics of just
8 doing business. You have your system of law that
9 deliberate those matters, but we are here to present to
10 you our point of view and our system of law.

11 Speaking for ourselves and who we are as
12 a Pimicikamak people, we are an indigenous nation
13 called Pimicikamak. We have a particular territory
14 called Pimicikamak; and that's the map that we have
15 shown you and presented to you, as well. Pimicikamak
16 is not a new name for a Cross Lake Band of Indians, or
17 a Cross Lake First Nation, which is a politically
18 correct term. That's the creation of the Indian Act.

19 Pimicikamak has always been there, and
20 it's always functioned orally. Pimicikamak is a
21 sovereign indigenous nation located in northern
22 Manitoba. It's territory is shown on the map and
23 speaks for itself, which we call Manitoba now and parts
24 of Saskatchewan and Ontario. This is a known fact.

25 This sovereign indigenous nation was

1 recognized by the British Crown by virtue of Treaty 5
2 and Section 35 of the Constitution Act. We respect the
3 system of governance established by Canada, and we ask
4 that they respect and trust our system of laws and our
5 governnace and our homeland, and our existence.

6 I am not here to debate the system,
7 whether the process is right and wrong, but we are here
8 to share with you our concerns about the ongoing
9 escalating costs, and how Hydro projects affect our
10 land.

11 By virtue of the sovereign auto --
12 authority and the right to govern its lands and people,
13 Pimicikamak entered into that Peace and Friendship
14 Treaty with the treaty commissioners representing the
15 British Crown. In trust, respect, and honour,
16 Pimicikamak accepted that treaty relationships with the
17 Crown, known as Treaty 5. Pimicikamak understands this
18 treaty to be one of friendship and peace, and it's a
19 sacred covenant to my people; where the lands would be
20 shared with the Crown and its people coming into the
21 island, what is known now as North America.

22 History has shown Treaty 5, including
23 the Northern Flood Agreement, has not been honoured in
24 spirit and intent, in fairness and in equity. Many
25 staps -- may steps have been taken to deny Pimicikamak

1 its fair share of the wealth generated off their lands.
2 Pimicikamak has adopted a policy of adaptation to meet
3 the needs of various challenges it faces. Pimicikamak,
4 which is -- which is a people-driven government
5 contrary to the system of government established by
6 Canada, it's past it's own national laws, national
7 policies, and today Pimicikamak is governed by four (4)
8 councils. The three (3) traditional councils comprise
9 of Elders, women, youth and the executive council,
10 which is ex officio chief and council of the Indian
11 Band.

12 Pimicikamak is not a band or First
13 Nation, which was something that was created entirely
14 by, and imposed by -- on Indigenous peoples by the
15 Federal Government through the Indian Act. Pimicikamak
16 is a party to the British Treaty known as Treaty 1 to
17 11 and the Northern Flood Agreement Treaty.

18 Treaty 5, Pimicikamak granted rights to
19 the Crown and settlers by virtue of the Treaty to use
20 the lands. In the Treaty 5 relationship, the Crown and
21 its agents, Canada, Manitoba and Manitoba Hydro, have
22 responsibilities to live up to.

23 These responsibilities include, but are
24 not limited to, true stewardship to the lands belonging
25 to Pimicikamak, who have agreed to share it.

1 Pimicikamak people are waiting in good faith with the
2 Crown to implement their promises in good faith.
3 Pimicikamak people should not have to come to you, as
4 an agent of the Crown, to remind you of the Treaty
5 obligations. It is offensive and disrespectful for the
6 Crown and its agents not to honour the sacred covenants
7 of the Treaty promises made.

8 We understand PUB has a limited scope in
9 its authority in determining some of matters that are
10 indirectly or directly related to hydro projects.

11 Pimicikamak ancestors were mindful of
12 their nation's future and the unborn. They gave their
13 ancestors permission to live with us on our lands.
14 This was based on respect, trust, and honour, when the
15 Bri -- British Treaty was concluded. The adhesion to
16 the treaty, the NFA, has not changed to date. It added
17 more responsibilities to that Treaty.

18 We are here, because we believe in the
19 integrity of the process. We are relying on you, as
20 one of the agencies representing the Crown, to do the
21 right thing, and to bring justice to this process. We
22 have approached other regulatory bodies to tell them
23 the truth about hydro impacts. The laws and
24 regulations established by Canada cannot be
25 conveniently used. That's what we meant about

1 integrity: tapwayin.

2 So we are working hard to educate people
3 to know who we are as a Pimicikamak people, and the
4 consequences in the adverse effects we've face in light
5 of hydro projects, where ratepayers, like myself and
6 other people, raise concerns with the ongoing,
7 escalating costs of receiving hydroelectricity in our
8 homes.

9 I believe all people's concern about
10 hydro's adverse effects on the lands, and the people
11 living in those lands need to be exposed. The truth
12 needs to be told. The truth needs to be seen. Then
13 you'll understand our view of what integrity is.

14 Our survival is at stake as a
15 Pimicikamak people. Our traditional economies and
16 customs have been eroded. Our own critical
17 infrastructure that has sustained us for thousands of
18 years is being washed away. Our people are sick. Our
19 people are dying. We cannot continue to pay for this
20 hydroelectricity, at this rate and -- and in this
21 manner. Erosion is out of control.

22 An example of this is, as a result of
23 hydroelectricity being generated in our homeland at --
24 in the map you see, where one of the major rivers runs
25 through our territory, Nelson River, which we call

1 Kichesippi, as a result of erosion, lot of our
2 ancestors remains have been exposed, which you will see
3 later on from other presenters. The reality and the
4 costs of doing business.

5 So, it's not only about paying for
6 hydroelectricity in the homes; it's the overall
7 cumulative effects that have affected our people.

8 Pimicikamak still honours those Elders
9 who make the decision to agree to Treaty 5 and the NFA.
10 In 1977, it was the Elders of the five (5) communities
11 negotiate and agree to the terms of the North Flood
12 Agreement. This (sic) agreements were settled then.
13 It was not the Chief and councils who negotiated the
14 treaties; it was the wisdom of the Elders that
15 established those relationships through the Northern
16 Flood Committee.

17 Pimicikamak became the successor to the
18 Northern Flood Committee, which is referred to as NFC,
19 not the Indian bands. The leadership at the time were
20 instructed by the Elders back then to sign the NFA in
21 its spirit and intent. Pimicikamak still awaits
22 honourable implementation of the 1977 agreement.

23 The NFA Article 25 is clear. It states
24 that the NFA should remain in force and binding on the
25 parties for the lifetime of the project. So if Hydro

1 wants to increase their rates to accommodate its needs,
2 Pimicikamak should be accommodated to create employment
3 and training to the maximum possible extent to address
4 the concerns about ratepayers not paying.

5 Pimicikamak is the only nation that
6 still retains its full NFA rights. The responsibility
7 is in the hands of the Crown and its agents to do the
8 right thing. The truth of the matter is this. Our
9 homeland, netusky (phonetic) land, has been turned
10 upside down. The environment has been destroyed. Our
11 traditional economies have been stroy -- destroyed, our
12 health. Our social fabric is no longer stable. Our
13 waters are no longer healthy to consume. Navigable
14 waterways are no longer safe. Our animals and fish are
15 no longer healthy. Our traditional food chain is
16 affected and affects the physical and mental health of
17 our people. We are confined to an Indian reserve where
18 we can no longer exercise that health. We were a
19 vibrant, hardworking people at one time, where we would
20 have the ability to pay for those hydro bills. This
21 dampens our spirit.

22 And we apologize. It's hard every time
23 we go through this exercise to talk about the truth,
24 because the pain is there, the pain is real. We were
25 led to believe that 1977 NFA implementation would

1 replace our traditional economies and develop new ways
2 to sustain our survival.

3 Pimicikamak understands the NFA's -- the
4 wishes of the people. Implementation calls for
5 professional planning based on fact-based needs to
6 support the rationale of implementation, processes
7 resulting from the adverse effects of the project.

8 Our people our sick and they're dying,
9 because our mother earth is sick and cannot continue to
10 sustain us. We have a responsibility to make conscious
11 decisions. We have to see, we have feel, and we have
12 to walk in the shoes of the oppressed in order to
13 understand. Our people do not want to be spoon-fed with
14 continued dependency with handouts. We have seen many
15 approaches by others how to implement the NFA.

16 Historically, we have been very good,
17 reliable workers; good, responsible men who have looked
18 after the welfare of their families. The love for
19 their lands and traditional economies sustained them.
20 Our women were good, responsible caregivers and keepers
21 of life. They also cherished the sacred relationships
22 they had with the lands and the waters that enabled
23 them to raise their children in a healthy way with
24 healthy lands and healthy foods.

25 The wisdom of the Elders were aware the

1 project would impact us; they are not sure in what and
2 how much. After so many decades, we have seen the
3 results of the devastation.

4 The NFA is clear of the responsibilities
5 of what needs to be done to address the adverse
6 effects. Our understanding is the adverse effects
7 would be mitigated first, to be followed by
8 remediation; lastly, compensation. This is the
9 standard for implementing the NFA. Somehow this has
10 gone backwards.

11 We have heard many alternative
12 agreements that have been signed, but we are no better
13 off today. Why should Manitoba Hydro be continued to
14 increase ratepayer rates and go ahead and build another
15 generating station? Many of the NFA responsibilities
16 have not been met, and they fall far short of achieving
17 viability for Pimicikamak to sustain itself.

18 Benefit sharing: Pimicikamak is an
19 inherent and treaty rights holder, not a stakeholder.
20 Sharing in the wealth of natural resource development
21 should be done in a transparent, accountable, visible,
22 fair, and equitable way. The wealth generated from the
23 Hydro projects determines how they sell the product
24 they produce generated from our lands.

25 History shows that the project does, and

1 will continue to adversely affect Pimicikamak. The
2 impacts continue to accumulate. Pimicikamak suffers
3 the costs and burdens of this. Mitigation measures
4 need to be implemented in a professional, planned way
5 to address the environmental harms, and to the people
6 who live there.

7 Let's start cleaning up the mess in a
8 serious way. Let's create employment to the maximum
9 possible extent so the people there can pay for their
10 Hydro bills that heat their homes and give them the
11 light, lighting that they need every day. The
12 environmental and economic benefits will start flowing
13 for Pimicikamak by implementing meaningful and
14 practical plans to mitigate the problems created by
15 Hydro.

16 We need to start implementing NFA in
17 spirit and intent. Pimicikamak has plans, and
18 available to move forward. This is how benefits should
19 flow. We wouldn't be here today if we weren't
20 concerned about many issues, including the issue of
21 ratepayers and the continued increase of our monthly
22 Hydro bills.

23 Why should the benefits of any -- of new
24 dams be not only shared when we all -- also have to
25 consider existing dams that continue to generate

1 revenue from the lands and waters of the original
2 people that live there? In our view, this isn't set up
3 and may -- do not make sense to us, and that's our
4 view.

5 To make sense of the decisions requires
6 that layer of the truth. We live right below Jenpeg
7 dam, and we pay more than any other Manitobans.
8 Hydroelectricity to the homes in the city is cheaper
9 than where we come from.

10 I will end by saying to Manitobans, we
11 say in closing Hydro rates are still too high as is,
12 and we need to find a way to make the service we
13 receive to be more affordable. One of the ways is to
14 stop constructing more dams, spending more money in
15 constructing new dams, borrowing more money, where the
16 ratepayers continue to absorb that cost, today and
17 moving forward.

18 There are cheaper and reliable
19 alternatives, energy options we can refer to. Wind
20 farms, solar are just to name a few. We believe these
21 are cheaper, they are cleaner, and they're more
22 environmentally friendly. Renewable energy should be
23 clean and green. (CREE LANGUAGE SPOKEN). Thank you
24 very much.

25

1 (BRIEF PAUSE)

2

3 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Thank you, Mr.
4 Muswaggon. I would suggest to the panel now to call on
5 Pimicikamak's second presenter, which I understand to
6 be Councillor Donny McKay.

7 MS. MARILYN KAPITANY: Just a question
8 of clarification. Thank you, Mr. Muswaggon, for your
9 presentation.

10 I believe I heard you say that Hydro
11 rates in Pim -- Pimicikamak are between four hundred
12 (400) and six hundred dollars (\$600) a month?

13 MR. DAVID MUSWAGGON: That -- that is
14 correct, yeah. They vary depending on the size of the
15 home. Some are -- just regular homes, they're
16 averaging at that rate, minimum four hundred dollars
17 (\$400). And they're based on estimates, not actuals.
18 And we've been told that they base their billing on
19 population density. Where we come from, there's a
20 multiplier added to that cost.

21 And our people just do not understand,
22 when we live right below the dam and they are pay --
23 promised eight dollars (\$8) a month on Hydro bills way
24 back, and I was part of the negotiation that was
25 settled through Northern Flood, they just -- our

1 people, especially our Elders, just do not understand
2 why we keep paying the burden on that.

3 MS. MARILYN KAPITANY: Thank you. That
4 for the clarification.

5 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Mr. McKay...?

6 MR. DAVID MUSWAGGON: I -- I apologize.
7 And -- and that's what I was alluding to earlier today.
8 The Chief couldn't make it. Councillor Donny McKay was
9 supposed to be here to speak on behalf of the Chief, so
10 we combined all our presentations in one (1).

11 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Okay, thank you, Mr.
12 Muswaggon. Who is Pimicikamak's next presenter then?
13 Is it Mr. Paupanakis? Okay, please go ahead.

14 MR. DARWIN PAUPANAKIS: Good morning.
15 My name is Darwin Paupanakis, and I'm glad to be back
16 here. I was part of the initial pre-conference hearing
17 that we had here months ago. And I did plan to go
18 through a presentation.

19 I did plan to have a presentation that I
20 prepared for you this morning, but, unfortunately,
21 while I was -- we were having breakfast, I -- it got
22 lost on my computer. It got erased or something. But
23 -- but I have it in my heart, so I will go through it.

24 And I guess, first of all, we're here
25 today, as you can see, without being a funded party.

1 We're here as public presenters today. And we come
2 here with much representation from our community as
3 much as possible.

4 I am going to go into summary, some of
5 our historical economic situation, where we come from.
6 And then I will also go to the promise to replace,
7 those traditional economies and the way those -- those
8 steps are -- are being carried out at the moment by all
9 the parties involved.

10 So basically, Pimicikamak people have
11 always been sel -- self-sustaining people. We've lived
12 off the land for centuries. And our forefathers have
13 been gatherers, been hunters, fishermen, trappers. And
14 -- and at times, we've also been miners, as we've
15 demonstrated through trade with other Aboriginal groups
16 in the area from before European contact.

17 So in terms of the land itself that's
18 sustained us, Pimicikamak people fished for sustenance
19 during the summers and stockpi -- stockpiled their
20 harvest for the winter, and they did this in accordance
21 with the -- the natural law that we followed.

22 The amount of fish that was available to
23 us was very plentiful, as you can probably gather from
24 the -- the name Canada comes from. In our language,
25 iginatukuskgee (phonetic) means rich land. So that's

1 where that comes from. And then the fish industry back
2 then was for domestic use. And it was also used for --
3 or as -- as part of economic trade with other nations,
4 the Innu Nations and up in the Hudson Bay area.

5 Our people migrated up North to do some
6 trade with those people. Traditionally, there was what
7 would call a trade mission that was often done at
8 certain times of the year. Most of the stuff that was
9 harvested was used for domestic purposes, but it was
10 also used for trade.

11 As I've been told by many of my Elders,
12 that this practice has been going on for centuries.
13 And as we can demonstrate today, that we have a signed
14 Northern Flood Agreement. We have Treaty 5 that we've
15 signed with your Government, Manitoba. The Northern
16 Flood Agreement, we've signed with Manitoba. And the
17 Treaty 5 we signed with Canada.

18 The fishery was a very rich fishery at
19 the time before our hydro development came to
20 Pimicikamak. Export grey fish was the kind of fish we
21 had. And this was plentiful and bountiful and it
22 sustained our people and its -- it also sustained our -
23 - our mobility within the territory when we used dogs
24 in the winter. The fish will be used to -- to supply
25 the -- the fuel needed to transport the other part of

1 our economy, which is the -- the trapping, and also the
2 hunting.

3 Again, fish was a major staple in our --
4 in our economy. It was used for fuel, like I said, the
5 dog teams to transport families as they migrated to
6 follow the -- the animals that were again abundant in
7 the area. There was many, many animals that had
8 pristine habitats and through development of hydro
9 power and the need for and the hunger for power, that
10 the southern communities have now, it's been decimating
11 our economy for years, to the point where it's no
12 longer viable.

13 If it was viable -- viable today, I'm
14 pretty sure that we could afford to pay rates
15 comparable to what -- what is now southern Manitoba.
16 But as you've heard before, those rates are -- have now
17 increased and they've been multiplied by as much as a
18 factor of ten (10), I believe and -- and there's been
19 applied to an economy that cannot sustain the present-
20 day rates that we're paying now.

21 Again, we're paying for hydro power
22 through -- through our lives. We've lost many lives
23 for benefit of the south to have cheap power. And yet,
24 again, as you've heard before, it's just a local
25 generation of power and -- and it's just a -- it

1 doesn't make sense to our people.

2 Again, the habitat that's been
3 destroyed, many of the animals have left the area. The
4 fur industry has declined, not necessarily to the point
5 where it's no longer viable, but it's diminished to the
6 point where it's done for -- as a matter for -- for
7 lifestyle sake, and to keep on maintaining our way of
8 life.

9 And the -- the option of doing that wa -
10 - that way of life has again been diminished by
11 environmental destruction; there's deadheads hanging
12 out on the water, there's hanging ice all over the
13 place. Many of our citizens have -- have lost their
14 ability to -- to support their families through injury,
15 dire -- as a direct of Manitoba Hydro's neglect to
16 maintain and mitigate these ongoing environmental
17 impacts.

18 There was an agreement to go sign in
19 1977; again it's the Northern Flood Agreement where
20 there was a promise to -- to do away with the -- these
21 effects, to mitigate them as much as possible.

22 Now your mandate here is to look at: Is
23 there an alternative to do -- to fill the need for
24 power from the Manitoba Hydro's overall plan?

25 I'm here to tell you that there is a

1 definite, a viable industry out there, within our
2 backyard, through -- through the environmental
3 destruction. As part of it, Manitoba Hydro continues
4 to generate tonnes and tonnes of waste on our lands,
5 and fails to clean -- clean up their mess.

6 We live in this garbage dump and the
7 wasteland as you can probably see from the many
8 pictures that Mr. Settee will show you. It's a vast
9 area of wasteland and it's -- it's energy, it's energy
10 that's being wasted. It's generated by Manitoba Hydro.
11 And for them to come here and say there's a need for --
12 to produce more energy while they're wasting away a lot
13 of energy is -- is what we're here to tell you, that
14 there is a need to look at alternatives.

15 Conservation is a key part of this
16 overall plan that needs to be developed. We believe
17 that Manitoba Hydro has neglected to share with you
18 valuable information that -- that can deliver
19 alternatives for the need for Manitobans to sustain
20 their need for power over the next fifty (50) years.

21 Now, we do not agree with their view,
22 that they've looked at this thing holistically.
23 They've looked at this thing through a narrow -- narrow
24 scope, and we know that building dams, it's a sexy
25 business for Manitoba. We don't believe that it should

1 be viewed that way. We believe that conservation is
2 the way to go.

3 We have attempted to work with Manitoba
4 Hydro through the Northern Flood Agreement to implement
5 such programs as -- as -- such as alternative --
6 alternative energy. Building biomass assimilator
7 energy plants within our communities would certainly
8 alleviate the cost of the energy that's being used by
9 our people. It would certainly bring to light the fact
10 that we can maybe begin to afford some of the costs
11 that are contemplated to be in the future beyond thirty
12 (30) -- thirty (30) years, maybe even earlier than that
13 if we do an alternative energy program for our people
14 up in the North.

15 So lastly, we shared this information
16 with Manitoba Hydro. Manitoba Hydro continues to
17 neglect and ignore our appeals for looking into these
18 projects through the Northern Flood Agreement, and
19 through implementing parts of the agreement that would
20 certainly justify some of the needs that they have for
21 energy power today.

22 We do not agree that we -- that the
23 rates that are there today, we cannot afford no more.
24 And as Manitoba -- Manitobans need to know that this is
25 a fact, and this is not isolated to our people in

1 Pimicikamak territory. It goes farther than that. We
2 feel at -- at this day that the Public -- Public
3 Utilities Board should, and -- and as a requirement it
4 -- it must listen to the needs of Northern Manitoba.

5 Most of the power generated and coming
6 to the south comes from Northern Manitoba, and impacts
7 our people. You will see from pictures that Mr. Settee
8 will present the -- the true cost of developing these -
9 - these projects.

10 And I want you to take into
11 consideration what that means to you personally as a --
12 as a human being. What is -- where is the moral
13 justice in -- in all this -- events that are taking
14 place? This is a -- this is economic terrorism, in our
15 view.

16 And for Manitoba to be part of that, we
17 don't see -- feel that it's right. We feel that
18 Manitoba should -- should take on a role and halt this
19 process, and -- and look at the wider scope of the
20 Utilities Board. Maybe this is not the venue. Maybe
21 this is not the process that we -- we need to look at
22 this, but this is what Manitoba Hydro has -- has done
23 to -- to come and produce their plan for the next mega
24 projects of the -- of Manitoba Hydro.

25 Again, in closing, I would like to thank

1 the -- the Board for hearing us today, and again I -- I
2 strongly and urge you, and -- and I'm compelled to
3 voice out the need for our people to be heard. What
4 you see here is just a few of our people here today.
5 There are more people that need to be heard up in
6 Northern Manitoba. And I feel that you owe it to the
7 citizens of Manitoba to have -- have them be heard.

8 Again, I'm going to ask you again to
9 maybe consider having a public hearing in Thompson,
10 Manitoba, where our people can come and participate and
11 be heard. So in closing, I thank you very much, and on
12 behalf of our people, we look forward to hearing what
13 the -- the Board has to say in -- in terms of our
14 request.

15 We continue to make this request, and in
16 the -- at the end of the day, we are going on a public
17 campaign to make sure that all of our requests are
18 understood by the rest of Manitoba. We're going to use
19 all avenues available to us to make sure that the
20 public knows that we need to be heard. So with that,
21 thank you very much for this morning.

22 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Thank you, Mr.
23 Paupanakis. Does the panel have any questions for Mr.
24 Paupanakis?

25 THE CHAIRPERSON: I wonder if -- if you

1 wouldn't mind, if you find your presentation in your
2 computer would you mind sending us a copy when -- when
3 you do find it? So we'll certainly read it if you send
4 it to us.

5 MR. DARWIN PAUPANAKIS: Yes, I will. I
6 have bits and parts of it that I have here, but it's
7 just the other half of it that I didn't -- that I had
8 lost. So I will send in that -- that submission.

9 As an addition too, I -- I did share
10 with our people online through -- through the social
11 media that I have requested them to be doing written
12 submissions, as well.

13 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Thank you, Mr.
14 Paupanakis. And just by way of a reminder to any
15 presenters, if you're interested in filing a written
16 presentation, the Board is still prepared to accept it.
17 Any presentation can be submitted by sending it to the
18 PUB's website, which is publicutilities@gov.mb.ca, or
19 it can be submitted in paper, as well.

20 Now, Mr. Chairman, if the panel has no
21 further questions for Mr. Paupanakis, we could continue
22 with the next presenter, un -- unless the panel would
23 like a break.

24

25 (BRIEF PAUSE)

1 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: In that case, I'd
2 like to call on the next presenter, which I understand
3 is Mr. Flora Jane Ross. Is that correct?

4

5 (BRIEF PAUSE)

6

7 MS. FLORA JANE ROSS: Good morning. My
8 name is Flora. I'm -- I'm on Women's Council of
9 Pimicikamak Cree Nation. And I -- I had the same
10 problem, sorry, about that, about some parts that I was
11 trying to get my stuff, but it didn't work out. But I
12 -- I will try my best, what -- what I wanted to bring.

13 And as a woman of Pimicikamak Cree
14 Nation, I was born and raised in Pimicikamak. And I'm
15 also a resident school survivor. And I -- and I've
16 seen many -- I've seen many different things in the
17 past, present, and, now, in the future.

18 In the past, things were well and
19 healthy in -- in our community. Mostly, the main
20 resource was the water. In the past, children were in
21 clean water, which they swam. And today, children
22 cannot even go for a swim, not like the way -- in -- in
23 the city life. Like there's -- they have swimming
24 pool. But in our -- in our nation, our children, they
25 don't have nothing like that. Our water is so dirty

1 they can't swim in that dirty water. When they do,
2 they have sickness from there, different kind.

3 And in the past, also, our -- our --
4 that's how we -- we had our babies, in a clean
5 environment. Woman breastfeed their -- their babies.
6 Today it's different. They don't do that anymore
7 'cause there's -- there's different situations at
8 present time. And as a woman, we have roles and
9 responsibilities, and yet today we -- we're -- we have
10 a hard time to do that, because of these difficult
11 situations, especially our health situation.

12 We have a lot of sickness, like
13 diabetes, cancer. And we don't have facilities for our
14 people, for our citizens. And we -- we -- they end up
15 coming to -- to the city to be in the hospital, because
16 we don't have that facilities in -- in our community.
17 We do have hospital, but not in a -- facilities that we
18 need for our people.

19 So they -- and you know, sometimes our
20 citizen not flown out on emergency basis. And I don't
21 know how much it cost for an emergency flight for our
22 citizen to come to be taken here in the city in
23 hospitals, and not only that how -- how much does it
24 cost for them to day -- to stay in a hospital? Like
25 one (1) day, how much does it cost? And these things

1 we -- we can't afford from our own responsibility.

2 I also want to now touch on education.

3 A lot of our young people, they came out for their --
4 for their education because we don't have the -- the
5 kind of school, the -- the courses, or what their
6 interests are, we don't have those. So they end up
7 coming out to further their education. And when
8 they're around here, they -- they don't get enough
9 support or help from -- from wh -- also be there for
10 them.

11 And sometimes, we end up losing our
12 young people; murdered and that. So they -- they end
13 up with no -- not to finish their education, but we --
14 we would only see the bodies sending us to our
15 community. These are a few -- a few things I wanted to
16 mention.

17 Even our -- our houses. That's the
18 other thing, lack of housing. And then sometimes young
19 mothers move to the city. And again, we've been
20 hearing a lot of young women being murdered. These are
21 the issues that we get heard as a mother. Just to see
22 our -- our young people, our children, I won't say,
23 facing that situation. And it's not -- it's not what
24 we expect.

25 And we also have had a lot of special

1 needs children in our communities. Again, we have a
2 lack of facilities that we need for our children. And
3 again that's where we end up sending them out to the
4 city 'cause that's the only place they could get help,
5 sending them out, even though we don't want to do that.

6 For example, I had a niece who had a
7 special-need child. She had no choice but to live here
8 with her son. And my niece ended up murdered in her
9 own apartment. For my grandson to watch his mom being
10 murdered, these are the kind of things we face. And we
11 want to stop that. We want it -- we want to stop it,
12 but we need support.

13 I'm sorry for getting emotional, but
14 this is what -- we have a problem in our nation. And
15 our wish was to have our treaty rights and respect our
16 resources. This water is the life of each and every
17 one. To respect our land. Mother Earth. As a woman
18 of Pimicikamak Cree Nation it's called commit ourselves
19 to our sister with -- with the circle of life.

20 Mother Earth feels stress through
21 creation of life. We also derive strength from -- to
22 make persistent charges through our own decision, is
23 the only connection to grace and that mankind has.

24 It's for Pimicikamak Cree Nation will
25 often see the families without despair, depression,

1 painful emotions. All of the Pimicikamak Cree Nation
2 stand to maintain the connection with Jesus and his
3 sense of spirituality and connection to (CREE SPOKEN)
4 all other problem will prevail.

5 Remain that land is just a relationship
6 with the soul and with the balance comes wellness.
7 Realize that we can no longer allow our youth to endure
8 this despair of painful emotions, sickness and
9 conflicts and losses. Need to -- need to be respected
10 and appreciated so we can continue to learn and -- and
11 teach the ways of our traditional survival skills.

12 Pimicikamak Cree Nation will oversees
13 that of future generations will continue to flourish,
14 to extend time, the time has extended to our aspire
15 creator. And one of the Pimicikamak Cree Nation will
16 spoke.

17 So in -- in closing, thank you for
18 listening. That's all I have.

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much
20 for coming to speak to us. I -- I realize it was
21 difficult things to talk about so we really appreciate
22 hearing from you.

23 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Thank you, Ms. Ross.

24 Do any other panel members have any
25 questions for Ms. Ross?

1 And, Mr. Chairman, I would suggest that
2 we continue with the next presenter, Mervin Garrick.

3 MR. MERVIN GARRICK: Thank you very
4 much. Tansi kitatamiskatinnawon owenowin ochi
5 kisamanto.

6 Tansi. An Elder used to open his
7 remarks with, "I -- I greet you all in the name of our
8 creator." And likewise, I do the same.

9 My name is Mervin Garrick, an executive
10 council member of Pimicikamak Okimawin.

11 I have been involved in dealings with
12 Manitoba Hydro, the provincial government, and the
13 Northern Flood Agreement for many years. I've
14 interpreted meetings for our Elders and our people in
15 our dealings with the -- with Manitoba Hydro provincial
16 government in Manitoba, and the North Flood Agreement.

17

18 (BRIEF PAUSE)

19

20 MR. MERVIN GARRICK: It -- with -- with
21 Manitoba Hydro and its de -- and it's deve -- and its
22 development or, as I say, the destruction of our lands,
23 our waters, and our way of life, there were many, many
24 good things that were promised to our people.

25 As a result, our people have such -- so

1 much respect and trusted that the Northern Flood
2 Agreement would bring such good things to our
3 communities, but this has not materialized as yet.

4 Many of our Elders and a lot of our
5 people have since passed on without seeing any benefits
6 that were promised in the Northern Flood Agreement.
7 This is a very sad thing to -- to say, but it happened.
8 And then again, I question: Does Manitoba Hydro care?
9 I say, no. Does the Province care? And I say, no.

10 We, the Pimicikamak people, have 90
11 percent unemployment in our community. Those people
12 that support Manitoba Hydro are those people that are
13 employed, maybe three hundred (300) -- maybe thirty
14 (30) out of seven thousand (7,000) people.

15 The NFA was to be implemented in spirit
16 and -- and intent, but it has not for the past forty
17 (40) years. Our May 8th, 1989, document, the new la --
18 relationship was signed by the provincial government
19 and Pimicikamak. And we were delighted by this
20 document because it contained that the -- the -- there
21 would be a new working relationship in implementing the
22 Northern Flood Agreement, but this again has been
23 derailed by Manitoba Hydro.

24 And this all goes back or reflects to
25 the statements that were made by one (1) prominent

1 minister from the provincial government in 1985 when he
2 said, The Northern Flood Agreement is too expensive to
3 implement. We will offer them, meaning the NFA bands,
4 money. They will take the money. They are poor
5 anyways, these sort of statements that were made.

6 And today, up to this date, four (4) out
7 of five (5) bands have since signed out their
8 agreements. And as for the Minister's wish of 1985,
9 the Pimicikamak were advised by Elders and the me --
10 and the citizens of Pimicikamak not to accept any
11 buyout agreements, but to seek for full implementation
12 in its spirit and intent.

13 At times, we were called terrorists for
14 our actions for not proceeding or partnering with the -
15 - the buyout schemes. In the late '70s, a well-known
16 policy analyst, Manfred Rehbok, once classified
17 Schedule E of the Northern Flood Agreement as the gold
18 -- goldmine of the NFA, at times, comparing the -- to
19 equal status of the Marshall Plan that was developed
20 after the war in Germany; in other words, to rebuild
21 the destruction and to make it better. But again, this
22 has not happened in Pimicikamak.

23 The NFA promised to eradicate mass
24 poverty and employment. Again, this is -- did not
25 happen. We have 90 percent unemployment. Surely, it's

1 not eradicating mass poverty.

2 We also consider the thousand people
3 homeless as living in poverty, third-world conditions.
4 Mind you, this is happening in Canada. Does the United
5 States have any rivers that they can dam to provide
6 their own electricity, or tho -- or they don't want --
7 or they don't want to for the fear of destroying their
8 beautiness of their lands and waters?

9 How much is their hydro bills compared
10 to seven hundred dollars (\$700) a month hydro bills,
11 our hydro bills. And if the power is generated in our
12 backyards, and yet we have to pay this amount, you
13 know, just to have the service deli -- deli -- this is
14 in our homes.

15 It's costing us from our pockets, and
16 also in lives, and also in the -- the aquatics. Does
17 the United States know that Manitoba Hydro is
18 destroying our people, our lands, and our waters? I
19 urge that they should come and visit to see the mess,
20 the power that they buy is not clean. It's not renew -
21 - renewable. It's God's creation. Do you care?
22 Please do. Thank you.

23 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Thank you, Mr.
24 Garrick. Do any panel members have questions? If --
25 is the panel prepared to proceed with the next

1 presenter?

2

3 (BRIEF PAUSE)

4

5 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: In that case, Mr.
6 Monias...?

7 MR. TOMMY MONIAS: Good morning. My
8 name is Tommy Monias. I've been involved with the
9 Northern Flood Agreement since 1994. I'm still
10 involved in this agreement.

11

12 (BRIEF PAUSE)

13

14 MR. TOMMY MONIAS: So I'm still
15 involved in the Northern Flood Agreement land dispute
16 in terms of the agreement. A few years ago we had Mike
17 Gregerson, the vice president of Xcel Energy that buys
18 power from Manitoba Hydro through Northern States Power
19 in Minneapolis, was part of the task force that would
20 help us implement the Northern Flood Agreement.

21 He also suggested or recommended to
22 Manitoba Hydro the need of alternatives energy sources.
23 He presented through us wind power energy. He also
24 told us that where we live in our Pimicikamak territory
25 had enough wind-sustained renewable energy that does

1 not destroy the environment.

2 Manitoba Hydro sat there to listen to
3 the vice president Xcel Energy Mike Gregerson at the
4 time. They said, No. Xcel Energy president in the
5 United States sat down with us and said, Wind power.
6 Hydro -- Hydro says, No. The explanations of Manitoba
7 Hydro says the wind power cannot carry that new kind of
8 energy into the transmission lines. That's the only
9 excuse they make.

10 Power of economics belongs to Manitoba
11 Hydro and the province because they dictate the power
12 of economics. The flow of power of economics and
13 wealth flow through my territory. The power of
14 economics and wealth is not bonds. We pay the high cro
15 -- high cost of that power and economics that Manitoba
16 Hydro holds, including with the province.

17 We end up with these people talking
18 about poor, and when people are poor the power of
19 economics become the enemy. It victimize people that
20 are poor and offer buyouts. Simple, because they have
21 no other place to go. That's power.

22 The Pimicikamak people, the territory
23 you see has vast wealth of water energy, but the
24 Pimicikamak people have got nothing out of it except
25 for agreements that are not implemented.

1 Even the buyers that buy energy see that
2 now. They see the damages of the environment. That
3 what is Aboriginal treaty rights is about. You will
4 see these pictures there. Manitoba Hydro and the
5 province to claim that Manitoba Hydro is renewable,
6 sustainable, and cheap. Cheap is correct. Why, it's
7 cheap even in Winnipeg when my friend pays seventy-five
8 (\$75) a month, a hundred and nine dollars (\$109). It's
9 even cheaper in Minneapolis, where it's forty-five
10 (45), fifty-five (\$55) a month. While my wife pays in
11 a small trailer four hundred and seventy-nine dollars
12 (\$479) a month.

13 The power of economics that Southern
14 people enjoy, we pay the high cost of economic power
15 that Hydro holds and the province. We presented
16 alternative energy to Manitoba Hydro and the province,
17 biomass and wind energy. They said no. The PUB to
18 have estab -- some credibility for Manitoba Hydro that
19 is promoting to be a clean energy sector.

20 The Minneapolis citizens, in United
21 States, are not buying it anymore. There will be
22 stricter, stricter restrictions of buying Hydro power.
23 Well, now they realize, because of what they see is not
24 clean energy. It's not sustainability yet but cheap.

25 For the Southerners in the United States

1 and here in Winnipeg, the rates are going up by
2 somewhere around about 3.9 percent of increased of our
3 rates. My rate for -- my wife's Hydro bill four
4 hundred and seventy-nine dollars (\$479) will follow in
5 about six hundred (600) bucks. While in Winnipeg's
6 it's probably about another twenty-five (25) bucks, but
7 contract requires the power of economics, that's self-
8 energy to the United States remains the same. Because
9 we don't have the power and honour to just change the
10 contract that was signed already with United States.

11 So when you take a look, a long run at
12 it, can Manitobans support the high cost of \$6 billion
13 project, because the rates are going to keep going up
14 just to pay of high cost of developing future
15 development hydro power.

16 Comes to my question, the power of
17 economics on my side of the point, will we survive?
18 Ninety percent of our people are unemployed, under
19 paid, and seven hundred dollars (\$700) a month in Hydro
20 bills. Who's paying the high cost of economic power
21 here? We are.

22 We watch and stand while transmission
23 lines go through our territory, water is being
24 regulated, and we are sitting right in between two
25 dams, the Jenpeg and Kelsey. And I am paying four-

1 hundred (400) bucks a month. The power of economics
2 involved. Is Hydro and the Province setting power
3 somewhere else for export, \$3.8 million per day,
4 generates electricity exactly where I live. Comes over
5 here. Talk about power of economics and justice, the
6 Public Utilities Board is what you see.

7 Where I live, you will see crosses
8 lining up in some areas in rivers where people drowned.
9 Power of economics destroys people who are trying to
10 exercise their authorized treaty rights. With the
11 power of economics, there's not balance.

12 Xcel Energy recommended to Manitoba
13 Hydro that the Pimicikamak under the Northern Flood
14 Agreement to establish wind power, at least three, so
15 we can provide our energy, and sell that energy through
16 Manitoba Hydro. So Manitoba Hydro can say in the
17 United States, Look we are buying energy that is clean,
18 it's going through our transmissions lines.

19 That's power of economics if you want to
20 develop clean energy. That's what's important here.
21 If these dams are developed as they are, as what the
22 province wanted from Manitoba Hydro, the power of
23 economics belongs to Manitoba and Manitoba Hydro and
24 Manitobans.

25 The power of economics, we pay the high

1 cost of those developments. We end up paying. Hydro
2 thinks it's going to sell it this way to Ontario or
3 Saskatchewan. The Conawapa corridor probably end up
4 into Wisconsin. Can they sell it? Power of economics
5 isn't certain. What if they can't sell it? Who pays
6 all of that? Bankruptcy for the -- for the government
7 and Manitoba Hydro. Power of economics is very, very
8 uncertain at this particular moment.

9 The energy that is also being generated
10 as it is now has enough power and energy sustain
11 Manitobans and you still sell -- export the energy as
12 of now. We don't need to build more dams. We don't
13 need say we want to sell this for the future when you
14 don't even have buyers. Xcel Energy and Northern State
15 Power will not buy energy until they actually see it's
16 green.

17 They don't want to come and visit the
18 Pimicikamak territory to see if it's really renewable,
19 clean, and cheap. Power of economics is very important
20 to Pimicikamak and the wealth that flows through their
21 territory.

22 Thank you very much.

23 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Thank you very much,
24 Mr. Monias. Does the panel have any questions? In
25 that case, Mr. Chairman, I would suggest that we

1 continue with the next presenter unless the panel
2 wishes for a break. Mr. Ross...?

3 Perhaps, if you'd like, we can switch so
4 that you're sitting in the front row.

5

6 (BRIEF PAUSE)

7

8 MR. GEORGE ROSS: Good morning, panel.

9 I guess it's a very important day for -- for you people
10 and for us. I guess the public and also the providers
11 of power, where it comes from, why we are here.

12 I, too, tried to make a -- a presentable
13 presentation, but it was hijacked by their -- by your
14 technology. It froze, like, my wife's presentation,
15 only one (1) page came through. So we waited for it to
16 come through and it never. And we just noted -- were
17 noted -- just notified that bits and parts of pieces
18 came through over there where -- where we were waiting.

19

20 But anyway, I -- I've been around. I've
21 seen pre-Hydro environment, pristine environment.

22 That's where I grew up with my family. My dad was a
23 commercial fisherman; whitefish, pickerel, Northern
24 pike, and also commercial sturgeon fisherman. Same
25 goes for my grandfather. My dad fished in numerous

1 lakes, Nelson River, and also lakes out of Nelson
2 River, inland lakes.

3 And yet dog teams of at least four (4),
4 about sixty (60) dogs, we -- we had to -- us when we
5 were young we had to look after them, so the dogs, they
6 function properly at -- in wintertime.

7 But anyway, in -- I've seen pre-Hydro
8 development in Sipiwesk. That's where we were in the
9 wa -- in -- in every summer. And when Kelsey started
10 in 1957, the Pimicikamak people, they were all over,
11 scattered in camps, in Sipiwesk, and Duck Lake, and
12 other smaller inlets. When -- when Kelsey started
13 because of Inco in Thompson, in -- the mineral
14 discovery in 1956, the Pimicikamak people were pushed
15 off from their breadbasket, one of their prime
16 breadbaskets of Pimicikamak country.

17 Sipiwesk was the land, was the lake of -
18 - land of plenty. There were sturgeon over there, you
19 know that nearly compared to some -- like a small --
20 probably a white -- a white shark. There were some of
21 them huge. So at that time, people were still
22 commercial fishing over there and domestic fishing, and
23 the licences were stopped. They were cut off. And
24 people were being chased off. Conservation officers
25 were over there, and RCMP, chasing off Pimicikamak

1 people, not to dwell any more at Sipiwesk because of
2 Kelsey dam.

3 And that was -- it did a great injustice
4 and harm to our people. And still today, a lot of
5 people -- a lot of people, especially the Elder women,
6 most of the Elder men have gone. But the -- some Elder
7 women are still around and say they hurt very bad.
8 Some of them still talk to me about it.

9 And today, those damages that were done,
10 the environmental damage that has been done, that's not
11 been repaired. It has not been replaced. And the
12 breadbasket damage that was done to the Pimicikamak
13 people, that's not been replaced. So, I too, like
14 myself, I -- I'm very hurt from that -- what happened,
15 transpired that time over the years. And there was
16 commer -- commercial fishing licences let out
17 gradually, came mostly in secret to certain other
18 people from outside of Cross Lake after that.

19 Kelsey Dam provided the power for
20 Northern Manitoba in the -- when it was finished in the
21 '60s. And it provided power also for Inco. When it
22 started doing that, in 1960, it started generating all
23 power, but it was officially open in '61. And it
24 started construction in 1957. It was a -- an ex -- an
25 expedient manner, the way it was done, without regard

1 to environmental damage.

2 So after the power flowed from Kelsey
3 power dam, Manitoba Hydro, without Manitoba Power Act
4 at that time, they benefited. They made revenue. The
5 Manitoba government also made revenue from taxes, and
6 so too the federal government through taxes because
7 when Thompson mi -- mine opened there was a couple
8 thousand men right there right away, and those people
9 paid -- all the work there and paid taxes.

10 So the three (3) -- three (3) levels of
11 three (3) -- three (3) parties of the -- to the
12 Northern Flood Agreement, they all -- they benefited at
13 that time right away. And the Mich -- Pimicikamak
14 people, they didn't get anything. They -- they
15 suffered more despair.

16 And -- and this is what I was going to
17 bring out, specifically to Sipiwesk Lake, because
18 Kelsey was the one that was first built up north on the
19 Nelson River and were -- were provided the
20 opportunities for development.

21 And at that time, when Hydro, in the
22 early '70s, when they came to Cross Lake, trying to
23 build Jenpeg, they started having meetings in Cross
24 Lake. And the meetings were held in a church, United
25 Church, in Cross Lake. And I will take -- at that

1 time, they told us, our -- everything was going to be
2 rosy and a healthy life for Pimicikamak people.

3 We were promised pavement, proper
4 housing, full employment. They promised a thousand
5 jobs to us and the other four (4) communities: Split
6 Lake, Norway House, Nelson House, York Landing. They
7 went over there, too, and promised a thousand jobs.

8 And, you know, all this rhetoric
9 happened in the church. And when development started
10 in 1972, you know, it was a mass destruction. They
11 closed off Nelson River right at Jenpeg in 1975. And
12 in 1976 and '79, in one of those years, the water level
13 fell 14 feet in a matter of three (3) weeks. That was
14 regard -- without regard for Pimicikamak people.

15 And in -- when in the 1970s, when Hydro
16 started building in the Nelson River, their revenues
17 were less than 300 million. Now they're topping 3
18 billion, ten (10) times as much; more dams.

19 So Manitoba Hydro, Manitoba government,
20 Canada, they achieve their goal for the corporation,
21 the power, to develop power. There's more revenue, but
22 there's more wealth. But there's -- in Pimicikamak
23 there's more blood, more death, more despair, more
24 damage.

25 Pimicikamak people are worse off today

1 than they were pre-Hydro, and that's the price we have
2 to pay today for somebody to be in comfort down south.

3 I made a submissions some years back on
4 Conawapa. And I put it -- at that time, like, when we
5 complain about high prices of food and everything, we
6 were told, Indian Affairs and the governments --
7 because everything comes from down south and it has to
8 be transported.

9 Gasoline costs lots. Transportation
10 costs. That's why things are expensive up north. You
11 have to pay more. But when hydro power is being
12 developed in our backyard, we're the ones that are
13 suffering.

14 Our Hydro bill with the interest that
15 we're behind, one of the highest last year was eight
16 hundred and seventy-four (874); six forty-two (642), I
17 think, the hydro plus interest, eight seventy-four
18 (874).

19 That's a mortgage rate. And that's not
20 only me and my wife, our family, have to, you know,
21 encounter that every month. It's other families. What
22 you call a mortgage down here paying for a house,
23 that's what we pay over there for Hydro rates.

24 And -- and that's -- that's what it
25 spells out to. It's, you know, more revenue to Hydro

1 but more damage to us, more harm to us. And every one
2 of us that came here, we've encountered that. Like,
3 when my dad was displaced from his commercial fishing
4 spots, he had a heart attack while -- while cutting a
5 line with the road that's coming Cross Lake. He
6 drowned.

7 When my -- my-- one (1) of my brothers,
8 he drowned with four (4) other -- three (3) other men
9 coming at night after commercial fishing in the fall
10 after the ice was already forming.

11 And my other brother, young -- younger
12 brother, he ruptured his insides because he had to
13 portage his -- his snowmobile over a sharp cliff
14 because the water went up 4 feet around there while he
15 was out there, and he had no choice. That's the only
16 way he had to make it out. And he managed to get out
17 of there, but when he got home that night, he died.

18 So while the south is benefiting at the
19 expense of our misery, you know, I think it's time the
20 governments and Hydro have to pay up. So that's my
21 presentation. Thank you.

22 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Thank you, Mr. Ross.
23 Now, you indicated that you had prepared a written
24 presentation but there were technical difficulties. If
25 you'd still like to submit it, you can certainly still

1 submit it to the PUB.

2 Does the panel have any questions for
3 Mr. Ross? Based on the list, Mr. Chairman, that was
4 received this morning, there's one (1) additional
5 presenter on behalf of Pimicikamak, Jeremy Ross.

6

7 (BRIEF PAUSE)

8

9 MR. JEREMY ROSS: Good morning. I'd
10 like to address the panel this morning. First of all,
11 I'd like to thank the Creator for bringing me here
12 today to speak to you guys. Secondly, I'd like to ask
13 the Creator to give you guys the blessing to hear us
14 speak about the issues that are brought to us.

15 As a young person coming from Cross
16 Lake, growing up in this community, I have seen a lot -
17 - lot of the effects that happened due to Hydro dams.
18 As you heard from our panel, a lot of emotions and
19 anger has -- has brought to your attention. I myself
20 have gone through many things, a lot of suffering for
21 my people.

22 Most of my -- most of the panel here
23 today prepared speeches and everything. Myself, I did
24 not because I want to speak to you from my heart and
25 how I feel about the situation that's going on. It is

1 very hard for us to speak about this. It brings back a
2 lot of emotions and destruction that happened already.

3 On my section there it says, Why a
4 ratepayer's increase is necessary? Hydro generates
5 electricity, and with the existing dams already in
6 place throughout the river, I do believe that, and I
7 think all of us strongly believe that, the existing
8 dams already generate enough power to generate for all
9 Manitobans. The need for other additional dams is not
10 necessary.

11 The increasing of the rates is not
12 necessary either. I do believe that is not right. As
13 most of my fellow colleagues here expressed that we are
14 the ones that are paying the price. My generation
15 already has gone by this already. It is my children
16 and their children that are going to be suffering for
17 this.

18 Why do you -- it says, Why do you want
19 to increase the rates? So we could build these new
20 dams. I don't think so. My people are suffering very
21 hard. Very. A lot. As you heard Ms. Ross speak
22 earlier, she was very emotional about her speech. As
23 you heard Mr. Ross just a while ago, his anger in his
24 voice you could hear.

25 But me, I speak from my heart. I cannot

1 express how much more I could say about this, but you
2 cannot continue doing this -- to build these dams for -
3 - to generate power because with the existing dams, we
4 don't need no -- we don't need this anymore. You're
5 destroying our land. Our children and their children
6 need the land to live on. By destroying our land, we
7 don't have a home. We cannot call it a home if it's
8 not there for us.

9 Hydro generates a lot of money. It
10 does. It profits a lot, too. Please apol -- I
11 apologize if I'm taking a while, but it's hard for me
12 to speak. The proposed ideas for the new dams, I do
13 not support it at all. I don't see the necessary (sic)
14 of these dams at all to be built again.

15 My leadership express great details of
16 how the -- the effect is -- how it affects us. You've
17 heard our panel all morning about this issue. The PUB,
18 Public Utilities Board, which is you guys, you are the
19 ones that are setting the rates of Hydro to our
20 consumers -- customers. Hydro has asked you guys to
21 increase the rates, but Pimicikamak will say no.

22 We just cannot afford this increase at
23 all because, like most of the people have said here
24 already, an average Hydro bill in my community is well
25 over six hundred dollars (\$600). And for a Hydro bill

1 down south it is very less, one hundred (100) to one
2 hundred and fifty dollars (\$150), that is it.

3 As Mr. Ross explained there, for us to
4 pay extra for food costs, for us to pay extra for
5 transporting our food to the North, I think that while
6 transporting goods to the South, I think Southerners
7 need to pay a little bit extra too, or we should have
8 equal rates.

9 Why should we pay the burden for the
10 luxury for the Southern people? My generation -- I've
11 heard so many times about this. Throughout the years
12 growing up, I've heard about the NFA, the Northern
13 Flood Agreement. The treaties, I've learned in school.

14 Over the years, the NFA has not been
15 fulfilled at all. The NFA was brought ba -- brought to
16 you -- brought to us back in 1977. It was signed back
17 then. It is 2014 today and we have not seen the
18 benefits of the NFA agreement at all.

19 Hydro is starving us of this, taking
20 away our land. Before -- before Hydro or anything, we
21 lived off the land, the water, and the wildlife.
22 Today, the wildlife in our con -- in our areas, our
23 territory, has decreased a lot.

24 A lot of things have changed over the
25 years. Like this panel has said, forty (40) years

1 already. Many of -- many of the people have -- that
2 have been on that -- on those things have already
3 passed on, our grandfathers and grandmothers.

4 I was asked to come speak about my
5 issues and my thoughts about this because my generation
6 is the -- is already here, and we see the effects of
7 it. Some of the people here might not live to see the
8 day when this is fulfilled. I'm hoping that I will be
9 still around. But like I said, my children and their
10 children will be the ones to pay for this.

11 And I want to ask the panel, the PUB, to
12 try to stop the increase of the rates for Manitoba
13 Hydro. We don't have -- we don't have the -- the
14 funding to pay for our Hydro bills. You're taking away
15 -- a lot of things away from us.

16 We want to save the remaining lands of
17 our -- of our territory. Like I said, my children need
18 a place to live, to prosper. By flooding our lands and
19 taking it away, will not give us a sure home. Excuse
20 me.

21 And I -- I always -- I always said to
22 myself -- I look at myself and say, I've come a long
23 way. As a kid, I heard my grandmother say, It is you
24 that is going to lead our nation. And you know what?
25 I am doing my best to lead my nation as a youth

1 councillor for my community, my territory, which is
2 Pimicikamak. I strongly support of our laws of our own
3 nation.

4 So once again, I'm going to close my
5 presentation with a request that the panel please
6 reconsider the increase of the rates, because our
7 people cannot pay for it. I'll leave you with a thank
8 you for listening to me.

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much
10 for coming to speak to us.

11 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Thank you, Mr. Ross.
12 Mr. Chairman, I was advised by Mr. Paupanakis that
13 there is actually one (1) additional presenter on
14 behalf of Pimicikamak who is listed on the original
15 schedule but not the new one that was circulated this
16 morning, and that is Mr. Darrell Settee. So perhaps we
17 can continue with Mr. Settee.

18

19 (BRIEF PAUSE)

20

21 MR. DARRELL SETTEE: Good morning,
22 panel. My name is Darrell Settee.

23 THE CHAIRPERSON: Good morning, Mr.
24 Settee.

25 MR. DARRELL SETTEE: I've got a

1 presentation I want to share with you and to give you -
2 -

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: We have -- we have
4 received your presentation, so, yes, feel free to read
5 from it if you like.

6 MR. DARRELL SETTEE: Yeah, okay. But
7 I'll go through the presentation with the pictures
8 first and to give you an idea what all the people from
9 Pimicikamak have presented and the adverse effects and
10 all the new developments will contribute further to the
11 destruction of our homeland and also increase the
12 rates.

13 And I think we all feel the increases.
14 But as I share with you the pictures, we will have a --
15 we'll give you a good idea of what we have experienced
16 in the past, say, ten (10) years that I've collected
17 some of the information.

18 And I would like to proceed. As you can
19 see, there's one (1) picture there I have in front of
20 you, it's -- nature is infinitely complex and it's a
21 creation of God. Like, God created all things, all the
22 living things, and we have enjoyed that in the past.

23 And next image will show you what we
24 have witnessed in the past. We have -- we had numerous
25 tributaries and natural beauty that has been destroyed.

1 And as I go along I will explain to you what -- what
2 transpires in the images as you see.

3 So the water levels in Pimicikamak
4 fluctuate wildy, like, erratically. This image you see
5 is below Pimicikamak, like, the community itself. And
6 you -- you see the two (2) men working on the net. And
7 the waterline is just below their feet due to where it
8 was before it, you know, fell below maybe 10 feet or
9 so. And that's what happens on a regular basis.

10 And this is right in our community. If
11 you look closely at the bottom of the picture, you'll
12 see water inlet that's exposed. And all the shoals
13 here that you see in the background will disappear
14 after the water fluctuates again. And then maybe a few
15 weeks later they'll appear again. That makes our --
16 our travel and our activities in our resource area very
17 -- our Pimicikamak territory very treacherous and
18 difficult.

19 Our people face -- our -- well, they say
20 that -- that they -- they go through a lot of stress,
21 you know, trying to navigate through, you know, return
22 safely and try to get, you know, some wildlife. You
23 know, the access to fish. You know, the -- the -- our
24 staple diet that we do strive on in Pimicikamak.

25 This is the area above the Jenpeg

1 generating station, or Jenpeg 4 -- 4B as we refer it --
2 it's referred to us by Pimicikamak. You can see a
3 bunch of the -- in front you will see all the trees
4 that remain that they just -- they were cleared out.

5 And the water will -- recedes and then
6 it will -- it will advance again once the water level
7 goes up, right up to the trees in the background, and
8 moor -- and the moor will become -- you probably see
9 some of the standing dead trees there that are -- and
10 all these other -- all these cleaning efforts really
11 haven't solved our problems at all. All the stumps as
12 you see, they will enter into the -- in the water at
13 some point in time and pose more problems for us.

14

15 (BRIEF PAUSE)

16

17 MR. DARRELL SETTEE: This is a image of
18 a grebe nest. It's a flow -- excuse me -- waterfowl
19 that nest on -- on shorelines off -- in most lakes.
20 They build floating nests, and they attach them to the
21 aquatic vegetation, like willows and such. And when
22 the water comes up, the water fluctuates they can --
23 they -- they get destroyed. And in most of the cases,
24 the nests fall off the -- are submerged, and they're
25 unable -- unable to hatch.

1 This is in -- this is north of the
2 community where we -- in which we live. This is a
3 regular area -- thing that I see every summer, as we
4 see. Flooded nesting sites. The -- in particular,
5 this is the gull nesting site, but it's also shared by
6 cormorants and other waterfowl. It would be geese and
7 ducks.

8 And this is what happens to some of the
9 reefs, shoals where they nest, and they -- they become
10 completely submerged and all the eggs are lost, along
11 with any chicks that have hatched and are washed away.
12 This happens regularly since the time of the project.
13 And, you know, it continues and it will continue.

14 And fish are stranded, and when water
15 levels drop quickly, the instincts of the fish is to go
16 up the tributaries, like in times in -- in the past.
17 That they lay eggs in their -- in the tributaries, and
18 they -- they are in -- in their instincts they still
19 try and go up the tributaries, but they get stranded
20 and trapped. And -- and there is literally thousands
21 and thousands, you know, every summer that we come
22 across these fish that have died.

23 A lot of the other aquatic fur-bearing
24 animals, like muskrats, are -- frequently they freeze
25 into the ice because fluctuations go very quickly. And

1 when the ice forms in the winter months, they have
2 their breathing holes and nesting or lodges and the ice
3 begins to form all kinds of shapes, like swells, peaks,
4 and they crush the entrances or the lodges or the
5 breathing holes and the animals are drowned.

6 And they also burrow on shorelines.

7 These muskrat kittens, you know, they always get
8 flooded out, and they drowned, also. Here's one (1) of
9 the examples of a breathing hole where the muskrat has
10 been -- if you can see there in the middle, you can
11 make out a muskrat has been frozen.

12 And there's these beaver lodges that's
13 high and dry, as you could see. And when the water
14 levels become too low the beaver lodge -- the beaver
15 themselves are subject to predation and lots of -- a
16 lot of -- a lot of examples where other things have
17 occurred, like hanging ice. And, you know, when they
18 asked Hydro why is there such conditions, well, they
19 said the beaver are letting the water out.

20 But that's -- any -- anyone will know
21 that water is safety for the beaver and subsidence
22 and... And when -- I've seen that the wolves and
23 wolverine have access to -- to the beaver and they --
24 they become subject to the predation, as I stated
25 earlier, so no -- no safety.

1 This is a science project. That's what
2 they've done back home in Cross Lake a few years ago.
3 This is a makeshift dam. Up on the top there there's -
4 - there's three (3) corks that you can see which -- and
5 behind it there's a whole little holding plank to
6 represent the dam. And below that, you can see some
7 artificial ecosystem and animals.

8 And when students pull the corks the --
9 the flooding effect is very ob -- very obvious, and
10 that's what they were trying to demonstrate in the
11 picture that you see in front of you.

12 And another one they did here was this
13 is a -- a small holding tank, again, with the muskrat
14 lodge there with a cutaway version. If you can notice,
15 there's a hole where they exit. And the lo -- the
16 purpose of the lodge is to prevent the hole from
17 freezing so you can exit and enter. And to the right
18 there's a small breathing hole with a series that they
19 make. They can move from one to another to survive
20 winter.

21 And in this case, the students have put
22 a sheet of plexiglass there, a piece to cutout, and to
23 represent ice. And then there's water on top of that.
24 There's been a flooding effect. And so that's what the
25 students are trying to demonstrate that what happens

1 every year.

2 And this is a spider. A spider is
3 referred to as su -- submerged tree root. It could be
4 large, it could be 10 feet in diameter, 8 feet in
5 diameter. And we call them submerged mine fields which
6 our people have -- are subject with collisions and
7 contact which caused fatalities.

8 A group of Pimicikamak people were
9 boating and struck an object and nearly flipped the
10 boat where two (2) were ejected and one (1) had a
11 fractured skull. And the operator of the boat himself
12 was injured, but he managed to rescue the people that
13 were floating face down with assistant. You have to
14 use the hydraulic lifting mechanism of the outboard to
15 lift them out of the water, attempt to save them and
16 pull them into the boat. So that's what we refer to
17 spiders, and then they're littered throughout
18 Pimicikamak territory.

19 This is a closer look at a spider, a --
20 a stump, and all the soil has been -- and they be --
21 dry out in the shores or -- and then they enter the
22 water again and pose another threat; and water logged,
23 they become very, very hepy -- heavy. It would be
24 anywhere from three hundred (300) to four hundred (400)
25 pounds, maybe more.

1 And this is a boat where debris has
2 ended up on fishing nets and it's a -- as you can see,
3 it's a -- very hard to deal with. And I was pre --
4 present in -- in these areas; I did also fishing. But
5 in some years, I guess, I can't put my net in the
6 water. It's -- it's -- they get washed away, too much
7 debris gets caught in them. The current pu -- pulls
8 away and then takes it away, so.

9 This is on the four-bay side again,
10 Jenpeg, this is some of the years of efforts that they
11 did some of the cleaning. And there are still quite a
12 number, like this is just a fraction of what you see
13 here that happens there that you don't see or you
14 probably don't hear about, or the south or any -- any
15 other place.

16 But I will do a lot of travelling and to
17 explain what occurs in our territory. I'm going to go
18 throughout North American and other places to present
19 this evidence.

20 There's a piece of debris there, you --
21 and it's very hard to get those things out of nets,
22 which is -- affects the production of any -- because
23 you're too busy trying to clean out nets.

24 There's a picture of myself there with a
25 large piece of debris there and I wasn't successful at

1 removing it, so the net was lost.

2 And some -- this is north of our
3 community a few years back, and this is what happens
4 when the fluctuations was way too high, all the
5 vegetations become dislodged from, you know, wave
6 action and stuff, and then it ends up everywhere on
7 nets.

8 And this is around Sipiwesk where this
9 net is completely, completely infested with organics,
10 debris, you know, we -- and everything and that's
11 what's -- as is previously explained to you what
12 happens.

13 Also excess of algae growth comes with
14 the -- with the fluctuation, and it really infests the
15 nets also in the winter fishing seasons.

16 Also we're subject to the fluctuation,
17 rapid fluctuation. In this case, these people that
18 were in a bay hunting, the water went down so low
19 overnight that they were stra -- they couldn't use the
20 boats, so they ended up hiking eight (8) hours through
21 the wilderness and muskeg and such to get to the main
22 road.

23 There's a little bit of caption in here
24 which you can't read, but I provided the explanation.

25 And this is around Sipiwesk area where,

1 again, we're burying human remains that were littered
2 on beaches and such.

3 Okay. Over here we have the winter
4 freeze-ups, over ice flooding caused by the increased
5 flows. After the ice sets you get a lot of the water
6 coming up again, and it -- it fills up in pools and the
7 whole area is covered, entire lakes are affected.

8 And there's a -- from the shapes of the
9 ice, forms all sorts of shapes, and I'm inside one of
10 the shapes there, as you can see. There's a hollow
11 opening which -- and these are very, very dangerous for
12 travelling.

13 Trapping's also very affected. Traps
14 are flooded out and frozen over. I -- there's a
15 picture of a gentleman attempting to salvage the trap
16 and maybe the fur-bearing animal. A closer look at the
17 effort he was doing.

18 Slush ice makes also travel very
19 difficult, unpredictable, and once it's -- the lakes
20 are waterlogged and soaked, it's almost impossible to
21 travel with a snowmobile.

22 That -- that's for trapping in -- in our
23 territory, the caption says where the snowmobile out,
24 the other one is free.

25 I have a group of pictures of the

1 scenario. The first one on the top left-hand corner of
2 -- of the series is -- shows you the effort started in
3 the morning, and as you go along on the -- the struggle
4 continues well into the afternoon and now the sun is
5 going down as you can see in the last image on the
6 bottom right-hand corner. So that's how much -- how
7 long it takes to try and free snowmobiles or otherwise
8 abandon.

9 Okay, there's another hazard when you're
10 travelling. Openings are created by extreme pressure
11 from fluctuation, and the probing there, the snow-
12 covered hazard there, which is the -- the water is very
13 very deep and if you end up in there.

14 Okay, low water calls for extreme
15 measures. These hunters from Pimicikamak are trying to
16 access a lake that they frequent every year, and
17 portage -- portage over, like, maybe a short distance,
18 maybe about 5 metres. But now the fluctuation goes so
19 low that go up maybe a hundreds of metres on both
20 sides, so now they're using a snowmobile to access the
21 back lake which the snowmobile is suitable for travel
22 over frozen rivers and lakes, as you may know. And
23 that's how they try and do some more hunting in the
24 fall.

25 And this is the other example of the --

1 the lakes that are flooded over, and they get bogged
2 down. Lots of times we ask Manitoba Hydro for
3 assistance, but most of the time they won't.

4 This is a picture from close to the
5 Jenpeg generating station. This is -- the man on the
6 left there explaining the circumstances surrounding a
7 fatal boating accident caused by floating debris on
8 Jenpeg forebay which is the immediate area of Jenpeg.

9 He's explaining the details and that
10 gentleman on the right there shows the emotional
11 content and the man in the middle is Mr. Dick Kelly
12 (phonetic) from Xcel Energy who toured the area and
13 also witnessed that there were a lot of debris in here.

14 Human remains of our ancestors erode,
15 like, from the banks of the river. I've -- one (1) of
16 the pictures I did include here, it said -- I -- I
17 indicated that I said that our -- the ancestors of the
18 Pimicikamak people do not rest in peace. Once they
19 were smitten by the plague and they're washed away,
20 their remains are lost in a bunch of eroded shorelines
21 and separated and scattered.

22 And there's another group of human
23 remains that they -- we tried best to, you know, gather
24 them in their original -- well, I guess, it's mostly
25 almost impossible to reunite the remains in their

1 original graves because they've been scattered.

2 A closer look at the human remains that
3 were washed up. And there's more on the beaches. This
4 is a piece of history -- historic pottery, or -- that
5 we discovered on the beach. And you can see a little
6 pump piece as they are known, a little bump created by
7 a little -- probably a stick from the outside to when -
8 - decrease the surface to make it boil faster. And it
9 was referred to as predated microwave oven, and -- and
10 some of the places you can find a whole pot. Actually
11 there was two areas of pottery, prehistoric and
12 historic.

13 Another look at the human remains. And
14 there's some of the -- you'll notice a skull here, and
15 there's a few pieces around this location.

16 And this is what comes out -- this is
17 the end result of water fluctuation, water power, so-
18 called clean power. And they're going to raise --
19 raise their rates again, and we're going to see more of
20 this and we're going to see a lot more of the people,
21 you know, that parish in the -- in our traditional
22 territory at the expense. And we have paid dearly, and
23 we've paid so much in term -- also in terms of the
24 Hydro bills and -- and neglect.

25 And I think I said that the turbines

1 that turn -- are turned by the river are wheel of -- a
2 wheel of fortune on one end and the other side is not a
3 very good -- like a meat grinder for us, and we -- and
4 we are on the receiving end while everybody else
5 benefits, the south and the northern states.

6 This is upside down. We're supposed to
7 have the rates go lower when we get into the states.
8 Well, it should be the other way around. So with that,
9 I conclude my presentation and you will consider our
10 presentations, that we take into serious consideration
11 that we do not need any more of the same at -- at all
12 in our traditional territory.

13 And with that, I thank you so much for
14 giving me the time to do the presentation. Thank you.

15

16 (PRESENTATION INSERT)

17

18 MR. DARRELL SETTEE: Hello, my name is
19 Darrell Settee, from Pimicikamak, and I disapprove of
20 the Hydro project in its entire form, and as a
21 Pimicikamak citizen, I do not recommend, or believe
22 it's practical for any new project to proceed. We have
23 paid a heavy price already in destruction of
24 environment and also in human casualty. The scars in
25 the Pimicikamak territory will not be washed by water.

1 All the wonderful creation was made by God, however,
2 man has forgotten the things that do appear were made
3 by things that do not appear, but Man hath brought upon
4 the alteration of their works and has allowed the
5 destruction and manipulation to the stewards of such
6 beauty. But what motivates the destroyers is quite
7 obvious.

8 Alterations have been present for
9 decades with hydro-electric dams and transmission lines
10 that stretch from the north to the south have
11 dramatically changed the landscape, traditional way of
12 life, travel, navigation, prehistoric campsites. All
13 living things whether they walk or crawl, whether they
14 are microscopic, or in shells or present in water, all
15 are subject to the mass destruction and lack of
16 reproduction as nesting migratory birds' eggs that are
17 flooded out along with offspring and are washed away
18 and compromise is of no concern but considered a
19 nuisance. We have heard so much of the protection of
20 all species, it has been said numerous times and
21 reverberated in many places but it is the demise of
22 species and habitat that prevails.

23 Time and time again correspondence from
24 the Crown parties propose a new relationship and build
25 more structure and failed to fulfill obligations

1 without consulting the Pimicikamak people, and then
2 resort to undermining schemes to attempt sellout and
3 termination policies. It is clear as we have witnessed
4 four (4) other NFA communities were systematically
5 relieved of their rights to benefits. As one late
6 Pimicikamak Elder put it, and I quote: "Fulfill
7 obligations, follow through with promises, or leave
8 us."

9 If the Crown parties and the utility
10 companies would play a country-western song backwards,
11 the dog would come out, the chevy would come out, the
12 Northern Flood Agreement would be implemented in its
13 spirit and intent, the environment will be protected
14 from harm, fish and wildlife would not be decimated and
15 we would have green green water, we would not drink
16 dirty, recycled water that went through sewage
17 treatment. I heard Jay Leno say one night, "The coffee
18 you had this morning is the same beer you had last
19 night."

20 In addition to sparse benefits, the
21 losses to traditional burial sites have been great.
22 The ancestors of the Pimicikamak people do not rest in
23 peace; once were smitten by the plague, remains are
24 washed away, buried in rubble of eroded shorelines.
25 Once many islands thrived in many lakes and rivers were

1 also washed out by floods and are gone forever more,
2 and many more are at risk in ever increasing
3 development as more and more pressure is put upon the
4 environment and will not absorb radical change to flows
5 on the river systems designed and redirected to produce
6 electricity while spawning areas on tributaries are
7 overrun.

8 The environmental nightmare has existed
9 for decades and pushing fish and wildlife habitat to
10 the brink while the self and northern states have been
11 misinformed and led to believe that no harm to human
12 life and environmental occur. Debris infested lakes
13 and shorelines pose a serious threat. Management
14 programs go through the motions but do not address the
15 cleanup required and the mass unemployment has not
16 been dealt with. Lineups at welfare departments are a
17 reality.

18 While economic benefits are directed
19 south and passed on to the northern states and benefit
20 huge profits on the misery of the Pimicikamak people,
21 while others are lured and forced into partnerships
22 which are contrary to traditional beliefs and subsidize
23 the south in the form of high bills for electricity.
24 Luxury and misery are not the same, quite the
25 difference.

1 When it comes time to deciding who gets
2 the coin from the fish's mouth, well, there are
3 regulations placed as barriers to prevent such people
4 from the benefits, also prevent them from exercising
5 their aboriginal and treaty rights. Income and income
6 in kind have been reduced greatly since the time
7 thriving fish and wildlife provided and sustained the
8 Pimicikamak people which were very important. Sturgeon
9 populations are very low; stocking programs are not a
10 success; visits to the holding tanks at Jenpeg have
11 revealed the mortality rate was an average thirty (30)
12 a day and needs to be addressed.

13 Therefore, I stress that there should be
14 no further adverse effects placed on the now distorted
15 environment and traditional way of life that was known
16 to Pimicikamak people when elders said before the
17 development, God filled of their traditional territory
18 with food and health much like a plate that was set
19 before them but somehow our plate was broken and was
20 taken from us, turbines are a wheel of fortune on one
21 side, and a meat grinder on the other and the
22 Pimicikamak people are on the receiving end along with
23 fish, wildlife, lack of benefits. Thank you.

24

25 (END OF PRESENTATION INSERT)

1 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Thank you, Mr.

2 Settee. Does the panel have any questions for Mr.

3 Settee?

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: I have a question.

5 You mentioned that sometimes you ask for

6 help from Manitoba Hydro, and you always respond -- can

7 you -- can you describe like what they -- what they

8 would do in a case that you showed us?

9 MR. DARRELL SETTEE: Okay. In -- in

10 the situation where the snowmobiles are bogged down, or

11 it -- they can't make it into the communities, or they

12 cried -- that they ask for help. And most of the time

13 they will not respond. They say they have a program

14 available for monitoring but they do not respond most

15 of the time. Very few times did I see them out there.

16 I -- we do our own monitoring program

17 that we're trying to introduce that would benefit our

18 people if Hydro does not provide any of the resources,

19 or we could do our own, or just get funding to get our

20 own people present in our environment to help people

21 with assistance.

22 THE CHAIRPERSON: On behalf of the

23 panel, I want to thank all of you for coming to -- to

24 visit with us today, and talk to us about the impact of

25 past treaties and the Northern Flood Agreement, and so

1 on. And, so I appreciate you expressing your views to
2 us.

3 I know you took time to prepare
4 presentations, so I appreciate the work you've done for
5 that. On behalf of all of us, thank you very much.
6 And we'll certainly consider your views in the work
7 that we will be doing.

8 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Mr. Chairman, the
9 presenter schedule this morning has one (1) additional
10 presenter before the lunchbreak, Mr. Melvin, on behalf
11 of Lake on the Pembina Project. Appreciating that Mr.
12 Melvin is here, perhaps the panel may want to hear his
13 presentation before lunch.

14 I would suggest that we take a short
15 break to allow Mr. Melvin to move to the front. And to
16 anyone who has presented today, you're certainly
17 welcome to stay and to listen to the remaining
18 presentations, or you can leave, whatever your
19 preference is. Thank you.

20

21 --- Upon recessing at 11:50 a.m.

22 --- Upon resuming at 12:00 p.m.

23

24 THE CHAIRPERSON: I believe that
25 everybody's in position. So I'd like to welcome Mr.

1 Melvin --

2 MR. DAVID MELVIN: Yes.

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: -- Mr. David Melvin.

4 Welcome.

5

6 PRESENTATION BY LAKE ON THE PEMBINA PROJECT:

7 MR. DAVID MELVIN: Thank you. First of

8 all, thank you to the Board for this opportunity to

9 speak to you this morning. My name is David Melvin.

10 And I'm representing this morning five (5) rural

11 municipal governments and numerous village and town

12 councils in the Pembina valley area of southern

13 Manitoba, and that's an area -- for someone who's not

14 familiar with it, that's an area bounded by Number 1

15 Highway in the north and the 49th parallel in the

16 south. And if you look at a map of Manitoba, it's in

17 south central Manitoba.

18 The -- the main crux of our proposal

19 here is that we would like to see natural gas delivered

20 to that area of southern Manitoba. It's one (1) of the

21 largest geographic areas that Manitoba does not service

22 with natural gas -- let me say the largest populated

23 area.

24 To the west of that area, to the right

25 and to the north, to the west, pardon me, and the east,

1 I should say, and the north are all serviced with
2 natural gas. Also, immediately across the 49th
3 parallel, North Dakota has natural gas, and this block
4 in the centre does not. And we think it -- it deters
5 our economic development and -- and will be a deterrent
6 in the future if it's not provided.

7 And a peculiar situation exists there.
8 We have the need and -- for natural gas there. And a
9 few miles to the west of us, in the western part,
10 southwestern part of Manitoba there's natural gas being
11 flared off because no one is quite sure what else to do
12 with it.

13 So the gas is there and the need is
14 there and it's the infrastructure that's lacking. And
15 I'd like to point out, unless -- you probably have my -
16 - our written submission, and I -- I won't go through
17 it in detail. I just want to touch some high points,
18 if I can, if I may, Mr. Chairman.

19 The -- Manitoba Hydro's Power Smart
20 Program was an initiative to direct power -- electric
21 power away from Manitoba consumers to -- to lessen the
22 demand for electricity. And that -- much of that
23 electricity has gone into the export market, which was
24 obviously a good idea.

25 And what we're suggesting is that if we

1 get natural gas delivered to this area, much of the
2 electricity that's used for heat now would be taken up
3 by natural gas and it would -- it would reduce the
4 electric demand in the area.

5 I want to point out that in the area --
6 in this area there's numerous businesses and industry
7 that are currently using coal. And with the province's
8 ban on coal -- and I think that coal take -- that coal
9 mandate takes place in 2017. And someone here correct
10 me if I'm wrong, but I think it's that date.

11 So these people will now be forced to --
12 to abandoned coal and, in all likelihood, will be need
13 -- will need to use that electricity to heat with.
14 Propane is extremely expensive, much, much more
15 expensive than natural gas, and more expensive than
16 electricity, as well, so he'll probably be -- will have
17 to go to electricity to heat with.

18 We also were -- would suggest that
19 supplying natural gas to the area will allow those
20 residents, and that business and industry, and farming
21 industry, to diversify its energy supply. It's -- it's
22 the old -- that old situation of not having all your
23 eggs in one (1) basket which I think most people agree
24 is a good business plan for anyone.

25 Also, I mean in the event that natural

1 gas is -- is delivered to this area, which we sincerely
2 hope it would be, we would like to go on record as
3 suggesting that -- that this area of Southern Manitoba
4 would be an excellent place to situate a gas generating
5 plant.

6 You're St. Leon wind farm is in that
7 area. There's -- there's existing transmission lines
8 in the area. And it -- it's not far from the major --
9 major customers in the area across southern Manitoba,
10 the cities of Brandon, Portage, and Winnipeg.

11 So that -- that's a brief overview of
12 our presentation, and if there's any questions I'd be
13 happy to try and answer them for you.

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Well, the very -- the
15 first one that comes to my mind is, You -- have you
16 approached Manitoba Hydro, Centra Gas, to --

17 MR. DAVID MELVIN: We have.

18 THE CHAIRPERSON: You have? And what's
19 been the response?

20 MR. DAVID MELVIN: Well, I will say
21 it's -- it was an understanding response. They were
22 very understanding and sympathetic to our situation.
23 We spoke with some of -- some of those people that are
24 responsible for delivering natural gas, and they're
25 suggesting that they think it -- that they would like

1 to do a -- or a study into the -- into the proposal,
2 and see if it's -- it's a feasible option for us.

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Now, I suppose that
4 there's probably farms there, or at least pork plants,
5 or pork barns that are --

6 MR. DAVID MELVIN: Yes.

7 THE CHAIRPERSON: -- using coal.

8 MR. DAVID MELVIN: Yes, that's true.

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: What -- what are
10 their plans?

11 MR. DAVID MELVIN: Well, I -- I can't
12 speak for them, of course. But a lot of them are using
13 coal because it was cheap. So since they'll be forced
14 to switch out of coal, the -- the only viable option is
15 probably electric heat, I'm thinking, unless of course
16 -- natural gas would be ideal.

17 THE CHAIRPERSON: What's the closest
18 line to the region that you're describing? Like, I
19 mean, what -- where's the closest --

20 MR. DAVID MELVIN: Natural -- natural
21 gas -- on the west -- if you -- if you picture a map of
22 Manitoba right in front of you, to the west -- natural
23 gas is delivered to the Killarney area. On the east of
24 us natural gas is delivered to the Morden and Winkler
25 area.

1 And there's a block of land between
2 Morden and Killarney, Morden on the east, Killarney on
3 the west, 49th parallel on the south, and approximately
4 the Number 1 Highway in the north. That's the area
5 that we're talking about that's not serviced with
6 natural gas.

7

8 (BRIEF PAUSE)

9

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: I think that's all
11 the questions we have. So it -- we -- we want to thank
12 you for -- for coming and attending. I know you've
13 been here for a while, so thank you very much for being
14 patient. Some of the delays were because of the
15 technology and so on, so I -- I appreciate your
16 patience.

17 MR. DAVID MELVIN: That's fine.

18 THE CHAIRPERSON: And -- and I know you
19 put some time and effort into the presentation, so
20 thanks for -- for doing that. I -- I did have a
21 question on that -- now that -- and I'm looking at page
22 -- have you got the presentation in front of you?

23 MR. DAVID MELVIN: I do.

24 THE CHAIRPERSON: Yeah, page 3, I'm
25 looking at the third paragraph towards the end.

1 MR. DAVID MELVIN: Yes?

2 THE CHAIRPERSON: At the very end you
3 indicate that:

4 "Providing the option for gas heat
5 will provide the people of Pembina
6 Valley the eng -- energy basket they
7 so desperately need."

8 Now, I'm wondering -- I -- I underlined
9 that point, and I was wondering why you make that
10 point?

11 MR. DAVID MELVIN: Well, it's -- the
12 situation just is electricity is delivered everywhere,
13 and I mean that's -- it was done years ago. So
14 electric power is -- is available everywhere.

15 The secondary option for that was coal,
16 and by the provincial regulations we're told that it
17 will be banned or outlawed by 2017. I believe that's
18 the right date. If there someone here that can correct
19 me on that, please do. I believe that's the date when
20 coal will be -- we can no longer use coal.

21 So then virtually they're down to one
22 (1) option here. And you -- you mentioned -- sir, you
23 mentioned the hog operation, hug barns use heat, and
24 then that -- that's essential there, and you -- you
25 cannot have an interruption in that. And through --

1 for the reasons beyond Manitoba Hydro's control, there
2 is interruptions in power. So we've got a -- we've got
3 a serious situation at hand. And they -- and these
4 people do need an option.

5 THE CHAIRPERSON: I'm intrigued as to
6 why the -- there would be a line south of the border
7 where you are, and my experience in that area is very
8 much similar. I mean, there's probably more population
9 where you are than there is south of the border.

10 MR. DAVID MELVIN: The demographics are
11 similar, yes.

12 THE CHAIRPERSON: So, do you know what
13 was driving the expansion of the gas service there
14 relative to --

15 MR. DAVID MELVIN: I'm going -- I'm
16 going to refer to my -- my colleagues behind me here if
17 -- if there's an explanation for that. I don't know,
18 and that's private industry that does it in the US, I
19 think.

20 But I -- I'm -- but I'm -- I'm very
21 confident that there's natural gas immediately south of
22 the border from us. I -- I farm about 3 miles from
23 North Dakota.

24 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay, that's it.
25 Thank you very much, and -- and I thank you for the --

1 the presentation which I think I found very useful.

2 Thank you very much.

3 MR. DAVID MELVIN: Thank you very much
4 again, Mr. Chairman and Board.

5 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Thank you. Now, Mr.
6 Chairman we are scheduled to be back on at one o'clock.
7 It is now 12:10.

8 Does the panel wish to reconvene at one
9 o'clock sharp? Okay, thank you.

10

11 --- Upon recessing at 12:08 p.m.

12 --- Upon resuming at 1:04 p.m.

13

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Good afternoon.
15 We're ready to start. I think everyone is in position,
16 so welcome you all to -- to this session of
17 presentations. And I turn the mic over to Mr. Hombach.

18

19 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Merci, M. President.
20 Welcome to this afternoon's presenters. My name is
21 Sven Hombach. I am Board counsel.

22 Mr. Chairman, there is four (4)
23 presentations currently on the list, starting with Mr.
24 Allan Ciekiewicz. Just for the benefit of the
25 presenters, I'd like to remind you these sessions today

1 aren't evidence, so you won't have to swear an oath.

2 You will not be cross-examined.

3 But the Public Utilities Board will
4 prepare a publicly available transcript of your
5 testimony. So if you are speaking, please press the
6 button on the microphone in front of you for the
7 benefit of the court reporter.

8 If you have a PowerPoint presentation or
9 other electronic presentation you'd like to flash up,
10 we can arrange to have that on the screens in front of
11 you, which will also be seen by the panel members.

12 And, Mr. Chairman, I would suggest that
13 the panel call on Mr. Ciekiewicz to start his
14 presentation.

15 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Ciekiewicz,
16 welcome.

17 MR. ALLAN CIEKIEWICZ: Thank you.

18

19 PRESENTATION BY MR. ALLAN CIEKIEWICZ:

20 MR. ALLAN CIEKIEWICZ: Okay, good
21 afternoon to the Board members and all people present.
22 Am I too close or too far from this mic?

23

24 (BRIEF PAUSE)

25

1 MR. ALLAN CIEKIEWICZ: Sounds good,
2 okay. As I indicated in my December 12th, 2012,
3 presentation before the Board, I'm still of the opinion
4 that Manitoba Hydro's predictions, projections, and
5 forecasts, et cetera, are not accurate and it would be
6 folly -- folly to encourage Manitoba Hydro to follow
7 its Preferred Development Plan.

8 Based on comments made by CEO Thomas --
9 Thompson, sorry -- I sent him a March 18th, 2013,
10 letter in which I asked for information related to
11 comments that he and others were making to the public
12 regarding Hydro matters related to this NFAT hearing
13 and Hydro's preferred path.

14 I did not receive a written response
15 from Mr. Thompson. He did pass the buck to one (1) of
16 Hydro's lawyers, Ms. Ramage. Ms. Ramage's reply to my
17 March 18th, 2013, letter -- I still kind of shake when
18 I read this -- stated that because my questions and
19 concerns were of a technical nature as opposed to
20 customer service concerns, that Hydro would not be
21 responding to my questions, stating that during this
22 NFAT hearing that Hydro is confident that the matters
23 raised in my correspondence will be fully canvassed in
24 that process.

25 In a subsequent letter to Mr. Thompson I

1 asked: Where in Hydro's five thousand (5,000) page
2 NFAT submission could I find the answers to my
3 questions? But I never received a reply.

4 However, in the January 23rd, 2014,
5 edition of the Winnipeg Free Press, Mr. Thompson
6 espouses the value of this five thousand (5,000) page
7 document to justify Hydro's forecast. But for some
8 unknown reason, he could not, or didn't want to, tell
9 me where I can find, in that five thousand (5,000) page
10 document, the answers to my questions.

11 Now, before I go on to this next
12 sentence, I want to go back to where I -- about the
13 technical nature of my questions and customer service
14 concerns just -- some of the comments are sort of side
15 comments. They're not on the page.

16 And one side comment I've got here is:
17 Does that mean that Hydro has a guide of questions that
18 must be followed by customers? Which is ridiculous.

19 And the second thing is, they said that
20 -- a question I had -- one question I had was about the
21 new office tower. Now, they're -- they're assuming or
22 implying that if I go -- if I went through the five
23 thousand (5,000) page document, I would find something
24 on a NFAT hearing about the office tower, which is
25 ridiculous. hat's not what the NFAT hearing is about.

1 And that's sort of hypocritical of them
2 because when I read in the paper a couple of days ago,
3 they are giving MMF static because they were trying to
4 use or make comments about Bipole 3, and that wasn't
5 part of the reference for this -- for this NFAT
6 hearing. But they're using it to prevent them from
7 having to answer answers -- or questions for regular
8 customers.

9 Anyway, okay, so back to that second
10 last -- the middle paragraph that says -- one of those
11 questions that I believe to be important to this
12 hearing was, and this is the question: How much higher
13 -- the actual accurate amount -- would our residential
14 rates of seven point one-eight-three (7.183) cents per
15 kilowatt hour be without -- without the benefits of the
16 allocated export revenues used for decreasing
17 residential rates?

18 Hydro's one (1) and only response to my
19 set of questions was how much more our rates would have
20 been during a ten (10) year interval due to export
21 revenues, which did not answer my question related to
22 the current seven point one-eight-three (7.183) cents
23 per kilowatt hour.

24 Apparently, one purpose of the new
25 generation stations is to support export opportunities.

1 However, if resident -- residential rates have a twenty
2 (20) year term of 4 percent increases per year, our
3 export revenue's going to decrease residential rates
4 enough over a twenty (20) year period and beyond to
5 justify new generation at this time.

6 Now, if Hydro could tell me -- or us,
7 the actual amounts of today's reside -- residential
8 rates would be increased without the benefit of export
9 revenue, then the value of new generation might just be
10 shown to be unjustified with respect to Hydro's
11 contention that new generation is needed for exports.

12 If the benefit of export revenues to
13 decrease residential rates during this twenty (20) year
14 restructuring plan and beyond is so small and maybe
15 nonexistent, why would any residential ratepayer want
16 to be shackled for decades with excessive rate
17 increases?

18 The following chart represents different
19 scenarios that contain certain conditions that remain
20 constant and others that fluctuate. One condition that
21 is constant is the annual residential rate increase of
22 4 percent, which is the same as Hydro's preferred path.
23 The other constant is the chart assumes there's no
24 export revenue available to decrease residential rates.
25

1 So there's five (5) columns here,
2 there's five (5) scenarios, and it's all based on our -
3 - today's rate of seven point one-eight-three (7.183)
4 cents per kilowatt hour. Now, if you look at the
5 second column, at the percent of current residential
6 rate without export revenue assistance, well, you have
7 to -- if it went up twenty-five (25) -- if you got rid
8 of exports, it would go up 25 percent. That's just an
9 assu -- assumption, a scenario here.

10 Now, our -- if you took it away, maybe
11 it's 20 percent it would be higher. So if you take 125
12 percent of seven point one-eight-three (7.183), you get
13 what the target rate is, target residential rate is,
14 without exports. You look at the fourth column and it
15 tells you what percent you're being charged every year,
16 like I said at the beginning there, 4 percent.

17 But the interesting column is the fifth
18 one. If we're going -- if we have to pay 25 percent
19 higher at -- at a 4 percent rate increase, it would
20 take only six and a half (6 1/2) years to get our
21 targeted rate, residential rate. And if you go to
22 scenario 5, 105 percent, which means we're paying 5
23 percent more without export, it would only take a year
24 and a half to get to the targeted rate.

25 So based on the recent poor export

1 revenues, I believe that the ability of export revenues
2 to decrease residential rates would be very close to
3 scenario 5. In other words, without export revenue to
4 decrease residential rates, it will only take
5 approximately one and a half (1 1/2) years to reach the
6 target rate without exports, which has positive implic
7 -- implications for residential ratepayers.

8 And one of those implications would be
9 that at that point in time when the residential
10 ratepayer meets the appropriate target rate without
11 benefit of exports, the target rate should remain
12 constant, with only minor, justified increases and no
13 greater than the rate of inflation, or no increase.

14 Note -- and this is important -- the
15 chart does not suggest that all exports be terminated.
16 The chart's main purpose is to illustrate the folly of
17 Hydro's preferred twenty (20) year plan.

18 Therefore, does it make sense for any
19 prudent and cautious person to allow Hydro's preferred
20 twenty (20) year path, that shackles the residential
21 ratepayer with a 4 percent rate increase annually for
22 twenty (20) years, as opposed to reaching a target
23 residential rate without benefit of exports many years
24 sooner than twenty (20) years at a 4 percent annual
25 rate? Especially, when one realizes Hydro's

1 projections, predictions, forecasts, et cetera have
2 been fraught with inaccuracies.

3 If Hydro cannot tell the ratepayers
4 annually the exact amount that export revenues
5 contribute to reducing residential rates, how can Hydro
6 have any idea of how much export revenues will decrease
7 resid -- residential rates twenty (20) years from now?
8 They can't.

9 Also, for Manitoba Hydro not to know the
10 answer to that simple question or refuse to make it
11 public, but expect ratepayers -- Manitoba ratepayers to
12 venture out on some kind of a unjustified twenty (20)
13 year journey, is mind boggling. Transparency just does
14 not exist in Hydro's vocabulary.

15 Members of the Board, you must direct
16 Manitoba Hydro to terminate their present twenty (20)
17 year preferred plan. Rejecting Hydro's Preferred
18 Development Plan would yield billions in savings to
19 Manitobans that could be used to addre -- excuse me --
20 to address Manitoba's energy -- energy needs. Exports
21 will continue to exist using Hydro's existing
22 transmission lines absent of Bipole 3. And export
23 concern has to be of what magnitude should exports
24 exist.

25 As I stated in my December 12, 2012,

1 presentation before this Board, the above-mentioned
2 savings could be used to construct hyper-efficient --
3 hyper-efficient gas turbines that could be installed
4 quicker and cheaper than hydraulic stations.

5 The last line in that progress report,
6 it's very important that any benefits that we're to
7 accrue for the Northern Aboriginal nations if Keeyask
8 was to move forward, would have to be compensated by
9 any alternative development plan.


10 Manitoba's energy needs could easily be
11 met for several years if you combine our present
12 hydraulic capabilities with Power Smart Programs, the
13 construction of at least two (2) hyper-efficient gas
14 turbines, and an annual reduction in exports, to
15 address Manitoba's increasing energy demands. Excuse
16 me.

17 Such a reduction will yield more cents
18 per kilowatt hour than Hydro can get on the export
19 market. When that is accomplished -- accomplished over
20 a number of years, then consideration should be given
21 to the construction of more generation stations,
22 preferably hyper-efficient gas turbines.

23 Also, reconsideration should be given to
24 Power Smart Programs that are probably a cost to
25 Manitoba Hydro. I believe the biggest cost of those

1 programs, now and in the future, is the fact that Hydro
2 always states that the Power Smart Programs save
3 kilowatt hours of energy that could be used for export.
4 But at present each seven point one-eight-three (7.183)
5 cents per kilowatt hour of energy saved is sold, in
6 most cases, on the export market for much less.

7 So -- so Power Smart Programs are saving
8 money for the individual ratepayers who take part in
9 those programs, not the corporation as a whole, unless,
10 the saved kilowatt hours are earmarked for Manitoba's
11 energy demands.

12 A recent Winnipeg Free Press article
13 stated that Hydro's recent export contracts with some
14 US utilities are contingent on specific dates for
15 Hydro's preferred plan. The cancellation of Hydro's
16 preferred plan, along with those export contracts,
17 that's if they've been approved by the National -
18 National Energy Board, plus termination on any
19 continuing labour costs associated with Hydro's
20 preferred plan, would be an ideal starting position to
21 focus more on the energy needs of Manitobans for now
22 and in the future, without any consideration for
23 expanded hydraulic stations.

24 Exports should only be of the
25 opportunity, interruptible variety, as opposed to long-

1 term firm or firm contracts. It could result in less
2 export revenue, but also represents a substantial
3 saving in times of drought. It's unfortunate that
4 during Hydro's promotion of their preferred plan, and
5 there's been a lot of that, that you do not hear of the
6 severe consequences that will occur if Manitoba suffers
7 the mother of all droughts. And, yes, we are due for a
8 drought in the very near future.

9 Unnecessary costs to address such a
10 severe drought could be in the many millions of
11 dollars. So why hasn't the public heard about the
12 consequences of a long-lasting, severe drought. A
13 drought is risk most likely to occur with the greatest
14 degree of negative consequences to Manitoba Hydro's
15 finances.

16 Hopefully, all Manitobans remember that
17 the negative effects of the 2002/2004 drought was the
18 fact that Manitoba Hydro had too many hydraulic
19 stations -- I'm sorry, too many long-term firm export
20 contracts that Hydro could not address with its own
21 hydraulic stations and for domestic needs.

22 Every time Hydro brags about another
23 export contract being finalized, is a potential for
24 another increase in the severity of the consequences of
25 a drought to Hydro's financial state. Hence, it is

1 necessary right now, and in the future, for Section
2 47(1) of the Public Utilities Act, to be applied by the
3 Public Utilities Board if Hydro insists on using long-
4 term firm or firm export contracts that increase
5 Hydro's risk in times of doubt. Section 47(1) allows
6 the PUB to impose specific restrictions on Hydro's
7 export matters.

8 It is unfortunate that Hydro, not as
9 American export utilities, must face the risks of
10 droughts. I do not have much faith in the Minister
11 responsible ♦- responsible for Manitoba Hydro, Mr.
12 Struthers, or the Director of Licensing for Manitoba
13 Conservation, when those two (2) individuals made --
14 made comments that are false, misleading, or inaccurate
15 regarding an operating licence. I do not believe that
16 such individuals possess a necessary character to make
17 decisions regarding Hydro's Preferred Development Plan.

18 Unfortunately, as it stands now the
19 Struthers/Braun duo represents two (2) strikes against
20 anyone who's opposed to Hydro's preferred plan. Braun
21 is the Director of Licensing.

22 Top of page 5, I have a brief comment.
23 Page 5 is a bunch of little, brief comments. A brief
24 comment under featured blue pages 5, 6, and 9 of
25 Hydro's recent annual report of March 31st, 2013.

1 Those three (3) pages were very similar to Hydro's
2 incessant and misleading television commercials last
3 year.

4 The infrastructure comments imply that
5 Manitoba Hydro did not know of the dilapidated
6 condition of Winnipeg Hydro's infrastructure before
7 they purchased Winnipeg Hydro. Also, I believe that
8 infrastructure maintenance is ongoing and not a sudden
9 occurrence that must be addressed immediately, unless
10 Hydro has been shirking its responsibilities.

11 Shouldn't -- I'm sorry, excuse me.
12 Shouldn't there be a fourth featured blue page in
13 Hydro's annual report that indicate whose land Hydro
14 confiscated in order to achieve the harnessing of the
15 rivers of Manitoba while devastating the way of life
16 for many of those peoples? An action that could only
17 be described as a incredible disre -- re -- disrespect
18 for the Northern Aboriginal Nations. I would think
19 that most Manitobans should be offended by such an
20 omission. What a shame. Or is this all just a sham?

21 Some other brief comments, there's one
22 I've got for Hydro's mission statement. I -- I don't
23 know how many times I've read that and it -- it's
24 always -- the purpose of it -- the -- it says what
25 their purpose is, and it's, "To attend to the energy

1 needs of Manitobas" -- "Manitobans." Not to
2 concentrate on exporting cheap copious quantities of
3 energy or buying Winnipeg Hydro, or buying Centra Gas,
4 or -- or making a deal to get Winnipeg Gas and they
5 were going to -- they're going to be a -- a \$.3 billion
6 office tower. It doesn't make sense to residents or
7 ratepayers.

8 The second there says, "Hydro's Third
9 Quarter Announcement." And I just read that about a
10 week ago, I guess. It says finances were -- were
11 improved by 58 million, and they said it was due
12 primarily to the export -- increase in export sales.

13 Well, if you go to the National Energy
14 Board's statistics, and you add up -- and they add it
15 up for you on -- on the statistics, for those three (3)
16 months, for October, November, December, the increase
17 in exports in money was \$19 million.

18 So they either got it -- they're saying
19 that this increase that they are telling the public of
20 58 million is primarily due to export sales. Well,
21 that's short \$38 million. So what it's primarily due
22 to is the fact that we have had excessive, constant
23 rate increases. And it hit us at a real bad time now,
24 because there are just -- there's very cold
25 temperatures. So they try to make it sound like it's

1 because of exports, but it -- it really was something
2 else. Excuse me.

3 C. Export deals with the Great River
4 Energy and emissions. This was in the paper twice, one
5 (1) just recently, and one (1) back in October, telling
6 us that it's good to export to these people because we
7 -- we help them save on their emissions, things like
8 that. But the only problem with that statement is --

9 MR. KURT SIMONSEN: Mr. Ciekiewicz,
10 could I just get you to restrict yourself to a couple
11 more minutes, please?

12 MR. ALLAN CIEKIEWICZ: A couple more
13 minutes?

14 MR. KURT SIMONSEN: Yeah.

15 MR. ALLAN CIEKIEWICZ: Okay.

16 Gentlemen, do one (1) more.

17 'D' has to do with Manitobans have
18 always been told exports help keep our rates low, but
19 in the February 22nd, 2014, edition of the Winnipeg
20 Press -- Free Press, CEO Thompson used a different
21 phrase. Instead of stating that exports keep our rates
22 low, as he done in the past, he stated that export --
23 exports contribute to cost-effective electricity for
24 Manitobans. What does that mean? The 'cost effective'
25 statement is ambiguous and may have nothing to do with

1 keeping rates low.

2 And I'll finish it with this last little
3 thing here. It is obv -- obvious from this
4 presentation that I believe it is necessary to produce
5 an alternative -- alternatives would be better -- to
6 Hydro's current Preferred Development Plan. It is
7 unfortunate that Hydro believes that their Preferred
8 Development Plan is a do -- is a done deal. I hope
9 not. Thanks for the opportunity.

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: The panel has no
11 questions. So thank you very much for the very clear
12 presentation. And thank you for coming to express your
13 views to the panel.

14 MR. ALLAN CIEKIEWICZ: Okay. You're
15 very welcome.

16 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

17 MR. ALLAN CIEKIEWICZ: Thank you.

18 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Thank you, Mr.
19 Ciekiewicz. Mr. Chairman, the next person on the
20 list is Ed Lohrenz speaking on behalf of Geo-Xergy
21 Systems Inc. and the Manitoba Geothermal Energy
22 Alliance.

23 Mr. Lohrenz, do you have an electronic
24 presentation you'd like on the screen?

25

1 PRESENTATION BY GEO-XERGY SYSTEMS INC./MANITOBA

2 GEOTHERMAL ENERGY ALLIANCE:

3 MR. ED LOHRENZ: Okay. The -- there
4 should be a PowerPoint available that was submitted.
5 Thank you. Basically, I'll -- as I said, I'll be
6 representing the Manitoba Geothermal Energy Alliance
7 and my own company, basically.

8 Next slide, please. I've worked in the
9 industry since 1982, in Manitoba, across Canada, the
10 US, and internationally. Basically, I've been in --
11 instrumental in developing the -- the training courses
12 for the International Ground Source Heat Pump
13 Association in the US, and published a number of papers
14 about the ge -- related to geothermal energy over the
15 years.

16 Next slide, please. Some of the
17 projects, just to give you a bit of background,
18 District Ener -- District Geothermal System and
19 Gibson's BC that was -- is partially completed. An
20 IKEA store in Denver. Winnipeg, the Seasons of Tuxedo
21 Shopping Centres, installing a geothermal system.
22 Other projects in Australia and across Canada.

23 Next slide, please. Manitoba Hydro says
24 that the energy consumption is growing at a rate of
25 about 1.5 percent annually, or about 80 megawatts

1 annually. And, basically, based on population increase
2 and that the -- there needs to be an increase. The one
3 (1) important thing to notice on this -- this
4 publication from Hydro is that they expect the Power
5 Smart Programs will only contribute reduce -- would
6 only reduce the rate by approximately .1 percent. I
7 would suggest that there are alternatives that can
8 produce much more than that.

9 Next slide, please. Basically, the
10 preferred option is -- that Manitoba Hydro has put
11 forward is to build hydroelectric dams and transmission
12 lines at a cost of -- approximately a forecast cost of
13 about \$22 billion over the next number of years.

14 Next slide, please. Basically, and --
15 and they -- they also suggest that this will result in
16 the lowest electricity rates over the long term.

17 Next slide. A bit of background on the
18 geothermal heat pump industry. They have been around
19 in Manitoba since 19 -- the early 1980s. I've owned
20 three (3) homes in Manitoba that have the -- had a
21 geothermal system, and recently replaced a heat pump in
22 my own home that had been operating for over twenty-two
23 (22) years. And I used the same ground heat exchanger.

24 Ne -- yeah, next slide, please.
25 Basically, really simply described, a heat pump is

1 connected to a ground heat exchanger that is buried in
2 the ground around the house, either horizontally or
3 vertically. There's many different ways of -- of
4 connecting a heat pump to the ground. But it's a heat
5 exchanger, and we're taking advantage of the warmer
6 temperatures in the ground.

7 Next slide. There are many different
8 ways of installing the heat exchange in the ground,
9 whether it's with a backhoe with horizontal trenching,
10 vertical drilling, or in basically submergi --
11 submerging it in a body of water nearby. Many
12 different ways of doing it, and they're all applic --
13 applicable and have been done in Manitoba.

14 Next slide. A heat pump works exactly
15 like a refrigerator. Basically, as you take heat from
16 the food, or milk, or whatever in the refrigerator, the
17 refrigerator rejects that heat into the kitchen. In
18 effect, it's heating the -- heating the -- the kitchen.
19 And if you keep on replacing, adding food, or adding
20 gallons of water to the refrigerator, it would keep on
21 heating the kitchen.

22 A heat pump works exactly the same way,
23 except it's connected to the ground, which provides a
24 continuous source of energy.

25 Next slide. So a typical heat pump

1 looks very similar to a gas furnace or electric furnace
2 connected to duct work, very similar to any furnace
3 that's in place already.

4 Next slide. One of the figures that was
5 kind of interesting is that Manitoba Hydro says that
6 there are about a hundred and twenty-seven thousand
7 (127,000) homes, and just single-family homes, not
8 counting apartment buildings and many other commercial
9 buildings that use electric baseboard heating. And
10 each one (1) of those single family homes draws about
11 11 kilowatts of power on average. And during cold
12 weather that draws as much power, 1,400 megawatts, as
13 the proposed Conawapa Dam.

14 Next slide. So why should we consider
15 geothermal heat pumps? The technology is established.
16 It's proven in Manitoba. It's been here for well over
17 thirty (30) years. It's less expensive to implement
18 than building dams and power -- power lines. There are
19 employment and skills that can be developed in Manitoba
20 for the long term. It's better for the ratepayer.
21 It's better for the provincial economy. It's better
22 for the environment.

23 Next slide, please. And don't get me
24 wrong, Manitoba Hydro and the provincial government
25 have promoted -- help promote geothermal systems

1 through financing programs since the -- 1999. Right
2 now, there's probably about ten thousand (10,000)
3 systems installed in Manitoba. There's about twelve
4 hundred (1,200) installed annually in Manitoba. That's
5 more than any -- any other jurisdiction in Canada per
6 capita.

7 Next slide. In the last year or two (2)
8 there's well over forty (40) homes that were installed
9 in the Waverley West development. And there's a
10 project being done on the Peguis reserve north of
11 Winnipeg, converting, I think -- I believe it's about
12 fifty (50) homes. So the -- the systems have been
13 here, they do work, and they've been proven. And Hydro
14 does actually provide some financing to -- to install
15 the systems.

16 Next slide. Some of the other projects
17 that have been done and are underway in Winnipeg by the
18 Seasons of Tuxedo shopping centre and the Steinbach
19 Credit Union in Lagimodiere.

20 Next slide. One (1) of the things to
21 understand about the cost of installing a geothermal
22 system, if a home is using electric resistance heating
23 it draws about 11 kilowatts of power on -- on -- during
24 the peak on a very cold day. And it would cost about
25 twenty (20) -- about twenty-five thousand dollars

1 (\$25,000) on average to convert a house from electric
2 heated to a geothermal system. And it would reduce the
3 demand by about over -- a little bit over 7 kilowatts
4 on each house that has been converted from electric
5 heat to a geothermal system, because it gets two-thirds
6 (2/3) of its energy from the ground.

7 That works out to a cost of about
8 thirty-four hundred dollars (\$3,400) per kilowatt in
9 demand reduction. That's 7.3 kilowatts that can be
10 sold for export, or whatever.

11 Next slide. The proposed dams at
12 Wuskwatim, Keeyask, Conawapa, and -- and Bipole,
13 they're looking at a cost of about \$22 billion. That
14 will cost, in capital construction, about nine -- over
15 nine thousand dollars (\$9,000) to construct.

16 Next slide. So there's a -- there's --
17 simply, if -- if Hydro financed the cost of a -- of
18 converting all of these homes, it would be almost six
19 thousand dollars (\$6,000) less to do that than to build
20 the dams per kilowatt that's produced or released for
21 export.

22 Next slide. For creating employment,
23 based on a presentation available on Hydro's website,
24 it will create approximately fifty-four thousand
25 (54,000) person months of employment over the next --

1 the next seven (7) years or so.

2 Next slide. Installing a ground coupled
3 heat pump system will create appro -- approximately one
4 hundred (100) hours, or point six (.6) person months of
5 employment. If all of these homes that are electric
6 heated right now were converted, that would produce
7 seventy-six thousand (76,000) person months of
8 employment, more than building Keeyask.

9 Next slide. So -- and that doesn't
10 consider the -- the manufacturing sector. There's a
11 pipe manufacturer in Manitoba that supplies pipe for
12 these systems. There's a lot of engineering work
13 that's done, a lot of -- in the -- in the service
14 sector for maintaining these -- these systems over the
15 years.

16 Next slide. So basically what I'm
17 suggesting is that converting the electrical --
18 electrically heated homes to geothermal heat pumps will
19 create more jobs per kilowatt that's released for
20 export than building Keeyask, or -- or building the
21 power dams.

22 Next slide. Hydro's also said that the
23 rates will increase almost 4 percent annually for the
24 next twenty (20) years to build -- you know, to fund
25 the construction.

1 Next slide. Converting these will re --
2 reduce demand by about 7.3 kilowatts. What that means
3 is that if about eleven thousand (11,000) systems were
4 installed per year, that's about ten (10) times more
5 than is currently being installed, that would reduce
6 the demand for the next eleven (11) years, that's how
7 many houses are available for conversion, by about 80
8 megawatts, or what -- what Hydro is projecting that the
9 demand would be increased.

10 And this can be achieved for a cost of
11 about thirty-four hundred dollars (\$3,400) per kilowatt
12 instead of ninety-three hundred dollars (\$9,300) per
13 kilowatt, or about \$274 million dollars per year.

14 Next slide. But the interesting thing
15 is that Hydro already does have vari -- different ways
16 of financing a system on -- on the -- on their bills to
17 the consumer. And they wouldn't even have to pay for
18 the cost of con -- of freeing up that energy. They
19 would simply have to finance it the way they already
20 do, just do it on a bigger scale.

21 Next slide. What that also does is
22 provide the -- the consumers in those homes that are
23 electrically heated a saving of about eight hundred
24 dollars (\$800) per year. That means there's eight
25 hundred dollars (\$800) disposable income that could

1 help finance the -- the cost of -- of installing a
2 system.

3 So it would not cost the homeowner any
4 additional money. The energy cost savings would pay
5 for the cost of the installation that Hydro is
6 financing. That would free up over -- as the systems
7 are paid for over the -- over time, over a hundred
8 million dollars per year that -- of disposable income
9 within the province.

10 Next slide. So, basically, it would
11 potentially defer the need to build the dams. If
12 there's a need to -- or if there are sales for the
13 export hydro, I've got no problem for -- with Hydro to
14 do this, but there may be better ways of finding the
15 energy that can be exported, other than the preferred
16 plan of simply building more dams.

17 Next slide. So, basically, one (1) of
18 the things that -- that Hydro says consistently is that
19 it is -- is more ben -- beneficial to the environment
20 to export power to Minnesota to reduce greenhouse gas
21 emissions by that are produced by their greenhouse
22 plants across the border, rather than saving the energy
23 here.

24 So that -- that's -- that's simply
25 wrong. It's -- it would basically reduce the need for

1 -- we -- we've still got the power available. We can
2 defer the construction of the dams by mi -- by at least
3 eleven (11) years simply by converting the single
4 family homes. We can still reduce greenhouse gas
5 emissions across the border if that's what they really
6 feel is the best for the environment, but was -- is
7 going to cost a whole lot less.

8 Next slide. So, basically, in summary
9 the cost to build the dam is about ninety-three hundred
10 dollars (\$9,300) per kilowatt. The cost to install a
11 geothermal system, thirty-four hundred dollars (\$3,400)
12 per kilowatt if it's fully paid for by Hydro; zero if
13 it's simply financed. Job creation is better with
14 installing a geothermal system, about -- about point-
15 eight (.8) person years per kilowatt, versus point-
16 seven-eight (.78) -- point-zero-seven-eight (.078).

17 Annual rate increase. Hydro has
18 projected 3.95 percent per year to build the dams. I
19 would suggest that it's going to be a lot less than
20 that if there -- if it's not going to cost the -- as
21 much to reduce the use of hydroelectric power in
22 Manitoba. The amount of money that's going into --
23 that is available for -- for consumers that are on
24 electrically heated homes, right now it's zero.

25 They are actually going to increase

1 their cost almost 4 percent per year. With this, I
2 would suggest that the rate increase would -- could be
3 a lot less, and will provide a lot more disposable
4 income in -- within the province.

5 And hydroelectric power, yeah, it's
6 renewable energy so it's -- it's not bad for the
7 environment. I heard different things this morning
8 from what the Aboriginal communities were saying. I
9 would suggest that installing geothermal systems is
10 better for the environment. Thank you. Thank you for
11 the opportunity. Questions...?

12 THE CHAIRPERSON: I have a couple of
13 questions, I guess, looking at that last slide, "Job
14 Creation." And I see kilowatt hours or kilowatts,
15 rather. I don't get that.

16 Could you explain that one?

17 MR. ED LOHRENZ: That -- that is to
18 build Keeyask -- Keeyask, Hydro is suggesting that will
19 create fifty-four thousand (54,000) person months of
20 employment. And the -- the power production from
21 Keeyask, that works out to about .78 -- .078 kilowatts,
22 or point-zero-seven-eight (.078) person months per
23 kilowatt that they're producing when they build
24 Keeyask.

25 To install the geothermal systems, that

1 will also create employment in the province for people
2 that are drilling and excavating and putting the pipes
3 in the ground, con -- converting the -- the heat -- the
4 electrically -- electric furnaces or electric
5 baseboards to heat pumps. That will actually create a
6 little bit more employment. To free up 1 kilowatt of
7 power that can be exported, that will create point-
8 zero-eight-two (.082) person months per kilowatt that's
9 produced.

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: And the -- the fourth
11 line there, "Dollars Into the Manitoba Economy." It's
12 showing zero as building dams and showing 101 million
13 for the geothermal systems.

14 MR. ED LOHRENZ: What I'm referring to
15 there is the amount of money that is available to
16 consumers in these electrically heated homes. That
17 will -- if those hundred and twenty-seven thousand
18 (127,000) homes were converted to geothermal systems,
19 that would free up \$101 million per year, or whatever -
20 - plus the inflationary costs of electricity increase.
21 That's not going to provide that, in fact, their
22 electric rates are going to go up and reduce the amount
23 of disposable income.

24 THE CHAIRPERSON: Now another question,
25 the \$25,000 you cited to a install a geothermal pump...

1 MR. ED LOHRENTZ: M-hm.

2 THE CHAIRPERSON: Does that apply to a
3 new house or does it apply to an older house, like
4 mine?

5 MR. ED LOHRENTZ: That would be on -- on
6 an average house. Like, and I -- I made some
7 assumptions on the types of homes that would be
8 converted. Some of them might be a thousand square
9 foot bungalow, some of them might be three thousand
10 square foot home in Waverley West, for example, or what
11 -- whatever that would be electrically heated.

12 From the numbers that I have been able
13 to be deter -- determine, talking to different
14 contractors that are already installing systems, work
15 that we've done in the past, that would be a decent
16 average number to convert a typical home. Let's say --
17 let's say a fifteen hundred (1500) square foot
18 bungalow. If your home is bigger than that, it could
19 be thirty-five thousand (35,000). If it's smaller, it
20 could be a bit less. And that would take into account
21 the changes to duct work and installing the pipe in the
22 dirt.

23 DR. HUGH GRANT: That -- that's a
24 subsidized rate, or that would be the actual cost ...

25 MR. ED LOHRENTZ: That would be an

1 approximate act -- actual cost.

2 DR. HUGH GRANT: And you're saying that
3 the annual operating cost to be about a quarter of what
4 it would be to heat electrically?

5 MR. ED LOHRENZ: If you're heating a
6 home with an electric furnace, or electric -- electric
7 baseboards, typically what we've seen, if your total
8 electric bill is, let's say, twenty-four hundred
9 dollars (\$2400) per year right now, it would typically
10 drop that in half. Okay?

11 DR. HUGH GRANT: And -- and you said a
12 pump would -- should last twenty (20) years, so...

13 MR. ED LOHRENZ: Mine -- mine, I
14 replaced after twenty-two (22) years. I didn't have to
15 replace the pipe in the ground, I simply had to take
16 one (1) heat pump out and put in another one.

17 DR. HUGH GRANT: Just the last point
18 then, and I'm not sure if it was on the slide 14 or
19 not, but is this industry growing across the country
20 or...? It didn't look like it was in Ontario, but I
21 may have misread the sl --

22 MR. ED LOHRENZ: There -- there was --
23 there was a bit of a slow down over the last couple --
24 last few years because of the recession, especially --
25 more so in Ontario than in other places. But the

1 industry is growing fairly significantly.

2 And it -- I was speaking to some folks
3 from the US yesterday in Toronto. They're -- they've
4 seen a bit more of a slow down because the recession
5 has hit them further but they're starting to see an
6 upswing again. What are seeing in -- in commercial
7 applications like Seasons of Tuxedo, that kind of a
8 project, a project across the street from here that's -
9 - the CentrePort Project, that's going geothermal.
10 That kind of project is increasing at a faster rate
11 than -- than the res -- single family residential.
12 We're doing work in Toronto right now, on multi-family
13 residential condos, that kind of thing. There's a lot
14 of work going on.

15 MR. RICHARD BEL: Sorry. One question,
16 point of clarification. The -- your study assumed only
17 the houses that can't access gas?

18 MR. ED LOHRENZ: Yeah. The -- the
19 hundred and twenty seven thousand (127,000) homes,
20 they're -- that's how many homes Manitoba Hydro has
21 said are in Manitoba right now that are electrically
22 heated. Most of them would be outside of the urban
23 areas, where there's no g -- no natural gas available.
24 They'd be in farms, communities, northern communities,
25 that kind of thing.

1 MR. RICHARD BEL: Okay, thank you.

2 MR. ED LOHRENTZ: Yeah. That, by the
3 way, that does not include -- there's numerous
4 apartment buildings right downtown Winnipeg that are
5 all electrically heated, that could potentially be
6 converted that would -- I -- and this is an absolute
7 rough guess. That would at least double that capacity.

8

9 MS. MARILYN KAPITANY: So, I have a
10 question. We all, I think, hope we don't get another
11 winter as cold as this one.

12 MR. ED LOHRENTZ: You and me both.

13 MS. MARILYN KAPITANY: But we've heard
14 about neighbours in Winnipeg who have had frozen water
15 systems.

16 Is there any kind of similar effect on
17 the pipes that are used for geothermal, and how
18 effective would it be in such a cold winter as this?

19 MR. ED LOHRENTZ: My home has been
20 heated with geothermal and I know numerous other homes,
21 there's pro -- like I said, there's probably about a
22 thousand systems being installed annually. There are
23 training courses provided by the Manitoba Geothermal
24 Energy Alliance for contractors that are learning how
25 to do this. So, that they are designed and installed

1 appropriately. If they are done properly, there should
2 be no issue.

3 The only thing that would happen this
4 year, as opposed to last year, because winter is
5 colder, the temperature of the fluid coming from the
6 ground that would feed the heat pump might be one or
7 two degrees colder than last year. But, if it's done
8 properly, that should be well within the range of where
9 it should be operating. Okay.

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much
11 for a very excellent presentation and -- and it
12 certainly answered some of my questions I've had for
13 awhile, so thank you very much.

14 MR. ED LOHRENZ: Okay, well if you want
15 to look at it more seriously, give me a call. Thank
16 you for the opportunity, appreciate it.

17 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Thank you, Mr.
18 Lohrenz. Mr. Chairman, the next presenter is Daniel
19 Lepp Friesen

20

21 (BRIEF PAUSE)

22

23 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Perhaps, we can take
24 a one
25 minute break. We'll see if we can resolve the

1 technical issue.

2

3 (BRIEF PAUSE)

4

5 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Mr. Chairmember
6 (sic), if we are ready to proceed, I'd like to welcome
7 Daniel Friesen. Go ahead.

8

9 PRESENTATION BY 50BY30:

10 MR. DANIEL FRIESEN: Thank you very
11 much for this opportunity to speak with you, I really
12 appreciate that and the forum that you have created
13 here. My name is Daniel Friesen and I am an engineer
14 technician. I work in my own business in terms of
15 providing feasibility assessments for renewable energy
16 systems. I work in the US and in Canada, and I've been
17 at this business since the early '80s.

18 The 50 x 30 logo that you see in front
19 of you is a volunteer-based organization that is
20 looking at energy policy for Manitoba. The 50 x 30
21 refers to 50 percent renewables by 2030. And so this
22 is a vision that is -- has been put out. We are
23 presently at around 30 percent renewable and would be
24 looking at increasing 20 percent or so by year 2030.

25 Why 50 x 30? We are looking at spending

1 more of our money here. I will be getting into a bit
2 in terms of the amount of money that we export every
3 year, reducing our greenhouse gasses, growing our
4 industries. We have a really dramatic growing growth
5 of green industries, including the geothermal that Ed
6 spoke about, as well as some significant biomass and
7 solar industries, and increasing our use of renewable
8 energy.

9 The point is that no single sector can
10 do this alone; it takes a cooperation of a number of
11 things. This we have captured in the word RED, which
12 is renewables, energy efficient gains, and demand
13 reduction programs. So the point is that this is not
14 about some technology, some silver bullet that's going
15 to take care of everything. It's taking a look at
16 everything together, in terms of a single picture that
17 has a number of aspects to it.

18 So, how much are we exporting right now
19 as a -- as I mentioned before there's around \$5 billion
20 dollars worth of funds that we export to primarily our
21 neighbours to the west in terms of gasoline, diesel and
22 natural gas. So you can see that the -- the
23 transportation fuels are a majority of where we spend
24 our money but it's also non-renewables like natural
25 gas.

1 So, to date, our energy sources in terms
2 of renewables and fossil fuels are the pj -- refers to
3 petajoules -- these numbers are from NRCAN. So you can
4 see a growth, a steady growth primarily with the hydro
5 electricity and if you break that up, you can see the
6 natural gas oil coal which is a smaller and decreasing
7 portion.

8 We have some projections based on hydro
9 and other projections that move us out to around 316
10 petajoules by the year 2030. We are suggesting that
11 this number not only be divided 50/50 between
12 renewables and non-renewables, but that it be decreased
13 as well overall.

14 So an example in terms of the realism of
15 this, if we -- we heard it from Ed the -- the amount of
16 geothermal ground source heat pumps that are being
17 installed in the province, and clearly this is on a
18 sharp upward swing, which is positive, number 1. And
19 number 2, it is a strategy that is well endorsed by our
20 province and Manitoba Hydro.

21 So this -- this hearing is -- is an
22 excellent opportunity for -- to hear ideas -- different
23 ideas in terms of energy strategies. And we're looking
24 at the Dunsky Report and the demand reduction goals.
25 In terms of DSM this is very critical. And these

1 conclusions are ones that we feel really need to take
2 very seriously.

3 We have growth of biomass solar and
4 geothermal heating. As you may know, we have a -- a
5 lot of wood and a lot of agricultural residues in the
6 southern part of the province. A study that was
7 performed for Manitoba Hydro says that if we simply
8 take the residues of one (1) crop, that is wheat, and
9 then we cut that in half and we burn that stubble, we
10 could provide 100 percent of our heating needs for
11 Manitoba.

12 Now, if you think this is a funny way to
13 heat, if you go to places like Denmark, I was in Sweden
14 last year, 80 percent of their heating needs are
15 required in district systems using wood chips and straw
16 of various sorts. So the whole economy has not only
17 benefited from that because it's local, but they are
18 producing technologies that they are exporting at very
19 high rates all around the world.

20 So the green plan that we're talking
21 about is an encouragement about an energy policy. We
22 don't have an energy policy in our province. And what
23 we're looking at -- an we're not unique in North
24 America, by the way. But to actually put some targets
25 up there that says, We want to get to this point and --

1 and to get there.

2 A few examples are listed here. If you
3 look at the third one now, Denmark has a 100:50 energy
4 policy for its country. The USA, a number of 25:25
5 states have taken that on, including Minnesota, which
6 is why, by the way, we have additional contracts by
7 Minnesota to purchase our electricity is because they
8 have a -- adopted a state-wide energy policy that
9 stipulates that a certain amount of it has to be
10 renewable by law. So we are a direct beneficiary of
11 their energy policy.

12 So the numbers may vary. It may be
13 different than 50:30, but that's not really the point.
14 The point is to set a target and a vision. Vision is
15 powerful. You look around a province, you look at the
16 -- you look at the aqua duct, for instance, that brings
17 in water. Somebody had a crazy idea a long time ago
18 that Winnipeg could be up to 2 million people and that
19 we should bring the water from Ontario. What a crazy
20 idea that must have seemed at the time.

21 Even building dams in the Whiteshell
22 instead of going with more coal. And you look at the
23 channel around the city redirecting water. Duff's
24 Ditch now becomes the miracle saver that everyone
25 thinks is brilliant and we just spent millions to

1 expand it.

2 So this, I think, time for a vision.
3 It's time to look ahead and time to -- to plant some
4 seeds. So a plan with targets if we want to build a
5 new dam or we want to increase natural gas, we've got a
6 context for it. We've got an umbrella to say, Yes,
7 we're going for 50:30. Therefore, this decision fits
8 into a water plan.

9 The alternative is not having a goal.
10 And we are floating on trends. This was shown by Ed
11 before. We have a 1.5 percent growth idea and very
12 limited imaginations as to what can be achieved through
13 Power Smart type initiatives.

14 Now, I say that simply because if you
15 look at BC's Clean Energy Act, 66 percent -- I'll let
16 that sink in for a -- for a second. Two-thirds (2/3)
17 of all new power demand is to be met through not new
18 dams, not natural gas, not solar, not even geothermal,
19 but by conservation. And this is a province. It's in
20 our country. It's larger than us. It's growing
21 faster. And they're saying, We don't need new power
22 generation.

23 California is moving toward 100 percent
24 of its new power demand is to be met through
25 conservation. Incredible. Who would have thought that

1 we could meet all new power generation needs through
2 conservation. So the idea that it can -- we can just
3 doing it .1 percent a year is really, really looking
4 through a -- a straw in the wrong direction. I think
5 we need to look with vision at the possibilities that
6 are there and are being evidenced by our neighbours.

7 Back to BC. They have an integrated
8 resource plan and this is available to anybody, but it
9 -- it looks sort of like the 50:30 idea. It looks at
10 the whole picture.

11 So this analysis to us is not about
12 techi -- technolo -- technology battles. It's not
13 about more dams or oil wells. It's looking at the
14 long-term comprehensive planning. And we need to look
15 at economics. It needs to make money; it needs to make
16 dollars and cents, it needs to protect the environment.
17 And social health is very important as well.

18 So alternatives to electric generation
19 and heating. Again, I would very much back what Ed was
20 saying and augment that by the fact that there's
21 communities in the north that do not have the ability
22 to put geothermal in. They are sitting on rocks.
23 However, they happen to be surrounded, many of these
24 communities, by forests. And these forests, a number
25 of them are being cut as we speak to put in roads.

1 And the smart capturing of that resource
2 for lumber export, as well as using wood chips to heat
3 the communities through district systems, again, this
4 is an odd idea. Winnipeg itself is a district heated
5 city. Until about thirty (30), forty (40) years ago,
6 we had steam pipes running under the ground. We had
7 two (2) coal plants downtown. So this is an old idea.
8 And this is -- a district heating system is where you
9 have a central plant that's heated in whatever way you
10 want to, and then with the heat circulated around. And
11 we have a number of those systems in Manitoba already,
12 even using biomass.

13 The idea of RED, R-E-D, we've -- we've
14 gone quite far down this road of trying to look at what
15 are the implications for all different sectors, whether
16 it's electricity, heating, or transportation which is
17 actually one (1) of the big elephants in the room. And
18 we have some recommendations in terms of looking at
19 RED, with multiple technology solutions.

20 And, on a side note, but very important,
21 we have a Lake Winnipeg cleanup agenda that's very
22 strong and being pushed at us by many, many players.
23 And there's a way to do this through the -- through the
24 harvest of cattails and the use of that for biomass
25 heat, where we can get renewable heat and lake cleanup

1 at the same time.

2 So the targets we're looking at is a DSM
3 to at least match British Columbia. We're not looking
4 for something as crazy as Denmark is doing, but we're -
5 - we would like to see at least matching BC, replacing
6 electric heat with geothermal biomass and solar; and
7 limit the growth of natural gas with biomass heat.

8 This -- not only does it keep more money
9 in province, but it's renewable and it also provides
10 jobs for many, many years down the road, investing in
11 other and developing other renewable energy sectors and
12 developing more wind and solar capacity. So, in our
13 minds, this is renewable, it's sustainable, and it's
14 profitable. And I very much appreciate the chance to
15 speak.

16

17

18 (BRIEF PAUSE)

19

20 DR. HUGH GRANT: I'm just curious in
21 terms of the BC and California plans. Where is this
22 conservation saving going to come from; is it largely
23 transportation?

24 MR. DANIEL FRIESEN: This is actually
25 in the -- the heating and cooling sectors is where

1 these numbers are coming from. So a lot of energy
2 plans, and there -- there are some transportation
3 pieces to it. But it's primarily, I believe, and I
4 could be corrected on this, but it has to do with any -
5 - any conventional building.

6 If you have insulation targets that can
7 be met: better glazing, shading of windows in the
8 summertime to make sure that you don't get the sun in,
9 passive house design that you may have heard about
10 before. These kind of things are -- are really not
11 very high tech, but that's one (1) area.

12 The other area is industrially, where
13 you have demand regulation on motorcycles and -- sorry,
14 cycles of motors running. And -- and the trimming the
15 demand down so that -- so that you stagger the loads
16 when they turn on. And it sounds very basic, but it
17 makes a huge difference in terms of the demand charges
18 that the company pays, as well as its energy charge.

19 DR. HUGH GRANT: And these would be
20 economically viable now? I -- I'm thinking of a case
21 where, sure, I could insulate my home and cut down
22 energy use, but if the cost of insulation was so high.

23 But you're saying under current
24 conditions it would be an attractive opportunity?

25 MR. DANIEL FRIESEN: Well, not only is

1 it attractive, but our own utility finances it. In
2 fact, I had some insulation upgrades to my own home. I
3 also put a solar heating system on that, as -- as we
4 speak, at minus 40 the home is heated using the sun.
5 This is not impossible ideas. This is all very viable.

6 THE CHAIRPERSON: Have you had a look
7 at the government's -- Manitoba government's Clean
8 Energy Policy that was issued last year? Have you --

9 MR. DANIEL FRIESEN: Yes.

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: -- have you -- you --
11 you wish to comment on that from your perspective,
12 given what you've told us?

13 MR. DANIEL FRIESEN: The ideas are
14 there, and I -- I -- the -- the scope of what is
15 offered there is good. And the content is there. What
16 is distinctly lacking are -- are targets. I can -- if
17 -- if I don't set some kind of a target and I don't
18 push to get there, then I'm likely not to get there.

19 But I can have -- the menu can be there.
20 It's just that it's not taken advantage of. I'll give
21 you an example for a place like Denmark, where they
22 have set very, very ambitious goals for renewable heat
23 and many other things in their country. This has led
24 to certain types of additional revenue that's generated
25 from non-renewable resources, and then that helps to

1 grow the renewable energy industry.

2 So by setting a target, it requires that
3 there's other economic movers that have to happen. And
4 that's what I don't see in the plan.

5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much
6 for the very thoughtful presentation. Thank you.

7 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Mr. Chairman, the
8 next presenter on the list is Bruce Duggan, speaking on
9 behalf of the -- the Buhler (sic) Centre. Mr.
10 Duggan...?

11 MR. BRUCE DUGGAN: It's actually the
12 Buller Centre for Business. Mr. Buller and Mr. Buhler
13 are two (2) different people, and they don't like
14 getting confused.

15 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: I stand corrected.

16 MR. BRUCE DUGGAN: All right.

17 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: And I'm sorry if I
18 offended either one of them.

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Since we are talking
20 about Mr. Buller, could you -- could you explain the
21 name? Like I --

22

23 PRESENTATION BY BULLER CENTRE FOR BUSINESS:

24 MR. BRUCE DUGGAN: Yes. It's Herb
25 Buller as one of the supporters of -- of the business

1 program at Providence, and he was the founder of
2 Kitchencraft. So there's a number of other supporters
3 as well.

4 Thank you for the opportunity to
5 present. I'm going to try to edit my remarks down to
6 hold within the fifteen (15) minutes.

7 In my view there's probably no other
8 issue before the public that will have a greater impact
9 on the long-term financial health of our province.
10 This -- this is it, in my view. This is the big issue;
11 \$20 billion is real money.

12 And in this matter, if we could move to
13 the mandate -- thank you -- we could say that the PUB
14 serves as a -- a proxy for the citizens of our
15 province. You gather the knowledge that we don't have
16 the time to acquire, and you make recommendations to
17 our provincial government that best serve our
18 interests.

19 This isn't an easy task, and it's made
20 more difficult by the fact that you have to make the
21 decision in an inevitable climate of uncertainty. No
22 one can predict the future -- with any certainty, the
23 future of prices or demand for electricity.

24 That's made even more uncertain by the
25 fact that both supply and demand will be affected by

1 climate change. But there are a few things that we
2 know for sure.

3 We will always need some sort of power
4 as Manitobans, and running out is not an option,
5 especially in winter.

6 The third thing that we know for sure is
7 that we will, as citizens, be responsible for the debts
8 of Manitoba Hydro if they can't pay them. That third
9 certainty that -- that we are going to be cosigning a
10 loan. It's not in the Hydro Act. It's not in the
11 terms of reference for this Hearing. But it's an
12 inevitable, inescapable fiscal reality.

13 If the scenario that Hydro has laid out
14 comes to pass and the costs are more than covered by
15 the income, then we've cosigned a loan that the
16 principle has paid and we're not at risk.

17 But if that doesn't come to pass, if the
18 revenue projections are too high or the demand
19 projections are too low, then we will be liable for
20 that -- for that debt. In the first instance, Hydro
21 will come to you and ask to raise rates to try to cover
22 the debt. In the second instance, if that doesn't
23 cover enough of the shortfall, the provincial
24 government will have to cover it.

25 And there's only four (4) ways to do

1 that. You raise taxes, you cut services, you increase
2 the provincial government debt, or you sell off assets.
3 And in my view, from -- as a prospective -- as a
4 citizen, all of those are harmful to our interests.

5 So it seems to me that we should want
6 Manitoba Hydro to be run in a businesslike manner, but
7 not necessarily to act as if it's a for-profit
8 business. In other words, we shouldn't necessarily
9 want it to pursue every possible or imaginable
10 opportunity; that we should want it to fulfill its core
11 mandate at the least cost and risk. That's our
12 interest.

13 So what is their core mandate? In the
14 submission, the -- Manitoba Hydro says that it's:

15 "Committed to maintaining a reliable,
16 affordable, environmentally sta --
17 sustainable energy, while ensuring
18 long-term financial sustainability."

19 We could think of this as a four (4)
20 point test. To me, this is an -- an excellent summary
21 of their mandate. And I think it's appropriate to use
22 these four (4) points the next -- thank you -- to use
23 these four (4) points as the standard against which we
24 would judge their Preferred Development Plan. And we
25 should ask ourselves: Does it achieve these four (4)

1 points?

2 I would like to speak, just for a few
3 moments, about export demand. Based on some of the
4 statements being reported in the media -- if we could
5 go to the next slide. Thank you. Some observers may
6 believe that Hydro is actually providing two (2)
7 justifications for its PDP, one (1) being that mandate
8 that's laid out, and the second one (1) being taking
9 advantage of perceived market opportunities for export
10 power in the United States.

11 I'm hopeful that the PUB will not
12 actually use that per -- perceived export opportunities
13 as the core reason or the core rationale. It's not
14 what's used in the business plan that Hydro has
15 submitted. And, in my view, it has two (2) serious
16 flaws.

17 Firstly, it's outside the mandate, the
18 core requirements that Hydro must do to fulfill its
19 obligations. And, secondly, I think we're in a -- a
20 period of highly unpredictable export market, both
21 potential and price. And that's because of the changes
22 that have happened that we all know about in fracking.
23 Fracking has revolutionized the supply of natural gas,
24 which was actually quite stable for twenty (20) years.
25 And we don't know at this point, in 2013 and 2014,

1 where that peak will level off.

2 We're in a -- in what is almost a
3 textbook example of a disruptive technology in which it
4 has altered both the price for shale gas and for
5 natural gas generally. And then there's a knock-on eff
6 -- effect of altering the price for electricity.

7 In a few years, unless there is another
8 breakthrough in shale gas technology, which seems
9 unlikely, we'll know where this levels out. And then
10 we'll end up with a more predictable price for gas.
11 But we're not there yet.

12 Some people predict that shale gas is a
13 bubble; that line will go back down, energy --
14 electricity export prices will go back up. And if that
15 actually happens, then the predictions of export
16 revenues seem quite likely. Other people say, no.
17 And, in fact, some of the submission from Manitoba
18 Hydro suggests that line is going to keep growing,
19 essentially forever, as far as we can predict. And if
20 that's the case, the export market for electricity may
21 never recover.

22 My goal today isn't to enter into a
23 debate about future shale productivity or export
24 markets on electricity. But, instead, my goal is to
25 have us recognize that we are in a heightened and, I

1 believe, temporary period of price uncertainty. Until
2 this moves from being a disruptive technology to being
3 an established technology, which if we look at how
4 disruptive technologies evolve, takes a few years.
5 Until then, we simply do not know what the electricity
6 price will be.

7 Chapter 6 of the Hydro submission argues
8 that we're currently in a window of opportunity for
9 action. I would argue the exact opposite. We are in a
10 window of opportunity to wait. At this point in time,
11 our wisest course of action is to let the supply and
12 market price for natural gas stabilize, to see that eff
13 -- what effect that has on the export price for
14 electricity, and then to act.

15 So if we could focus, then, simply on
16 projecting domestic demand. As I understand Hydro's
17 Preferred Development Plan, their -- their submission
18 rests on essentially two (2) arguments: 1) that demand
19 will inexorably rise at a approximately 1.5 to 1.6
20 percent; and 2) all other feasible alternatives are
21 being aggressively pursued.

22 In my view, there are good reasons to
23 question both of these points. These two (2) charts, I
24 think, are good -- good representative examples of the
25 argument for, or the case for, inexorable growth and

1 demand. They present a picture of inevitable growth
2 for literally decades and decades to come. But the
3 data submitted by Hydro doesn't really support this
4 conclusion.

5 If we look at the next slide, these two
6 (2) charts from the start of Chapter 3 show exactly the
7 opposite. In the last five (5) years, elec --
8 electricity demand growth in Canada has sto -- both in
9 Canada and the US has stopped, and in Canada it has
10 actually declined.

11 If we look more closely, electrical
12 demand in Manitoba in the next slide, what see most of
13 all over a twenty (20) year period is variability.
14 This is the rate of growth in electrical demand. Only
15 ten (10) of those twenty (20) years, eleven (11) of
16 those twenty (20) years, show growth. Three (3) or
17 four (4) -- one (1), two (2), four (4), five (5), six
18 (6) of them show decline, and two (2) of them show it
19 staying level. That's a sign not of inexorable growth,
20 but of variability.

21 If we look a little more closely at the
22 sectors, the variability is even more pronounced.
23 These are the four (4) main sectors where electricity
24 is consumed in Manitoba. And we see not inexorable
25 growth in any of them, but, again, variability.

1 If those are total demand, we also see
2 the same pattern in peak load demand. And on the next
3 slide we can see that it has not been inexorable
4 either. And here I'm focussing on the -- on the ten
5 (10) blue dots on the left, which are the actuals from
6 the last ten (10) years.

7 In three (3) of the last ten (10) years,
8 peak demand actually fell. In one (1) of those years,
9 that was apparently related to weather effects, but
10 that's not the case for all of them.

11 In addition to weather, it's likely that
12 at least three (3) other factors drive these variations
13 that we see in this data and in all of that other data.
14 There are incentives to conserve. There is replacement
15 fuel for at least some of the electricity demands;
16 namely, natural gas. And the price of electricity
17 affects the demand.

18 So I think we can draw, even from this
19 very brief overview, two (2) conclusions out of this:
20 that projections of an in -- inexorably rising demand
21 obscure at least as much as they reveal; and, secondly,
22 it appears that each sector -- residential, commercial,
23 industrial and agriculture -- is affected by the
24 drivers: weather, incentives to conserve, alternate
25 fuels and the price of electricity. Each sector is

1 affected by each driver differently.

2 So to be useful, it seems to me that
3 Hydro's demand projections need to first be
4 disaggregated by sector, and, second, explicitly factor
5 in at least the four (4) drivers we know about. And
6 that kind of disaggregation and explicit understanding
7 or explicit modelling of what the drivers are of demand
8 isn't in the submission.

9 The second part of the argument; if the
10 first part is demand is rising inexorably, the second
11 part of the argument is there is no alternative. If we
12 could go to there.

13 I agree with Hydro about the conclusion
14 on gas turbines for two (2) reasons. It seems to me
15 that the unpredictability of the future price of
16 natural gas makes it very hard to determine what the
17 kilowatt hour cost of electricity from a natural --
18 from a natural gas turbine will be.

19 And secondly, it pulls -- to do that
20 would pull both Manitoba Hydro and the province away
21 from the goal of environmental sustainability.

22 This actually is a little too early, but
23 that's okay.

24 I disagree with some of the analysis in
25 Chapter 7 on renewables, but my main focus today is to

1 question the conclusion that demand-side management can
2 only be a minimal alternative to new demands -- to do -
3 - to new dams.

4 I'm not alone, of course, in this
5 questioning. Dunsky probably is the -- the primary
6 questioner, but certainly he's not the only one either.

7
8 So given this apparent disagreement
9 between Hydro and at least some of the expert
10 testimonies, as citizens we face a problem much like
11 the problem in a jury when they're facing the battle of
12 -- of expert witnesses.

13 All the witnesses seem credible,
14 knowledgeable, sincere, and yet they come to competing
15 or opposing conclusions. So what's a jury to do? If
16 we're very lucky, you folks, with all of the -- the
17 expertise that you'll be gathering, will be able to
18 make this decision for us and say, No, actually Hydro
19 is absolutely right. Demand supply -- side management
20 cannot do very much to mitigate the need for dams, so
21 we have to go ahead. Or, Mr. Dunsky is right, they can
22 actually have a very large effect.

23 You will be able to make that
24 determination for us. My guess is, though, that you
25 won't be able to get to that level of certainty. And

1 so, what do we do then? If that's the case, my
2 suggestion is actually to look at benchmarking. And
3 this is a -- an example of benchmarking that businesses
4 use, a benchmarking tool that business use.

5 When a business is unsure of how well
6 it's doing in some critical area, it can be very useful
7 to benchmark their performance against their peers.
8 And there are scores, as we know, of demand-side
9 management programs all across North America.

10 But, unfortunately, Hydro's submission
11 doesn't contain anything like a comprehensive
12 benchmarking of their DSM program against other
13 programs in North America. And as far as I'm aware,
14 there isn't a generally accepted benchmarking system
15 for DSM programs in electricity. We need one. It can
16 be the difference between spending \$10 billion on
17 Conawapa, or not.

18 And, then, so I would suggest that the
19 PUB direct Hydro and one (1) or two (2) outside
20 experts, including someone with expertise in
21 benchmarking, to develop criteria for judging the
22 effectiveness of DSM programs generally. And then
23 these or other experts could then benchmark Hydro's own
24 DSM program against the similar programs across the
25 continent.

1 And given the importance of these
2 decisions, in my view, both the -- the ranking -- the
3 criteria for the ranking, and the actual rankings
4 themselves need to be public. They need to have the
5 public credibility that -- that only showing in public
6 how those numbers were arrived at will actually give
7 Hydro.

8 As citizens, it's in our interest to
9 have Hydro's DSM program be amongst the best in North
10 America. And so I would suggest that Hydro could set a
11 corporate goal of having excellent DSM programs; let's
12 say, for instance, in the top 10 percent as benchmarked
13 by that system, perhaps within three (3) years.

14 So you set a goal, you set a standard
15 relative to others, and you set a time line. If we do
16 --

17 MR. KURT SIMONSEN: A couple more
18 minutes, if we don't mind, please.

19 MR. BRUCE DUGGAN: Yeah. If we do the
20 benchmarking and it turns out that Hydro really is
21 already in that -- that standard of excellence, then we
22 know our answer, which is we really have no alternative
23 to Con -- Conawapa. But we are not there yet.

24 If we could go to the last slide.

25 This is the implications for capital

1 expenditure forecast. I cannot help but be deeply
2 concerned about a capital expenditure forecast -- no,
3 one (1) back; there we go -- in excess of 1.5 billion
4 per year every year for the next thirteen (13) years.

5 I find myself even more concerned when
6 the expenditure is funded in large part by debt. A
7 corporation that projects a 10:1 debt-to-equity ratio
8 is much less resilient than one with a 4:1 debt-equity
9 ratio.

10 It's not only the total amount of debt
11 that's worrying; it's the timing, which I think risks
12 Hydro's fiscal stability. If we accept that the first
13 blue mound which is Bipole 3 is essentially money that
14 will have to be borrowed and spent, then I think it's
15 in our interest to see if it's possible to delay
16 Keeyask, because right now it's stacked on top of
17 Bipole 3.

18 Even a couple of years' delay would
19 significantly reduce the demand, the debt demand, the
20 borrowing demands of Hydro.

21 I also believe it's in our interest for
22 capital expenditure on Conawapa not to be authorized
23 until Hydro has achieved a clear benchmark of
24 excellence in DSM. It's only then that we will know we
25 truly have no alternative. Thank you for your time.

1 MS. MARILYN KAPITANY: Thank you for
2 your presentation. I believe I heard you say that in
3 terms of benchmarking on demand-side management, that
4 we -- the panel should instruct Hydro to look at other
5 places in the continent, in North America.

6 Could you explain why it would just be
7 North America that you would look at benchmarking?

8 MR. BRUCE DUGGAN: I'm trying to come
9 up with a manageable proposal and one that compares
10 apples to apples. I -- I think it's probably true that
11 the evolution of demand-side management in Europe is a
12 couple of decades ahead of ours. And for us to think
13 that in three (3) or four (4) years Hydro could get to
14 that level, I -- I think, is probably not realistic.

15 MS. MARILYN KAPITANY: Thank you. Your
16 --

17 MR. BRUCE DUGGAN: My suggestion isn't
18 just that Hydro do that. They need to do it with some
19 outside experts, in my view.

20 MS. MARILYN KAPITANY: Very helpful.
21 Thank you.

22 THE CHAIRPERSON: I just want to offer
23 a -- a perspective just to acknowledge that we -- we
24 recognize the responsibility we're being asked to
25 address. And I just want to nuance it a little bit,

1 because we will be making a decision about
2 recommendations.

3 MR. BRUCE DUGGAN: Yes.

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: But, ultimately, the
5 responsibility will lie with the provincial government
6 to decide what it will do with the Preferred
7 Development Plan. So just a nuance, but having said
8 that, we certainly -- we -- we certainly acknowledge
9 that we see this as a very heavy responsibility.

10 MR. BRUCE DUGGAN: Thank you.

11

12 (BRIEF PAUSE)

13

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much
15 for a very thoughtful, well prepared presentation.

16 MR. BRUCE DUGGAN: Thank you.

17 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Mr. Chairman,
18 there's one (1) presenter that has come from the York
19 Factory First Nation. Perhaps -- are you ready to
20 proceed, sir? Perhaps, I'll just ask you to introduce
21 yourself to the panel since you weren't on the original
22 list.

23 Is the panel prepared to proceed with
24 the last presentation?

25

1 PRESENTATION BY YORK FACTORY FIRST NATION:

2 MR. GORDON WASTESICOOT: Good
3 afternoon, members of the panel. My name is Gordon
4 Wastesicoot. It's W-A-S-T-E-S-I-C-O-O-T. All right.

5 Thank you for the -- for the opportunity
6 to speak to you today. My name is Gordon Wastesicoot.
7 I'm a councillor with the York Factory First Nation.
8 We are Cree from the Hudson Bay coast and our
9 community, York Landing, is located in North Manitoba.
10 Here with me is my grandson Tyson Wastesicoot, a -- is
11 a youth representative from our First Nation. We are
12 honoured to speak and -- appear and speak on behalf of
13 our people, and especially our youth who will inherit
14 the outcome of hydro development planned for our lands
15 and waters.

16 In the coming weeks you will be
17 undertaking an important task on behalf of the people
18 of Manitoba to evaluate the Needs for and Alternatives
19 to Manitoba Hydro Preferred Development Plan.

20 As you know, the Keeyask generating
21 station is a -- a key part on that plan. York Factory
22 First Nations is a partner in Keeyask. Our First
23 Nation choose to become a partner in 2009, following
24 many years of study and discussion amongst our people.
25 We decided to support Keeyask, because we believe it is

1 in our best inte -- interest to do so.

2 As you know, the Clean Environment
3 Commission recently concluded a public hearing that
4 examined environmental, and social, and economic
5 effects of the Keeyask project. York Factory was an
6 active participant in the hearings as a Keeyask
7 partner. At the hearing we spoke honestly about the
8 facts of northern hydro development, and we spoke about
9 our hopes and expectations for Key -- Keeyask.

10 York Factory First Nation also submitted
11 a report as part of the Keeyask EIS. The report is
12 called Kipekiskwaywinan, which means 'Our Voices' in
13 our language.

14 Kipekiskwaywinan is a very important document in our
15 community, because it tells York Factory's story on
16 Keeyask and expresses the concerns, and experiences,
17 and priorities of our members.

18 I understand Kipekiskwaywinan is going
19 to be submitted as part of the evidence in this
20 hearing. I strongly encourage you to take the time to
21 read our entire report.

22 As we explain in Kipekiskwaywinan, the
23 decision to support the Keeyask Project was not an easy
24 one and was certainly not made quickly or without
25 serious consideration. York Factory First Nation

1 participated in hundreds of meetings and workshops
2 related to the Keeyask Project over the -- more than
3 ten (10) years. Members had the opportunity to discuss
4 and share their views, feelings, fears, hopes about
5 becoming a partner in the Keeyask Project. There is
6 much hope in the community regarding the benefits of --
7 that the Keeyask Project will bring. Our members
8 understand there's also be negative impacts.

9 York Landing is physically isolated from
10 the outside. There's no all-weather road. We travel
11 by ferry and boat in the summer, ice road in the
12 winter, and by plane all year round, weather permitting
13 -- social service, and education, employment, business,
14 and economic opportunities. We must work very hard to
15 overcome these obstacles, these challenges and all.

16 Our community was relocated from York
17 Factory to York Landing in 1957. It was immediately
18 after that we arrive in York Landing that the
19 construction began on Kelsey Dam located just upstream,
20 12 miles up, on the Nelson River. We've been living
21 with the hydro development since then, and for over a
22 half a century; and for all those years we saw few, if
23 any, lasting benefits. We have seen poverty, chronic
24 unemployment, lack of education, while the people in
25 Manitoba have benefited, and continue to benefit from

1 the hydro -- from the elect -- electricity produced by
2 the -- by the Nelson River.

3 And after carefully weighing the pros
4 and cons, York Factory members made the decision to
5 support the Keeyask Project and join the partnership.
6 The community choose to pursue the potential benefits
7 that would result from the Keeyask Project for both the
8 current generation and for generations to come. We
9 made the decision to sustain the achieve respect for
10 our Cree culture and to have a choice (sic) in the
11 partnership. It is also for this reason that we speak
12 to you here today.

13 The benefits of Keeyask including
14 trading and employment opportunities that would not
15 otherwise be available to our community. There will
16 also be financial benefits from business opportunities,
17 investments and investment income. The increased
18 capacity and income will empower York Factory to
19 improve our community's socio-conditions which
20 ultimately benefit generations to come.

21 When I talk about (sic) our community
22 members about the future -- about the future, we always
23 end up talking about our children, grandchildren, and
24 those not yet born. We want their future to be better.
25 We want to produce immediate, sustai -- tangible

1 benefits for our -- for our First Nation.

2 It will take many years to fully realize
3 the benefits of the projects. The combined projects,
4 Keeyask, Conawapa, Bipole III, and Keewatinoow
5 Converter Station will all have a detrimental impact to
6 our way of life and infringe on our treaty rights to
7 hunt, fish in our traditional terr -- territory. The
8 equity model of the Keeyask Hydro -- Hydropower Limited
9 Partnership is positive -- it has -- but it has its
10 limitations. For example, payments on dividends will
11 now -- will take some time to accumulate.

12 At the time we have hopefully -- at --
13 at the same time we -- we are hopeful that, as one of
14 the in-vicinity First Nations, we will be most directly
15 affected by the Conawapa Project, we remain optimistic
16 that we will be able to work through the many hurdles
17 and obstacles that lay ahead for us with Manitoba Hydro
18 and the Province of Manitoba to reach a mutually
19 satisfying conclusion to the Conawapa projects for the
20 benefit of all Manitobans.

21 Our members are concerned that -- with
22 what the Preferred Development Plan will mean that --
23 for electrical bills. Electrical rates are certain to
24 go up. Between Aboriginal Affairs and Northern
25 Development Canada approved rates in our National

1 Housing Act where HVAC units run twenty-four (24) hours
2 a day three-hundred and sixty-five (365) days a week
3 our bills will go up. We experience this every spring
4 when the weather warms up and Manitoba Hyd -- Hydro
5 employees are in the community turning off electricity
6 for -- some of our community members' houses. We as
7 First Nation -- we as a First Nation are also concerned
8 that we will not be able to pay for our infrastructure
9 hydro bills. A cursory financial analysis leads us to
10 conclude that we are -- have paid for our own
11 mitigation -- we have paid for own mitigation since our
12 1995 Comprehensive Implementation Agreement was signed.
13 We will not allow this to occur any longer.

14 We hope that the -- the grinding poverty
15 experienced by our members will be alleviated by our
16 agreements with Manitoba Hydro, the Province of
17 Manitoba, and Canada, including the 1995 Comprehensive
18 Implementation Agreement. We are the ones who suffer
19 the most from hydro-electric development, and
20 experience the least benefits while Southern Manitoba
21 enjoys the financial windfalls for -- or record profits
22 of Manitoba hydro through healthcare, roads, and
23 services generally. We will not allow this to occur
24 any more. We require the same living conditions
25 experienced by Manitobans generally including

1 improvements in our quality of water, all-weather road
2 access, and improved infrastructure and housing.

3 Since the beginning of the
4 hydro-development, we have paid dearly through flooded
5 lands, environmental degradation, the destruction of
6 habitat for all forms of wildlife and curtailed
7 trapping and hunting in our traditional territory and
8 Resource Management Area.

9 We are not going away. We have been on
10 the low land -- Lower Nelson River since we can
11 remember. We have -- we have a word in Cree: Askiy.
12 It means the whole of the land, water, plants, people,
13 the four legged and two legged and the winged ones,
14 animals, of all creatures on Askiy. We have always
15 cared for Askiy. We care for Askiy today. And will
16 continue to care for Askiy into the future.

17 I would like to thank the PUB for
18 providing us the opportunity to share these comments
19 today. I look forward to a respectful, and
20 constructive hearing. Ekosi.

21

22 (BRIEF PAUSE)

23

24 MS. MARILYN KAPITANY: So I don't know
25 if it's all right to ask your grandson a question.

1 Were you -- are you all right to speak at the -- yeah?

2 I'm just wondering, in -- in terms of
3 where you're going to school and -- and the -- the
4 people that you're going to school with, what kind of
5 jobs are they seeing coming out of the development in
6 the North, and are you looking at how you're going to
7 be able to take advantage of those jobs? You and your
8 friends.

9 MR. TYSON WASTESICOOT: (NON-VERBAL
10 RESPONSE)

11 MS. MARILYN KAPITANY: Thank you.

12 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very --
13 thank you very much for your comments.

14 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Mr. Chairman, this
15 concludes the presentations today. I don't believe
16 there's anybody else in the room that is looking to
17 present to the panel.

18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. If the agenda
19 has been addressed, I believe that the proceedings
20 today can be adjourned. The panel will be reconvening
21 on Monday morning for the commencement of the hearings.

22 So I want to thank everybody who has
23 attended today, those who made presentations, and have
24 addressed the panel. Thank you very much.

25

1 --- Upon adjourning at 2:34 p.m.

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5 Certified Correct,

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9 Cheryl Lavigne, Ms.

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