



## News Release

June 11, 2013

By Order No. 67/13 the Public Utilities Board (“Board” or “PUB”) grants Intervener Status, with respect to the Needs For and Alternatives To (“NFAT”) Review of Manitoba Hydro’s Preferred Development Plan to five groups while denying intervener status to four other groups.

Intervener Status was granted to the following five Intervener Applicants:

- (a) Consumers’ Association of Canada (Manitoba Branch) (“CAC”);
- (b) Green Action Centre (“GAC”);
- (c) Manitoba Industrial Power Users Group (“MIPUG”);
- (d) Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Inc. (“MKO”); and
- (e) Manitoba Metis Federation (“MMF”).

Intervener Status was not granted to the following four Applicants:

- (a) Peguis First Nation;
- (b) The Pimicikamak at Cross Lake;
- (c) Kaweechivasik Inninuwwuk; and
- (d) Manitoba Public Interest Research Group.

In denying the four applications the Board noted that many of the issues raised by the four applicants were out of scope or duplicating of issues raised by larger umbrella groups better positioned to advance such issues at the Hearing.

However, the Board did provide opportunities for these Applicants to participate by permitting them to seek a coalition with other approved Interveners to have their in-scope issues added to the intervention of an approved Intervener. In such coalition arrangements, each party to the coalition will be provided with an opportunity to advance their own separate final submissions to the Board, if they choose, so that the Board will hear their individual perspectives.

While three of the four applicants who were denied Intervener Status are aboriginal groups, the Board approved intervener status for MKO, an umbrella aboriginal group that has been in existence for 32 years as a non-profit advocacy organization representing approximately 65,000 Treaty First Nation citizens in Northern Manitoba. MKO is governed by elected Chiefs of the 30 sovereign First Nations in Northern Manitoba. As a regular intervener before the Board on Manitoba Hydro matters, MKO is well positioned to represent the interests of First Nations in the NFAT Review.

The Board noted instances in the ‘Applications for Intervener Status’ where identical issues were raised by more than one approved Intervener. The Board will not permit duplication of evidence and process on the same issue. Therefore, Interveners will be required to collaborate with each other on common issues. Interveners are required to submit additional information to the Board, detailing the specific issues the Intervener is proposing to address, together with the specific consultants and expert witnesses proposed to be retained by that Intervener and their proposed budgets. The Board will not approve funding for duplication of expert evidence and retention of consultants on common issues.

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