



“When You Talk - We Listen!”



MANITOBA PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

re:

MANITOBA HYDRO

2023/24 and 2024/25

GENERAL RATE APPLICATION

Hearing

Before Board Panel:

Robert Gabor, KC - Board Chairperson

Marilyn Kapitany - Board Vice Chair

Carol Bellringer - Board Member

Hamath Sy - Board Member

George Bass, KC - Board Member

HELD AT:

Public Utilities Board

400, 330 Portage Avenue

Winnipeg, Manitoba

June 26th, 2023

Pages 4522 to 4530

1 APPEARANCES

2

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4 Sven Hombach )

5

6 Brent Czarnecki (np) ) Manitoba Hydro

7 Odette Fernandes )

8 Deanna Hiebert (np) )

9 Gwen Muirhead (np) )

10 Matthew Ghikas (np) )

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12 Byron Williams (np) ) Consumers Coalition

13 Chris Klassen (np) )

14 Hannah Taylor (np) )

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16 Antoine Hacault ) MIPUG

17 Melissa Beaumont )

18

19 Carly Fox by TEAMS ) Assembly of

20 Emily Guglielmin (by TEAMS) ) Manitoba Chiefs

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22 Markus Buechart (np) ) MKO

23

24 Thomas Reimer (np) ) GSS and GSM

25 Robert Walichnowski (np) ) customer classes

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APPEARANCES

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1	Table of Contents	
2		Page No.
3	List of Exhibits	4526
4		
5		
6		
7	Closing Comments by The Chairperson	4527
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20	Certificate of Transcript	4530
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

1	LIST OF EXHIBITS		
2	EXHIBIT NO.	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO.
3	MH-58	Manitoba Hydro's written reply	4527
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
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21			
22			
23			
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1 --- Upon commencing at 9:01 a.m.

2

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Good morning. Mr.  
4 Hombach...?

5 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: Yes, good morning,  
6 Chair. And good morning, members of the Panel. Today  
7 is officially the last oral day of Manitoba Hydro's  
8 General Rate Application. Today was reserved for  
9 Manitoba Hydro's oral reply.

10 We were advised on Friday that Manitoba  
11 Hydro is going to limit itself to a written reply;  
12 that reply was filed yesterday. And I would suggest  
13 we formally enter it into the record as Exhibit  
14 Manitoba Hydro 58.

15

16 --- Exhibit No. MH-58: Manitoba Hydro's written  
17 reply

18

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

20 MR. SVEN HOMBACH: With that being  
21 done, the only outstanding matter is closing comments  
22 from the Chair. And I will turn it over to you.

23

24 CLOSING COMMENTS BY CHAIRPERSON:

25 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you

1 very much. This brings us to the end of the oral  
2 evidentiary hearing into Manitoba Hydro's 2023/'24 and  
3 '24/'25 General Rate Application and review of the  
4 2021/'22 interim rate.

5                   The oral hearing began on May 15th,  
6 2023, and proceeded on an ambitious schedule. The  
7 Board heard from five (5) Manitoba Hydro panels, a  
8 concurrent evidence panel on depreciation, an  
9 independent expert consultant, several Intervener  
10 witnesses, and a number of presenters.

11                   This has been a complex hearing dealing  
12 with a multi-year revenue requirement complicated by  
13 significant legislative reform.

14                   I would like to take this opportunity  
15 on behalf of the Panel to thank all parties and  
16 witnesses for their efforts to assist the Board in  
17 understanding the issues.

18                   I would also like to thank legal  
19 counsel for working cooperatively to move the Hearing  
20 forward in a professional and timely manner. We note  
21 the quality of legal representation at this Hearing  
22 was very high.

23                   The Board also genuinely appreciates  
24 the perspectives of the presenters we heard on May  
25 16th.

1                   A particular thank you goes out to the  
2 Board staff who made it possible for this Hearing to  
3 proceed smoothly, particularly our MVPs, Rachel  
4 McMillin, our associate secretary and sole energy  
5 staffer, and our mind reader judicial hearing officer,  
6 Kristen Schubert.

7                   The Manitoba Public Utilities Board has  
8 a small staffing contingent that continually --  
9 continuously punches above its weight. That makes the  
10 job of the Panel members that much easier.

11                   The Board has benefited from the  
12 expertise and dedicated commitment of its Hearing  
13 advisors, Roger Cathcart of Cathcart Advisors, Brady  
14 Ryall and David Bonin of Ryall Engineering, and Board  
15 counsel Bob Peters and Sven Hombach of Fillmore Riley.

16                   I would also like to thank Ian Innis of  
17 Elenchus Research Associates for his work as a  
18 facilitator on depreciation issues. The Board found  
19 the Issues document agreed to by the parties quite  
20 helpful. This was a new process for the Board, and we  
21 welcome any feedback from the parties on whether it is  
22 to be repeated in future hearings.

23                   The Board's work on this matter is not  
24 done. The Panel will consider all of the evidence and  
25 submissions, deliberate, and set out its ruling in a



1 written Order to be released later this summer.

2 I wish you all a good summer and hope  
3 you are able to take some well-deserved time off;  
4 however, I do encourage you to provide any feedback on  
5 process to the Board. We do value continuous  
6 improvement and appreciate that the parties in the  
7 Hearing room have an ongoing regulatory relationship.

8 If there is room for improvement or  
9 enhancement, we would like to hear it. We stand  
10 adjourned. Thank you.

11

12 --- Upon adjourning at 9:06 a.m.

13

14 Certified Correct,

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18 Wendy Woodworth, Ms.

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