



The Public Utilities Board
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January 9, 2014

Law Department
Manitoba Hydro
22 - 360 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg MB R3C 0G8

Attention: Patti J. Ramage / Marla J. Boyd

Dear Ms. Ramage and Ms. Boyd:

Re: Manitoba Hydro Correspondence of December 30, 2013

The Public Utilities Board ("Board") is in receipt of Manitoba Hydro's correspondence of December 30, 2013. The Board reiterates its comment as set out in its December 24, 2013 letter that it expects answers to any outstanding Information Requests to be filed by the start of the oral portion of the hearing on March 3, 2014, and that a failure to provide requested answers, in particular to critical issues, may jeopardize the Board's ability to provide meaningful recommendations to the Province of Manitoba.

The Board is of the view that the onus of demonstrating that Manitoba Hydro's Preferred Development Plan is the optimal alternative lies with Manitoba Hydro. If Manitoba Hydro is unable to adequately discharge that onus, this will be reflected in the Board's report. While the Board currently does not intend to delay the hearing or the timing of its report to the Province, the Board acknowledges that Manitoba Hydro's delay in providing requested information could impact the Board's ability to meet the deadline set out in the Terms of Reference.

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The decision to proceed contractual commitments with respect to Keeyask in advance of the Board's report to the government due in June 2014 lies with Manitoba Hydro. The Board trusts that Manitoba Hydro will prudently manage its business affairs to account for any uncertainty regarding the Board's hearing process and whether and when the Province will issue the required approvals.

Sincerely,

"Original signed by"

H.M. Singh
Secretary

cc: Bob Peters/Sven Hombach - Board Counsel
Christian Monnin/Michael Weinstein - Independent Legal Counsel
Interveners of Record