

Order No. 10/26

Practice Direction

**INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN FILINGS
UNDER SECTION 38.1 OF *THE MANITOBA HYDRO ACT***

January 21, 2026

BEFORE: Robert Gabor, K.C., Chair Marilyn
Kapitany, B.Sc.(Hon), M.Sc., Vice-Chair
Jim Hrichishen, B.A. (Hon.), M.A, Member
Kim Sharman, Member
Kurt Simonsen, BSc., M.N.R.M., Member

PURPOSE OF THIS PRACTICE DIRECTION

This practice direction sets out the Public Utilities Board's expectations for the filing of integrated resource plans referred to the board for review under subsection 38.1(4) of *The Manitoba Hydro Act*.

Section 38.1 of *The Manitoba Hydro Act* requires Manitoba Hydro to prepare an integrated resource plan. The provincial government may refer the plan to the board for review. The scope of a such a review is set by Order in Council. This practice direction is intended to assist Manitoba Hydro with determining what to include in an integrated resource plan filing.

This practice direction can be revised by Order of the Board.

General

- 1 Any information described in this practice direction may be provided either in Manitoba Hydro's integrated resource plan itself or in a regulatory filing accompanying the submission of the plan to the Public Utilities Board.

Load forecasts

- 2(1) An integrated resource plan should include several load forecast scenarios that represent a reasonable range of planning outcomes. This may be accomplished by including discrete forecasts with different assumptions, or by providing a base forecast with contingencies. Each load forecast scenario should:
 - (a) set out the projected consumption by customer class or segment or both;
 - (b) exclude savings from demand-side management measures, unless they result from existing measures whose savings persist; and
 - (c) include a description of the assumptions made for the forecast.
- 2(2) For any peak demand scenarios included in the forecast, the plan should include a description of the weather conditions or other conditions for which the peak was estimated.
- 2(3) The plan should include a description of the significant uncertainties associated with the load forecast scenarios and how each of those uncertainties has been addressed.
- 2(4) If Manitoba Hydro has made export commitments that it must accommodate, the plan should separately set out those commitments and their impacts on the total load to be served.

Resource options

- 3(1) An integrated resource plan should include a list of all feasible supply-side and demand-side resource options, while separately identifying any resource options to which Manitoba Hydro has already committed.
- 3(2) If Manitoba Hydro has screened out any resource options and decided not to include them in the list of feasible options, the plan should include a narrative description and supporting analysis of why those resource options were screened out.
- 3(3) If any supply-side resource options result in expected transmission or distribution constraints, the filing should include a description of those constraints, as well as a description of, and cost estimate, for, any expected upgrades.

- 3(4) For demand-side measures, the plan should include a discussion of the cost-effectiveness of the measures, a narrative description of any consultation with, or feedback from, Efficiency Manitoba, and copies of any DSM potential studies or other feasibility studies used to identify or evaluate the measures. For each measure, the filing should set out expected energy and demand savings .
- 3(5) If any existing resources will reach the end of their expected service life during the forecast period or require major refurbishment, the plan should include a description of the expected years of decommissioning or refurbishment, the impacts to the supply-demand balance, as well as the projected costs for decommissioning or refurbishment.

Policy constraints

- 4(1) If there are any policy constraints that have affected the choice of resources included in an integrated resource plan, the plan should include a description of those constraints as well as evidence for those constraints.
- 4(2) For the purpose of this section, policy constraints may be positive or negative. An example of a positive policy constraint is a provincial government directive to build or procure a specific resource. An example of a negative policy constraint is the prohibition of a specific resource, or any emissions limits or other restrictions that either have the same effect as a prohibition or make the resource infeasible to operate.

Resource portfolios and evaluation

- 5(1) For each load forecast scenario included in an integrated resource plan, the plan should include one or more resource portfolios evaluated to meet the demand projected under the load forecast scenario. The filing should include a description of how each of the portfolios was evaluated and how the preferred portfolio(s) were chosen. If the evaluation of portfolios includes the marginal values of electricity, the filing should explain how these values are used in the evaluation.
- 5(2) For each preferred portfolio, the plan should include an analysis of the material risks and uncertainties related to the portfolio. If the portfolio includes optionality to respond to specific changes in demand, hydraulic generation, export prices, etc., the filing should include an analysis of that optionality.
- 5(3) If a resource portfolio includes a fossil fuel-based generation resource, the plan should include an assessment of the projected greenhouse gas emissions of the portfolio and a description of how those emissions were determined. If greenhouse gas reduction measures (such as carbon capture, carbon offsets, or use of renewable natural gas) are planned for the resource, the plan should include a description of those measures and separately set out their cost implications.

Near-term action plan

- 6(1) An integrated resource plan should set out any specific steps the utility plans to undertake within the next three years. This should include planned resource acquisitions (including any anticipated preliminary estimate reviews and major facility reviews), contingency plans to trigger the implementation of alternate resource plans, monitoring of changes in government policy, and planned consultation.
- 6(2) The plan should include a separate discussion of the material risks and uncertainties regarding the near-term action plan.

Compliance with legislation and governmental policy documents

- 7(1) An integrated resource plan should set out how the plan meets each of the requirements in subsections 38.1(1) and 38.1(2) of *The Manitoba Hydro Act*. This may be accomplished by organizing the plan in the same manner as those sections, by including a narrative description, or by including a table summary with cross-references to the relevant portions of the plan. If there is more than one regulation, mandate letter, directive, or policy document relevant to the plan, compliance with each of those documents should be described separately.
- 7(2) The plan should set out how each of the resource portfolios complies with applicable federal legislation and regulations, such as the *Clean Electricity Regulations*.
- 7(3) The plan should indicate when the utility plans to publish its next integrated resource plan under section 38.1 of *The Manitoba Hydro Act*.

Subsequent plans

- 8 If an integrated resource plan is not the first plan referred to the Public Utilities Board, it should include a summary of the significant differences between the previous plan and the current plan and the reason for those changes.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

“Robert Gabor, K.C.”

Chair

“Rachel McMillin, B.Sc., MPA”

Secretary

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