



Keeyask Generation Project

Environmental Impact Statement

Supporting Volume
Public Involvement



June 2012

KEEYASK GENERATION PROJECT

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT SUPPORTING VOLUME

APPENDIX 2

ROUND ONE OF THE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM

KEEYASK GENERATION PROJECT

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT SUPPORTING VOLUME

APPENDIX 2A

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM ROUND ONE SUMMARY REPORT

Keeyask Generation Project

Summary of Round One of the Public Involvement Program

Round One Public Involvement Program (PIP) activities occurred between June 2008 and November 2008, focusing on potentially affected and interested Aboriginal and other communities and groups in northern Manitoba and in major centres elsewhere in Manitoba. Round One initiated the PIP for the Project and its purpose was to:

- Introduce the public to the proposed Project;
- Learn about any issues or concerns the public had about the Project; and
- Hear from the public about how they wished to be consulted in future rounds of the PIP.

In consideration of summer holidays and preference expressed by non-government organizations (NGOs), a three-month pause occurred between the initial and the final set of events. In total, meetings were held with the community leadership in 12 communities, followed by public information sessions for their respective members in eight of the communities. Public open houses were held in Thompson, Brandon and two in Winnipeg. There were also four meetings held with interested Aboriginal and other organizations, one workshop in Winnipeg with NGOs, and a workshop held in Thompson for resource and recreation user organizations. After Round One was completed, additional meetings were held with organizations that expressed an interest in meeting to discuss the Project (*e.g.*, Norway House Fisherman's Co-op). Table 2A-1 provides a summary of the PIP events held for Round One.

Table 2A-1: Round One Public Involvement Program Events

Date	Event	Location
Council and Community Meetings/Sessions		
6/10/2008	Thompson Mayor and Council Meeting	City Hall
6/17/2008	Churchill Mayor and Council Meeting	Council Chambers
6/17/2008	Churchill Community Information Session	Pioneer Gallery
6/18/2008	Leaf Rapids Mayor and Council Meeting	Council Chambers
6/18/2008	Leaf Rapids Community Information Session	Town Centre Complex
6/23/2008	Gillam Mayor and Council Meeting	Council Chambers
6/23/2008	Gillam Community Information Session	Recreation Centre
6/24/2008	LGD* Mystery Lake Leadership Meeting	LGD* Office - Thompson
7/2/2008	Thicket Portage Mayor and Council Meeting	Council Office
7/2/2008	Thicket Portage Community Information Session	Administration Building
7/8/2008	Pikwitonei Mayor and Council Meeting	Recreation Centre
7/8/2008	Pikwitonei Community Information Session	Recreation Centre
7/9/2008	Wabowden Mayor and Council Meeting	Town Office
7/9/2008	Wabowden Community Information Session	Ke Na Now Centre
7/15/2008	Norway House Mayor and Council Meeting	Community Administration Building
7/15/2008	Norway House Community Information Session	Fort Island Arena
7/16/2008	Nelson House Mayor and Council Meeting	Community Administration Building
10/8/2008	Cross Lake Mayor and Council Meeting	Town Office Cross Lake
10/8/2008	Cross Lake Community Information Session	Recreation Centre
10/30/2008	Ilford Mayor and Council Meeting	Town Office
Workshops		

Date	Event	Location
11/18/2008	Winnipeg NGO** Workshop	Radisson Hotel
11/26/2008	Thompson Recreation & Resource User Workshop	St. John's United Church
Open Houses		
6/24/2008	Thompson Open House	St. John's United Church
6/25/2008	Winnipeg Open House 1	Radisson Hotel
6/26/2008	Winnipeg Open House 2	Radisson Hotel
6/26/2008	Brandon Open House	Royal Oak Inn
Meetings with Organizations		
6/4/2008	Manitoba Metis Federation Leadership Meeting	MMF Winnipeg Office
6/27/2008	Northern Association of Community Councils Leadership Meeting	Marlborough Hotel, Winnipeg
12/16/2008	Keewatin Tribal Council Leadership Meeting	KTC Thompson Office
4/9/2009	Nature Conservancy of Canada Organization Meeting – Winnipeg Office	NCC Office
4/30/2009	Norway House Fishermen's Co-op Meeting	Radisson Hotel, Winnipeg

* LGD refers to Local Government District

**NGO refers to non-government organization

Manitoba Hydro contacted and offered to meet with other potentially affected people in the northern Manitoba Region. These offers were either declined or deferred until future rounds of engagement. This included offers to meet with the Chief and Council members in Norway House First Nation, O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree Nation and Shamattawa First Nation, as well as Mayor and Council and community of Granville Lake. Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak (MKO) expressed interest in the Project, but declined to meet until more information about potential environmental effects was available. Manitoba Hydro approached these groups again in subsequent rounds of engagement.

Public Involvement Events Format

A variety of public involvement methods were utilized during Round One, including meetings, workshops, open houses, newsletters, information panels and a Project website.

Meetings with community leadership provided an opportunity to introduce the Project and the environmental assessment (EA) process and initiate dialogue about potential Project issues and perspectives. A brief presentation about the Project was provided by the EA Study Team to the leadership in each community. Throughout, and following the discussion, meeting participants were encouraged to ask questions, offer perspectives, and to identify any issues or concerns they might have about the proposed Project, the EA and the PIP. The discussion was recorded by a member of the EA Study Team and these draft notes were later reviewed by all meeting participants for accuracy. Finalized meeting notes are included in Appendix 2C.

Community information sessions were held in most communities following the meetings with leadership to inform and dialogue with interested community members. Newsletters, public notices (posters to post in the community) and letters confirmed the events in advance of community information sessions to ensure that adequate notice was provided in the communities. Those who attended the information sessions were encouraged to sign-in, complete comment forms and discuss with members of the EA Study Team any perspectives or issues they might have about the Project. Members of the EA Study Team also offered to guide community members through a series of

information panels designed to provide participants with information about the Project. Comment forms allowed participants to provide comments anonymously, and if questions were raised that could not be addressed at the session, they were recorded by an EA Study Team member, forwarded to the appropriate person to respond to the request and followed up as required. Meeting notes are included in Appendix 2C.

Public open houses were held in Winnipeg, Thompson and Brandon to provide opportunities for the broader public to learn about the Project and contribute to the process. Public open houses were advertised in advance in the local newspapers and on local radio stations. Formatted similar to the community information sessions with information panels, participants were encouraged to sign-in, fill out comment forms and speak to members of the EA Study Team about any perspectives or issues they might have about the Project. Documentation from the open houses and community information sessions, identifying questions and perspectives raised in discussion with the EA Study Team, are included in Appendix 2E.

Workshops were held with participants individually identified, contacted by telephone and mail in advance of the workshop and invited to participate because of Project-specific interests. At these workshops participants were able to review the Project information panels shown at open houses and community information sessions, discuss the Project informally with EA Study Team members, listen to presentations by the EA Study Team and participate in a facilitated question and answer period and round table issues identification session where participants were encouraged to present their issues and concerns without interruption. Workshop participants were also encouraged to fill-out comment forms if they so desired. Workshop meeting notes from each of these sessions were drafted and reviewed by all participants. Finalized workshop meeting notes are included in Appendix 2D.

Meetings with Organizations were held with the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF), the Northern Association of Community Councils (NACC), Keewatin Tribal Council (KTC), Nature Conservancy of Canada and the Norway House Fisherman's Co-op. Each organization was informed about the Project and discussion followed. Participants were encouraged to fill in comment forms or raise specific questions with the EA Study Team members. Draft meeting notes were shared with the organizations and, once reviewed, they were finalized. Finalized notes are included in Appendix 2F.

A **Project website** (www.hydro.mb.ca/projects/keeyask) was developed to distribute information about the Project to the general public. The website includes overview information about the EA process, copies of the Round One newsletter and open house information panels, and other Project information including links to the Joint Keeyask Development Agreement (JKDA) and Adverse Effects Agreements for each of the First Nation partners. Visitors are able to directly submit questions, comments, or issues about the Project and the website is monitored for visitation activity and usage. The website, active since early July 2008, will be maintained until construction of the Project has been completed (if regulatory approvals are received).

A **Round One Newsletter** was provided to all attendees of the various meetings, open houses and workshops and was available on the Keeyask website and to any interested parties. The newsletter was

made specifically for Round One in May 2008 and it summarized the Project, the potential Partnership and the Environmental Assessment activities including the PIP. The newsletter also provided information on next steps and how to make contact with any questions, concerns or issues about the Project. The newsletter for Round One is included in Appendix 2B.

Key Issues and Perspectives

The following highlights the issues and perspectives from Aboriginal and other communities and groups identified during the Round One PIP events. The information has been organized into general Project related headings to contribute to the environmental assessment process. The comments below are not verbatim, but reflect the issues and perspectives identified at the PIP events. A complete list of the issues and perspectives, along with which PIP event they were raised at, is provided in Appendix 1C.

Project Planning Issues and Perspectives

- Communities were generally supportive of a potential partnership between Manitoba Hydro and the Keeyask Cree Nations (KCNs).
- Some communities questioned why the KCNs had an opportunity to become Project partners with Manitoba Hydro while other communities were not provided that same opportunity - this was perceived as not equitable.
- Northern Affairs communities were worried about a lack of training and employment opportunities for their respective community members since they are not part of the Partnership.
- Some communities expressed a desire to have a training facility similar to ones in other northern communities to prepare those who might be interested in gaining employment on the Project without having to leave home.
- Potential labour shortages were noted if Wuskwatim and/or Conawapa construction were to overlap with Keeyask construction.
- The need for more hydroelectric generation was questioned by some members of the public (*i.e.*, domestic vs. export needs).
- The integration of Aboriginal traditional knowledge and scientific studies in the EA was viewed as important.
- There was confusion regarding why the EA and regulatory processes were undefined considering the amount of work that has been completed on the Project to date.
- The assessment of cumulative effects needs special attention in the EA since there are other projects (past and future) near the proposed site.
- Some individuals were of the opinion that the Bipole III Project should be included in the Keeyask EA process as opposed to it being a separate project.
- A decommissioning plan for the Keeyask Generation Project should be included in the EA.
- Some individuals asked the proponent to remember that the Project is being built where they live.
- A concern was expressed that a local needs assessment should be done by local people.

Project Training and Employment Issues and Perspectives

- Communities were positive about potential employment and training opportunities associated with the Project.
- There were questions and concerns about long work rotation schedules; suggestion to have shorter work rotations so workers could minimize the amount of time they would have to spend away from home.
- Some smaller communities were worried if members received training away from home that they would not return to their community.
- Access to timely information about Project training and employment opportunities for non-Partner communities was viewed as important.
- Some communities noted difficulties with the hiring process for the Wuskwatim Generation Project that should be improved for Keeyask if it is constructed.
- An individual commented that northern people should be trained to be managers, not truck drivers. The northern people should be hired for the duration of the Project, not seasonally.

Project Construction Issues and Perspectives

- First Nation cross-cultural training for workers at the Keeyask work camp was encouraged, as well as ceremonies at key Project milestones.
- Some northern communities suggested to Manitoba Hydro that their communities could be used as work camps.
- Preference for construction contract opportunities should be given to local companies.

Physical Issues and Perspectives

- Concerns were raised about how the Project may contribute to additional shoreline erosion.
- Concerns were raised about how much the Project would affect Split Lake water levels.
- Members of the public wanted to know how climate change would be integrated into the assessment studies and noted its importance.
- Members of the public wanted to know whether there would be changes to Lake Winnipeg water levels and/or flows on the Nelson River as a result of the Project.
- An individual expressed concern that air pollution should be addressed.

Aquatic Issues and Perspectives

- Concerns were expressed about the effects of Project flooding on sturgeon.
- Potentially elevated mercury levels caused by Project flooding were concerns of many northern communities. They would like to see less effect from mercury on people's lives.
- Sensitive species such as sturgeon should be studied carefully, given their importance to people in the region.

Terrestrial Issues and Perspectives

- Concerns were expressed about the effects of Project flooding on caribou.
- Sensitive species such as caribou should be studied carefully given their importance to people in the region.

- An individual said that the dam should not be built and felt that it is bad for the environment, especially the animals. All lands are sacred and should not be flooded to sell electricity to the United States.

Socio-economic and Heritage Issues and Perspectives

- Increased traffic volumes during Project construction were identified as a safety issue (*e.g.*, Thompson, PR280).
- Concerns were noted about deteriorating road conditions from construction activities.
- Concerns were raised about potential crowding of schools and other infrastructure and services in neighbouring communities as a result of an influx of workers during Project construction.
- There were social concerns regarding workers travelling to neighbouring communities during time off from work (*e.g.*, to Gillam and Thompson).
- Concerns were expressed about the effect of northern community members leaving home to work at Keeyask on their families and their culture and traditional way of life.
- Signage for open water navigation and winter ice trails was suggested as a safety measure.
- Concerns were noted about waste management and disposal during construction of the Project.
- Some people raised concerns about how much land would be flooded and how this would affect their way of life.
- A question was asked about how the burial grounds along the river would be addressed.
- Project effects on resource users (*e.g.*, trappers) and cultural sites (*e.g.*, burial sites) need to be considered in the EA.
- Suggestion was made to package the archaeological material and make it available for schools and communities.

Comments about the Consultation Process

- Communities appreciated the opportunity to learn about the Project and to provide their perspectives.
- Participants noted the need to ensure presentations and documents are in plain language to appeal to a wide audience; they felt that visual aids/models are a good means of communicating difficult concepts. They would like information included on the information panels in the handouts.
- People appreciated it when there are members of northern Cree Nations participating in the meetings to speak on behalf of the northern community members.
- Manitoba Hydro was encouraged to communicate with high school students in communities visited for the PIP, to inform them about potential training and employment opportunities.
- It is important to provide information to members of the public on a timely basis and to attend when other community events are happening.
- Early public involvement is important so people have an opportunity to offer their perspectives about the Project.
- A suggestion was made to have more information about job opportunities and training associated with the Project for Round Two.

- PIP events should be advertised at the local stores and radio stations in communities, if possible.
- Results from the PIP discussions should be made available to members of the public.
- A graphic illustration of flood zones would be useful for Round Two of the PIP.
- A suggestion was made to produce a Project overview document in Cree for those community members who do not speak or read English.
- A suggestion was made to produce a Project overview DVD in Cree and English and to make it available to members of the public and distribute it in potentially affected communities. DVD could include videos of the Project site and examples of environmental change.
- A suggestion was made to have more meetings in the communities, to meet with elders and to provide information to Aboriginal people in the north and in Winnipeg.
- Some people suggested sending more information by mail to people's homes in the Project region.
- People would like more information about how the generators work and what resources they require when the dam is operational.
- Provide more information about the plans to address the potential negative effects of the Project.
- It was suggested that the Chief and Council members should not be involved in the Project after the agreements were signed.

Impacts/Issues From Past Hydroelectric Development and Other Non-Keeyask Related Issues and Perspectives

- There is inadequate communication between First Nations receiving education and training away from home and their communities regarding potential employment opportunities in their community and on projects. Recent experience with this has resulted in lost job opportunities for some northern residents.
- Many questions were asked about the status and location of Manitoba Hydro's Bipole III Project.
- Many questions were asked about Manitoba Hydro's plans for the Conawapa Project.
- Perspectives were offered regarding how changes to climate have started to impact northern communities (*e.g.*, new insect species, migration of deer further north than in the past).

Commitments of Manitoba Hydro to address past project effects should be fulfilled prior to undertaking any new development.

KEEYASK GENERATION PROJECT

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APPENDIX 2B

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM ROUND ONE MATERIALS

Public Involvement Program Round One Materials

From the following list of PIP materials, the newsletter and handout of information panels were shared with participants in the Round One events and were also posted on the Keeyask Generation Project website. The website was up and running in July 2008. The comment forms were available for participants in the community meetings, opens houses and workshops to fill out and leave with the public involvement team. Additionally, visitors to the website were able to submit questions and comments.

- Copy of newsletter
- Copy of handout and information panels
- Website content
- Copy of a blank comment form



KEEYASK

GENERATION PROJECT

Round One of Keeyask Public Involvement Program

NEWSLETTER

Issue #1 May 2008

First Round of Keeyask Public Involvement Program Underway

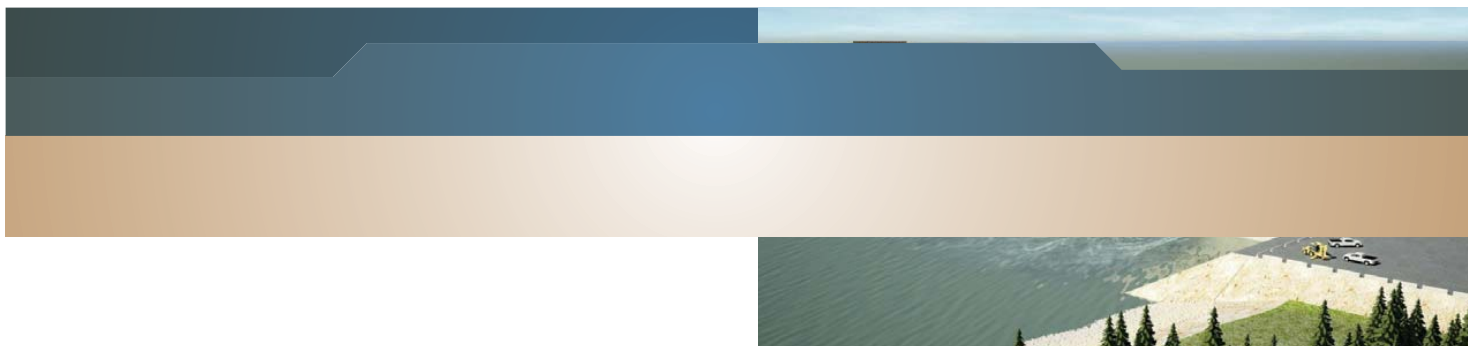
This is the first Keeyask Public Involvement Program Newsletter for the hydroelectric generation project proposed to be built in Northern Manitoba. This newsletter will provide basic information about the project and the process. Subsequent newsletters will provide updates on the status of the project and the environmental assessment.

This Public Involvement Program is intended to provide meaningful opportunities for people to receive information and identify issues and potential effects about the proposed project.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- P. 1 First Round of Public Involvement Underway
- P. 2 About the Proposed Keeyask Generation Project
- P. 4 Potential Keeyask First Nation Partnership is being Explored
- P. 4 Sustainability is a Cornerstone of the Keeyask Project
- P. 5 Environmental Assessment and Approvals will be Required Prior to Construction
- P. 6 Environmental Assessment Studies
- P. 6 Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge will be a Key Component in Environmental Studies
- P. 7 A Comprehensive Public Involvement Program will be Conducted in Three Rounds
- P. 8 How to get Involved in the Process





About the Proposed Keeyask Generation Project

The Keeyask Project is being studied for possible hydroelectric development in the foreseeable future. It is in the Split Lake Resource Management Area (RMA). The Fox Lake RMA is downstream. The largest portion of the York Factory RMA is downstream, and a smaller portion is adjacent to the Split Lake RMA.

The project is still in the planning and discussion stage. No decision has been made to go forward with development of this project, and no application has yet been made for regulatory review or approval.

As part of the preliminary project work, planning and environmental studies have started with data collection and analysis that will be needed to assist in the decision-making process.

The Conawapa Project is also being studied for possible hydroelectric development, but it is not part of the current process. The Conawapa Project is in the Fox Lake RMA. The Split Lake RMA is upstream. The largest portion of the York Factory RMA is downstream, and a smaller portion is adjacent to the Split Lake RMA.

Location

Keeyask would be located about 725 kilometres northeast of Winnipeg, on the lower Nelson River about 35 kilometres upstream of the existing Kettle Generating Station where Gull Lake flows into Stevens Lake.

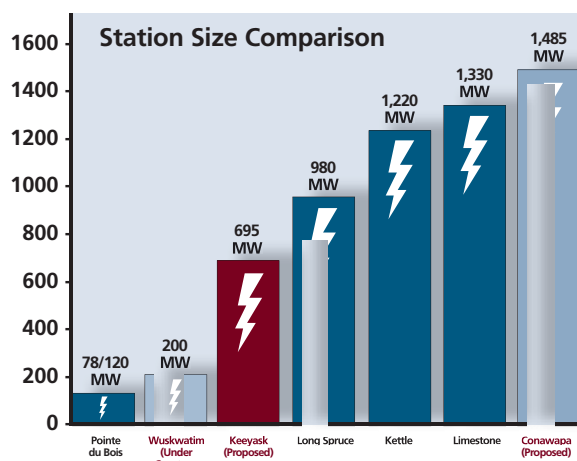
It would be about 58 kilometres east of the community of Split Lake and about 30 kilometres west of Gillam.

Scope

Keeyask would have a nominal generating capacity of about 695 megawatts and produce an average of 4,400 gigawatt hours of electricity each year. If built, it would become Manitoba's fourth-largest generating station.

Timing and Construction

If a decision is made to go ahead with the project and all approvals are in place, the earliest construction is likely to begin on the generation project in 2012, and the plant could begin transmitting power in 2017. The project would include several main structures consisting of the powerhouse,



spillway, three dams (central, north and south), dykes and a transmission tower spur.

Also, supporting infrastructure would be required, including access roads, cofferdams, worker accommodations, storage areas, and offices. This infrastructure is required before construction can begin on the generation project.

Reservoir

Total reservoir area of the proposed project would be approximately 93 square kilometres. The length of the reservoir would be approximately 40 kilometres.

Overall, the flooded land area would be about 45 square kilometres and may gradually increase due to erosion.

Additional Transmission Capacity Would be Required to Bring Power to Market

Additional power transmission capacity would be necessary to deliver the electricity from the North to users in southern Manitoba or to export markets outside the province.

New transmission capacity is being planned, but is being developed as a separate project for reliability and security of the electricity system.



Keeyask Requirements for Construction Employment

An estimated 4,500 person-years of employment over the seven- to eight-year construction period would be required to build Keeyask.

Construction occupations would fall into three categories: designated trades, non-designated trades and support occupations. Designated trades include electricians, plumbers and other licensed skilled trades. Non-designated trades include heavy equipment operators, truck drivers, labourers, etc. Support occupations include clerks, cooks/catering personnel and security.

Providing Employment Opportunities to Aboriginal People on the Keeyask Project

To provide as many opportunities as possible for Aboriginal people to qualify for jobs on the project, pre-project training of Aboriginal people under the Hydro Northern Training and Employment Initiative for the Wuskwatim and Keeyask projects is available. To March 2007, it has already resulted in:

- 1,402 trainees participating in 3,272 training activities;
- 627 individuals completing project-related trades or occupational training, which has produced 13 certified journeypersons, 135 active apprentices and 97 pre-apprenticeship trainees; and
- 267 individuals employed in jobs related to their completed training, as well as other occupations.

NEWSLETTER



Potential Keeyask First Nation Partnership is Being Explored

Manitoba Hydro is exploring the potential for a partnership with four First Nations (Keeyask Cree Nations) in the vicinity of the project, which are Tataskweyak Cree Nation and War Lake First Nation (acting as the Cree Nation Partners), Fox Lake Cree Nation and York Factory First Nation.

Joint Keeyask Development Agreement

These parties are currently negotiating a Joint Keeyask Development Agreement (JKDA) that would govern how the project would be developed and sets out understandings related to potential income opportunities, training, employment, business opportunities and other related matters.

For the Keeyask Project to be advanced at this time, a positive vote on the JKDA would

be required by the Keeyask Cree Nations representing a majority of the population.

Adverse Effects Agreements will be Negotiated with Each Keeyask Cree Nation as Part of JKDA

As part of negotiating the JKDA, each participating First Nation – Tataskweyak Cree Nation, War Lake First Nation, Fox Lake Cree Nation and York Factory First Nation – is negotiating a separate Adverse Effects Agreement that will bind the Keeyask Limited Partnership.

The purpose of the Adverse Effects Agreements, with certain exceptions, is to fully address all past and future Keeyask adverse effects on the Keeyask Cree Nations and their members which arise from the development and operation of the Keeyask Project and are foreseeable with the exercise of due diligence as of the date of the signing.

Sustainability is a Cornerstone of the Keeyask Project

Manitoba Hydro is committed to applying the principles of sustainable development.

Economic

The Keeyask Project is an economic opportunity with energy initially being sold to export customers. As Manitoba's energy needs continue to grow the project will eventually service domestic customers.

Social

Manitoba Hydro and local Cree Nations are working together to ensure the project, if it proceeds, is beneficial to local and northern people.

Environmental

The project is being planned to avoid and mitigate environmental effects to the greatest extent practical.

Environmental Assessment and Approvals will be Required Prior to Construction

A key requirement of preliminary planning for the project will be the completion of a comprehensive environmental impact assessment (EIA) that will:

- Identify potential effects the project may have on the environment and people;
- Determine ways to avoid, reduce or mitigate potential negative effects;
- Determine ways to enhance potential positive effects; and
- Develop follow-up and monitoring programs.

Results of these studies will be compiled in an environmental impact statement (EIS) that will be available to the public and submitted for review and approval under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act and the Manitoba Environment Act, as well as under other federal and provincial legislation. Public hearings are expected.

Keeyask Environmental Studies are Currently Underway

Since 2001, Manitoba Hydro has been working with local Cree Nations to collect information that will contribute to the project's EIA.

So far, studies of the existing environment have considered: the physical environment, terrestrial and aquatic environments, heritage resources, resource use (started in 2007) and socio-economic environment (started in 2007).



NEWSLETTER



Environmental Assessment Studies

Physical Environment Studies

- Air quality
- Climate
- Geology and soils
- Water levels and flows
- Thermal regime
- Ice processes
- Erosion and sedimentation
- Debris
- Water quality



Aquatic Studies

- Aquatic habitat
- Aquatic plants and invertebrates
- Fish community – populations, spawning, and movements
- Lake sturgeon – species of special interest
- Fish quality – mercury

Terrestrial Studies

- Vegetated habitat classification and mapping
- Rare plants
- Insects
- Amphibians
- Songbirds, raptors and waterfowl
- Small mammals (e.g. voles, rabbits, mice)
- Furbearers (e.g. beaver, muskrat, mink, otter)
- Large mammals (e.g. caribou, moose)



Heritage Resource Studies

- Burial sites
- Heritage resources, such as pottery or bone fragments from pre-contact to the historic period
- Culturally important sites

Socio-Economic and Resource-use Studies

- Land and resource use for traditional, recreational and commercial purposes
- Local and regional economy, including employment and business
- Population, housing, infrastructure and services
- Transportation, navigation safety and access
- Community health
- Culture
- Social well-being and quality of life

Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge will be a Key Component in Environmental Studies

Manitoba Hydro and its potential Cree Nation partners are committed to using both western science-based knowledge and Aboriginal traditional knowledge in the Keeyask environmental impact statement.

Aboriginal traditional knowledge will provide important perspectives on the environmental and socio-economic implications of project development. Integrating Aboriginal traditional and local knowledge along with knowledge from scientific and other studies is intended to enhance the environmental assessment of the project.





A Comprehensive Public Involvement Program will be Conducted in Three Rounds

Public involvement is a key element of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) activities for the project and will involve three rounds of consultation before the process is complete.

The purpose of the public involvement process will be to provide meaningful opportunities for people to receive information and identify issues and potential effects about the proposed project so they can be considered while the project is still in the planning stage.

Round One will Introduce the Project and Identify Issues and Concerns

Round One of the Public Involvement Program will initiate the consultation process throughout Manitoba to:

- Introduce the public to the proposed Keeyask Generation Project;
- Learn about any issues or concerns the public may have about the Project; and

- Hear from the public how they wish to be consulted in further rounds of the Public Involvement Program.

This will be followed by two separate rounds of consultation.

A variety of public involvement methods will be available including meetings, workshops, open houses, newsletters, information panels and a project website. Round One is expected to begin in spring 2008.

A Wide Range of Audiences will be Included

The key audiences are those potentially affected by or interested in the proposed project, including the following:

- Communities primarily in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area beyond the Keeyask Cree Nations, including First Nations, Gillam, Thompson, and Northern Affairs communities.

- Organizations and the general public affected by, or interested in, the proposed project, including: Manitoba Keewatinowik Okimakanak, Keewatin Tribal Council, Manitoba Métis Federation, Northern Association of Community Councils, environmental non-government organizations, interested groups/organizations (e.g., outfitters/lodge operators) and the general public.

NOTE: The Keeyask Cree Nations are conducting consultation programs with their own members.

Round One Project Description and Issue Identification

Purpose & Scope

- Initiate dialogue about proposed project
- Provide a description of the project
- Identify issues and concerns
- Inform public about the process/requirements and schedule for EA
- Determine how interested/affected parties would like to be involved in PIP
- Document what was heard

Round Two Preliminary Environmental Assessment Results

Purpose & Scope

- Describe project features and changes since Round One
- Discuss initial findings (biophysical, socio-economic)
- Obtain input on possible mitigation measures
- Document what was heard

Round Three Final Environmental Impact Statement Review

Purpose & Scope

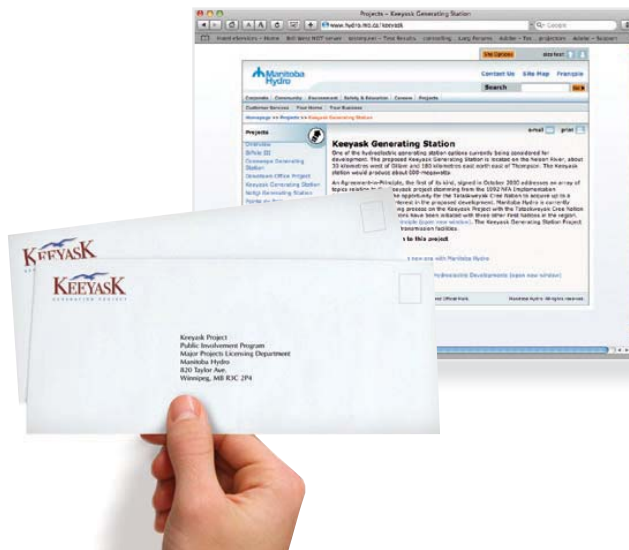
- Discuss format and content of EIS
- Communicate supplemental information
- Document what was heard



How to Get Involved in the Process

Let us know the best ways to keep you informed about the project and get your input through such means as: periodic newsletters, the project website, E-mail notifications of meetings and new information and audio/visual materials.

Please help us serve you by completing the questionnaire available on our project website or at meetings, workshops and open houses.



Do You Have Questions, Concerns or Issues About the Proposed Project?

We invite you to contact us at the address below with any questions, concerns or issues you may have about the proposed Keeyask Project.

Mailing Address

Keeyask Project
Public Involvement Program
Major Projects Licensing Department
Manitoba Hydro
820 Taylor Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R3C 2P4

Website Address

www.hydro.mb.ca/keeyask



**Environmental Impact Assessment
Public Involvement Program
Round 1**

KEEYASK

Manitoba
Hydro

Proposed Keeyask Generation Project

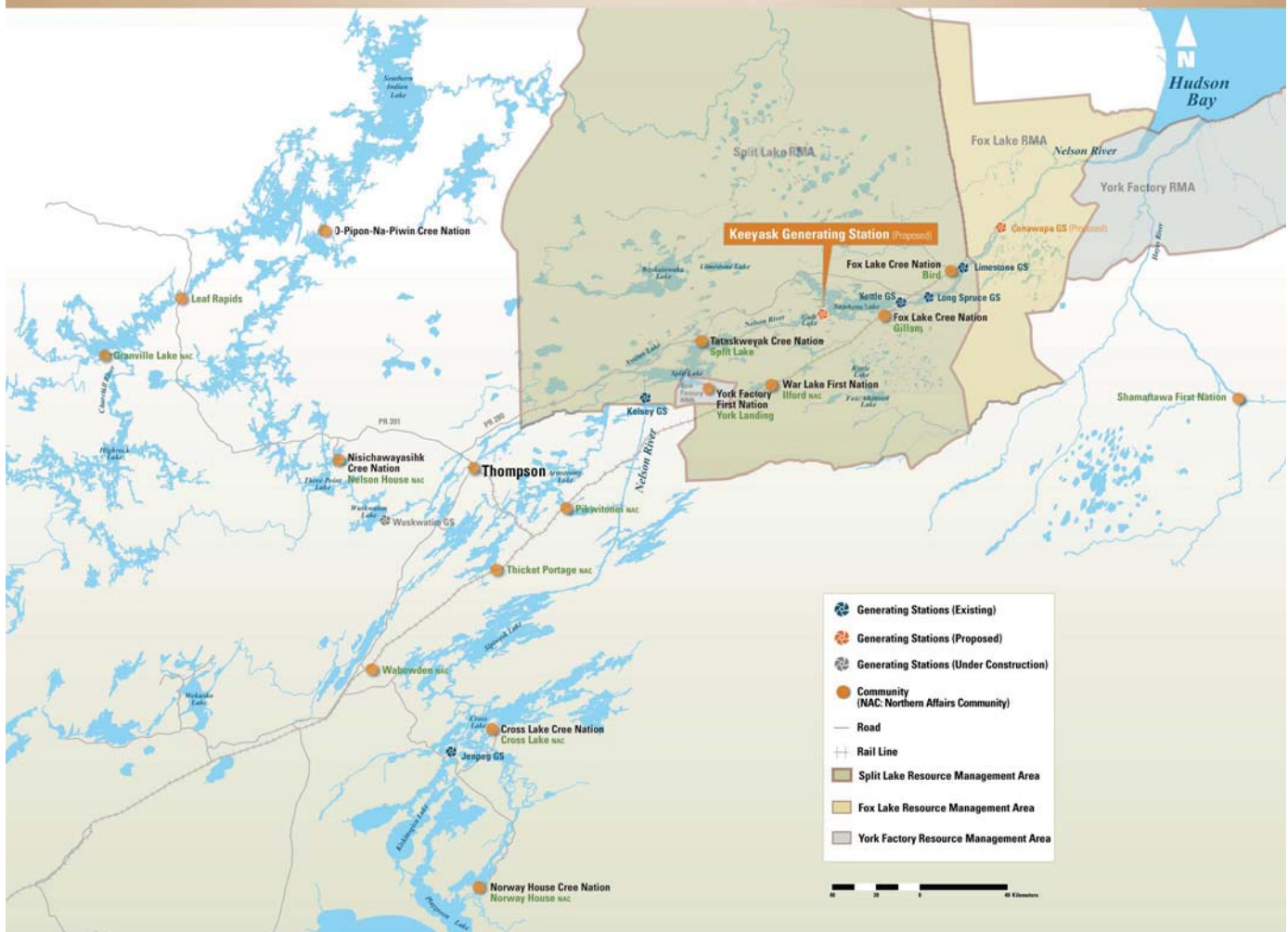


Artist's Rendering – Concept Only

KEEYASK

**Manitoba
Hydro**

Generating Stations, Communities and Resource Management Areas



KEEYASK

Manitoba Hydro

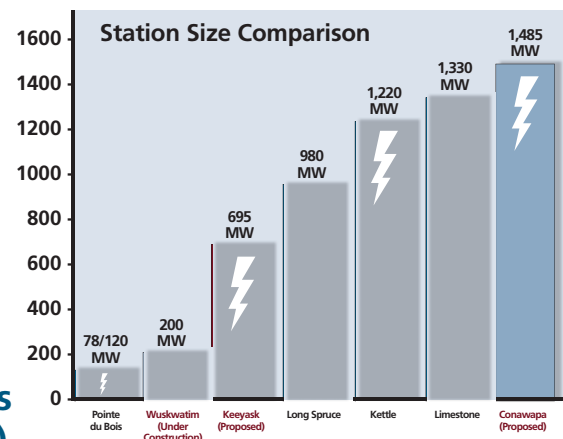
Proposed Keeyask Generation Project

- The Keeyask Project is being studied for possible hydroelectric development in the foreseeable future. The Keeyask Project is in the Split Lake Resource Management Area. The Fox Lake Resource Management Area is downstream; the largest portion of the York Factory Resource Management Area is also downstream; a smaller portion is generally within the boundaries of the Split Lake Resource Management Area
- The project is still at a planning and discussion stage
- No decision has been made to go forward with the project
- Planning and environmental studies have started for the project with data collection and analysis
- While additional transmission capacity would be required to transmit power from Keeyask, planning for the transmission project is proceeding independently of the generation project for reliability and security of the electrical system
- The Conawapa Project is also being studied for possible hydroelectric development, but is not part of the current process. The Conawapa Project is in the Fox Lake Resource Management Area. The Split Lake Resource Management Area is upstream; the largest portion of the York Factory Resource Management Area is also downstream; a smaller portion is generally within the boundaries of the Split Lake Resource Management Area



Keeyask Project - Overview

- Keeyask would be the fourth largest of Manitoba Hydro's current generating stations
- Approximate generating capacity:
 - Nominal capacity: 695 megawatts
 - Average annual energy production: 4,400 gigawatt hours
- Generator units: 7
- Flooded land area: 45 square kilometers (may gradually increase due to erosion)
- Total reservoir area of Keeyask Generating Station: 93 square kilometers
- Length of reservoir: Approximately 40 kilometers
- Construction period: Approximately 7 to 8 years
- Construction completed: 2020



KEEYASK

Manitoba
Hydro

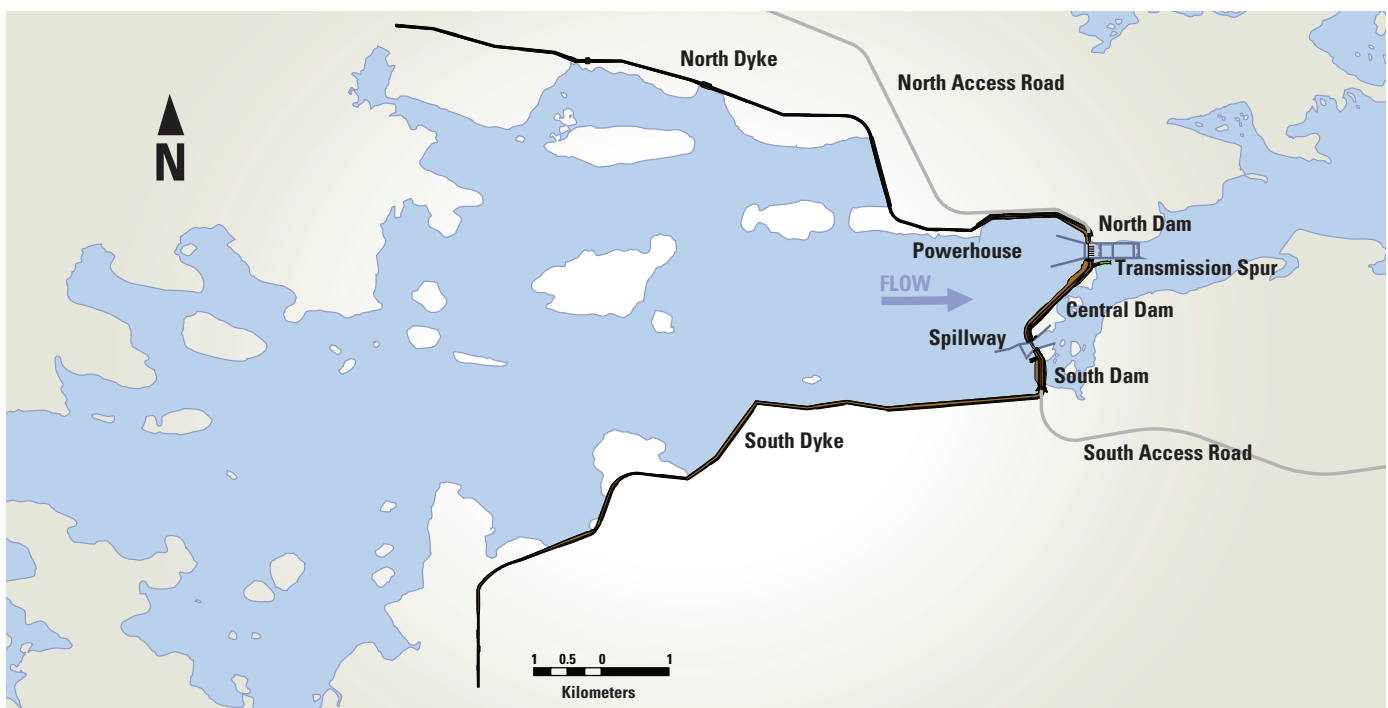
Keeyask Project Components and Construction Activities

Principal Structures

- Powerhouse
- Spillway
- Dams – central, north, and south
- Dykes
- Transmission tower spur

Supporting Infrastructure

- Access roads
- Cofferdams
- Worker accommodations
- Storage areas
- Offices



KEEYASK

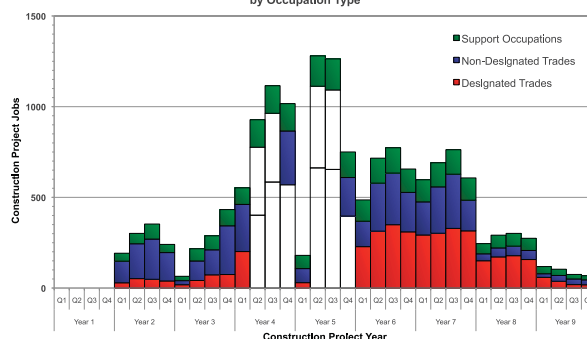
Manitoba
Hydro

Keeyask Construction Employment

- Estimated 4500 total person-years of employment
- Total of 7 to 8 years of construction
- Construction occupations include:
 - Designated trades (e.g., electrician, plumber)
 - Non-designated trades (e.g., heavy equipment operator, truck driver, labourer)
 - Support occupations (e.g., clerks, cooks/ catering, security)
- Pre-project training of Aboriginal people under the Hydro Northern Training and Employment Initiative for the Wuskwatim and Keeyask Projects* has resulted in:
 - 1402 trainees participated in 3272 training activities
 - 627 individuals completed project-related trades or occupational training
 - Of the 627, there are 13 certified journeypersons, 135 active apprentices and 97 pre-apprenticeship trainees
 - Aboriginal partners report 267 individuals employed in jobs related to training completed, as well as other occupations

*Up to March 2007

Keeyask Construction Workforce Requirement
by Occupation Type



KEEYASK

Manitoba
Hydro

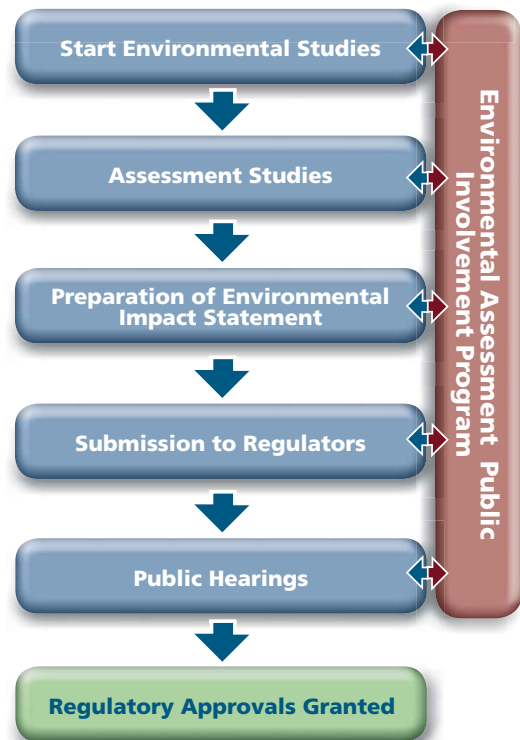
Potential Keeyask Project Partnership

- Manitoba Hydro is exploring the potential of a partnership with in-vicinity Keeyask Cree Nations (KCN) – Tataskweyak Cree Nation and War Lake First Nation (acting as the Cree Nation Partners), Fox Lake Cree Nation and York Factory First Nation
- The parties are currently negotiating a Joint Keeyask Development Agreement (JKDA) or agreement that would govern how the project would be developed, as well as setting out understandings related to potential income opportunities, training, employment, business opportunities and other related matters
- Keeyask would proceed at this time only with a positive vote on the JKDA by the KCN represented by a majority of the population



Environmental Approvals

- **An environmental assessment will be completed for the project to:**
 - *Identify potential effects the project may have on the environment and people*
 - *Determine ways to avoid, reduce or mitigate potential negative effects*
 - *Determine ways to enhance potential positive effects*
 - *Develop follow-up and monitoring programs*
- **An environmental impact statement will report on the results of these studies and will be available to the public**
- **The project is subject to review under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act and the Manitoba Environment Act, as well as other federal and provincial legislation. Public hearings are anticipated**

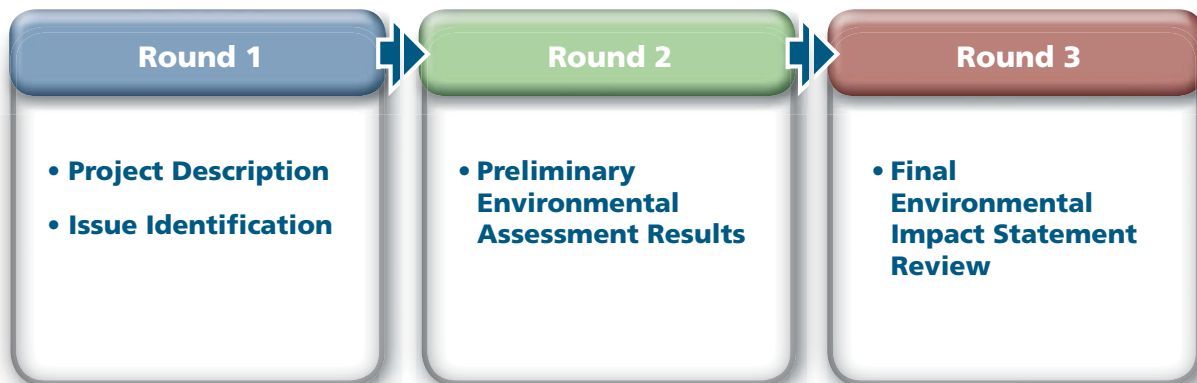


KEEYASK

Manitoba
Hydro

Public Involvement Opportunities

- Public involvement is a key element of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) activities for the project
- Round 1 of the Public Involvement Program will introduce the project and begin the process of public involvement – this will be followed by further opportunities to review information and to provide input



KEEYASK

Manitoba
Hydro

Round 1 Consultation

Purpose

- To introduce the Keeyask Generation Project to the public
- To learn about any issues or concerns that the public may have about the project
- To hear from the public how they wish to be consulted in further rounds of the Public Involvement Program

Variety of Methods

- Meetings, workshops, open houses
- Newsletter, information panels
- Website



Target Audiences

Those potentially affected by or interested in the proposed project:

- **Communities**

- *Focus on Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area*
- *Other First Nations beyond the KCN*
- *Gillam, Thompson*
- *Northern Affairs communities*

- **Organizations**

- *Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak*
- *Keewatin Tribal Council*
- *Manitoba Métis Federation*
- *Northern Association of Community Councils*
- *Environmental non-government organizations*
- *Interested groups/organizations (e.g., outfitters/lodge operators)*
- *General public*



Keeyask Environmental Studies

- Since 2001, Manitoba Hydro has been working with local Cree Nations to collect information that will contribute to the environmental assessment study of the project
- So far, studies of the existing environment have considered:
 - *Physical environment*
 - *Terrestrial and aquatic environment*
 - *Heritage resources*
 - *Resource use (started 2007)*
 - *Socio-economic environment (started 2007)*
- In addition, the Keeyask Cree Nations have been undertaking their own community studies
- Manitoba Hydro and its potential Cree Nation partners are committed to using both western science-based knowledge and traditional knowledge in the Keeyask Environmental Impact Statement



Do You Have Questions, Concerns or Issues about the Proposed Project?

Mailing Address

Keeyask Project
Public Involvement Program
Major Projects Licensing Department
Manitoba Hydro
820 Taylor Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R3C 2P4

Website

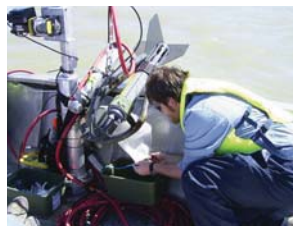
www.hydro.mb.ca/keeyask



Keeyask Physical Environment Studies

Studies completed or underway:

- Air quality
- Climate
- Geology and soils
- Water levels and flows
- Thermal regime
- Ice processes
- Erosion and sedimentation
- Debris
- Water quality



KEEYASK

Manitoba
Hydro

Keeyask Aquatic Studies

Studies completed or underway:

- Aquatic habitat
- Aquatic plants and invertebrates
- Fish community – populations, spawning, and movements
- Lake sturgeon – species of special interest
- Fish quality – mercury



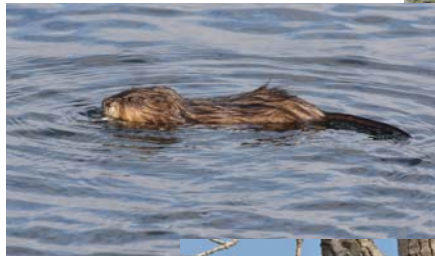
KEEYASK

Manitoba
Hydro

Keeyask Terrestrial Studies

Studies completed or underway:

- Vegetated habitat classification and mapping
- Rare plants
- Insects
- Amphibians
- Songbirds, raptors and waterfowl
- Small mammals (e.g. voles, rabbits, mice)
- Furbearers (e.g. beaver, muskrat, mink, otter)
- Large mammals (e.g. caribou, moose)



KEEYASK

Manitoba
Hydro

Keeyask Heritage Resource Studies

Studies completed or underway:

- Burial sites
- Heritage resources, such as pottery or bone fragments from pre-contact to the historic period
- Culturally important sites



KEEYASK

Manitoba
Hydro

Keeyask Socio-Economic and Resource Use Studies

Studies completed or underway:

- Land and resource use for traditional, recreational and commercial purposes
- Local and regional economy, including employment and business
- Population, housing, infrastructure and services
- Transportation, navigation safety and access
- Outdoor recreation
- Community health
- Culture
- Social well-being and quality of life



KEEYASK

Manitoba
Hydro

Keeyask Generating Station



The Keeyask generation site is being studied for possible hydroelectric development. Keeyask would be located in the Split Lake Resource Management Area:

- 725 kilometres northeast of Winnipeg on the lower Nelson River, and
- 35 kilometres upstream of the existing Kettle Generating Station, where Gull Lake flows into Stevens Lake.

[View location map. \(open new window\)](#)

[View close-up map. \(open new window\)](#)

A [**Joint Keeyask Development Agreement \(JKDA\)**](#) was officially signed on May 29, 2009.

The JKDA outlines the partnership arrangements for First Nations' participation in the development of the Keeyask Generating Station. The signing does not guarantee Keeyask will be built. No decision has been made to go forward with development of this project, and no application has yet been made for regulatory review or approval.

We have also signed an Adverse Effects Agreement (AEA) with each of the First Nations partners:

- [Fox Lake Cree Nation AEA \(open new window\)](#)
- [Tataskweyak Cree Nation AEA \(open new window\)](#)
- [War Lake First Nation AEA \(open new window\)](#)
- [York Factory First Nation AEA \(open new window\)](#)

These Adverse Effects Agreements identify potential negative impacts of the Keeyask Project, and outline measures to prevent or reduce these effects. Where adverse effects cannot be avoided, offsetting measures will be pursued or compensation will be provided.

If developed, the Keeyask project would be the 4th largest of our current generating stations.

Related Info

[Keeyask Generating Station](#)

- [Project Overview](#)
- [First Nations Partnership](#)
 - [Joint Keeyask Development Agreement](#)
- [Environmental Approvals](#)
- [Environmental Assessment Public Involvement Program](#)
- [Questions & Comments](#)

Project Overview

- Net capacity: 695 megawatts;
- Average annual energy production: 4,400 gigawatt hours;
- Flooded land area: approximately 45 square kilometres (may gradually increase due to erosion);
- Total reservoir area: Approximately 93 square kilometres;
- Generator units: 7;
- Construction period: Approximately 7 to 8 years.

[View station size comparison chart. \(open new window\)](#)

Related Info

[Keeyask Generating Station](#)

- [Project Overview](#)
- [First Nations Partnership](#)
 - [Joint Keeyask Development Agreement](#)
- [Environmental Approvals](#)
- [Environmental Assessment Public Involvement Program](#)
- [Questions & Comments](#)

First Nations Partnership

A partnership development agreement with four First Nations (known together as the Keeyask Cree Nations) for development of the Keeyask Generating Station was signed in May 2009.

The Keeyask Cree Nations are:

- Tataskweyak Cree Nation;
- War Lake First Nation;
- Fox Lake Cree Nation;
- York Factory First Nation.

[View Joint Keeyask Development Agreement news release. \(open new window\)](#)

Related Info

[Keeyask Generating Station](#)

- [Project Overview](#)
- [First Nations Partnership](#)
 - [Joint Keeyask Development Agreement](#)
- [Environmental Approvals](#)
- [Environmental Assessment Public Involvement Program](#)
- [Questions & Comments](#)

Environmental Approvals

A key requirement of preliminary planning for the project will be a comprehensive environmental impact assessment that will:

- Identify potential effects the project may have on the environment and people;
- Determine ways to avoid, reduce, or mitigate potential negative effects;
- Determine ways to enhance potential positive effects; and
- Develop follow-up and monitoring programs.

Results of these studies will be compiled in an environmental impact statement (EIS). The **EIS** will be available to the public and submitted for review and approval under the **Canadian Environmental Assessment Act** and the **Manitoba Environment Act**, as well as under other federal and provincial legislation. Public hearings are expected.

[**View environmental assessment public involvement program flow chart. \(open new window\)**](#)

Related Info

[Keeyask Generating Station](#)

- [**Project Overview**](#)
- [**First Nations Partnership**](#)
 - [**Joint Keeyask Development Agreement**](#)
- [**Environmental Approvals**](#)
- [**Environmental Assessment Public Involvement Program**](#)
- [**Questions & Comments**](#)

Environmental Assessment Public Involvement Program

Public involvement is key for the project's environmental impact assessment activities, which will involve three rounds of consultation.

The public involvement process will provide opportunities for people to receive information and identify issues and potential effects about the proposed project, so they can be considered while the project is still in the planning stage.

Round One of the Public Involvement Program will help us to:

- Introduce the public to the proposed Keeyask Generation Project;
- Learn about any issues or concerns the public may have about the project; and
- Hear from the public how they wish to be consulted in further rounds of the Public Involvement Program.

[Keeyask Generation Project Newsletter – Round One, May 2008. \(open new window\)](#)

[Keeyask Generation Project information panels – Round One. \(open new window\)](#)

Open houses and meetings

Open houses were held in June 2008 in Gillam, Thompson, Winnipeg and Brandon.

Related Info

[Keeyask Generating Station](#)

- [Project Overview](#)
- [First Nations Partnership](#)
 - [Joint Keeyask Development Agreement](#)
- [Environmental Approvals](#)
- [Environmental Assessment Public Involvement Program](#)
- [Questions & Comments](#)

Questions & Comments

If you have any questions, concerns or issues about the proposed Keeyask Project, we invite you to **contact us**.

Related Info

Keeyask Generating Station

- **Project Overview**
- **First Nations Partnership**
 - **Joint Keeyask Development Agreement**
- **Environmental Approvals**
- **Environmental Assessment Public Involvement Program**
- **Questions & Comments**



Comment Form

**Round 1 public involvement for the
proposed Keeyask Generation Project**

Please take this opportunity to fill-out this brief questionnaire based on the information provided at this event and speaking with the Study Team regarding the proposed Keeyask Generation Project. Please drop the completed comment form in the box provided.

Overall, was this information session helpful in providing you with a general understanding of the Project and the Environmental Impact Assessment process?

____ Yes ____ No

If no, what additional information would have been helpful?

Do you have any suggestions on how we could improve the Environmental Impact Assessment Public Involvement Program?

After reviewing the information boards and speaking with Study Team members, what concerns/issues do you have about the proposed Project (please describe)?

Do you have any suggestions on how your comments or concerns could be addressed? If yes, please explain.

Thank you for taking the time to fill out the comment form. Your interest and participation are very important to the Environmental Assessment process.

For further information about the proposed Keeyask Project, please visit the Project website at www.hydro.mb.ca/keeyask or contact Brett McGurk of InterGroup Consultants at (204) 942-0654.



KEEYASK GENERATION PROJECT

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT SUPPORTING VOLUME

APPENDIX 2C

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM ROUND ONE COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Public Involvement Program Round One Council and Community Meetings

Meetings with community leadership provided an opportunity to introduce the Project and the environmental assessment (EA) process and initiate dialogue about potential Project issues and perspectives. A brief presentation about the Project was provided by the EA Study Team to the leadership in each community (see Table 2C-1). Throughout, and following the discussion, meeting participants were encouraged to ask questions, offer perspectives, and to identify any issues or concerns they might have about the proposed Project, the EA and the PIP. The discussion was recorded by a member of the EA Study Team and these draft notes were later reviewed by all meeting participants for accuracy. Final meeting notes are included in this appendix for each community leadership meeting held in Round One PIP.

Community information sessions were held in most communities following the meetings with leadership to inform and discuss with interested community members. Newsletters, public notices (posters to post in the community) and letters confirmed the events in advance of community information sessions to ensure that adequate notice was provided in the communities. Those who attended the information sessions were encouraged to sign-in, complete comment forms and discuss with members of the EA Study Team any perspectives or issues they might have about the Project. Members of the EA Study Team also offered to guide community members through a series of information panels designed to provide participants with information about the Project. Comment forms allowed participants to provide comments anonymously, and if questions were raised that could not be addressed at the session, they were recorded by an EA Study Team member, forwarded to the appropriate person to respond to the request and followed up as required. Meeting notes are included in this appendix for each community information session held in Round One PIP.

Communication methods to organize community and leadership meetings included phone calls, emails, in-person communication and letters. The process included sending an invitation letter to the community leadership via the Community Administrative Officer (CAO) or similar position to participate in Round One of the PIP. After this letter was sent, follow-up by the PIP team included confirming a meeting date, time and place by sending a confirmation letter along with any necessary information (including posters to advertise the meeting in the community). Following the meeting, draft meeting notes were sent to the community leadership meeting participants to review for accuracy. After the draft notes were reviewed and approved, final notes were sent to the community leadership for their records. An example of the correspondence materials used to facilitate Round One PIP meetings are provided in this appendix.

Table 2C-1: Round One Council and Community Meetings/Sessions

Date	Event	Location
6/10/2008	Thompson Mayor and Council Meeting	City Hall
6/17/2008	Churchill Mayor and Council Meeting	Council Chambers
6/17/2008	Churchill Community Information Session	Pioneer Gallery
6/18/2008	Leaf Rapids Mayor and Council Meeting	Council Chambers
6/18/2008	Leaf Rapids Community Information Session	Town Centre Complex
6/23/2008	Gillam Mayor and Council Meeting	Council Chambers
6/23/2008	Gillam Community Information Session	Recreation Centre

Date	Event	Location
6/24/2008	LGD* Mystery Lake Leadership Meeting	LGD* Office - Thompson
7/2/2008	Thicket Portage Mayor and Council Meeting	Council Office
7/2/2008	Thicket Portage Community Information Session	Administration Building
7/8/2008	Pikwitonei Mayor and Council Meeting	Recreation Centre
7/8/2008	Pikwitonei Community Information Session	Recreation Centre
7/9/2008	Wabowden Mayor and Council Meeting	Town Office
7/9/2008	Wabowden Community Information Session	Ke Na Now Centre
7/15/2008	Norway House Mayor and Council Meeting	Community Administration Building
7/15/2008	Norway House Community Information Session	Fort Island Arena
7/16/2008	Nelson House Mayor and Council Meeting	Community Administration Building
10/8/2008	Cross Lake Mayor and Council Meeting	Town Office Cross Lake
10/8/2008	Cross Lake Community Information Session	Recreation Centre
10/30/2008	Ilford Mayor and Council Meeting	Town Office

The following copies of documents are provided in this appendix:

- Copy of invitation letter
- Copy of community poster
- Copy of confirmation of meeting letter
- Copy of draft meeting notes letter
- Copy of final meeting notes letter
- Copy of final meeting notes and sign in sheets:
 - City of Thompson mayor and council meeting notes
 - Churchill mayor and council meeting notes
 - Churchill sign in sheet(s)
 - Churchill community meeting notes
 - Leaf Rapids mayor and council meeting notes
 - Leaf Rapids sign in sheet(s)
 - Leaf Rapids community meeting notes
 - Gillam mayor and council meeting notes

- Gillam sign in sheet(s)
- Gillam community meeting notes
- LGD of Mystery Lake meeting notes
- Thicket Portage mayor and council meeting notes
- Thicket Portage sign in sheet(s)
- Thicket Portage community meeting notes
- Pikwitonei mayor and council meeting notes
- Pikwitonei sign in sheet(s)
- Pikwitonei community meeting notes
- Wabowden mayor and council meeting notes
- Wabowden sign in sheet(s)
- Wabowden community meeting notes
- Norway House mayor and council meeting notes
- Norway House sign in sheet(s)
- Norway House community meeting notes
- Nelson House mayor and council meeting notes
- Cross Lake mayor and council meeting notes
- Cross Lake sign in sheet(s)
- Cross Lake community meeting notes
- Ilford mayor and council meeting notes



500-280 Smith Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 1K2
tel: (204) 942-0654
fax: (204) 943-3922
e-mail: intergroup@intergroup.ca

May 27, 2008

Martin Van Osch
Leaf Rapids Community Council
P.O. Box 340
Leaf Rapids, MB R0B 1W0

Dear Mr. Van Osch,

RE: Invitation to meet with Manitoba Hydro and its Consultants regarding the proposed Keeyask Generating Station Project

Manitoba Hydro is considering developing the Keeyask Generating Station Project on the Nelson River in northern Manitoba in the foreseeable future. Before construction can proceed on the Project, an Environmental Assessment (EA) needs to be conducted to determine the environmental and social impacts associated with the Project, as well as licences and approvals granted. As part of the EA process, Manitoba Hydro and its consultants will be conducting a Public Involvement Program (PIP). The purpose of the PIP is to provide meaningful opportunities for people to receive information about the Project and to identify project-related concerns/issues, potential impacts and measures to mitigate such impacts.

As we discussed over the phone, we are currently organizing the first round of the PIP and are contacting you to determine whether the Mayor and Council would be interested in participating in a meeting. This meeting would be designed to present basic background information about the Project (including the regulatory review and public involvement process), and also to hear any initial comments, questions or concerns you may have about the Project. The meeting would consist of a presentation approximately 20 minutes in length and followed by a discussion. Following the meeting with elected officials, we would also like to hold an information session in Leaf Rapids so community members have an opportunity to learn about the Project and to identify their issues/concerns regarding the Project.

We are currently targeting to hold a meeting with you on Wednesday, June 18, 2008 at 7pm and will hold the community information session prior to the meeting with leadership at 12 noon.

If you have any questions or comments about the meeting or the proposed Keeyask Project, please feel free to contact me at (204) 942-0654. We look forward to meeting with you.

Yours truly,

INTERGROUP CONSULTANTS LTD.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'David Lane'.
David Lane

An Invitation to Attend

KEEYASK

GENERATION PROJECT

Keeyask Public Involvement Program: Round One



Manitoba Hydro is currently considering development of the Keeyask Generating Station, a 695-megawatt hydroelectric project at Gull Rapids on the Nelson River in Northern Manitoba.

Round one of a Public Involvement Program has been planned to inform interested Manitobans about the project and seek their input.

You are invited to attend an information session in your community to learn more about the project.

Location: Leaf Rapids

Venue: Council Chambers

Date: June 18, 2008

Time: 2-6 pm



For more information, please visit
www.hydro.mb.ca/keeyask



500-280 Smith Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 1K2
tel: (204) 942-0654
fax: (204) 943-3922
e-mail: intergroup@intergroup.ca

June 2, 2008

Martin Van Osch
Leaf Rapids Community Council
P.O. Box 340
Leaf Rapids, MB R0B 1W0

Dear Mr. Van Osch,

RE: Confirmation of meeting with elected officials and a community information session regarding the proposed Keeyask Generating Station Project

We are pleased to have the opportunity to discuss the proposed Keeyask Generating Station Project with elected officials in your community. This letter confirms that representatives from Manitoba Hydro and its consultants will be attending a meeting in Leaf Rapids on June 18 at 7pm to discuss the proposed Project with the Mayor and Council. Additionally, there will be a community information session on the same day from 2pm until 6pm, at the Council Chambers.

As indicated in the invitation letter, Manitoba Hydro is considering developing the Keeyask Generating Station Project on the Nelson River in northern Manitoba in the foreseeable future. Before construction can proceed on the Project, an Environmental Assessment (EA) needs to be conducted to determine the environmental and social impacts associated with the Project, as well as necessary licences and approvals granted. As part of the EA process, Manitoba Hydro and its consultants will be conducting a Public Involvement Program (PIP). The purpose of the PIP is to provide meaningful opportunities for people to receive information about the Project and to identify project-related concerns/issues, potential impacts and measures to mitigate such impacts.

The first meeting will be part of the first round of public involvement. The purpose of this meeting is to initiate dialogue with you about the Project, present information about the Project, provide you with background information on the regulatory process and schedule for the EA, and to identify and confirm any issues or concerns your community may have about the PIP and the proposed Project.

We have included copies of the Round 1 Public Involvement Program newsletter and a few advertisements to post in your community for the information session.

If you have any further questions about the meeting or the Project, please do not hesitate to contact David Lane of InterGroup Consultants, Ltd. (204) 942-0654.

We look forward to meeting with you.

Yours truly,

INTERGROUP CONSULTANTS LTD.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Lane', with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Lane



500-280 Smith Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 1K2
tel: (204) 942-0654
fax: (204) 943-3922
e-mail: intergroup@intergroup.ca

October 14, 2008

Martin Van Osch
Leaf Rapids Community Council
P.O. Box 340
Leaf Rapids, MB R0B 1W0

Dear Mr. Van Osch,

RE: Draft meeting notes from the June 18th, 2008 meeting with the Mayor and Council regarding the proposed Keeyask Generation Project

This letter is in follow-up to the meeting held on June 18th in Leaf Rapids, Manitoba regarding the proposed Keeyask Generation Project. Included for your review are the draft meeting notes from the above meeting. Please let me know by October 28th if there are any errors or omissions in the notes. I can be contacted either by email (dlane@intergroup.ca) or at (204) 942-0654. Once the meeting notes have been finalized, they will be part of the documentation for the Environmental Assessment of the proposed project.

Beyond meeting notes changes, if you have any questions or comments about the proposed project or the public involvement process, please do not hesitate to call Brett McGurk or John Osler of InterGroup Consultants, Ltd. at (204) 942-0654. Furthermore, additional information on the project can be found on the project website www.hydro.mb.ca/projects/keeyask/.

Thank you for your hospitality and we look forward to meeting with you again during future rounds of public involvement for the proposed Keeyask Generation Project.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'D. Lane'.

David Lane
InterGroup Consultants Ltd.
500-280 Smith St.
Winnipeg, MB R3C 1K2
Ph: 204.942.0654
Fax: 204.943.3922



500-280 Smith Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 1K2
tel: (204) 942-0654
fax: (204) 943-3922
e-mail: intergroup@intergroup.ca

January 8, 2009

Martin Van Osch
Leaf Rapids Community Council
P.O. Box 340
Leaf Rapids, MB R0B 1W0

Dear Mr. Van Osch,

RE: Finalized notes from the June 18th meeting with Mayor and Council regarding the proposed Keeyask Generating Station Project

Please find enclosed the finalized notes from the meeting held on June 18th in Leaf Rapids, Manitoba, regarding the proposed Keeyask Generating Station Project, including copies for distribution to Councillors. The final version of the notes has been revised to reflect comments that were received during the review process, and the notes will be included in the Environmental Impact Statement.

If you have any questions or comments about the proposed Project or the Public Involvement Program, please do not hesitate to contact Brett McGurk or John Osler of InterGroup Consultants, Ltd. at (204) 942-0654. Furthermore, additional information on the Project can be found on the Project website that will be updated as project-related information becomes available - <http://www.hydro.mb.ca/projects/keeyask>.

Thank you for taking the time to meet with us to discuss the proposed Project. We look forward to meeting with you again during future rounds of the Public Involvement Program for the proposed Keeyask Generating Station Project.

Yours truly,

INTERGROUP CONSULTANTS

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D Lane'.

David Lane



Round 1 PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:

Meeting with the City of Thompson

Final Meeting Notes

Date of Meeting: June 10, 2008 – 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Location: Thompson, MB
City Hall

In Attendance:	Tim Johnston Judy Koloda Brian Wilson Randy Patrick Ryan Kustra Dave Magnusson Fiona Scurrah Rachel Elders Gordon Wastesicoot Victor Flett Jonathan Kitchokeesik Jr. Wayne Marcinyshyn Denis DePape Brett McGurk	Mayor Councillor Councillor City Manager Manitoba Hydro Manitoba Hydro Manitoba Hydro Manitoba Hydro KCN KCN KCN KCN InterGroup Consultants InterGroup Consultants
-----------------------	---	---

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The meeting was requested by the Environmental Assessment Team for the Proposed Keeyask Generation Project to:

- Provide background information about the proposed Keeyask Generation Project;
- Begin dialogue about the Environmental Assessment process;
- Provide initial information about the Environmental Assessment (EA) and its associated Public Involvement Program (PIP); and
- Identify issues and concerns Mayor and Council has with the proposed project, the EA and the PIP.

The meeting is one of a series of sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of Round 1 of the PIP. Two additional rounds of meetings are contemplated as information from the EIA becomes available.

MEETING PROCESS

Ryan Kustra thanked the Mayor and Council for meeting with the Environmental Assessment Team for the proposed Keeyask Generation Project and also made some introductory comments. Denis DePape then made a presentation to the group providing information on the project, the EA and the associated PIP process.

Throughout and following the discussion:

- Mayor and Council asked questions, offered perspectives, and identified issues about the proposed project, the EA and the PIP; and
- Where appropriate, representatives of the Environmental Assessment Team and Manitoba Hydro offered perspectives.

The following are highlights of the meeting and are intended to capture the key points that were raised or presented. They are not presented in the sequence that they were raised at the meeting, nor are they a detailed or verbatim transcription of what was said.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Project impacts and perspectives

- Thompson has experienced significant growth in recent years and is supportive of projects that allow the City to provide valuable services to assist with the construction and operation of such projects – as long as these projects are in line with the community's long-term collective vision, goals and values.
- Mayor and Council have safety concerns because of potentially higher traffic volumes in Thompson and on nearby highways as a result of building the project.
- Currently there is a housing shortage in Thompson and Mayor and Council is concerned about the affordability and availability of homes if more people move to Thompson to work. Mayor Johnston, however, did indicate that plans were underway for building additional housing to support the growth.
- Questions were asked regarding whether there would be a staging area in Thompson for the project.

Environmental assessment perspectives/issues

- One councillor noted that studying Lake Sturgeon as part of the EA process was important since their numbers are dwindling and there is a possibility that Lake Sturgeon could be listed under SARA.

Public Involvement Program perspectives/issues

- Mayor and Council encouraged the EA Team to hold open houses in the community so people have an opportunity to learn about the project.
- It was also suggested that if the project required a public hearing that some of the events be held in Thompson. Clean Environment Commission public hearings for the Wuskwatim Project held in Thompson were well received when the project was going through its licensing process.

Other

- Mayor and Council are supportive of the project, KCN and the potential for a partnership between KCN communities and Manitoba Hydro.
- Mayor and Council indicated that past hydro-electric projects were not able to sustain long-term benefit to northern communities and hope that the potential for a partnership will provide sustained benefits for northern communities.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TEAM

- The Keeyask Project is located in the Split Lake RMA and is approximately 30 km west of Gillam
- The project is still at a planning and discussion stage.
- No decision has been made to go forward with the project.
- Additional transmission capacity would be required to transmit power from Keeyask; however, this is proceeding independently of the generation project for improved reliability and security of the electrical system.
- The Conawapa project is also being studied for possible development, but it is not part of the current process.
- Keeyask would be the fourth largest of Manitoba Hydro's current generation stations:
 - 695 megawatts
 - Approximately 45 square kilometers of flooding
 - Approximately 7 to 8 years construction
- Manitoba Hydro is exploring the potential of a partnership with in-vicinity Keeyask Cree Nations (KCN) – Tataskweyak Cree Nation and War Lake First Nation (acting as the Cree Nation Partners), Fox Lake Cree Nation and York Factory First Nation.
- The above parties are negotiating a Joint Keeyask Development Agreement (JKDA) - an agreement that would govern how the project would be developed.
- An Environmental Impact Assessment will be completed for the project to identify potential effects the project may have on the environment and people and to determine ways to enhance potential positive effects.
- The purpose of Round 1 public involvement is to introduce the project to the public, to learn about any issues or concerns that the public may have about the project, and to hear from the public how they wish to be consulted in further rounds of the PIP.
- Since 2001, Manitoba Hydro has been working with local Cree Nations to collect information that will contribute to the Environmental Impact Assessment. So far, studies of the existing

environment have considered: physical environment, terrestrial and aquatic environments, heritage resources, resource use and the socio-economic environments.



Round 1 PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:

Meeting with Churchill Mayor and Council

Final Meeting Notes

Date of Meeting: June 17, 2008 – 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

Location: Churchill, MB
Council Chambers

In Attendance:	Michael Spence Michael Iwanowsky Louise Lawrie Roxanne Chan Patrick McGarry David Magnusson Don MacDonell Victor Flett Jonathan Kitchekeesik Jr. Gordon Wastesicoot Wayne Marcinyshyn John Osler David Lane	Mayor Councillor Councillor Chief Administrative Officer Manitoba Hydro Manitoba Hydro North-South Consultants KCN KCN KCN KCN InterGroup Consultants InterGroup Consultants
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PURPOSE OF MEETING

The meeting was requested by the Environmental Assessment Team for the proposed Keeyask Generation Project to:

- Provide background information about the proposed Keeyask Generation Project;
- Begin dialogue about the Environmental Assessment process;
- Provide initial information about the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and its associated Public Involvement Program (PIP); and
- Identify issues and concerns the Mayor and Council has with the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP.

The meeting is one of a series of sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of Round 1 of the PIP. Two additional rounds of meetings are contemplated as information from the EIA becomes available.

MEETING PROCESS

Following introductions and a prayer, John Osler presented information on the project, the EA process and the purpose of Round 1 PIP. This included details on the size and location of the project, project components and construction activities, potential partnership with the in-vicinity communities, the EA PIP, environmental approvals, and project environmental studies. Each Council member in attendance was provided a copy of the presentation and the Round 1 PIP newsletter. Extra copies of the newsletter were left with the Administrator for general distribution. Throughout and following the discussion:

- Council members asked questions, offered perspectives, and identified issues about the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP; and
- Where appropriate, representatives of the Environmental Assessment Team and Manitoba Hydro offered perspectives.

The following are highlights of the meeting and are intended to capture the key points that were raised or presented. They are not presented in the sequence that they were raised at the meeting, nor are they a detailed or verbatim transcription of what was said.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Project impacts and perspectives

- Concerns centered on employment and training opportunities for people and communities that are not potential partners in the project.
- There is an interest in having a training facility in Churchill (similar to other communities) to prepare those who might be interested in gaining employment on the project.
- Council is interested in economic development and employment opportunities associated with the project if constructed, and they feel that northern Manitoba in general should benefit the most from increased Hydro capacity.
- Council is concerned about changes to the lifestyle of Aboriginal people who gain employment on the project and its possible impacts on communities.
- Due to the far distance from Churchill to the project, they do not expect to experience much in the way of biophysical effects.

Environmental Assessment perspectives/issues

- Integrating traditional knowledge and western scientific knowledge in the EA is important, since all world views should be represented.
- Confusion around how communities are involved in the project and the difference between in-vicinity and not in-vicinity involvement.

Public involvement program perspectives/issues

- Should engage youth in the community (i.e. local schools, especially upcoming graduates), so they are aware of training and employment opportunities associated with the project.
- For round 2, have information available that could be shared with the leadership and/or with individuals that explains the Hydro/Provincial/Federal training agreement and who is entitled to training under that agreement. Furthermore, there is a need to explain what training, if any, is available and identify the steps necessary to gain such employment.
- Using a variety of methods for communication is important - the newsletter works well.
- Later phases of the public involvement process should demonstrate how concerns are being addressed.

Other

- The question of rates charged to the town for electricity was raised. They suggested that when Hydro had a better opportunity (e.g. sales to other jurisdictions) their electricity rates increased. This may be because of an "interrupted power rate" whereby they receive a reduced rate when more power is available.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TEAM

- The project is still at a planning and discussion stage.
- No decision has been made to go forward with the project.
- Keeyask would be the fourth largest of Manitoba Hydro's current generation stations:
 - 695 megawatts
 - Approximately 45 square kilometers of flooding
 - Approximately 7 to 8 years construction
- Manitoba Hydro is exploring the potential of a partnership with in-vicinity Keeyask Cree Nations (KCN) – Tataskweyak Cree Nation and War Lake First Nation (acting as the Cree Nation Partners), Fox Lake Cree Nation and York Factory First Nation. There will be a referendum in the fall to approve the JKDA. Keeyask would proceed at this time only with a positive vote on the JKDA by the KCN represented by a majority of the population.
- An Environmental Assessment will be completed for the project to identify potential effects the project may have on the environment and people.
- There are a variety of training programs available through MB Hydro and provincial and federal governments. (e.g. BAEHR - Building Aboriginal Environmental Human Resource, MB Hydro training programs)
- The purpose of Round 1 public involvement is to introduce the project to the public, to learn about any issues or concerns that the public may have about the project, and to hear from the public how they wish to be consulted in further rounds of the PIP.
- Since 2001, Manitoba Hydro has been working with local Cree Nations to collect information that will contribute to the Environmental Impact Assessment.

- Bipole III is needed for reliability and security and will be built regardless of whether Keeyask goes ahead.

Action item: What is the business arrangement between Manitoba Hydro and the Town of Churchill with respect to the rates they pay for electricity?

TOWN OF CHURCHILL INFORMATION SESSION

PROPOSED KEYYASK GENERATING STATION PROJECT
 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM
 ROUND 1

TUESDAY JUNE 17, 2008 @ 5:00 p.m.

PERSON NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS
CAM ELLIOTT	<i>[Signature]</i>	PARKS CANADA (YORK FACTORY)
Sheldon Kowalchuk	<i>[Signature]</i>	Parks Canada
Louise Lawrie	<i>[Signature]</i>	Churchill resident
Dave Wotton	<i>[Signature]</i>	Wapusk Management Board
John Spence	<i>[Signature]</i>	
ROD MCKENZIE	<i>[Signature]</i>	Town of C
Roxanne Chan	<i>[Signature]</i>	Town of Churchill
GEORGINA CHAN	<i>[Signature]</i>	YFFN
Mike Sence	<i>[Signature]</i>	MAYOR / YF member



Round 1 PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:

Churchill Community Information Session

Final Meeting Notes

Date of Meeting: June 17, 2008 – 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Location: Churchill, MB
Pioneer Gallery – Town Centre Complex

In Attendance from EA Team:	Patrick McGarry	Manitoba Hydro
	David Magnusson	Manitoba Hydro
	Don MacDonell	North-South Consultants
	Victor Flett	KCN
	Jonathan Kitchekeesik Jr.	KCN
	Gordon Wastesicoot	KCN
	Wayne Marcinyshyn	KCN
	John Osler	InterGroup Consultants
	David Lane	InterGroup Consultants

In Attendance from Community: See sign-in-sheet

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The purpose of the community information session was to:

- Provide background information about the proposed Keeyask Generation Project;
- Begin dialogue about the Environmental Assessment process;
- Provide initial information about the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and its associated Public Involvement Program (PIP); and
- Identify issues and concerns the community has with the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP.

The meeting is one of a series of sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of Round 1 of the PIP. Two additional rounds of meetings are contemplated as information from the EIA becomes available.

MEETING PROCESS

The community information session was held at the Pioneer Gallery within the Town Centre Complex. Those who attended the information session were encouraged to sign-in, fill out comment forms and

speak to members of the EA team about any perspectives/issues they might have about the project. Members of the EA team were also on hand to guide community members through the information panels regarding the project if they desired and to answer any questions. Furthermore, if questions were raised that could not be addressed at the session they were recorded by an EA team member, forwarded to the appropriate person to respond to the information request, and followed up as required. In total, eight community members signed-in at the session; however, approximately 15 individuals attended the community information session that did not sign-in.

The following are highlights of the perspectives heard at the information session and are intended to capture the key points that were raised by community members.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Project impacts and perspectives

- Would like to see Manitoba Hydro use full-cost accounting for these projects in order to show all related costs (specifically environmental).
- Concerned about the effects that northern development projects will have on changing culture for First Nations people.
- Concerns were expressed for possible impacts on burial grounds.
- Concerned about if/how future hydro development will be influenced by climate change.
- An attendee was concerned about the effects on sturgeon populations at Keeyask Rapids.
- A community member was curious about what the plan is for waste management and disposal during construction of the project.
-

Impacts and issues from past hydro-electric development

- Concerns were expressed about the possible impact on Wapusk National Park from increased visitation to the Conawapa site if developed.
- A community member wanted to know what the emergency response plan is for the Kelsey generating station. He was concerned about a dam breach and impacts on Split Lake.

Other

- A comment was made by an attendee as to why Manitoba Hydro needs to develop new sites when they have not cleaned up the impacts associated with previous projects.
- A participant noted a skin condition affecting Split Lake residents that is considered to be an indication that Split Lake is not healthy.
- A YFFN member indicated that she and her approximate 100 YFFN members in Churchill were against development of the project because they have not been included in the negotiations for the project. She indicated that Churchill members of YFFN were being left out of the process and potential opportunities for training and employment.

- There is a group of YFFN members who are already voicing opposition to the project perhaps due to lack of communication amongst the wider YFFN membership.
- An attendee noted different types of insects are entering the local environment as a result of climate change that weren't there before. (Fish flies, were provided as an example)
- What is Manitoba Hydro doing regarding developing alternative energy sources such as wind? We need to make changes in our lives to reduce consumption and stop placing the cost (social/economic/cultural) on northerners to benefit southerners.
- Women's voices in Churchill are often ignored and not heard.
- There is a concern that there is no forum for off-reserve TCN members to discuss the project.
- A KCN community member noted that there needs to be another location similar to the future development office in this community that has information and documents about the project in Churchill.
- A Parks Canada employee was interested in what Manitoba Hydro knew about woodland caribou. Manitoba Hydro has already exchanged some information with Parks Canada on this recently.



Round 1 PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:

Meeting with Leaf Rapids Mayor and Council

Final Meeting Notes

Date of Meeting: June 18, 2008 – 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Location: Leaf Rapids, MB
Council Chambers

In Attendance:	Ed Charrier	Mayor
	Martin Van Osch	Chief Administrative Officer
	Alan Linklater	Councillor
	Gary Trewin	Councillor
	Patrick McGarry	Manitoba Hydro
	David Magnusson	Manitoba Hydro
	Victor Flett	KCN
	Jonathan Kitchekeesik Jr.	KCN
	Gordon Wastesicoot	KCN
	Wayne Marcinyshyn	KCN
	John Osler	InterGroup Consultants
	David Lane	InterGroup Consultants

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The meeting was requested by the Environmental Assessment Team for the proposed Keeyask Generation Project to:

- Provide background information about the proposed Keeyask Generation Project;
- Begin dialogue about the Environmental Assessment process;
- Provide initial information about the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and its associated Public Involvement Program (PIP); and
- Identify issues and concerns Mayor and Council has with the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP.

The meeting is one of a series of sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of Round 1 of the PIP. Two additional rounds of meetings are contemplated as information from the EIA becomes available.

MEETING PROCESS

Following introductions and a prayer, John Osler presented information on the project, the EA process and the purpose of Round 1 PIP. This included details on the size and location of the project, project components and construction activities, potential partnership with the in-vicinity communities, the EA PIP, environmental approvals, and project environmental studies. Each Council member in attendance was provided a copy of the presentation and the Round 1 PIP newsletter. Extra copies of the newsletter were left with the Administrator for general distribution. Throughout and following the discussion:

- Council members asked questions, offered perspectives, and identified issues about the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP; and
- Where appropriate, representatives of the Environmental Assessment Team and Manitoba Hydro offered perspectives.

The following are highlights of the meeting and are intended to capture the key points that were raised or presented. They are not presented in the sequence that they were raised at the meeting, nor are they a detailed or verbatim transcription of what was said.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Project impacts and perspectives

- Concerns focused on employment and training opportunities for people and communities that are not part of the in-vicinity communities.
- Manitoba Hydro should consider using Leaf Rapids as a centre for workers – no shortage of accommodations and Leaf Rapids is not far from the Wuskwatim and Keeyask sites.
- Since fuel costs are high it was recommended that employees receive travel subsidies or alternatively a shuttle would be useful.
- It was recommended that workers could house their families in Leaf Rapids and work on the project on a rotational basis (10 days on and 10 days off).
- There could be recruitment officers in the community to assist Manitoba Hydro in filling positions associated with the project.
- Working on projects that require one to be away from home can negatively affect workers and their families.

Public Involvement Program perspectives/issues

- Advertise in Leaf Rapids about employment opportunities.
- Council would like to see some form of communication with the high school students regarding training and employment opportunities.
- Members of Five First Nations reside in Leaf Rapids; it is important that jobs and training opportunities are communicated to these individuals who live in the community.

Impacts and issues from past hydro-electric development

- The community experiences water regime impacts from Missi Falls; Leaf Rapids is connected to Hydro developments through the CRD, but they do not benefit directly from the projects.

Other

- There is affordable housing available in Leaf Rapids and Mayor and Council are promoting it as a potential base camp for industrial development.
- The future for our children in Leaf Rapids will be challenging. We need to promote education/training and encourage community members to return to Leaf Rapids after they become educated so they can be of assistance to their community.
- Mayor Ed Charrier is also an MMF leader and holds the environment and energy portfolios.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TEAM

- The project is still at a planning and discussion stage.
- No decision has been made to go forward with the project.
- Keeyask would be the fourth largest of Manitoba Hydro's current generation stations:
 - 695 megawatts
 - Approximately 45 square kilometers of flooding
 - Approximately 7 to 8 years construction
- Manitoba Hydro is exploring the potential of a partnership with in-vicinity Keeyask Cree Nations (KCN) – Tataskweyak Cree Nation and War Lake First Nation (acting as the Cree Nation Partners), Fox Lake Cree Nation and York Factory First Nation.
- The above parties are negotiating a Joint Keeyask Development Agreement (JKDA) – an agreement that would govern how the project would be developed.
- An Environmental Assessment will be completed for the project to identify potential effects the project may have on the environment and people.
- The purpose of Round 1 public involvement is to introduce the project to the public, to learn about any issues or concerns that the public may have about the project, and to hear from the public how they wish to be consulted in further rounds of the PIP.
- Since 2001, Manitoba Hydro has been working with local Cree Nations to collect information that will contribute to the Environmental Impact Assessment.
- Bipole III is needed for reliability and security and will be built regardless of whether Keeyask goes ahead.

Action item: Would there be any change in how the Churchill Diversion would be operated if Keeyask is constructed?

Action item: Provide Leaf Rapids Mayor and Council with information on current training initiatives and hiring criteria for the proposed Keeyask Project.

**PROPOSED KEYASK GENERATING STATION PROJECT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM
ROUND 1**

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Round 1 PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:

Leaf Rapids Community Information Session

Final Meeting Notes

Date of Meeting: June 18, 2008 – 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Location: Leaf Rapids, MB
Town Centre Complex

In Attendance from EA Team:	Patrick McGarry	Manitoba Hydro
	David Magnusson	Manitoba Hydro
	Victor Flett	KCN
	Jonathan Kitchekeesik Jr.	KCN
	Gordon Wastesicoot	KCN
	Wayne Marcinyshyn	KCN
	John Osler	InterGroup Consultants
	David Lane	InterGroup Consultants

In Attendance from Community: See sign-in-sheet

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The purpose of the community information session was to:

- Provide background information about the proposed Keeyask Generation Project to community members;
- Provide information about the Environmental Assessment process;
- Provide initial information about the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and its associated Public Involvement Program (PIP); and
- Identify issues and concerns the community has with the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP.

The meeting is one of a series of sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of Round 1 of the PIP. Two additional rounds of meetings are contemplated as information from the EIA becomes available.

MEETING PROCESS

The community information session was held at the Town Centre Complex. Those who attended the information session were encouraged to sign-in, fill out comment forms and speak to members of the EA team about any perspectives/issues they might have about the project. Members of the EA team were

also on hand to guide community members through the information panels regarding the project if they desired and to answer any questions. Furthermore, if questions were raised that could not be addressed at the session, they were recorded by an EA team member, forwarded to the appropriate person to respond to the information request, and followed up as required. In total, four community members signed-in at the session; however, approximately 20 individuals attended the community information session that did not sign-in.

The following are highlights of the perspectives heard at the information session and are intended to capture the key points that were raised by community members.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Project impacts and perspectives

- What is the worker rotation? A community member suggested a 10 day in/out work rotation might allow for commuting to and from the Keeyask site for locals.

Public involvement program perspectives/issues

- Should have high school children involved in the next round of the PIP to discuss training and employment opportunities.

Other

- A concern was expressed as to why Manitoba Hydro is continuing to build facilities when these projects are not needed for domestic needs.
- Flooding of South Indian Lake has affected surrounding lake drainage and negatively impacted local resource users.



Round 1 PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:

Meeting with Gillam Mayor and Council

Final Meeting Notes

Date of Meeting: June 23, 2008 – 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Location: Gillam, MB
Council Chambers

In Attendance:	Albert McTavish Jim Goymer Curtis Belfour Debbie Finucane Jeff Allan Ryan Kustra David Magnusson Victor Flett Jonathan Kitchekeesik Jr. Gordon Wastesicoot Wayne Marcinyshyn John Osler	Mayor Deputy Mayor Councillor Councillor Councillor Manitoba Hydro Manitoba Hydro KCN KCN KCN KCN InterGroup Consultants
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PURPOSE OF MEETING

The meeting was requested by the Environmental Assessment Team for the proposed Keeyask Generation Project to:

- Provide background information about the proposed Keeyask Generation Project;
- Begin dialogue about the Environmental Assessment process;
- Provide initial information about the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and its associated Public Involvement Program (PIP); and
- Identify issues and concerns the community has with the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP.

The meeting is one of a series of sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of Round 1 of the PIP. Two additional rounds of meetings are contemplated as information from the EIA becomes available.

MEETING PROCESS

Following introductions and a prayer, John Osler presented information on the project, the EA process and the purpose of Round 1 of the PIP. This included details on the size and location of the project, potential partnership with the in-vicinity communities, the EA PIP, environmental approvals and project environmental studies. Each Council member in attendance was provided a copy of the presentation and the Round 1 PIP. Extra copies of the newsletter were left with the Administrator for general distribution. Throughout and following the discussion:

- Council members asked questions, offered perspectives, and identified issues about the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP; and
- Where appropriate, representatives of the Environmental Assessment Team and Manitoba Hydro offered perspectives.

The following are highlights of the meeting and are intended to capture the key points that were raised or presented. They are not presented in the sequence that they were raised at the meeting, nor are they a detailed or verbatim transcription of what was said.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Project impacts and perspectives

- Mayor and Council would like to see construction contractor opportunities be given to local firms.
- Mayor and Council view development in general as an opportunity to improve their community, and the community would like to experience project benefits (e.g., employment and training opportunities).
- There were concerns about safety as a result of increased traffic volumes, especially if a decision was made to proceed with Conawapa.
- Mayor and Council view the construction of the access roads very positively as this would reduce the travel time to Thompson by at least 45 minutes.

Public Involvement Program perspectives/issues

- Mayor and Council welcomed the opportunity to discuss the project and looks forward to future consultation on the project.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TEAM

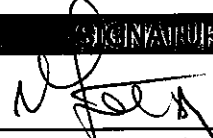
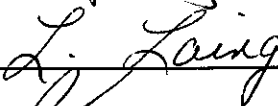
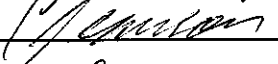
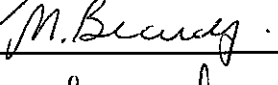
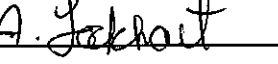



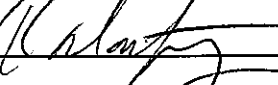
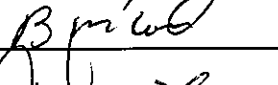
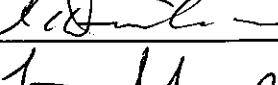
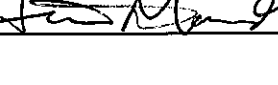
- The project is still at a planning and discussion stage.
- No decision has been made to go forward with the project.
- Keeyask would be the fourth largest of Manitoba Hydro's current generation stations:
 - 695 megawatts
 - Approximately 45 square kilometers of flooding

- Approximately 7 to 8 years construction
- Manitoba Hydro is exploring the potential of a partnership with in-vicinity Keeyask Cree Nations (KCN) – Tataskweyak Cree Nation and War Lake First Nation (acting as the Cree Nation Partners), Fox Lake Cree Nation and York Factory First Nation.
- An Environmental Assessment will be completed for the project to identify potential effects the project may have on the environment and people.
- The purpose of Round 1 public involvement is to introduce the project to the public, to learn about any issues or concerns that the public may have about the project, and to hear from the public how they wish to be consulted in further rounds of the PIP.
- Since 2001, Manitoba Hydro has been working with local Cree Nations to collect information that will contribute to the Environmental Impact Assessment.
- The Conawapa project is also being studied for possible development, but it is not part of the current process.
- Bipole III is needed for reliability and security and will be built regardless of whether Keeyask goes ahead.


GILLAM INFORMATION SESSION

**PROPOSED KEYYASK GENERATING STATION PROJECT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM
ROUND 1**

MONDAY JUNE 23, 2008 @ 12:00 p.m.

PRINT NAME	SIGNATURE	AFFILIATION
Vern Laing		Gen. North Finance
LOUISE LAING		Resident (Sub) at school
Claudette Jeanson		Resident (Nurse)
Mary Beardy		Foxlake Cree Nation
Arlana Lockhart		Fox Lake
SOPHIE LOCKHART		Fox Lake Cree Nation
DAN MARTIN		Resident
Ryan Paupasetts		Resident
KEVIN MONTGOMERY		Resident
Brian COSS		Resident
Andy Dmitruk		Red River College Instructor
Tim Maunder		RRC

GILLAM INFORMATION SESSION**PROPOSED KEYYASK GENERATING STATION PROJECT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM
ROUND 1****MONDAY JUNE 23, 2008 @ 12:00 p.m.**

PRINT NAME	SIGNATURE	AFFILIATION
CH Massan		FLCN



Round 1 PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:

Gillam Community Information Session

Final Meeting Notes

Date of Meeting: June 23, 2008 – 12:00pm to 4:00 pm

Location: Gillam, MB
Recreation Centre

In Attendance from EA Team:	Ryan Kustra David Magnusson Richard Remnant Victor Flett Jonathan Kitchekeesik Jr. Gordon Wastesicoot Wayne Marcinyshyn John Osler David Lane	Manitoba Hydro Manitoba Hydro North-South Consultants KCN KCN KCN KCN InterGroup Consultants InterGroup Consultants
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In Attendance from Community: See sign-in sheet

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The purpose of the community information session was to:

- Provide background information about the proposed Keeyask Generation Project;
- Begin dialogue about the Environmental Assessment process;
- Provide initial information about the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and its associated Public Involvement Program (PIP); and
- Identify issues and concerns the community has with the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP.

The meeting is one of a series of sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of Round 1 of the PIP. Two additional rounds of meetings are contemplated as information from the EIA becomes available.

MEETING PROCESS

The community information session was held at the Recreation Centre. Those who attended the information session were encouraged to sign-in, fill out comment forms and speak to members of the EA team about any perspectives/issues they might have about the project. Members of the EA team were

also on hand to guide community members through the information panels regarding the project if they desired and to answer any questions. Furthermore, if questions were raised that could not be addressed at the session, they were recorded by an EA team member, forwarded to the appropriate person to respond to the information request, and followed up as required. In total, twelve community members signed-in at the session; however, approximately 25 individuals attended the community information session that did not sign-in.

The following are highlights of the perspectives heard at the information session and are intended to capture the key points that were raised by community members.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Project impacts and perspectives

- An attendee was concerned about potential crowding of schools and hospitals as a result of an increased workforce in the area.
- A community member was concerned about the impact on roads and infrastructure from construction activities.
- Community members would like to see recreation opportunities on Stephen's Lake (e.g. camping areas, signage) – community currently has limited access to shoreline development opportunities.
- Construction kick-off ceremonies and other First Nations ceremonies are viewed as a good idea. A community member was aware of similar ceremonies for Wuskwatim and thought it would be a good idea for Keeyask.
- First Nations cross-cultural training has been very helpful in bridging understanding in the community, and community members would like to see this expanded and continued with these projects.
- What would the work rotation schedule be? 4 in/4 out? 8 in/8 out? Longer work periods would provide opportunities for people living further away from Gillam to reside in their communities during time off.
- Project access road would reduce travel time to Thompson from Gillam and is seen as project benefit. Currently the road between Gillam and Split Lake is very bad in sections.
- Concerns raised about continued operation and maintenance of PR 280 between Keeyask turnoff and Bird when the new road is constructed.
- There are social concerns around workers coming to Gillam during time off from work.
- Question asked about dam safety and what would happen in the event that there was a failure of any of the existing facilities or the Keeyask structure if constructed.

Public Involvement Program perspectives/issues

- Suggestion was made that a presentation could be made to the Split Lake Resource Management Board.



Round 1 PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:**Meeting with Members of LGD of Mystery Lake****Final Meeting Notes**

Date of Meeting: June 24, 2008 – 10:45 am to 11:15 am

Location: Thompson, MB
LGD Office

Attendees:	Jack Burden	Administrator
	Corinne Stewart	Administrator
	Ryan Kustra	Manitoba Hydro
	Gordon Wastesicoot	KCN
	John Osler	InterGroup Consultants

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The meeting was requested by the Environmental Assessment Team for the proposed Keeyask Generation Project to:

- Provide background information about the proposed Keeyask Generation Project;
- Begin dialogue about the Environmental Assessment process;
- Provide initial information about the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and its associated Public Involvement Program (PIP); and
- Identify issues and concerns the LGD has with the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP.

The meeting is one of a series of sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of Round 1 of the PIP. Two additional rounds of meetings are contemplated as information from the EIA becomes available.

MEETING PROCESS

Following introductions, John Osler presented information on the project, the EA process and the purpose of Round 1 PIP. This included details on the size and location of the project, project components and construction activities, potential partnership with the in-vicinity communities, the EA PIP, environmental approvals, and project environmental studies. Each member in attendance was provided a copy of the presentation and the Round 1 PIP newsletter. Extra copies of the newsletter were left for general distribution. Throughout and following the discussion:

- Attendees asked questions, offered perspectives, and identified issues about the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP; and

- Where appropriate, representatives of the Environmental Assessment Team and Manitoba Hydro offered perspectives.

The following are highlights of the meeting and are intended to capture the key points that were raised or presented. They are not presented in the sequence that they were raised at the meeting, nor are they a detailed or verbatim transcription of what was said.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Project impacts and perspectives

- Airport capacity appears to be sufficient to meet travel requirements for Keeyask project but usage is increasing.
- The landfill site currently receives waste from Wuskwatim GS construction site as well as from the Town of Churchill. There is currently a little less than two years of capacity remaining at the existing site. It would be helpful for the LGD to know what the refuse requirements will be for Keeyask when the information becomes available.

Other

- There are five residents in the LGD.
- The LGD is responsible for operation of both the airport and landfill site.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TEAM

- The project is still at a planning and discussion stage.
- No decision has been made to go forward with the project.
- Keeyask would be the fourth largest of Manitoba Hydro's current generation stations:
 - 695 megawatts
 - Approximately 45 square kilometers of flooding
 - Approximately 7 to 8 years construction
- Manitoba Hydro is exploring the potential of a partnership with in-vicinity Keeyask Cree Nations (KCN) – Tataskweyak Cree Nation and War Lake First Nation (acting as the Cree Nation Partners), Fox Lake Cree Nation and York Factory First Nation. There will be a referendum in the fall on the JKDA.
- An Environmental Assessment will be completed for the project to identify potential effects the project may have on the environment and people.
- The purpose of Round 1 public involvement is to introduce the project to the public, to learn about any issues or concerns that the public may have about the project, and to hear from the public how they wish to be consulted in further rounds of the PIP.
- Since 2001, Manitoba Hydro has been working with local Cree Nations to collect information that will contribute to the Environmental Impact Assessment.



Round 1 PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:
Meeting with Thicket Portage Mayor and Council
Final Meeting Notes

Date of Meeting: July 2, 2008 1pm

Location: Thicket Portage, MB
Council Office

In Attendance:	Ricky Pronteau Marcel Brightnose Fiona Scurrah Victor Flett Jonathan Kitchekeesik Wayne Marcinyshyn John Osler Kristin Kent	Deputy Mayor Councillor Manitoba Hydro KCN KCN KCN InterGroup Consultants InterGroup Consultants
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Regrets: Arnold Bignell Mayor

PURPOSE

The meeting was requested by the Environmental Assessment Team for the proposed Keeyask Generation Project to:

- Provide background information about the proposed Keeyask Generation Project;
- Begin dialogue about the Environmental Assessment process;
- Provide initial information about the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and its associated Public Involvement Program (PIP); and
- Identify issues and concerns Mayor and Council has with the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP.

The meeting is one of a series of sessions to be held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of Round 1 of the PIP. Two additional rounds of meetings are contemplated as information from the EIA becomes available.

MEETING PROCESS

The meeting with Mayor and Council was scheduled in Thicket Portage prior to a community meeting in order to inform the community's leadership of the proposed Keeyask Generation Project and associated rounds of public involvement. Fiona Scurrah of Manitoba Hydro welcomed the group and an opening prayer was offered by Victor Flett. Ms. Scurrah provided a high-level description of the project. John Osler explained this was the first opportunity to share information about the project, the anticipated environmental approvals process, and subsequent rounds of public involvement.

Throughout and following the discussion:

- Council members asked questions, offered perspectives, and identified issues about the proposed project, the Environmental Impact Assessment and the Public Involvement Program; and
- Where appropriate, representatives of the Environmental Assessment Team and Manitoba Hydro offered perspectives.

The following are highlights of the meeting and are intended to capture the key points that were raised or presented. They are not presented in the sequence that they were raised at the meeting, nor are they a detailed or verbatim transcription of what was said.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY COUNCIL

Project impacts and perspectives

- The community perspective on impacts is not short term (i.e. in the next five years) – it is long term. Since it is a fishing community (there are 22 registered commercial fishers), impacts such as mercury are relevant.
- Questions and comments were raised about opportunities for training and employment.
 - The timing for training opportunities with Wuskwatim was often too narrow – the community was not given enough advance notice to take advantage of the opportunities.
 - In some instances, the training programs that people did participate in were not seen as adequate (or long enough) and community members ended up quitting after feeling uncomfortable on the job.
 - There is a need for training opportunities closer to home.
 - Although employment opportunities were seen as a benefit, they were also a point of concern for some. When people take training, they typically leave the community and don't come back – Thicket Portage could lose community members.

Environmental Assessment perspectives/issues

- A question was asked in regard to the environmental study team. Who were they (was it entirely Manitoba Hydro employees) and what has taken place thus far?

Public Involvement Program perspectives/issues

- The issue for a small community such as Thicket Portage is that they are largely an off-reserve First Nation community, with membership mostly with Cross Lake/PCN. Typically, they are consulted through their Chief and Council, and off-reserve members do not get the same opportunity for input.

Impacts and issues from past-hydro-electric development

- Council indicated that the Environmental Assessment Team could expect questions during the community meeting regarding the need for new generation when past project impacts have not been addressed. This includes items such as debris clean-up and other promises that were never followed through with according to Mayor and Council.
- Changes to the fish population were noted. Some people have been noticing fluctuations with pickerel. Pickerel in the area appear to be in good health – there doesn't seem to be an issue with mercury. Whitefish, on the other hand, have changed – there is a decline in the total numbers and the taste is different.
- A past transmission line was cut through Registered Trapline # 19 and the trapper was never adequately compensated.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES PROVIDED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TEAM

- The project is still at a planning and discussion stage.
- No decision has been made to go forward with the project.
- Manitoba Hydro is exploring the potential of a partnership with in-vicinity Keeyask Cree Nations (KCN) – Tataskweyak Cree Nation and War Lake First Nation (acting as the Cree Nation Partners), Fox Lake Cree Nation and York Factory First Nation.
- The above parties are negotiating a Joint Keeyask Development Agreement (JKDA) – an agreement that would govern how the project would be developed.
- An Environmental Assessment will be completed for the project to identify potential effects the project may have on the environment and people.
- Since 2001, Manitoba Hydro has been working with local Cree Nations to collect information that will contribute to the Environmental Impact Assessment.
 - These studies have involved various consulting firms hired by Manitoba Hydro including TetRES, North-South Consultants, Ecostem, and InterGroup Consultants.
- The Environmental Assessment process will not be defined by Manitoba Hydro and its consultants, but rather by the province or the federal government (or both).

- Above and beyond the baseline studies, working groups on areas of particular interest, such as mercury, have been established.
- The Environmental Study Team has also been working with the potential partner First Nations on determining appropriate ways to consider traditional knowledge and how to incorporate it into the environmental assessment.
- In terms of employment, concerns expressed by the communities have been heard in other locations, and ways to improve access to training and employment will be something considered by Manitoba Hydro.

THICKET PORTAGE OPEN HOUSE

**PROPOSED KEYYASK GENERATING STATION PROJECT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM
ROUND 1**

WEDNESDAY JULY 2, 2008 @ 2:00 p.m.

PRINT NAME	SIGNATURE	AFFILIATION
JOANNE PRONTEAU	Joanne Pronteau	Administrator Council
Robert Parenteau	Robert Parenteau	Elder
JASON M COOK	Jason M Cook	Community Member
Virginia Crait	Thicket Portage	TH
John Crait	Thicket Portage	Trapper & Fisherman
Milt Portage	TH	Trapper Fisherman
Marie Beggan	Thicket Portage	Community Member
Robert D.	" — "	Student
LENA Johnson	Lena Johnson	New Beginnings.
NANCY MADONICK	Nancy Madonick	Homecare Worker
Ricky Pronteau	Ricky Pronteau	Councillor - T.P.C.C
Steve Pronteau	Steve Pronteau	Fisherman Trapper
Duide Mercredi	Duide Mercredi	Community Constable
Kenneth Crait	Kenneth Crait	Community member
Amanda. Bittern	Amanda. Bittern	Community member

THICKET PORTAGE OPEN HOUSE

**PROPOSED KEYYASK GENERATING STATION PROJECT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM
ROUND 1**

WEDNESDAY JULY 2, 2008 @ 2:00 p.m.

PRINT NAME	SIGNATURE	AFFILIATION
Louis PRONTEAU	Louis PRONTEAU	
Rose Dion	Rose Dion	
Dolly Bithern	Dolly Bithern	New Beginnings
Joseph Bithern	Joseph Bithern	fisherman
William Brightness	William Brightness	
Mike Bithern	Mike Bithern	



Round 1 PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:

Thicket Portage Community Information Session

Final Meeting Notes

Date of Meeting: July 2, 2008. 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Location: Thicket Portage Administration Building

In Attendance from EA Team:	Fiona Scurrah	Manitoba Hydro
	Victor Flett	KCN
	Gordon Wastesicoot	KCN
	Wayne Marcinyshyn	KCN
	Johnathan Kitchekeesik Jr.	KCN
	John Osler	InterGroup Consultants
	Kristin Kent	InterGroup Consultants

In Attendance from Community: See sign-in-sheet

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The purpose of the community information session was to:

- Provide background information about the proposed Keeyask Generation Project;
- Provide information about the Environmental Assessment process;
- Provide initial information about the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and its associated Public Involvement Program (PIP); and
- Identify issues and concerns the community has with the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP.

The meeting is one of a series of sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of Round 1 of the PIP. Two additional rounds of meetings are contemplated as information from the EIS becomes available.

MEETING PROCESS

The information session was held at the community administration building. Those who attended the information session were encouraged to sign-in, fill out comment forms and speak to members of the EA team about any perspectives they might have about the project. Members of the EA team were also on hand to guide community members through the information panels regarding the project if they desired and to answer any questions. Furthermore, if questions were raised that could not be addressed at the

session, they were recorded by an EA team member, forwarded to the appropriate person to respond to the information request, and followed up as required. In total, 21 people attended the community meeting and two comment forms were filled out.

The following are highlights of the perspectives heard at the information session and are intended to capture the key points that were raised by attendees.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Project impacts and perspectives

- Concerns were expressed about the training and employment opportunities. From their experience with Wuskwatim thus far, the community is not given adequate notice of training opportunities. This made it difficult for people to start training and access funding for training. It was suggested that it takes two to three months to access funding for students. The process that was in place for Wuskwatim needs to be simplified.

Public involvement program perspectives/issues

- There was a desire for more engagement with the community in terms of identifying potential effects. There was particular interest for further involvement should any systems effects be identified.
- Information provided was straightforward and the study team was cooperative.

Other

- An outstanding compensation issue with a previous project and impacts on Registered Trapline # 19 was identified. The trapper in question is no longer the holder of the trapline.



Round 1 PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:

Meeting with Pikwitonei Mayor and Council

Final Meeting Notes

Date of Meeting: July 8, 2008 – 11:00 am to 12:00 pm

Location: Pikwitonei, MB
Recreation Centre

In Attendance:	Martha Chartrand Angeline Flett Wayne Laubman Fiona Scurrah Gordon Wastesicoot Brett McGurk David Lane	Mayor Councillor Councillor Manitoba Hydro KCN InterGroup Consultants InterGroup Consultants
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PURPOSE OF MEETING

The meeting was requested by the Environmental Assessment Team for the proposed Keeyask Generation Project to:

- Provide background information about the proposed Keeyask Generation Project;
- Begin dialogue about the Environmental Assessment process;
- Provide initial information about the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and its associated Public Involvement Program (PIP); and
- Identify issues and concerns that Mayor and Council have with the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP.

The meeting is one of a series of sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of Round 1 of the PIP. Two additional rounds of meetings are contemplated as information from the EIA becomes available.

MEETING PROCESS

Fiona Scurrah of the Environmental Assessment Team presented an overview of the project, the EA process and the purpose of Round 1 PIP. This was followed by a walk-through of the information panels in order to provide additional details on the size and location of the project, potential for a partnership with the in-vicinity communities, project components and construction activities, the EA PIP, environmental approvals, and project environmental studies. Each Council member in attendance was

provided a copy of the presentation and the Round 1 PIP newsletter. Extra copies of the newsletter were left for distribution in the community. Throughout and following the discussion:

- Council members asked questions, offered perspectives, and identified issues about the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP; and
- Where appropriate, representatives of the Environmental Assessment Team and Manitoba Hydro offered perspectives.

The following are highlights of the meeting and are intended to capture the key points that were raised or presented. They are not presented in the sequence that they were raised at the meeting, nor are they a detailed or verbatim transcription of what was said.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Project impacts and perspectives/issues

- Concern was expressed for impacts on burial sites - often burial sites are in unknown locations and need to be relocated if impacted by a project.
- Fish passage through the generating station was a concern expressed by Mayor and Council.
- The impact of the project on Lake Sturgeon was also noted as a concern. Mayor and Council also recommended that more hatcheries/farming of fish and Lake Sturgeon in particular should occur.
- There is a feeling that because they are a small community sometimes they are forgotten when it comes to training and employment opportunities associated with hydro projects.
- There was some curiosity regarding the relative size of Keeyask and the priority for its development relative to Conawapa.
- Mayor and Council were concerned about the extent of flooding that would be caused by the project.
- A comment regarding the temporal scope of the assessment was made, noting that the benefits are short-term relative to the potential environmental and social impacts.

Public Involvement Program perspectives/issues

- Council members will talk to their community about the project in order to improve awareness and raise interest in the project. They are looking forward to Round two of the PIP.

Other


- There were numerous questions regarding Bipole III as a result of consultations that took place a few months prior.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TEAM

- The project is still at a planning and discussion stage.
- No decision has been made to go forward with the project.
- Keeyask would be the fourth largest of Manitoba Hydro's current generation stations:
 - 695 megawatts
 - Approximately 45 square kilometers of flooding
 - Approximately 7 to 8 years construction
- Manitoba Hydro is exploring the potential of a partnership with in-vicinity Keeyask Cree Nations (KCN) – Tataskweyak Cree Nation and War Lake First Nation (acting as the Cree Nation Partners), Fox Lake Cree Nation and York Factory First Nation.
- The above parties are negotiating a Joint Keeyask Development Agreement (JKDA) – an agreement that would govern how the project would be developed.
- An Environmental Assessment will be completed for the project to identify potential effects the project may have on the environment and people.
- There are a variety of training programs available through MB Hydro and provincial and federal governments.
- The purpose of Round 1 public involvement is to introduce the project to the public, to learn about any issues or concerns that the public may have about the project, and to hear from the public how they wish to be consulted in further rounds of the PIP.
- Since 2001, Manitoba Hydro has been working with local Cree Nations to collect information that will contribute to the Environmental Impact Assessment.
- Bipole III is needed for reliability and security and will be built regardless of whether Keeyask goes ahead.
- One KCN representative commented that many KCN members live off-reserve and the PIP is a good opportunity to communicate with these members.
- The Conawapa project is also being studied for possible development, but it is not part of the current process.

TOWN OF PIKWITONEI INFORMATION SESSION
PROPOSED KEYYASK GENERATING STATION PROJECT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM
ROUND 1

TUESDAY JULY 8, 2008 @ 1:00 p.m.

F.M. Mutanen	Anna M Mutanen	
Robson Saunders		
WARREN PAGEE		
TOMMY KALCOW	John Kalcow	
Marka Chastand	Marka Chastand	Mayor
L. J. H.	CECIL THORNE	
Norman Brighton		
Chris. Laubmann	Chris Laubmann	
JACK FLETT	Jack Flett	
ANGELINE C. FLETT	Angeline C. Flett	COUNCILLOR
Wayne Laubman	Wayne Laubman	
Rocky LAUBMAN	Rocky Laubman	



Round 1 PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:

Pikwitonei Community Information Session

Final Meeting Notes

Date of Meeting: July 8, 2008 – 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Location: Pikwitonei, MB
Recreation Centre

In Attendance from EA Team:	Fiona Scurrah Gordon Wastesicoot Brett McGurk David Lane	Manitoba Hydro KCN InterGroup Consultants InterGroup Consultants
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In Attendance from Community: See sign-in-sheet

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The purpose of the information session was to:

- Provide background information about the proposed Keeyask Generation Project;
- Begin dialogue about the Environmental Assessment process;
- Provide initial information about the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and its associated Public Involvement Program (PIP); and
- Identify issues and concerns the community has with the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP.

The meeting is one of a series of sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of Round 1 of the PIP. Two additional rounds of meetings are contemplated as information from the EIA becomes available.

MEETING PROCESS

The community information session was held at the Recreation Centre. Those who attended the information session were encouraged to sign-in, fill out comment forms and speak to members of the EA team about any perspectives/issues they might have about the project. Members of the EA team were also on hand to guide community members through the information panels regarding the project if they desired and to answer any questions. Furthermore, if questions were raised that could not be addressed at the session, they were recorded by an EA team member, forwarded to the appropriate person to

respond to the information request, and followed up as required. In total, twelve community members signed-in at the session and one comment form was filled out.

The following are highlights of the perspectives heard at the information session and are intended to capture the key points that were raised by community members.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Project impacts and perspectives

- A question was raised as to whether the coffer dams cause flooding.
- It was recommended that cell phones and internet should be available to those people working at the camps.
- Some community members are of the opinion that Pikwitonei is often overlooked for employment opportunities because they are a small community. There is a need for more community-based coordination of a community needs assessment to determine the employment capacity of the community.
- Manitoba Hydro should ensure that there is access to jobs for people with disabilities.
- Community members are concerned that decisions that affect their community are made by people outside Pikwitonei.
- Concerns about impacts on trappers who have traplines near the site were expressed
- Some community members questioned why KCN communities had an opportunity to become potential project partners with Manitoba Hydro while other communities were not provided that same opportunity.
- Concerns were expressed about upstream water regime effects on the Nelson River caused by the project.
- The inability to access the Split Lake training centre for many off-reserve TCN members who reside in Pikwitonei is a concern.
- Community members would like greater access and knowledge about training programs in order to gain access to jobs at Keeyask.

Other

- A worker rotation of 35 days on and 10 days off at Wuskwatim is too long and negatively affects families.
- There were many comments about new species' that have never been seen before (e.g. snakes, raccoons, deer, different bird species, a polar bear, porcupine).
- There were comments regarding changing water regimes and lower water levels than historically observed. These were attributed to climate and weather as opposed to past Hydro projects.



Round 1 PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:

Meeting with Wabowden Mayor and Council

Final Meeting Notes

Date of Meeting: July 9, 2008 – 11:00 am to 12:00 pm

Location: Wabowden, MB
Town Office

In Attendance:	Myrna Dram	Councillor
	Norman Campbell	Councillor
	Fiona Scurrah	Manitoba Hydro
	Gordon Wastesicoot	KCN
	Brett McGurk	InterGroup Consultants
	David Lane	InterGroup Consultants

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The meeting was requested by the Environmental Assessment Team for the proposed Keeyask Generation Project to:

- Provide background information about the proposed Keeyask Generation Project;
- Begin dialogue about the Environmental Assessment process;
- Provide initial information about the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and its associated Public Involvement Program (PIP); and
- Identify issues and concerns Mayor and Council has with the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP.

The meeting is one of a series of sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of Round 1 of the PIP. Two additional rounds of meetings are contemplated as information from the EIA becomes available.

MEETING PROCESS

Fiona Scurrah presented an overview of the project, the EA process and the purpose of Round 1 of the PIP. This included details on the size and location of the project, potential for a partnership with the vicinity communities, the EA PIP, environmental approvals process, and project environmental studies. Each Council member in attendance was provided a copy of the presentation and the Round 1 newsletter. Extra copies of the newsletter were left with the Administrator for general distribution.

Throughout and following the discussion:

- Council members asked questions, offered perspectives, and identified issues about the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP; and
- Where appropriate, representatives of the Environmental Assessment Team and Manitoba Hydro offered perspectives.

The following are highlights of the meeting and are intended to capture the key points that were raised or presented. They are not presented in the sequence that they were raised at the meeting, nor are they a detailed or verbatim transcription of what was said.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Project impacts and perspectives

- Mayor and Council are not TOO interested in the project because they do not expect to experience biophysical effects and there are already many employment opportunities related to the mine that recently opened in the community.
- They are concerned about the need for the project and where the extra power would be going.
- Councillors are interested in how the in-vicinity communities feel about the project and the process for voting on the JKDA.
- One of the councillors is concerned that the project will proceed even if there is scientific evidence that there will be significant adverse effects.

Public Involvement Program perspectives/issues

- Evening meetings would allow for more turnout than afternoons because most people work during the day.
- They noted that heritage resource presentations that were undertaken in South Indian Lake for the Wuskwatim project were helpful. They would like to see something similar for the Keeyask project.

Other

- There are numerous job vacancies in town since the new mine opened.
- They noted that Fox Lake members need to settle their land claim agreement before Conawapa will proceed.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TEAM

- The project is still at a planning and discussion stage.
- No decision has been made to go forward with the project.
- Keeyask would be the fourth largest of Manitoba Hydro's current generation stations:
 - 695 megawatts
 - Approximately 45 square kilometers of flooding
 - Approximately 7 to 8 years construction
- Manitoba Hydro is exploring the potential of a partnership with in-vicinity Keeyask Cree Nations (KCN) – Tataskweyak Cree Nation and War Lake First Nation (acting as the Cree Nation Partners), Fox Lake Cree Nation and York Factory First Nation.
- Keeyask would proceed at this time only with a positive vote on the JKDA by the KCN represented by a majority of the population.
- An Environmental Assessment will be completed for the project to identify potential effects the project may have on the environment and people.
- The purpose of Round 1 public involvement is to introduce the project to the public, to learn about any issues or concerns that the public may have about the project, and to hear from the public how they wish to be consulted in further rounds of the PIP.
- Since 2001, Manitoba Hydro has been working with local Cree Nations to collect information that will contribute to the Environmental Impact Assessment.
- While there will be elevated mercury levels for a period of time after construction in Stephens Lake and Gull Lake, it was noted by the KCN representative that most TCN residents fish on Split Lake because it is closer to their community.
- Changes in the community of York Landing are viewed differently by community members. Younger people are more positive about development, while elders tend to be more skeptical about the need for projects like Keeyask.

TOWN OF WABOWDEN INFORMATION SESSION
PROPOSED KEYYASK GENERATING STATION PROJECT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM
ROUND 1

WEDNESDAY JULY 9, 2008 @ 1:00 p.m.

Participant Name	Address	Phone Number
M Sanoffsky		
Ken Giersch		
Heaven T. Iles		
Tim Langerin		
Shane Chartrand		
Nathan Sanoffsky		
Myrna Deem		
Joe Tozer		
Gene A		
Chris		
LeSanoffsky		



Round 1 PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:

Wabowden Community Information Session

Final Meeting Notes

Date of Meeting: July 9, 2008 – 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Location: Wabowden, MB
Ke Na Now Centre

In Attendance from the EA Team:	Fiona Scurrah Gordon Wastesicoot Brett McGurk David Lane	Manitoba Hydro KCN InterGroup Consultants InterGroup Consultants
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In Attendance from the Community: See Sign in sheet

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The purpose of the community information session was to:

- Provide background information about the proposed Keeyask Generation Project to community members;
- Provide information about the Environmental Assessment process;
- Provide initial information about the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and its associated Public Involvement Program (PIP); and
- Identify issues and concerns the community has with the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP.

The meeting is one of a series of sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of Round 1 of the PIP. Two additional rounds of meetings are contemplated as information from the EIA becomes available.

MEETING PROCESS

The community information session was held at the Ke Na Now Centre. Those who attended the information session were encouraged to sign-in, fill out comment forms and speak to members of the EA team about any perspectives/issues they might have about the project. Members of the EA team were also on hand to guide community members through the information panels regarding the project if they desired and to answer any questions. Furthermore, if questions were raised that could not be addressed at the session, they were recorded by an EA team member, forwarded to the appropriate person to

respond to the information request, and followed up as required. In total, eleven community members signed-in at the session and one comment form was filled out.

The following are highlights of the perspectives heard at the information session and are intended to capture the key points that were raised by community members.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Project impacts and perspectives

- A person who helps with search-and-rescue in the area suggested that Civil Air Search and Rescue Association (CASARA) would benefit from knowing where new roads are being built.
- There is a concern that there may be a shortage of workers if Keeyask and Conawapa construction overlap.
- An attendee was concerned about the potential increase in mercury levels in fish as a result of project flooding.
- Although the community is a far distance from the project, community members are still concerned about potential local environmental effects.

Public involvement program perspectives

- A suggestion was made to advertise PIP events on the local radio station and at local stores.
- A suggestion was made to have more information on job opportunities associated with the project for Round 2.

Other

- The migration patterns of caribou herds around the project site have been changing lately. Specifically, the herd that travels from the north-east, through the Shamattawa area, and close to Gillam.
- A person who hunts in the area observed noise from helicopters affecting (i.e. scaring) the caribou herds.
- Deer seem to be migrating north, possibly due to climate change, which is possibly affecting the caribou migration patterns.
- As a tax payer, one attendee was of the opinion that all Manitobans should have an opportunity to become potential partners in the project, not just KCN communities.



Round 1 PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:

Meeting with Norway House Mayor and Council

Final Meeting Notes

Date of Meeting: July 15, 2008 – 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Location: Norway House, MB
Community Administration Building

In Attendance:	Cristo Spiess Lloyd Neilson Carl York Getrude Meikle Lloyd Flett Fiona Scurrah Gordon Wastesicoot John Osler Kristin Kent	Mayor Councillor Councillor Councillor Chief Administrative Officer Manitoba Hydro KCN InterGroup Consultants InterGroup Consultants
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PURPOSE OF MEETING

The meeting was requested by the Environmental Assessment Team for the proposed Keeyask Generation Project to:

- Provide background information about the proposed Keeyask Generation Project;
- Begin dialogue about the Environmental Assessment process;
- Provide initial information about the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and its associated Public Involvement Program (PIP); and
- Identify issues and concerns Mayor and Council has with the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP.

The meeting is one of a series of sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of Round 1 of the PIP. Two additional rounds of meetings are contemplated as information from the EIA becomes available.

MEETING PROCESS

Mayor Spiess welcomed Manitoba Hydro and its representatives and introduced the community council members in attendance.

Fiona Scurrah thanked the Mayor and Council for the opportunity to introduce the Keeyask Generating Project to the group. She explained that this was the first of three rounds of consultation with the communities that may be affected by the project, and this was an opportunity for the Mayor and Council to express any comments or concerns.

John Osler made a presentation to the group providing information on the project, the EA and the associated PIP process. Throughout and following the presentation:

- Mayor and Council asked questions, offered perspectives, and identified issues about the proposed project, the EA and the PIP; and
- Where appropriate, representatives of the Environmental Assessment Team and Manitoba Hydro offered perspectives.

The following are highlights of the meeting and are intended to capture the key points that were raised or presented. They are not presented in the sequence that they were raised at the meeting, nor are they a detailed or verbatim transcription of what was said.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Project impacts and perspectives

- Questions were asked as to how the project will affect the volume of water going through the Jenpeg facility. Will there be any changes to water levels on Lake Winnipeg?
- The KCN representative was asked what his First Nation stands to benefit from the project.
- What employment opportunities are likely to be available? The mayor shared that his nephew has enrolled in one of Manitoba Hydro's training programs and was doing really well. Despite offers for work in Alberta, he's likely to stay on with Hydro.

Environmental assessment perspectives/issues

- The council asked whether Norway House would be included in any impact studies since they are located within the hydrological system that will be affected.

Public involvement perspectives/issues

- The council asked how the community meeting was that afternoon.
- They also asked whether consultation with the Norway House Cree Nation has taken place.
- The council asked whether the KCN representatives were satisfied with the consultation activities to date.

Other

- Questions were asked to describe the project in comparison to other existing hydro facilities. A question was also asked as to why the project was being located where it is proposed.
- Questions were asked about the status of Bipole III and its routing.
- A comment was made about how the Community Council has been negotiating with Manitoba Hydro for years, for reasons similar to the Norway House Cree Nation. It is sometimes difficult to support these projects because while they are good for the province, the population in the south will never really understand the impacts and resulting issues faced by northern communities. The negotiations with Manitoba Hydro are taking far too long and the generations who have put in the work will never reap the benefits.
- A question was asked about the resource management areas (RMAs) included on the map. What are they and how do they relate to trapline districts?

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TEAM

- The Keeyask Project is located in the Split Lake RMA and is approximately 30 km west of Gillam. The RMAs are joint management areas used with the Province.
- The project is still at a planning and discussion stage.
- No decision has been made to go forward with the project.
- The Conawapa project is also being studied for possible development, but it is not part of the current process.
- Bipole III would be required for system reliability reasons regardless of whether additional generation projects are developed. At present, Bipole III is planned to go down the west side of the province. It is currently undergoing its own public involvement process.
- Keeyask would be the fourth largest of Manitoba Hydro's current generation stations:
 - 695 megawatts
 - Jenpeg, in comparison has a capacity of 132 megawatts. It was constructed primarily as a control structure to regulate water levels on Lake Winnipeg, and as a bi-product also generates electricity.
 - Approximately 45 square kilometers of flooding
 - Approximately 7 to 8 years construction
- Manitoba Hydro is exploring the potential of a partnership with in-vicinity Keeyask Cree Nations (KCN) – Tataskweyak Cree Nation and War Lake First Nation (acting as the Cree Nation Partners), Fox Lake Cree Nation and York Factory First Nation.
- The above parties are negotiating a Joint Keeyask Development Agreement (JKDA) - an agreement that would govern how the project would be developed. This agreement will require ratification on the part of communities before Manitoba Hydro considers proceeding.
- Gordon Wastescoot explained that his First Nation is approaching this like a business deal with Manitoba Hydro, but that the details of the JKDA have not been finalized.
- The JKDA will have provisions for employment. The employment priority will go first to KCN members, then to other First Nation members, and then to other northerners. Manitoba Hydro has an Aboriginal pre-project training program that was in place for Wuskwatim and will continue for Keeyask and Conawapa.

- An Environmental Impact Assessment will be completed for the project to identify potential effects the project may have on the environment and people and to determine ways to enhance potential positive effects.
- Since 2001, Manitoba Hydro has been working with local Cree Nations to collect information that will contribute to the Environmental Impact Assessment. So far, studies of the existing environment have considered: physical environment, terrestrial and aquatic environments, heritage resources, resource use and the socio-economic environments. Manitoba Hydro and KCN are looking for ways to integrate western science with Aboriginal traditional knowledge for the Environmental Impact Statement.
- Gordon indicated that from his perspective that there is no way they will get the water system back to the way it was before existing hydro projects were built. As such, his First Nation is looking to the future, to their kids and grandkids. They are talking with their membership about the project and will continue to inform them of the results of the impact assessment, so that they can make an informed decision as to whether they want to move ahead with the partnership with Manitoba Hydro.
- The purpose of Round 1 public involvement is to introduce the project to the public, to learn about any issues or concerns that the public may have about the project, and to hear from the public how they wish to be consulted in further rounds of the PIP.
- Norway House Cree Nation was asked whether it was interested in having Manitoba Hydro come to the community and share information on the project with its leadership and membership, similar to the invitation extended to Norway House Community Council. The Chief declined the opportunity at this time. They will be asked whether they want to participate in each subsequent round of consultation, but ultimately their engagement is their decision.

TOWN OF NORWAY HOUSE INFORMATION SESSION
PROPOSED KEYASK GENERATING STATION PROJECT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM
ROUND 1

TUESDAY JULY 15, 2008 @ 1:00 p.m.

PRINT NAME	SIGNATURE	APPROVAL CODE
CATHY EGREN ERICKSON	C. Erickson	CATHERINE E. ENT.
Heanne Cox	H. Cox	ANA
Randy Segurson	R. Segurson	ANA.
Lori Flett	L. Flett	N. H. C. C
Susan Clarke	S. Clarke	NE # N. H. C. C
Kory Bayer	K. Bayer	N. H. C. C



Round 1 PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:

Norway House Community Information Session

Final Meeting Notes

Date of Meeting: July 15, 2008. 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Location: Fort Island Arena
Norway House

In Attendance from EA Team:	Fiona Scurrah Gordon Wastesicoot John Osler Kristin Kent	Manitoba Hydro KCN InterGroup Consultants InterGroup Consultants
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In Attendance from Community: See sign-in sheet

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The purpose of the information session was to:

- Provide background information about the proposed Keeyask Generation Project;
- Provide information about the Environmental Assessment process;
- Provide initial information about the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and its associated Public Involvement Program (PIP); and
- Identify issues and concerns the community has with the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP.

The meeting is one of a series of sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of Round 1 of the PIP. Two additional rounds of meetings are contemplated as information from the EIA becomes available.

MEETING PROCESS

The community information session was held at the Fort Island Arena. Those who attended the information session were encouraged to sign-in, fill out comment forms and speak to members of the EA team about any perspectives/issues they might have about the project. Members of the EA team were also on hand to guide community members through the information panels regarding the project if they desired and to answer any questions. Furthermore, if questions were raised that could not be addressed at the session, they were recorded by an EA team member, forwarded to the appropriate person to

respond to the information request, and followed up as required. In total, 6 people attended the community meeting.

The following are highlights of the perspectives heard at the information session and are intended to capture the key points that were raised by attendees.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Project impacts and perspectives

- Concerns were expressed about access to employment opportunities. Retention of jobs was also a concern. One perspective from the Wuskwatim experience was that people were "weeded out" (i.e., they would get hired, were not provided adequate training for their position, and then would get fired or quit).
- Questions about the worker rotation schedule were raised in regard to strategies for the retention of the northern workforce.
- Questions were raised about the need for more dams in Northern Manitoba.
- Interest was expressed in the business opportunities associated with the project (camp accommodations, housing, etc.).



**Round 1 PIP - Proposed Keeyask
Generation Project:****Meeting with Nelson House Community
Council****Final Meeting Notes**

Date of Meeting: July 16, 2008 – 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Location: Nelson House, MB
Community Administration Building

In Attendance:

Bella Leonard	Mayor
Theresa Hart	Councilor
Oswald Sawh	Administrator
Fiona Scurrah	Manitoba Hydro
Gordon Wastesicoot	KCN
John Osler	InterGroup Consultants
Kristin Kent	InterGroup Consultants

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The meeting was requested by the Environmental Assessment Team for the proposed Keeyask Generation Project to:

- Provide background information about the proposed Keeyask Generation Project;
- Begin dialogue about the Environmental Assessment process;
- Provide initial information about the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and its associated Public Involvement Program (PIP); and
- Identify issues and concerns that Mayor and Council have with the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP.

The meeting is one of a series of sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of Round 1 of the PIP. Two additional rounds of meetings are contemplated as information from the EIA becomes available.

MEETING PROCESS

Fiona Scurrah welcomed and thanked the group, including Oswald Sawh who participated via teleconference. John Osler explained the newsletter and presentation to the group, both which provide information on the project, the EA and the associated PIP process.

Throughout and following the presentation:

- Mayor and Council asked questions, offered perspectives, and identified issues about the proposed project, the EA and the PIP; and
- Where appropriate, representatives of the Environmental Assessment Team and Manitoba Hydro offered perspectives.

The following are highlights of the meeting and are intended to capture the key points that were raised or presented. They are not presented in the sequence that they were raised at the meeting, nor are they a detailed or verbatim transcription of what was said.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Project impacts and perspectives

- Interest was expressed in potential employment opportunities, in particular for those already gaining training and/or experience with Wuskwatim. Although they appreciate priority will be given to the partner First Nations, it would be good to see continued employment for their community members.
- The Administrator, who is also on council in Thompson, noted that there are labour challenges – it is very difficult to recruit and retain people. It would be in Manitoba Hydro's best interest to focus on retention strategies, especially for the peak of construction.

Environmental assessment perspectives/issues

- If the environmental assessment predicts effects outside of the in-the-vicinity communities, will there be an opportunity for communities to become more involved? It will be important for the communities to have all of the EIA information.

Public involvement perspectives/issues

- Early engagement is very important from their perspective. It is good to see Manitoba Hydro starting early in the process. It is "one big family" in the North, so it's good that you are going to all the communities, even if they may not be directly affected.

Other

- The Administrator from Nelson house observed that there is likely to be increased pressure to develop hydro as there is an increasing need for power in North America and an increasing demand for green power.
- A comment was made that the process must be more complicated with four First Nations involved compared to Wuskwatim, where Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation was the only potential partner.
- The Administrator commented that they appreciate the comments made during the meeting. Their council over the years has had a positive experience with Manitoba Hydro. They have

appreciated Manitoba Hydro's professional approach and are open to further communications.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TEAM

- The Keeyask Project is located in the Split Lake RMA and is approximately 30 km west of Gillam. The project is still at a planning and discussion stage.
- No decision has been made to go forward with the project.
- Additional transmission capacity would be required to transmit power from Keeyask; however, the project is proceeding independently of the generation project for reliability and security of the electrical system.
- Keeyask would be the fourth largest of Manitoba Hydro's current generation stations:
 - 695 megawatts
 - In comparison, Wuskwatim will generate 200 megawatts
 - Approximately 45 square kilometers of flooding
 - Approximately 7 to 8 years construction
- Manitoba Hydro is exploring the potential of a partnership with in-vicinity Keeyask Cree Nations (KCN) – Tataskweyak Cree Nation and War Lake First Nation (acting as the Cree Nation Partners), Fox Lake Cree Nation and York Factory First Nation.
- The above parties are negotiating a Joint Keeyask Development Agreement (JKDA) or agreement that would govern how the project would be developed. This agreement will require ratification on the part of communities before Manitoba Hydro considers proceeding.
- The JKDA will have provisions for employment. The employment priority will go first to KCN members, then to other First Nation members, and then to other northerners. Manitoba Hydro has an interest in maintaining its northern workforce for potential future projects – for Keeyask, for Conawapa, and for Bipole III.
- An Environmental Impact Assessment will be completed for the project to identify potential effects the project may have on the environment and people and to determine ways to enhance potential positive effects.
- Since 2001, Manitoba Hydro has been working with local Cree Nations to collect information that will contribute to the Environmental Impact Assessment. So far, studies of the existing environment have considered: physical environment, terrestrial and aquatic environments, heritage resources, resource use and the socio-economic environments. Manitoba Hydro and KCN are looking for ways to integrate western science with Aboriginal traditional knowledge for the Environmental Impact Statement.
- The purpose of Round 1 public involvement is to introduce the project to the public, to learn about any issues or concerns that the public may have about the project, and to hear from the public how they wish to be consulted in further rounds of the PIP. It has focused on the communities beyond the in-the-vicinity communities. There will be multiple opportunities for engagement.
- A KCN representative shared his perspectives about links between the communities. It seems everywhere he has been during the public involvement process he meets someone who knows someone he knows. It will be important for him to share what he has learned during the public involvement process with his community. People will make better decisions if they are well-informed. His community will be voting on whether they want to see the project go ahead or not.



Round 1 PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:

Meeting with Cross Lake Mayor and Council

Final Meeting Notes

Date of Meeting: October 8, 2008 – 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

Location: Cross Lake, MB
Town Office

In Attendance:	Clarence Smith Darlene Beck Noel Halcrow Keith Settee Ryan Kustra Tara Cole-McCaffrey Gordon Wastesicoot Victor Flett Jonathan Kitchekekessik Jr. Wayne Marcinyshyn David Lane	Mayor CAO Community Development Officer Councillor Manitoba Hydro Manitoba Hydro KCN KCN KCN KCN InterGroup Consultants
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PURPOSE OF MEETING

The meeting was requested by the Environmental Assessment Team for the proposed Keeyask Generation Project to:

- Provide background information about the proposed Keeyask Generation Project;
- Begin dialogue about the Environmental Assessment process;
- Provide initial information about the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and its associated Public Involvement Program (PIP); and
- Identify issues and concerns Mayor and Council has with the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP.

The meeting is one of a series of sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of Round 1 of the PIP. Two additional rounds of meetings are contemplated as information from the EIA becomes available.

MEETING PROCESS

Following introductions and a prayer, Ryan Kustra presented information on the project, the EA process and the purpose of Round 1 PIP. This included details on the size and location of the project, project components and construction activities, potential partnership with the in-vicinity communities, the EA PIP, environmental approvals, and project environmental studies. Each Council member in attendance was

provided a copy of the presentation and the Round 1 PIP newsletter. Extra copies of the newsletter were left with the Administrator for general distribution. Throughout and following the discussion:

- Council members asked questions, offered perspectives, and identified issues about the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP;
- Where appropriate, representatives of the Environmental Assessment Team and Manitoba Hydro offered perspectives; and
- Victor Flett provided Cree translations for some of the more complicated information.

The following are highlights of the meeting and are intended to capture the key points that were raised or presented. They are not presented in the sequence that they were raised at the meeting, nor are they a detailed or verbatim transcription of what was said.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Project impacts and perspectives

- Council expressed concern for the upstream effects on Lake Winnipeg. They were interested in knowing how the system is regulated/operated and whether or not Kelsey and Jenpeg would be used to create a larger reservoir for Keeyask.
- Council is concerned about potential effects on trappers and local resource users in the vicinity of the project and wanted to know if compensation for adverse effects will be provided to these individuals.
- Council is interested in the timing of the construction of the access roads.

Public Involvement Program perspectives/issues

- Mayor indicated that this was the first time he had heard about the project and that as a result had few comments.
- Council was interested in knowing how the public involvement was being undertaken with Cross Lake First Nation and whether or not they were being included in the PIP.

Impacts and issues from past hydro-electric development

- Council raised the issue of outstanding commitments from Manitoba Hydro that have not been addressed with their community.

Other

- Council was interested in the JKDA negotiation process and how long this took.
- Council is interested in the Bipole III project and what the plans are for this project. They indicated that the transmission line should be built in combination with a road in order to improve access to remote communities. There was confusion regarding whether it is going to be built on the west or east side of Lake Winnipeg.

- Council is interested in how Conawapa fits into the public involvement program and its planning schedule.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TEAM

- The project is still at a planning and discussion stage.
- No decision has been made to go forward with the project.
- Keeyask would be the fourth largest of Manitoba Hydro's current generation stations:
 - 695 megawatts
 - Approximately 45 square kilometers of flooding
 - Approximately 7 to 8 years construction
- Manitoba Hydro is exploring the potential of a partnership with in-vicinity Keeyask Cree Nations (KCN) – Tataskweyak Cree Nation and War Lake First Nation (acting as the Cree Nation Partners), Fox Lake Cree Nation and York Factory First Nation.
- Keeyask would proceed at this time only with a positive vote on the JKDA by the KCN represented by a majority of the population.
- An Environmental Assessment will be completed for the project to identify potential effects the project may have on the environment and people.
- The purpose of Round 1 public involvement is to introduce the project to the public, to learn about any issues or concerns that the public may have about the project, and to hear from the public how they wish to be consulted in further rounds of the PIP.
- Since 2001, Manitoba Hydro has been working with local Cree Nations to collect information that will contribute to the Environmental Impact Assessment.
- Environmental studies include physical, terrestrial, aquatic, socio-economic, and heritage resources. There is specific attention focused on Sturgeon spawning, mercury levels from flooding and Caribou.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 8, 2008 @ 3-6 p.m.[illegible]



Round 1 PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:

Cross Lake Community Information Session

Final Meeting Notes

Date of Meeting: October 8, 2008 – 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Location: Cross Lake, MB
Recreation Centre

In Attendance from EA Team:	Ryan Kustra Tara Cole-McCaffrey Victor Flett Jonathan Kitchekeesik Jr. Gordon Wastesicoot Wayne Marcinyshyn David Lane	Manitoba Hydro Manitoba Hydro KCN KCN KCN KCN InterGroup Consultants
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In Attendance from Community: See sign-in-sheet

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The purpose of the community information session was to:

- Provide background information about the proposed Keeyask Generation Project to community members;
- Provide information about the Environmental Assessment process;
- Provide initial information about the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and its associated Public Involvement Program (PIP); and
- Identify issues and concerns the community has with the proposed project, the EIA and the PIP.

The meeting is one of a series of sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of Round 1 of the PIP. Two additional rounds of meetings are contemplated as information from the EIA becomes available.

MEETING PROCESS

The community information session was held at the Recreation Centre. Those who attended the information session were encouraged to sign-in, fill out comment forms and speak to members of the EA team about any perspectives/issues they might have about the project. Members of the EA team were also on hand to guide community members through the information panels regarding the project if they

desired and to answer any questions. Furthermore, if questions were raised that could not be addressed at the session, they were recorded by an EA team member, forwarded to the appropriate person to respond to the information request, and followed up as required. In total, three community members signed-in at the session; however, approximately 5 individuals attended the community information session that did not sign-in.

The following are highlights of the perspectives heard at the information session and are intended to capture the key points that were raised by community members.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Project impacts and perspectives

- Instead of truck drivers, etc. there is a need to train managers; and pay an appropriate salary; and hire for the duration of the contract, not just seasonal

Other

- The system for providing opportunities to Aboriginal people does not work.
- Chief and Council should not be involved once project agreements are in place.