



Keeyask Generation Project

Environmental Impact Statement

Supporting Volume
Public Involvement



June 2012

KEEYASK GENERATION PROJECT

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT SUPPORTING VOLUME

APPENDIX 3

ROUND TWO OF THE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM

KEEYASK GENERATION PROJECT

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APPENDIX 3A

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM ROUND TWO SUMMARY REPORT

Keeyask Generation Project

Summary of Round Two of the Public Involvement Program

Round Two public involvement program (PIP) activities occurred between February 2012 and May 2012, with a focus on revisiting Aboriginal communities and groups, and other communities and groups in northern Manitoba and potentially affected and interested organizations that were contacted during the Round One PIP. Note that this summary includes events up to May 1, 2012. The purpose of Round Two of the PIP was to:

- Describe Project features and changes since Round One;
- Discuss preliminary results of the environmental assessment (EA) and receive input regarding these results;
- Obtain input about possible mitigation measures; and
- Document public input to be considered for the Project.

Initially, letters to notify potential participants of the upcoming Round Two PIP were sent in January 2012. A sample copy of these letters is provided in Appendix 3B.

In consideration of winter and spring holidays, a window of opportunity between February 2012 and May 2012 was utilized to present preliminary EA results and proposed mitigation measures to the public. In total, meetings were held with the leadership in 13 communities, followed by public information sessions for the respective members in five of these communities. Public open houses were held in Thompson, Gillam, and Winnipeg. Due to low attendance at the open house for Brandon during Round One of the PIP, an open house for Round Two was not held in that community. There were three meetings held with organizations and one workshop in Winnipeg with non-government organizations (NGOs). A workshop was planned for Thompson with resource users, but due to low attendee response it was cancelled, with recommendations for interested resource users to attend the open house held in Thompson or the Winnipeg workshop instead. After Round Two was completed, the offer to meet was extended to Aboriginal communities and organizations that expressed an interest in meeting to discuss the Project but were unable to schedule a meeting during the Round Two timeframe. Table 1 below provides a summary of the PIP events held during Round Two.

Table 3A-1: Round Two Public Involvement Program Events

Date	Event	Location
Council and Community Meetings/Sessions		
3/13/2012	Thompson Mayor and Council Meeting	City Hall
3/1/2012	Churchill Mayor and Council Meeting	Council Chambers
3/1/2012	Churchill Community Information Session	Pioneer Gallery
2/29/2012	Leaf Rapids Mayor and Council Meeting	Council Chambers
2/29/2012	Leaf Rapids Community Information Session	Town Centre Complex
3/6/2012	Gillam Mayor and Council Meeting	Council Chambers
3/13/2012	LGD* Mystery Lake Leadership Meeting	LGD* Office - Thompson
2/22/2012	Thicket Portage Mayor and Council Meeting	Council Office
2/22/2012	Thicket Portage Community Information Session	Administration Building
3/8/2012	Pikwitonei Mayor and Council Meeting	Recreation Centre
3/8/2012	Pikwitonei Community Information Session	Recreation Centre
2/21/2012	Wabowden Mayor and Council Meeting	Town Office
2/21/2012	Wabowden Community Information Session	Ke Na Now Centre
3/27/2012	Norway House Mayor and Council Meeting	Community Administration Building
3/14/2012	Nelson House Mayor and Council Meeting	Community Administration Building
3/7/2012	Cross Lake Mayor and Council Meeting	Town Office Cross Lake
4/4/2012	Ilford Mayor and Council Meeting	Town Office
4/24/2012	Shamattawa First Nation Chief and Council Meeting	Shamattawa Band Office
Workshops		
3/12/2012	Winnipeg NGO** Workshop	Delta Hotel
Open Houses		
3/13/2012	Thompson Open House	St. John's United Church
3/12/2012	Winnipeg Open House	Delta Hotel
3/6/2012	Gillam Open House	Recreation Complex
Meetings with Organizations		
3/15/2012	Northern Association of Community Councils Leadership Meeting	Marlborough Hotel, Winnipeg
3/13/2012	Keewatin Tribal Council Leadership Meeting	KTC Thompson Office
3/9/2012	Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Leadership Meeting	MKO Winnipeg Office

* LGD refers to Local Government District

**NGO refers to non-government organization

The Partnership contacted and offered to meet with potentially affected and interested Aboriginal communities and groups as well as other potentially affected communities and groups in northern Manitoba and other areas of Manitoba. Of those contacted, the Manitoba Metis Federation (see description of separate meeting process) and the Southern Chiefs Organization Inc. decided not to meet with the PIP team in Round Two of the PIP and Norway House First Nation and O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree Nation were unable to find a time to schedule a meeting.

Communities and organizations that met in Round Two but did not meet in Round One include: Shamattawa First Nation and representatives of Granville Lake.

The Partnership will approach all of these groups again in Round Three of the PIP.

Public Involvement Events Format

The public involvement methods used during Round Two were generally the same as those used in Round One. One change that was made was the development of a new Project website for the Partnership to convey Project-related information to interested parties (www.Keeyask.com).

Meetings with community leadership provided an opportunity to discuss the preliminary results of the EA and proposed mitigation measures; participants asked questions, offered perspectives and identified any issues or concerns. Meeting notes were recorded these draft notes were later reviewed by meeting participants for accuracy. The final meeting notes are available in Appendix 3C.

Community information sessions were held in most communities following the informal meetings with leadership to inform and have dialogue with interested community members about the preliminary results of the EA and proposed mitigation measures. Public notices (posters), an invitation letter and a meeting confirmation letter were sent to the community administrative officer (or person in a similar position) in advance of community information sessions to so that that adequate notice was provided to communities. Community members were guided through a series of information panels designed to provide participants with information about the Project. Comment forms were available at these meetings and allowed participants to provide comments anonymously. Participants were encourage to ask questions and share perspectives about the Project; any unanswered questions were forwarded to the appropriate person (e.g., EA Study Team members, Manitoba Hydro staff) to provide a response. Finalized community information session notes, documentation identifying questions or perspectives raised and sign-in sheets are included in Appendix 3C.

Meetings with Organizations were held with the Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak (MKO), the Northern Association of Community Councils (NACC) and the Keewatin Tribal Council (KTC). A presentation was made to each organization about the preliminary results of the EA and proposed mitigation measures, followed by discussion. Participants were encouraged to complete comment forms or raise specific questions. Draft meeting notes were shared with the organizations for their review; once that review occurred, they were finalized and are included in Appendix 3F.

Public open houses were held in Gillam, Winnipeg and Thompson to provide opportunities for the broader public to learn about preliminary results of the EA and proposed mitigation measures for the Project and provide feedback. During Round One an open house was held in Brandon, but not in Round Two due to minimal attendance in Round One. Open houses were publicized through local newspaper advertisements, local radio stations, and posters were also used in the communities of Gillam and Thompson. Open houses were conducted in a format similar to the community information sessions including the use of information panels. Participants were encouraged to complete comment forms and to speak to members of the PIP Team. Any questions that were raised that could not be addressed by those in attendance were documented during the open house, forwarded to the appropriate person to respond to the request and followed up as required. Documentation from the open houses in the form

of summary notes identifying questions or perspectives raised and sign-in sheets are included in Appendix 3E.

A **Workshop** was held with NGOs in Winnipeg. A wide range of NGOs were contacted to determine which groups had an interest in the Project and would be able to provide the Partnership with feedback about the preliminary results of the EA and proposed mitigation measures. At the workshop, participants could review the Project information panels shown at open houses and community information sessions and discuss the Project with the PIP Team. Workshop participants also received a presentation about the results and participated in a facilitated question and answer period, as well as a round-table session where participants shared their issues and perspectives about the preliminary effects and proposed mitigation measures. Workshop participants were encouraged to fill-out comment forms and meeting notes from each of these sessions were drafted and reviewed by participants. Final meeting notes are included in Appendix 3D.

In Round One of the PIP a workshop was also held in Thompson with recreation and resource users. This workshop was not held in Round Two due to a low level of interest from those contacted. The two individuals who were interested in attending a workshop were informed about, and invited to, the open house that was held in Thompson in the evening of the same day the workshop had initially been scheduled to occur.

A **Newsletter** was provided to all who attended the meetings, open houses and workshop and was available on the Keeyask website (www.keeyask.com). The newsletter was made specifically for Round Two in February 2012 and summarized the Project, the Partnership, the status of the EA process and results to date with respect to key topic areas. The key topic areas reviewed in the newsletter were prominently raised in Round One of the PIP and included the following: employment and training; flooding; water quality; mercury, fish and human health; lake sturgeon; and caribou. The newsletter also provided information about next steps and how to make contact with the Partnership regarding any questions, concerns or issues about the Project. The newsletter for Round Two is included in Appendix 3B.

Information Panels were used to communicate a summary of the newsletter content for all community meetings, open houses and the NGO workshop. The Round Two information panels were also provided in a handout format and were made available to interested parties at community leadership meetings and meetings with organizations, as well as on the Project website (link below). The information panels from Round Two are included in Appendix 3B.

The Keeyask Hydropower Limited Partnership website (www.keeyask.com) was developed to distribute information about the Project and the Partnership to the general public. The website includes overview information about the Partnership and each member of the Partnership, the Project, the public involvement events, public involvement documents including Round One and Round Two newsletters and copies of the information panels. Other Project information includes news and information and links to the job referral service site and the Partners' websites. 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 2011, will be maintained until the regulatory review process of the Project is completed. Should the Project obtain a license to proceed, this website would continue to be used to convey Project construction, monitoring and employment information to the public.

During Round One, a Project website (www.hydro.mb.ca/projects/keeyask) was developed to support the distribution of Project-related information to the general public. This Project website is also being kept up-to-date with Project and PIP related information and, if regulatory approvals are received, will be maintained until construction of the Project has been completed.

Key Issues and Perspectives

The following highlights the issues and perspectives identified by potentially affected and interested Aboriginal and other communities and groups during Round Two. The information has been organized into general Project-related headings to contribute to the EA process. The comments below are not verbatim, but reflect the issues and perspectives identified during Round Two. A complete list of the issues and perspectives, responses provided, and the PIP event where the issues and perspectives were raised, is provided in Appendix 1C.

Project Planning Issues and Perspectives

- Some PIP participants wanted to know about the financial strength of Manitoba Hydro and about the financial viability of the Project.
- There were supportive comments about the incorporation of Aboriginal traditional knowledge (ATK) in the EIS and how ATK is being utilized in the Project planning process. There is interest in seeing how this is communicated in the EIS.
- A question was asked about what the plant factor will be for the Project and how it will be optimized.
- There were some questions about the Manitoba Hydro system in relation to the Project including the following:
 - How this Project would affect the requirements for water at other facilities.
 - How this Project would affect water levels in Stephens Lake, in Split Lake, in Cross Lake, in Lake Winnipeg or in South Indian Lake.
 - Leaf Rapids and Churchill expressed concerns about effects from the Keeyask Project as it pertains to the Missi Falls control structure and the Churchill River Diversion.
 - There was concern that this Project would change the way that Lake Winnipeg is regulated and that communities like Cross Lake would continue to see effects on water levels.
- A question was asked about whether the Project site manager was selected yet. It was noted that John Markowsky, who played this role for the Wuskwatim Generation Project, did a very good job in public relations and kept local communities informed about that Project.

Project Training and Employment Issues and Perspectives

- With the Wuskwatim Generation Project fresh in people's minds there were many comments about the hiring process and job-related experiences by people from northern communities.

Participants suggested that there was an opportunity to learn from the Wuskwatim experience to improve the process for Keeyask. Comments included:

- That there were problems with the Job Referral Service and they felt that some contractors bypassed the hiring provisions of the Burntwood-Nelson Agreement (BNA);
 - That mechanisms be put in place to address issues prior to hiring and not through an appeal process;
 - There were concerns that qualifications and length of experience required for lower level jobs were too stringent and would eliminate people who had received training for Project jobs, but had not been able to acquire enough hours to have the experience needed;
 - Some community members felt that lay-off practices were unfair and that there was discrimination on the Wuskwatim job site; and
 - That there should be improved monitoring of the hiring process and employment practices by the Partnership.
- Participants wanted to know more about the Advisory Group on Employment, particularly who could participate, the role they would play in employment and hiring issues and if this group had begun meeting to prepare for the Project hiring process.
 - Community leaders felt that information about training and employment opportunities should be made more accessible and clear. They felt that there is not enough information about current training opportunities and needs for this Project.
 - In several communities it was suggested that employment and training should be geared towards young people, particularly high school students.
 - In several Northern Affair communities participants expressed concern that either their small size and/or isolation put them at a disadvantage in terms of training, employment and contracting opportunities for major projects like Wuskwatim and Keeyask. They would like be informed about training, employment and subcontracting opportunities for the Keeyask Generation Project.
 - In general, communities wished to be kept up to date on employment opportunities so that they could advise their residents.
 - A comment was made that other companies in Canada retain high levels of First Nations employees; the Partnership should look to them for advice and ideas to improve the worker retention rates of northern Aboriginal workers.
 - One organization noted that there is a need to acknowledge the advancement of employment and training initiatives for Aboriginal and other northerners in the recent past. They felt that these initiatives have had a significant positive effect in the north.
 - In the meeting with the City of Thompson leadership it was noted that they will be looking for economic opportunities for any of their citizens who might be affected by the closure of the smelter and refinery at the Vale operations in Thompson.
 - Participants expressed their hope that there will be numerous apprenticeship opportunities for northerner Manitoba people on the Project.

Physical Issues and Perspectives

- Communities were concerned that flood level estimates put forward by Manitoba Hydro could be inaccurate and that monitoring will be important, especially in Split Lake.
- In general community leaders and members were pleased with the plan to clear the reservoir area prior to impoundment.
- A concern was voiced about the greenhouse gas analysis relating to peat land that will be flooded.
- There was a general concern about water level fluctuations in the reservoir and the extent of erosion that would take place in Gull Lake.
- There were some questions about flooding in the Project area now, prior to construction. There were also questions about what would happen if there was a dam failure.
- It was noted that there has been a high level of erosion for the past two years due to the high flow levels on the Nelson River.
- A concern was expressed about the level of sedimentation that would be caused by the Project. It was noted that sediment continues to be a problem on South Indian Lake.
- A question was asked about how long the islands in the reservoir would be monitored to better understand the effects of flooding and erosion.

Aquatic Issues and Perspectives

- Communities were concerned about reduced water quality in the Nelson River due to increased sedimentation and mercury, as well as how this would affect country food and drinking water.
- Community representatives noted that they were aware that the turbine selected for the Project would allow fish to pass through with a lower mortality and injury rate.
- Questions were received about whether fish passage would be used and why or why not.
- Questions were raised about stranding of fish as areas dewatered during construction and during operation.
- Concern was expressed about the effectiveness and success of the proposed lake sturgeon spawning habitat to be created by Manitoba Hydro. Participants also wanted to know more about the loss of lake sturgeon habitat for different life stages.
- A concern was expressed about the how long it would take the monitoring programs to determine if additional mitigation measures are required to reduce Project effects on lake sturgeon. It was noted that experience of other projects in other jurisdictions could be sought.
- There were many questions about the lake sturgeon stocking program and proposed new hatchery. Participants wanted to know:
 - Where stocking would occur;
 - How long the stocking would be done; and
 - Where the lake sturgeon would be taken from for the stocking program; some felt that the geographic range should be restricted to avoid affecting healthy populations.
- The health of lake sturgeon as a species was a general concern due to the current *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) listing process, as well as the ability to monitor and manage the fish population.

- Questions were raised about how the Project will affect mercury levels in fish, both upstream and downstream of the Project.

Terrestrial Issues and Perspectives

- There were questions about the summer resident caribou in the Project region, including what type of caribou they are. Some noted that the appearance of the animal can be used to distinguish them.
- Concern was expressed about effects on, and ideas to try to replace, key caribou habitat, such as the islands in Gull Lake. At issue was whether these techniques will work at all.
- It was suggested that ATK could be used to address gaps in research about caribou movement. Questions were raised about how the monitoring techniques will be used to inform the mitigation measures and whether this information will be reported to the public.
- Concerns were expressed about the effect of the Project on caribou movement and on caribou food in the Project area.
- Concern was raised about how increased mercury levels would affect wildlife species that use river shoreline area.

Socio-economic and Heritage Issues and Perspectives

- There were a number of questions and comments about making the timber that will be cleared from the reservoir accessible to communities for firewood or other purposes.
- There were inquiries about Manitoba Hydro's purchasing policies and if they would be consistent with what happened at the Wuskwatim Generation Project.
- In one community appreciation was expressed about the effort by Manitoba Hydro to minimize the effects on burial sites in the reservoir area. There was also a high level of interest in how gravesites and other heritage sites would be managed during Project construction and/or operation.
- A concern was expressed about the potential negative social effects (*e.g.*, substance abuse and crime) that could arise due to a surge in workers in the Project area, as well as a surplus of cash available to Project employees.
- Participants asked if there would be a cultural or spiritual component to the Keeyask Generation Project as was done for the Wuskwatim Generation Project.
- A number of issues and perspectives were shared about the effect of increased mercury levels after the reservoir has been flooded, including:
 - A concern was noted that imported food is expensive in the north and that contaminated water will make it more difficult for local people to harvest more economical country food.
 - Participants wanted to know where the mercury levels would be the highest.
 - Participants wanted more information about how the increased mercury levels in fish would be addressed for people who consume fish.
 - A concern was noted about the lack of testing of elders, and others who rely on fish for sustenance, to measure mercury levels.
- A participant wanted to know how many traplines would be affected by the Project.

- A participant asked how many communities draw their drinking water from the Nelson River and if they will have to do more to treat their drinking water after the Project is completed.
- One First Nation community expressed a concern that people from other communities are coming into their territory due to the depletion of resources in their area due to ongoing effect of past projects and they are concerned that this will be made worse by the Keeyask Generation Project.
- A question was asked what plans have been put in place to decommission the trails used during construction. It was suggested that there be a good communication plan with community members about these decommissioning plans.

Traffic and Safety

- There were questions about rerouting PR 280 over the dam after the Project is built, including whether the north and south access roads would be built to provincial road standards and what would happen to the other section of PR 280 after the construction is complete. It was noted that trappers use this section of PR 280.
- The Gillam Council requested a contact person for traffic issues because they felt that they receive the majority of the complaints about road safety.
- There were concerns raised regarding the current condition of the PR 280 and that there are cell-phone dead zones; it was recommended that there should be full cell phone coverage as a safety measure.
- A concern was raised that the increased traffic could negatively affect the quality of the roads in Thompson and to the Project site.
- It was suggested that all of the improvements to PR 280 should be completed prior to the start of construction.

Comments about the Consultation Process

- A question was raised about the format of information in the EIS. Some would prefer an electronic format and others a hard copy format.
- It was noted that it would be good to see the community based (ATK) and the scientific technical information combined and accessible to the public.
- A participant hoped that technical documents would be available to the public through the environmental process for the Keeyask Generation Project.
- It was noted that spring is not a very good time of year to meet; this is when some northern people are out goose hunting.
- It was suggested that additional visual materials should be provided, including graphic overlays of flooded areas.

Impacts from Past Hydroelectric Developments and Issues and Perspectives Unrelated to the Keeyask Generation Project

- One organization was interested in seeing more information in the EIS about the socio-economic effects of the training and employment opportunities from the Wuskwatim Generation Project.

- A participant felt that the Keeyask Project creates a necessity for the Bipole III Project, yet the projects are being reviewed separately. They felt that this puts the \$200 million already spent on infrastructure as a pressure on future proposals.
- There was a concern that Manitoba Hydro was moving towards new projects without having dealt appropriately with grievances from past projects.

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PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM ROUND TWO MATERIALS

Public Involvement Program Round Two Materials

From the following list of Public Involvement Program (PIP) materials, the first two items were shared with participants in the Round Two events. The newsletter and handout of the information panels were also posted on the Keeyask Generation Project website. The Keeyask Hydropower Limited Partnership website was up and running in July 2011 and the Manitoba Hydro Keeyask website was updated with Round Two PIP materials. The comment forms were available for participants in the community meetings, opens houses and workshops to fill in and leave with the consultation team. Additionally, visitors to the website were able to submit questions and comments.

Prior to the start of Round Two of the PIP notification letters were sent to Aboriginal communities, individuals and groups and other communities, groups, and individuals that participated in or that were contacted to participate in Round One.

The following materials are included in this appendix:

- Copy of newsletter
- Copy of handout of information panels
- Website content
- Copy of a blank comment form
- Copy of a Round Two notification letter
- Copy of the Round Two notification letter distribution list



ROUND TWO of the Keeyask Public Involvement Program

NEWSLETTER

February 2012

Second Round of Keeyask Public Involvement Program Underway

This is the second Public Involvement Program newsletter for the Keeyask Generation Project (the Project) proposed to be built in Northern Manitoba. This newsletter provides information including preliminary results of the environmental assessment and seeks input on possible mitigation measures. Further information regarding the Environmental Impact Statement and the public review process will be provided in a subsequent newsletter. The Keeyask Public Involvement Program is intended to provide opportunities for people to receive Project information and identify issues and potential effects about the proposed Project.

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About the Proposed Project

The Keeyask Hydropower Limited Partnership (the Partnership) is proposing to develop the Keeyask Generation Project (the Project), a 695-megawatt hydroelectric generating station. The renewable hydroelectric energy produced by the Project will be sold to Manitoba Hydro and integrated into its electric system for use in Manitoba and for export. It is anticipated that the average annual production of electricity will be approximately 4,400 gigawatt hours. It will be the fifth generating station in the lower Nelson River and will be located between two existing stations. The environment has already been disrupted by these previous projects.

The Project will be located about 725 kilometres (km) northeast of Winnipeg at Gull Rapids on the lower Nelson River immediately upstream of Stephens Lake in northern Manitoba. The nearest communities to the Project are Split Lake to the west and Gillam to the east.

Project Description

The Project will consist of principal structures and supporting infrastructure. The principal structures consist of the powerhouse complex, spillway, dams and dykes. A reservoir consisting of 48 km² of existing river environment and approximately 45 km² of newly flooded land will be created upstream. Supporting infrastructure will consist of permanent facilities (e.g., roads, boat launches and a portage) that will be used to construct and/or operate the Project and temporary facilities (e.g., borrow sources, work camps and work areas, coffer dams and a construction ice boom) required only to construct the principal structures.



This rendering shows: the layout of principal structures at Gull Rapids looking north with the river flowing from left to right; how a portion of the south channel may look following construction dewatering and; the locations of the north and south access roads.

The Project will also include operation of the North Access Road between PR 280 and Gull Rapids, constructed as part of the Keeyask Infrastructure Project (KIP). Temporary facilities constructed as part of KIP will be decommissioned.

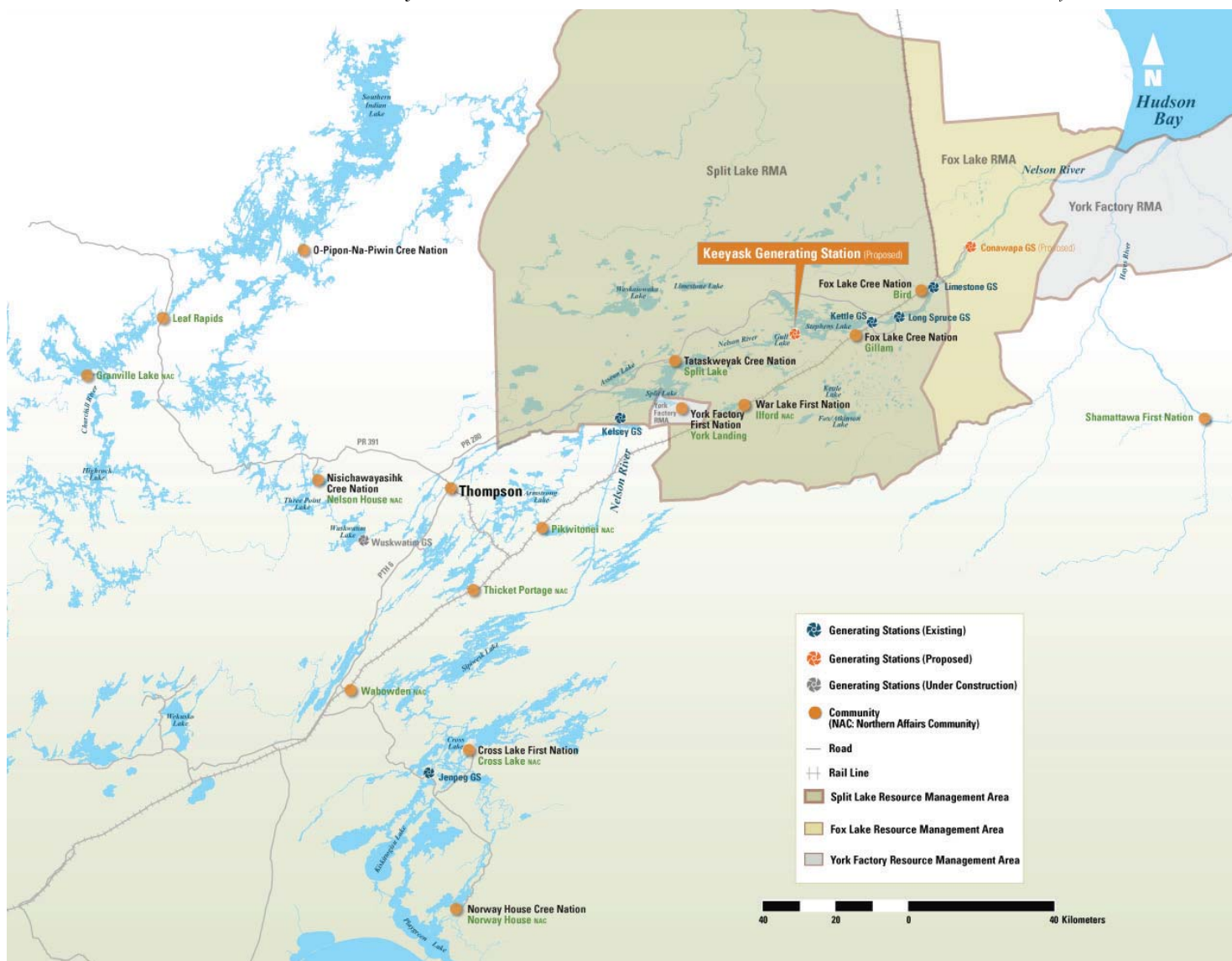
Construction of the Project could begin as early as 2014. The Project will take approximately seven and one-half years to construct and will begin producing power about one and one-half years before construction is fully completed. If built, the Keeyask generating station will become Manitoba's fourth-largest generating station and its seven turbine units will produce enough electricity to supply about 450,000 homes.

Keeyask Hydropower Limited Partnership

The Project proponent is the Keeyask Hydropower Limited Partnership comprised of four limited partners and one general partner. The four limited partners are Manitoba Hydro and companies representing the Cree Nation Partners (Tataskweyak Cree Nation and War Lake First Nation), York Factory First Nation, and Fox Lake Cree Nation. The general partner is a corporation wholly owned by Manitoba Hydro.

The Partnership has benefitted from the involvement of the Cree Nations with Manitoba Hydro in planning and undertaking a decade-long program of studies for the

environmental assessment, including a commitment to utilize Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge (ATK). Each of the Keeyask Cree Nations (KCNs) has made its own decision to support the Project. While these decisions are beyond the scope of the environmental assessment and the federal and regulatory processes, the KCNs may provide reports explaining their evaluations of the Project to assist other process participants to understand their independent decisions to be Project proponents.



Status of the Environmental Assessment Process

Since 2001, Manitoba Hydro has been working with the KCNs to collect and analyze information that will contribute to the Project's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), continually identifying ways to avoid, reduce or mitigate potential negative effects and enhance potential positive effects. ATK is providing important perspectives on both the environmental and socio-economic implications of the Project.

Results of these studies, including commitments to follow-up and monitoring, will be compiled in an EIS that will be available to the public and submitted for review and approval under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* and *The Environment Act* (Manitoba). The Province is expected to ask the Clean Environment Commission to hold hearings, and the minister responsible for Manitoba Hydro has also indicated that the Province will have an independent body undertake a review of the need for and alternatives to

major new hydroelectric projects, including the Keeyask Generation Project.

On August 31, 2011, the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency accepted a project description in accordance with the Establishing Timelines for Comprehensive Study Regulations and a comprehensive environmental assessment study commenced on November 29, 2011, as required by the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*.

On December 9, 2011, an application was filed under *The Environment Act* (Manitoba) to initiate the provincial regulatory process.

Canada and Manitoba are expected to carry out a cooperative assessment as mandated under the Canada-Manitoba Agreement on Environmental Assessment Cooperation.



Status of the Public Involvement Program

Initiated in 2008, the Public Involvement Program is a key element of the Environmental Impact Assessment activities for the Project and involves three rounds of engagement.

The purpose of the public involvement process is to provide the public, particularly those who may potentially be affected by or are interested in the Project, with opportunities to receive information about the Project and provide input on its potential issues and effects.

Generally, the public will include local residents, community groups, environmental groups, the private sector, municipal governments and the general public. The KCNs are conducting separate consultation programs with their own Members.

A variety of public involvement methods are available for each round including meetings, workshops, open houses, newsletters, information panels and a project website.

Round One of Public Involvement

The Project was introduced to communities in northern Manitoba and other potentially interested/affected organizations in 2008. Comments received from participants were documented and include the following perspectives:

- Communities were positive about potential employment and training opportunities associated with the Project and provided comments on how best to participate in this opportunity.
- Concerns were raised about the effects of Project flooding on various fish and animal species

(e.g., sturgeon, caribou). Potentially elevated mercury levels caused by Project flooding were also a concern raised by a number of northern communities.

- Concerns were raised about Project effects on resource users (e.g., trappers) and cultural sites (e.g., burial sites) and the need to have these issues considered in the environmental assessment.

A complete summary of comments received during Round One of public involvement activities is available on the Project website at Keeyask.com.

Round Two of Public Involvement

In the current Round Two phase, participants will be given the opportunity to offer comments and provide input on preliminary results regarding the biophysical and socio-economic effects of the Project and to offer suggestions for minimizing or avoiding potential adverse effects. Round Two meetings will be held in communities in northern Manitoba and public open houses will occur in Gillam, Thompson and Winnipeg. Information about the public open houses can be found on the Keeyask website (Keeyask.com).

Comments and input received in Round Two will be used in finalizing the EIS. This round will also inform participants about any changes in the Project since Round One, respond to questions raised in Round One and illustrate how the received input influenced the Project design and assessment.

Results will be summarized in a Round Two report and incorporated into the EIS. The report will also be made available on the website at Keeyask.com.

Round Three of Public Involvement

Round Three of the public involvement program will commence after the EIS has been filed with the government regulators. The purpose will be to communicate the content of the EIS. Round Three is expected to occur in the summer and fall of 2012.

Round One Project Description and Issue Identification

Purpose & Scope

- Initiate dialogue about the proposed project
- Provide a description of the project
- Identify issues and concerns
- Inform the 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

Current Round

Round Three Final Environmental Impact Statement Review

Purpose & Scope

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

Environmental Impact Assessment Studies

The Partnership is undertaking an environmental assessment to identify potential effects of the Project in order to avoid and mitigate adverse effects and to enhance project benefits. The results of the assessment are being documented in the EIS. It will include the cumulative environmental effects that are likely to result from the Project in combination with other projects or activities that have been or will be carried out. The EIS is a primary source of information for the regulatory review under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* and *The Environment Act* (Manitoba). The EIS will be based on technical sciences and ATK.

Components of the environment included in the assessment are as follows:

- Physical Environment – climate, land, surface water, ice and ground water;
- Aquatic Environment – aquatic ecosystems and habitat, algae and aquatic plants, aquatic invertebrates, fish, mercury concentrations and other characteristics of fish quality;
- Terrestrial Environment – terrestrial ecosystems and habitat, terrestrial plants, terrestrial invertebrates, amphibians, birds, mammals, mercury in wildlife and species of conservation concern; and
- Socio-Economic Environment – economy, population, infrastructure and services and personal, family and community life, land and resource use and heritage resource use.

Mitigation measures will be established for effects caused by the construction and operation of the Project. These measures are intended to reduce or eliminate any residual negative impact(s) resulting from the Project.

Planned monitoring and follow-up activities will take place within an overall Environmental Protection Plan prepared for the Project. The monitoring programs will determine actual effects of the Project, including: whether they are consistent with the predictions in the environmental impact assessment; the effectiveness of mitigation measures; and whether further measures are required to address Project effects.



Gull Rapids on the Nelson River.

The effects discussed in this newsletter include issues that were most prominently raised in Round One of the public involvement activities, including the following:

- Employment and Training;
- Flooding;
- Water Quality;
- Mercury, Fish and Human Health;
- Lake Sturgeon; and
- Caribou.



Employment and Training

Since 2001, there has been a concerted effort to train northern Aboriginal people to prepare them for employment opportunities on major hydroelectric development projects and other construction-related work in the north. This was done through the Hydro Northern Training and Employment Initiative - a \$60 million pre-Project training program funded by Manitoba Hydro, the Province and Canada. It provided funds directly to communities and Aboriginal organizations.

The emphasis was on community-based training for skills and occupations that could serve both the Project and northern needs. Between 2002 and 2010, over 1,000 Aboriginal people completed occupational training, life skill training and skills upgrading.

Employment opportunities available during the Project's construction period include designated trades (e.g., electricians and other licensed skilled trades), non-designated trades (e.g., heavy equipment operators and truck drivers), technical or professional occupations (e.g., administration) and construction support (e.g., catering and security).

Project employment is organized under the Burntwood Nelson Agreement, which provides preferential hiring to qualified candidates from Northern Manitoba with first preference to Aboriginal people in the Churchill/ Burntwood/ Nelson River areas. In addition, KCN joint ventures can hire their own Members without going through the normal referral system on their direct negotiated contracts (e.g., contracts negotiated between the joint venture and Manitoba Hydro).

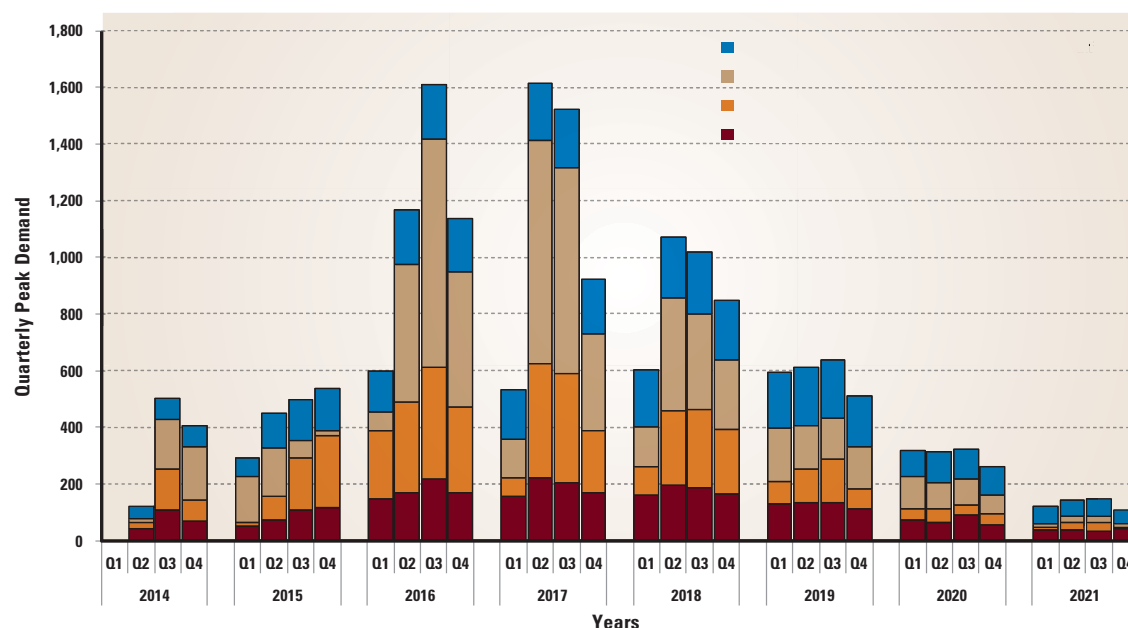
Depending upon regulatory approvals, the Project is expected to generate approximately 4,200 person-years (one person-year approximates the amount of work that one worker could complete during twelve months of full-time employment) of direct construction employment throughout the seven and one-half-year construction period. Construction support jobs, many filled through direct negotiated contracts, will vary in length and, over the course of construction, will tend to be more stable than other categories of construction employment (see bar graph on page 7).



Winter water-quality sampling on Split Lake.



Artist's drawing of the Keeyask Project structures.



As shown in the graph, the peak employment years are during the mid-construction period from 2016 to 2018. There will also be seasonal peaks from Q2 and Q3 (April to September) when the largest workforce of approximately 1600 workers is expected in 2016 and 2017. Workers from the KCN communities are projected to account for between 7% and 16% of the total construction workforce.

Source: Derived from data provided by Manitoba Hydro, 2011. Note: Employment opportunities in 2021 (Q3 and Q4) are for the decommissioning of temporary supporting infrastructure. Estimated construction schedule is subject to change by contractor.

Experiences with northern development, such as the Wuskwatim Generation Project currently nearing completion, have provided insight into potential challenges relating to employment of northern Aboriginal workers. To address the challenges and uncertainties associated with Project employment a number of steps are being taken, including the following:

- An Advisory Group on Employment will be tasked with receiving, reviewing and finding solutions to address challenges to construction employment such as turnover rates. Employee profiles will be created to increase communication and awareness of employment and job availability.
- Community-based mechanisms will be established to assist getting qualified KCN workers to the job

site within the Burntwood Nelson Agreement's timing conditions.

- Shuttles from key communities (e.g., Gillam and Thompson) will transport employees to the job site.

The strategic approach developed by the Advisory Group on Employment will be applied to the Northern Region. Tracking of both KCN and Aboriginal Northern Region employment will be part of a socio-economic monitoring plan. A monitoring plan will track whether the negotiated employment targets are being met.

In the operations phase, an estimated 46 new full-time local positions will be created over the long term.

Project operation is expected to generate a small number of additional part-time and full-time jobs in the retail and public sectors required to support new workers and their families.



Flooding

The construction of the Keeyask reservoir will flood an area of about 45 km², comprising mostly boreal forest and peatlands. The area flooded by the reservoir will be cleared of woody vegetation to prevent and minimize the amount of timber and other debris that could enter the waterway when the reservoir is filled.

The open-water hydraulic zone of influence (that area of the river where operation of the Project causes measurable changes in water levels and water level fluctuations) indicated in the figure below is the area in which the Project affects the water directly. It extends from about 41 km upstream from the powerhouse (almost to the outlet of Clark Lake) to about 3 km downstream of the powerhouse. The Project is not expected to affect water levels on Clark Lake and Split Lake during the open water seasons.

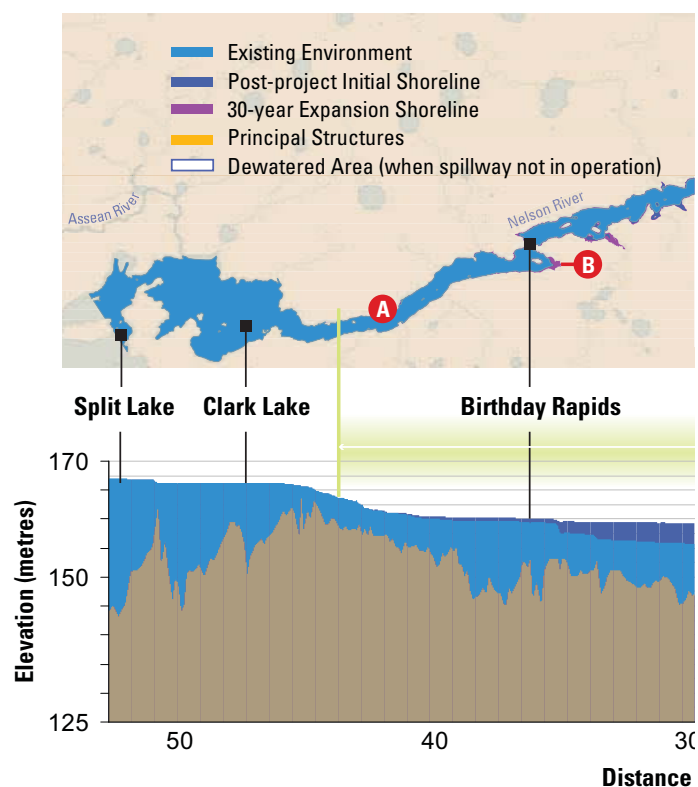
During construction, effects on erosion and sediment after mitigation are expected to be small in the main river channel as they will be addressed through careful construction management.

During the winter season, the predicted Project effects on ice conditions in the vicinity of the Project include the following:

- A thinner and smoother ice cover will form on Gull Lake to approximately 25 km upstream of the Project and downstream of the Project into Stephens Lake;
- A thicker, rougher ice cover will develop upstream of Gull Lake and will progress upstream of Birthday Rapids every year, but it will not reach Clark Lake;
- Water levels on Split Lake during the winter could be slightly higher (approximately 0.2m) during very low flow conditions; and
- Approximately 800 m of open water will exist immediately downstream of the powerhouse.

During Project operation, effects on erosion and sedimentation will include the following:

- During the first 30 years of operation the reservoir will expand in area by about 7-8 km² because of shoreline erosion and peatland disintegration;
- Additional woody debris resulting from reservoir expansion that may affect the use of the reservoir will be managed through the Waterways Management Program;
- Less erosion of shorelines is expected immediately downstream of the Project; and
- Less suspended sediment is expected in the water in the main channel through the reservoir and in the water flowing downstream to Stephens Lake.

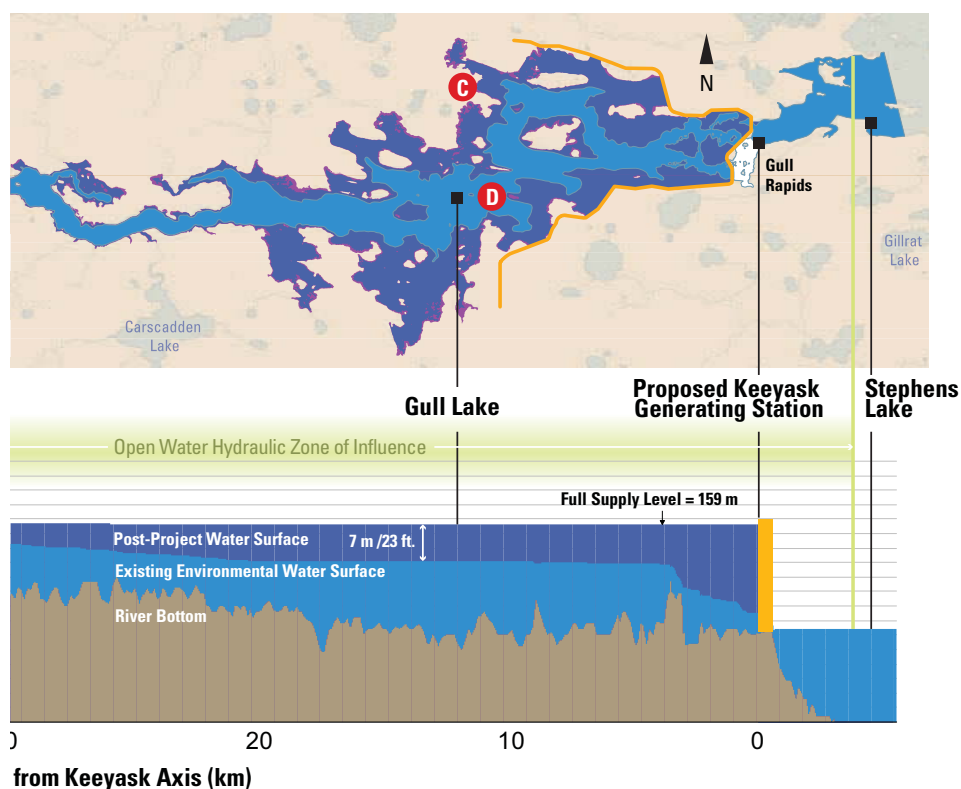


The Waterways Management Program has been developed to address KCN's concerns about debris and to mitigate potential effects of debris on resource use, safety and aesthetics during operation. Input from KCN representatives based on their experience with previous hydroelectric development was key in the preparation of this mitigation program.

Some KCN members are concerned that water level increases upstream of the Project will be greater than expected by Manitoba Hydro. Because KCN members are concerned that the Project will affect shoreline erosion, the local aquatic environment

and water quality, monitoring programs will be established to determine if Project-related effects extend to Split Lake.

Monitoring of water levels, ice conditions, shoreline erosion and sediment will occur during construction and during the initial years of operation. During operation the monitoring programs will be adapted based on monitoring results.



- A** Water levels will increase approximately 41 km (25.6 mi.) upstream of the generating station almost to the outlet of Clark Lake. Water levels on Split Lake will not be affected during open-water conditions.
- B** Shoreline expansion in the bay immediately upstream of Birthday Rapids is predicted to occur with or without the Project.
- C** Approximately 45 km² (17.4 mi²) of flooding will occur immediately, primarily in the low-lying areas adjacent to Gull Lake. During the first 30 years of operations, the reservoir will expand by 7-8 km² due to erosion of shorelines and peatland disintegration.
- D** The water level on Gull Lake will be raised approximately 7 m (23 ft.).

Open water flow showing existing environment and post-project environment.

Project flooded area and water surface profiles (50th percentile).



Water Quality

Project construction, flooding of terrestrial areas, erosion and changes in water flows/levels can alter water quality by allowing materials to enter the water.

During construction, effects to water quality will be managed to avoid harmful effects to aquatic life. For example, sewage effluent and wastewater from concrete production will be treated prior to release to the river.

The largest effects to water quality will occur in the first years after the station is constructed. In shallow flooded areas, the concentrations of many substances, such as suspended solids, nutrients (e.g., nitrogen and phosphorus), and metals will increase due to the decomposition of vegetation and the breakdown of peat. In winter, the amount of dissolved oxygen in the water will decrease under ice cover, and reach very low levels

in bays away from the main flow of the river.

There will be little or no detectable change to the water quality in the main flow of the Nelson River and downstream due to the large volume of water flowing in the river. In the long term, by contrast, the concentration of suspended solids in the reservoir and downstream in Stephens Lake is expected to be slightly lower than at present because more sediment will settle in the reservoir.

Regular monitoring of effects to water quality will occur during the construction and operation phases of the Project. Monitoring will include measurement of specific effects within the reservoir (e.g., flooding in off-current bays) as well as sites located over a broader spatial area extending from upstream of the Project (Split Lake to the Nelson River estuary). Monitoring will indicate whether unanticipated effects to water quality occur.

Mercury, Fish and Human Health

Country food – locally harvested plants, fish and animals – is an important part of the diet in northern Aboriginal communities. Post-flooding studies of past hydroelectric projects have shown that fish from newly flooded reservoirs often have substantially elevated mercury concentrations in their muscles. Because consumption of fish is the main pathway of mercury uptake by humans, the issue of mercury and human health is of concern.

In response to this concern, the KCNs have each negotiated individual Adverse Effects Agreements that enable them to harvest country foods in areas not affected by flooding. In addition to these programs, the following measures will be undertaken:

- Regular monitoring of mercury concentrations in fish in Gull Lake and Stephens Lake after flooding the reservoir; and



Walleye caught on Stephens Lake in 2006.

- A voluntary collection of samples of wild game, waterfowl, plants and gull eggs will also be tested for mercury to confirm if, as expected, mercury concentrations will continue to remain acceptable for consumption (and, if not, to institute a program to inform people who may harvest these food sources).

To further enhance understanding and address the effects of the Keeyask Project on human health, a Mercury and Human Health Technical Working

Group was established by the KCNs and Manitoba Hydro. The main goal of the working group was to understand and address the potential risks to human health as a result of the Project and to develop communication strategies for affected communities. Several communication products were developed to emphasize the benefits of a healthy diet (including eating country foods) and to recommend safe consumption levels for both pre- and post-flooding periods.

Higher mercury levels appear in fish a few years after reservoir creation due to increased production of a form of mercury that can be taken up by plants and animals as a result of the flooding of soils and undergrowth vegetation. After the Project is in operation, mercury concentrations in fish are predicted to increase both in the Keeyask reservoir and Stephens Lake and will reach maximum levels within three to five years in lake whitefish and four to seven years in northern pike (jackfish) and walleye (pickerel) of an average adult size. Maximum levels of mercury concentrations are not expected to persist for more than a few years. However, it may take about 20-30 years until concentrations in these fish species return to levels in the reservoir similar to those observed in Gull Lake before flooding. Mercury concentrations in fish from Stephens Lake (which is not being flooded by the Project) will likely return faster to natural levels. The illustration below provides a typical timeline of mercury concentrations in pike and walleye (thick orange line) and the approximate range within

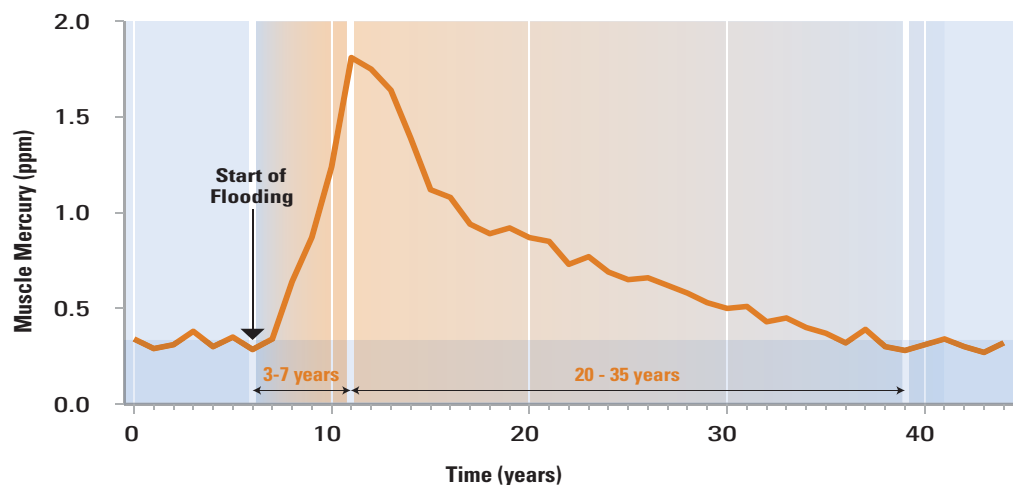


Researcher placing digested muscle sample into mercury auto-analyzer.

which mercury levels have changed after past reservoir creation in northern Manitoba.

The Mercury and Human Health Technical Working Group also prepared a communication strategy for the KCNs, Gillam and other resource users in the Project area based on pre-impoundment mercury levels in country foods. As part of the communication strategy, a series of products have been prepared for use in local communities to inform people of the issue and provide recommendations on eating certain fish species.

Typical Time Course of Mercury Concentrations in Predatory Fish After Reservoir Flooding in Northern Manitoba





Lake Sturgeon

Due to historic population declines caused by commercial over-harvest and past hydroelectric developments, and concerns about a continuing decline in numbers, the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada assessed lake sturgeon in the Nelson River as endangered. This species is currently being considered for listing under the federal *Species at Risk Act* (SARA).

Given the current status of lake sturgeon, the Partnership has focused considerable effort on finding ways to mitigate effects of the Project on lake sturgeon.

In the reservoir, upstream of the generating station, lake sturgeon habitat will be affected by the following:

- Changes to water levels and flows at Birthday Rapids, which is one of two known spawning areas in this part of the river (spawning habitat at Long Rapids, approximately seven km upstream, will not be affected). Sturgeon have specific requirements for spawning habitat, and it is not known if these changes will make Birthday Rapids unsuitable for spawning;
- Loss of existing habitat for newly hatched young sturgeon in Gull Lake. The habitat used by this life stage is very specific, and it is not certain whether suitable habitat will be present in the river channel after the reservoir is formed; and
- Changes to existing habitat for adult lake sturgeon in the reservoir. Older lake sturgeon can use a

much wider range of habitats than very young sturgeon, so the reservoir is expected to provide suitable habitat, despite these changes.

Monitoring of lake sturgeon after the reservoir is formed will determine whether or not habitat for spawning and newly hatched sturgeon is present. If not, the Partnership has identified practical ways to create these important habitats in new locations.

The main effect to lake sturgeon living in Stephens Lake downstream of the Project will be the loss of spawning and feeding habitat in Gull Rapids. Therefore, new spawning habitat will be constructed downstream of the tailrace of the generating station. Sturgeon use of this structure will be monitored and the structure will be modified as required.

The generating station will affect the movement of lake sturgeon upstream and downstream through Gull Rapids. At present, a few fish move over the rapids each year. These movements are not associated with a migration for a specific purpose (e.g., spawning). Fish passage is not required to maintain populations in the reservoir and Stephens



Large adult lake sturgeon captured at the mouth of the Odei River in 2008.



Gull Rapids looking west on the Nelson River.

Lake since habitat to support all life stages will be available in both areas. However, the Partnership is considering whether fish passage could provide any additional benefit to the sturgeon population.

Given that changes to sturgeon habitat will begin during construction of the Project, and some time may pass before the constructed habitat is fully functional, the lake sturgeon populations in the reservoir and Stephens Lake will be supplemented by introducing fish raised in a hatchery. Stocking will also work to increase the abundance of sturgeon upstream and downstream of the Project, as numbers are currently very low. In addition, sturgeon will be stocked where the current population is lower than could be supported by the available habitat in the Nelson River between the Kelsey and Kettle generating stations. This program is expected to



Young-of-the-year lake sturgeon.

result in an overall increase in the numbers of sturgeon in this area.

The key components of the stocking program include the following:

- A new hatchery will be built in the lower Nelson River area of Manitoba;
- Local fish will be used as the source of brood stock for the hatchery;
- Fish of a range of ages, from a few weeks to a year, will be released; and
- The program will continue in the long-term until numbers reach levels where the populations are self-sustaining.

As with other parts of the mitigation program, monitoring will be used to determine the success of the stocking program and whether modifications are required.



Sub-adult lake sturgeon from the Odei River.



Researcher holding year-old lake sturgeon caught on Stephens Lake.



Caribou

Barren-ground and coastal caribou migrate from Nunavut and Ontario and spend the winter in Manitoba's boreal forest, and partly in the Keeyask region. Some animals remain in this area year-round, calving in the spring on islands in lakes and in peatland habitats. Because population sizes and migratory routes change over time, the number of caribou varies seasonally. The Manitoba government does not identify the caribou in the Keeyask region as SARA-listed boreal woodland caribou; however, some local First Nation Members describe a woodland caribou type that is distinct from the coastal and barren-ground caribou.

Potential Project effects on caribou were reduced by changes to the Project design, including the routing of access roads to avoid known caribou calving habitat and to provide a greater buffer from potential noise disturbances.

During construction, caribou abundance, distribution and movements will be altered as caribou avoid construction sites, habitat is altered and lost, and caribou are lost to predators, hunters and vehicle collisions. Blasting and other noisy construction activities near quarries will be limited from late April to the end of June in the vicinity of high quality caribou calving habitat to minimize effects on calving females and their young. Potential vehicle collisions will be managed with the use of signs at specific areas along the access roads

warning users of caribou activity. Workers will not be allowed to have firearms in camps and at work sites to manage safety concerns and to prevent hunting. As a result, caribou harvest mortality by workers is not anticipated.



Coastal caribou crossing a lake in the Keeyask region.

During Project operations, the potential long-term effects on caribou include: the physical loss of caribou habitat; the alteration of local caribou abundance, distribution and movements associated with habitat fragmentation and; potential mortality primarily related to harvest and predation. Although new islands will be created within the reservoir, flooding is expected to remove between three and ten km² of caribou calving habitat. The anticipated loss of caribou calving habitat represents a small portion of the total available habitat in the region. Additional measures to reduce the loss of calving habitat continue to be discussed by the Partnership.





Coastal caribou in the Keeyask region.

Caribou are expected to avoid the area near the generating station, resulting in a reduction in the number of caribou calving in the vicinity of the Project. A small decrease in the amount of core habitat due to fragmentation is expected to result in small changes in the distribution of caribou. Where possible, long-term access effects related to caribou harvest and predation will be reduced with the decommissioning of trails used during construction. Lastly, a small change in caribou movements is likely to occur where stable ice conditions will result in better animal crossing opportunities at the reservoir. As with any reservoir or natural water body crossing, there is a small risk of caribou mortality during these crossing attempts, especially during early and late winter.

The Project will affect habitat and may affect individual mortality of caribou in the local study area, and could act cumulatively with other projects by adding additional access for hunters and predators along linear features in the region. The Partnership is examining potential mitigation measures to address this concern.

Monitoring of effects on caribou will take place during the construction and operation of the Project and will include aerial surveys, ground tracking, ATK and resource user information.

Barren-ground caribou in the Keeyask Region.



How to Get Involved in the Process

Next Steps

The Environmental Impact Statement for the Project is expected to be filed with regulatory agencies in late spring 2012 and will be available through the Province's public registry. The EIS submission will incorporate input received during the public involvement process.



Gull Rapids on the Nelson River.



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 Project.

Mailing Address

Keeyask Project
Public Involvement Program
c/o Major Projects Assessment and Licensing Department
Manitoba Hydro
360 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0G8

Email Address

Keeyask@hydro.mb.ca

Website Address

Keeyask.com



2234-02-12-WS

Keeyask Generation Project



Environmental Impact Assessment Public Involvement Program Round Two



The map illustrates the Keeyask Generating Station project area in Manitoba, Canada. The Nelson River flows from the west towards Hudson Bay. The Keeyask Generating Station (proposed) is located on the river. The map shows various First Nations territories, including the Fox Lake Cree Nation, York Factory First Nation, War Lake First Nation, and others. It also displays existing and proposed generating stations, roads, and rail lines. A legend in the bottom right corner provides a key for the symbols used.

Legend:

- Generating Stations (Existing)
- Generating Stations (Proposed)
- Generating Stations (Under Construction)
- Community (NAC: Northern Affairs Community)
- Road
- Rail Line
- Split Lake Resource Management Area
- Fox Lake Resource Management Area
- York Factory Resource Management Area



Keeyask Project Overview



Keeyask Hydropower Limited Partnership

The Partnership

The Project proponent is the Keeyask Hydropower Limited Partnership, comprised of four limited partners and one general partner. The four limited partners are Manitoba Hydro and companies representing the Cree Nation Partners (i.e. Tataskweyak Cree Nation and War Lake First Nation), York Factory First Nation, and Fox Lake Cree Nation. The general partner is a corporation wholly owned by Manitoba Hydro.

Each of the Keeyask Cree Nation Partners has made its own decision to support the Project.

Status of the Environmental Assessment Process

- Since 2001, Manitoba Hydro and the KCNs have collected information to identify ways to avoid, reduce or mitigate potential negative effects and enhance positive effects.
- The Project Proponent has committed to using Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge (ATK) to provide important perspectives on both the environmental and socio-economic implications of the Project.
- Results, including commitments to follow-up and monitoring, will be compiled in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that will be available to the public and submitted for review and approval by federal and provincial environmental regulatory agencies.
- Public hearings are expected.



Keeyask Public Involvement Program

- Public involvement is a key element of the environmental assessment activities for the Project.
- The public involvement process provides the public, particularly those potentially affected by the Project, with opportunities to receive information about the Project and to provide input on the potential issues and effects.

Round One

Round One completed in 2008, provided an introduction to the Project and identified issues and concerns.

Round Two Current Round

Round Two offers participants with an opportunity to provide input on preliminary results regarding the biophysical and socio-economic effects of the Project and to offer suggestions for minimizing or avoiding potential negative effect

Round Three

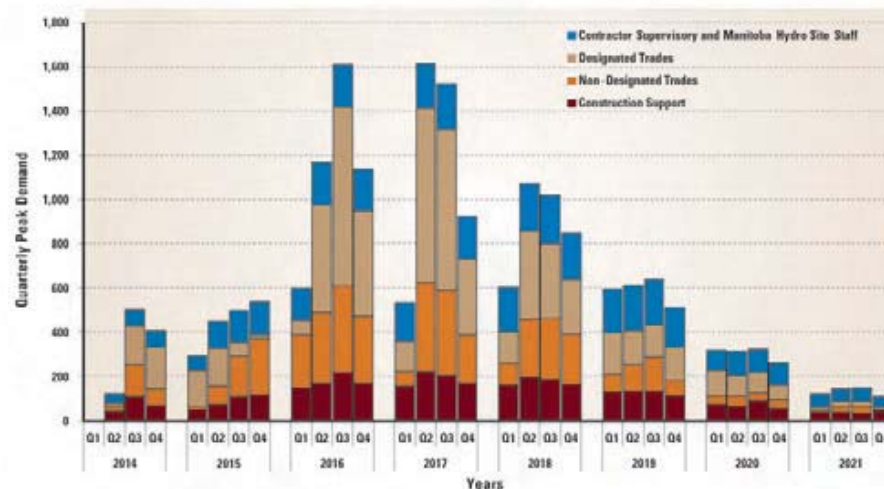
Round Three, will be used to review the completed Environmental Impact Statement.

Summary of What We Heard in Round One

- Communities were positive about potential employment and training opportunities associated with the Project and provided comments on how best to participate in this opportunity.
- Concerns were raised about effects of the Project on various fish and animal species (e.g., sturgeon, caribou).
- Concerns about potentially elevated mercury levels caused by Project flooding were raised by a number of northern communities.
- Concerns were raised about Project effects on resource users (e.g., trappers) and cultural sites (e.g., burial sites) and the need to have these issues considered in the environmental assessment.



Project Effects and Mitigation: Employment and Training



As shown in the graph, the peak employment years are during the mid-construction period from 2016 to 2018. There will also be seasonal peaks from Q2 and Q3 (April to September) when the largest workforce of approximately 1600 workers is expected in 2016 and 2017. Workers from the KCN communities are projected to account for between 7% and 16% of the total construction workforce.

Source: Derived from data provided by Manitoba Hydro, 2011.

Note: Employment opportunities in 2021 (Q3 and Q4) are for the decommissioning of temporary supporting infrastructure. Estimated construction schedule is subject to change by contractor.

Should the Project proceed, it is expected to generate:

- Over 4,200 person years of direct construction employment;
- Employment opportunities available during the Project's construction period:
 - *Designated trades (e.g., heavy equipment operators and truck drivers);*
 - *Technical or professional occupations (e.g., administration); and*
 - *Construction support (e.g., catering and security).*
- For the operation phase, an estimated 46 new full-time local positions.



Project Effects and Mitigation: Employment and Training

A training program was conducted for northern Manitoba Aboriginal people for employment on the Project and northern needs.

- Between 2002 and 2010, over 1,000 Aboriginal people completed occupational training, life skill training and skills upgrading.

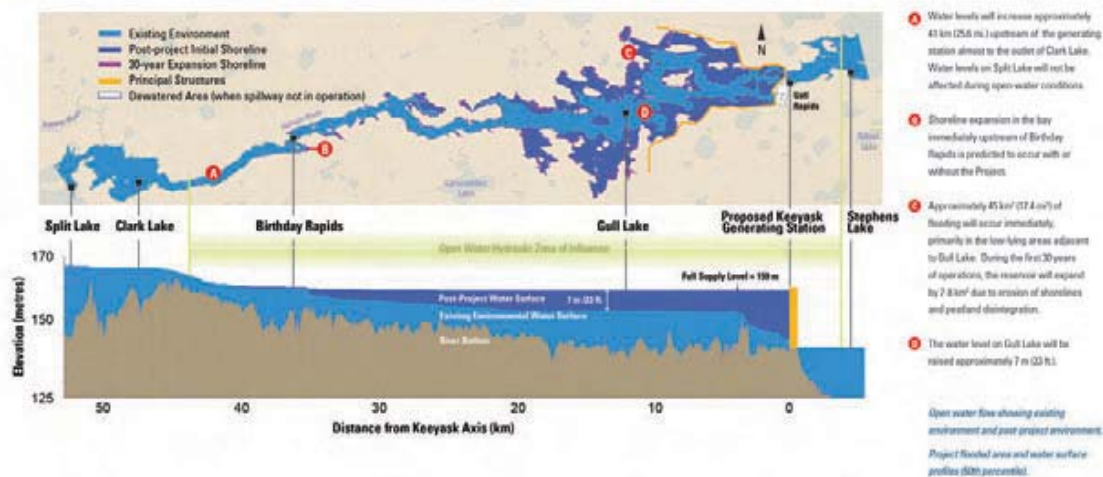
Steps being taken to address challenges and uncertainties associated with Project employment, including the following:

- An Advisory Group on Employment will be tasked with receiving, reviewing, and finding solutions to address challenges to construction employment and to lower turnover rates. Employee profiles will be created to increase communication and awareness of employment and job availability;
- A community-based mechanism will be established to assist getting qualified KCN workers to the job site; and
- Shuttles from Gillam and Thompson will transport employees to the job site.

Tracking of both KCNs and Aboriginal Northern Region employment will be part of a socio-economic monitoring plan. A monitoring plan will track whether the negotiated employment targets are being met.



Project Effects and Mitigation: Sediment and Erosion



- During construction, effects on erosion and sediment after mitigation are expected to be small in the main river channel as they will be addressed through appropriate construction management.
- During the first 30 years of operation the reservoir will expand in area by about 7-8 km² because of shoreline erosion and peatland disintegration.
- Additional woody debris will be managed through the Waterways Management Program.
- During operation, there would be less erosion of shorelines immediately downstream of the Project than would occur without the Project.
- During operation, there would be less suspended sediment in the water in the main channel through the reservoir and in the water discharged downstream to Stephens Lake than would occur without the Project.



Project Effects and Mitigation: Ice and Water Conditions

- During Project operation a thinner and smoother ice cover will form on Gull Lake to approximately 25 km upstream of the Project and downstream of the Project into Stephens Lake.
- A thicker, rougher ice cover will develop upstream of Gull Lake and will progress upstream of Birthday Rapids, but will end downstream of Clark Lake.
- Winter water levels on Split Lake could be slightly higher (approximately 0.2m) during very low flow conditions.
- Approximately 800 m of open water will exist immediately downstream of the powerhouse.



Looking east at Gull Rapids in December of 2004.



Project Effects and Mitigation: Water Quality

- Project construction, flooding of terrestrial areas, erosion, and changes in water flows/levels can alter water quality by allowing materials to enter the water.
- During construction, effects to water quality will be managed to avoid harmful effects to aquatic life.
- The largest effects to water quality will occur in the first years after the station is constructed. In shallow flooded areas, the concentrations of many substances, such as suspended sediments, nutrients (e.g., nitrogen and phosphorus), and metals will increase due to the decomposition of vegetation and the breakdown of peat. In winter, the amount of dissolved oxygen in the water will decrease under ice cover, and reach very low levels in bays away from the main flow of the river.
- There will be little or no detectable change to the water quality in the main flow of the Nelson River and downstream due to the large volume of water flowing in the river. In the long term, by contrast, the concentration of suspended sediments in the reservoir and downstream in Stephens Lake is expected to be slightly lower than at present because more sediment will settle in the reservoir.
- Regular monitoring of effects to water quality will occur during the construction and operation phases of the Project.



Project Effects and Mitigation: Mercury, Fish and Human Health

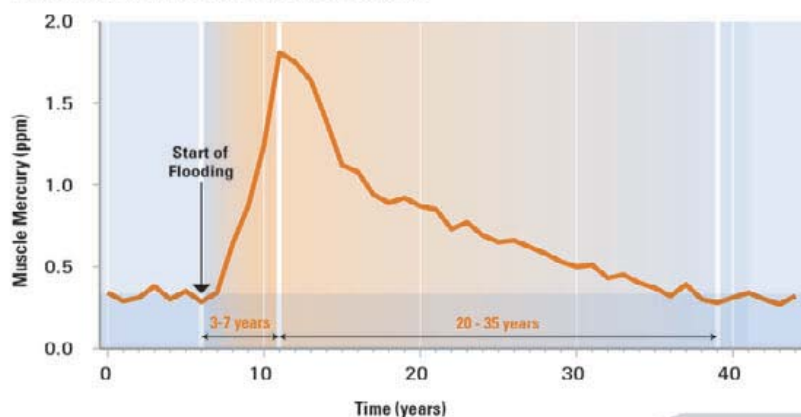
Country food is an important part of the diet in northern Aboriginal communities.

While mercury is normally found in all fish, studies of past hydroelectric projects have shown that fish from newly flooded reservoirs have substantially elevated mercury concentrations.

Anticipated Effects During Project Operation

- Mercury concentrations in fish are predicted to increase both in the Keeyask reservoir and Stephens Lake reaching maximum levels within 3 to 5 years in lake whitefish and 4 to 7 years in northern pike (jackfish) and walleye (pickerel) of an average adult size.
- Maximum levels of mercury are expected to persist for a few years then begin to decline.
- It may take about 20-30 years until concentrations in these fish species return to levels in the reservoir similar to those observed in Gull Lake before flooding.

Typical Time Course of Mercury Concentrations in Predatory Fish After Reservoir Flooding in Northern Manitoba



Project Effects and Mitigation: Mercury, Fish and Human Health

Proposed Mitigation and Monitoring Activities

The KCNs have each negotiated individual Adverse Effects Agreements that enable them to harvest country foods in areas not affected by flooding.

In addition to these programs, the following measures will be undertaken:

- Regular monitoring of mercury concentrations in fish in Gull Lake and Stephens Lake after flooding the reservoir; and
- A voluntary collection of samples of wild game, waterfowl, plants and gull eggs will also be tested for mercury to confirm if, as expected, mercury concentrations will continue to remain acceptable for consumption.

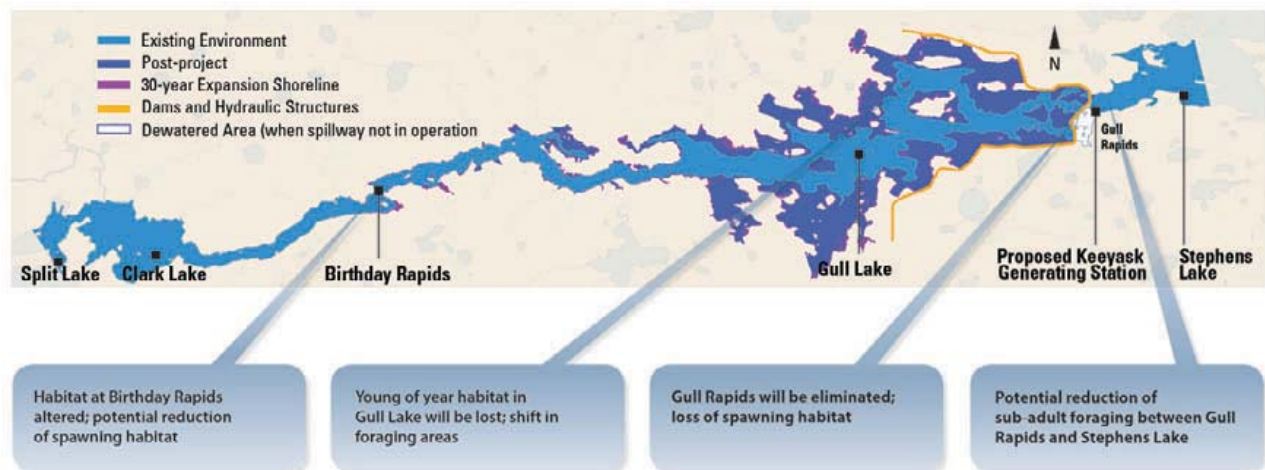
The Mercury and Human Health Technical Working Group also prepared a communication strategy for the KCNs, Gillam and other resource users in the Project area. As part of the communication strategy, a series of products have been prepared for use in local communities to inform people of the issue and provide recommendations on eating certain fish species.



Project Effects and Mitigation: Lake Sturgeon

Due to historic population declines caused by commercial over-harvest and past hydroelectric developments, and concerns about a continuing decline in numbers, the Partnership has focused considerable effort on finding ways to mitigate effects of the Project on lake sturgeon.

Monitoring of lake sturgeon after the reservoir is formed will determine whether or not habitat for spawning and newly hatched sturgeon is present in the reservoir. If not, the Partnership has identified ways to create these important habitats in new locations.



Project Effects and Mitigation: Lake Sturgeon



Young-of-the-year lake sturgeon.

Mitigation Measures Include the Following

- Downstream of the generating station new spawning habitat will be constructed. Lake sturgeon use of this structure will be monitored and modified as required.
- Monitoring of lake sturgeon upstream of the generating station will determine whether or not spawning and rearing habitat needs to be created.
- Stocking will occur in the Nelson River between the Kelsey and Kettle generating stations.

Key Components of the Lake Sturgeon Stocking Program

- A new hatchery will be built in the lower Nelson River area of Manitoba.
- Local fish will be used as the source of brood stock for the hatchery.
- Fish of a range of ages, from a few weeks to a year, will be released.
- The program will continue in the long-term until numbers reach levels where the populations are self-sustaining.



Large adult lake sturgeon captured at the mouth of the Odeh River in 2008

As with other parts of the mitigation program, monitoring will be used to determine the success of the stocking program and whether modifications are required



Project Effects and Mitigation: Caribou

Barren-ground and coastal caribou migrate from Nunavut and Ontario and spend the winter in Manitoba's boreal forest, and partly, in the Keeyask region. Some animals remain in this area year-round, calving in the spring on islands in lakes and in peatland habitats.

Because population sizes and migratory routes change over time, the number of caribou varies seasonally. The Manitoba government does not identify the caribou in the Keeyask region as SARA-listed boreal woodland caribou; however, some local First Nation Members describe a woodland caribou type that is distinct from the coastal and barren-ground caribou.



Coastal caribou in the Keeyask region.



Summer resident bull caribou in the Keeyask region.



Project Effects and Mitigation: Caribou

Potential Project effects on caribou were reduced by changes to the Project design, including the routing of access roads to avoid known caribou calving habitat and to provide a greater buffer from potential noise disturbances.

Additional mitigation measures, where feasible, will include the following:

- Blasting and other noisy construction activities near quarries will be limited from late April to the end of June in the vicinity of high quality caribou calving habitat to minimize effects on calving females and their young;
- To reduce potential vehicle collisions, signs will be posted at specific areas along the access roads, warning users of caribou activity;
- Workers will not be allowed to have firearms in camps and at work sites to prevent hunting.

Monitoring of effects on caribou will take place during the construction and operation of the Project and will include aerial surveys, ground tracking, ATK and resource user information.

Barren-ground caribou in the Keeyask Region.



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

We invite you to talk with one of the Project representatives at the meeting today or to contact us at the address below with any questions, concerns or issues you may have about the proposed Project.

Next Steps

The Environmental Impact Statement for the Project is expected to be filed with regulatory agencies in late spring 2012 and will be available through the Province's public registry. The EIS submission will incorporate input received during the public involvement process.

Round Three of the Public Involvement Program is expected to occur in the fall of 2012.

Contact Information

Keeyask Hydropower Limited Partnership Public Involvement Program

c/o Major Projects Assessment and
Licensing Department
Manitoba Hydro
360 Portage Avenue (15th floor)
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0G8

Website Address: Keeyask.com

Email Address: Keeyask@hydro.mb.ca



Keeyask Generating Station



Manitoba Hydro, in partnership with the Keeyask Cree Nations (Tataskweyak Cree Nation, War Lake First Nation, Fox Lake Cree Nation, and York Factory First Nation), will proceed to develop the Keeyask Generating Station, a 695 megawatt, \$5.6 billion project. [See the official news release from June 28, 2011. \(open new window\)](#)

[Visit the Keeyask Hydropower Limited Partnership website. \(open new window\)](#)

The Keeyask Generating Station 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. \(open new window\)](#)

The **Keeyask Infrastructure Project** includes preliminary work on access road construction and camp development.

[View Keeyask Tendering Opportunities. \(open new window\)](#)

Related Info

[Keeyask Generating Station](#)

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

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Keeyask Generating Station - Project Overview

http://www.hydro.mb.ca/projects/keeyask/project_overview.shtml

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.
- Targeted in-service dates: First unit in 2019, all units commissioned by 2021.
- Projected cost: \$5.6 billion (June 2011).

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

Related Info

[Keeyask Generating Station](#)

- [Project Overview](#)
- [First Nations Partnership](#)
 - [Joint Keeyask Development Agreement](#)
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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](#)
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 - [Joint Keeyask Development Agreement](#)
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Keeyask Generating Station - Joint Keeyask Development Agreement

http://www.hydro.mb.ca/projects/keeyask/jkd_agreement.shtml

Joint Keeyask Development Agreement

[Joint Keeyask Development Agreement \(open new window\)](#)

[Schedule 1-1: Limited Partnership Agreement \(open new window\)](#)

- [Appendices \(open new window\)](#)

[Schedule 1-2: Construction Agreement \(open new window\)](#)

[Schedule 1-3: Project Financing Agreement \(open new window\)](#)

- [Appendix A - Borrowing Notice \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix B - Addresses for Notice \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix C \(1 of 3\) - Direction and Acknowledgment \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix C \(2 of 3\) - Assignment of Power Purchase Agreement \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix C \(3 of 3\) - Debenture \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix D - Repayment Notice \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix E - Authorizations \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix F - Hydro Act Provisions \(open new window\)](#)

[Schedule 1-4: Power Purchase Agreement \(open new window\)](#)

- [Appendix A - Computation Example of Paid Amounts for Net Actual On-Peak Energy \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix B - Addresses for Notice \(open new window\)](#)

[Schedule 1-5: CNPLP Financing Agreement \(open new window\)](#)

- [Appendix A - Repayment Notice \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix B - Borrowing Notice \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix C - Issued and Outstanding Capital Stock and Debt \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix D - Liabilities \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix E - Addresses For Notice \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix F - Security Documents \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix G - Authorizations \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix H - Hydro Act Provisions \(open new window\)](#)

[Schedule 1-6: YFFNLP Financing Agreement \(open new window\)](#)

- [Appendix A - Repayment Notice \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix B - Borrowing Notice \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix C - Issued and Outstanding Capital Stock and Debt \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix D - Liabilities \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix E - Addresses For Notice \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix F - Security Documents \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix G - Authorizations \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix H - Hydro Act Provisions \(open new window\)](#)

[Schedule 1-7: FLCNKL Financing Agreement \(open new window\)](#)

Related Info

- [Keeyask Generating Station](#)
- [Project Overview](#)
- [First Nations Partnership](#)
 - [Joint Keeyask Development Agreement](#)
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- [Environmental Assessment Public Involvement Program](#)
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- [Appendix A - Repayment Notice \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix B - Borrowing Notice \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix C - Issued and Outstanding Capital Stock and Debt \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix D - Liabilities \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix E - Addresses For Notice \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix F - Security Documents \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix G - Authorizations \(open new window\)](#)
- [Appendix H - Hydro Act Provisions \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 2-1: Figure of Limited Partnership Structure \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 3-1: Environmental and Regulatory Protocol \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 4-1: Subscription Agreement \(Manitoba Hydro\) \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 4-2: Subscription Agreement \(General Partner\) \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 4-3: Subscription Agreement CNPLP \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 4-4: Subscription Agreement YFFNLP \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 4-5: Subscription Agreement FLCNKL \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 4-6: CAC Terms of Reference \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 4-7: MAC Terms of Reference \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 7-1: Project Description \(open new window\)](#)
 - [Schedule 7-1: Project Location, Structures, Schedules, Maps and Charts \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 11-1: Reservoir Clearing Plan \(open new window\)](#)
 - [Schedule 11-1 - Maps \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 11-2: Waterways Management Program \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 11-3: Existing Hydro Commitments \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 12-1: TCN and War Lake Revenue Advance Agreement \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 12-2: Fox Lake Revenue Advance Agreement \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 12-3: Proposed Letter of Agreement \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 12-4: Articles Provisions \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 12-5: C/B/N River Area and Boundaries Map \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 12-6: BNA Negotiation Process \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 12-7: AGE Terms of Reference \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 12-8: Employment Framework \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 13-1: Identified Work Packages and Allocation \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 13-2: Proposal Review Process \(open new window\)](#)

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Keeyask Generating Station - Joint Keeyask Development Agreement

http://www.hydro.mb.ca/projects/keeyask/jkd_agreement.shtml

- [Schedule 13-3: Bonding Requirements \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 15-1: Hydro Act Provisions \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 15-2: Listed Agreements \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 19-1: Form of Oath or Undertaking of the Arbitrator \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 20-1: Ratification Protocol \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 24-1: Confidentiality Agreement CNP \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 24-2: Confidentiality Agreement York Factory \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 24-3: Confidentiality Agreement Fox Lake \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 24-4: Certificate of ILA CNP \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 24-5: Certificate of ILA York Factory \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 24-6: Certificate of ILA Fox Lake \(open new window\)](#)
- [Schedule 24-7: Certificate of ILA Hydro \(open new window\)](#)

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](#)

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Keeyask Generating Station - Environmental Assessment Public Involvement Program

http://www.hydro.mb.ca/projects/keeyask/env_public.shtml

Environmental Assessment Public Involvement Program

Public involvement is key for the project's environmental impact assessment activities, which will involve 3 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 helped 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. \(open new window\)](#)

[Keeyask Generation Project Public Involvement Program summary – Round One. \(open new window\)](#)

The second round of consultations have begun. Initial impact assessment results were reviewed and ways to mitigate such effects have been considered.

[Keeyask Generation Project newsletter – Round Two, February 2012. \(open new window\)](#)

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

The third round of consultations will occur when the EIS has been filed for initial public review and comment. Communities, councils and organizations who participated in Round One and the general public will be notified prior to Round Two and Three consultation activities.

Open houses and meetings

Open houses were held in March 2012 in Gillam, Winnipeg, and Thompson. Previously, 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](#)
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PARTNERS


Cree Nation Partners

Fox Lake Cree Nation

York Factory First Nation

Manitoba Hydro

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Keeyask (Cree for gull) is a potential 695-megawatt hydroelectric generating station at Gull Rapids on the lower Nelson River in northern Manitoba, Canada.

KEEYASK HYDRO POWER LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

Development of Keeyask is a collaborative effort between Manitoba Hydro and four Manitoba First Nations – Tataskweyak, York Factory, Fox Lake and War Lake – working together as the Keeyask Hydropower Limited Partnership (KHLP).

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Public Involvement

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 Public Involvement

The Project was introduced to communities in northern Manitoba and other potentially interested/affected organizations in 2008. Comments received from participants were documented and include the following perspectives:

- Communities were positive about potential employment and training opportunities associated with the Project and provided comments on how best to participate in this opportunity.
- Concerns were raised about the effects of Project flooding on various fish and animals species (e.g., sturgeon, caribou). Potentially elevated mercury levels caused by Project flooding were also concerns raised by a number of northern communities.
- Concerns were raised about Project effects on resource users (e.g., trappers) and cultural sites (e.g., burial sites) and the need to have these issues considered in the environmental assessment



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Public Involvement Plan

A **Public Involvement Plan (PIP)** was jointly developed by KCN and Manitoba Hydro in the fall of 2007 to guide engagement activities with Aboriginal communities and stakeholders beyond the in-vicinity KCNs.

Project engagement and consultation activities will be provided at key stages in the environmental review and planning process. Three extensive rounds of information-gathering and consultation activities are anticipated in the planning process.

Stages of Public Involvement for the Keeyask Generation Project

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

Round One of the Public Involvement Program

Round One PIP activities occurred between June 2008 and November 2008, focusing on communities in northern Manitoba and potentially interested/affected organizations. 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 how they wished to be consulted in future rounds of the PIP.

Consultation has focused primarily on communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area beyond the Keeyask Cree Nations, including First Nations, Gillam, Thompson, Churchill, Leaf Rapids and Northern Affairs communities. In addition, open houses were held in Winnipeg and Brandon.

A variety of public involvement methods were utilized during Round One including:

- Informal meetings with community leadership;
- Community information session following the meetings with the community leadership;
- Public open houses;
- Workshops; and
- Meetings with organizations.

Rounds Two and Three of the PIP

The second round of consultations will be undertaken when initial impact assessment results



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are reviewed and ways to mitigate such effects are considered. The third round of consultation will occur when the EIS has been filed for initial public review and comment. Communities, councils and organizations who participated in Round One PIP and the general public will be notified prior to Round Two and Three consultation activities.

Visitors to this site are invited to submit questions, comments or issues about the Projects [here](#).

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
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Round One

[Keeyask Generation Project Newsletter – Round One, May 2008](#) (PDF)
[Keeyask Generation Project information panels – Round One](#) (PDF)
[Summary of Round One the Public Involvement Program for Keeyask](#) (PDF)

Round Two

[Keeyask Generation Project Newsletter – Round Two Feb 2012](#) (PDF)
[Keeyask Generation Project Round Two Information Panels](#) (PDF)


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Current Public Involvement Events

The second round of the Keeyask Public Involvement Program is underway. Open houses are planned for three communities, including the following:

Gillam
 Tuesday, March 6 (5:00 – 8:00 p.m.), Gillam Recreation Complex

Winnipeg
 Monday, March 12 (6:00 – 9:00 p.m.), Delta Hotel, 350 St. Mary Avenue

Thompson
 Tuesday, March 13 (6:00 – 9:00 p.m.), St. John's United Church

For more information about the Public Involvement Program please contact Manitoba Hydro at (204) 360-3311 or 1-888-624-9376 or e-mail Keeyask@hydro.mb.ca



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Comment Form

**Round Two Public Involvement Program 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 preliminary results of the environmental assessment and you were provided with an opportunity to provide input on possible mitigation measures?

____ 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 Keeyask.com or contact Harv Sawatzky of InterGroup Consultants at (204) 942-0654.



360 Portage Ave (15) • Winnipeg Manitoba Canada • R3C 0G8
Telephone / N° de téléphone : (204) 360-4334 • Fax / N° de télécopieur : (204) 360-6131
rkustra@hydro.mb.ca

January 20, 2012

Mr. Gary Ceppitelli
City of Thompson
City Manager
226 Mystery Lake Road
Thompson, Manitoba R8N 1S6

Dear Mr. Ceppitelli,

RE: PROPOSED KEEYASK GENERATION PROJECT

ROUND TWO OF THE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM

The Keeyask Hydropower Limited Partnership (the Partnership) is proposing to develop the Keeyask Generation Project (the Project), a 695-megawatt hydroelectric generating station on the Nelson River in northern Manitoba. The Partnership consists of Tataskweyak Cree Nation and War Lake First Nation (acting together as the Cree Nation Partners), York Factory First Nation, Fox Lake Cree Nation, and Manitoba Hydro.

The Partnership has been collecting information that will contribute to the Project's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and is identifying ways to avoid, reduce or mitigate potential negative effects and enhance potential positive effects. An important component of the environmental assessment process is the 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 Project was introduced to potentially affected communities and organizations in northern Manitoba and other potentially interested organizations in Round One of the PIP in 2008. Information was shared with these groups about the Project including the environmental assessment, regulatory review and public involvement processes. Comments and perspectives received from participants were documented and incorporated into the environmental assessment process.

The Partnership is now in a position to share with interested communities and organizations preliminary results regarding the biophysical and socio-economic effects of the Project, including suggestions for minimizing or avoiding potential adverse effects. Comments and perspectives about this information will be used to help finalize the EIS. As a community or organization that participated in Round One of the PIP, we will be contacting you in the near future to inquire whether or not you continue to have interest in the Project and if so, to organize a meeting in (Thompson). Round Two of the PIP is scheduled to occur between mid-February and the end of March of 2012.

For more information about the Keeyask Generation Project visit the Project website at: www.keeyask.com. If you have any questions about the public involvement process, please do not hesitate to contact Harv Sawatzky at InterGroup Consultants at (204) 942-0654.

Yours truly,



Ryan Kustra
Manager, Major Projects Assessment and Licensing
Manitoba Hydro

Table 3B-1: Notification Letters sent to communities for Round Two of the Keeyask Public Involvement Program

Name	Community/Organization	Date Sent
Ms. Angela English	City of Thompson	January 23, 2012
Mr. Gary Ceppetelli	City of Thompson	January 23, 2012
Mr. Tim Johnston	City of Thompson	January 23, 2012
Ms. Darlene Beck	Cross Lake Community Council	January 23, 2012
Mr. Clarence Smith	Cross Lake Community Council	January 23, 2012
Mr. Alex Robinson	Cross Lake First Nation Officials	January 23, 2012
Ms. Jackie Clayton	Gillam Community Council	January 23, 2012
Mr. James Goymer	Gillam Community Council	January 23, 2012
Mr. William Anderson	Granville Lake Community Council	January 23, 2012
Mr. James Chornoboy	Ilford Community Council	January 23, 2012
Ms. Ester Laliberty	Ilford Community Council	January 23, 2012
Ms. Sharon McKay	Keewatin Tribal Council (KTC)	January 23, 2012
Ms. Geraldine Cockerill	Leaf Rapids Mayor and Council	January 23, 2012
Mr. Martin Van Osch	Leaf Rapids Mayor and Council	January 23, 2012
Ms. Corinne Stewart	LGD of Mystery Lake	January 23, 2012
Mr. Michael Anderson	Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak (MKO)	January 23, 2012
Mr. Justin Stapon	Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF)	January 23, 2012
Mr. David Chartrand	Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF)	January 23, 2012
Mr. Norman Linklater	Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation (NCN)	January 23, 2012
Ms. Violet Turner	Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation (NCN)	January 23, 2012
Mr. Jerry Primrose	Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation (NCN)	January 23, 2012
Ms. Tracey Johnson	Northern Association of Community Councils (NACC)	January 23, 2012
Mr. Reg Meade	Northern Association of Community Councils (NACC)	January 23, 2012
Ms. Bella Leonard	Nelson House Community Council (NHNA)	January 23, 2012
Ms. Theresa Hart	Nelson House Community Council (NHNA)	January 23, 2012
Mr. Lloyd Flett	Norway House Community Council (NWHNA)	January 23, 2012
Mr. Mike Dumas	O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree Nation	January 23, 2012
Mr. Jack Dysart	O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree Nation	January 23, 2012
Mr. Wayne Laubmann	Pikwitonei	January 23, 2012
Mr. Martha Chartrand	Pikwitonei	January 23, 2012
Mr. Jeffrey Napoakesik	Shamattawa First Nation	January 23, 2012
Ms. Joanne Pronteau-Bignell	Thicket Portage	January 23, 2012
Mr. Albert Meijering	Town of Churchill	January 23, 2012
Mr. Mike Spence	Town of Churchill	January 23, 2012
Mr. Larry McIvor	Wabowden	January 23, 2012
Mr. Reg Meade	Wabowden	January 23, 2012

Table 3B-2: Notification Letters sent to stakeholders for Round Two of the Keeyask Public Involvement Program

Name	Organization	Date Sent
Mr. Ron Chartrand	Manitoba Metis Federation Inc.	January 23, 2012
Mr. Justin Stapon	Manitoba Metis Federation Inc.	January 23, 2012
Mr. Julyda Lagimodiere	Manitoba Metis Federation Inc.	January 23, 2012
Mr. Bill Yetman	Nisichawayasihk Resource Management Board	January 23, 2012
	Thompson Wildlife Association	January 23, 2012
Tataskweyak Cree Nation	Split Lake Resource Management Board	January 23, 2012
Land Manager	Cross Lake First Nation	January 23, 2012
	Manitoba Trappers Association	January 23, 2012
Mr. Fred Hobbs	Manitoba Trappers Association	January 23, 2012
Mr. Phillip Bighetty	Manitoba Trappers Association	January 23, 2012
Mr. Nelson Scribe	Manitoba Trappers Association	January 23, 2012
Mr. Ron Mowat	Manitoba Trappers Association	January 23, 2012
Mr. John G. McDougall	Manitoba Trappers Association	January 23, 2012
Kelly Baker	Manitoba Trappers Association	January 23, 2012
Mr. Charlie Lavallee	Manitoba Trappers Association	January 23, 2012
J.H. Corky Peterson	Manitoba Trappers Association	January 23, 2012
	Nelson River Sturgeon Co-Management Board	January 23, 2012
Mr. Ross Thompson	Beverly and Kaminaruk Caribou Management Board	January 23, 2012
	The Mining Association of Manitoba	January 23, 2012
	Vale INCO	January 23, 2012
	Peregrine Diamonds Ltd. – Weir River	January 23, 2012
	Callinan Mines Limited – Fox River	January 23, 2012
René Galipeau	Victory Nickel Inc	January 23, 2012
	CaNickel Mining Limited (<i>formerly Crowflight Minerals Inc.</i>)	January 23, 2012
	Tolko Industries Ltd.	January 23, 2012
	MKO Thompson	January 23, 2012
Mr. Duncan Stokes	Sno-Man	January 23, 2012
President	Thompson Trail Breakers	January 23, 2012
C/O Will Gray	Gillam Snowmobile Club	January 23, 2012
Cary Chapnick	Paddle Manitoba	January 23, 2012
	Cross Country Ski Association of Manitoba	January 23, 2012
Mr. Gordon Gage	Manitoba Lodge and Outfitters Association	January 23, 2012
	All-Terrain Bear Hunts	January 23, 2012
Kip & Mickey Thompson	Silsby Lake Lodge and Outposts	January 23, 2012
Ms. Annie Snihor	Trapper Mike's Outfitting Service	January 23, 2012
	Churchill Wild	January 23, 2012
Chuck & Esther Harmer	Edmund Lake Lodge	January 23, 2012
	Lazy Bear Lodge	January 23, 2012
Mr. Rick Leger	Outfitter	January 23, 2012
John & Andrea Hatley	Outfitter	January 23, 2012
	Webbers Lodges	January 23, 2012
Ms. Kristine Koster	Manitoba Eco-network	January 23, 2012
Ms. Fenella Temmerman	A Rocha Canada	January 23, 2012
	A Rocha Canada	January 23, 2012
	Bike to the Future	January 23, 2012
Jean Horton	Brandon Naturalists Society	January 23, 2012
Mr. Ian Greaves	Campaign for Pesticide Reduction!	January 23, 2012
	Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS)	January 23, 2012
Ms. Margaret Friesen	Chemical Sensitivities Manitoba	January 23, 2012
Mr. Michael Goodyear	Churchill Northern Studies Centre	January 23, 2012
Ms. Samantha Mutchmor	Coalition to Save the ELMS	January 23, 2012
Ms. Amanda San Fillipo	Comite Environmental du CUSB	January 23, 2012

Name	Organization	Date Sent
Mr. Jim Mair	Committee for Church in Society (Christ Luthran Church)	January 23, 2012
	Concerned Residents of Winnipeg (CROW)	January 23, 2012
Ms. Gloria Desorcy	Consumers Association of Canada - MB Chapter	January 23, 2012
Ms. Catherine Glass	Consumers for Responsible Energy	January 23, 2012
c/o UWSA	ECO-MAFIA	January 23, 2012
Ms. Melissa Branconnier	Environmental Youth Centre	January 23, 2012
Ms. Doreen Murray	FFDEC	January 23, 2012
Ms. Kathy Penner	Fort Whyte Alive	January 23, 2012
	Friends of Assiniboine Park Conservatory	January 23, 2012
	Green Kids Inc.	January 23, 2012
Mr. Ray Sokalski	HASTA - Kelvin High School	January 23, 2012
	Institute of Urban Studies	January 23, 2012
Mr. Mark Myrowich	International Erosion Control Association - Northern Plains Chapter	January 23, 2012
Ms. Marlene Roy	International Institute for Sustainable Development	January 23, 2012
Ms. Lori Nichols	Living Prairie Museum	January 23, 2012
Mr. Peter Walker	Manitoba Federation of Labour	January 23, 2012
Mr. Bill Baker	Manitoba Forestry Association	January 23, 2012
Ms. Susan McLarty	Manitoba Naturalists Society	January 23, 2012
Mr. Mark Miller	Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association	January 23, 2012
Mr. Jared Whelan	Manitoba Protected Areas Society	January 23, 2012
Ms. Gaile Whelan-Enns	Manitoba Wildlands	January 23, 2012
	Manitoba Wildlands Rehabilitation Organization	January 23, 2012
	Manitoba Forest Society	January 23, 2012
Ms. Doris Ames	Native Orchid Conservation Inc.	January 23, 2012
Ms. Tabitha Martens	Oak Hammock Marsh	January 23, 2012
	Organic Food Council of Manitoba	January 23, 2012
	Project Peacemakers	January 23, 2012
	Red River Basin Commission	January 23, 2012
Ajaleigh Williams	Red River Valley Clean Cities Coalition	January 23, 2012
Mr. Randall McQuaker	Resource Conservation Manitoba	January 23, 2012
	Rockwood Environmental Action Community Taskforce	January 23, 2012
Mr. Ted Ross	Roseisle Creek Watershed Association	January 23, 2012
Ms. Kristine Koster	Save Our Seine River Environment Inc.	January 23, 2012
	Social Planning Council of Winnipeg - Environment Committee	January 23, 2012
Mr. Jack Dubois	Speleological Society of Manitoba	January 23, 2012
Mr. Peter Miller	Time to Respect Earth's Ecosystems	January 23, 2012
Mr. Scott Fitzgerald	University of Manitoba Faculty of Environment	January 23, 2012
Ms. Anders Ansell	University of Manitoba Recycling & Environment Group	January 23, 2012
Mr. Alan Diduck	University of Winnipeg Environmental Studies	January 23, 2012
	Western Canada Wilderness Committee	January 23, 2012
Ms. Karen Lind	Winnipeg Community Gardening Network	January 23, 2012
	Winnipeg Humane Society	January 23, 2012
Mr. Syd Baumel	Winnipeg Vegetarian Association	January 23, 2012
Mr. Allan Bleich	Winnipeg Water Watch	January 23, 2012
Mr. Daryl Neustater	Woodlot Association of Manitoba	January 23, 2012
	Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives – MB	January 31, 2012
	Green Action Centre	January 31, 2012
Erin Keating	Lake Winnipeg Foundation	January 31, 2012
Ms. Lindy Clubb	Mixed Wood Forest Society	February 6, 2012
Mr. Richard Milgrom	Planners Network, Manitoba	February 6, 2012
Mr. Pat Dunlop	Manitoba Association of Cottage Owners	February 6, 2012
Mr. Don MacDonald	Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Northeast Region	February 6, 2012

Name	Organization	Date Sent
Mr. Brian Barton	Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Northeast Region	February 6, 2012
Mr. Steve Danyluk	Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Central region	February 6, 2012
Mr. Darlly Hedman	Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Northeast Region	February 6, 2012
Mr. Daniel McNaughton	Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency	February 6, 2012
	Communitiy Futures North Central Development	February 6, 2012
	Sierra Club Prairie Chapter	February 6, 2012
Mr. Kevin Taylor	Thompson Association of Archers and Bow Hunters	February 6, 2012
	Thompson Chamber of Commerce	February 6, 2012
	UniVERT – Université de Saint-Boniface	February 6, 2012
Ms. Tracey Braun	Environmental Assessment & Licensing Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship	February 6, 2012

KEEYASK GENERATION PROJECT

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT SUPPORTING VOLUME

APPENDIX 3C

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM ROUND TWO COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Public Involvement Program Round Two Council and Community Meetings

Meetings with community leadership provided an opportunity to discuss the preliminary results of the EA and proposed mitigation measures; participants asked questions, offered perspectives and identified any issues or concerns. Meeting notes were recorded and these draft notes were later reviewed by meeting participants for accuracy. The final meeting notes are included in Appendix 3C.

Community information sessions were held in most communities following the meetings with leadership to inform and discuss with interested community members about the preliminary results of the EA and proposed mitigation measures. Community members were guided through a series of information panels designed to provide participants with information about the Project. Comment forms were available at these meetings and allowed participants to provide comments anonymously. Participants were encouraged to ask questions and share perspectives about the Project; any unanswered questions were forwarded to the appropriate person (*e.g.*, EA Study Team members, Manitoba Hydro staff) to provide a response. Finalized community information session notes (documentation identifying questions or perspectives raised) and sign-in sheets are included in Appendix 3C.

Communication methods to organize community and leadership meetings included phone calls, emails, in-person communication and letters. The process included an invitation letter sent in advance to the community leadership via the Community Administrative Officer (CAO) or similar position to participate in Round Two 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 sent to the community leadership for their records. Examples of the correspondence materials used to facilitate Round Two PIP meetings are included in Appendix 3C.

Table 3C-1: Round Two Council and Community Meetings/Sessions

Date	Event	Location
3/13/2012	Thompson Mayor and Council	City Hall
3/1/2012	Churchill Mayor and Council	Council Chambers
3/1/2012	Churchill Community Information Session	Pioneer Gallery
2/29/2012	Leaf Rapids Mayor and Council	Council Chambers
2/29/2012	Leaf Rapids Community Information Session	Town Centre Complex
3/6/2012	Gillam Mayor and Council	Council Chambers
3/6/2012	Gillam Community Information Session	Recreation Centre

Date	Event	Location
3/13/2012	LGD Mystery Lake	LGD Office, Thompson
2/22/2012	Thicket Portage Mayor and Council	Council Office
2/22/2012	Thicket Portage Community Information Session	Administration Building
3/8/2012	Pikwitonei Mayor and Council	Recreation Centre
3/8/2012	Pikwitonei Community Information Session	Recreation Centre
2/21/2012	Wabowden Mayor and Council	Town Office
2/21/2012	Wabowden Community Information Session	Ke Na Now Centre
3/27/2012	Norway House Mayor and Council	Community Administration Building
3/14/2012	Nelson House Mayor and Council	Community Administration Building
3/7/2012	Cross Lake Mayor and Council	Town Office
4/4/2012	Ilford Mayor and Council	Laliberty Memorial Centre
4/24/2012	Shamattawa First Nation	Shamattawa Band 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 notes letter
- Copy of final meeting notes and sign-in sheets:
 - City of Thompson
 - Churchill mayor and council meeting
 - Churchill community meeting sign-in sheet(s)
 - Churchill community meeting
 - Leaf Rapids mayor and council meeting
 - Leaf Rapids community meeting sign-in sheet(s)
 - Leaf Rapids community meeting
 - Gillam mayor and council meeting

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



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

January 31, 2012

Larry McIvor
Box 130
Wabowden, Manitoba R0B 1S0

Dear Larry:

Re: Invitation to meet with Manitoba Hydro and its consultants regarding the proposed Keeyask Generation Project

Manitoba Hydro and its Partners – Tataskweyak Cree Nation and War Lake First Nation (acting together as the Cree Nation Partners), York Factory First Nation, and Fox Lake Cree Nation – are proposing to develop the Keeyask Generation Project on the Nelson River in northern Manitoba with construction beginning in 2014. Before construction can proceed on the Project, an Environmental Assessment (EA) needs to be concluded to determine the environmental and social impacts associated with the Project, a regulatory review of the EA needs to be undertaken, and licenses and authorizations must be received. As part of the EA process, Manitoba Hydro, on behalf of the Partnership and with the assistance of its consulting team, 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.

Round One of the PIP, held in 2008, introduced northern communities to the Project and produced various questions, comments and concerns, which have been helpful in influencing the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and the Project. Concerns were raised regarding the effects of flooding on various species, rising mercury levels caused by flooding, and the Project's effects on resource users such as trappers. In addition, communities were enthusiastic about potential employment and training opportunities stemming from the Project.

As we discussed over the phone, we are currently organizing Round Two of the PIP and are contacting you to determine whether the Mayor and Council is available to participate in a meeting. Round Two of the PIP process will involve a discussion regarding comments and concerns from round one and illustrate any changes to the Project and EIA because of this feedback. Moreover, participants in Round Two will have the opportunity to provide comments on the preliminary results of the biophysical and socio-economic effects of the Project and offer suggestions in order to minimize adverse affects. The meeting would consist of a presentation approximately 20 minutes in length followed by a discussion. Following the meeting with elected officials, we would also like to hold an information session in the Ke Na Now

Centre so community members have an opportunity to learn about the Project and to identify their issues/concerns regarding the Project.

We are currently planning to meet with you on February 21, 2012 from 3:00 to 4:00 and will hold the community information session after the meeting with leadership at from 5:00 to 7:00 PM.

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

Yours truly,

INTERGROUP CONSULTANTS LTD.



Harv Sawatzky
Research Consultant

An Invitation to Attend



Keeyask Public Involvement Program: Round Two



Proposed Keeyask Generating Station (Artist's concept only)

The **Keeyask Hydropower Limited Partnership** is proposing to develop the Keeyask Generation Project, a 695-megawatt hydroelectric generating station at Gull Rapids on the Nelson River in northern Manitoba.

Round Two of the Public Involvement Program has been planned to inform interested Manitobans about any changes to the Project since Round One and give an opportunity to offer comments and provide input on the preliminary results and potential mitigation measures for the Project.

Location: **WABOWDEN**

Venue: **KE NA NOW CENTRE**

Date: **FEB. 21, 2012**

Time: **5pm - 7:45pm**

For more information on the project, please contact us:

Email Address
Keeyask@hydro.mb.ca

Website Address
www.Keeyask.com



Suite 500-280 Smith Street

Winnipeg, Manitoba

R3C 1K2

tel: (204) 942-0654

February 3, 2012

Larry McIvor
Box 130
Wabowden, Manitoba, R0B 1S0

Dear Larry:

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 Generation Project with your elected officials. This letter confirms that representatives from Manitoba Hydro, acting on behalf of the Keeyask Hydropower Limited Partnership (the Partnership), will be attending a meeting in Wabowden on February 21, 2012 at 3:00pm to discuss the proposed Project with the Mayor and Council – this meeting will be followed with a community information session on the same day from 5:00 – 8:00pm.

As indicated in the invitation letter, the Partnership is proposing to develop the Keeyask Generation Project on the Nelson River in northern Manitoba beginning on 2014. The Partnership consists of the Tataskweyak Cree Nation and War Lake First Nation (acting together as the Cree Nation Partners), York Factory First Nation, Fox Lake Cree Nation and Manitoba Hydro. The Partnership has evolved through the commitment of the Partners to negotiate agreements of mutual benefit and to work together to resolve critical issues of concern.

Before construction can proceed on the Project, an Environmental Assessment (EA) needs to be concluded to determine the environmental and social impacts associated with the Project, a regulatory review of the EA needs to be undertaken, and licenses and authorizations must be received. As part of the EA process, Manitoba Hydro, on behalf of the Partnership and with the assistance of its consulting team, 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 conducted in 2008 was part of the Round One of public involvement. The purpose of this initial round of involvement was to introduce the public to the proposed Project, learn from the public about any issues or concerns they may have about the Project, and hear from the public on how they wished to be consulted in the future about the Project.

In Round Two, participants will be given the opportunity to offer comments and provide input on preliminary results regarding the biophysical and socio-economic effects of the Project and to offer suggestions for minimizing or avoiding potential adverse effects. Comments and input received in Round Two will be used in finalizing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). This round will also inform participants about any changes in the Project since Round One, respond to questions raised in Round One and illustrate how input received influenced the Project development.

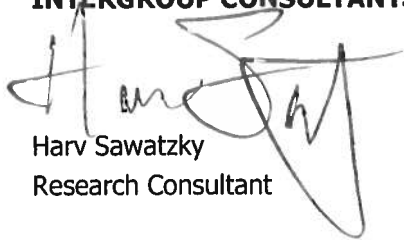
We have included a few posters for you to use in your community to advertise the information session.

If you have any further questions about the meeting or the Project, please do not hesitate to contact Harv of InterGroup Consultants, Ltd. (204) 942-0654 ext. 231.

We look forward to meeting with you.

Yours truly,

INTERGROUP CONSULTANTS LTD.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Harv Sawatzky', is written over the printed name and title.

Harv Sawatzky
Research Consultant



Suite 500-280 Smith Street

Winnipeg, Manitoba

R3C 1K2

tel: (204) 942-0654

March 12th, 2012

Larry McIvor - CAO
Wabowden Community Council
Box 130
Wabowden, Manitoba, R0B 1S0

Dear Mr. McIvor,

RE: Draft meeting notes from the *February 21st, 2012* meeting with the *Wabowden Council* regarding the proposed Keeyask Generation Project

This letter is in follow-up to the meeting held on February 21st, 2012 in Wabowden regarding the proposed Keeyask Generation Project. Enclosed for your review are the draft meeting notes from the above meeting. Please let me know by March 26th, 2012 or earlier if there are any errors or omissions in the notes. I can be contacted either by email cblouw@intergroup.ca or by phone 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 Harv Sawatzky or John Osler of InterGroup Consultants, Ltd. at (204) 942-0654. Furthermore, additional information on the project can be found on the project website Keeyask.com.

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

Yours truly

INTERGROUP CONSULTANTS LTD.

Christina Blouw



Suite 500-280 Smith Street

Winnipeg, Manitoba

R3C 1K2

tel: (204) 942-0654

May 9, 2012

Larry McIvor - CAO
Wabowden Community Council
Box 130
Wabowden, Manitoba, R0B 1S0

Dear Mr. McIvor,

RE: Final notes from the February 21, 2012 meeting with Wabowden Community Council and the Community Information Session regarding the proposed Keeyask Generating Station Project

Please find enclosed the final notes from the meetings held on February 21, 2012 in Wabowden, Manitoba regarding the proposed Keeyask Generation Project, including copies for distribution to the Mayor and Councillors. These notes reflect comments that were received during the review process, and will be included in the Environmental Impact Statement.

If you have any questions or comments about the proposed Project or the public involvement process, please do not hesitate to call Harv Sawatzky or John Osler of InterGroup Consultants, Ltd. at (204) 942-0654. Furthermore, additional information on the Project can be found on the Project website Keeyask.com.

Thank you for taking the time to meet with us to discuss the proposed Project.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. Blouw'.

Christina Blouw
INTERGROUP CONSULTANTS

**Round Two PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:****Meeting with City of Thompson Mayor and Council****Final Meeting Notes**

Date of Meeting: March 13, 2012; 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Location: Thompson, Manitoba
City Council Chambers

In Attendance:

Dennis Fenske	Deputy Mayor
Judy Kolada	Councillor
Luke Robinson	Councillor
Gary Ceppetelli	City Manager
Nick Barnes	Manitoba Hydro
Marc St. Laurent	Manitoba Hydro
Harv Sawatzky	InterGroup Consultants

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The meeting was requested to:

- Provide the public with a description of the Keeyask Generation Project features and changes since Round One of the public involvement program (PIP);
- Discuss preliminary results of the environmental assessment (EA) regarding biophysical and socio-economic effects of the Project and obtain comments about the results;
- Obtain input on possible mitigation measures for minimizing or avoiding potential adverse effects, as well as monitoring of effects; and
- Document what is heard in the meeting for inclusion in the Environmental Impact Statement.

The meeting is the second of a series of three sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of the Keeyask PIP. Round Three of the PIP will commence after the Environmental Impact Statement for the Project has been filed with government regulators.

MEETING PROCESS

Following introductions Nick Barnes, Harv Sawatzky and Marc St. Laurent presented information about the Keeyask Generation Project, including changes to the Project that have occurred since Round One of the PIP. They also introduced the purpose for Round Two of the PIP. The presentation included issues

that were prominently raised in Round One of the PIP including: employment and training; lake sturgeon; caribou; flooding and water quality; and mercury, fish and human health. Each participant was provided with the Round Two PIP newsletter. Extra copies of the newsletter were left with the City Manager.

Participants asked questions, offered perspectives, and identified issues about the proposed Project, the environmental assessment including preliminary results and mitigation measures and the PIP. Where possible, responses were provided.

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

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED

Aquatic Environment:

- A question was raised about how the Project would address fish being stranded in pools in the dewatered areas below the dam structures.
 - Response: This concern has been examined and some pools that may be watered and dewatered will have connecting channels so that as the pools are dewatered fish can move into Stephens Lake. Where pools will not be rewatered, fish will be relocated.
- A concern was raised regarding how the increased mercury levels in fish will be addressed.
 - Response: The newsletter sets out the approach to addressing mercury in certain fish species. Regular monitoring of mercury in fish will occur, including during the period following impoundment when this effect is expected to occur. Results will be communicated to local communities. The KCNs have negotiated adverse effects agreements which include programs to harvest country food in locations unaffected by flooding.
- A representative wanted to know if there is commercial fishing in the Project area?
 - Response: There is one commercial fishing license holder in the Project area and that individual is on Stephens Lake.
- Concern was expressed about how long the lake sturgeon stocking program will run.
 - Response: This is a long-term commitment by the Project Proponents.
- An individual mentioned that although Ontario Power Generation (OPG) has hydroelectric generation stations along the Mattagami River in Ontario they continue to maintain a healthy population of lake sturgeon in this river. It was suggested that the Partnership may want to talk with OPG about how they manage lake sturgeon issues with their facilities.

Terrestrial Environment:

- A concern was expressed about increased mercury levels in animals and eagles that eat fish in the Project area.
 - Response: It was explained that mammal species will be monitored. Regarding eagles, effects have been estimated based on other sources of information and have not been sampled directly.
- A question was asked about problem bears at the Wuskwatim site.

- Response: There have not been many problems that have been documented at the Wuskwatim Project. It was explained that the Environmental Protection Plan lists the dos and don'ts to deal with wildlife and other issues to prevent these types of problems.

Traffic and Safety:

- It was stated that traffic travelling to the Wuskwatim Project had been very hard on the road to the site. What will happen to the roads going to the Keeyask site? Concern was also expressed that the increased traffic may affect the Thompson roads.
 - Response: PR 280 is being upgraded by Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation and the upgrade considers the increased traffic from the Keeyask Project. The PIP team will look into what assessment has been completed for the road sections in Thompson.
- A participant asked if the current road alignment of PR 280 to Gillam will be abandoned after the road is rerouted over the Keeyask dam. It was noted that there are trappers that use the area along that road.
 - Response: Once completed, the Province plans to reroute PR 280 via the north access road, over the Keeyask dam and south access road. The new road to Gillam is estimated to reduce travel time by about 45 minutes between Gillam and Thompson. The northeast portion of PR 280 will be abandoned.

Employment and Training:

- A concern was raised about the Advisory Group on Employment (AGE). It was suggested that it would be beneficial for the AGE to get underway at present date.
 - Response: The PIP team did not know when the AGE would start and will look into this.
- A comment was made about using the Wuskwatim hiring process as a benchmark for the Keeyask Project. This was in relation to a perception that some people in Thompson will be looking for employment opportunities in the near future due to reductions at Vale. It was explained that the City of Thompson has a committee in place to examine opportunities for the community given that Vale is closing the refinery and smelter in 2015. There is a Thompson Economic Diversification Working Group (TEDWG) looking at ways to minimize the impacts of this closure of mine-related facilities. However, it was also noted that the community will not be as affected by the closures due to staff shortages that the company is already experiencing (i.e., 150 people short of full employment level). The community would like to see a connection with local people to help transition the local workforce.
- A participant felt that there should be many apprenticeship opportunities stemming from the Project, specifically in the construction phase.
 - Response: The PIP team indicated that there will be some opportunities for apprentices at the Project site.

Socio-economic Environment:

- A participant indicated that he initially thought some staff for the Project may be located in Thompson. Now seeing that with the Project will be so much closer to Gillam, he felt that there would be no housing issue created in Thompson.
- A participant wanted more information about Manitoba Hydro's buying policies for northern projects.

- Response: The northern purchasing policy is to buy locally and to work with economic development opportunities for communities.
- A participant asked that the PIP team send him information about these policies.
 - Response: The PIP team will look into this.
- A participant wanted to know if there will be a cultural component similar to the experience at the Wuskwatim Project?
 - Response: This will occur and it will be carried out and guided by the First Nation Partners.

Flooding:

- A concern was expressed about the wood being cleared for the reservoir. It was pointed out that Tolko may be interested in it or local people may want it for firewood.
 - Response: The plan is to cut the wood, windrow it to allow it to dry and then burn it. The reservoir timber to be cleared was evaluated and determined to have little economic value – non-merchantable. The Project proponents are open to creative ideas for the use of the wood and would welcome proposals.
- An additional question was asked about harvesting the peat in the Project area instead of flooding it.
 - Response: To date, salvage of peat that will be inundated by the Project has not been considered -- it is not expected to be economic to harvest because of the large volume, spatial extent and type of peat. However, Manitoba Hydro has committed to investigate the feasibility of harvesting some peat for purposes yet to be defined.
- In relation to flooding the reservoir, a question was asked about what would happen to some of the islands.
 - Response: Some of the existing islands will be partially or totally flooded while new islands will form.
- A concern was mentioned about eroding shorelines similar to South Indian Lake.
 - Response: The PIP team responded that there is an expectation that there will be an additional 7-8 km² that will erode over the first 30 years of operation. Much of this will occur in the first five years. There will be an intensive Waterways Management Program during these first few years when most of the erosion will occur to remove trees that are anticipated to fall into the water. This will then scale back to the type of Waterways Management program as is being used in other areas of Manitoba Hydro operations.
- A comment was made that South Indian Lake is still a muddy lake; the water is not clear like it used to be. Is it possible to create a sediment trap to reduce the amount of sediment?
 - Response: In effect, the dam will provide this function. It is predicted that, in the long-term, there will be less suspended sediment in the river due to sedimentation in the Keeyask reservoir.
- A question was asked regarding the one metre operating range of the reservoir and whether this would result in excessive erosion.
 - Response: This has been assessed. Eventually the areas that remain will be wetland areas or steep banks where the amount of erosion will be minimal.
- A participant wanted more information about how the Keeyask Project would affect the water level downstream on Stephens Lake.

- Reponse: There would be very little change to the water level because Stephens Lake is controlled by the Kettle Generating Station.
- A participant wanted to know how many communities draw water from the Nelson River. Once the Project is complete will these communities be required to increase water treatment efforts?
 - Reponse: The closest communities to the Project include Gillam (downstream) and Split Lake and York Landing (upstream). If there is more sediment or other materials that need to be treated then the communities will receive assistance to ensure that drinking water quality standards are met.

Other

- A councillor wanted to know if the Project Site Manager had been selected. The Thompson leadership greatly appreciated the role that John Markowsky had on the Wuskwatim Project. He did a very good job in public relations and kept the Council informed about the Project.
 - Response: The site manager has not been selected at this stage in the planning.



Round Two PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:**Meeting with Churchill Mayor and Council****Final Meeting Notes**

Date of Meeting: March 1, 2012; 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Location: Churchill, Manitoba
Churchill Council Chambers

In Attendance:	Verna Flett	Deputy Mayor
	Albert Meijering	CAO
	Jennifer Massan	CFO
	Gerald Azure	Councilor
	Gail Hodkin	Councilor
	Monica Wiest	Manitoba Hydro
	John Osler	Intergroup Consultants
	Dale Giesbrecht	Intergroup Consultants

PURPOSE OF MEETING

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

- Provide the public with a description of Project features and changes since Round One;
- Discuss initial preliminary results regarding biophysical and socio-economic effects of the Project and obtain comments and input on the results;
- Obtain input on possible mitigation measures and monitoring opportunities for minimizing or avoiding potential adverse effects; and
- Document what is heard in the meeting with community leadership for inclusion in the Environmental Impact Statement.

The meeting is the second of a series of three sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of the Keeyask Public Involvement Program (PIP). Round Three of the PIP will commence after the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project has been filed with the government regulators.

MEETING PROCESS

Monica Wiest introduced the team and the Project. Following introductions John Osler presented information on the Keeyask Generation Project, including any changes to the Project or process that have

occurred since Round One and the purpose for Round Two PIP. Specifically, the focus of the presentation included issues that were prominently raised in Round One of the PIP including employment and training, lake sturgeon, caribou, flooding and water quality and mercury, fish and human health. Each Council member in attendance was provided the Round Two 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 environmental assessment including preliminary results and mitigation measures 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:

- Community members expressed that they knew little about the Project, and had many questions.
- An individual suggested that the flooded area be imposed as a transparency over the map of northern Manitoba to facilitate visual learners rather than having the maps and diagrams placed on separate story boards.
- Councillors questioned the effects of the Keeyask Project on water quality for the Churchill residence and the status of operations at the Missi Falls Control Structure.
- Concerns were expressed that Churchill residents have not received what they were promised in the past in terms of water from the Missi Falls Control Structure.
- An individual stated that they would like to receive the Environmental Assessment to read it.
- Concerns were voiced about the effects of mercury on human health, and that the community needs to be supplied with information about the complexity of this matter. There is a dependence on country food due to the high prices in the stores. Mercury is affecting the ability of northerners to support themselves.
 - The PIP team explained measures taken to communicate issues re: MHH (existing and future environment, safe consumption recommendations, *etc.*) for KCN communities. Noted that this is documented in the EIS, as well as overview of past and current research on MHH. Noted that there will be communication of such measures to Provincial Health Ministry for information and potential use, if desired. Additionally, highlighted Pan-Canadian research, led by Dr. Laurie Chan (peer reviewer for Human Health Risk Assessment), that brings further clarity to the effects of mercury on human health.
- An individual would like to do anything to help Churchill but does not want to contribute to a project that might have adverse affects 20 years down the road.

- An individual stated that there are already problems with the Missi Falls Control Structure and concern was raised that Hydro is constructing another dam before dealing with current issues. Another individual would like to know how the Missi Falls Control Structure relates to past and future Hydro developments. A further concern was expressed about droughts and the effects on the Churchill River if water flow is regulated for the purpose of Hydro development on the Nelson River. Cannot give up any more water.
- A concern was expressed regarding the Keeyask dam being placed between other dams and its constant requirement for water and how this might affect the operations of these other dams.
 - The PIP team provided a response explaining how the design of Keeyask would not change flow levels at generating stations upstream and downstream of Keeyask.

TOWN OF CHURCHILL INFORMATION SESSION
PROPOSED KEYYASK GENERATING STATION PROJECT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM
ROUND 2

March 1, 2012 @ 5:00 p.m.

Name (Print)	Signature	Affiliation
GLORIA McDONALD	Gloria McDonald	CHURCHILL EMPLOYMENT SERVICES & TRAINING



**Round Two PIP - Proposed Keeyask
Generation Project:****Churchill Community Information
Session****Final Meeting Notes**

Date of Meeting: March 1, 2012; 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Location: Churchill, Manitoba
Pioneer Centre

In Attendance:

Mark Manzer	Manitoba Hydro
Monica Wiest	Manitoba Hydro
John Osler	InterGroup Consultants
Dale Giesbrecht	InterGroup Consultants

**Attendance from
community:** See sign-in sheet

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The purpose of the community information session was to:

- Provide the public with a description of Project features and changes since Round One;
- Discuss preliminary results regarding biophysical and socio-economic effects of the Project and obtain comments and input on the results;
- Obtain input on possible mitigation measures and monitoring opportunities for minimizing or avoiding potential adverse effects; and
- Document what is heard in the community information session for inclusion in the Environmental Impact Statement.

The community information session is the second of a series of three sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of the Keeyask Public Involvement Program (PIP). Round Three of the PIP will commence after the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project has been filed with the government regulators.

MEETING PROCESS

The community information session was held at the Pioneer Centre in Churchill. Those who attended the information session were encouraged to sign-in, fill out comment forms and speak to members of the

environmental assessment team about any perspectives/issues they might have about the Project. Members of the environmental assessment team were also on hand to guide community members through the information panels regarding the Project if they desired and to answer any questions. The information panels included issues that were prominently raised in Round One of the PIP, including employment and training, lake sturgeon, caribou, flooding and water quality and mercury, fish and human health. If questions were raised that could not be addressed at the session they were recorded by an environmental assessment team member, forwarded to the appropriate person to respond to the information request, and followed up as required. In total, two community members signed-in at the session; however, approximately four 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 individual expressed concern about the level of spending on mitigation/monitoring programming and how this affects rate changes for ratepayers. Expressed doubt as to whether the benefits of these funds (*e.g.*, employment, capacity building, *etc.*) were distributed to the community as a whole or confined to select individuals. An individual cautioned that scope of mitigation and monitoring efforts may be too broad, noting that “Hydro should not be all to everyone.”
 - Dialogue on this topic ranged from a reflection of Hydro initiatives that encourage energy efficiency to the rationale/ethics of mitigation and monitoring efforts in the current era.
- In terms of employment, one individual thought that promoting future projects with regard to training preparation should be coordinated with the timing and opportunities of high school, UCN, and others to maximize employment success.
- Interest was expressed in the job application process and knowing more about the hiring preferences.
 - Information was provided about Directly Negotiated Contracts and Tendered Contracts, hiring preferences for the respective contracts, and JRS registration process.

Other:

- Concern regarding inefficiencies in line loss through transmission. Individual felt that resolution of this problem would minimize the need to build more dams.
 - The PIP team indicated power transmission is beyond the scope of the Keeyask Generation Project Environmental Assessment but a commitment was made to communicate the question to Manitoba Hydro Transmission for a response to be communicated back to the individual.
- An individual asked about the financial strength of Manitoba Hydro.
 - A PIP team member indicated Manitoba Hydro is experiencing its strongest financial position in its history.



Round Two PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:**Meeting with Leaf Rapids Mayor and Council****Final Meeting Notes**

Date of Meeting: February 29, 2012; 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Location: Leaf Rapids, Manitoba
Council Chambers

In Attendance:	Geraldine Cockerill	Mayor
	Alan Linklater	Councilor
	Garry Trewin	Councilor
	Keith Anderson	Councilor
	John Roach	Councilor
	Linda Heath	Acting CAO
	Lianna Anderson	CEDO
	John Osler	InterGroup Consultants Ltd.

PURPOSE OF MEETING

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

- Provide the public with a description of Project features and changes since Round One;
- Discuss initial preliminary results regarding biophysical and socio-economic effects of the Project and obtain comments and input on the results;
- Obtain input on possible mitigation measures and monitoring opportunities for minimizing or avoiding potential adverse effects; and
- Document what is heard in the meeting with community leadership for inclusion in the Environmental Impact Statement.

The meeting is the second of a series of three sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of the Keeyask Public Involvement Program (PIP). Round Three of the PIP will commence after the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project has been filed with the government regulators.

MEETING PROCESS

Following introductions, John Osler presented information on the Keeyask Generation Project, including any changes to the Project or process that have occurred since Round One and the purpose for Round

Two PIP. Specifically, the focus of the presentation included issues that were prominently raised in Round One of the PIP, including employment and training, lake sturgeon, caribou, flooding and water quality and mercury, fish and human health. Each Council member in attendance was provided the Round Two PIP newsletter. Extra copies of the newsletter were left with the Administrator for general distribution. Throughout the presentation:

- Council members asked questions, offered perspectives, and identified issues about the proposed project, the environmental assessment, including preliminary results, and mitigation measures and the PIP; and
- Where appropriate, the representative of the environmental assessment team 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

Physical Environment:

- Councilors commented that the planned offset programs appear to be a good idea and the appropriate approach. However, two councilors cautioned that the adverse effects mitigation can only be considered something that is done when impacts cannot be avoided.

Employment and Training:

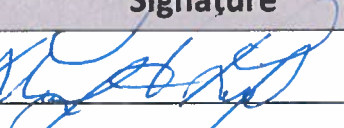

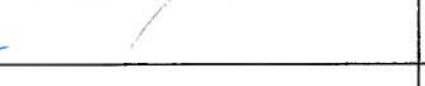
- There was interest in potential employment and training opportunities associated with the Project. Comments were provided on the community's recent experience with the Wuskwatim Project construction process, noting that improvements in the accessibility and posting of employment opportunities would be encouraged.

Other

- Leaf Rapids and community have noted they have experienced adverse effects as a result of the Churchill River Diversion Program (CRD). These concerns and impacts were raised during previous consultation with Manitoba Hydro during the recent CRD licensing process. While information was provided as part of the Keeyask Round Two PIP process, which indicates water management is not expected to change, participants noted that the waterways in and around the community continue to change as a result of CRD. For example, although water levels on South Indian Lake are reported to be stabilized, elders continue to comment that they are witnessing increasingly higher water levels on the lake.
- There was considerable discussion around how the current waterways continue to impact the community. An example identified was recent experience with high water flow levels and stability concerns associated with the bridge in and out of the community. The community continues to be concerned with the municipal water supply access. Council members who are also resource users cite examples of outstanding issues with accessibility to resource use areas.

TOWN OF LEAF RAPIDS INFORMATION SESSION
PROPOSED KEYYASK GENERATING STATION PROJECT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM
ROUND 2

February 29, 2012 @ 2:00 p.m.

Name (Print)	Signature	Affiliation
Henry Hege Baker		
Clayton Baker	CLAYTON BAKER	
John Baker (Gravelle)	John Baker (Gravelle)	
Evangelina Moore		
ANTHONY WOODMAN	Anthony Woodman	
Mike Staten		



**Round Two PIP - Proposed Keeyask
Generation Project:****Leaf Rapids Community Information
Session****Final Meeting Notes**

Date of Meeting:	February 29, 2012; 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm	
Location:	Leaf Rapids Town Complex	
In Attendance:	Monica Wiest Dale Giesbrecht	Manitoba Hydro InterGroup Consultants
Attendance from community:	See sign-in sheet	

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The purpose of the community information session was to:

- Provide the public with a description of Project features and changes since Round One;
- Discuss preliminary results regarding biophysical and socio-economic effects of the Project and obtain comments and input on the results;
- Obtain input on possible mitigation measures and monitoring opportunities for minimizing or avoiding potential adverse effects; and
- Document what is heard in the community information session for inclusion in the Environmental Impact Statement.

The community information session is the second of a series of three sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of the Keeyask Public Involvement Program (PIP). Round Three of the PIP will commence after the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project has been filed with the government regulators.

MEETING PROCESS

The community information session was held at the Leaf Rapids Community Complex. Those who attended the information session were encouraged to sign-in, fill out comment forms and speak to members of the environmental assessment team about any perspectives/issues they might have about the Project. Members of the environmental assessment team were also on hand to guide community

members through the information panels regarding the Project if they desired and to answer any questions. The information panels included issues that were prominently raised in Round One of the PIP including employment and training, lake sturgeon, caribou, flooding and water quality and mercury, fish and human health. If questions were raised that could not be addressed at the session they were recorded by an environmental assessment team member, forwarded to the appropriate person to respond to the information request, and followed up as required. In total, five community members signed-in at the session; however, approximately five individuals attended the community information session that did not sign-in.

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

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Employment and Training:

- Based on experience and what has been heard from people that worked at Wuskwatim, concern was raised about unfair layoff-off practices and positions being replaced with workers from outside the province.
 - The concern was noted by the PIP team who explained that there is a review to explore and build on lessons learned from Wuskwatim experience in order improve the Keeyask Job Referral System (JRS).
- One individual stated that they would like to see hiring preferences for northern Manitoba residents stated in writing.
 - Hiring preferences are stated in the Joint Keeyask Development Agreement (JKDA) and reflect provisions in the Burntwood/Nelson Agreement (BNA). The individual was provided with a link to the Project website and path to JKDA.

Physical Environment:

- Several attendees expressed concerns and skepticism about potential system effects due to the operation of Keeyask.
 - A PIP member explained predictions re: system effects in conjunction with accompanying presentation boards and provided information on existing agreements (Northern Flood Agreement) as well as Keeyask specific agreements JKDA and AEAs, applicable to KCN communities.

Aquatics:

- A concern was expressed about proposed sturgeon mitigation measures and the manufactured spawning areas. The individual thought that with reservoir level fluctuations the artificial spawning areas would not be successful.

Other:

- A number of people expressed concerns about past Hydro issues regarding Wuskwatim and the Churchill River diversion.

- A PIP member noted the concern. Information was provided on the current environmental assessment and public engagement processes, that both were designed to improve on past practices, are transparent and foster engagement on various levels (including directly affected partners as well as potentially affected and/or interested stakeholders).

**Round Two PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:****Meeting with Gillam Mayor and Council****Final Meeting Notes**

Date of Meeting: March 6, 2012; 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Location: Gillam, Manitoba
Gillam Council Chambers

In Attendance:	Jim Goymer	Mayor
	Curtis Belfour	Deputy Mayor
	Jackie Clayton	CAO
	Debbie Crozier	ACAO
	Rita Spence	Fox Lake Cree Nation
	Nick Barnes	Manitoba Hydro
	Marc St. Laurent	Manitoba Hydro
	John Osler	InterGroup Consultants
	Dale Giesbrecht	InterGroup Consultants

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The meeting was requested to:

- Provide the public with a description of Keeyask Generation Project features and changes since Round One of the public involvement program (PIP);
- Discuss preliminary results of the environmental assessment (EA) regarding biophysical and socio-economic effects of the Project, and obtain comments about the results;
- Obtain input on possible mitigation measures for minimizing or avoiding potential adverse effects, as well as monitoring of effects; and
- Document what is heard in the meeting with community leadership for inclusion in the Environmental Impact Statement.

The meeting is the second of a series of three sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of the Keeyask PIP. Round Three of the PIP will commence after the Environmental Impact Statement for the Project has been filed with government regulators.

MEETING PROCESS

Following introductions, Nick Barnes, John Osler, and Marc St. Laurent presented information about the Keeyask Generation Project, including changes to the Project since Round One of the PIP. They also discussed the purpose of Round Two of the PIP. The presentation addressed issues that were prominently raised in Round One of the PIP including: employment and training; lake sturgeon; caribou; flooding and water quality; and mercury, fish and human health. Each Council member in attendance was provided with the Round Two PIP newsletter. Extra copies of the newsletter were left with the Administrator for general distribution. Council members and staff asked questions, offered perspectives, and identified issues about the proposed Project, the environmental assessment preliminary results and mitigation measures, and the PIP.

Where possible, representatives of the EA Team and Manitoba Hydro offered perspectives.

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

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Traffic and Safety:

- A question was asked regarding the quality of construction of the south access road to Gillam.
 - Response: The road will be constructed to meet provincial road standards.
- A question was asked regarding the time saved when driving between Gillam and Thompson once the Project is in place.
 - Response: The new route would be expected to reduce travel time by approximately 45 minutes.
- A participant indicated that the PR280 highway improvement project should be completed before the Keeyask Project begins so that the road is safe to drive when the construction traffic begins.
- A participant noted that the Gillam Council hears complaints about traffic on PR280 and needs a Project contact person so that they can be in contact if and when concerns arise.
- A participant suggested that cell phone dead zones between Thompson and Gillam should be eliminated by adding additional towers. This would provide those traveling the road with additional safety, particularly with the additional construction traffic.

Employment and Training:

- A concern was expressed about the ability of training programs to provide adequate labour for the Project. It was noted that local hiring is a good thing, but a core group of workers will be needed.
 - Response: Steps have been taken in the northern region to train workers and to provide a preference for northern and Aboriginal workers.
- It was suggested that worker retention programs be in place at the construction camp to reduce employee turnover rates.

Flooding:

- A participant asked if there was a plan to salvage timber cleared from the flooded areas.
 - Response: An evaluation determined that salvaging the wood would not be economical.
- A participant suggested that timber in the vicinity of the access roads be placed near the roads so that communities could utilize it.
- A Council member asked whether there would be any program in place to help people to travel safely on lakes affected by the flooding.
 - Response: After construction is complete there will be a program to establish safe boating routes, to mark hazards and to establish safe landing sites for boats.
- A participant asked about the details of the plan to keep sedimentation down during Project construction.
 - Response: Sediments will be minimized through the design of the cofferdams, methods for placement of material into the river and introduction of vegetation to disturbed areas.
- A participant asked why water levels on Stephens Lake would not be affected.
 - Response: The same amount of water would be flowing through the Gull Rapids area after construction. In addition, the water level on Stephens Lake is controlled by the Kettle Generating Station.
- A participant noted that lake sturgeon education programs are a good idea.

Other:

- A question was asked about the timeline for the the next steps in the process.
 - Response: Specific answers will be returned to Council as soon as possible. Meeting notes from the meeting will be included in the EIS as a record of the discussion with Gillam. In addition, Round Three of the PIP will be held, likely in fall 2012, with the purpose of reviewing the completed Environmental Impact Statement with the communities.
- A question was asked regarding the number of traplines affected by the Keeyask Project.
 - Response: About three or four traplines will be affected. Those affected have been contacted.
- A question was asked regarding where groceries and other supplies for the Project would originate.
- Since Gillam has only two emergency vehicles, it was suggested that the Keeyask site serve its own needs so as not to strain emergency services in Gillam.
 - Response: The camp design includes emergency vehicles and staff trained in emergency response.



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

Date of Meeting: March 13, 2012; 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Location: Thompson, Manitoba
Local Government District (LGD) of Mystery Lake
Administration Office at the Thompson Airport

In Attendance:

Corrine Stewart	Airport Manager/Administrator
Harvey Hart	Waste Manager
Mark Manzer	Manitoba Hydro
John Osler	InterGroup Consultants

PURPOSE OF MEETING

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

- Provide the public with a description of Project features and changes since Round One.
- Discuss initial preliminary results regarding biophysical and socio-economic effects of the Project and obtain comments and input on the results.
- Obtain input on possible mitigation measures and monitoring opportunities for minimizing or avoiding potential adverse effects.
- Document what is heard in the meeting with community leadership for inclusion in the Environmental Impact Statement.

The meeting is the second of a series of three sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of the Keeyask Public Involvement Program (PIP). Round Three of the PIP will commence after the Environmental Impact Statement for the Project has been filed with the government regulators.

MEETING PROCESS

Following introductions, John Osler presented information on the Keeyask Generation Project, including any changes to the Project or process that have occurred since Round One and the purpose for Round Two PIP. Specifically, the focus of the presentation included issues that were prominently raised in Round

One of the PIP including employment and training, lake sturgeon, caribou, flooding and water quality and mercury, fish and human health. Each person in attendance was provided the Round Two PIP newsletter. Extra copies of the newsletter were left with the Administrator for general distribution.

The administrative staff of the LGD of Mystery Lake had very specific issues and concerns that were discussed with the PIP team.

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 LGD REPRESENTATIVES

Waste Disposal:

- The staff of the LGD of Mystery Lake noted that in a recent letter (February 27 2012) to Manitoba Hydro they have confirmed that The Thompson Waste Disposal Site would be willing to accept solid waste generated during the Keeyask Generation Station construction period. The LGD of Mystery Lake staff is interested in knowing when delivery of this waste material is expected to commence.

Air Traffic:

- During the 2008 Round One PIP discussion there had been a concern about potential strain additional traffic might place on the Thompson airport. Since that time, upgrades to the runway and other facilities have removed this concern. There no longer concerns about passenger traffic capacity.



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

Date of Meeting: February 22, 2012; 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Location: Thicket Portage, Manitoba
Council Office

In Attendance:	Donald Pronteau	Mayor
	Maurice Clemons	Councillor
	Joanne Pronteau	CAO
	Wil DeWit	Manitoba Hydro
	Harv Sawatzky	InterGroup Consultants
	Christina Blouw	InterGroup Consultants

PURPOSE OF MEETING

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

- Provide the public with a description of Project features and changes since Round One;
- Discuss initial preliminary results regarding biophysical and socio-economic effects of the Project and obtain comments and input on the results;
- Obtain input on possible mitigation measures and monitoring opportunities for minimizing or avoiding potential adverse effects; and
- Document what is heard in the meeting with community leadership for inclusion in the Environmental Impact Statement.

The meeting is the second of a series of three sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of the Keeyask Public Involvement Program (PIP). Round Three of the PIP will commence after the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project has been filed with the government regulators.

MEETING PROCESS

Following introductions, Wil DeWit and Harv Sawatzky presented information on the Keeyask Generation Project, including any changes to the Project or process that have occurred since Round One and the purpose for Round Two PIP. Specifically, the focus of the presentation included issues that were

prominently raised in Round One of the PIP including employment and training, lake sturgeon, caribou, flooding and water quality and mercury, fish and human health. Each Council member in attendance was provided the Round Two PIP newsletter. Extra copies of the newsletter were left with the Administrator for general distribution. Throughout the presentation:

- Council members asked questions, offered perspectives, and identified issues about the proposed Project, the environmental assessment including preliminary results and mitigation measures 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 were shared about foreign invasive species that have shown up on the local lakes since the Hydro dams have arrived – invasive species include sunfish and carp. Expressed concern that another dam will make it worse.
 - The PIP team acknowledged that this is concern but also noted that this is not necessarily something that can be attributed to the development of hydro dams.
 - The Keeyask monitoring program was mentioned as a tool to keep record of any invasive species and steps for mitigation.
 - It was also mentioned that early hydro dams were introduced around the same time carp were introduced in southern Manitoba. The spread of carp over the last century is not necessarily connected to hydro development over the same time period. Once introduced, invasive species will typically spread throughout a drainage basin, taking up residence in suitable habitats that are accessible to them.
- A Council member noted that the two lakes by the community are connected to the Burntwood River and the Nelson River.
- A Council member stated that the community did not get access to the training funds. Concerns were expressed about inability to access higher level employment training programs offered in Nelson House for the Wuskwatim Project, and that this will be the case for Keeyask. It is hard for a small community like Thicket Portage to go head to head with the larger communities to get the training programs.
 - Members of the PIP team informed those in attendance that the training funds for the Keeyask Project had been expended by the end of March in 2010. It was noted that there may be opportunities for on the job training when the Project starts.
- Concerns were shared about effects on the lake sturgeon spawning area at Gull Rapids. Concern was also expressed about lake sturgeon feeding habitat. The sediment deposits from the flooded peat land may cover/reduce food availability (bloodworms) for sturgeon.
 - The PIP team provided some information about the proposed mitigation and lake sturgeon stocking measures that are being planned and indicated that there will be a

monitoring program in place during construction and operation to determine if these measures are effective or if other changes need to be made to help improve conditions for lake sturgeon. The sediment from the newly eroded shoreline will likely deposit in the bays and near the shoreline – leaving adequate feeding habitat throughout the rest of the lake for adult lake sturgeon.

- Would like annual overview of all the Hydro projects in the area – pre-construction, monitoring – sent out to all communities. Meetings are the best way to communicate this information as internet access is not available to everyone. It was suggested that a general overview meeting would be a good idea to touch on all the Manitoba Hydro projects in the area.
 - The PIP team appreciates that this is something that the community is interested in and will pass this information on to the Project Proponents. Currently, an open house is held annually in Nelson House to discuss Wuskwatim monitoring programs. Annual monitoring overview could be sent out to communities to facilitate awareness of subsequent monitoring.
- Those in attendance were positive about the plans for the reservoir clearing program, that the material will be removed and burned prior to flooding.
- There is an interest in the community being able to learn more about job opportunities as they arise so that their residents can pursue employment with the Project.
- There was discussion surrounding a commitment to monitor Split Lake water levels, working with members for Tataskweyak Cree Nation and York Factory First Nation to address the concerns that elders have that Split Lake will be affected by the Keeyask Project.

TOWN OF THICKET PORTAGE INFORMATION SESSION
PROPOSED KEYYASK GENERATING STATION PROJECT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM
ROUND 2

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 22, 2012 @ 3:00 p.m.

Name (Print)	Signature	Affiliation
Maurice Clemons	Maurice Clemons	T.P.C.C.
Jason Cook	Jason Cook	Resident
Alfred Evans	Alfred Evans	T.P. DAN.
CAROLINE PRONTEAU	Caroline Pronteau	
Louis Pronteau	Louis Pronteau	T.P.M.
Joanne Pronteau	Joanne Pronteau	T.P.M.
Virginia Crait	Virginia Crait	T.P.M.
John Crait	John Crait	T.P.M.
ALBERT DORION	Albert Dorion	T.P.M.



Round Two PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:

Thicket Portage Community Information Session

Final Meeting Notes

Date of Meeting: February 22, 2012; 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Location: Thicket Portage, Manitoba
Administration Building

In Attendance from EA Team:	Wil DeWit	Manitoba Hydro
	Harv Sawatzky	InterGroup
	Christina Blouw	InterGroup

In Attendance from Community: See sign-in sheet

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The purpose of the community information session was to:

- Provide the public with a description of Project features and changes since Round One;
- Discuss preliminary results regarding biophysical and socio-economic effects of the Project and obtain comments and input on the results;
- Obtain input on possible mitigation measures and monitoring opportunities for minimizing or avoiding potential adverse effects; and
- Document what is heard in the community information session for inclusion in the Environmental Impact Statement.

The community information session is the second of a series of three sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of the Keeyask Public Involvement Program (PIP). Round Three of the PIP will commence after the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project has been filed with the government regulators.

MEETING PROCESS

The community information session was held at the Administrative Building. Those who attended the information session were encouraged to sign-in, fill out comment forms and speak to members of the environmental assessment team about any perspectives/issues they might have about the Project.

Members of the environmental assessment team were also on hand to guide community members through the information panels regarding the Project if they desired and to answer any questions. The information panels included issues that were prominently raised in Round One of the PIP including employment and training, lake sturgeon, caribou, flooding and water quality and mercury, fish and human health. If questions were raised that could not be addressed at the session they were recorded by an environmental assessment team member, forwarded to the appropriate person to respond to the information request, and followed up as required. In total, nine community members signed-in at the session; however, one other individual attended the community information session that did not sign-in.

The following are highlights of the perspectives heard at the community 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:

- Participants identified interest in Project employment and training opportunities but identified impediments including lack of information about the employment and training opportunities, lack of access to training funds, and priority for KCN communities which could exclude others from higher level training and employment opportunities.
 - Members of the PIP team informed those in attendance that the training funds for the Keeyask Project had been expended by the end of March 2010. It was noted that there may be opportunities for on the job training when the Project starts.

Other:

- Concern was shared about the burial sites along the upper Nelson River that have been flooded as a result of previous activities. How will these flooded grave sites be taken care of and what will be done to ensure future discovered sites are respected.
 - The PIP team acknowledged the concerns about burial sites on the upper Nelson River and that Manitoba Hydro supports a Manitoba Heritage Resources Branch program for burial sites throughout the Manitoba Hydro system. . The PIP team advised that plans are in place for the Keeyask Project to ensure that any remains discovered during the construction process and during operations will be recovered and reburied in a respectful manner in accordance with the Heritage Resources Protection Plan. The Heritage Resources Protection Plan was developed by the Partnership and is in accordance with the Manitoba Heritage Resources Act.



Round Two PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:

Meeting with Pikwitonei Mayor and Council

Final Meeting Notes

Date of Meeting: March 8, 2012; 4:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Location: Pikwitonei, Manitoba
School Gym

In Attendance:	L. Hanson	Mayor
	Christine Campbell	Councilor
	Samantha Cordell	Councilor
	Wil DeWit	Manitoba Hydro
	Harv Sawatzky	Intergroup Consultants
	Dale Giesbrecht	Intergroup Consultants

PURPOSE OF MEETING

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

- Provide the public with a description of Project features and changes since Round One;
- Discuss initial preliminary results regarding biophysical and socio-economic effects of the Project and obtain comments and input on the results;
- Obtain input on possible mitigation measures and monitoring opportunities for minimizing or avoiding potential adverse effects; and
- Document what is heard in the meeting with community leadership for inclusion in the Environmental Impact Statement.

The meeting is the second of a series of three sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of the Keeyask Public Involvement Program (PIP). Round Three of the PIP will commence after the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project has been filed with the government regulators.

MEETING PROCESS

The mayor and council members showed up at different times during the community information session (and signed in). The PIP team discussed the panels with the mayor and two council members.

Following the community information session Harv Sawatzky presented information on the Keeyask Generation Project, including any changes to the Project or process that have occurred since Round One and the purpose for Round Two PIP. Specifically, the focus of the presentation included issues that were prominently raised in Round One of the PIP including employment and training, lake sturgeon, caribou, flooding and water quality and mercury, fish and human health. Each Council member in attendance was provided the Round Two PIP newsletter. Extra copies of the newsletter were left with the Administrator for general distribution. Throughout the presentation:

- Council members asked questions, offered perspectives, and identified issues about the proposed project, the environmental assessment including preliminary results and mitigation measures 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

Flooding:

- A comment was made regarding shoreline erosion on the upper Nelson River from the high water levels over the past two years.

Sturgeon and Fish:

- A Council member asked how the lake sturgeon spawning habitat creation proposed for the Keeyask Project could be implemented on the Upper Nelson River. The Nelson River Sturgeon Management Board has been trying to get funds to do this for some time.
 - It was suggested that they monitor the process at Keeyask to see what is done there, whether it proves successful and try to adapt those measures to the Upper Nelson River situation.

+community

TOWN OF PIKWITONEI MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
PROPOSED KEYYASK GENERATING STATION PROJECT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM
ROUND 2

March 8, 2012 @ 1:00 p.m.

Name (Print)	Signature	Affiliation
Albert Thorne	Albert Thorne	
Norman Brighton		
Amanda Barbeau	Amanda Barbeau	ANA
PERCY HANSON	Percy Hanson	PIK Council
* L. HANSON	L. Hanson	Mayor
CHRISTINE THORNE	Christine Thorne	Councillor
* Christine Thorne	C Thorne	Councillor
* GENEVIE LORACE		Councillor
Angeline C. Flett	ANGELINE C. FLETT	
Meritha Lockman		
Jack Flett	JACK FLETT	
Frank Hall	FRANK HALL	
Angeline Flett		
Luke D. Brightrose Esq.		
Brenda Flett	Brenda Flett	
Margaret Moose	Margaret Moose	
Ruby Taylor	Ruby Taylor	

Dakota
 Morning Star
 Matthew
 Austin
 Dustin
 Landus
 Jerome
 Brandon

8 students
 1:00 PM -
 3:30 PM



Round Two PIP - Proposed Keeyask Generation Project:**Pikwitonei Community Information Session****Final Meeting Notes**

Date of Meeting: March 8, 2012; 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Location: Pikwitonei, Manitoba
Pikwitonei School Gym

In Attendance from	Wil DeWit	Manitoba Hydro
EA Team:	Harv Sawatzky	InterGroup
	Dale Giesbrecht	InterGroup

In Attendance from Community: See sign-in sheet

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The purpose of the community information session was to:

- Provide the public with a description of the Keeyask Generation Project (the Project) features and changes since Round One of the public involvement program (PIP);
- Discuss preliminary results of the environmental assessment (EA) regarding biophysical and socio-economic effects of the Project and obtain comments on the results;
- Obtain input on possible mitigation measures for minimizing or avoiding potential adverse effects, as well as monitoring of effects; and
- Document what is heard in the community information session for inclusion in the Environmental Impact Statement.

The information session is the second of a series of three sessions being held with communities in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson area and with potentially affected and interested organizations as part of the Keeyask PIP. Round Three of the PIP will commence after the Environmental Impact Statement for the Project has been filed with the government regulators.

MEETING PROCESS

The community information session was held at the Pikwitonei school gym. Prior to meeting with the community, students from the Pikwitonei School were invited to attend a presentation about the Project

and to ask questions. Several students asked questions about the Project such as its design, adverse effects and employment and training.

Those who attended the community information session at 3:00 pm were encouraged to sign-in, fill out comment forms and speak to members of the environmental assessment team about any comments or questions they might have about the Project. Members of the environmental assessment team were also on hand to guide community members through information panels which described initial results of the EA, possible mitigation measures and monitoring, regarding the Project if they desired and to answer any questions. The information panels included issues that were prominently raised in Round One of the PIP including: employment and training; lake sturgeon; caribou; flooding and water quality; and mercury, fish and human health. If questions were raised that could not be addressed at the session they were recorded, forwarded to the appropriate person to respond to the information request, and followed up as required. In total, 12 community members signed in at the session; three individuals attended but 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. Where responses were provided, these are summarized here.

KEY PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Employment and Training:

- Concerns were raised by several community members regarding the lack of training programs for those interested in gaining employment on Manitoba Hydro projects. They felt that there should be training for Aboriginal people for all project skills, including steel work, concrete work, etc. Concern was expressed that training opportunities in the north do not cover the full range of skills that will be required for the Project. They felt that there should be no need to bring in outside workers to fill Project jobs.
 - Response: Information in the newsletter was highlighted pertaining to the Hydro Northern Training and Employment Initiative (HNTEI), which ended in 2010. The Project hiring practices were also reviewed, as outlined in the newsletter. The Burntwood-Nelson Agreement will govern hiring on the Project; there will be preferential hiring opportunities for qualified candidates from northern Manitoba, with the first preference given to qualified Aboriginal people in the Churchill-Burntwood-Nelson communities.
- Several participants expressed a desire to see improved employment practices over those experienced at the Wuskwatim Generation Project. They indicated that Aboriginal people were hired, quickly let go and subsequently replaced by non-Aboriginal workers. They also indicated that Aboriginal people need to be employed in positions that match their skills. They cited an example of an Aboriginal person with heavy equipment operation experience being employed as a general labourer, while a non-Manitoba worker operated equipment.
 - Response: The experiences of past projects, including the Wuskwatim Generation Project, have been examined in planning for the Keeyask Generation Project.

- A community member felt that small communities like Pikwitonei are overlooked by Manitoba Hydro in terms of employment and they wanted information about how community members can get jobs on the Project.
 - Response: The hiring process would be similar to that used for the Wuskwatim Project; workers would register with the job referral service, would need to keep this information up-to-date, renew it every six months and keep checking back with the employment office in Thompson or other employment centres.