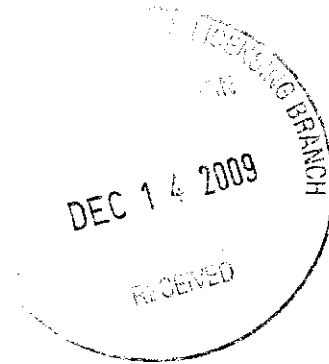




820 Taylor Ave (3) • Winnipeg Manitoba Canada • R3M 3T1  
Telephone / N° de téléphone : (204) 474-3183 • Fax / N° de télécopieur : (204) 474-3734  
threno@hydro.mb.ca

2009 12 14

Ms. Tracey Braun, Director  
Environmental Assessment & Licensing Branch  
Manitoba Conservation  
Suite 160-123 Main St  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 1A5



Dear Ms. Braun:

### **BIPOLE III TRANSMISSION PROJECT: A MAJOR RELIABILITY INITIATIVE**

Enclosed is an Environment Act Proposal Form (EAPF) for the Bipole III Transmission Project: A Major Reliability Initiative (the Project). As outlined in the EAPF, Manitoba Hydro plans to construct a new 500 kV HVdc transmission line and associated facilities including converter stations, ground electrode facilities, and connections. The transmission line would run from northern to southern Manitoba along a corridor in the western part of the Province.

Manitoba Hydro has initiated an extensive stakeholder and Aboriginal consultation program, and a Site Selection and Environmental Assessment process for the proposed Project. A comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared as part of the assessment process. The enclosed Draft Environmental Assessment Scoping Document outlines the assessment approach, scope of baseline studies, and the proposed format and content of the EIS for the Project. The EIS is scheduled to be completed in June 2011, and will be submitted for review and approval by your department at that time.

It is our interpretation that the proposed Project will require a Class 3 Development Licence pursuant to *The Environment Act*. We anticipate that you will implement a cooperative environmental assessment review of the Project pursuant to the *Canada-Manitoba Agreement on Environmental Assessment Cooperation*. Manitoba Hydro welcomes such a cooperative review process and looks forward to working with the parties.

Please review and comment on the enclosed Draft Environmental Assessment Scoping Document. Receipt of your approval decision on the Scoping Document and provision of any further guidance for use in preparation of the EIS by the end of January 2010 would assist us in meeting our June 2011 submission date for the EIS and would be appreciated.

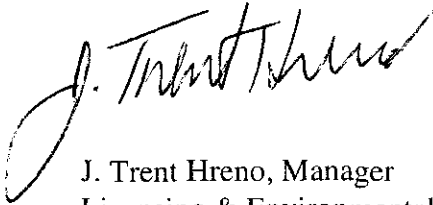
Ms. Tracey Braun

2009 12 14

Page 2

Thank-you for your cooperation and guidance in this matter. We look forward to working with your department on the assessment of this very important Project. I would be happy to discuss the Project with you or your staff at your convenience

Yours truly,

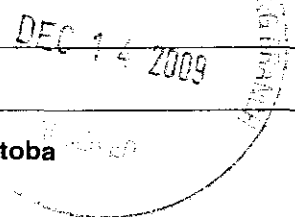
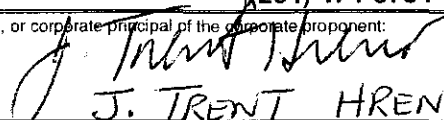
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Trent Hreno". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

J. Trent Hreno, Manager  
Licensing & Environmental Assessment Department  
Manitoba Hydro - Transmission

cc Dan McNaughton, CEAA

# Environment Act Proposal Form

This form prescribes the nature and sequence of the information required to file a proposal for a development pursuant to subsections 10(3), 11(7), and 12(3) of *The Environment Act*.

Name of the development: <b>Bipole III Transmission Project: A Major Reliability Improvement Initiative</b>		
Legal name of the proponent of the development: <b>Manitoba Hydro</b>		
Location of the development Street address: <b>N/A</b>	Municipality: <b>Province of Manitoba</b>	
City or Town: <b>Western Manitoba</b>	Legal description: <b>N/A</b>	
Name of proponent contact person for purposes of the environmental assessment: <b>J. Trent Hreno, Manager, Licensing &amp; Environmental Assessment Department, Manitoba Hydro</b>		
Mailing address: <b>820 Taylor Avenue (3), P.O. Box 7950 Stn. Main, Winnipeg, MB</b>		
Postal code: <b>R3C 0J1</b>	Telephone: <b>(204) 474-3183</b>	Fax: <b>(204) 474-3734</b>
Date: <b>December 14, 2009</b>	Signature of the proponent, or corporate principal of the corporate proponent:  Printed name: <b>J. TRENT HRENO</b>	

- 1) NOTE: **APPLICATION FEE** - Refer to Schedule "A" on reverse side.
- 2) NOTE: The proponent should reproduce the underlined portions of each section as noted below, adding the required information following each section as it applies to the development. A response to all the sections is required.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE DEVELOPMENT:**

- i) Certificate of Title showing the owner(s) and legal description of the land upon which the development will be constructed; or (in the case of highways, rail lines, electrical transmission lines, or pipelines) a map or maps at a scale no less than 1:50,000 showing the location of the proposed development;
- ii) Name of the owner of mineral rights beneath the land, if not the same as that of the surface owner;
- iii) Description of the existing land use on the site and on land adjoining it, as well as changes that will be made thereto for the purposes of the development;
- iv) Land use designation for the site and adjoining land as identified in a development plan adopted pursuant to *The Planning Act* or *The City of Winnipeg Act*, and the zoning designation as identified in a Zoning By-Law, if applicable;
- v) A description of all previous studies and activities relating to feasibility, exploration, or project siting and prior authorization received from other government agencies;
- vi) A description of the proposed development (including site plans), and the method of operation and hours of operation;
- vii) An identification of any storage of gasoline or associated products (e.g. diesel fuel, used oil, heating oil, AV gas, solvents, isopropanol, methanol, acetone, etc.);
- viii) A description of the potential impacts of the development on the environment, including, but not necessarily limited to:
  - type, quantity and concentration of pollutants to be released into the air, water or on land;
  - impact on wildlife;
  - impact on fisheries;
  - impact on surface water and groundwater;

- forestry related impacts;
- impact on heritage resources;
- socio-economic implications resulting from the environmental impacts.
- ix) A description of the proposed environmental management practices to be employed to prevent or mitigate adverse implications from the impacts identified in viii) which will have regard to, where applicable: containment, handling, monitoring, storage, treatment, and final disposal of pollutants; conservation and protection of natural or heritage resources; environmental restoration and rehabilitation of the site upon decommissioning; and protection of environmental health.

**SCHEDULE:**

The proposed date of commencement of construction, commencement of operation, including staging of the development and termination of operation, if known.

**FUNDING:**

Name and address of any Government Agency (Federal, Provincial or otherwise) from which a grant or loan of capital funds have been requested, where applicable.

**NOTE:** *The Environment Act* requires that subject to the Confidential Information clause, Section 47, a proposal shall be filed in the public registry.

Proprietary information provided in this form should be clearly noted. A separate summary of the proposal excluding the proprietary information should accompany the proposal for the public registry file.

**27 copies of any bound report or blueprints supporting the Proposal are required.**

The completed Proposal form should be sent together with a covering letter to:

Director, Environmental Assessment and Licensing Branch  
Manitoba Conservation  
Suite 160, 123 Main Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 1A5