

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ISSUES SUMMARY TABLE

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An issue summary table was prepared based on questions and comments noted during meetings, workshops, public open houses and Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge studies. The table summarizes questions, comments and concerns, provides Manitoba Hydro's response to these questions, comments and concerns and provides references to where additional information can be found in the Environmental Assessment Report.

Appendix D, Table 1: Keyask Transmission Project Public Involvement Issues Summary Table

TOPIC	RESPONSE
Project Description	
A question was raised about why a double circuit or larger voltage line could not be used for the Generation Outlet Transmission Lines.	The recommended scheme (3x 138kV lines, single circuit) is based on a technical requirement to provide firm outlet transmission for Keyask. Even if they increased the voltage to a higher level, e.g., 230 kV, three lines would still be required. The use of a double circuit tower design (two lines on one tower plus a single tower line) is not possible due to soil conditions in the Keyask area. Keyask outlet lines are only feasible with guyed structures. Further information is available in Chapter 2 of the Environmental Assessment Report.
A question was raised about why the right-of-way has to be so wide, particularly when a lot of maintenance work is done by helicopter.	Clearing requirements are driven by technical requirements including the types of towers and requirements for guy wires. Further information is available in Chapter 2 of the Environmental Assessment Report.
A question was raised about whether there would be any effects on the transmission towers from climate change due to melting of permafrost.	Manitoba Hydro noted this is one of the reasons for the guyed wires. The environmental protection plans will also include measures to reduce permafrost melt caused by the Project such as minimizing clearing. Refer to Chapter 2 and Chapter 8 of the Environmental Assessment Report for more information.
Route Selection Process	
TCN requested that Generation Outlet Transmission Line Route B should be modified so that it remains on the south side of the access road until it intersects with the Construction Power Line.	The route alteration requested by TCN was incorporated into the preferred route for the Generation Outlet Transmission Lines. Refer to Section 6.2 of the Environmental Assessment Report for more information.
FLCN Members requested an additional route for the Generation Outlet Transmission Lines be considered which would follow the existing KN36 transmission line right-of-way.	Generation Outlet Transmission Line Route Option D was added to the evaluation of alternatives for the Generation Outlet Transmission Lines. Refer to Section 6.1 of the Environmental Assessment Report for more information.
Participants generally indicated a preference for routes that parallel other existing or future linear features.	These comments were considered as part of the route selection process. The preferred route for the Generation Outlet Transmission Lines follows existing or future infrastructure rights-of-way for much of the route. Refer to Sections 6.1 and 6.2 of the Environmental Assessment Report for more information.

Appendix D, Table 1: Keeyask Transmission Project Public Involvement Issues Summary Table

TOPIC	RESPONSE
Participants asked how feedback from the public was considered in the route selection process.	Manitoba Hydro's site selection process considers the need to balance a variety of environmental, technical and social concerns. The evaluation of these different factors in selecting preferred sites and routes is described in Chapter 6 of the Environmental Assessment Report.
Public Involvement Process	
Participants at open houses generally indicated they appreciated the opportunity to be provided with project information and to share ideas in the planning process.	No response required.
Some participants asked how much weight Manitoba Hydro places on preferences of local residents when choosing routes for transmission lines.	Manitoba Hydro's site selection process considers the need to balance a variety of environmental, technical and social concerns. The evaluation of these different factors in selecting preferred sites and routes is described in Chapter 6 of the Environmental Assessment Report.
Participants asked how Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge was incorporated into the Site Selection and Environmental Assessment process.	Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge was collected through studies and workshops conducted with First Nations. In addition, ongoing work is planned with Fox Lake Cree Nation and the Manitoba Metis Federation. Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge was incorporated into both the site selection process and the environmental assessment for the Project. Refer to Chapters 6 and 7 in the Environmental Assessment Report for more information.
Potential Effects on Habitat, Wildlife and Resource Use	
PIP participants expressed concerns about the potential for habitat fragmentation caused by the Project in the Project Study Area.	The preferred route for the Generation Outlet Transmission Lines is close in proximity to the existing KN36 and R26K transmission lines and the future Keeyask south access road in order to limit fragmentation and minimize disturbance to resource use areas. Refer to Section 6.2 of the Environmental Assessment Report.
Some participants expressed concerns that rights-of-way might affect animal movement or leave them more susceptible to hunting and predation.	Vegetation buffers will be established on rights-of-way as practicable to reduce sight lines. Low vegetation cover along rights-of-way will be maintained where practical to provide some habitat and cover. Refer to Chapter 7 of the Environmental Assessment Report for more information.
Questions were raised about erosion and sedimentation and effects on water quality related to clearing.	Mitigation measures will be implemented to reduce and control erosion including restoration of areas disturbed during construction that are not used during operations and restricting clearing activities to the minimum area practical for infrastructure development. Refer to Chapter 7 of the Environmental Assessment Report for more information.

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TOPIC	RESPONSE
PIP participants expressed concern about potential effects of disturbance during construction on moose and other wildlife.	Studies have shown that moose do not easily abandon suitable areas and often return once the disturbance ends. Refer to Chapter 7 of the Environmental Assessment Report for more information.
PIP participants expressed concerns about the potential for loss of important plants and berries.	Potential effects of the Project on ecosystem diversity and priority plants were considered in the environmental assessment. Following mitigation, residual effects of the Project are not expected to be significant. More information is available in Chapter 7 of the Environmental Assessment Report.
<p>Participants expressed concerns that the Project would inhibit the ability to practice culturally important resource use activities (hunting, trapping, fishing, harvesting).</p> <p>Some participants noted concerns about adding another Project to an already fragmented area. Participants noted the cultural importance of the area.</p>	The preferred routes and sites for project infrastructure were chosen to minimize potential effects to domestic and commercial resource use. Manitoba Hydro will also work with First Nations to organize a site ceremony for the Project to recognize the cultural and spiritual importance of the area. More information is available in Section 6.2 and Chapter 7 of the Environmental Assessment Report.
Concerns were noted with respect to loss of income for trappers due to disturbance by the Project.	Registered trapline holders whose commercial trapping operations are affected by the Project will be compensated consistent with Manitoba Hydro's Trapper Notification and Compensation Policy for New Transmission Development. Compensation may include trap line improvements, employment opportunities, equipment replacement or monetary settlement. Refer to Chapter 7 of the Environmental Assessment Report for more information.
Potential Effects on Heritage Resources	
There was concern about the potential for the Project to disturb or damage sacred sites and burial sites, including sites that have not yet been discovered.	An Environmental Protection Plan will address concerns that heritage resources may be unearthed during construction activities. Refer to Chapter 7 of the Environmental Assessment Report for more information.

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TOPIC	RESPONSE
Potential Effects on Access	
<p>Participants noted that transmission lines would provide opportunities for increased access for hunting and recreation. This was viewed both positively and negatively.</p>	<p>Mitigation measures to manage access include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right-of-way access trails will be decommissioned, unless required for on-going maintenance, to minimize access-related effects from harvest and predation. • Manitoba Hydro will work with Manitoba Conservation to maintain previously developed access control and hunter related signage in order to prevent excessive hunting. • Where access is a concern, Manitoba Hydro will work directly with those concerned to prepare access management plans prior to construction. <p>More information is available in Chapter 7 of the Environmental Assessment Report.</p>
Potential Effects Related to Public Safety	
<p>Some participants stated that local residents would be affected by construction workers in the area. They noted that problems had arisen during previous hydroelectric projects from interactions between local residents and construction workers.</p>	<p>As a part of orientation for all workers at the main site, workers will be required to participate in cultural awareness training. This will provide an opportunity to describe local expectations for respectful behaviour by construction workers both on site and when visiting communities. Prior to construction, discussions will begin between Manitoba Hydro, the Town of Gillam, TCN and FLCN to determine the best mechanism for addressing worker interaction issues across all Manitoba Hydro proposed projects in the vicinity of Gillam.</p>
<p>Participants expressed concerns about safety related to guy wires and asked whether guy wires would be marked for snowmobilers to see.</p>	<p>Guy wire shields will be used to improve the visibility of guy wires for transmission lines and reduce the potential for accidents for snowmobilers and others travelling in the area. Refer to Chapter 7 of the Environmental Assessment Report for more information.</p>
<p>Participants asked whether Manitoba Hydro could provide education programs to youth about safety near electrical infrastructure.</p>	<p>Site fencing and access controls will be in place as appropriate for the Project. Providing general safety education is beyond the scope of the assessment for the Project.</p>

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TOPIC	RESPONSE
Employment and Business	
Participants were interested in the types of employment opportunities that would be available with the Project.	Manitoba Hydro provided basic descriptions of the types of positions that would be available during construction of the Project at a public open house in Gillam. Further information on employment requirements of the Project is provided in Chapter 2 of the Environmental Assessment Report.
Questions were asked about job and business opportunities for local Aboriginal and Northern residents.	For work packages filled through direct-negotiation contracts, the ability to direct hire maximizes the likelihood of qualified Aboriginal residents being hired for a project-related job. Further information on Aboriginal and local resident hiring preferences and Manitoba Hydro's Northern Purchasing Policy is provided in Chapter 7 of the Environmental Assessment Report.
Other Topics	
Questions were raised about the potential for increased pollution from construction activities.	<p>A life cycle analysis of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the construction and operation of the Project was completed. The life cycle analysis indicated a net positive contribution to greenhouse gas emissions when considering the ability to displace greenhouse gas emissions through sale of surplus electricity. Refer to Chapter 7 of the Environmental Assessment Report for more information.</p> <p>Additional information on environmental protection is available in Chapter 8 of the Environmental Assessment Report.</p>
PIP participants expressed interest in understanding decommissioning plans.	Provisions exist for decommissioning of temporary infrastructure or facilities. These are described in Section 2.8 of the Environmental Assessment Report. Manitoba Hydro has no plans to decommission the Keyask Transmission Project itself. If decommissioning is required at some future date it will be undertaken according to the legislative requirements, existing agreements and industry standards prevalent at the time.

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