

DATE: March 7, 2018

TO: Tracey Braun
Director
Environmental Approvals
2nd Floor, 123 Main Street

FROM: James Duncan
Director
Wildlife and Fisheries Branch
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SUBJECT: BIPOLE III PROJECT: ENVIRONMENT ACT LICENCE #3055, MOOSE MONITORING

We understand that Manitoba Hydro can meet Condition 18d iii of Environment Licence #3055 if they conduct surveys using Wildlife and Fisheries Branch approved methods. The Branch is also cognisant that public concerns, expressed through the Clean Environment Commission and other engagement processes, emphasized how Bipole III could impact mortality rates of moose. Manitoba Hydro and the Wildlife and Fisheries Branch concur that gaining a better understanding of the lines impact on mortality rates of moose (which may have been the intent of Bipole III licence condition 18d iii) cannot reasonably be met at this time using conventional monitoring techniques.

To this end Manitoba Hydro has been working with Department staff to develop a Moose Stewardship Study Program that will help fill some important information gaps regarding factors affecting demography of moose in Manitoba. Information resulting from this program will enhance and support the sustainable management of Manitoba's moose populations. The Branch has concluded that full implementation of this program combined with the moose monitoring activities identified in Shannon Johnson's letter to Environmental Approvals Branch, dated February 9, 2018, fulfills Manitoba Hydro's obligations under Bipole licence condition 18d iii.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (204)945-7465.



James Duncan

cc. Dan Bulloch