

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPONENT: Manitoba Hydro
PROPOSAL NAME: Ridgeway - St. Vital 230 kV Transmission
Line
CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: 2
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: Transmission
CLIENT FILE NO.: 4226.00

OVERVIEW:

The Proposal was dated January 10, 1997 and was received on January 14, 1997. The advertisement of the Proposal read as follows:

"A Proposal has been filed by Manitoba Hydro to develop a new 230 kilovolt (kV) transmission line between Ridgeway Station, in the Rural Municipality of Springfield, and St. Vital Station, in the City of Winnipeg. This facility is required in order to improve the Winnipeg area transmission system on the east side of the city. The proposed route of the line will involve the construction of 11.5 km of new double circuit transmission line beginning at the Ridgeway Station and following on an existing 198m easement within the Red River Floodway property. The remaining 7.5 km of the proposed line will involve energizing an unused circuit on an existing transmission line and terminating at the St. Vital Station. No new right-of-way is required for the transmission line except for a 1.0 km section immediately southeast of the Ridgeway Station. The project's in-service date is late October, 1998."

The Proposal was advertised in the Winnipeg Free Press on Saturday, January 25, 1997. It was placed in the Manitoba Eco-Network, the Centennial Public Library, and the R. M. of Springfield Office. It was also distributed to the "Transportation" TAC members for comment. All comments were requested by February 20, 1997.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No comments were received from the public in response to the Environment Act advertisement of the Proposal.

COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Manitoba Natural Resources No concerns

Manitoba Environment - Water Quality Mention that the use of metal towers as indicated in the Proposal will minimize the impact on wetlands and streams.

Disposition: The comments can be accommodated as a general condition of the licence by requiring that the proponent construct the development in accordance with the Proposal which documents the proposed environmental management practices.

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Rural Development No planning concerns.

Highways MHT has future highway projects planned within the area, specifically interchanges at PTH 15 and Gunn/Springfield Roads and upgrading from PTH 101 to PR 213. In order to provide efficient coordination of all projects Highways requests that Manitoba Hydro provide the Highways Regional Technical Services Engineer with information such as detailed designs and construction schedules as they become available.

Disposition: Highways comments relate to engineering and design considerations of the proposal within existing Hydro and Highways rights-of-way and therefore fall outside the scope of the Environment Act review of the Proposal. Environmental Approvals will advise Hydro of these comments and request that Hydro to pursue this matter directly with Highways.

Mines Branch No concerns

Historic Resources No concerns

Urban Affairs Note that the development is consistent with Plan Winnipeg and the R.M. of Springfield Development Plan. Also note that Manitoba Hydro has consulted with the R.M. of Springfield Council and Councilor Vandal from the St. Boniface Ward in the City of Winnipeg.

Fisheries and Oceans Note that the transmission line crosses the Winnipeg Floodway and Cook's Creek Diversion. These waterways do not support fish, however, the potential exists that the deposit of deleterious substances into these waterways could impact receiving waters which do support fish. In approaching these waterways, DFO recommends the appropriate mitigation measures designed to prevent increased sedimentation and/or the introduction of deleterious substances into the drainage as outlined in the Manitoba Stream Crossing Guidelines, 1996. An application of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act with respect to the project will not be required.

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing is not recommended for this project on the basis that no comments or concerns were received in response to the Environment Act advertisement of the Proposal.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION:

The comment received from the technical review of the Proposal can be accommodated as conditions of licencing. It is therefore recommended that the project be licenced pursuant to the Environment Act in accordance with the terms and conditions described in the attached draft Environment Act Licence.