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March 20, 2012

Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
Suite 2700
2300 Yonge Street
Toronto ON
M4P 1E4

Attention: Kirsten Walli

Dear Ms Walli:

Re: EB-2011-0420
Application for Leave to Construct Transmission Facilities
White River Hydro LP and Pic Mobert First Nation

Please find enclosed two copies of the Applicants' response to Board staff interrogatories. A copy of this cover letter and attached interrogatories response has also been filed through RESS as well as emailed to intervenors.

Please note that, further to the Applicants' interrogatory responses, we will be sending a separate CD containing the complete Project Information Report. The Board may, at its discretion, file the Project Information Report on the Board website if necessary.

Kind Regards,

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Per:

signed in the original

Kristyn Annis

Enc.

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, S.O. 1998, c. 15, Sch. B, as amended* (the "**OEB Act**");

AND IN THE MATTER of an application by White River Hydro LP and Gitche Animki Energy Limited Partnership for an order under section 92 and subsection 96(2) of the OEB Act granting leave to construct an electricity transmission line and related facilities.

APPLICANT'S RESPONSE TO INTERROGATORIES FROM BOARD STAFF

Interrogatory 1:

- (i) Given that a Joint Venture is not considered a legal person, please confirm that the power purchase agreements were executed by the two parties that formed the Joint Venture, being White River Hydro LP and Pic Mobert First Nation¹.

Response 1:

- (i) The Applicant confirms that the power purchase agreements were executed by the two parties that formed the Joint Venture, being White River Hydro LP and Pic Mobert First Nation.

Interrogatory 2:

- (i) Please clarify whether the Applicants obtained confirmation from the Ministry of the Environment ("MOE") that it agrees with the characterization that the change in the route i.e., the "Niizh Portion" is a "minor" modification and that the MOE still considers the EA process successfully completed? If not, please explain why this course was not pursued.
- (ii) Please file evidence that the MOE is aware of the change and will still grant approval of the EA process?

Response 2:

- (i) The Applicants discussed the minor modification in Transmission Line route with Ministry of Natural Resources ("MNR") and MOE prior to proceeding with the modification. Both MNR and MOE confirmed that the minor modification would not require a formal amendment to the Project Information Report/Environmental Screening Review Report

¹ Pic Mobert First Nation as the second partner in the joint venture holds its 35% share indirectly via the Gitche Animki Energy Limited Partnership, effective December 7, 2011.

("PIR"), but requested that the Applicants complete a written screening report outlining the change.² The resulting document is the 'Addendum Provision Determination of Proposed New Transmission Line Route Using an Aggregate Approach', (the "Addendum Report"), which was submitted to all relevant regulating agencies in April 2011 and, after comments from such agencies (there were none), finalized on May 20, 2011. In particular, Section 1, page 3, paragraph 1 addresses the minor modification to the route change. The Addendum Report forms part of a larger addendum (Addendum 01) that was submitted for the PIR. A copy of the Addendum Report is attached hereto at Schedule 'A'. For sake of completeness, the Applicants are providing the Board with an electronic copy of the complete PIR, which may be filed on the Board's website.

- (ii) The environmental approvals process is a proponent-driven process. The MOE does not formally provide an environmental approval per se, rather the proponent is required to issue a Statement of Completion. However, pursuant to the *Environmental Assessment Act*, the MOE has the ability to request that a proponent issue a formal amendment to the project information report if there is a material change to the proposed project, which would require the proponent to undertake public consultations on the amended project and submit a new Statement of Completion. In discussions with the Applicant, the MOE deemed the proposed change to the Transmission Line route to be a minor modification and chose not to exercise their discretion in this instance to require a new Statement of Completion. Rather, the Applicants were required to issue the Addendum Report. The Applicants have since issued a second addendum (Addendum 02) to the PIR, which pertains to issues outside of the Transmission Facility, and the environmental approvals process under the *Environmental Assessment Act* is now deemed complete. The Applicants file the Addendum Report and an email to Laurie Brown, Ministry of Environment, evidencing that the MOE was aware of the change (see Schedule 'B').

Interrogatory 3:

- (i) Please provide the evidence that SFL had no objection to the use of the "Forest Service Road ROW for the Transmission Line"?
- (ii) Please indicate whether the Applicants communicated the change in the route of the Transmission Line, as described in paragraph 30 of the pre-filed evidence, to the parties identified in Reference (b) who participated in the "Community and Stakeholder Consultation"? If not, please provide an explanation as to why this was not done? If yes, please provide evidence that there was no objection to the change in the transmission route from the transmission route filed in the ERR with the MOE.

Response 3:

- (i) The Applicant confirms that the SFL has no objection to the use of the Forest Services Road ROW for the Transmission Line. As stated in the Application, the Road Use Agreement permits the Joint Venture to use the Forest Service Roads for developing, constructing and operating the Project.³ For clarification, this includes the right to build

² All such discussions were held orally.

³ Application under Section 92 of the OEB Act (the "Application"), dated December 6, 2011, at par. 45.

transmission along such roadways. An amendment to the Road Use Agreement was entered into between the Applicants and the SFL on January 23, 2012 which, among other amendments not related to this Application, specified that the Transmission Line will be built along the ROW in such a way as not to interfere with the SFL's forest operations. In any event, as stated in the Application, the SFL holder does not have a veto over the Applicants' use of the Forest Service Roads, since these rights are granted to the Applicants via the Crown Easement.⁴

- (ii) Please see the Applicants' response to Board staff interrogatory 2(i) and (ii). The Applicants communicated the change in the route of the Transmission Line to the regulating agencies (MNR and MOE among others), Ontario Parks, SFL holder and First Nation communities. It was determined through consultation with regulating agencies that the change of Transmission Line route was deemed to be a minor change and in any event, had a net positive in terms of impact. Accordingly, no public consultation on the minor modification was required.

Interrogatory 4:

- (i) Please indicate how the MNR approvals, described in Reference (b), relate to the MOE EA approvals described in Reference (c).
- (ii) Did the Applicants receive the two MNR permits listed in Reference (a), prior to the change in the route as described in paragraph 30 of the pre-filed evidence indicated in Reference (d)? If so, please provide evidence that the MNR's permits are still valid in spite of the noted change in the transmission route.
- (iii) Please provide evidence to corroborate the claim [see Reference (e), at paragraph 34, third bullet] that the MNR, Ontario Parks, and SFL holder consider that the proposed route is an improvement over the route included in the EER that was filed with the Ministry of Environment.

Response 4:

- (i) The MNR approvals described in Reference (b) are required in addition to the MOE environmental assessment approvals described in Reference (c). The Project is subject to the MOE's *Reg. 116/01*, the MNR's Water Power Planning Guidelines (WPPG), and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA), which is administered by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency. The PIR has been prepared to address the requirements of all three regulatory processes.
- (ii) The two permits listed in Reference (a) were submitted in error. The Project is not subject to a class environmental assessment. The correct permits obtained from MNR are:

⁴ Application, at par. 46.

MNR	<i>Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act, Section 14 approval</i>	Complete
MNR	<i>Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act, Approval to develop a project within provincial park</i>	Complete

Both of these permits were obtained after the Addendum Report was issued and continue to be valid.

- (iii) Please see Addendum Report issued to regulating agencies attached hereto as Schedule 'A'.

Interrogatory 5:

- (i) Please confirm that the Applicants will be responsible for the cost of the proposed 23.5 km of 115 kV transmission line, the two Switchyards (Niizh Switchyard and the Bezhigh Switchyard) to connect the two hydroelectric generating sites, and the Switching Station to connect the M2W circuit owned by Hydro One Networks Inc., all identified in paragraph 10 in the noted Reference above.
- (ii) Please provide the estimated costs of the transmission line, the two Switchyards, and the Switching Station.
- (iii) Please confirm that the provincial transmission rates will not be impacted by the proposed construction of the noted transmission and related facilities.

Response 5:

- (i) Confirmed.
- (ii) As the cost of the Transmission Facility will be the responsibility of the Applicants and will not affect ratepayers, this question is not relevant to the current Application. Furthermore, this information is currently deemed to be commercially sensitive since the contract for the construction of the Transmission Facility has not yet been granted, although requests for proposals have been received.
- (iii) The costs for the Transmission Facility and to connect the Project to the M2W circuit owned by Hydro One Networks Inc. will be the responsibility of the Applicants. As such, provincial transmission rates will not be impacted by the proposed construction of the noted transmission and the Transmission Facility.

Interrogatory 6:

- (i) Please acknowledge the Applicants' responsibility for removing the transmission and related facilities if construction of these transmission facilities does not proceed or is

interrupted due to unforeseen events such as the inability to acquire or secure the various permits or a force majeure event?

- (ii) Are funds for this purpose set aside, or guaranteed by any means? Please provide details.
- (iii) Please confirm that decommissioning costs are the responsibility of the Applicants.

Response 6:

- (i) The construction of the Transmission Facility will not take place until all required permits, including the leave to construct granted pursuant to this Application, are obtained. Therefore, there is no risk of decommissioning the assets prior to completion of permitting. The Applicant will be responsible for decommissioning costs in the event of force majeure. However, the force majeure event would have to be so severe as to cancel, as oppose to merely delay, the Project, which magnitude of force majeure event is unlikely. Please see Section 9-6 of the PIR, a copy of which is attached hereto as Schedule 'C', in which decommissioning of the Project is discussed.
- (ii) As stated above, all permits and approvals will be secured prior to construction. The Applicants are seeking debt financing for the Project and, as per standard credit facility terms, it is expected that the lender will have step-in rights to complete the Project if the Applicants default during the construction and operation of the Project. In case of this Project, the lender (Manulife) is a majority shareholder of the Applicant, White River Hydro LP. Funds for decommissioning have not been set aside, since the Project life span is expected to be a minimum of fifty years.
- (iii) Confirmed.

Interrogatory 7:

- (i) Please correct the noted errors in the summary of the short-circuit impact assessment related to the 12 Bus locations listed at Reference (b), Table 3.

Response 7:

- (i) The Applicant has requested that Hydro One Networks Inc. respond to this interrogatory.

Interrogatory 8:

- (i) Please confirm that in the event that the Board's Decision granting leave to construct, is delayed beyond the date outlined in the Gantt chart for item 3, that no "Upgrading and Construction of Access Roads" related to the Transmission Facility will take place prior to issuance of the noted Board Decision.
- (ii) Please confirm that in the event that the Board's Decision granting leave to construct, is delayed beyond the date outlined in the Gantt chart for item 13, that no construction related to the Transmission Lines, Switchyards, and Substations will take place prior to issuance of the noted Board Decision.

Response 8:

- (i) Construction of the Transmission Facility will only commence upon receipt of approval from the Board under this Application. This includes upgrading and construction of the access roads specifically required for the Transmission Facility. The access roads related to the construction of dam and Hydro Facilities may proceed prior to receiving the Leave to Construct by OEB.
- (ii) Confirmed.

Interrogatory 9:

- (i) Please provide an update to all the Permits, Licences, Authorizations, and Approvals that are reported in the noted Table as “Pending” or “Not Received”.

Response 9:

- (i) Please see Schedule ‘D’ attached hereto for an updated list of permits and approvals.

Interrogatory 10:

- (i) In the above referenced letter, the Applicants made reference to a “Report” that was prepared regarding the change in route for the Transmission Line. Specifically, the Applicants stated:

“In consultation with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Ministry of Environment, the Applicant prepared the enclosed assessment report (the “Report”) as part of the proponent driven review process”.

A copy of the referenced Report was not enclosed with the letter. Please file a copy of the above referenced Report.

- (ii) In the above referenced letter, the Applicants stated that:

“The Crown confirmed that the consultation carried out was appropriate, given the low potential for adverse impact to aboriginal rights, and signed off on the consultation”.

Further, at Schedule B of that same letter, the Applicants stated that:

“E-mail correspondence from Paul Gamble of the Ministry of Natural Resources (Wawa District) to Norman R. Jaehrling of Pic Mobert First Nation Hydro Power Joint Venture confirming that – “The MNR Wawa can adequately assess that the aboriginal consultation is complete at this point in time.”

Please provide a copy of the referenced letter/e-mail from MNR (Wawa District).

- (iii) At page 6 of Schedule B of the above referenced letter, under the date of January 24, 2012, the Applicants stated that:

“Any further proposed changes to the location and/or scope of the Project which was consulted on will need to be assessed to determine if further consultation is required”.

With regards to the noted reference, please indicate whether there have been any changes to the proposed route for the Transmission Line since the leave to construct application was filed?

Response 10:

- (i) The Report referred to in the Applicants’ letter (the “Letter”) dated February 22, 2012 is in fact the Addendum Report, a copy of which is attached as Schedule ‘A’ hereto.
- (ii) The Applicant confirms the information it provided in the Letter regarding the email from Paul Gamble is accurate. The Applicant respectfully submits that land rights and related consultation do not relate to the price or reliability and quality of electrical service contemplated within the scope of Section 92. The Applicant relies on the previous decisions of the Board, in which only consultation and accommodation issues directly related to the criteria of Section 96(2) were admitted for consideration.⁵ Furthermore, Pic River First Nation withdrew their intervention request from these proceedings on March 9, 2012, which is evidence that Pic River First Nation’s concerns regarding any land-related issues have been met.
- (iii) There have not been any changes to the proposed route for the Transmission Line since the leave to construct application was filed.

⁵ EB-2009-0120, Yellow Falls Power Limited Partnership, Decision on Questions of Jurisdiction and Procedural Order 4, November 18, 2009. See also EB-2010-0150, Northgate Minerals, Procedural Order 2, July 29, 2010. See also EB-2011-0115, Detour Gold, Procedural Order No. 1, dated June 8, 2011.

SCHEDULE 'A' – ADDENDUM REPORT

Appendix A
Alternate Transmission Line Assessment

Project Report

May 20, 2011

Pic Moberg Hydro Power Joint Venture Gitche Animki Hydro Project

DISTRIBUTION

L. Brownlee – MOE

J. Carter – Regional Power/PMHPJV

N. Jaehrling – PMFN/PMHPJV

A. de Geus - MNR

Addendum Provision Determination of Proposed New Transmission Line Route Using an Aggregate Approach

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1. Introduction

The Pic Moberg Hydro Power Joint Venture is proposing the construction and operation of two hydroelectric facilities on the White River in Ontario. The project is named the Gitchi Animki Hydro Project. An Environmental Review Report (ERR) for the Gitchi Animki Hydro Project was prepared and submitted under the requirements of the Electricity Project Regulation (O. Reg. 116/01) environmental screening process. The public/agency review period ended on November 5, 2010 without any elevation requests being received. A statement of completion was subsequently filed with the Ministry of Environment (MOE). Following the filing of the Statement of Completion, the proponent decided to consider an additional transmission line routing option which was not among the three options considered and presented in the ERR. This new transmission route is considered to be a “minor” modification to the project as it was proposed in the ERR. Section B.5.2 (Addendum Provisions) of the Guide to EA Requirements for Electricity Projects requires proponents to consider the environmental significance of minor modifications to projects, and to require consultation on changes that are environmentally significant. The applicable section of the addendum provision in this instance is the first bullet:

“Where a project has been planned in accordance with the Environmental screening Process, but where a proponent decides prior to or during construction that it is not feasible or desirable to implement the project in the manner described in the completed Screening or Environmental Review Report.”

This document outlines the proponent’s assessment of the new transmission line route under the addendum provisions. The addendum provision states that the proponent shall determine the need for an addendum through technical review and/or consultation with interested and affected parties and by applying the MOE screening criteria. Included in this proponent-driven analysis is an aggregate approach, where the examination of the comparative advantages of the new route over the previous “preferred route” is undertaken in the addendum requirement determination. This document describes the process undertaken to determine if there is the need for an Addendum to the Gitchi Animki ERR arising from the introduction of the new transmission line routing option.

2. New Proposed Route

The new proposed route along with the “preferred route” originally presented in the PIP/ERR is shown in Figure 1. The new proposed route follows the right of way (ROW) provided by the 700 series of forest roads along the majority (approximately 80%) of its course. The new proposed route is approximately 13 km long from its origin at the Niizh power plant to its joining with the Bezbig transmission line at the Bezbig plant site. Beyond the Bezbig plant, the shared transmission line route is identical to that presented for the Bezbig plant in the PIP/ERR. The impacts and mitigations associated with the “post-Bezbig” portion of the transmission line are documented in the PIP/ERR and are therefore not included in this determination. There is one new water crossing (i.e., no existing roadway) that will be required, this being just south (approximately 150 m) of the Bezbig facility.

3. Application of MOE Screening Criteria

The MOE Screening Criteria Checklist was applied to the new routing option. The completed checklist is included in Table 1. Of the criteria included in the checklist, it was concluded that potential negative impacts may result in some of the instances. Though the checklist does not consider significance or severity of negative impact it should be noted that in all cases the potential negative impacts were of low magnitude.

4. Consultation with Interested/Affected Parties

4.1 Agencies

4.1.1 MNR

MNR Wawa District as well as MNR Regional personnel were consulted on the proposed routing. Specifically, the comparative merits of the new route over the preferred route described in the PIP/ERR were discussed. As all land covered by this new route is provincial Crown land, MNR is responsible for all resources, including the forest resources found in the area under consideration. It was noted in discussion that the relatively large tract of forest that would be cleared for the ERR preferred option route would be left intact if the new option were to be chosen. It was noted that the general reduction in impacts to the natural resources that would accompany the new proposed route would be preferred by the MNR. One item noted was the fact that the new access that would have resulted from the ERR preferred option route would not occur with the new route, maintaining the integrity of the forest area. It was acknowledged that as there had been no public objection or comment on the ERR preferred option, it was highly unlikely that the new proposed route which has significantly less impact would attract any public objection or comment if presented.

4.1.2 Ontario Parks

The White Lake Provincial Park Addition extends along the banks of the White River (200 m either side of the high water mark). Discussions were held with Ontario Parks personnel on the new proposed transmission line route. It was noted that the new route would ensure that the transmission line did not enter the White Lake Park Addition in the vicinity of the Niizh powerhouse and as a result would reduce the total number of transmission line crossings over the river. The new option would have both the Bezbig and Niizh transmission lines coming within 200 m of the high water mark close to the Bezbig site. It should be noted that the Bezbig site is not presently within the White Lake Park Addition, but rather within a forest reserve. Ontario Parks noted that the new proposed route would be preferred as the impact to the Park Addition both in terms of clearing and aesthetics would be much less than those related to the ERR preferred route.

4.1.3 MOE

Discussions were held with MOE personnel on the new proposed route. The applicability of the addendum provisions of the environmental screening process to the proposed new routing was discussed. It was confirmed that with the process being proponent-driven, all relevant issues should be incorporated into the determination assessment.

4.1.4 Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)

Discussions were held with DFO personnel on the new proposed transmission line route. It was noted that the new route would reduce the total number of transmission line crossings over the river. It was also noted that the requisite procedures related to transmission line crossings and potential impact on fish habitat would be adhered to.

4.1.5 Transport Canada

As the newly proposed transmission route would not involve any new potential obstructions to navigation, no additional dialogue was required with Transport Canada.

4.2 Sustainable Forest License (SFL) Holder

Discussions were held with representatives of White River Forest Products Limited, the SFL holder for the White River Forest. The SFL holder is responsible for both forest and road management within the area. The SFL holder stated that there were no objections to the proposed use of the road ROW for the transmission line. It was noted that the new proposed route was preferred as it would remove the need to clear portions of the White River Forest north of the river, and would ensure that road infrastructure in this area is properly maintained and preserved while harvesting operations are occurring in other locales within the SFL. A road use agreement already exists between the SFL holder and PMHPJV.

5. Technical Review

Technical review of the option included the examination of the feasibility of erecting the transmission line including factors such as cost and logistics. It was concluded that there would be a considerably lower cost associated with the use of the proposed route when compared to the ERR preferred route. The lowered cost is due mainly to the fact that the intensive clearing of trees and surface preparation that would be required for sections of the ERR preferred route would not be required for the new proposed route. The clearing associated with the new proposed route particularly along the main 700 road will be mainly limited to shrub and sapling removal. The existing access to the proposed route (i.e., the road) will allow the rapid deployment of equipment and personnel, which translates into more efficient execution of transmission line erection. The line could be erected with minimal impact to any users of the road. From a technical perspective, the new proposed route would be simpler, less expensive and allow more efficient execution without any additional negative impacts. In addition, the ongoing maintenance of the new proposed route would be less as it would be easier to access and would not require upkeep of the new access roads that would have to be developed to construct and maintain the preferred route alignment.

6. Conclusion and Determination

Following the assessment exercise it is concluded that there is no need for the preparation of an Addendum for public review. This is due to the following:

- The new proposed route reduces the number of river crossings by transmission lines by one, and removes the transmission line from the existing White Lake Park Addition.
- The new proposed route reduces the number of required water crossings by one.

- The new proposed route is considered an improvement over the previous one by the MNR, Ontario Parks, the SFL holder and the technical review personnel of PMHPJV.
- The potential negative impacts identified through the completion of the criteria checklist are all significantly less than the similar impacts associated with the previously presented preferred route.
- No objections were raised by the public to the previously proposed route, and it is evident that the new route will have considerably less impact, so it is reasonable to conclude that no objections would be raised for the new route.
- The new proposed route does not bisect the SFL to the north.
- The new proposed route minimizes the impacts to river-bank-right (for river travellers).
- The new proposed route eliminates encroachment near lodge owner on Spangler Lake.

It is the determination of the proponent, PMHPJV that based on the above, there is no need to prepare a formal Addendum to the PIP/ERR for public review.

Table 1
Screening Criteria (MOE, 2001)

Potential Effect	Yes	No	Additional Information	Net Effects
Will the project...				
1.0 Surface and Groundwater				
1.1 Have negative effects on surface water quality, quantity or flows?		X		
1.2 Have negative effects on groundwater quality, quantity or movement?		X		
1.3 Cause significant sedimentation, soil erosion or shoreline or riverbank erosion on or off site?		X		
1.4 Cause potential negative effects on surface or groundwater from accidental spills or releases into the environment?		X		
2.1 Land				
2.1 Have negative effects on residential, commercial or institutional land uses within 500 m of the site.		X	No such uses located within study area.	None.
2.2 Be inconsistent with the Provincial Policy Statement, provincial land use or resource management plans?		X	Hydro power production on the White River is a permitted, non-conforming activity within the boundary of the proposed White Lake Provincial Park Additions.	None.
2.3 Be inconsistent with municipal land use policies, plans and zoning bylaws?		X	No policies exist for the unorganized township that encompasses the study area.	None.
2.4 Use hazard lands or unstable lands subject to erosion?		X	No such lands identified in the study area.	None.
2.5 Have potential negative effects related to the remediation of contaminated land?		X	No contaminated land identified within the study area.	None.
3.0 Air and Noise				

Table 1
Screening Criteria (MOE, 2001)

Potential Effect	Yes	No	Additional Information	Net Effects
3.1 Have negative effects on air quality due to emissions of nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, suspended particles, or other pollutants?	X		Minor emissions due to construction vehicle and equipment use.	Extremely low short-term effect during construction. Impacts are likely less than those caused by forestry operations and less than would occur from the previously proposed route.
3.2 Cause negative effects from the emission of greenhouse gases (CO ₂ , methane?)		X	No potential identified.	None
3.3 Cause negative effects from the emission of dust or odour?	X		Potential minor effects of dust from construction traffic on the access road/ transmission line route	Very minimal short-term effect during construction. Impacts are likely less than those caused by forestry operations.
3.4 Cause negative effects from the emission of noise?	X		Minimal noise during construction. . Potential localized disturbance to local wildlife populations.	Minimal noise effects.
4.0 Natural Environment				
4.1 Cause negative effects on rare, threatened or endangered species of flora or fauna or their habitat?		X	No record of listed species along transmission route	None.
4.2 Cause negative effects on protected natural areas such as ANSIs, ESAs or other significant natural areas?		X	No significant natural areas identified in the study area.	None.
4.3 Cause negative effects on wetlands?	X		Wetlands, in the area just south of Bezbig may be slightly impacted due to vegetation clearing. Vegetation clearing will be minimized; residual vegetation will be maintained to extent possible. Clearing will be conducted in winter to minimize damage to surrounding environment.	Very limited alteration of wetland habitat as area impacted will be small.

Table 1
Screening Criteria (MOE, 2001)

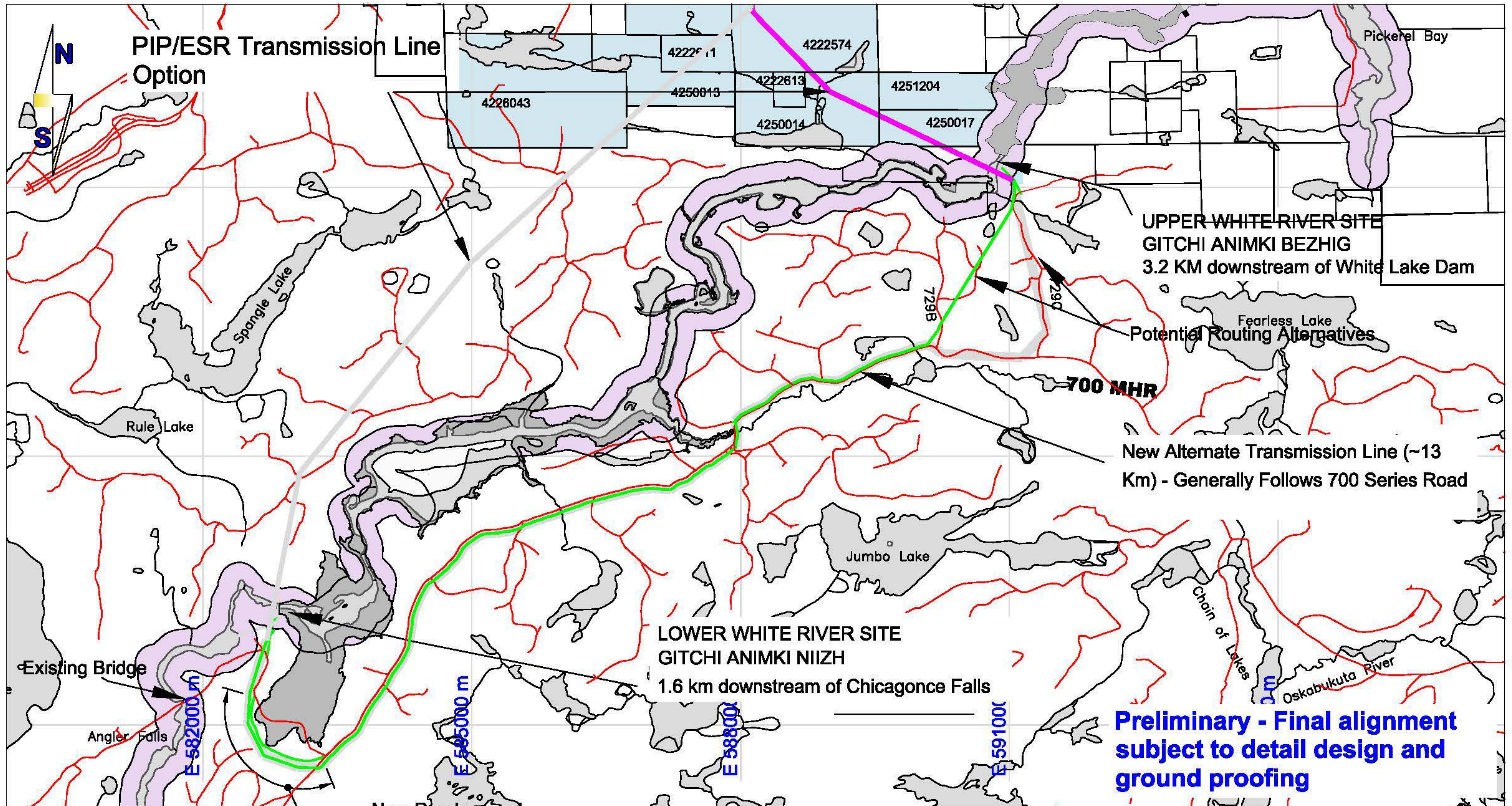
Potential Effect	Yes	No	Additional Information	Net Effects
4.4 Have negative effects on wildlife habitat, populations, corridors or movement?	X		Construction may disrupt some normal wildlife usage of the study area due to noise, human presence in the areas off the main 700 road. Clearing will take place outside of the primary bird-nesting season.	Very short-term impacts to study area wildlife habitat and communities due to increased noise and human presence. Area has been previously impacted by forestry operations.
4.5 Have negative effects on fish or their habitat, spawning, movement or environmental conditions (e.g., water temperature, turbidity, etc)?	X		The single water crossing in vicinity of Bezbig site has very low potential to impact fish habitat. Overhead line crossing protocol to be followed.	No impact on fish or fish habitat anticipated
4.6 Have negative effects on migratory birds, including effects on their habitat or staging areas?	X		Clearing of presently forested lands may result in a very minor loss of habitat for migratory birds, although no significant areas of habitat will be impacted. Forest clearing will take place outside of the main bird breeding season.	Extremely low effect due to loss of small area of terrestrial habitat that will be impacted.
4.7 Have negative effects on locally important or valued ecosystems or vegetation?		X	None identified in the study area.	None.
5.0 Resources				
5.1 Result in inefficient (below 40%) use of a non-renewable resource (efficiency is defined as the ratio of output energy to input energy, where output energy includes electricity produced plus useful heat captured)?		X	Hydroelectric generation will be an efficient use of natural resources.	None.
5.2 Have negative effects on the use of Canada Lands Inventory Class 1-3, specialty crop or locally significant agricultural lands?		X	None identified in study area.	None.
5.3 Have negative effects on existing agricultural production?		X	None identified in study area.	None.
5.4 Have negative effects on the availability of mineral, aggregate or petroleum resources?		X	Existing mining claims in the study area will not be impacted by project activities. Access roads may be shared with mining activities in the vicinity of the development sites.	None.
5.5 Have negative effects on the availability of forest resources?	X		Clearing of road/transmission line routes will be within area presently occupied by merchantable timber, but will affect an area considerably less than	None

Table 1
Screening Criteria (MOE, 2001)

Potential Effect	Yes	No	Additional Information	Net Effects
			the previously presented options	
5.6 Have negative effects on game and fishery resources, including negative effects caused by creating access to previously inaccessible areas?		X	The transmission line will be along existing access roads and will not itself create new access to areas which could not be accessed previously.	No new access creation.
6.0 Socioeconomic				
6.1 Have negative effects on neighbourhood or community character?		X	No residential uses in the study area.	None.
6.2 Have negative effects on local businesses, institutions or public facilities?		X	There will be a positive effect on local businesses during construction (i.e., accommodations, gas, meals for workforce, local suppliers). Long-term benefit to Pic Moberg First Nation, and shorter-term benefits to local contractors during construction..	Positive benefit.
6.3 Have negative effects on recreation, cottaging or tourism?	X		Slight potential for impact on road users (hunters/fishers) during construction/clearing.	Very limited short-term effect during construction;
6.4 Have negative effects related to increases in the demands on community services and infrastructure?		X	No additional community services will be demanded as a result of this project. New energy generation will be well within the capacity of existing transmission line, therefore no impact on infrastructure.	None.
6.5 Have negative effects on the economic base of a municipality or community?		X	No negative effects anticipated. Positive impact on First Nations community as a result of employment and revenue.	Long-term positive effect.
6.6 Have negative effects on local employment and labour supply?		X	Potential positive impacts due to need for local contractors and plant operators.	Positive short-term impact.
6.7 Have negative effects related to traffic?		X	Increased traffic on access roads, however unlikely to results in traffic concerns.	None.

Table 1
Screening Criteria (MOE, 2001)

Potential Effect	Yes	No	Additional Information	Net Effects
6.8 Cause public concerns relating to public health and safety?	X		Limited short-term public safety concerns during construction. Signage and flag men will limit possible impacts. Information on construction activities will be provided through postings in White Lake Provincial Park and Pukaskwa National Park and their websites – to alert canoeists and campers.	Minimal short term safety risk during construction.
7.0 Heritage and Culture				
7.1 Have negative effects on heritage buildings, structures or sites, archaeological resources, or cultural heritage landscapes?		X	Area has low potential for heritage and cultural significance.	None.
7.2 Have negative effects on scenic or aesthetically pleasing landscapes or views?	X		Introduction of overhead lines may be considered by some to be impairment of aesthetics.	Extremely minimal (debatable) impact on aesthetics.
8.0 Aboriginal				
8.1 Cause negative effects on First Nations or other Aboriginal communities?		X	Positive effects to First Nations anticipated due to employment opportunities and income from project.	Long-term positive effect.
9.0 Other				
9.1 Result in the creation of waste materials requiring disposal?		X	Only shrubbery/wood anticipated to be generated. No specific disposal required.	None
9.2 Cause any other negative environmental effects not covered by the criteria outlined above?		X	None identified.	



Preliminary - Final alignment subject to detail design and ground proofing

Notes:

- All Dimensions are in meters and coordinates in NAD83 UTM Zone 16
- Road Network shown on this drawing has the following sources:
 - Domtar Inc. GIS dataset - provided by Domtar Inc. on Feb 8, 2007 - rd0508 / wr700rds shape files
 - 1:50,000 NTDB vector dataset

LEGEND

	NEW METAL CORP. MINERAL CLAIMS
	MUNICIPAL AREA
	WHITE LAKE PARK EXTENSION
	HIGHWAY #17
	HYDRO ONE 115 KV TRANSMISSION LINE
	NEW ACCESS ROAD
	EXISTING ROAD NETWORK (FOREST SERVICE ROADS)
	RAILWAY LINE

SCALE

0 300 600 900 1200 1500
Meters

REV	Y	M	D	REASON DESCRIPTION	DES	DRN	CHK
A	11	04	05				



GITCHI ANIMKI HYDRO PROJECT - WHITE RIVER	
PROJECT LAYOUT	
700 Series Road Transmission Line Alternate	PROJECT NUMBER 134
	GRID NUMBER W005
	DRAWING NUMBER 236

SCHEDULE 'B' – EMAIL TO MOE RE ADDENDUM REPORT

From: Clarke, Trion
Sent: Fri 4/29/2011 5:21 PM
To: Brownlee, Laurie (ENE); Terry Taylor; jamesc@regionalpower.com; de Geus, Angela (MNR); jaehrlingssm@gmail.com; babark@regionalpower.com
Cc: Ainslie, Ian; Girodat, Sharon
Subject: RE: Weekly Proponent/Agency Con Call - Wed. Apr. 20/11 @ 1:30 ET

Hi Laurie
Attached please find the addendum provision determination for the new proposed transmission line as discussed.

Regards,
Trion

From: Brownlee, Laurie (ENE) [<mailto:Laurie.Brownlee@ontario.ca>]
Sent: Wed 4/20/2011 10:21 AM
To: Terry Taylor; jamesc@regionalpower.com; Clarke, Trion; de Geus, Angela (MNR); jaehrlingssm@gmail.com; Loop, Bryan (MNR); babark@regionalpower.com
Cc: Fortin, Shawn (MNR); Kershaw, Will (MNR); Leclair, Wendy (MNR); wsabourin@renegadeisp.com
Subject: RE: Weekly Proponent/Agency Con Call - Wed. Apr. 20/11 @ 1:30 ET

I am terribly sorry but won't be able to make the call today.

Please let me know if I need to address something after the meeting.

Laurie

Laurie Brownlee, MCIP, RPP
Environmental Planner/EA Coordinator - Northern Region
Ministry of the Environment
Tel: 705-564-7162
Fax: 705-564-4180
email: laurie.brownlee@ontario.ca

From: Terry Taylor [<mailto:ontheriver4@bell.net>]
Sent: April 20, 2011 9:36 AM
To: Brownlee, Laurie (ENE); jamesc@regionalpower.com; trion.clarke@hatch.ca; de Geus, Angela (MNR); jaehrlingssm@gmail.com; Loop, Bryan (MNR); babark@regionalpower.com
Cc: Fortin, Shawn (MNR); Kershaw, Will (MNR); Leclair, Wendy (MNR); wsabourin@renegadeisp.com
Subject: Weekly Proponent/Agency Con Call - Wed. Apr. 20/11 @ 1:30 ET

Hi All,

The weekly con call will be occurring today at 1:30. The call in number is: _____ and the ID is:

We will be using the Apr. 6/11 con call minutes as our guide. I sent these minutes out Apr. 7/11.

Talk to you at 1:30.

Terry

Terry J. Taylor

Saylor and Taylor Associates
#1168, HWY 552 W, Goulais River, ON, P0S 1E0

SCHEDULE 'C' – EXCERPT FROM PIR

- **Computers and Electronics** — Knowledge of circuit boards, processors, chips, computer hardware and software, including applications and programming, and knowledge of electronic equipment, and AC and DC theory.
- **English Language** — Knowledge of the structure and content of the English language including the meaning and spelling of words, rules of composition, and grammar.
- **Chemistry** — Knowledge of the chemical composition, structure, and properties of substances and of the chemical processes and transformations that they undergo. This includes uses of chemicals and their interactions, danger signs, production techniques, and disposal methods.
- **Power Boating Safety** — Knowledge of boat operation and safety training to facilitate navigation during all weather conditions. Focus on safety basics, boating terminology and systems, navigational map reading, tying knots and hitches, and navigational rules.
- **Environmental Protection and Awareness** — Knowledge of potential environmental impacts associated with hydro plant operations, including protection of sensitive environmental features and areas, environmental monitoring, wildlife interaction procedures, spill containment, and incidence reporting.
- **Facility Safety** — Knowledge of potential site and task specific safety hazards, equipment operation and hazards (including safe use of scaffolds and ladders), accident reporting, chemical and hazardous materials handling, fall and arrest protection, use and need for PPE, First Aid procedures and equipment, lockout and tag out procedures.
- **Emergency Preparedness** — Knowledge of prevention, preparedness and response procedures to address unforeseen accidents and malfunctions, such as, spills, equipment breakdowns, transmission line damage, ramping malfunctions, emergency shutdowns, and medical emergencies. In addition, preparedness and response procedures to address extreme natural events, such as, forest fires, ice storms, floods, wind storms, and earthquakes, etc.

9.6 Decommissioning Program

It is noted that a significant feature of hydro plant design is that each of the components can be easily and readily replaced as necessary. Existing hydro plants have demonstrated they are capable of producing electricity for over 100 years in many areas of the world. Notwithstanding, for the purpose of this Report, the Project has an estimated lifespan of greater than 50 years.

The life cycle for a hydro plant generally occurs when the generating equipment becomes overly inefficient or obsolete due to advances in technology, and the operation of the facility is deemed impractical, infeasible or uneconomical. At this point, which is anticipated to be at least 50 years from the start of operation, the Project will either be repowered by upgrading the facility using new technology or it will be retired and/or decommissioned.

In most instances, hydro plants are repowered rather than decommissioned, as upgrading or rehabilitation typically makes more economic sense. In some cases, abandonment is also an option. Generally, repowering involves overhauling the entire facility by performing necessary structural upgrades, replacing generating equipment, and upgrading the control equipment.

In the event it is decided to decommission the facilities, all decommissioning would be carried out in accordance with applicable regulations and standards of the time, and would involve consultation with pertinent regulatory agencies. Though a formal decommissioning plan has not been prepared at this stage in the planning process, in this instance, the likely objective will be to alter the intake and powerhouse infrastructure, restoring flow to the White River. While every effort will be made to restore the Bezhig and Niizh Project Sites to their pre-disturbance conditions, or as best possible, it is recognized that complete removal of infrastructure may not always be the best option for a river.

9.7 Construction Monitoring/Inspection Program

The construction stage is the implementation of the Project, and involves construction of the Bezhig and Niizh hydroelectric facilities and all ancillary infrastructure as detailed in Section 2 of this Report. As environmental protection during construction is paramount, this section describes the Construction Monitoring/Inspection Program proposed during and following the construction works to protect the environment.

This section details the overall follow-up measures and monitoring that the Construction Contractor/Sub-Contractor will carry out in relation to the Project. The Program has been designed to ensure construction is carried out with a high standard of environmental protection and compliance with all regulatory requirements.

Prior to commencement of Project construction, the PMHPJV will designate a Project Manager to oversee all aspects of construction at the field level. The Project Manager will be the Owner's (the PMHPJV) representative during construction and until the issuance of the Completion Certificate or the issuance of the Final Acceptance Certificate, whichever is later. All instructions to the Contractor/Sub-Contractor including instructions from the PMHPJV, will be issued by the Project Manager. The Project Manager will have the authority to act on behalf of the PMHPJV only to the extent provided in the Contract Documents.

It is recognized that construction/operation of the Gitchi Animki Hydroelectric Project will result in some impacts on the surrounding environment, such as ground clearing, grading and vegetation removal, as well as works within a fish bearing watercourse/body. Thus, the on-site Project Manager (and ancillary Inspection Staff) will supply specialist environmental staff (e.g., Environmental Coordinator/Inspector) when warranted to review operations with significant mitigating measures or environmental concerns and to recommend changes when necessary.

The Program, as detailed below, includes monitoring and review of the predicted environmental impacts and the commitments made during completion of this PIP/ESRR. During construction, the PMHPJV will ensure that all construction activities are carried out in conformity with pertinent environmental legislation, regulations and industry standards, and consistent with the Contract Documents and commitments, through inspection by a Project Manager/Inspector and/or specialist environmental staff who will be present on site during all construction activities. For the purposes of this EMP, the following environmental monitoring programs will be implemented for the Project:

- pre-construction monitoring to allow the Project Manager/or and Environmental Coordinator/Inspector to familiarize themselves with the Bezhig and Niizh Project Site areas and to assist with the confirmation of anticipated Project effects and the applicability of the prescribed mitigating measures

SCHEDULE 'D' – UPDATED PERMITS AND APPROVALS LIST

Permit/Approval	Description	Status
MOE Environmental Screening/CEAA federal environmental screening/ MNR WPPG PIP	Completion required before other permits and approvals granted	Completed
Transport Canada Approval under Section 5(1) of the NWPA	Protection of public right to navigation; approval of any works built in, on, over, under, through or across a navigable water	Completed
DFO Authorization for Works Affecting Fish Habitat	Fish Habitat Mitigation Plan to ensure No Net Loss of Productivity	Completed
DFO Authorization for Destruction of Fish by Means Other than Fishing	Required if blasting in or near fish habitat	Pending
NRCan Temporary Magazine License,	Required for the purchase and storage of explosives required for blasting	Pending
MNR Burn Permit	Permit required from MNR for any burning of slash	Pending
MNR Work Permit	Required for construction on Crown land including roads and trails, water crossings, works on shorelands	Completed for early works
MNR Aggregate Resources Act	Permit to operate a pit or quarry on Crown land or any land under water Licence on private land in areas designated under Section 5 of the ARA	Pending
MNR Crown Forest Sustainability Act	Forest Resource Licence to harvest or cut merchantable timber when clearing Crown land for construction	Pending
MNR Endangered Species Act	No permit or approval, however, MNR should advise proponent of responsibilities under the Act – namely that no person shall wilfully kill, injure or take any species or destroy or interfere with the habitat of any species regulated under the ESA	Pending
MNR Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act	Authorization to destroy beaver dams, dens of fur-bearing mammals or bears and the nests or eggs of birds	To be applied by contractor (if required)

Permit/Approval	Description	Status
MNR Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act (LRIA)	Section 14 Approval – for the location and plans and specifications is required to construct a dam, considering other users of the water and riparian owners, the protection of persons of property as well as other environmental values	Completed
MNR – LRIA	Section 16 Approval – for the plans and specifications is required for the alteration, repair or modification of any part of a dam, considerations as stated above in Section 14 approval	Pending
MNR – LRIA	Section 23.1 Approval of the Water Management Plan describing the operation of flows and levels for the river system	Pending
MNR	Class EA for Resource Stewardship Facility Development (MNR Class EA-RSFD) Section 14 Approval (Location Approval) under the <i>Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act (LRIA)</i>	Completed
MNR	Class EA for Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves (MNR Class EA-PPCR) Approval to develop Project within Provincial Park pursuant to <i>Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act (PPCRA)</i>	Completed
MNR Public Lands Act	Waterpower Lease Agreement, Land Use Permit, Crown Lease or Easement – tenure issued to dispose of the rights to use Crown land	Pending
MNR Public Lands Act	Work Permit for construction activities on Crown land	Completed
MNR Forest Fires Prevention Act	A fire permit will be required for any burning to be done	Pending
MNR Waterpower Lease	Waterpower Lease required to operate facilities	Pending
MOE Permit to Take Water (required when more than 50,000 L/d of water	Required for hydroelectric power generation	Pending

Permit/Approval	Description	Status
is taken from a watercourse)	May be required during construction (temporary diversion, excavation pumping)	
MOE Certificate of Approval (C of A) (Industrial Sewage Works)	Settling pond discharges	Pending
Ministry of Labour (MOL) Notice of Project	Required prior to start of construction	Pending
MTO	Permit to allow an access road leading off Highway 17 Permit to allow the crossing of Highway 17 by the transmission line	Completed
CPR	Authorization to cross their right of way (ROW)	Completed