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**Subject:** FW: Intervention Form: - Northwestern Ontario Metis Community and Region 2 of the Metis Nation of Ontario.  
**Date:** Monday, September 25, 2023 2:59:22 PM

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**From:** Ontario Energy Board <[webmaster@oeb.ca](mailto:webmaster@oeb.ca)>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2023 2:46 PM  
**To:** Office of the Registrar <[Registrar@oeb.ca](mailto:Registrar@oeb.ca)>  
**Cc:** [bonnieb@metisnation.org](mailto:bonnieb@metisnation.org)  
**Subject:** Intervention Form: - Northwestern Ontario Metis Community and Region 2 of the Metis Nation of Ontario.

# Intervention Form

**Case Number: EB-2023-0198**

## Intervenor Name:

Northwestern Ontario Metis Community and Region 2 of the Metis Nation of Ontario.

## Mandate and Objectives:

The MNO represents the collective aspirations, rights, and interests of Métis people and communities throughout Ontario. The foundational vision of the MNO is set out in the MNO Statement of Prime Purpose which contains the MNO's aims and objectives, including to ensure the recognition and respect of the Métis as a Nation and a people, to ensure that Métis can exercise their Aboriginal and Treaty rights, and to develop prosperity and economic self-sufficiency within the Métis Nation.

## Membership of the Intervenor and Constituency

### Represented:

The MNO has an objectively verifiable, centralized registry of over 30 000 Métis citizens. Métis citizens vote for provincial and regional leadership in province-wide elections every four years. Métis citizens vote for their local leadership on an annual basis.

## **Programs or Activities Carried Out by the Intervenor:**

The MNO delivers programs and services to its citizens through various branches: Healing and Wellness; Education and Training; Rights, Research and Policy; Intergovernmental Relations; Self-Government; Lands, Resources and Consultation; and Housing and Infrastructure. Through these various branches, the MNO maintains 30+ service delivery access points across the province, administers over \$75 million annually and employs over 320 personnel across the province.

## **Governance Structure:**

Based on the mandate it receives from its citizens, the MNO has established governance structures at the local, regional and provincial levels. At the local level, the MNO is comprised of thirty-one (31) Chartered Métis Community Councils. At the provincial level, the MNO is run by an elected provincial governing body known as the Provisional Council of the Métis Nation of Ontario (PCMNO). Consultation is undertaken on a regional basis through the Regional Consultation Committee which is made up of the elected Chartered Community Council Presidents in the region, the PCMNO Regional Councilor, as well as the Captain of the Hunt for the Region.

The Regional Consultation Committees representing the NWOMC and Region 2 are the elected Métis officials for the purposes of this application. The Métis descendants of our two historic communities are registered as MNO citizens and they have expressly authorized our democratic governance structures at the local (i.e., MNO Chartered Community Councils) and regional levels (i.e., MNO Regional Councillors) to represent them for the purposes of Crown consultation as a part of our overall self-government.

In 2019 and 2023, the MNO signed self-government agreements with Canada which explicitly recognize the governance structures of the MNO as well as the constitutionally protected inherent right to self-government and self-determination of the communities the MNO represents.

The NWOMC and Region 2's representative in this proceeding will receive instructions from and report back to regional and local leadership regularly through established channels of communication.

## **Representatives:**

Bonnie Bartlett  
[bonnieb@metisnation.org](mailto:bonnieb@metisnation.org)

## **Other Contacts:**

## **Frequent Intervenor Form:**

### **OEB Proceedings:**

The MNO has not been granted intervenor status in any OEB proceeding in the last 24 months. The MNO has not been denied intervenor status in any OEB proceeding in the last 24 months.

### **Issues:**

The MNO will be materially impacted by the proceeding because the NWOMC and Region 2 have constitutionally protected rights to the land that will be affected by the proposed Project. The MNO is interested in intervening with respect to cost. Specifically, the MNO is interested in project costs as they relate to construction and project route alternatives, and with respect to the participation of Indigenous groups in the project and how that aligns with provincial policy and priorities.

### **Policy Interests:**

The MNO has an interest in how commitments and policy direction made with respect to Indigenous involvement in energy projects in Ontario's Long Term Energy Plans are implemented. Before Ontario started the process of updating its long-term energy planning process in 2020, it made commitments in two consecutive Long-Term Energy Plans (in 2013 and 2017) to involve potentially affected First Nations and Métis communities in energy projects, recognizing the unique perspectives, knowledge, and leadership that Indigenous governments have to offer. Economic reconciliation and the involvement of Indigenous governments in energy projects is relevant to the proceeding as it may impact project cost.

### **Hearings:**

The MNO has no preference on the form of hearing held by the OEB.

### **Evidence:**

The MNO intends to file evidence in the proceeding; however, the extent of the MNO's evidence is unknown at this time. At a minimum, the MNO will file evidence with respect to our constitutionally protected rights. The MNO will also file evidence related to Ontario policy for Indigenous involvement in energy projects, and the approaches taken with respect to the current project. This proposed evidence is material to the proceeding because it is relevant to project cost. The MNO expects to prepare evidence in a reasonable amount of time. The MNO is unable to determine the expected cost of the evidence at this time.

## **Coordination with Other Intervenors:**

The MNO understands that it will be expected to coordinate our participation with other intervenors with similar interests. However, we do not expect that other intervenors will have interests that are sufficiently similar to the MNO's interests to support effective coordination.

## **Cost Awards:**

The MNO is applying for cost award eligibility. The MNO submits that it is eligible for an award of costs because MNO communities have constitutionally protected rights and interests in the land that will be affected by the proposed project, and because MNO represents Métis communities with an interest in how they are involved in the project according to Ontario policy which will have consequences for project cost.

## **Language Preference:**

The MNO does not intend to participate in the hearing using the French language.

**Attention:** This email originated from outside the **MNO**. Please use caution when clicking links, opening attachments or replying to requests for account information or funds.