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November 15, 2021

Blair McMahon
Director – Environmental Services & Consultation
Manitoba Infrastructure
1520 - 215 Garry Street
Winnipeg, MB R3C 3P3

Sent via email: blair.mcmahon@gov.mb.ca

SUBJECT: Technical Review of the Environmental Impact Statement for the Project 6 – All-Season Road Linking Manto Sipi Cree Nation, Bunibonibee Cree Nation, and God's Lake First Nation Project – Information Request Round 1, Package 2

Dear Blair McMahon:

The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency), with input from Indigenous nations, the public, and federal authorities, is conducting a technical review of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project 6 – All-Season Road Linking Manto Sipi Cree Nation, Bunibonibee Cree Nation, and God's Lake First Nation Project (the Project) received from Manitoba Infrastructure on April 4, 2019.

Upon review of the EIS and expertise from parties noted above, the Agency identified gaps in the information provided in the EIS. This information is necessary to determine whether the Project is likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects and to inform the Agency's preparation of the Environmental Assessment (EA) Report under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (CEAA 2012).

The Agency prepared the attached Information Request Round 1, Package 2, which is in addition to Package 1 that was issued on June 26, 2019. Comments from federal authorities, Indigenous nations, and the public were considered in the development of these Information Requests.

When responding to Information Requests, the Agency requests that Manitoba Infrastructure:

- demonstrate and discuss consideration of the interconnected nature of bio-physical, social, cultural, and spiritual effects of the Project;



- consider the context and rationale for the required information for every question;
- include updated information and assessments of effects that take into account any data gathered, mitigations measures considered, analysis undertaken, and engineering and design details planned since the submission of the EIS and, in exceptional circumstances where information and assessments of effects are still forthcoming, describe methodology and timing for proposed works, reporting, and integration of information;
- describe specific, achievable, measureable, and verifiable mitigation measures in a manner consistent with direction provided in the EIS Guidelines;
- present thorough discussions of any areas of uncertainty, applying a precautionary approach; and,
- where uncertainty remains, provide clearly-defined, detailed follow-up program measures, including proposed further mitigation measures.

Where results of modelling, studies, or information gathered for Information Request responses inform Project engineering and design, Manitoba Infrastructure must present information on any modifications or additional specificity.

In accordance with CEAA 2012, time taken by Manitoba Infrastructure to provide the required information is not included in the legislated timeline within which the Minister of Environment and Climate Change must make an EA decision. Issuance of Information Request Round 1, Package 1 paused the timeline at day 107 of 365.

The Agency welcomes the opportunity to discuss the outcome of this review with you and provide further advice on how to best address the information required. If you have any questions, please contact Chelsea Fedrau, Project Manager, at chelsea.fedrau@iaac-aeic.gc.ca or 780-246-7126.

Sincerely,

Barbara Pullishy
Regional Director, Prairie and Northern Region
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

Cc: Chelsea Fedrau, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
Tara Fulton, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
Kristen Mozel, Manitoba Infrastructure

Attachment (1): Information Request Round 1, Package 2 – Technical Review – Project
6 – All-Season Road Linking Manto Sipi Cree Nation, Bunibonibee Cree
Nation, and God's Lake First Nation