

May 26, 2017

Interveners of Record
(per attached list)

-and-

Sent by e-mail

Ms. Patricia J. Ramage
Legal Counsel
Manitoba Hydro
22 – 360 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0G8

Dear Parties:

**Re: Process Matters: Manitoba Hydro's 2017/18 and 2018/19 General Rate
Application**

BACKGROUND:

On March 31, 2017, the Public Utilities Board ("Board") provided its Minimum Filing Requirements (MFRs) to Manitoba Hydro for its General Rate Application ("GRA"). At the request of the Board past Interveners of Record proposed additional MFRs. On April 24, 2017, the Board provided Manitoba Hydro with approved additional MFRs, including additional Board MFRs relating to capital expenditures.

Manitoba Hydro filed its Letter of Application (Tab 1) on May 5, 2017 and Revenue Requirement materials on May 12, 2017 in respect of its 2017/18 and 2018/19 GRA. This information can be located on Manitoba Hydro's website at:

https://www.hydro.mb.ca/regulatory_affairs/electric/gra_2017_2019/index.shtml

Manitoba Hydro indicates that it anticipates filing its Cost of Service and Proposed Rates & Customer Impacts materials on or around May 26, 2017. Manitoba Hydro also anticipates filing responses to the MFRs from the PUB and the Interveners, excluding the Board's capital related MFRs, on or around May 26, 2017, with remaining capital MFRs to be filed in late June 2017.

Manitoba Hydro has also indicated it will be hosting a Workshop on May 31, 2017 to briefly review and explain the content of its GRA filing. A 'Potential Issues List' will be developed at the Workshop and provided to the Board for its review and adjudication at the Pre Hearing Conference.

PROCESS MATTERS:

1. While Manitoba Hydro's Application was provided to Past Approved Interveners of Record, any such Past Approved Intervener seeking to intervene in this Manitoba Hydro GRA is required to file with the Board and Manitoba Hydro an Application for Intervener Status.
2. All Applications for Intervener Status are required to be filed before June 5, 2017 and must be filed in accordance with the Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure as found on the Board's web site <http://www.pubmanitoba.ca>.
3. A non-evidentiary Pre-Hearing Conference will be held in the Board's Hearing Room on Monday June 12, 2017 and Wednesday June 14, 2017, commencing at 9:00 AM. All Applicants for Intervener Status must attend the Pre-Hearing Conference to speak to their Application and the potential issues identified at the Workshop.
4. Recognizing the final scope of the GRA will not be finalized until the Board's Order following the Pre-Hearing Conference, the budgets for Interveners, their consultants and their expert witnesses need not be finalized and submitted to the Board until the Board issues its Pre-Hearing Conference Order. The Order will include the Board's decisions on the scope of Intervener participation and the due date for Intervener budget submissions.
5. At the Pre-Hearing Conference, Manitoba Hydro, its legal counsel and/or its technical expert are invited to make a 20-minute non-evidentiary oral presentation highlighting the key aspects of its Application, the issues raised by the Application and the scope of those issues.
6. The Board will also accommodate a 20-minute oral presentation by each prospective Intervener, its legal counsel and/or its technical expert. In addition to speaking to their applications for Intervener Status, the Board expects that potential Interveners or their representatives will provide the Board with answers to the following matters:
 - A. How has their client engaged its stakeholders in support of the client's intervention application?
 - B. How, and on what issues, has their client collaborated with other prospective interveners?
 - C. What is their client's initial position with respect to Manitoba Hydro's GRA?

- D. What aspects of Manitoba Hydro's GRA do their client agrees with and why?
- E. What aspects of Manitoba Hydro's GRA do their client disagree with and why?
- F. On what specific issues is expert evidence being planned and why?
- G. How many rounds of Information Requests of Manitoba Hydro are requested in light of the MFR Responses? How many Round One Information Requests (including sub-parts) is the Intervener expecting to ask of Manitoba Hydro?
- H. What topics does their client identify as being issues for this GRA, the scope of those issues and why?
- I. What, if any, position does their client take on the proposed schedule for the hearing of this GRA?

Following all of the presentations, should Manitoba Hydro, or any prospective Intervener, want to ask questions about the scope of any Intervener's participation, the Board may permit such questioning, but only if it assists the Board in considering the scope of this hearing.

Should any party require conference call or video connection capabilities, they are to advise the Board by June 5, 2017.

Yours truly,

"Original Signed By:"

Kurt Simonsen
Associate Secretary

KS/dv

cc: Bob Peters, Board Counsel
Dayna Steinfeld, Board Counsel
Odette Fernandes, Manitoba Hydro
Greg Barnlund, Manitoba Hydro
Shannon Gregorashuk, Manitoba Hydro