

October 19, 2021

Via Email

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Dear Parties:

**Re: Manitoba Hydro's Status Update Proceeding and Manitoba Hydro's Interim Rate Application**

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**Background:**

In the Public Utilities Board's ["Board's"] October 12, 2021 Decision Letter and based on the stated urgency by Manitoba Hydro for an interim rate increase application for fiscal year 2021/22, the Board suspended the current Status Update Proceeding with the requirement that Manitoba Hydro's interim rate application be filed by November 3, 2021.

**Manitoba Hydro's Request for an Extension of Time:**

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Manitoba Hydro requests the Board extend the filing deadline to November 15, 2021 as they advise this is the earliest date by which they will be able to obtain approval from the Manitoba Hydro Board of Directors to file its interim rate application in satisfaction of the September 22, 2021 Directive issued by the Minister of Crown Services.

With the expectation that Manitoba Hydro's 2021/22 interim rate increase application will be comprehensive, including being based on the most up-to-date water conditions and information sought in the Board's September 9, 2021 Minimum Filing Requirements and the information in response to the attached list of approved Interveners' Minimum Filing Requirements, the Board approves and extends the filing deadline for the interim application until November 15, 2021.

### **Process Matters:**

Manitoba Hydro's September 29, 2021 letter references that in light of the significant and deleterious financial impacts of the drought and the ministerial directive Manitoba Hydro will be requesting expedited Board approval of an interim rate increase for 2021/22. The Board is concerned that as a result in the delay in filing the interim rate application, the Board may not be able to adjudicate the matter within the timeframe initially intended.

The Board cannot finalize the process for the adjudication of Manitoba Hydro's interim rate application until it is received and reviewed. Additionally, other than an indication in the Board's October 12, 2021 Decision Letter that the Status Update Proceeding will be suspended on the filing of an interim rate application, the Board has not made further process decisions related to the Status Update Proceeding.

With Manitoba Hydro's filing date for its interim rate application now being delayed until November 15, 2021, the Board requests all Interveners and Manitoba Hydro provide the Board with written submissions, on or before October 22, 2021, as to the various process and procedural options and timelines available for each of the interim rate application and the Status Update Proceeding. Parties should also indicate their recommended process and procedures together with their reasons for their preferences.

### **Interveners' Suggested Minimum Filing Requirements ["MFRs"]:**

As indicated in the Board's October 12, 2021 Decision Letter, the longstanding use of MFRs is to assist in the efficient and focused filing of complete rate increase applications by Manitoba Hydro and reduce subsequent written information requests.

In the Board's October 12, 2021 Decision Letter Interveners were requested to submit, by October 13, 2021, their suggested MFRs that are specifically relevant to an expected interim rate increase application by Manitoba Hydro. Manitoba Hydro was to provide its comments on Intervener MFRs to the Board by the end of the day on October 15, 2021. Interveners and Manitoba Hydro were also encouraged to discuss the MFRs to focus and reach consensus on relevant and available information. Thereafter the PUB indicated it would adjudicate which MFRs are to be included in Manitoba Hydro's interim rate application.

On October 15, 2021 Manitoba Hydro provided its comments to the Board as to which Intervener MFRs would be responded to in the interim rate application as well as the reasons for objecting to other Intervener MFRs.

The Board has considered the Intervener MFRs and, the comments by Manitoba Hydro on the Intervener MFRs. The Board has found some Intervener MFRs are duplicative of the PUB MFRs; some were addressed in Manitoba Hydro's October 15, 2021 response letter; and some went beyond the reasonable scope of an interim proceeding and would be more appropriate for a General Rate Application. Attached to this Decision Letter is the list of approved PUB MFRs and Interveners' MFRs that Manitoba Hydro is to address in its interim rate application.

**Conclusion:**

Any questions of clarification are to be forwarded in writing to the Board's office for response.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R McMillin".

Rachel McMillin  
A/ Associate Secretary

RM/cls

cc: B. Peters (Board Counsel)  
Shannon Gregorashuk / Darryl Martin (Manitoba Hydro)