

MANITOBA PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

CENTRA GAS MANITOBA INC.

COST OF SERVICE METHDOLOGY REVIEW APPLICATION

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

Exhibit No. CAL-13

Re: Centra 2021 COSS

.....
DATE

.....
SECRETARY

**Book of Documents of
Consumers' Association of Canada (Manitoba Inc.) (CAC)**

August 17, 2022

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The last comprehensive review of the natural gas COS and rate design occurred in 1996 and resulted in Order 107/96. The following excerpts from Order 107/96, summarize the key PUB policy findings with respect to the last natural gas COS review:

"The Board will expect such a review to consider the appropriateness of all methods and systems to be employed to functionalize and classify all capital and operating costs and allocate such costs to proper customer class definitions. The Board further expects that the primary driver will be cost causation with due regard to Centra's current operations in the Manitoba market, direct purchase activities, storage arrangements, risk management activities, weather and use patterns for each specific customer class and all other relevant issues." (Emphasis added)

"Cost allocation studies are not a precise science and contain elements of judgement at most phases. Cost allocation methodologies are numerous, and experts often have differing opinions as to the appropriate manner of allocating costs of service. It is the Board's responsibility to weigh those differing views and to support a methodology which gives the best guideline for determining just and reasonable rates, and which is not unduly discriminatory, recognizing that subjective judgements will influence results...This public hearing was to allow debate of these opinions and to arrive at a methodology which best reflects the Manitoba circumstance...The Board's expectation is that the principles herein approved will be adaptable to industry changes and that the results produced should be acceptable for some time into the future...The Board also agrees that the cost of service methodology best suited for a natural gas distribution company should be determined based upon the circumstances of the utility. Those circumstances must reflect the manner in which the system is designed as well as the manner in which the system is operated. Giving some weight to the manner of system operation better reflects the cost responsibility than does a methodology which considers only the design parameters. For example, a system may be designed to interrupt particular customers on a peak day so that firm customers can continue to receive service. Should the peak not be met, however, those interruptible customers continue to receive service...Even though a design contemplates curtailment of interruptible customers, it cannot preclude a movement of customers from firm to interruptible service or vice versa. The Board is of the view that Centra's proposal for the use of demand related cost allocators based on the Peak and Average Methodology best reflects the appropriate treatment for all Manitoba natural gas consumers, that it reflects current market conditions and is adaptable to change."² (Emphasis added)

¹ Order 107/96, Page 6

² Order 107/96, Pages 26 to 27

The last comprehensive review of the electric COS occurred in 2016 and resulted in Order 164/16. The following excerpts from Order 164/16, summarize the key PUB policy findings with respect to the last electric COS review:

"The Board finds that, in the process to determine the appropriate COSS methodology, the principle of cost causation is paramount...The Board finds that Manitoba Hydro's ratemaking principles and goals of rate stability and gradualism, fairness and equity, efficiency, simplicity, and competitiveness of rates should be considered in a General Rate Application ("GRA") and not in the cost of service methodology...Cost causation as defined by the Board takes into consideration both how an asset is planned and how that asset is used. This takes into account how an asset fits into Manitoba Hydro's current system planning, as well as the current use...The Board also finds that cost causation requires consideration of all the uses and benefits of an asset, to recognize that both primary and secondary benefits influence the planning and justification of assets. These considerations should be assessed over a range of years (as opposed to a single forecasted year) and over a range of conditions in order to capture all of the uses and benefits of an asset in determining cost causation."³ (Emphasis added)

³ Order 164/16, page 27

Centra Operational (Use) Costs/Benefits Examples:

1. Maintain or enhance reliability by providing redundancy for transmission and distribution vulnerable to an extended loss of supply due to damage;
2. Operational flexibility – to shift load from heavily-utilized pipelines to under-utilized pipelines;
3. Operational flexibility – to permit inspections, maintenance or construction activities including for aging pipelines;
4. Minimize the incremental costs associated with outages;
5. Minimize excessive usage of the electric system during natural gas outages particularly in areas where the electric system is already at capacity and may result in cascading electrical system outages;
6. Capacity Management revenues;
7. Diversification and risk management benefits for reliability purposes - to moderate the potential for system outages by reliance on only one commodity feed (such as TCPL); and,
8. Lower commodity costs – the use of storage allows for all system supply customers to benefit from lower commodity costs – through storing potentially less costly commodity in the summer (when demand is low). Commodity costs have been socialized and all customers pay the same rate.

Order No. 36/22

**SECOND PROCEDURAL ORDER IN RESPECT OF CENTRA GAS MANITOBA
INC.'S COST OF SERVICE STUDY METHODOLOGY REVIEW APPLICATION**

April 7, 2022

BEFORE: Larry Ring, Q.C., Panel Chair
Marilyn Kapitany, B.Sc. (Hon), M.Sc., Board Vice-Chair
Susan Nemec, FCA, FCPA, Member

Based on the Parties' submissions, the Board finds that there is no need for Interveners' additional comprehensive reviews of the existing COSS methodology (or model) and for evaluating Atrium's report for completeness. Instead, Interveners are to focus their submissions on the appropriateness of Atrium's and Centra's COSS recommendations or provide alternative methodologies appropriate for Centra's specific circumstances in Manitoba, without the need to duplicate the extensive review already conducted by Atrium. If relied on in this proceeding, Interveners are to re-file (and not duplicate) their expert evidence, on the in-scope issues, previously filed in Centra's last General Rate Application.

The participation of Interveners in evidentiary steps in the public hearing process will also assist the Board, as this participation contributes to a robust, transparent, and evidence-based decision-making process.

With the expectation of focused Information Requests and thorough written Responses by Centra, the Board finds that one round of concurrent Information Requests separately to Centra and to Atrium will be appropriate. The Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure outline remedies available to the Parties should they consider Centra's responses to Information Requests inadequate. However, the Board encourages all Parties to work together informally to resolve issues arising from Information Requests and Responses to Information Requests, before bringing matters formally before the Board for resolution.

The Board also finds that pre-approval of Intervener Information Requests posed to Atrium and separately to Centra is not required. Parties are aware that Information Requests are limited to the in-scope issues and seek to clarify matters that will assist the Board in its understanding of the issues, avoid duplication, and focus on the best practices for Centra's circumstances in Manitoba.

In addition, Parties need to be aware that when asking or answering any Information Requests that may contain confidential information, those questions and answers should initially only be provided to Centra and the Board to allow the Utility to determine whether

MANITOBA HYDRO CAPITAL PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

Project Name

Winnipeg Northwest Upgrade-Phase 2

Recommendation

The extension of an existing natural gas pipeline from the Rosser Station (GS-031) in Winnipeg to the City of Selkirk (GS-004) is necessary to provide additional capacity to the areas northwest of Winnipeg and to provide a redundant gas source to meet reliability and operational requirements in the Winnipeg natural gas transmission network. When compared to the alternatives, a single project combining the provision of additional capacity and redundancy is a financially efficient means of providing a reliable, resilient system suitable to meet the ongoing requirements and expectations of our customers.

The cost of this project is estimated at \$31,100,000. The recommended in-service date (ISD) is October 15, 2016.

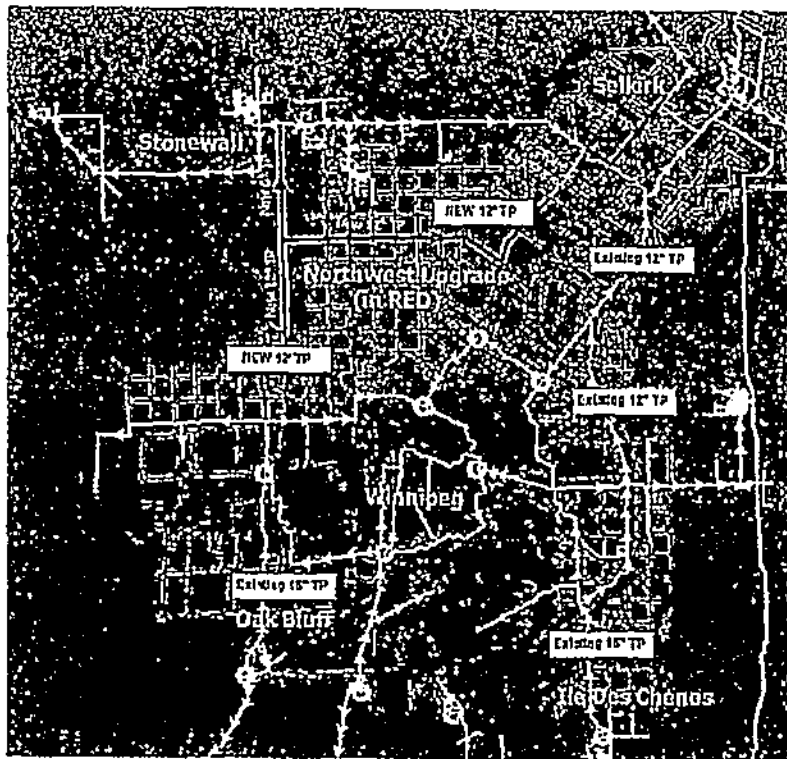
Project Scope

The Winnipeg Northwest Upgrade project is shown in Figure 1 and consists of the following:

- 19.8 km of NPS 12 steel transmission pressure (TP) pipe extending north from the Oak Bluff pipeline at Rosser Station GS-031.
- 6.6 km of NPS 6 steel TP pipe extending north from new TP to tie into the existing NPS 4 TP on Hwy 67 (Stonewall branch pipeline).
- 20.8 km of NPS 12 steel TP extending from the new NPS 12 TP going east and northeast to the Phase 1 Liss Rd Station, located in St. Andrews.
- 8.3 km of NPS 12 steel TP looping from Hwy 67 north along McPhillips Road to connect to the Ile des Cheneys pipeline near regulating station GS-004 in Selkirk.
- Isolation valves as required for gas maintenance and operations.
- Pig launchers/receivers as required for pipeline integrity monitoring.

Project Scope

Figure 1 - Proposed Winnipeg Northwest Phase 2



Background

There is insufficient capacity in the areas northwest of Winnipeg and unacceptably high velocities in the transmission main supplying Stonewall. The simple approach, on a stand-alone project basis, would be to install a sufficient length of new pipeline parallel to the existing Stonewall transmission line to split the load between the existing and new lines. However, the Stonewall transmission main and the area northwest of Winnipeg are supplied from the larger Winnipeg natural gas transmission system which necessitated a review of that system.

The Winnipeg natural gas transmission network consists of four systems feeding the City of Winnipeg and the communities north of Winnipeg supplied with natural gas. This system is the backbone of Manitoba Hydro's natural gas system serving over 213,000 or 80% of Hydro's gas customers. Figure 2 provides the general locations, size and age of installation of the four transmission supplies to the Winnipeg system.

Background

Figure 2 – Winnipeg TP and HP Networks



The review of the larger Winnipeg transmission system identified the following additional issues:

1. Reliability

The Ile des Chenes system serves the high pressure loop in Winnipeg and continues north to supply customers east to Beausejour, west to Warren and north to Riverton. Figure 3 shows the communities and area supplied by the Winnipeg transmission systems. Outside of Winnipeg, this is a one-way feed system and these communities are vulnerable to a loss of supply due to damage anywhere along the line. It is estimated that a loss of supply on the Ile des Chenes line due to damage between the connection at the TCPL and Selkirk would result in the loss of 15,000 gas customers. This section of pipeline includes crossings of the Red and Seine Rivers, two crossings of the Winnipeg Floodway, two crossings of the Winnipeg Aqueduct, eight rail crossings and crossings of highways #1, 15, 44, 59, 202, 204 and multiple municipal and private roads. Access to the pipeline in these crossings will have physical or legal/jurisdictional restrictions that will delay returning the system to operation.

Background

Figure 3 - Areas Supplied by the Winnipeg Transmission Systems



2. Operational Flexibility

There are no direct transmission pressure interconnects between the four transmission systems that supply Winnipeg, which does not meet the operational requirements of the corporation to accommodate maintenance, tie-ins, planned and unplanned outages.

3. System Loading and Reduction of Operating Pressure

The peak loading on the 4 primary pipelines ranges significantly from 400, 4,100, 7,000 and 7,700 mcfh for St. Norbert, Oak Bluff, LaSalle and Ile des Chenes respectively. The loading is dependent on pipeline size, operating pressure and location. The St. Norbert pipeline is an 8" line running at high pressure. Both Ile des Chenes and Oak Bluff pipelines are 16" but Ile des Chenes supplies almost twice as much gas at design winter conditions. Shifting load from Ile des Chenes to Oak Bluff is necessary to increase the ability of the Ile des Chenes system to accept new growth while also permitting a reduction in system operating pressure. The pressure on the Ile des Chenes pipeline is currently set to suit the delivery of gas to Riverton (approximately 160 km from the Ile des Chenes primary) while also delivering the highest peak flow rate of the Winnipeg pipelines.

Capital Project Justification

Background

4. Identified Transmission Capacity Issues

In addition to the current capacity issues identified in the Stonewall area, system growth at current levels is predicted to require the installation of significant amounts of additional pipe in several areas (lines from East Selkirk to Tyndall, and Selkirk to Gimli) within the next 5 to 10 years.

5. Maintenance

The current configuration of the transmission network is not adequate to perform required planned maintenance activities. The Ile des Chenes pipeline is 52 years old. With the pipeline being the only source of gas to a number of communities north of Winnipeg, it is not possible to take the pipeline out of operation to perform an in-line inspection to evaluate the pipeline condition and identify defects for repair.

6. Changes in TCPL Supply

Changes in the North America supply of and demand for natural gas have resulted in TCPL changing the supply of natural gas that is provided to Manitoba. The majority of natural gas provided to Manitoba is still from Alberta but TCPL does ship gas from the United States that enters Manitoba from TCPL's north-south lateral. This lateral connects to TCPL's east-west mainline immediately west of Ile des Chenes and the Ile des Chenes system is supplied with a blend of the US sourced gas. The southern gas quality is within the TCPL tariff but it does contain higher levels of water than western gas. The higher water levels increase the potential for water related issues (freeze-ups) at the pressure regulating stations on the Ile des Chenes line. Oak Bluff will continue to receive the dryer western gas.

JUSTIFICATION—BUSINESS CASE ANALYSIS (SUMMARY):

Justification and Link to Corporate/Business Unit Goals

The rationale for completing this project are summarized as follows:

1. The requirement to correct high velocities in the Stonewall transmission branch and provide capacity in the area northwest of Winnipeg require modifications to the transmission system to provide new supply while maintaining system reliability. Combining these requirements while addressing other issues is an efficient means of improving the overall Winnipeg system.
2. To provide transmission capacity to serve the growth just north of Winnipeg for the next 20 years.
3. To provide the ability to shift load from the heavily-utilized pipeline on east side (Ile Des Chenes) of the City to the under-utilized pipeline on the west side of the City (Oak Bluff) and restore capacity in the City of Winnipeg system.
4. To provide full redundant supply to the communities north of Winnipeg and to provide a partial ability (approximately 1,000 mcfh) to back-feed the City of Winnipeg line in a loss of supply from either the Ile Des Chenes or Oak Bluff pipelines.
5. To improve operational flexibility to permit planned inspection, maintenance or construction activities.
6. The reactive approach where smaller projects are built in response to specific customer or system

Capital Project Justification

JUSTIFICATION—BUSINESS CASE ANALYSIS (SUMMARY):

Justification and Link to Corporate/Business Unit Goals

needs would result in approximately \$21 million of projects that would be required in the next 5 to 10 years. While these projects would address capacity issues, they do not provide redundancy, or resolve any of the other issues identified. Meeting these other requirements would require an additional significant transmission investment which would be comparable in scope to the recommended course of action.

- The June 20, 2014 PUB review of the Needs for and Alternatives to (NFAT) Review of Manitoba Hydro's Preferred Development Plan includes a recommendation that "*Manitoba Hydro proceed with its fuel switching and heating fuel choice initiatives to encourage customers to use natural gas for space and water heating*". The additional capacity provided by this project will readily support the addition of new customers in the area served.

The Winnipeg Northwest Upgrade project is Phase 2 of a project that is approved and will be constructed in 2014. The Phase 1 project addresses the local distribution issues in the St. Andrews area.

This project supports the corporate goals of maintaining capacity/system supply and providing customers with exceptional value through reliability of service.

ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES:

Economic Analysis

Discount Rate

For current corporate rates see G911
5.40%

For clarification on hurdle rates, contact the Economic Analysis Department

Recommended Option

NPV Benefits (Costs)

The recommended option consists of 48.9 km of NPS 12 steel TP pipe, 6.6 km of NPS 6 steel TP pipe, and associated isolation valves and pig launchers/receivers as required for pipeline integrity monitoring. This option offered the best capacity to accommodate unforeseen loads, optimum ability to shift load and the highest redundant capacity in a planned or unplanned outage.

\$28,034,000

Other Alternatives Considered

NPV Benefits/(Costs)

Option 2 consists of 19.8 km of NPS 12 steel TP pipe, 20.8 km of NPS 8 steel TP pipe, 14.9 km of NPS 6 steel pipe and associated valves and pig launchers/receivers.

\$22,813,000

Option 3 consists of 19.8 km of NPS 12, 33.5 km of NPS 8, 6.6 km of NPS 6 TP steel pipe and associated valves and pig launchers/receivers

\$23,533,000

Capital Project Justification

Other Alternatives Considered	NPV Benefits/(Costs)
<p>Option 4 consists of 45.0 km of NPS 12 TP and 14.9 km of NPS 6 steel pipe and associated valves and pig launchers/receivers.</p>	<p>\$25,964,000</p>
<p>Option 5 – consists of building smaller capacity projects (looping) in response to specific customer or system needs. In addition, a large transmission project would still be necessary to meet the other operational requirements.</p> <p>The first four options evaluated all address the issues of providing capacity to Stonewall, providing operational flexibility, load shifting from Ile des Chenes and improving system reliability. The recommended Option 4 using the larger pipe sizes provides the greatest capacity increase which is required to meet our 20 year load growth projections, and provides the greatest available redundancy in order to minimize the risk of prolonged customer outages in the City of Winnipeg. The recommended option provides 25% additional redundant capacity to the Winnipeg HP system over Option 3, while being only an estimated 7% more expensive than Option 3, the second most expensive option.</p>	<p>\$13,947,000 (for the identified smaller projects, additional \$28, 034,000 to install the recommended option would be needed to meet all operational requirements)</p>

Risk Analysis

The Manitoba Hydro six-step process to identify and manage risks was used to evaluate the recommended option. This analysis identified the consequence, likelihood and risk tolerance associated with the loss of gas supply from the Ile des Chenes pipeline and the limitations of the existing system identified; primarily the current lack of a redundant feed to the areas north of Winnipeg, no redundant transmission pressure supply to Winnipeg, the lack of operational flexibility for maintenance on the Ile des Chenes line. (For convenience, the definitions for the selected rating/descriptor are shown in brackets). The analysis indicated:

Likelihood: Unlikely (The event does occur somewhere from time to time, about every 30 years).

Consequence: High (High: Do not have capacity to serve load for extended period of time. Life threatening. Loss of public confidence).

Tolerance: Low (Additional action that is required to bring the risk back to the established tolerance. Management has time to respond in an orderly manner).

This risk analysis supports the requirement to perform the recommended system modifications. This project will partially address the gas capacity risks identified in the 2013 CS&D Risk Management Report.

The addition of capacity to the system in areas northwest of Winnipeg including St. Andrews, Stonewall and communities served by the Stonewall transmission branch (Warren, Stony Mountain, etc.) is required to permit the continued addition of customers and new load in this area. Two potential customers north of Stonewall had investigated obtaining natural gas service in 2013. While they have elected to investigate other options, the existing transmission system in this area would not have sufficient capacity to supply the proposed loads. The potential for gas outages in this area are only low if it is managed by restrictions or limitations on the addition of new load in this area. This is not acceptable to customers and, in the absence

Capital Project Justification

Risk Analysis

of available natural gas, these customers may place additional load on the electrical system.

The long-term approach of reactive and piece-meal upgrades to provide capacity on an as-required customer-by-customer basis to suit the increase in loads in the individual areas does not meet Manitoba Hydro's reliability requirements. Typically capacity is achieved by looping existing pipelines (i.e. the installation of parallel pipelines). With looping solutions the transmission systems will continue to become more reliant on a single feed and will not have the flexibility in the case of a planned or unplanned outage. Predicted load growth in the next 5 to 10 years are estimated to require costs exceeding \$21 million in looping projects alone.

The January 2014 natural gas outage caused by the TCPL line failure near Otterburne, Manitoba required approximately 48 hours to return the 3,600 affected customers to service once the TCPL supply was available. A large percentage of available, suitably skilled personnel were used in this response while the Manitoba Hydro costs associated with this outage were approximately \$1.5 million. The outage also caused significant disruption and costs to the residential and commercial customers in the affected area. These costs have not been identified. Outages affecting larger numbers of customers may take significantly longer to return all customers to service while incurring greater costs.

The Otterburne gas outage illustrated the close relationship between the operation of the natural gas and electrical distribution systems. With the loss of the natural gas supply, customers turned to electrical heating to keep their homes and businesses warm and protect against freezing pipes. Significant efforts were made to shift electrical loads away from the stations in the affected area and monitor equipment operation. Fortunately, sufficient electrical capacity was available in this area. There are areas where the electrical distribution system is at capacity. In Winnipeg, 37 of 97 distribution stations supplying the City of Winnipeg are loaded beyond their firm rating and an additional 26 are loaded at 80 to 100% of their firm rating. In areas outside of Winnipeg, there are 276 distribution systems, with 19 loaded beyond their firm rating and an additional 27 at 80 to 100% of their firm rating. Electrical station upgrades are in progress but will take many years to complete. There is the potential for the loss of natural gas to result in cascading electrical system outages.

Capital Budget Estimate

The annual net budget requirements are as follows (in thousands of dollars):

Fiscal Year	Proposed Budget
Prev. Actuals	\$ -
2014/15	\$ 256,886
2015/16	\$ 278,903
2016/17+	\$ 30,564,211
Total	\$ 31,100,000

Capital Project Justification

Proposed Schedule	
Design Complete:	September 2015
Environmental and Third Party Approvals and Property Procurement:	December 2015
Construction Start:	May 2016
Construction Complete:	October 2015

Related Projects	
Winnipeg Northwest Upgrade - Phase 1 -- Liss Road - Project No: 2014-01001	

Reference Documents	
Report on: Winnipeg Northwest Upgrade - Phase 2; Study No. 2014-07031 GridEx II June 2014 (Emergency Response Exercise) Presentations excerpts Gas Planning Criteria Document (GPCD-2014) dated September 12, 2014	

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

Title 2014-07031 Winnipeg Northwest Upgrade		Investment Management Node: 1.2.3.18.1.2
Owning Division Distribution Eng & Construction Division	Coordinating Division Distribution Eng & Construction Division	Project Number: P:23593

DESCRIPTION:

The extension of an existing natural gas pipeline from the Rossar Station (GS-031) in Winnipeg to the City of Selkirk (GS-004) is necessary to provide additional capacity to the areas northwest of Winnipeg and to provide a redundant gas source to meet reliability and operational requirements in the Winnipeg natural gas transmission network. When compared to the alternatives, a single project combining the provision of additional capacity and redundancy is a financially efficient means of providing a reliable, resilient system suitable to meet the ongoing requirements and expectations of our customers.

JUSTIFICATION:

The rationale for completing this project are summarized as follows:

1. The requirement to correct high voltages in the Stonewall transmission branch and provide capacity in the area northwest of Winnipeg require modifications to the transmission system to provide new supply while maintaining system reliability. Combining these requirements while addressing other issues is an efficient means of improving the overall Winnipeg system.
2. To provide transmission capacity to serve the growth just north of Winnipeg for the next 20 years.
3. To provide the ability to shift load from the heavily-utilized pipeline on east side (Ile Des Chenes) of the City to the under-utilized pipeline on the west side of the City (Oak Bluff) and restore capacity in the City of Winnipeg system.
4. To provide full redundant supply to the communities north of Winnipeg and to provide a partial ability (approximately 1,000 mcfh) to back-feed the City of Winnipeg line in a loss of supply from either the Ile Des Chenes or Oak Bluff pipelines.
5. To improve operational flexibility to permit planned inspection, maintenance or construction activities.
6. The reactive approach where smaller projects are built in response to specific customer or system needs would result in approximately \$21 million of projects that would be required in the next 5 to 10 years. While these projects would address capacity issues, they do not provide redundancy, or resolve any of the other issues identified. Meeting these other requirements would require an additional significant transmission investment which would be comparable in scope to the recommended course of action.
7. The June 20, 2014 PUB review of the Needs for and Alternatives to (NFAT) Review of Manitoba Hydro's Preferred Development Plan includes a recommendation that "Manitoba Hydro proceed with its fuel switching and heating fuel choice initiatives to encourage customers to use natural gas for space and water heating". The additional capacity provided by this project will readily support the addition of new customers in the area served. The Winnipeg Northwest Upgrade project is Phase 2 of a project that is approved and will be constructed in 2014. The Phase 1 project addresses the local distribution issues in the St. Andrews area.

REFERENCE:

Report on: Winnipeg Northwest Upgrade - Phase 2; Study No. 2014-07031
 GridEx II June 2014 (Emergency Response Exercise) Presentations except
 Gas Planning Criteria Document (GPCD-2014) dated September 12, 2014

REVISION:

New Item

IN SERVICE DATES						Base estimate 2014/01/01 CLASS 2
2016/10/31	31100					Workstart date 2012/09/01
ACTUALITY	GROSS	ESCALATION	INT. CAPITALIZED	SALVAGE	CONTRIBUTION	TOTAL NET COST
Actual cost to date						
Identified spend:						
V-HAP TOTAL						
REV. AMOUNTS:						
Actual (2014/15)	250	3	4			257
Req. 2015/16	250	7	22			279
Req. 2016/17	26800	256	469			27525
WHD TOTAL	29300	306	495			30101
Prepared by 14/10/08	W mm cd 14/10/08	Approved by 14/10/08	W mm cd 14/10/08	Approved by 14/10/08	W mm cd 14/10/08	Approved by 14/10/08
2014/10/08	08:39AM					

**ROUTING SLIP FOR APPROVAL OF A
 CPJ or CPJ ADDENDUM for a MAJOR item**

FINANCE CONTACT: Isaacson, Marie (360-7787) **DATE:** October 7, 2014

COMPLEX NAME: Winnipeg Northwest Upgrade - Phase 2

COMPLEX / I.M. NODE NUMBER: 1.2.3.25.8.2
 1.2.3.10.1.2 **WBS NUMBERS:** P:23593

OWNING DIVISION FOR COMPLEX: Distribution Engineering & Construction Wpg

COORDINATING DIVISION FOR COMPLEX: Distribution Engineering & Construction Wpg

RECEIVED
OCT 10 2014
Customer Service & Distribution

INSTRUCTIONS:
 1) Review attached CPJ and associated CERs belonging to this complex.
If you wish to request changes:
 2a) Circle YES under the CHANGES REQUIRED column next to your name and enter a description of the change(s) in the space provided below.
 2b) Return the package immediately to the person listed next to the red "Return package to:" below.
If you wish to indicate your approval of the entire Complex:
 2a) Circle NO under the CHANGES REQUIRED column, sign in the SIGNATURE box next to your name, and follow the additional instructions, if applicable.
 2b) Check to see if your name appears on this routing slip a second time and if so, sign in both locations.
 2c) Forward the package to the next person on the list.

	CHANGES REQUIRED?	SIGNATURE	ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS	
<i>Complex Coordinator</i> 1 Blazek, Greg	YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	<i>Greg Blazek</i>	CPJ: not applicable	CERs: INITIAL the Coord. Div. box
<i>Complex Coord. Supv/Section Head:</i> 2 not applicable	YES / NO		CPJ: INITIAL & DATE the title page, next to Noted by:	CERs: not applicable
<i>Dept Manager - Coordinating:</i> 3 Starodub, Tim	YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	<i>Tim Starodub</i>	CPJ: SIGN & DATE the title page, next to Noted by:	CERs: SIGN & DATE the Coord. Div. box
<i>Complex Owner:</i> 4 Starodub, Tim	YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	<i>Tim Starodub</i>	CPJ: INITIAL & DATE the title page, next to your name	CERs: INITIAL the Owing Div. box
<i>Complex Owner Supv/Section Head:</i> 5 Aftanas, Alan	YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	<i>A. Aftanas</i>	CPJ: SIGN & DATE the title page, next to Reviewed by:	CERs: not applicable
<i>Dept Manager - Owning:</i> 6 Starodub, Tim	YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	<i>Tim Starodub</i>	CPJ: SIGN & DATE the title page as Owning Dept. Mgr	CERs: SIGN & DATE the Owning Div. box
<i>Division Manager - Owning:</i> 7 Steele, Chuck	YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	<i>Chuck Steele</i>	CPJ: SIGN & DATE the title page as Owning Div. Mgr	CERs: not applicable
<i>Division Manager - Budget Support:</i> 8 Prydun, Mark	YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	<i>Mark Prydun</i>	CPJ: SIGN the CPJ in the Finance Department signature box	CERs: not applicable
<i>Vice President</i> 9 Reed, Brent	YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	<i>Brent Reed</i>	CPJ: SIGN & DATE the title page as Business Unit VP	CERs: SIGN & DATE the Vice President box

Return package to: Isaacson, Marie (360-7787)

CHANGES REQUIRED: see mark-up on CPJ / CER(s)

continue on reverse if necessary

REFERENCE:

Section 4.1.1, page 30, lines 3-6, 8, 11-14, lines 22-28

PREAMBLE TO IR (IF ANY):

Centra states:

"In part, this treatment was deemed necessary as it was assumed that Interruptible customers were being curtailed at the time of system peak. Without incorporating usage into the allocation of capacity costs, the Interruptible Class would not have contributed to the recovery of any capacity costs." Application, page 30, Emphasis Added

"With the evolution of Centra's system and the Interruptible Class, there are allocation methods other than Peak and Average that can be used while still ensuring cost recovery from all users of the system."

"First, the Interruptible Customers use Centra's distribution system to receive Alternate Supply even while being curtailed for upstream capacity factors. Second, Centra includes the Interruptible Class capacity requirements in its downstream capacity planning criteria."

QUESTION:

- a) Centra states that one of the reasons that it moved to a PAVG methodology is that it addressed the concern that interruptible customers would not otherwise contribute to the recovery of any capacity costs. Please explain the other factors that lead to Centra's adoption of the PAVG methodology.

RESPONSE:

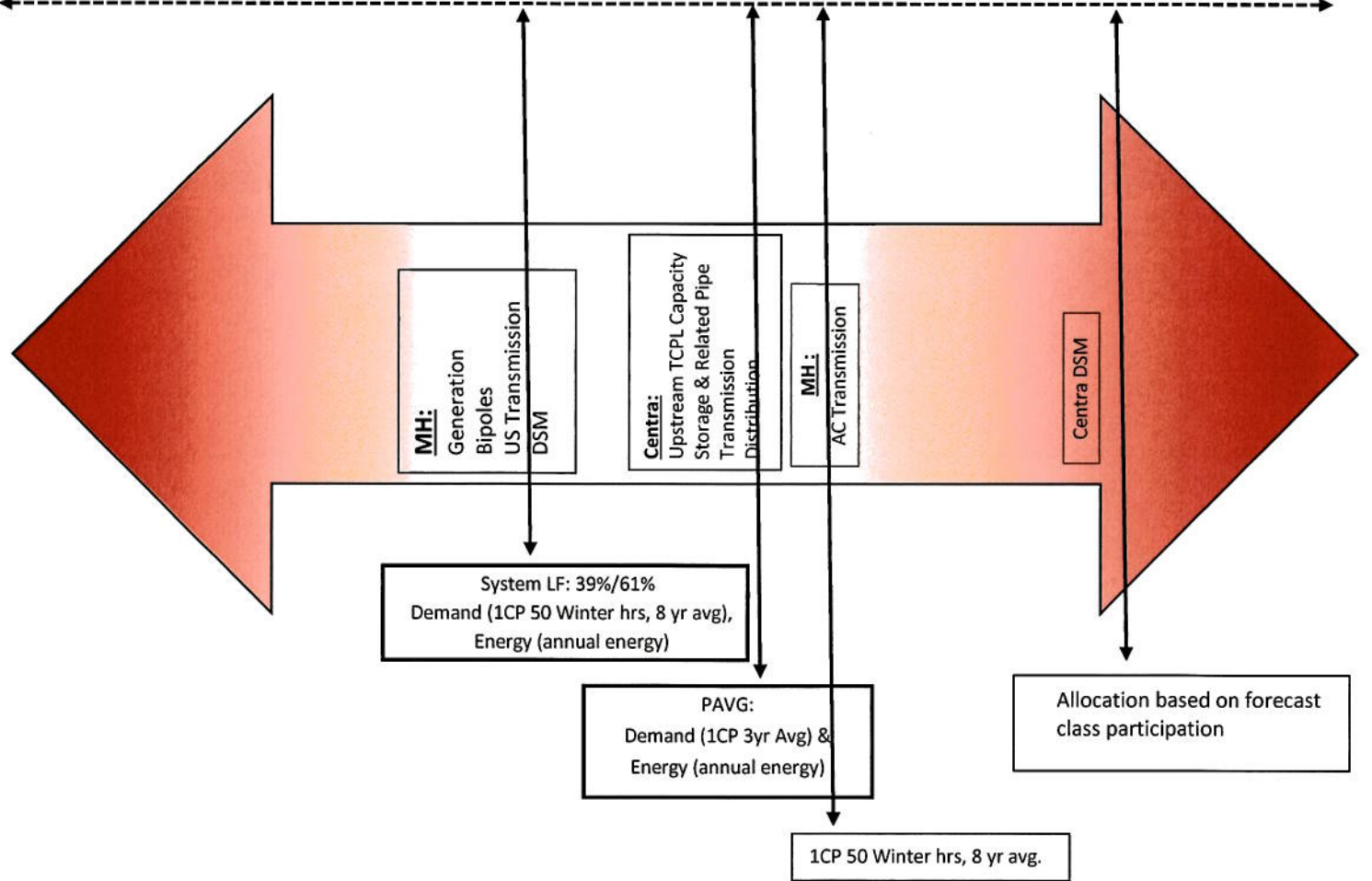
Centra adopted the Peak and Average allocator after its 1996 Cost of Service Methodology Review. At the time of adoption the following factors were identified as influencing Centra's position: Peak and Average recognized the utilization of the system as an explicit factor to be included in determining cost responsibility;

- Peak and Average is relatively simple and straightforward;
- Peak and Average is a widely accepted method of cost allocation;
- Peak and Average is considered cost-causal in many state and provincial jurisdictions; and
- Peak and Average produced results that were close to the PUB's approved class revenue requirements at the time.

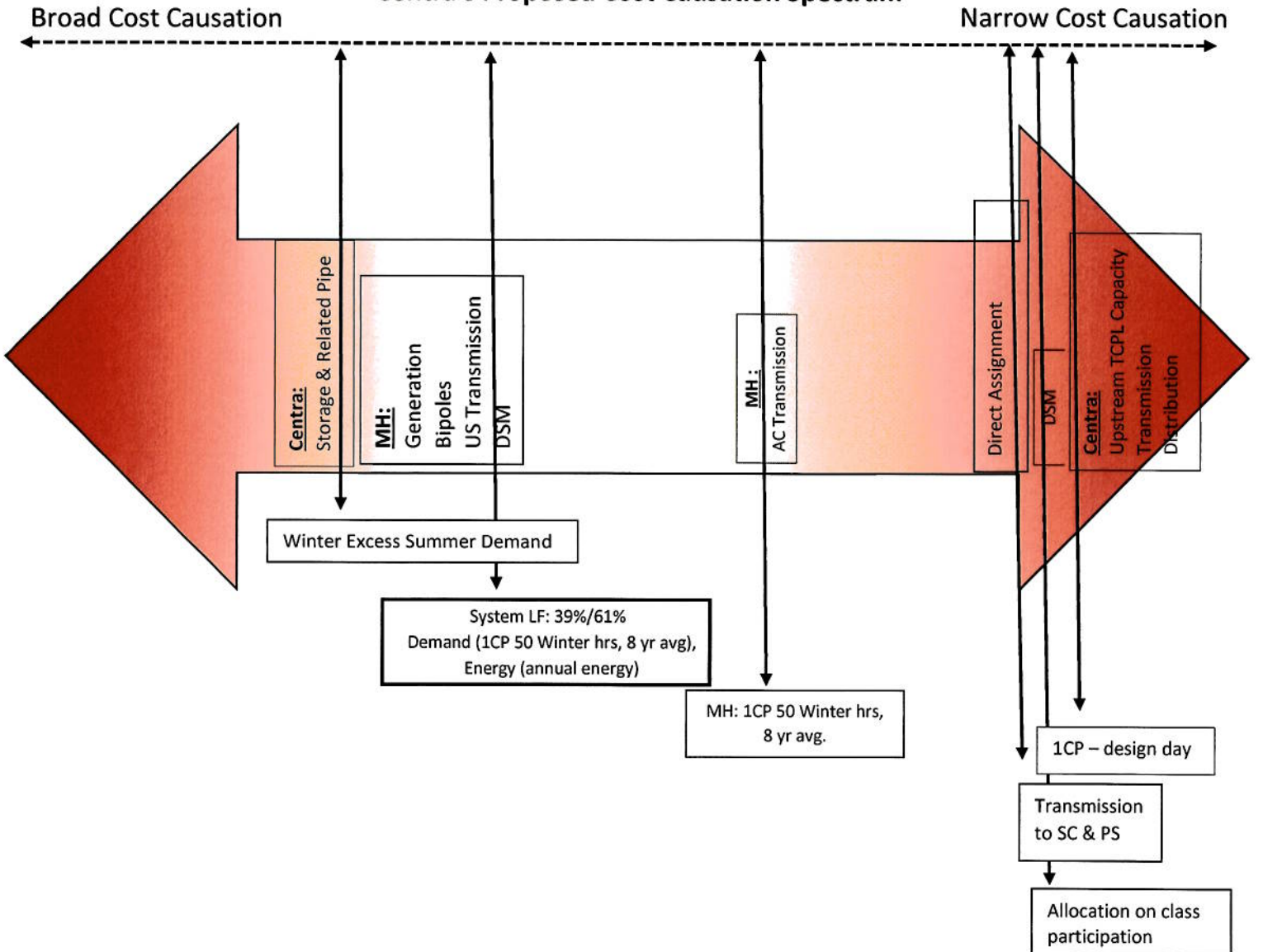
Current Cost Causation Spectrum

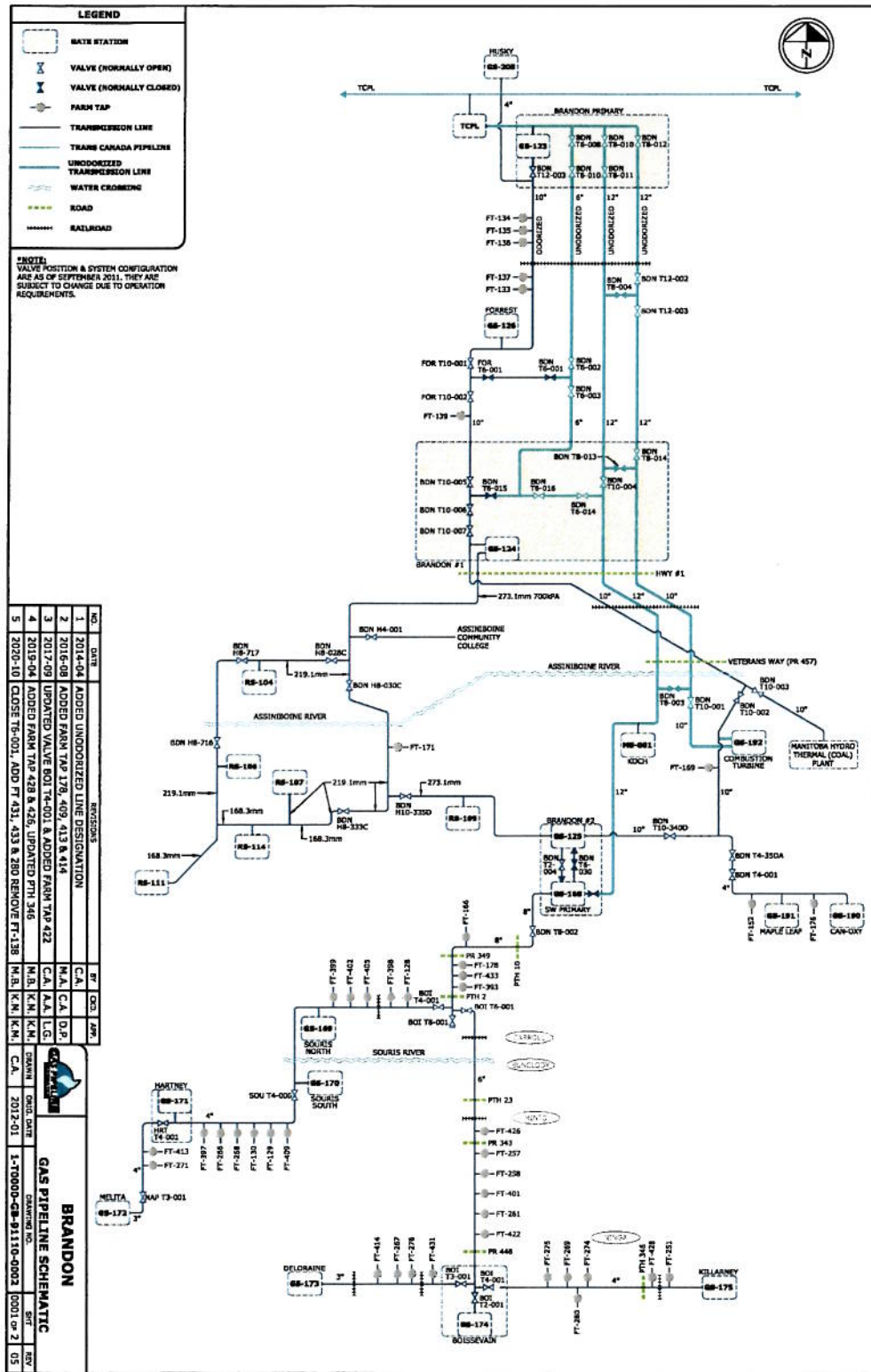
Broad Cost Causation

Narrow Cost Causation



Centra's Proposed Cost Causation Spectrum





**CENTRA GAS MANITOBA INC.
COST OF SERVICE METHODOLOGY REVIEW**

1 While this has not always been the case, Centra's system configuration has evolved and
2 based on conditions assumed in the Cost of Service Study (i.e. normal operating conditions),
3 Centra is able to identify facilities that are used to serve the Special Contract Class exclusively
4 and do not serve load for any other customers.

5
6 Additionally, the pipelines that serve this customer class **predominantly** have a one-way
7 relationship with the rest of the system. This is to say that the remainder of the transmission
8 system can receive pressure and capacity support from the pipelines that serve the Special
9 Contract Class, but the rest of the Brandon system, with the exception of the facilities serving
10 the Brandon Power Station, cannot **generally** be used to serve the load requirements of the
11 Special Contract Class.

12
13 Similarly, the facilities that serve the Power Station in Brandon do not serve any other
14 customers under **normal** operating conditions. Furthermore, given both the customers'
15 inability to utilize other parts of Centra's system from an operating perspective (i.e. the
16 requirement for unodourized gas and high-pressure requirements), Centra supports
17 Atrium's recommendation for a Direct Assignment approach for the Special Contract Class
18 and the Brandon Power Station.

19
20 Both the Special Contract and Power Station Classes use gas very differently than all other
21 gas customers and their usage can vary significantly based on operating conditions, market
22 conditions and the price of natural gas. Given that their unique usage characteristics makes
23 it inherently difficult to forecast usage for both classes, a Direct Assignment of costs also has
24 the benefit of providing greater rate stability to other customer classes. As additional
25 investments are required on the specific pipelines being directly assigned to these classes,
26 the capital costs of the pipelines will be allocated directly to these classes and will increase
27 in future studies.

28
29 Overall, a Direct Assignment is a reasonable approach in the current circumstances and will
30 provide a stable allocation of costs for both the Special Contract and Power Station Classes.

31