ATTACHMENT 4: UPDATE TO S. 3.4.1.3 REGARDING LOCATION OF REPEATER STATIONS

Section 3.4.1.3, page 3-22, paragraphs 2-4 of the Bipole III EIS discusses four repeater stations and their anticipated locations. Since filing the EIS, design has progressed and more specifics related to the number and location of the repeater stations are available. Hence, the following paragraph updates the information in section 3.4.1.3.

Four repeater stations will be required for the Bipole III project. The following Map, entitled “Fiber Optic Repeater Sites” denotes the anticipated locations of each of the repeater stations. Of the four, one station will be located within the confines of an existing transmission facility and the other three will be newly constructed on or adjacent to the Bipole III right of way. One repeater station (the 2nd repeater station along the route) will be housed at the Pas-Ralls Island transmission station, in order to take advantage of existing communications facilities. The remaining three repeater sites will be housed in yet to be developed or new stand-alone sites located within the HVDC line right-of-way, and within 100m to 300m of a transmission tower. The first of these three will be located in the southeast quarter of Section 4 Township 76, Range 1, west of the prime meridian, between Keewatinoow (about 290 km distant along the right-of-way from Keewatinoow) and The Pas-Rauls Island transmission station. The site is near Partridge Crop Lake, roughly 30 km southeast of Thompson. The second new site will be located at the existing Manitoba Hydro Rorketon Station, located at North West quarter of Section 9, Township 28, range 15 west of the prime meridian. The third stand alone site will be located on Municipal land in the southwest corner of Section 13, Township 8, Range 8, west of the prime meridian, about 238 km distant from the second stand alone site. This third stand alone site is located east of the town of Rathwell.

Manitoba Hydro consulted with the study team specialists to determine whether the repeater stations would cause a change in the predicted effects and associated mitigation for project VECs. There were no changes to the environmental assessment for predicted effects, mitigation or conclusions for the repeater sites. The vegetation specialist, however, did recommend additional pre-construction botanical field surveys to identify plant species of conservation concern.