

MANITOBA – MINNESOTA TRANSMISSION PROJECT Environmental Impact Statement

# PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

CHAPTER 3 September 2015



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# **ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

ALO	affected landowner
CEAA, 2012	Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012
CEC	Clean Environment Commission
EIS	environmental impact statement
EMF	electric and magnetic fields
FPR	Final Preferred Route
IAIA	International Association for Impact Assessment
IAP2	International Association for Public Participation
kV	kilovolt
LIC	Landowner Information Centre
MCWS	Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship
MLO	mile landowner
MMTP	Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project
NEB	National Energy Board
PCD	Primary Comments Database
PEP	public engagement process
РОН	public open house
PR	Preferred Route
ROW	right-of-way
RVTC	Riel-Vivian Transmission Corridor
SLTC	Southern Loop Transmission Corridor
VC	valued component



# **GLOSSARY OF TECHNICAL TERMS**

Affected landowner (ALO)	A landowner whose property contains a portion of the Preferred Route. ALOs were identified following the determination of a Preferred Route and were contacted by registered mail based on property ownership information received from Manitoba Assessment Branch.
Alternative routes	Presented during Round 1 and 2 of the public engagement process; alternative routes are built of segments from start to end point.
Final Preferred Route	Based on the environmental assessment and Round 3 of the engagement processes, the Final Preferred Route is the best balanced approach of all disciplines' understanding. The Final Preferred Route is submitted with the environmental impact statement (Map 3-11).
Master stakeholder list	The MSL is a database developed to collect stakeholder group information related to preferred methods and communication related to engagement, contact information, and records of notification and participation in engagement activities.
Mile landowner	A landowner within one mile (1.6 km) of the Preferred Route, with land that does not contain a portion of the Preferred Route. MLOs were identified based on the Manitoba Hydro meter(s) locations.
Mitigative segments	A route segment added to the transmission line routing process based on feedback received from the public or discipline specialists.
Preferred Route	Presented during Round 3 of the engagement processes, the Preferred Route was determined as the best balanced choice of the refined alternative routes and was based on feedback received during the public and First Nation and Metis engagement processes, and on biophysical, socio-economic, cost and technical considerations, as identified through the route selection process (Map 3-8).

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Praznik	A celebration of a feast day in the life of a church or parish. The feast day is symbolic for a church where parish members gather once a year as a community to honour the name of their church. Some parishes also use the occasion of the feast day to honour the memories of deceased family members.
Public	The public was defined as any individual with an interest in the outcome of the decisions for the Manitoba–Minnesota Transmission Project. The public does not include First Nations, Metis and stakeholder groups.
Round	A Round was a portion of the overall public engagement process timeline that aligned with the decision-making stages of the route selection and environmental assessment processes. Each Round included notifications, engagement activities and feedback mechanisms for the public and stakeholder groups to participate.
Route planning area	A broad area defined by considering potential constraints and opportunities on the landscape.
Segment	A numbered section of an alternative route or the preferred route.
Stakeholder group	An interested group that would potentially have feedback to provide, may be affected by the decisions made regarding route selection, have a specific interest or mandate in the area or data to share, and is able to disseminate information to membership or a general interest group in the Project's route selection area.
Tower spotting	The process of determining where a tower may be placed on the landscape.
Valued component	Valued components are components of the natural and human environment that are considered by the proponent, public, First Nations groups, Metis, scientists and other technical specialists and government agencies involved in the assessment process to have scientific, ecological, economic, social, cultural, archaeological, historical or other importance.



# **3 Public Engagement Process**

# 3.1 Introduction

Manitoba Hydro undertook a public engagement process (PEP) for the Manitoba–Minnesota Transmission Project (MMTP, or the Project) that began in June 2013, two years prior to regulatory filling. The PEP will continue through the regulatory, construction and operational phases of the Project. The purpose of the PEP was to capture feedback about the transmission line routing and environmental assessment processes in a meaningful manner. Manitoba Hydro worked directly with participants to identify and document their concerns, preferences and recommendations, which resulted in the selection of a final route and the assessment of potential Project effects, which benefited from local knowledge. This chapter focuses on feedback received from the public and stakeholder groups. Chapter 4 focuses on feedback received during the First Nation and Metis engagement process.

Manitoba Hydro has undertaken public engagement for many projects in Manitoba, and has had discussions with thousands of people regarding transmission line development. Successes and lessons learned from these past projects were incorporated into developing the PEP. Manitoba Hydro used its past experience, knowledge of existing international public engagement guidelines and beneficial practices, and understanding of the foundations for effective public participation to develop a diverse range of notification methods, engagement activities and feedback methods to inform the public and stakeholder groups and gather their feedback.

Manitoba Hydro met with more than 1500 people at 39 public open houses and landowner information centres hosted for the Project. In addition, Manitoba Hydro held numerous meetings and workshops with stakeholder groups and landowners, and responded to more than 850 phone calls and emails throughout the PEP.

Manitoba Hydro worked directly with the public, including landowners, and Project stakeholder groups throughout the PEP. The PEP included a pre-engagement process and multiple rounds of engagement regarding the transmission line routing process and station modifications. Feedback and concerns raised by PEP participants, as well as site-specific information, was provided to discipline specialists to inform their independent assessment of the Project and assist with route selection.

The PEP aimed to be inclusive, adaptive, comprehensive and responsive to participants. Manitoba Hydro achieved this in the following ways:

• <u>Inclusive</u>: Manitoba Hydro used broad notification methods and maintained open communication (by email, the Project webpage and a toll-free information phone line) with interested members of the public and stakeholder groups. Manitoba Hydro provided material and information online to allow those who were not able to attend public events to participate by using online comment sheets.



- <u>Adaptive:</u> Throughout the PEP, Manitoba Hydro added additional venues and open houses when necessary to gather feedback from the public regarding modifications to the Project or when further engagement was desired. This occurred in Piney to address a border modification, in Ste. Anne when additional route segments were developed near the community of Ste. Genevieve, and in Steinbach to gather feedback from local trappers.
- <u>Comprehensive</u>: Manitoba Hydro held 39 open houses and landowner information centres over two years to collect information from the public. Potentially affected landowners were notified by express post (requiring signature), and feedback was collected through a dedicated email address and toll-free information phone line.
- <u>Responsive</u>: If answers could not be provided at the time of questioning, Manitoba Hydro provided them at a later date. Manitoba Hydro also addressed issues unrelated to the Project. Material was developed to respond to specific issues and concerns that were raised at various times throughout the PEP. Manitoba Hydro responded to concerns raised by participants, as demonstrated by the various route modifications that have been accepted as part of the Final Preferred Route for the Project.

The PEP aimed to build trust and meaningful relationships with participants through ongoing communication and continual follow-up. The methods used throughout the PEP focused on developing these relationships and keeping participants informed about how the feedback received influenced the decisions being made by Manitoba Hydro.

The Final Preferred Route was determined through a selection process that incorporated the feedback obtained during the PEP and from the environmental assessment work undertaken (Chapter 5 – Transmission Line Routing). After feedback on the preferred route was collected, route modifications identified during public engagement were brought forward and submitted for preliminary screening and potential evaluation.

Throughout this chapter, reference is made to "supporting material filed with this chapter". Due to the size of the technical data report, the information has been stored on a USB that has been submitted with the environmental impact summary (EIS).

# 3.2 Purpose, Goals and Objectives

Manitoba Hydro's PEP for the transmission line routing and environmental assessment processes was an important factor in determining a Final Preferred Route that balances perspectives on the landscape and limits the overall effect of the Project. Manitoba Hydro undertook a multiple round approach to the PEP; the goals were to:

- share Project information
- obtain feedback for use in the environmental assessment and route selection processes
- gather and understand local interests and concerns



- integrate interests and concerns into the environmental assessment process
- review potential mitigation measures

To meet these goals, the PEP was designed to:

- involve the public throughout route selection and environmental assessment stages
- provide clear, timely and relevant information and responses
- deliver a public engagement process that is adaptive and inclusive
- inform the public about how their feedback influenced the Project
- document and report on feedback received

The PEP included:

- an opportunity for the public and stakeholder groups to determine how they would like to be involved in a pre-engagement round
- engagement with stakeholder groups and the public at various stages of the transmission line routing and environmental assessment processes
- public and stakeholder input regarding the transmission line routing process and the individual environmental assessments undertaken, such as determination of valued components (VCs), socio-economic considerations, potential effects and mitigation measures

Figure 3-1 outlines the timelines and goals of each stage of the PEP, which began in July 2013 and will be ongoing into the operation of the Project.





#### MMTP Project Overview



# 3.3 Factors that Influenced the Design of the Process

A number of Acts, guidelines, principles, standards and beneficial practices influenced the design of the PEP. The process was also based on national and provincial filing requirements, feedback from regulators, principles of sustainable development, guidance from internationally recognized public engagement organizations and lessons learned from past projects.

## 3.3.1 Regulatory Framework

Consideration was given to the following federal and provincial legislation and guidelines when designing the PEP:

- the Project Final Scoping Document, issued on June 24 2015 by Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship's Environmental Approvals Branch, which represents the Guidelines for this EIS
- Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012 (CEAA 2012) and applicable regulations and guidelines
- guidelines for *Environment Act* proposals (MCWS 2015) under *The Environment Act* (Manitoba)
- guidance from the National Energy Board Electricity Filing Manual, Chapter 5 (NEB 2015)

# 3.3.2 Policy Framework

Public engagement facilitates sustainable development because it provides participants with the information they need to be involved in a meaningful way, and they are informed about how their input affects the decision-making process. As described in Chapter 23, Manitoba Hydro developed its Sustainable Development Policy (Manitoba Hydro 2015) in 1993; it includes 13 principles that guide decisions, actions and day-to-day operations. The PEP for the Project was designed to be consistent with Manitoba Hydro's Sustainable Development Policy and the Canadian Electricity Association Program Goals by providing opportunities for input by potentially affected and interested parties when evaluating development and program alternatives, and before deciding on a final course of action.

Manitoba Hydro has a Corporate Strategic Plan that identifies environmental protection as a key area of focus. This is undertaken through environmental assessment work that includes processes for collecting public feedback and feedback considered in decision-making processes.



## 3.3.3 Public Engagement Guidelines and Industry Standards

The PEP was developed in consideration of the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) Core Values (IAP2 2015), the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency Key Elements of Meaningful Public Participation (CEAA 2013) and the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) Principles of Best Practices (IAIA 1999).

IAP2 defines public participation as "a means to involve those who are affected by a decision in the decision-making process. It promotes sustainable decisions by providing participants with the information they need to be involved in a meaningful way, and it communicates to participants how their input affects the decision:"

IAIA defines public participation as "the involvement of individuals and groups that are positively or negatively affected by a proposed intervention (*e.g.*, a project, a program, a plan, a policy) subject to a decision-making process or are interested in it. Levels of participation in impact assessment vary, from passive participation or information reception (a unidirectional form of participation), to participation through consultation (*e.g.*, public hearings and open houses), to interactive participation (such as workshops, negotiation, mediation and even co-management)."

These industry guidelines and standards are summarized below:

- Those affected by a Project have a right to be involved in the decision-making process.
- The contributions of the public will influence the Project decisions.
- The Project recognizes and communicates the interests of all participants, including decisionmakers.
- The Project will gather input from participants and develop engagement methods based on how the public wishes to participate.
- Information will be presented so that interested parties can participate in a meaningful way.
- Knowledge will be shared between the public and the proponent.
- The decisions made and the input received on the Project will be incorporated and communicated to participants.
- The process will be adaptable, informative, proactive, inclusive and equitable.
- The process will include early notification with reasonable timing and be sensitive to community values.
- The Project results will be transparent and available to all.

The PEP developed for the Project is consistent with these industry standards and guidelines and is represented in the methods used and decisions made regarding the Project.



## 3.3.4 Lessons Learned from Previous Assessments

Prior to developing the PEP, lessons from past public engagement processes were considered (such as Bipole III Transmission Project (Bipole III), Keeyask Generating Station and Wuskwatim Generating Station). Feedback from the Clean Environment Commission (CEC) and concerns expressed by the public and stakeholder groups helped inform the design of the PEP. In order to illustrate how Manitoba Hydro has learned from past projects and adapted to the needs of participants and regulators, the following comments and recommendations from the Bipole III Clean Environment Commission Report (CEC 2013) are included along with the corresponding steps Manitoba Hydro took to improve the PEP:

- "During the Clean Environment Commission hearing for Bipole III the Commission heard many presentations from landowners and farmers in agricultural Manitoba who felt consultation had been inadequate. One particular concern was regarding the timing of Landowner Information Centres set up during Round 4 to provide for consultation with owners of land along the preferred route. These meetings were held for two months, from late August to late October, 2010. As this would be during and immediately after harvest, a busy time for farmers, this may have been a difficult time to take part." (CEC 2013, p. 20)
  - Manitoba Hydro scheduled Project open houses to avoid harvest and seeding times. Most engagement activities were during the winter.
- "The Commission acknowledges that Manitoba Hydro carried out a large number of meetings, open houses and other consultation events over a very large portion of the province. These efforts began early in the planning process for a west side Bipole III transmission line. It is possible though, that defining the most likely route for the transmission line earlier would have improved the consultation process. If they had not had to consider communities far to the west of the Final Preferred Route, Manitoba Hydro's staff and consultants might have had more time to devote to communities in areas where it was more likely that the transmission line would be routed." (CEC 2013, p.25)
  - Landowner information centres were used throughout Round 3, and additional days were
    provided in larger centres (La Broquerie and Ste. Anne) to offer more time to meet with
    Manitoba Hydro to discuss the Project. Manitoba Hydro also offered landowner meetings
    outside of these days to hear from those potentially affected by the Project and to
    acknowledge that Manitoba Hydro timelines may not suit each landowner.
- "New consultation methods are becoming available that may be better for both the general public and Aboriginal groups. Characteristics of effective consultation processes include:
  - "providing information that is comprehensive but not overwhelming,..." (CEC 2013, p.26)
  - Manitoba Hydro produced a number of documents, brochures and handouts specifically for the public. This included brochures that summarized technical information on electric and magnetic fields, biophysical elements, technical aspects of the Project, and the route selection process. Manitoba Hydro also developed a plain language summary to simplify the findings of the EIS; it will be made available to the public and stakeholder groups to



assist in their review of the EIS and participation throughout the regulatory review process.

- "...involving Stakeholder Groups earlier rather than in a reactive way, being inclusive of all views and communities,..." (CEC 2013, p. 26)
  - Manitoba Hydro began involving stakeholder groups through a pre-engagement process by asking how they would like to be engaged in the Project; essentially, Manitoba Hydro was asking stakeholder groups and the public to assist with the design of the PEP. This process also provided an opportunity to include stakeholder groups that may have been overlooked in the preliminary determination process.
- "The PEP for the Bipole III Project was designed to meet or exceed minimum requirements of relevant legislation and to follow accepted industry principles and standards. The guidelines of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) were selected by Manitoba Hydro as a standard for public participation." (CEC 2013, p. 17)
  - Manitoba Hydro has continued to use the most current CEAA guidelines, and has considered the IAP2 Core Values (IAP2 2015) and IAIA Principles of Best Practices (IAIA 1999) in the development of this PEP.
- "Manitoba Hydro's consultation approach led to problems in southern, agricultural areas as well. In part this was the result of an over-reliance on open houses. Open houses may be useful in providing initial, general information, but they are usually one-way information sessions. Though there may be some opportunity for one-on-one discussion during an open house, such contact is limited and members of the public feel that they are outside their comfort zone." (CEC 2013, p. 27)
  - During open houses and meetings, Manitoba Hydro staff responded to questions and discussed concerns/opportunities with regards to the Project. Manitoba Hydro initiated meetings with stakeholder groups if they had indicated an interest during the preengagement process. Manitoba Hydro welcomed contact by any stakeholder group that had not participated during the pre-engagement process if they wished to meet with Project representatives. Landowner meetings, phone calls and emails were used for those who were unable to attend the scheduled public open houses (POHs) or landowner information centres (LICs), or who wished to receive more information.
  - Manitoba Hydro also used LICs during Round 3 to collect detailed property information from potentially affected landowners (ALO) and those located within one mile (1.6 km) of the preferred route (MLO). The collection of detailed property information informed the environmental assessment and route determination processes. During the LIC meetings, engagement materials were made available to provide additional background information on key topics for the Project. Landowner forms and maps were used to record feedback provided by each participant. The LICs were a valuable tool for identifying potential route modifications, mitigation measures and tower spotting considerations.



- "An additional consultation technique, a telephone information line, was also impersonal and was generally used for negative commentary – essentially a forum for complaints." (CEC 2013, p.27)
  - Many of the telephone calls recorded by Manitoba Hydro were requests for specific Project/route information, although some callers expressed strong opposition to the Project.
  - In Round 3, the telephone line was particularly important because it provided an
    opportunity to have in-depth discussions with affected landowners who were out of
    province about potential Project effects on their property. In addition, the phone line
    assisted with ongoing discussions and relationship building. Many individuals used the
    phone line to call Manitoba Hydro with follow-up questions after an introductory
    discussion at an open house or landowner information centre.
- "Before the final decisions were made about the line routing, each individual landowner whose property the line was to cross should have been consulted personally. This personal consultation, conducted by personnel who had an understanding of agriculture, might have conveyed a greater level of respect, avoided some misunderstandings, and resulted in the best route possible under the circumstances." (CEC 2013, p. 27)
  - In Round 3, Manitoba Hydro notified all potentially affected landowners by ExpressPost (required a signature). Efforts were made to contact those who had not yet participated. Follow-up calls were made, and letters were sent to potentially affected individuals, encouraging them to share their concerns, provide feedback and have their questions answered by Manitoba Hydro staff.
  - Meetings were offered during all rounds of engagement for those who were unable to attend other venues. The meetings provided an opportunity for Manitoba Hydro to share Project information, gather feedback from stakeholder groups and the public, and discuss Project timelines, the environmental assessment and the route selection processes.
- "Manitoba Hydro, through consultation with local landowners, ensure that its routing and tower placement generate the least possible impact on agricultural operations, unless clear and compelling reasons exist to depart from such routing." (CEC 2013, p.127)
  - Throughout all rounds of engagement, Manitoba Hydro had numerous discussions with individual landowners regarding tower placement. In the one-to-one meetings at the landowner information centres held during in Round 3, details about tower placement were recorded, which will be considered in final design.

In addition, Manitoba Hydro used additional methods for providing notices and information. Twitter and Facebook were used to provide information about upcoming stages in the PEP, and email campaigns were used to keep interested individuals informed about the Project.



Manitoba Hydro also developed a map viewer to allow individuals to review the preferred route online at the Project website. The map viewer was similar to Google Earth and allowed various layers to be turned on and off so that viewers could understand the landscape and see the progression of the transmission line routing process.

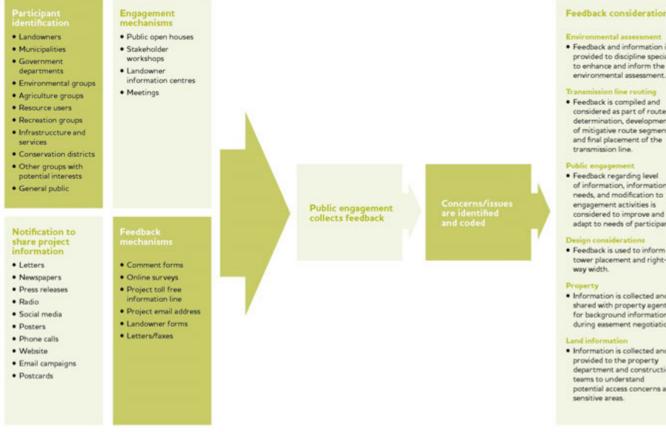
# 3.4 Public Engagement Process Methods

## 3.4.1 Methods Overview

Manitoba Hydro used various methods to provide information, gather information, categorize feedback and meet with stakeholder groups and the public. The following section outlines the various methods used for the PEP and Figure 3-2 provides an overview of each Round of the PEP. Examples of material, notification and feedback mechanisms, feedback compilation and coding mechanisms are provided in more detail in the supporting documents filed with this chapter.



#### A round of public engagement: overview



#### Figure 3-2 MMTP Round of Engagement Overview

#### Feedback consideration and incorporation

#### **Customer service**

 Feedback and information is provided to discipline specialists shared with local Manitoba to enhance and inform the environmental assessment.

#### Transmission line routing

· Feedback is compiled and considered as part of route determination, development of mitigative route segments and final placement of the transmission line.

 Feedback regarding level of information, information needs, and modification to engagement activities is considered to improve and adapt to needs of participants.

#### Design considerations

· Feedback is used to inform tower placement and right-ofway width.

· Information is collected and shared with property agents for background information during easement negotiations.

#### Land information

· Information is collected and provided to the property department and construction teams to understand potential access concerns and sensitive areas.

#### · Feedback is collected and Hydro service centres regarding concerns outside of the Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project such as distribution concerns, existing easements or other Manitoba Hydro interests.

#### Monitoring programs and access ma

· Feedback received is considered in the determination of environmentally sensitive sites, the development of access management and environmental protection plans.

#### Future projects and processes

· Manitoba Hydro uses feedback received to improve future environmental assessment, transmission line design and public engagement processes.

#### **Responses and comments**

· Questions and comments left through comment sheets or through discussions with participants were addressed and responses provided.



# 3.4.2 Stakeholder Group Identification

Manitoba Hydro defined a stakeholder group as an interested party that may:

- have potential feedback to provide
- be affected by the decisions made regarding route selection
- have specific interests or mandate in the route planning area
- have potential data to share
- have an ability to disseminate information to membership/constituency
- possess an interest in the Project's route planning area

A desktop review of past Manitoba Hydro project stakeholder groups was conducted to identify potential stakeholder groups to be involved in the PEP for the Project. Stakeholder groups were identified and included various interests. Additionally, an internet search was conducted to identify other potential stakeholder groups.

Many stakeholder groups have been involved in various Manitoba Hydro transmission line projects and representatives from these groups were asked if this Project would be of interest to their organization. Manitoba Hydro identified the primary contact (who to call, email or address mail) of the organization and other groups the organization may be aware of that may have interest in the Project. The following are examples of stakeholder groups identified:

- Rural Municipalities, Planning Districts and Cities
  - As representatives of local constituents, Manitoba Hydro contacted all Rural Municipalities, Planning Districts, Cities, and Towns within the route planning area. The Association of Manitoba Municipalities was also asked to participate in the process.
- Technical Advisory Committee (Provincial)
  - A list was requested from the Environmental Approvals Branch within Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship as to who would be providing comments and undertaking the review of the EIS once submitted for regulatory approval. Twenty-eight government departments were identified by Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship (MCWS) and contacted.
- Government departments
  - Other government departments contacted included Crown Lands, Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives, Protected Areas Initiative and the Parks and Natural Areas Branch.
  - Community Planning services were approached to participate as they have an understanding of the landscape and work closely with individual municipalities.



- Previous Project involvement/interest
  - Groups involved in the Bipole III Hearing were invited to participate such as the Consumers Association of Canada and the Bipole III Coalition.
- Environmental non-governmental organizations
  - These groups were invited to participate as they may have an interest in the Project from an environmental or social perspective. Examples include Manitoba Wildlands, Manitoba Forestry Association, Manitoba Naturalist Society, Orchid Society, Green Action Centre, and others.
- Conservation Districts
  - Conservation Districts are interested in Watershed Management and promote land and water resource conservation of the area.
- Infrastructure and services
  - These included groups such as Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation, Manitoba Floodway Authority, Canadian Pacific Railway, Canadian National Railway, TransCanada Pipeline and the Mining Association of Manitoba.
- Recreation groups
  - These included snowmobile clubs, all-terrain vehicle groups, a cross country ski group, and trail developers.
- Agriculture groups
  - These included groups such as Keystone Agricultural Producers, Organic Producers of Manitoba, and the Manitoba Aerial Applicators Association.
- Other groups with potential interest
  - These groups were invited to participate based on possible interest and included Travel Manitoba, Manitoba Association of Cottage Owners, Manitoba Lodges and Outfitters, and the Manitoba Trappers Association.

Manitoba Hydro understood that it may not be possible to capture all potentially interested groups while undertaking the preliminary stakeholder group identification process. In order to capture those potentially overlooked, Manitoba Hydro used broad notification methods as outlined in Section 3.4.3 and welcomed any interested individual or group to contact Manitoba Hydro.

To maintain records of communication with stakeholder groups, Manitoba Hydro developed a master stakeholder list (MSL), which was maintained through all rounds of engagement. Appendix 3A lists the groups that were approached to participate in the process.



## 3.4.3 Notification Methods

Methods of notification selected for the Project were based on Manitoba Hydro's understanding of past projects, the Project pre-engagement process and input from the public as the Project progressed. Notification methods selected for the Project included:

- press releases
- letters (direct and express post) to stakeholder groups and landowners
- postcards to local residences and businesses
- email campaigns
- telephone calls
- newspaper advertising
- radio advertising
- social media posts
- ongoing updates to the Project webpage
- posters

The following sections provide a summary of each method of notification selected for the PEP.

#### 3.4.3.1 Press Releases

Manitoba Hydro Press Releases were used to notify the public through 78 media outlets of the proposed Project. The first press release outlined Manitoba Hydro's request to seek input from the public on the public engagement process and was the initial step of the pre-engagement phase for the Project. Manitoba Hydro also used a press release to announce the Preferred Route (start of Round 3) and will utilize this method to inform of the Final Preferred Route and submission of the environmental impact statement (EIS).

#### 3.4.3.2 Letters

Manitoba Hydro's PEP included deliveries of letters, via non-registered or express post/registered mail, as a means of notifying stakeholder groups and landowners of Project-related activities. Included in the mailings were bilingual letters, relevant public engagement materials, including the Project newsletter and maps, when applicable. Letters were prepared to include Project information and updates, requests for meetings, and notification of upcoming engagement activities.

Letters also included the contact information for the Project, including the toll-free phone number, the Project email address, and the Project webpage address to provide recipients with additional sources of information on the Project or methods for contacting Manitoba Hydro.



Direct letters were the most common method used to make landowners aware of the Project and were used throughout the PEP. In addition, express post letters (requiring a signature) were subsequently used in Round 3 based on feedback received by participants.

## 3.4.3.3 Postcards

Postcards were sent to postal codes within the route planning area. The postcards were bilingual summaries that included a Project map, brief summary of the purpose of the Project and a list of all upcoming public open houses occurring during each Round of the PEP. The delivery area was a large portion of southeastern Manitoba, including cities and towns within the following municipalities:

- RM of Springfield
   RM of Taché
- RM of Ste. Anne
   RM of Reynolds
- RM of La Broquerie

RM of Ritchot

RM of Stuartburn

RM of Macdonald

- RM of Piney
   RM of Franklin
  - RM of Rosser
- RM of Hanover
   City of Steinbach
- RM of Headingly

Town of Ste. Anne

• City of Winnipeg (southern portions, including St. Norbert)

The delivery area was identified using a Canada Post Unaddressed Admail Distribution Plan that selects addresses within a targeted area based on the carrier routes.

An example of the Round 3 postcard is depicted in Figure 3-3. Other material such as the poster and newspaper advertisements, described later, provided the same information as outlined in the postcard.

MANITOBA - MINNESOTA TRANSMISSION PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT 3: PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

#### Manitoba Hydro

# We want to hear from you.

Manitoba-Minnesota **Transmission Project** 

Manitoba Hydro is proposing to construct a 500-kilovolt transmission line from Winnipeg to Minnesota to sell surplus power and enhance the reliability of supply in Manitoba in times of drought or emergency.

With the environmental assessment and public feedback received to date, Manitoba Hydro is presenting the preferred route for review.

You are invited to drop by any open house listed below. We will be collecting local knowledge, answering questions and addressing concerns to assist in the finalization of the preferred route.

All are welcome and refreshments will be served.

#### Zhoda

Tuesday, February 10 3 to 8 p.m. Zhoda Community Centre Corner of Road No. 16 & Balla Road

Mardi 10 février 15 h à 20 h Centre communautaire de Zhoda 1330, chemin Pembina Angle de la route 16 et du ch. Balla

Piney Wednesday, February 11 3 to 8 p.m.

Piney Community Centre Hwy. 89 (Main Street)

Mercredi 11 février 15 h à 20 h Centre communautaire de Piney Route 89 (rue Main)

Winnipeg Thursday, February 12 3 to 8 p.m. Holiday Inn Winnipeg South 1330 Pembina Hwy.

Jeudi 12 février 15 h à 20 h Holiday Inn Winnipeg South

La Broquerie Tuesday, February 17 3 to 8 p.m. La Broquerie Arena Hall 35 Normandeau Bay

Mardi 17 février 15 h à 20 h Salle de l'Aréna de La Broquerie 35, baie Normandeau

Ste. Anne Tuesday, February 24 3 to 8 p.m.

Seine River Banquet Centre 80A Arena Rd.

Mardi 24 février 15 h à 20 h Salle de réception Rivière Seine 80-A, ch. Arena

# Nous voulons vous entendre.

Projet de transmission Manitoba – Minnesota

Manitoba Hydro propose de construire une ligne de transmission de 500 kilovolts entre Winnipeg et le Minnesota pour vendre son surplus d'énergie et augmenter la fiabilité de l'alimentation au Manitoba pendant les périodes de sécheresse ou en cas d'urgence.

Munie de l'évaluation environnementale et de la rétroaction du public reçue jusqu'à présent, Manitoba Hydro présentera le tracé préféré aux fins d'examen.

Nous vous invitons à participer à l'une ou l'autre des journées portes ouvertes pour examiner le projet. Nous recueillerons des connaissances locales et nous répondrons à des questions et à des préoccupations en vue d'aider à finaliser le tracé préféré.

Les journées portes ouvertes se dérouleront de 15 h à 20 h aux endroits énumérés ci-dessous. Des rafraîchissements seront servis.

#### Headingley

Wednesday, March 4 3 to 8 p.m. Headingley Community Centre 5353 Portage Ave.

Mercredi 4 mars 15 h à 20 h Centre communautaire de Headingley 5353, av. Portage

Oak Bluff Thursday, March 5

3 to 8 p.m. Oak Bluff Recreation Centre 101 MacDonald Rd. Jeudi 5 mars

15 h à 20 h Centre récréatif d'Oak Bluff 101. ch. MacDonald

Richer Wednesday, March 11 3 to 8 p.m. Richer Young at Heart

Community Club Dawson Road at Hwy, 302

Mercredi 11 mars 15 h à 20 h Richer Young at Heart Community Club Angle du ch. Dawson et de la route 302

Dugald

Thursday, March 12 3 to 8 p.m. Dugald Community Club 544 Holland St

Jeudi 12 mars 15 h à 20 h Club communautaire de Dugald 544, rue Holland



Figure 3-3

MMTP Round 3 Postcard Notification



## 3.4.3.4 Email Campaigns

Hydro

Email campaigns were an essential part of the Project PEP. Manitoba Hydro was able to distribute broad notifications to email addresses collected throughout the Project PEP as information became available or to remind individuals of upcoming events. The email list was developed from the Project webpage email sign-up form and those collected during public engagement activities.

Email campaigns consisted of Project information, public engagement activity updates/reminders, newly available material/information and general Project updates. All email campaign recipients were also provided opportunities to unsubscribe from the email campaign service at any time, forward to other individuals, post on Twitter or share on Facebook.

This communication method had continual increase in interested individuals signing up to get Project notices through each round. At the time of writing this chapter, more than 650 individuals had signed up to receive these campaigns.

#### 3.4.3.5 Telephone

Telephone notifications were made to any Project PEP participants that provided their phone number as a preferred method for Project notifications. The telephone notifications began during Round 2 following the compilation of phone numbers from sign-in sheets during the Round 1 public open houses. The telephone notifications were made by Manitoba Hydro staff, to outline the current Project status and advise of upcoming open houses in nearby communities.

Telephone calls were also used in Round 3 to contact potentially affected landowners (ALOs), whose phone number was available and who had not contacted or discussed the Project with Manitoba Hydro representatives. In total, 31 follow-up calls were made. Landowner forms or a phone call log captured interests and concerns with the Project and were subsequently coded for use by discipline specialists and consideration in the transmission line routing process.

#### 3.4.3.6 Newspaper Advertisements

Advertisements were placed in local and regional newspapers in the Project area. Newspaper advertising was used to inform the public of upcoming engagement activities. Advertisements began two weeks prior to the public open houses (POHs) and continued through the open house activities. The advertisements provided venues, dates and times of the POHs, and contact information (email and information line) for Manitoba Hydro. The following newspapers were used throughout the PEP:

•	Winnipeg	Free Press	•	Winnip
---	----------	------------	---	--------

Winnipeg Sun

Sou'Wester

Steinbach Carillon

- Dawson Trail Dispatch
- Manitoba Cooperator
- La Liberte (French publication)

Grassroots News

The Lance

3-16



A high level map highlighting the overall route(s) was included in the advertisements, which were typically in the range of 17 cm to 22 cm for newspapers, depending on ad placement. Samples of the advertisements are included in the supporting documentation filed with the chapter (see Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 1 PEP - Appendix D1; Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 2 PEP – Appendix B; Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 2 PEP – Appendix B; Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 2 PEP – Appendix B; Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 2 PEP – Appendix B; Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 2 PEP – Appendix B; Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 2 PEP – Appendix B; Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 2 PEP – Appendix B; Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 2 PEP – Appendix B; Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 2 PEP – Appendix B; Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 2 PEP – Appendix B; Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 2 PEP – Appendix B; Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 2 PEP – Appendix B; Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 2 PEP – Appendix B; Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 2 PEP – Appendix B; Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 2 PEP – Appendices B1 and C3).

#### 3.4.3.7 Radio

One Manitoba radio station, Native Communications Inc. (NCI-FM), ran ads for notification of the Project engagement events. The radio advertisements ran during "Metis Hour x2" and "NCI Bingo" on NCI-FM on Saturday, as well as three times daily during weekdays. Advertisements included Project status, upcoming open houses and contact information.

#### 3.4.3.8 **Project Webpage**

Following the announcement of the Project in July 2013, Manitoba Hydro launched the Project webpage (www.hydro.mb.ca/mmtp). It was designed to provide information on the Project and will be updated as the Project progresses. Information on the webpage is presented in the following categories:

- Project Description and Schedule
  - The overall Project description, including station upgrades and tower descriptions, and the anticipated Project schedule are provided.
- Public Engagement
  - Goals of the public engagement process and each round of engagement are outlined, and the times and locations for upcoming public open houses are listed.
- Environmental Assessment and Route Selection
  - Links to Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship (MCWS) and the route selection process are provided.
- Environmental Protection Program
  - Information about Environmental Protection Plans will be placed on this page once they are developed and approved by MCWS.
- Regulatory
  - Provincial requirements for a Class 3 development in Manitoba, and the federal requirements for an international power line are outlined. Links to MCWS, the *National Energy Board Act*, the public registry and material filed with regulators are also provided.



- Document Library
  - Material provided to the public throughout the engagement process (*e.g.*, newsletters, handouts, maps, GIS files) was uploaded and is maintained for reference.
- Contact Information
  - The Project email address, mailing address and toll-free Project information line are provided.

#### 3.4.3.8.1 Project-related Video Series

Manitoba Hydro produced a series of informational videos that were posted on the Project webpage and Manitoba Hydro's YouTube Channel. The informational videos address the following topics:

- MMTP Project Description provides a general overview of information about the Project
- MMTP Line Routing –outlines the transmission line routing process
- MMTP Environmental Licensing, Assessment and Regulatory describes the environmental assessment process and anticipated regulatory review process

#### 3.4.3.8.2 Map Viewer

The Project Map Viewer was developed for Round 3 and was placed on the Project webpage. This viewer was similar to Google Earth, where users are able to apply different layers (*e.g.*, satellite imagery, Crown lands) to measure distances and view previously evaluated routes from Round 1 and 2.

#### 3.4.3.9 Social Media

Manitoba Hydro used different social media platforms to communicate information to its customers. The social media platforms used for the Project PEP provided Manitoba Hydro with an additional method of notification. Information updates (status and upcoming events) relating to the Project were posted on Facebook and Twitter.

#### 3.4.3.10 **Posters**

Bilingual posters were developed and placed in communities within the Project area to notify people of the upcoming POHs. The posters were placed in well-frequented locations including post offices, credit unions, grocery stores, pharmacies, motels, restaurants and on community bulletin boards.

The posters were placed in communities two weeks prior to the first POH and included a Project description, an overview map of the Project area and the POH venues and dates. The posters also included contact information for the public to obtain additional information about the Project including the webpage, email address and toll-free information line number.



# 3.4.4 Engagement Activities

Engagement activities were offered to the public and stakeholder groups to provide opportunities to discuss the Project, receive information and provide feedback including: site specific details, preferences, concerns and mitigation measures with the Project team. This section outlines the engagement activities used for the PEP (Figure 3-4). Detailed information on activities completed during each Round of engagement is provided in Sections 3.6-3.10 of this chapter.



Figure 3-4 MMTP Engagement Activities

## 3.4.4.1 Public Open Houses

POHs were drop-in format and staff available at the POHs approached attendees to discuss the Project, collect and provide information, answer questions and address concerns. Manitoba Hydro had numerous staff members attend that were able to discuss various aspects of the Project such as engagement processes, EMF, property acquisition, Project management, export/imports, and the environmental assessment.

POHs were held at venues throughout the Project area. Materials (Section 3.4.6) and feedback mechanisms (Section 3.4.5) developed for the POHs included:

- a series of storyboards providing detailed Project information
- large printed map stations
- a Google Earth mapping station
- iPads for collecting feedback
- supporting informational brochures and Project-specific handouts (Section 3.5)

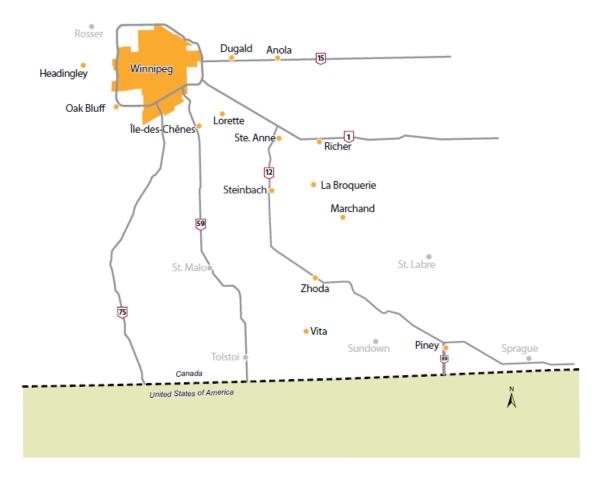


- comment sheets for the public to submit their feedback
- examples of tangible items to be used for the Project (*e.g.*, conductors, trail cameras, bird diverters)

Locations for the open houses were determined based on proximity of the route(s), locations of venues of appropriate size, population and minimizing potential commuting times. At least one open house was held at the following locations throughout the PEP. These locations are shown in Figure 3-5.

- Headingley
- Oak Bluff
- Winnipeg
- Ste. Anne
- Lorette
- Dugald
- Anola
- Zhoda
- La Broquerie
- Marchand
- Piney
- Vita
- Richer
- Ile des Chenes
- Steinbach





#### Figure 3-5 MMTP Open House Locations

A detailed summary of materials used for the PEP is provided in Section 3.4.6. The materials used at the POHs assisted Manitoba Hydro in sharing Project information.

#### 3.4.4.2 Landowner Information Centres

Landowner Information Centres (LIC) were undertaken throughout Round 3. The LICs were a method to collect detailed property information from potentially affected landowners (ALO) and those located within one (1) mile of the preferred route (MLO) in a one-on-one setting. The understanding and collection of detailed property information informed the environmental assessment and route determination processes.



During the LIC meetings, engagement materials were made available to provide additional background information on key topics for the Project. Landowner Forms and maps were used to record feedback provided by each participant (Section 3.4.5.2). The LICs were a valuable tool, held in conjunction with POHs, and included six additional days in Ste. Anne and La Broquerie. LICs were important for identifying potential route modifications, mitigation measures and tower spotting considerations from landowners.

This mechanism was important to capture discussions with potentially affected landowners (ALO) and most were captured through this process.

#### 3.4.4.3 Meetings

Meetings were offered during each round of engagement. The meetings provided an opportunity for Manitoba Hydro to share Project information, gather feedback from stakeholder groups and the public, to discuss Project timelines, the public engagement process, and the environmental assessment and transmission line routing processes.

Manitoba Hydro initiated meetings with stakeholder groups if they had indicated an interest during the pre-engagement process. Manitoba Hydro welcomed any stakeholder group (through letter/email) who had not participated during the pre-engagement process to contact Manitoba Hydro if there was a desire to meet with Project representatives. Landowner meetings were undertaken one-on-one or in small groups for those who were unable to attend the scheduled POHs or Landowner Information Centres or wished to receive more information. These were undertaken at the landowner's request.

#### 3.4.4.4 Stakeholder Groups Workshops

The stakeholder group workshops were an opportunity to meet and discuss the Project and were more involved than meetings. The participants were asked to identify their issues and concerns, particularly those based on local knowledge of the route planning area (Map 3-1) and to provide feedback regarding route selection and the environmental assessment process.

Manitoba Hydro invited 80 Stakeholder Groups that indicated an interest in participating in workshops. The workshops began with a presentation, which outlined the purpose of the Project and described the transmission line routing, environmental assessment and public engagement processes. Both workshops were opportunities for participants to:

- discuss route selection criteria most important to stakeholder groups
- identify preferences and concerns with the alternative routes and preferred border crossings
- address the route selection criteria selected (breakout groups) and suggest modifications
- determine local issues and concerns
- discuss mitigation strategies



Summary of these activities are included in the supporting documentation filed with the chapter (see Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 1 PEP, Appendix C).

## 3.4.5 Feedback Methods

Manitoba Hydro developed a range of feedback methods for the Project's PEP. The methods allowed participants to provide feedback throughout the PEP, including participation on-line or inperson. Beginning in Round 2, business cards with the Project email and information line were provided to stakeholder groups and participants at POHs for easy reference of ways to provide input outside of the formal engagement activities (Section 3.4.4). Feedback was categorized for consideration in the independent assessments being undertaken. Each feedback method is discussed in the following section.

#### 3.4.5.1 Comment Sheets

Comment sheets were developed and made available online on the Project webpage. Table 3-1 provides a summary of the three versions of Comment Sheets developed for use during each round of the PEP.

Comment Sheet Version	Comment Sheet Summary
November 2013	The focus of the Round 1 comment sheet was to gain understanding on the key concerns related to the Project and understand criteria that should be considered during the Route Selection Process from a public perspective. The public was also asked to identify any site-specific information that would assist Manitoba Hydro with their environmental assessment or transmission line routing processes.
April 2014	The Round 2 Comment Sheet was designed to introduce the potential VCs being considered for the Project and understand the level of concern associated with each of them. As well, Manitoba Hydro looked to collect information related to the Alternative Route Segments that would further facilitate the transmission line routing process and Environmental Assessment Process, including preferences, concerns and routing information.
January 2015	The Round 3 Comment Sheet was intended to gain information related to how the land is used near the Preferred Route and provide an opportunity for the public to share their concerns related to the Project and provide mitigation measures that would limit potential effects.

#### Table 3-1PEP Comment Sheets

Copies of the comment sheets and the data collected are included in the supporting documents filed with this chapter (see Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 1 PEP - Appendix D4; Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 2 PEP – Appendices C2 and C4; MMTP Summary or Round 3 PEP – Appendices D2 and E2).



#### 3.4.5.2 Landowner Form

Following the determination of a preferred route, Manitoba Hydro developed a landowner form with the environmental assessment specialists working on the Project. The environmental specialists provided questions that would help inform the environmental assessment work being undertaken. The questions developed for the Round 3 Landowner Form (January 2015 version) were divided into the following topics:

• residence

Manitoba

Hydro

- property information
- land use
- atmospheric environment
- ground water resources
- fish and fish habitat
- vegetation and wetlands
- wildlife (birds, mammals and reptiles)
- resource use
- heritage resources

The landowner form was used to guide information gathering in discussions with 141 potentially affected landowners (ALO) and 2,144 landowners within one mile of the transmission line (MLO). The landowner forms were completed during meetings, POHs, LICs, and phone conversations. Any associated mapping, route modification suggestions, tower spotting, mitigation measures or outstanding action items that required follow-up by Manitoba Hydro staff were also recorded on the Landowner Form. A copy of the Landowner Form is included in the supplemental information filed with this chapter (see Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 3 PEP – Appendix D3).

## 3.4.5.3 Project Information Line

The toll-free Information Line (1-877-343-1631) was in operation from the Project initiation in the summer of 2013 and remains available for public inquiry. The Information Line is operated by Manitoba Hydro staff and will continue to be maintained throughout the regulatory review, construction and operational phases of the Project.

## 3.4.5.4 Project Email Address

Manitoba Hydro staff used a dedicated Project email address (<u>mmtp@hydro.mb.ca</u>) to receive comments, address concerns, collect feedback and answer questions related to the Project. The email address and will continue be maintained throughout the regulatory review, construction and operational phases of the Project.



## 3.4.5.5 Letters and Faxes

Letters and faxes were received from participants. Feedback was categorized as outlined in Section 3.4.7.

#### 3.4.5.6 Meeting Summaries

Meeting minutes were recorded for meetings with stakeholder groups and members of the public. The summaries were included in the feedback analysis and made available for consideration in the individual assessments being undertaken. Meeting summaries have been submitted as part of the supplemental information filed with this chapter (see Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 1 PEP; Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 2 PEP – Appendix A; MMTP Summary or Round 3 PEP – Appendix E).

## 3.4.5.7 iPad Mapping and Hardcopy Mapping

Manitoba Hydro included iPads and hardcopy maps as means for obtaining location-specific information, detailed routing comments, issues and concerns, routing constraints and proposed realignments from POHs, LICs and meeting participants. Information collected was recorded as points, line features or polygons representing larger areas of interest.

The public was also invited to submit comments relating to any hardcopy maps made available. In some cases, maps were prepared for landowners and feedback was sent to Manitoba Hydro on the maps. Feedback was compiled and considered in the transmission line routing process.

# 3.4.6 Engagement Materials

Maps, newsletters, brochures and handouts were made available to the public at the POHs and online on the Project webpage (Document Library). These materials aimed to provide Project information, insight into the environmental assessment process, transmission line routing and Project updates. Some materials were created in response to feedback received throughout previous rounds of engagement. Manitoba Hydro strived to develop material that was not overwhelming and kept technical terminology to a minimum. Table 3-2 is a comprehensive summary of materials presented during the PEP. Copies of the material are included in the supporting documentation filed with this chapter.



## Table 3-2 Project Public Engagement Materials

	Availability of Materials		
	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3
National Energy Board Materials			
National Energy Board (NEB) handout - Information for Proposed Pipeline or Power Line Projects that Do Not Involve a Hearing	х	х	x
Public Engagement Materials			
Map of Potential Border Crossing Locations	х	х	х
Regional Map of Transmission Line Area	х	х	х
MMTP Informational Storyboards	х	х	х
MMTP Round 1 Newsletter –Alternative Routes and Potential Border Crossing	Х	Х	х
MMTP Round 2 Newsletter – Preferred Border Crossing and Refined Alternative Routes		Х	х
MMTP Round 3 Newsletter – Preferred Route			х
MMTP Web Map Viewer			х
MMTP Round 1, 2 and 3 Comment Sheets	х	х	х
MMTP Landowner Form (Round 2 Version)		х	
MMTP Landowner Form (Round 3 Version)			х
MMTP Business Card		х	х
MMTP Quick Facts	х	х	х
MMTP Questions and Answers		х	х
MMTP Landowner Compensation		х	х
Manitoba Hydro Project Videos			
MMTP Project Description		х	х
MMTP Environmental Licensing and Assessment		х	х
MMTP Line Routing		х	х
Route Selection and Environmental Assessment Materials			
EPRI-GTC Overhead Electric Transmission Line Siting Methodology	х	х	х
MMTP Route Selection Process			х
VC Handouts- Agriculture			х
VC Handouts- Amphibians and Reptiles			х
VC Handouts- Assessment Activities			х



	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3
VC Handouts- Community			х
VC Handouts– Employment, Business Opportunities and Economy			Х
VC Handouts- Environmental Assessment			х
VC Handouts- Fish and Fish Habitat			х
VC Handouts- Heritage Resources			х
VC Handouts- Infrastructure			х
VC Handouts- Land and Resource Use			х
VC Handouts- Wildlife			х
VC Handouts- Public Engagement Process			х
VC Handouts- Traditional Land and Resource Use			х
VC Handouts- Vegetation and Wetlands			х
VC Handouts- Property and Residential Development			х
Socio-Economic Poster			х
Biophysical Poster			х
Electric and Magnetic Fields Materials			
Alternative Current Electric Magnetic Fields	х	х	х
Alternating Current Lines and Electronic Devices	х	х	х
It's Your Health – Electric and Magnetic Fields from Power Lines and Electrical Appliances (Health Canada)	х	x	х
Response to SafeSpace Website			х
Stray Voltage	х	х	х
Estimate EMF Levels from MMTP			х
International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection			Х
Consensus Statement on Electric and Magnetic Fields (Clean Environment Commission			Х
General Information			
Transmission Right-of-way Tree Clearing and Maintenance	х	х	х
Seven Things You Should Know About Manitoba's Energy Future	х	Х	х
Trades and Technology Programs	х	х	х
Business Commerce Career Development Program	х	х	х

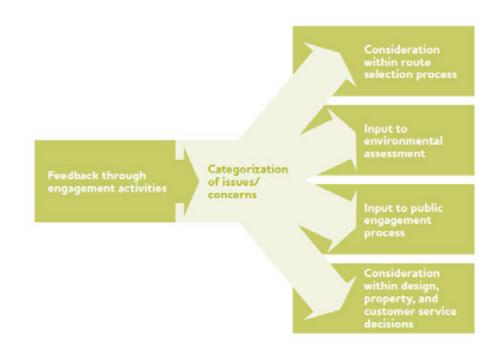
	Availability of Materials		
	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3
Aboriginal Pre-Placement Training Program	х	х	х
Engineering Engineer-in-Training Program	х	х	х
Information Technology IT Career Development Program	х	х	х
Aboriginal Line Trades Pre-Placement Training Program	х	х	х
Customer Support Representative Customer Contact Centre	х	х	х
Manitoba Hydro Employment Line Business Card	х	х	х
Project Tangibles			
Bird Diverter			х
Clamps			х
Phase Conductor			х
Skywire			х
Insulators			х
Trail Camera			х

As materials became available, Manitoba Hydro added them to the Project webpage and hardcopies were available to the public at POHs and LICs.

# 3.4.7 Feedback Compilation

Feedback collected throughout the PEP was compiled based on the type of comments received, as outlined in Figure 3-6.





#### Figure 3-6 PEP Feedback Characterization

An internal database housing public comments received (Public Comments Database (PCD)) allowed for categorization of issues brought forward by the public. The categorization involved identification of the type of comment received, source of the information and application of a coding system for identification of issues. Data was entered into databases corresponding to the initial source of the feedback, as outlined in Section 3.4.5, above. The initial sorting process for the PCD included applying comment identifiers to the data. The identifiers used were:

• concerns

•

- preferences
  - recommendations

• map requests

information requests

• general comments

site-specific information



After the comment identifiers were incorporated, the issues identification coding was applied to further correlate the feedback with general environmental assessment related topics. The topics were developed as an organizational tool to relate the feedback received during the PEP to be considered in the individual assessments being undertaken. Categories applied to comments included:

- physical environment
- wildlife
- traditional land use
- agricultural land use
- safety
- access
- employment and economy
- resource use
- livestock operations
- noise
- environmental assessment process

- aquatics
- vegetation
- heritage resources
- health
- property values
- infrastructure and services
- property and residential development
- non-agricultural land use
- aesthetics
- recreation and tourism
- public engagement process

Multiple categories could be applied to individual comments and information was reviewed and incorporated into the environmental assessment and transmission line routing processes. The PCD also helped inform the design of informational handouts targeted to the areas of interests acknowledged by the public. Detailed information on the PCD methodology is included in the supporting documentation filed with this chapter (see Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 2 PEP, Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 3 PEP).

# 3.4.8 Transmission Line Routing

The transmission line routing process is based on the EPRI-GTC methodology, as outlined in Chapter 5.

Throughout the chapter, segment numbers are referenced, as feedback received during Round 1 and Round 2 discussions focused on segments that made up alternative routes. The numbering series are based on decision-making and public presentation timelines. Segmenting routes assisted in collection of feedback as well as understanding preferences and concerns from the public and stakeholder groups. Table 3-3 outlines the numbering method used.



#### Table 3-3 Segment Series Descriptions

Segment Series	Transmission Line Routing Stage	Map Number			
Route Planning Are	Route Planning Area determined				
0-74	Initial segments presented to the public during Round 1	3-2			
100 Series	Mitigative segments developed based on feedback received throughout Round 1	3-3			
200 Series	Segments developed to the preferred border crossing and presented to the public during Round 2	3-4			
300 Series	Mitigative segments developed based on feedback received throughout Round 2	3-5			
400 Series	Mitigative segments developed based on feedback received throughout Round 3	3-9			
Final Preferred Ro	ute determined	3-11			

# 3.4.9 Decision-making

The PEP (Figure 3-1) was developed to collect feedback and information from the public and stakeholder groups throughout each round to enhance the environmental assessment work being undertaken, to understand concerns related to transmission line routing and to improve the PEP. Although the outcomes and decision-making could not always please all members of the public at all times; the decision-making process aimed to be responsive and transparent and to balance interests.

#### 3.4.9.1.1 Environmental Assessment

The PEP collected information in each round through comment sheets, landowner forms, meeting minutes, phone calls and emails. To include comments received, it was decided in coordination with discipline leads that all feedback would be coded to facilitate use of the information in the assessment.

An example of coding would be if a comment was received that stated "where the Project would cross the Rat-and Seine rivers is high heritage resources potential" This comment would have been coded as "Site Specific" and an identifier given "Heritage Resources". The heritage assessment team reviewed this comment and included the area in the Heritage Resource Impact Assessment.

Decision-making is dependent on the comments heard; the feedback categorization process assisted in making the information accessible to those undertaking assessments. The public engagement team is not responsible to determine relevance of feedback received. Whereas the public engagement team developed a process to facilitate data review by assessment leads who would consider incorporation to inform the individual assessments being undertaken.





## 3.4.9.1.2 Routing Decision-making

The transmission line routing process considers various perspectives and data in the development, evaluation and selection of a preferred route. Public feedback was one of many important considerations (*i.e.* technical and environmental factors) that were evaluated and balanced through this process. The PEP and transmission line routing process were planned such that the feedback from the PEP fed into each round of transmission line routing, at numerous steps. The next section will describe details in regards to how these processes were integrated. Further information regarding the transmission line routing process and how public engagement influenced the decisions being made is provided in Chapter 5.

Throughout the PEP, members of the public recommended numerous modifications to be considered by the Project team. The PEP team, Project management team and the transmission line routing team reviewed these modifications during a meeting to discuss:

- cost
- technical feasibility
- whether the new modification would cause the same or greater potential effect on another individual

Feedback was used to make decisions regarding various aspects of the Project from mitigation measures, route modifications and design considerations. For example, feedback was collected through a meeting, open house and email/phone communication regarding the Ridgeland Cemetery near Sundown, MB where cultural practices takes place. Participants requested that the transmission line not be in proximity of the cemetery. This feedback was reviewed, and the following steps were taken:

- 1. Feedback was provided to Project management to discuss possible mitigation (timing of construction, tower type, mitigative segments).
- 2. Transmission line design was approached regarding the potential to use self-supporting towers to limit right-of-way (ROW) width near the cemetery.
- 3. A mitigative segment was developed to make sure an option with greater separation from the cemetery was evaluated.
- 4. Heritage resource discipline specialists were informed about the concerns regarding the Ridgeland Cemetery comment for consideration in the assessment.
- 5. A handout that outlined the concerns heard was developed and provided to participants at an open house and was placed on the Project webpage.
- 6. The mitigative segment was accepted.

Another example of a change recommended through the PEP was a landowner who provided four modifications to mitigate concerns regarding aesthetics. The four modifications were reviewed by transmission line design staff and the anticipated costs associated with the



modifications were between 200,000 and 700,000 dollars more than the presented alignment. In this case, no modification was accepted.

Further examples of how feedback was incorporated into transmission line routing decisions (such as mitigative routes and preference determination) are provided in Chapter 5.

## 3.4.9.1.3 PEP Process

As feedback was received, modifications to the PEP and materials were considered and made in order to facilitate improved participation and the effectiveness of the PEP. Decisions were made throughout the PEP to address local issues through additional meetings (RM of Tache and La Broquerie), additional material creation (EMF and VC handouts), and through increased notification methods (express post letters during Round 3) to increase participation. These decisions reflect the responsive and comprehensive nature of the PEP.

The PEP team added an additional hour per venue during Round 3 to provide more time to discuss the Project with participants. Manitoba Hydro also had specialists in property and EMF attend these POHs in order to be proactive in having participant comments addressed at the public venue. These decisions were in response to comments and suggestions brought forward from the public in Rounds 1 and 2.

With the slight modification at the border crossing (as outlined in Section 3.9), Manitoba Hydro understood the need to gather feedback from the public and adapt the process to accommodate further engagement in the Piney area. Feedback from this further engagement led to a segment in the area that was not presented but was developed by the affected landowner.

The PEP aimed to build trust and meaningful relationships with participants. This has been demonstrated by ongoing communication and continual follow up with stakeholder groups and members of the public. The methods used throughout the PEP aimed to develop these relationships and feedback received was considered the decisions being made by Manitoba Hydro.

# 3.5 **PEP Concerns, Issues and Feedback**

Manitoba Hydro reviewed and logged feedback provided during each round of engagement (each Round is outlined in Sections 3.7 to 3.10) for incorporation into the transmission line routing and environmental assessment processes. Manitoba Hydro identified topics brought forward by the public and stakeholder groups. A summary of the topics, based on feedback category, are included in Table 3-4.

Consistent themes were present throughout the PEP and focused on the following:

• Health and safety: Participants raised concerns about EMF exposure and the perceived potential human health risk.



- Residential development (existing and future): Participants indicated that the presence of a transmission line would hinder future development options (*e.g.*, subdividing) or growth of the community.
- Property value: Participants indicated that they believed the presence of a transmission line would negatively affect property value. They believed the transmission line should be routed through unoccupied Crown land as opposed to densely populated private lands.
- Bush/swamp land: Participants suggested these lands were more favourable for routing because landowners believed the proximity of a transmission line would negatively affect their property values and enjoyment of the landscape.
- Private lands: Participants indicated that unoccupied Crown lands should be used for a transmission line, and that privately owned lands and developed residential areas should be avoided.
- Access: Rural residential areas expressed concerns about the increasing number of hunters and off-road vehicles that may access the ROW and trespass onto private property. Many believed the increased illegal traffic would be difficult to stop (regardless of signage or fencing) and would increase the noise in the area, which would negatively affect enjoyment of their home.
- Agriculture: Participants were concerned that working around structures and the placement of the transmission line would be a hindrance to agricultural operations (manure spreading, seeding or aerial application).
- Protected areas (existing and proposed): Participants expressed concerns about certain transmission line segments and their proximity to, or crossing of, existing or proposed ecological reserves or their proximity to Wildlife Management Areas.

Concerns raised through the PEP are outlined in the supporting documentation filed with this chapter (see Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 1 PEP, Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 2 PEP and MMTP Summary or Round 3 PEP).



#### Table 3-4 Summary of PEP Concerns, Issues and Feedback

Feedback Category	Concern/Issue/ Feedback	Manitoba Hydro Response	Chapter(s) or Section(s) of EIS Pertaining to Key Topic of Feedback	Supporting PEP Materials
Agriculture	quality agricultural these lands based on crop production Potential land for the Project. and soil classification, avoidance is not Environmental	Potential Environmental Effects on Agriculture	VC Handout – Agriculture Round 2 MMTP Newsletter MMTP Landowner Compensation Information	
	Agricultural biosecurity concerns.	Manitoba Hydro has an existing Agricultural Biosecurity Policy that addresses the need for standard operating procedures that assess potential biosecurity risks, considers factors such as soil conditions and time of year, and prescribes actions to manage potential risks. Manitoba Hydro employees and contractors working on private agricultural land are trained and aware of these procedures. The Policy indicates that if the affected livestock operator is under a provincial mandate or emergency biosecurity measures, Manitoba Hydro will abide by their protocols. The Policy indicates that provincially mandated or emergency biosecurity measures will supersede Manitoba Hydro procedures.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Agriculture (Chapter 15) Environmental Protection, Follow-up and Monitoring (Chapter 22)	Transmission Right of Way Tree Clearing and Maintenance Manitoba Hydro Agricultural Biosecurity Policy (https://www.hydro.mb.ca/e nvironment/env_manageme nt/biosecurity.shtml) VC Handout – Agriculture



Feedback Category	Concern/Issue/ Feedback	Manitoba Hydro Response	Chapter(s) or Section(s) of EIS Pertaining to Key Topic of Feedback	Supporting PEP Materials
	Potential effects of transmission lines on aerial Application activities	Locations of airstrips were identified in the early planning phases and were avoided where possible in route planning. Manitoba Hydro has been in discussions with the Manitoba Aerial Applicators Association regarding the Project.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Agriculture (Chapter 15)	Round 2 MMTP Newsletter VC Handout – Agriculture
	Effects on farm equipment operation and GPS	Towers in agricultural areas are self- supporting towers in order to eliminate the hazard guy wires could create for agricultural producers. Manitoba Hydro routes along half-mile (quarter-section) alignments, when possible, to lessen potential effects on individual producers.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Agriculture (Chapter 15)	VC Handout – Agriculture Round 2 MMTP Newsletter Alternating Current Lines and Electronic Devices Brochure
		Radio noise from an AC transmission line will not directly affect GPS receivers used for agricultural or other operations from receiving GPS signals or the satellite- or antenna- based correction signals.		



Feedback Category	Concern/Issue/ Feedback	Manitoba Hydro Response	Chapter(s) or Section(s) of EIS Pertaining to Key Topic of Feedback	Supporting PEP Materials
	The Project will interfere with livestock operations, including damage to fencing and manure spreading activities.	Manitoba Hydro routes along half-mile (quarter-section) alignments, when possible, to lessen potential effects on individual producers and has avoided routing in field where possible. If a landowner suffers property damage during the construction, maintenance or repair work for the transmission line, Manitoba Hydro will compensate the landowner. This includes damages to crops, drains, culverts, fences and access roads, as well as damage caused by soil compaction and rutting.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Agriculture (Chapter 15)	VC Handout – Agriculture Round 2 MMTP Newsletter Alternating Current Lines and Electronic Devices Brochure MMTP Landowner Compensation Brochure
	Construction activities should not occur during calving season, as there is concern that there could be increased stress on animals.	Manitoba Hydro has identified potential mitigation measures to reduce potential effects on livestock operations. The potential measures considered include consideration of tower placement to avoid sensitive sites and communication with landowners during construction and operation.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Agriculture (Chapter 15) Public Engagement (Chapter 3)	VC Handout - Agriculture
Property and Residential Development	Proximity to individual residences and farmsteads.	Routing the transmission line in existing transmission corridors helps to avoid residences to the greatest extent possible. A voluntary buy-out policy has been developed for residences within 75 m of the transmission line in areas along the new ROW.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Land and Resource Use (Chapter 16) Transmission Line Routing (Chapter 5)	VC Handout – Property and Residential Development MMTP Round 2 and 3 Newsletters Route Selection Process



Feedback Category	Concern/Issue/ Feedback	Manitoba Hydro Response	Chapter(s) or Section(s) of EIS Pertaining to Key Topic of Feedback	Supporting PEP Materials
	Compensation is not adequate for hosting a transmission line.	A land compensation policy has been developed for land required for the transmission line ROW. The policy offers landowners 150 percent of the current market value for the easement and additional structure payments for agriculturally zoned lands.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Land and Resource Use (Chapter 16)	MMTP Landowner Compensation Information Brochure MMTP Round 2 and 3 Newsletters
	Can Manitoba Hydro expropriate my property?	If the Project is approved, Manitoba Hydro (or their representatives) will begin discussing compensation with each affected landowner. Manitoba Hydro offers a comprehensive compensation package offering 150% of market value for an easement on the property where you would retain all ownership rights. Manitoba Hydro prefers to reach an agreement with each affected landowner and will make every attempt to negotiate an easement agreement. If an agreement is not reached and all options have been exhausted expropriation would be considered as a last resort.		MMTP compensation brochure
	Proximity to cities, towns, villages and rural residential development.	Locations of urban centres and rural residential areas were a consideration in developing and evaluating routes.	Transmission Line Routing (Chapter 5) Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Land and Resource Use (Chapter 16)	VC Handout – Property and Residential Development MMTP Round 2 Newsletter



Feedback Category	Concern/Issue/ Feedback	Manitoba Hydro Response	Chapter(s) or Section(s) of EIS Pertaining to Key Topic of Feedback	Supporting PEP Materials
	Property values could decrease in close proximity to a transmission line development.	The environmental assessment has assessed the potential for effects on property value. During the PEP, Manitoba Hydro indicated that current research suggests that property values are not affected by the presence of a transmission line. Manitoba Hydro continues to monitor property values around other transmission projects.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Land and Resource Use (Chapter 16)	VC Handout – Property and Residential Development Round 3 MMTP Newsletter MMTP Q and A (May 2014)
	Effects on future subdivisions	An understanding of current development plans, subdivisions, zoning controls and bylaws, existing/proposed developments was considered in the transmission line routing process to determine a Final Preferred Route. Site specific feedback provided by landowners, RMs and Stakeholder groups regarding future development was collected and considered in the transmission line routing process.	Transmission Line Routing (Chapter 5) Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Land and Resource Use (Chapter 16)	VC Handout – Property and Residential Development



Feedback Category	Concern/Issue/ Feedback	Manitoba Hydro Response	Chapter(s) or Section(s) of EIS Pertaining to Key Topic of Feedback	Supporting PEP Materials
	Repair of damages incurred to private property during construction, operation and maintenance, including use of private driveways/ approaches.	If a landowner experiences property damage during the construction, maintenance or repair work for the transmission line, Manitoba Hydro will compensate the landowner.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Land and Resource Use (Chapter 16)	MMTP Landowner Compensation Information Brochure
Human Health	Perceived health effects due to electric and magnetic fields (EMF).	Informational sources including Health Canada, the World Health Organization and other international health entities state that no scientific evidence suggests that exposure to EMF will cause any negative health effects on humans, vegetation and wild or domestic animals. Manitoba Hydro will design and maintain exposure levels from the transmission lines within the guidelines set forth by the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection which have been adopted by the World Health Organization and Health Canada. Manitoba Hydro also retained experts in this field and has undertaken modeling and assisted in the development of material to assist in the assessment and to share information with the public regarding EMF.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Human Health Risk (Chapter 18) Electric field, magnetic field, audible noise, and radio noise calculations	Alternative Current Electric Magnetic Fields Alternating Current Lines and Electronic Devices It's Your Health – Electric and Magnetic Fields from Power Lines and Electrical Appliances (Health Canada) Response to SafeSpace Website Estimated EMF Levels from MMTP International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection Consensus Statement on Electric and Magnetic Fields (Clean Environment Commission VC Handout – Community



Feedback Category	Concern/Issue/ Feedback	Manitoba Hydro Response	Chapter(s) or Section(s) of EIS Pertaining to Key Topic of Feedback	Supporting PEP Materials
	Increased stress associated with the Project.	Manitoba Hydro understands that due to the lengthy timelines for the environmental assessment and regulatory review process that stress associated with the potential changes brought by the transmission line can build within those potentially affected. Manitoba Hydro developed a process where individuals can contact the Project team to discuss their concerns and to provide reassurance that their feedback will be considered in decision- making. Manitoba Hydro has committed to continually sharing information throughout each stage of the Project so interested individuals are aware of opportunities to share their concerns and stay informed of upcoming activities.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Community Health and Well-Being (Chapter 19)	



Feedback Category	Concern/Issue/ Feedback	Manitoba Hydro Response	Chapter(s) or Section(s) of EIS Pertaining to Key Topic of Feedback	Supporting PEP Materials
	Proximity to school and daycare sites, related to potential health effects of a transmission lines.	Known locations of school and daycare sites were considered in the transmission line routing process. Informational sources including Health Canada, the World Health Organization and other international health entities state that no scientific evidence suggests that exposure to EMF will cause any negative health effects on humans, vegetation and wild or domestic animals. Manitoba Hydro will design and maintain exposure levels from the transmission lines within the guidelines set forth by the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection which have been adopted by the World Health Organization and Health Canada.	Transmission Line Routing (Chapter 5) Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Community Health and Well-Being (Chapter 19)	MMTP Route Selection Process Alternative Current Electric Magnetic Fields Alternating Current Lines and Electronic Devices It's Your Health – Electric and Magnetic Fields from Power Lines and Electrical Appliances (Health Canada) Response to SafeSpace Website Estimated EMF Levels from MMTP International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection Consensus Statement on Electric and Magnetic Fields (Clean Environment Commission VC Handout – Community



Feedback Category	Concern/Issue/ Feedback	Manitoba Hydro Response	Chapter(s) or Section(s) of EIS Pertaining to Key Topic of Feedback	Supporting PEP Materials
Access	Increased access to private lands and increased access to hunting in wilderness areas.	Manitoba Hydro will work with local authorities to manage access along the ROW once a final route has been approved and will work with landowners who wish to implement measures to limit access to the ROW. To limit the potential increase in access existing trails, roads and cut lines will be used as access routes whenever possible.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Land and Resource Use (Chapter 16) Environmental Protection, Follow-Up and Monitoring (Chapter 22)	MMTP Round 2 and 3 Newsletters VC Handout – Land and Resource Use
Non-Agricultural Land Use	The Project should be located on unoccupied Crown Lands.	Crown land is considered when determining a Final Preferred Route for the Project. Crown land is not a default routing option and the transmission line routing process aims to balance various perspectives on the landscape.	Transmission Line Routing (Chapter 5)	MMTP Route Selection Process
Traditional Land and Resource Use	Environmental degradation and reduced opportunities for hunting, trapping, and gathering of berries and medicinal plants as well as potential effects on culturally significant areas.	The environmental assessment and public engagement process identified potential sensitivities. Manitoba Hydro will identify sensitive sites and will consider mitigation or construction scheduling to lessen potential effects.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Land and Resource Use (Chapter 16) Environmental Protection, Follow-up and Monitoring (Chapter 22)	MMTP Round 2 and 3 Newsletters VC Handout – Traditional Land and Resource Use



Feedback Category	Concern/Issue/ Feedback	Manitoba Hydro Response	Chapter(s) or Section(s) of EIS Pertaining to Key Topic of Feedback	Supporting PEP Materials
Noise	The transmission line will produce a humming noise.	Line noise is typically perceived in close proximity to the conductors. Manitoba Hydro has undertaken modelling to provide an estimate of decibel levels anticipated as part of this Project.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Human Health Risk (Chapter 18) Physical Environment - Noise (Technical Data Report) Electric Field, Magnetic Field, Audible Noise, and Radio Noise Calculations	VC Handout – Community
	Noise, dust and air quality issues related to construction of a new transmission line.	Construction operations follow best practices for mitigation of noise and dust. Construction traffic routes and any detours will be identified and made available to local police, fire and emergency services.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Human Health Risk (Chapter 18) Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Physical Environment - Noise (Technical Data Report)	VC Handout – Community



Feedback Category	Concern/Issue/ Feedback	Manitoba Hydro Response	Chapter(s) or Section(s) of EIS Pertaining to Key Topic of Feedback	Supporting PEP Materials
Aesthetics	Alignment of transmission line towers when routing within an already established transmission line right of way would reduce effects on viewshed quality or place the line underground.	Where new transmission lines are placed adjacent to an existing line, Manitoba Hydro attempts to construct towers with similar spacing and heights when possible. Installation underground is cost prohibitive for high voltage lines and is therefore not a feasible option for the Project.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Community Health and Well-being (Chapter 19)	MMTP Round 2 and 3 Newsletters VC Handout – Community
Vegetation and Wetlands	Potential effect on endangered plant species and natural areas.	The environmental impact statement identifies potential environmental sensitivities and the environmental protection plan prescribes appropriate mitigation measures.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Vegetation and Wetlands (Chapter 10) Environmental Protection, Follow-up and Monitoring (Chapter 22)	VC Handout – Vegetation and Wetlands
	Transmission line stream crossings can affect riparian habitat.	Protection measures will be undertaken to lessen potential effects on these habitats such as tower placement and clearing techniques.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Vegetation and Wetlands (Chapter 10)	VC Handout – Vegetation and Wetlands



Feedback Category	Concern/Issue/ Feedback	Manitoba Hydro Response	Chapter(s) or Section(s) of EIS Pertaining to Key Topic of Feedback	Supporting PEP Materials
	Concerns related to the use of herbicides during clearing and maintenance activities.	Manitoba Hydro does not use herbicides for ROW clearing. For maintenance of the ROW, an integrated vegetation management program will be developed.	Environmental Protection, Follow-up and Monitoring (Chapter 22)	VC Handout – Vegetation and Wetlands
Wildlife (Birds, Mammals, Amphibians and Reptiles)	Effect of transmission lines on migratory bird paths and species at risk.	The environmental assessment processes identifies potential sensitivities. Manitoba Hydro will identify sensitive sites and will consider mitigation such as bird diverters or construction scheduling to lessen potential effects.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat (Chapter 9)	VC Handout – Birds VC Handout – Wildlife
	Potential effects on wildlife habitat and use located within private properties.	The environmental assessment process identified potential sensitivities and has recommended appropriate mitigation measures for various species. Field studies conducted as part of the assessment, including private lands when permitted, were used to locate species and assess potential effects. Field studies included winter track surveys, trail cameras, elk breeding surveys and bear bait monitoring.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat (Chapter 9)	VC Handout – Birds VC Handout – Wildlife VC Handout – Amphibians and Reptiles



Feedback Category	Concern/Issue/ Feedback	Manitoba Hydro Response	Chapter(s) or Section(s) of EIS Pertaining to Key Topic of Feedback	Supporting PEP Materials
Public Engagement Process	Input from the public is not incorporated into the environmental assessment and route selection.	Feedback received from the public and stakeholder groups is collected and documented. Feedback is considered throughout each phase of the Project. During the transmission line routing process, Manitoba Hydro uses the feedback received from stakeholder groups and the public, as well as discipline specialists to complete the comparative evaluation of alternatives and preference determination.	Transmission Line Routing (Chapter 5) Supporting documentation filed as part of this chapter	MMTP Rounds 1, 2 and 3 Newsletters MMTP Route Selection Process VC Handout – Public Engagement Process
	Methods for the public to stay involved after submission of an EIS.	Documentation of the transmission line routing process and the environmental assessment undertaken on the Final Preferred Route will be available for review and comment during the regulatory review process with both Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship and the National Energy Board. Public hearings may also take place and Manitoba Hydro is committed to ongoing engagement with the public throughout regulatory, construction and operation phases of the Project.	Transmission Line Routing (Chapter 5)	MMTP Rounds 1, 2 and 3 Newsletters VC Handout – Public Engagement Process



Feedback Category	Concern/Issue/ Feedback	Manitoba Hydro Response	Chapter(s) or Section(s) of EIS Pertaining to Key Topic of Feedback	Supporting PEP Materials
Public Engagement Process	Additional methods should be used to notify landowners of engagement activities during the PEP.	Manitoba Hydro continued to collect feedback and incorporate recommendations brought forward by the public for inclusion in the PEP. Manitoba Hydro notified the public through newspaper advertisements, radio announcements, posters, social media, phone calls, email campaigns, the Manitoba Hydro website, flyers and letters delivered by Canada Post. Express Post letters and follow up phone calls were an important method in Round 3 to capture landowners feedback potentially affected by the Project.	Round 3 and Final Preferred Route Determination (Chapter 3 - 3.10)	
	Participants were appreciative for the opportunities to become involved in the PEP, as it provided the public a chance to better understand the MMTP and the ways to become involved.	Manitoba Hydro believes that public engagement is an important aspect of their transmission projects. Information sharing and understanding of the MMTP were included in the goals for the PEP and Manitoba Hydro continued to incorporate feedback to improve the PEP.	Public Engagement (Chapter 3)	



Feedback Category	Concern/Issue/ Feedback	Manitoba Hydro Response	Chapter(s) or Section(s) of EIS Pertaining to Key Topic of Feedback	Supporting PEP Materials
	Appreciation towards building relationships to better understand and incorporated into various aspects of the Project.	The PEP was developed to include a diverse range of engagement activities for the public to become involved in the Project. The opportunities for information sharing between Manitoba Hydro representatives and interested participants included public open houses, meetings, telephone and email correspondence, and website materials. The PEP was developed to be an adaptive and inclusive process for participants. The PEP was aimed at accommodating individuals' informational needs, requests and time commitments.	Public Engagement (Chapter 3)	
Land and Resource Use	Potential effects of construction and operation of the MMTP on mining and aggregate extraction.	Locations of mines and aggregate sites were identified in the early planning phases and were avoided when possible during the route selection. Manitoba Hydro worked with landowners and stakeholder groups to identify and understand concerns and potential mitigation measures (routing and compensation) for construction, operation and maintenance near mining and aggregate sites, where possible.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Land and Resource Use (Chapter 16)	



Feedback Category	Concern/Issue/ Feedback	Manitoba Hydro Response	Chapter(s) or Section(s) of EIS Pertaining to Key Topic of Feedback	Supporting PEP Materials
Heritage Resources	Avoidance of heritage sites, including Centennial Farms and areas used for religious practices (Praznik).	Heritage resources, including archaeological resources, were identified during the route planning process and were avoided where possible. As feedback was received, it was considered in decision-making processes.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Heritage Resources (Chapter 12)	
Transmission Line Routing	Where possible, locate transmission line infrastructure adjacent to other linear infrastructure, including highways, roads and ditches, to reduce land requirements.	Alignments with other linear features were identified as potential routing opportunities in the transmission line routing process and were taken advantage of where possible. 500 kV transmission line must be placed in-field so to ensure the entire ROW width does not overlap any road rights-of-way, for reliability reasons. Therefore, a preferred option for routing is along the half-mile to reduce in-field presence of a transmission line.	Transmission Line Routing (Chapter 5)	MMTP Route Selection Process
Transmission Line Routing	Where possible, locate transmission lines within existing Manitoba Hydro transmission line corridors.	Manitoba Hydro considered paralleling of transmission lines as part of the transmission line routing process, and located much of the Final Preferred Route within existing corridors (SLTC and RVTC).	Transmission Line Routing (Chapter 5)	MMTP Route Selection Process
Non-Agricultural Land Use	Potential effects on woodlot areas and economic benefit/loss to individual landowners.	Known locations of woodlots were included in the transmission line routing process.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Land and Resource Use (Chapter 16)	VC Handout – Land and Resource Use



Feedback Category	Concern/Issue/ Feedback	Manitoba Hydro Response	Chapter(s) or Section(s) of EIS Pertaining to Key Topic of Feedback	Supporting PEP Materials
Infrastructure and Services	Potential damages to municipal roads resulting from MMTP construction and maintenance activities.	Damages incurred as a result of construction, maintenance or repair work for the transmission line, would be repaired by Manitoba Hydro, where appropriate.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Infrastructure and Services (Chapter 13)	VC Handout – Infrastructure and Services
Employment and Economy	Interest expressed in the potential employment and business opportunities associated with the MMTP.	The Manitoba Hydro website contains information regarding purchasing, tenders or contractor opportunities related to their projects. Careers opportunities with Manitoba Hydro are available on the Manitoba Hydro website.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Employment and Economy (Chapter 14)	Manitoba Hydro Purchasing (https://www.hydro.mb.ca/s elling_to_mh/purchasing.sht ml) Manitoba Hydro Careers (http://www.hydro.mb.ca/car eers/index.shtml?WT.mc_id =2500)
	Understanding of whether a Community Development Initiative would be established for the MMTP similar to Bipole III Transmission Project	Manitoba Hydro made no commitments, and no decision has been made regarding a similar initiative for the Manitoba–Minnesota Transmission Project.		
Fish and Fish Habitat	Stream crossings may affect riparian habitats.	Vegetation buffer zones are established at watercourse crossing areas to lessen any potential effect on fish habitats in riparian zones of streams and rivers.	Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects on Fish and Fish Habitat (Chapter 8)	VC Handout – Fish and Fish Habitat



Feedback Category	Concern/Issue/ Feedback	Manitoba Hydro Response	Chapter(s) or Section(s) of EIS Pertaining to Key Topic of Feedback	Supporting PEP Materials
Manitoba Hydro	Interest in US export contracts and business case and whether rates will increase due to this	Manitoba Hydro maintains some of the lowest electricity rates in North America and exports surplus power to neighboring provinces and US states as part of revenue generation.		Manitoba Hydro Electricity Exports (https://www.hydro.mb.ca/c orporate/electricity_exports. shtml)
	Project.	The Public Utilities Board regulates rates charged by Manitoba Hydro to its customers.		Manitoba Hydro Development Plan and NFAT (http://www.hydro.mb.ca/pro jects/development_plan/ind ex.shtml)
	Interest in Manitoba Hydro's Preferred Development Plan (NFAT)	Under <i>The Manitoba Hydro Act</i> , Manitoba Hydro requires provincial government approval to develop new power generation stations and to export/ and import power to and from Manitoba. In December of 2014, the Manitoba Government under Order-in- Council 00545/2014 authorized Manitoba Hydro to proceed with the MMTP.		Seven Things you should know about Manitoba's energy future Manitoba Hydro Development Plan and NFAT (http://www.hydro.mb.ca/pro jects/development_plan/ind ex.shtml)



# 3.6 Pre-Engagement (July 2013 – September 2013)

Manitoba Hydro undertook a pre-engagement process to gather feedback from stakeholders within the route planning area prior to presenting alternative routes. This process aimed to identify stakeholder groups and gather feedback as to how the stakeholder groups would like to be engaged throughout the PEP. Manitoba Hydro also sought feedback from the general public to understand preferences for material, dates, and past participation experiences with Manitoba Hydro projects.

The following section outlines the activities undertaken to initiate dialogue and identify stakeholder groups for participation in the PEP.

# 3.6.1 Goals

During the preliminary development of the PEP, the pre-engagement process aimed to:

- share information and notify known stakeholder groups
- identify stakeholder groups that may not have been identified in the preliminary identification processes
- understand stakeholder groups' levels of interest and desire to participate in the public engagement process
- gather feedback from the public to help inform the design of the PEP

# 3.6.2 Notification

On June 28, 2013, Manitoba Hydro submitted a press release to 78 media outlets notifying the public of the Project. The press release was an opportunity for Manitoba Hydro to provide a brief background of the Project and to notify those interested to contact Manitoba Hydro for further information. Notification also occurred on Manitoba Hydro's Project webpage along with links to sign-up for email correspondence related to the Project and an opportunity to complete a survey related to the development the Project PEP.

A postcard was distributed by Manitoba Hydro, which highlighted information about the Project, included a simplified map of the route planning area and proposed border crossing locations. The postcard included the contact methods for the Project (webpage, email, Project Information Line) and was delivered to 26,533 recipients within the route planning area.





# 3.6.3 Engagement Activities and Outcomes

Activities undertaken focused on desktop review and notification by letters, postcards and phone calls.

## 3.6.3.1 Stakeholder Survey

Following the development of an initial stakeholder list, a letter was sent to stakeholder groups informing them of the Project and that a Manitoba Hydro representative would be in contact with them to discuss their desire to participate in the PEP. A six (6) question survey was developed and Manitoba Hydro attempted contact with three (3) phone calls to each stakeholder group to have the survey completed. In total, 128 individuals from interested stakeholder groups were identified during this phase of the process, and Manitoba Hydro maintained contact throughout the PEP. The survey questions asked:

- about their desire to participate (stay informed, no interest, participate in any event)
- for confirmation of the correct contact person and their information
- about the preferred method to receive information (hard copy/email)
- about their desire to participate in meetings/workshops/open houses
- whether they knew of other groups that would be interested in the Project
- whether they use Manitoba Hydro's webpage

This process allowed Manitoba Hydro to tailor the PEP to each stakeholder group based on their preferences for notification and involvement. At any time, a group could modify their interest (*e.g.*, become more involved or less involved based on their interest or overall Project concerns). If Manitoba Hydro was unable to reach a group following three (3) attempts, the group received ongoing notification as informational updates only, unless the group contacted the Project team to modify their involvement in the Project at any point.

# 3.6.3.2 General Public Survey

The general public was notified of the Project (description and need) through a press release and postcard notification in June 2013. The public was asked to share information with Manitoba Hydro regarding preferences for engagement or preliminary feedback on the proposed border crossing locations. An online survey tool and the Project information line and email address were used to collect feedback about:

- preferred methods of notification about the Project
- preferred methods to receive information about the Project
- days of the week and times that are preferred for open houses
- level of interest in social media (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube)



- feedback from the public about other Manitoba Hydro engagement processes
- what resources are of most value (e.g., slideshows, models, discussion, formal presentation)
- open feedback about how best to engage with members of their community
- location and age (optional)

The opportunity to complete the survey was available to any interested individual who desired to be included in the PEP. Unfortunately, less than ten members of the public completed the online survey.

# 3.6.3.3 Summary of Pre-Engagement

The pre-engagement process was successful in developing an initial mailing list and understanding of different stakeholder groups preferences which allowed Manitoba Hydro to tailor the PEP to their specific needs and to initiate dialogue regarding the Project prior to alternative routes being developed for the Project.

# 3.7 Round 1 (September 2013 – April 2014)

Manitoba Hydro held Round 1 of the PEP to present the Project, the alternative routes (Map 3-2) and potential border crossing areas to the public and receive feedback.

The feedback gathered on the alternative routes was used to inform the route selection and environmental assessment processes for determination of a preferred border crossing location that was to be presented during Round 2.

# 3.7.1 Notification, Engagement Activities and Feedback Mechanisms

The notification and engagement activities used during Round 1 allowed a broad range of people to be notified and to participate in the PEP. Stakeholder groups were involved during Round 1 through workshops and meetings to assist Manitoba Hydro with developing criteria for the transmission line routing process and to understand issues and concerns to be addressed in the environmental assessment process.

# 3.7.1.1 Notification

Table 3-5 summarizes notifications undertaken during Round 1. Examples of notification are included in the supporting material filed as part of this chapter (see Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 1 PEP).



#### Table 3-5 **Round 1 Notification Methods**

Notification Method		Notification Content/Purpose	Date of Notification	Number of Recipients or Advertisements
Letters/Emails	Landowners	Notification Letter and Round 1 postcard	October 28, 2013	7,933
	Stakeholder Groups <sup>1</sup>	Workshop/meeting request for government employees.	November 1, 2013	25
		Workshop/council meeting request for Rural Municipalities.	November 1, 2013	18
		Workshop/meeting request for stakeholder organizations.	November 1, 2013	28
		Project information and opportunity to schedule meeting, if necessary.	November 1, 2013	30
		Project information and POH venues, dates and times.	November 1, 2013	18
		Information for Stakeholder Groups identified for Glenboro expansion including meeting request, if necessary.	November 1, 2013	3
Postcards	Landowners	Summary of upcoming POH venues and dates.	October/November 2013	26,993
Advertisements	Newspapers	Advertisements placed in local and regional newspapers.	October 30, 2013 thru December 10, 2013	15
Social Media	Manitoba Hydro Twitter Account	Twitter posts related to POHs	November 12, 2013 November 13, 2013	>7,500 Followers
	Manitoba Hydro Facebook Page	Facebook posts related to POHs.	October 7, 2013 November 12, 2013	>2,000 Visitors



od	Notification Content/Purpose	Date of Notification	Number of Recipients or Advertisements
All Visitors	Updates relating to POH venues, dates and times were made available, along with all engagement materials developed.	Continuous Updates	
Email	Upcoming open houses	November 1, 2013	39
	Upcoming open houses	November 12, 2013	49
	Open house follow-up	December 20, 2013	175
	All Visitors	All Visitors       Updates relating to POH venues, dates and times were made available, along with all engagement materials developed.         Email       Upcoming open houses         Upcoming open houses       Upcoming open houses	All Visitors       Updates relating to POH venues, dates and times were made available, along with all engagement materials developed.       Continuous Updates         Email       Upcoming open houses       November 1, 2013         Upcoming open houses       November 12, 2013

NOTES:

<sup>1</sup> 139 individuals from 118 stakeholder groups were identified prior to Round 1 in the MSL; how ever, 16 of the stakeholder groups identified during the pre-engagement process declined further participation in the PEP and were not included in the Round 1 notification or engagement activities.



# 3.7.1.2 Engagement Activities

Hydro

Table 3-6 summarizes the engagement activities undertaken during Round 1; feedback collected is included in the supporting documents filed with this chapter (see Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 1 PEP).

#### Table 3-6 Round 1 Engagement Activities

Engagement Activity	Purpose of Engagement Activity	Number of Invitations (If Applicable)	Number of Events Held	Number of Attendees
Stakeholder Workshops	Participants were asked to identify issues and concerns, along with potential criteria for the Route Selection Process.	74 <sup>1</sup>	2	11
Stakeholder and Landowner Meetings	Manitoba Hydro offered opportunities to review the Project and discuss any concerns or areas of interest as they related to the Project.	123 <sup>2</sup>	20	1–8 <sup>3</sup>
Public Open Houses	POHs were hosted to discuss the Project, answer questions and collect feedback from the public.	>26,000	11	326
NOTES:				

<sup>1</sup> 74 individuals were invited, representing 43 stakeholder groups, with 11 stakeholder group representatives attended.

<sup>2</sup> Includes participants w ho were deemed "information only" (unable to contact during pre-engagement). These participants w ere advised to contact the Project team if there w as a desire to meet or participate in a w orkshop/meeting.

<sup>3</sup> Various meetings w ere held w ith 1–8 individuals from stakeholder groups. Meeting notes w ere captured for all meetings held for the Project.

Manitoba Hydro provided a Project webpage, which was a source for the most up-to-date information on the Project. Engagement materials developed were made available on the webpage for interested individuals to review and provide comments outside of the public events.

# 3.7.1.3 Feedback Mechanisms

Manitoba Hydro collected feedback on the Project using various methods; including resources available at public/stakeholder group events and through other mechanisms such as the Project email address, Project information line and meeting minutes.

Table 3-7 summarizes the feedback mechanisms used to collect information during Round 1.



#### Table 3-7 Round 1 Feedback Mechanisms

Feedback Mechanism Purpose of Feedback Mechanism		Number of Responses Received	
Meeting Minutes/Workshop Summaries	The workshop feedback was collected in workbooks and through a summary of results. Meeting minutes were recorded for meetings and incorporated into the environmental assessment and route selection processes.		
Comment Sheets	The comment sheet was designed to determine key issues and feedback on the proposed alternatives.	144	
Mapping Stations	The mapping stations collected site-specific data and comments from the public at POHs.	145	
Emails and Telephone Calls	Email and telephone correspondence included general preferences/concerns, data requests and other Project-related information.	76	
NOTE:			

<sup>1</sup> Number of responses indicates the total number of participants at stakeholder w orkshops, and stakeholder group meetings. In total, 11 stakeholder groups through w orkshops and 34 stakeholder groups participated in meetings.

# 3.7.2 Outcomes

# 3.7.2.1 Transmission Line Routing

Feedback received throughout Round 1 was related primarily to factors for consideration in transmission line routing process. Alternative routes were presented to the public and stakeholder groups as numbered segments to gather and focus individuals' concerns and comments. Feedback gathered was then classified by route segment (Table 3-3) and considered during the transmission line selection process that followed Round 1. Categorization by segment identifiers allowed Manitoba Hydro to understand positives and negatives in a localized area and assisted in understanding the local landscape. The following information ties closely with Chapter 5.

## 3.7.2.1.1 Segment Feedback

Numerous segments were reviewed with the public and stakeholder groups throughout Round 1. Feedback was collected on each segment and was considered during the transmission line routing process. Manitoba Hydro looked at the number of concerns for each segment, as well as the concern that was being raised and whether mitigation would lessen the potential effect. Concerns varied for each segment and ranged from concerns regarding residential development, proximity to proposed/existing protected areas and proximity to other Manitoba Hydro infrastructure. Details on the information collected per segment are included in the supplemental information that has been submitted with this chapter (see Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 1 PEP).



## 3.7.2.1.2 Mitigative Segments Developed

To be responsive to feedback received, Manitoba Hydro developed mitigative segments to be considered in the transmission line routing process. These segments were developed to mitigate concerns raised by participants throughout Round 1 and were considered more preferable from a PEP perspective as the predominant concern(s) on the original segment was being addressed. Mitigative segments that were evaluated for this round are presented in Map 3-3 and summarized in the following paragraphs.

#### Segments 114, 115, 116, 117 and 119

These segments were developed based on feedback received regarding segments 6, 7, 8, 9, 17, 18 and 19. Modifications were developed to avoid areas of concern for routing options located east of M602F. These modifications lessened potential effect on proposed and existing ecological reserves in the area.

#### Segment 120

This segment was developed in response to concerns related to Segment 30 and the proximity to the Watson P. Davidson Wildlife Management Area.

#### Segment 121

This segment was developed based on feedback received regarding potential effect of the original segment on the large intact bog in the area (along segment 34). Wildlife concerns were also raised in this area and the potential disturbance to the landscape.

#### Segments 122 and 123

Participants believed that, MMTP should parallel the existing 230kV or 500kV transmission line that is located in the area. Participants preferred infrastructure to be placed together to lessen effects on private property, areas with higher populations and landscape viewsheds. These segments were added to ensure that parallel options were evaluated.

#### 3.7.2.1.3 Manitoba Hydro Route Selection Workshop

Following the development of mitigative segments, the first Route Selection Workshop was undertaken. At this stage the Alternative Route Evaluation Model and Preference Determination processes assist Manitoba Hydro in determining a preferred border crossing area for the Project. A detailed description of this process is provided in Chapter 5.



## 3.7.2.1.4 Development of Round 2 Alternative Routes

Following the Transmission Line Routing Workshop, the PEP team provided input into the development of the alternative routes that were to be presented in Round 2 (See Map 3-4). These suggested modifications included:

- Parallel M602F for as long as possible (Segments 3 and 5 became Segment 201 for consideration)
- Take advantage of other existing infrastructure and transmission lines (Segments 202-204 were subsequently developed)
- Due to feedback received in the La Broquerie and Marchand area, a refined alternative route segment that would parallel an existing 230kV transmission line and travel through less densely populated areas and Crown lands should be reviewed and presented (Segment 207 was subsequently developed)

# 3.7.2.2 Other Outcomes

The following summaries provide examples of outcomes that arose as a result of the numerous discussions held throughout this Round of activities for the PEP.

## 3.7.2.2.1 KC's Outfitting

Through the pre-engagement process, the Manitoba Lodges and Outfitters Association (MLOA) was included as a stakeholder group. Through initial discussions with the MLOA, they indicated that they would like to be kept informed throughout the PEP but Manitoba Hydro should work with the only member of the Association in the area directly. Manitoba Hydro subsequently contacted KC's Outfitting and invited the proprietor to participate through meetings and workshops as they would have a unique view of the landscape in the area and would be knowledgeable of the terrain and wildlife abundance. KC's Outfitting has participated since the beginning of the Project, shared their knowledge of the area and has assisted Manitoba Hydro in setting bait sites and trail cameras near to the Project ROW and away from the ROW for the environmental assessment being undertaken for the Project. The relationship built with this Outfitter will continue throughout the regulatory, construction and operation phases of the Project.

## 3.7.2.2.2 Glenboro Station Engagement

One open house was held in Glenboro to outline the expansion plans for the station. Manitoba Hydro notified the local municipalities and conservation districts of the activities in the area and has welcomed meetings if desired. Based on the limited feedback received through the open house, no other open house was undertaken in the area. Manitoba Hydro contacted the four (4) potentially affected landowners and provided them information and an opportunity to meet with Manitoba Hydro staff, if desired. Manitoba Hydro met with a potentially affected family at their home to discuss the expansion and relocation of the transmission line on their property and no concerns were raised regarding the proposed plans.



### 3.7.2.2.3 Preferences for Transmission Line Routing (General)

Throughout Round 1, Manitoba Hydro asked participants to share what they felt should be considered when routing a transmission line. Upon review of feedback collected, the following three criteria were deemed the most important factor to consider:

- Maintain separation from residences and urban areas;
- Avoid agricultural lands; and
- Follow existing transmission lines.

This feedback was considered in planning of routes and during the evaluation of routes through preference determination (discussed further in Chapter 5).

# 3.7.2.3 PEP Lessons Learned for Use in Round 2

Feedback from participants indicated that the most efficient form of notification received was the direct letter that was sent to their home. The PEP team continued to use this method of notification for Round 2 and supplemented notification through advertisements, posters and emails.

With the list of attendees and more public discussion emerging from Round 1, the email notification list grew and more email notifications began to be used to keep interested participants informed of the current status and next steps for the Project.

Following Round 1, two new Project communication materials were developed, which demonstrated the desire to be adaptive and inclusive to participant needs:

- Business cards: These cards were handed out to participants at POHs and meetings. The cards contained the Project email, webpage and information line so feedback could be provided outside the formal engagement activities.
- Project videos: Three videos were developed to provide another means of sharing Projectrelated information (Regulatory, Project Description, and the Licensing and Environmental Assessment Process). They were placed on the Project webpage and Manitoba Hydro YouTube Channel for use throughout the PEP.

# 3.8 Round 2 (April 2014 – August 2014)

This Round allowed Manitoba Hydro to continue discussions with the public and stakeholder groups to gather feedback on alternative routes (Map 3-4) to the preferred border crossing. The feedback influenced the development of new engagement materials, and provided modifications to the alternative routes to be considered in development of a preferred route to present in Round 3. Feedback was considered in determining VCs to assess as part of the environmental assessment.



# 3.8.1 Notification, Engagement Activities and Feedback Mechanisms

# 3.8.1.1 Notification

Notification methods for Round 2 (Table 3-8) were similar to those in Round 1 and included an overview map, Project update, locations and times of engagement activities and contact information.

#### Table 3-8 Round 2 Notification Methods

Notification Method		Notification Content/Purpose	Date(s) of Notification	Number of Recipients or Notifications Placed
Letters/Emails	Stakeholder Groups <sup>1</sup>	Project information and opportunity to schedule meeting, if necessary.	April 1, 2014	62
		Meeting request for RMs, government departments and stakeholder organizations.	April 1, 2014	64
		Information for Stakeholder Groups identified for Glenboro expansion including meeting request, if necessary.	April 1, 2014	4
		Conservation Offices Stakeholder Letter	April 15, 2014	5
	Landowners	Landowner Notification Letter to for Round 2 Activities	March 31, 2014	7,933
		Letter to Ste. Genevieve landowners (additional open house being held in Ste. Anne)	June 6, 2014 October 16, 2014	1,581
Postcards	Landowners	Summary of upcoming POH venues and dates.	March 18, 2014	26,320
Advertisements	Newspapers	Advertisements placed in local and regional newspapers.	April 3, 2014 to May 2, 2014	21
Posters	Local Communities	Posters placed at well frequented locations in 17 communities in the Project area.	April 2014 and June 2014	109



Notification Me	ethod	Notification Content/Purpose	Date(s) of Notification	Number of Recipients or Notifications Placed
Radio (NCI-FM)	Local Communities	Holding open houses and to visit the Project website	April 7 – April 25 Monday to Friday between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. Metis Hour ×2 (Saturdays)	
Social Media	Manitoba Hydro Twitter Account	Twitter post related to the Project.	May 8, 2014 June 11, 2014	>7,500 Followers
	Manitoba Hydro Facebook Page	Facebook posts related to the Project.	April 10, 2014 June 6, 2014	>2,000 Visitors
MMTP Webpage	General Public	Updates relating to POH venues, dates and times were made available, along with all engagement materials developed.	Continuous Updates	n/a
Telephone Calls	Past POH attendees	Calls were made to all past POH participants that provided their contact information for future Project-related updates.	April 2014	96
Email Campaigns	Email Sign-Up List	Refined alternative routes and preferred border crossing	April 1, 2014	203
		Round 2 open houses complete	May 21, 2014	398
		Additional open house planned - Ste. Anne	June 6, 2014	383
		Project survey closing August 15, 2014	July 21, 2014	393
		MMTP - Project survey closing	August 8, 2014	419
		MMTP - Project Survey Closed	August 18, 2014	417

NOTE:

1

146 individuals from 124 stakeholder groups w ere identified at the beginning of Round 2 in the MSL; how ever the 16 Stakeholder Groups w hich declined further participation in the Project PEP prior to Round 1 w ere not included in the Round 2 notification or engagement activities.



# 3.8.1.2 Engagement Activities

Table 3-9 summarizes the participation levels from Round 2 engagement activities.

#### Table 3-9 Round 2 Engagement Activities

Purpose of Engagement Activity	Number of Invites or Requests (If Applicable)	Number of Events Held	Number of Attendees
The meetings provided an opportunity for specific environmental considerations to be collected, as well as other issues and concerns related to the Alternative Route Segments and Border Crossing Areas.	130 <sup>1</sup>	25	1–8 <sup>2</sup>
POHs were hosted to discuss the Project, answer questions and collect feedback from the public. Open houses were held from April 15 to May 8 2015.	>26,000	11	658
Manitoba Hydro began meeting with potentially affected landowners, as requested. The meetings were opportunities for landowners to share their feedback with Project representatives. Meetings were held with individual landowners and groups of residents.	N/A	5	*
All engagement materials were made available to the public, including newsletters, maps, information on the PEP, route selection process and environmental assessment.	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Activity The meetings provided an opportunity for specific environmental considerations to be collected, as well as other issues and concerns related to the Alternative Route Segments and Border Crossing Areas. POHs were hosted to discuss the Project, answer questions and collect feedback from the public. Open houses were held from April 15 to May 8 2015. Manitoba Hydro began meeting with potentially affected landowners, as requested. The meetings were opportunities for landowners to share their feedback with Project representatives. Meetings were held with individual landowners and groups of residents. All engagement materials were made available to the public, including newsletters, maps, information on the PEP, route selection process and	Purpose of Engagement ActivityInvites or Requests (If Applicable)The meetings provided an opportunity for specific environmental considerations to be collected, as well as other issues and concerns related to the Alternative Route Segments and Border Crossing Areas.1301POHs were hosted to discuss the Project, answer questions and collect feedback from the public. Open houses were held from April 15 to May 8 2015.>26,000Manitoba Hydro began meeting with potentially affected landowners, as requested. The meetings were opportunities for landowners to share their feedback with Project representatives. Meetings were held with individual landowners and groups of residents.N/AAll engagement materials were made available to the public, including newsletters, maps, information on the PEP, route selection process andN/A	Purpose of Engagement ActivityInvites or Requests (If Applicable)Number of Events HeldThe meetings provided an opportunity for specific environmental considerations to be collected, as well as other issues and concerns related to the Alternative Route Segments and Border Crossing Areas.130125POHs were hosted to discuss the Project, answer questions and collect feedback from the public. Open houses were held from April 15 to May 8 2015.>26,00011Manitoba Hydro began meeting with potentially affected landowners, as requested. The 

<sup>1</sup> Includes participants w howere deemed "information only" (unable to contact during Round 1). These participants were advised to contact the Project team if there was a desire to meet or participate in a workshop/meeting.

<sup>2</sup> Various meetings were held with 1–8 individuals. Meeting notes were captured for all meetings held for the Project.



# 3.8.1.3 Feedback Mechanisms

Table 3-10 summarizes the feedback mechanisms used during Round 2 and the number of responses from each mechanism.

Feedback Mechanism	Purpose of Feedback Mechanism	Number of Responses Received
Meeting Minutes	Meeting minutes were recorded for meetings for consideration into the environmental assessment and route selection processes.	25
Comment Sheets	The comment sheet was designed to determine key issues and feedback on the proposed refined alternative route segments.	207
Online Comment Sheet	An electronic version of the Comment Sheet was made available through the Project Webpage for visitors to submit their feedback on the Project.	235
iPad Mapping Stations	The iPad mapping stations collected site-specific data and comments from the public at POHs.	226
Emails and Telephone Calls	Email and telephone correspondence included discussions regarding general preferences/concerns, data requests and other Project-related information.	322

#### Table 3-10 Round 2 Feedback Mechanisms

Feedback collected during Round 2 is presented in supporting documentation filed with this chapter and was reviewed and considered by the environmental assessment specialists during their assessment.

# 3.8.1.4 Transmission Line Routing

Many participants provided feedback relevant to transmission line routing throughout Round 2 and overall feedback indicated that the more eastern routes should continue to be considered as they crossed predominantly unoccupied Crown lands, as opposed to private landholdings. The following paragraphs describe the feedback received regarding various segments presented in Round 2 and the mitigative segments developed to address concerns. The decisions made regarding whether to consider the segments in evaluation and selection of the preferred route are discussed in this section, which ties closely with the information provided in Chapter 5.

# 3.8.1.4.1 Segment Feedback

In Round 2, 12 segments were presented to the public and stakeholder groups. The following outlines some of the feedback collected by segment (Map 3-4). The following are summaries of comments heard and not representative of all information collected. Further details and



information collected by segment are included in the supporting documentation filed with this chapter (see Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 2 PEP). Detailed decision-making undertaken through the preference determination process is outlined in Chapter 5.

#### Segment 200

Local residents indicated concerns regarding the southern loop transmission corridor regarding the proximity of the corridor to developed areas near Headingley and south of St. Norbert. Concerns related to the Red River Floodway and the potential effect on flood protection were provided by local residents and Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation.

#### Segment 201

The Riel to Vivian transmission corridor was generally viewed positively, as it paralleled existing transmission line infrastructure. Segment 201 was preferred over Segment 205 along the TransCanada Highway as it was seen to have less potential effects on residential and commercial development.

#### Segment 202 - 204

These routes were not presented during Round 1 but were developed and presented to the public in Round 2 to take advantage of the existing transmission corridor along segment 201, and connect to segments further south. These segments were viewed by local residents as being detrimental to the community of Ste. Genevieve and proposed residential expansion within the area. Many expressed concerns related to increased potential for unauthorized access and potential effect on property values. The local municipality indicated a concern regarding the municipal quarry that is important for the economy of the municipality. In response to local concerns, an additional POH was held in Ste. Anne. Mitigative segments (following section) were developed and some have been accepted as part of the preferred route.

#### Segment 205

Segment 205 followed the TransCanada Highway and numerous residences are located in close proximity to the highway. Concerns were raised regarding the number of times the segment crosses the highway, the crossing of Bipole III and the potential effects on future development (residential and commercial) along this segment. Segment 205 was not accepted as part of the preferred route based on the balance of various perspectives on the landscape (Chapter 5 – Transmission Line Routing).

#### Segment 206

The concerns raised regarding this segment were focused on the potential effect on a 42 lot subdivision that was currently being developed and the proximity of existing residences outside of the community of Richer. Much of this segment paralleled an existing transmission line (R49R) and was viewed more favorably than creating a new transmission corridor. See "Segment 353" under Mitigative Segments in the following section for further information.



#### Segment 207

This segment would place the route in Crown lands as opposed to being in close proximity to the community of La Broquerie and would avoid more private landholdings. Segment 207 was noted as a preferred routing option by the public and the RM, as it paralleled an existing transmission line and was in less populated areas. Segment 207 was not accepted as part of the preferred route and the full description of the decision-making process for the preferred route is provided in Chapter 5 – Transmission Line Routing.

#### Segment 208

Residents and local government of La Broquerie viewed this segment negatively as they believed the segment would affect the community's ability to expand and develop. A resolution was provided to the Project team from the RM of La Broquerie stating that Segment 207 would have fewer effects on the residents of the municipality. Segment 208 was accepted as part of the Preferred Route based on the balance of various perspectives on the landscape. The full description of the decision-making process for the preferred route is provided in Chapter 5.

#### Segment 209

Concerns related to this segment were focused on the proximity to the Ridgeland cemetery, potential effect on bear bait site locations, and wildlife habitat.

#### Segment 210

Concerns received regarding this segment were focused on the Piney/Pine Creek airport and the potential interference with expansion plans and gliding paths for aircrafts. Preferences for this segment were expressed due to wildlife concerns along segment 211 and would not travel through a large intact bog.

#### Segment 211

Concerns raised regarding this segment were focused on the large intact bog along the Manitoba-Minnesota border and should be avoided due to wildlife concerns. Participants also noted that there may be concerns with the potential expansion or development of an east/west landing strip at the Piney/Pine Creek airport.

### 3.8.1.4.2 Mitigative Segments Developed and Associated Decisions

To be responsive to feedback received, Manitoba Hydro developed mitigative segments to be considered in the transmission line routing process. These segments were developed to mitigate concerns raised by participants throughout Round 2 and were considered more preferable from a PEP perspective as the predominant concern(s) on the original segment was being addressed. Mitigative segments that were evaluated for this round are presented in Map 3-5. Further information about the decision-making for determination of a preferred route (acceptance/non-acceptance of segments) is provided in Chapter 5.



#### Segment 303, 308 and 333 (near Ross, MB, RM of Tache)

These segments were developed based on feedback from the local municipality and landowners in the vicinity of segments 202, 203 and 204. These segments would travel closer to less populated areas and by pass the community of Ste. Genevieve. These segments made up Route AY (Chapter 5) and were considered in the Preference Determination process, but ultimately not accepted as part of the preferred route.

#### Segment 311 (north of Sundown)

Based on feedback received from the RM of Stuartburn and the Sundown Coalition, separation from the Ridgeland Cemetery was requested as a modification to Segment 209, this modification was accepted as part of the preferred route.

#### Segments 337-347 (west of Ste. Genevieve)

These segments were developed to respond to various concerns in the Ste. Genevieve area (Segments 202-204) such as proximity to residences, subdivision hindrance, paralleling existing infrastructure, access and quarry concerns. Segments 338 and 342 were accepted as part of the preferred route.

#### Segment 349 (northwest of Richer)

This segment was developed to avoid a current home site being developed along Segment 204 and another mitigative segment was accepted as part of the preferred route and the home site is no longer being traversed.

#### Segment 353 (Richer)

This segment was developed in response to the subdivision along Segment 206 currently being developed along segment 352 (see Landowner B – Section 3.8.2.2.6). This segment would parallel the existing 230kV transmission line whereas the route would require purchase of an existing home as it would fall within the ROW (see Landowner I and Landowner J – Section 3.10.2.2). This segment was accepted as part of the preferred route.

#### Segment 358 (north of Lorette)

A route modification was made along segment 205 due to the feedback received in the area regarding proximity to residences and the two crossings of the TransCanada Highway. This segment was accepted as a modification to Segment 205 but not accepted as part of the preferred route.

#### Segment 363 (northwest of Richer)

This segment was developed based on feedback received from the public along Segment 205 regarding proximity to homes, future subdivisions and aesthetic concerns. This mitigative segment placed the transmission line in a treed area east of homes as opposed to in predominant



viewsheds and more open field. This mitigative segment was adopted as part of the preferred route.

#### Segment 365 (Sandilands)

This segment was developed to gain further separation from the Wildlife Management Area (Watson P. Davidson) and to avoid a gravel resource area, but was not accepted as part of the preferred route through the preference determination process.

### 3.8.1.4.3 Transmission Line Routing Workshop

Following the development of mitigative segments, a second transmission line routing workshop was undertaken. At this stage the Alternative Route Evaluation Model and Preference Determination processes assisted Manitoba Hydro in determining a preferred route for the Project. A detailed description of this process is provided in Chapter 5.

### 3.8.1.4.4 Development of the Preferred Route (Round 3)

As outlined in the previous section (*Mitigative Segments Developed and Associated Decisions*), Map 3-6 presents the location of modifications that were accepted as part of the preferred route to be presented during Round 3. In total, four modifications brought forward through the PEP were accepted as part of the preferred route.

# 3.8.1.5 Other Outcomes

Based on the numerous discussions held throughout Round 2, other outcomes related to participants or PEP activities were identified. This section provides examples of other outcomes.

### 3.8.1.5.1 Ste. Genevieve Landowner Group

With the development of route segments 202, 203 and 204 (Map 3-4), a group of landowners requested additional information regarding the development of these route segments, the regulatory process and how the transmission line may affect the community of Ste. Genevieve. Meetings were held with the group's representatives and an additional open house was held in Ste. Anne to further discuss the Project with local landowners. Communication with the group's members is ongoing and Manitoba Hydro has provided numerous copies of maps and materials to the group for distribution.

### 3.8.1.5.2 RM of Tache

The RM of Tache has participated in the PEP through meetings and at the stakeholder workshop held in Round 1. Manitoba Hydro has met with the RM and its representatives to discuss the concerns raised by the Ste. Genevieve Landowner Group as well as potential effects on future development in their municipality. Manitoba Hydro also met with a councillor from the RM to outline the route selection process in detail to share with the Ste. Genevieve landowner group to



better assist in communication regarding how route decisions are made and the various processes being undertaken for the Project.

# 3.8.1.5.3 Sundown Coalition Landowner Group and the Ridgeland Cemetery

Landowners near the community of Sundown formed a group and requested additional information from Manitoba Hydro regarding the Project and the potential effects they believed the Project would have on their community. One key concern raised was the location of the proposed line in relation to the Ridgeland Cemetery where many local residents participate in the religious practice of *Praznik*. Gaining further separation between the ROW and the cemetery and limiting tree removal were the predominant desires from the group of landowners. Manitoba Hydro attended a public meeting hosted by the group to share Project information and answer questions from local residents. With the feedback received, route segment alternatives and mitigation measures were developed to limit the potential effects on the cemetery. This information was presented to the local municipality and a handout was developed (MMTP and the Ridgeland Cemetery) to share the proposed mitigation measures as outlined in Section 3.10.3.2.

# 3.8.1.5.4 Participant Follow-ups

Manitoba Hydro tracked concerns through comment sheets and from feedback at open houses regarding questions that were unable to be answered at that time posed or were outside of the scope of the Project. In total, 37 follow-ups were recorded and responses were provided through email/phone/letter based on the participants' preference.

# 3.8.1.5.5 Landowner A

Manitoba Hydro was made aware of future home development in the RM of Tache along Segment 201 (north/south). The refined alternative route in the area traversed through the middle of the quarter section overtop of two home sites where construction was slated to begin. Upon review of the feedback provided by the Environmental Assessment team and the feedback from the local residents and municipality, a modification to follow the eastern boundary of the property was accepted as part of the preferred route to limit potential effects on the landowner.

# 3.8.1.5.6 Landowner B

Through the PEP and feedback from the open houses in Ste. Anne, a large subdivision (42 lots) had been noted as a concern near the community of Richer. This subdivision plan was slated to occur in three (3) phases and current records for approval in process for Phase 3 were not captured in the transmission line routing process for Round 1. Through the discussions and drawings provided by the developer and the location of the acreages and access roads, a modification was subsequently accepted as part of the preferred route to parallel an existing 230kV line east of the proposed location, thereby limiting the potential effect on the development of this subdivision.



# 3.8.1.6 Lessons Learned for use in Round 3

In response to Round 2 feedback, Manitoba Hydro adapted the PEP to further facilitate discussions with the public. Recommendations brought forward during Round 2 activities through the various feedback mechanisms were considered and the following modifications were made to the PEP:

- Manitoba Hydro sent express post letters (require signature) to notify potentially affected landowners of upcoming Project information.
- Additional materials were developed to further address concerns related to electric and magnetic fields (EMF).
- Materials were developed to further explain the VCs used in the environmental assessment and how the VCs are evaluated for the Project.
- More frequent email campaigns were sent to the email list.
- More one-on-one interactions between Manitoba Hydro and landowners would be held throughout Round 3.
- Weekend meeting times would be offered in Round 3 to accommodate participants' schedules.

PEP recommendations were incorporated into the Round 3 engagement plan of activities, in response to the public's feedback.

# 3.9 Engagement on Border Crossing Modification

Following the completion of Round 2, discussions between Manitoba Hydro and Minnesota Power resulted in a border crossing modification. Manitoba Hydro felt it important to provide this new information to the public and to obtain additional feedback on this modification as seen in Map 3-7. Accordingly, Manitoba Hydro presented the change in November 2014. With the proposed border crossing modification, Manitoba Hydro also presented new alternative route segments to connect to the Manitoba-Minnesota border.

# 3.9.1 Notification, Engagement Activities and Feedback Mechanisms

Due to the localized area of the border crossing modification, Manitoba Hydro focused engagement activities on the area surrounding Piney, MB. In addition to the focused methods for notification and engagement activities, materials relating to the border crossing modification were included on the Project webpage and through email campaign notifications.



#### 3.9.1.1 **Notification**

Methods of notification for the Border Crossing Modification are summarized in Table 3-11.

Table 3-11	Border Crossing	Modification Notification Methods
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Method	Purpose of Notification Method	Date(s) of Notification	Number of Recipients or Notifications Placed
Stakeholder Groups <sup>1</sup>	Upcoming engagement activities, along with invitations to schedule a meeting were sent to representatives if desired.	October 28, 2014	130
Landowners	Border Crossing Adjustment Landowner Letter	October 16, 2014	78
Landowners	Postcard notifying landowners of upcoming POH in Piney, MB.	October 31, 2014	160
Email Campaign Sign Up List	Email update relating to Project milestones were sent to people interested in receiving Project notifications.	October 28, 2014	435
General Public	Updates relating to POH venues, dates and times were made available, along with engagement materials developed.	Continuous Updates	
Past POH attendees	Calls were made to all past POH participants that provided their contact information (at the previous Piney open house) for future Project- related updates.	October 2014	30
	Stakeholder Groups <sup>1</sup> Landowners Landowners Email Campaign Sign Up List General Public Past POH	MethodStakeholder Groups1Upcoming engagement activities, along with invitations to schedule a meeting were sent to representatives if desired.LandownersBorder Crossing Adjustment Landowner LetterLandownersPostcard notifying landowners of upcoming POH in Piney, MB.Email Campaign Sign Up ListEmail update relating to Project milestones were sent to people interested in receiving Project notifications.General PublicUpdates relating to POH venues, dates and times were made available, along with engagement materials developed.Past POH attendeesCalls were made to all past POH participants that provided their contact information (at the previous Piney open house) for future Project-	MethodMethodNotificationStakeholder Groups1Upcoming engagement activities, along with invitations to schedule a meeting were sent to representatives if desired.October 28, 2014LandownersBorder Crossing Adjustment Landowner LetterOctober 16, 2014LandownersBorder Crossing Adjustment Landowner LetterOctober 31, 2014LandownersPostcard notifying landowners of upcoming POH in Piney, MB.October 31, 2014Email Campaign Sign Up ListEmail update relating to Project milestones were sent to people interested in receiving Project notifications.October 28, 2014General PublicUpdates relating to POH venues, dates and times were made available, along with engagement materials developed.Continuous UpdatesPast POH attendeesCalls were made to all past POH participants that provided their contact information (at the previous Piney open house) for future Project-October 2014

<sup>1</sup> 146 individuals from 124 stakeholder groups were identified for the Border Crossing Modification in the MSL; how ever, the 16 stakeholder groups that declined further participation in the Project PEP prior to Round 1 were not included in the Round 2 notification or engagement activities.



# 3.9.1.2 Engagement Activities

Hydro

Table 3-12 summarizes the participation levels from Round 2 engagement activities.

#### Table 3-12 Border Crossing Modification Engagement Activities

Engagement Activity	Purpose of Engagement Activity	Number of Invites or Requests (If Applicable)	Number of Events Held	Number of Attendees
Public Open House	A POH was hosted to discuss the Project, answer questions and collect feedback from the public.	>150	1	27
Landowner Meetings	The meeting was an opportunity for landowners to share their feedback with Project representatives.	1	1	
Stakeholder Meetings	The meeting provided an opportunity for specific issues and concerns related to the border crossing modification.	130 <sup>1</sup>	1	
Project Webpage	Engagement materials were made available to the public, including newsletters, maps, information on the PEP, route selection process and environmental assessment.	N/A	N/A	N/A
NOTE:				

<sup>1</sup> Includes participants w ho were deemed "information only" (unable to contact during Round 2). These participants w ere advised to contact the Project team if they had a desire to meet or participate in a w orkshop/meeting.

# 3.9.1.3 Feedback Mechanisms

To capture feedback from the public, the following feedback mechanisms were used and are summarized in Table 3-13.



Feedback Mechanism	Purpose of Feedback Mechanism	Number of Responses Received
Meeting Minutes	Meeting minutes were recorded for all meetings and incorporated into the environmental assessment and route selection processes.	2 <sup>1</sup>
Comment Sheets	The comment sheet was designed to determine key issues and feedback on the proposed alternatives.	4
Emails and phone calls	Email and telephone correspondence included discussions regarding general preferences/concerns, data requests and other Project-related information.	31

#### Table 3-13 Border Crossing Modification Feedback Mechanisms

NOTE:

Due to the localized interest of the border crossing modification, the Pineland Colony and the RM of Piney were the two who demonstrated interest in having a meeting to discuss this border crossing modification.

# 3.9.2 Outcomes

In this area, participants indicated a concern that the proposed route segments 210 and 211, as presented in Round 2 and outlined in Map 3-4, could interfere with potential east/west expansion plans of the Piney-Pine Creek Airport. As a result of the Border Crossing Modification, the route was moved away from this Airport which was generally viewed positively as it would limit any potential interference if the airport were to expand the existing landing strip or develop an east/west landing strip in the future. However, participants and the local municipality believed that, although the Border Crossing Modification was farther from the airport, the transmission line should be routed farther east into non-agricultural lands as opposed to private land holdings.

Manitoba Hydro worked with the potentially affected landowner in the area to discuss potential effects and routing options. The landowner recommended a modification (outside of those presented) that limited potential effects on future development and increased separation between the transmission line and the community. The primary landowner expressed a desire for the line to be placed off agricultural lands, however the proposed ecological reserve nearby hindered this option. Manitoba Hydro and the landowner worked together to develop a route segment that aimed to limit potential effects on both interests. This segment (un-numbered as it was developed in discussions with the landowner) was subsequently adopted as part of the preferred route, as outlined in Map 3-7.



# 3.10 Round 3 and Final Preferred Route Determination (January 2015 to Regulatory Filing)

Manitoba Hydro presented the preferred route for review and feedback during Round 3 (Map 3-8). The PEP used previous notification methods from Round 1 and 2 and included direct mailings to potentially affected landowners and landowners within one-mile of the preferred route. During Round 3, Manitoba Hydro added landowner information centres to gather feedback from potentially affected landowners and landowners within one-mile of the preferred route, while also offering previously used methods of engagement for landowners and stakeholder groups. This section summarizes the Round 3 PEP and how feedback collected from the PEP was considered in the Final Preferred Route determination process.

# 3.10.1 Notification, Engagement Activities and Feedback Mechanisms

During Round 3, Manitoba Hydro continued to notify the public of ongoing methods to provide feedback on the Preferred Route. Based on the issues brought forward during previous rounds of engagement, additional materials were developed such as more detailed information on EMF and VCs that outlined what is being assessed, how it is being assessed, current activities being undertaken by Manitoba Hydro and potential mitigation measures that may be put forward to lessen potential effects.

# 3.10.1.1 Notification

Notification methods were similar to those in Round 1 and 2 and included an overview map, Project update, locations and times of engagement activities and contact information. Table 3-14 summarizes the notifications undertaken for Round 3 of the PEP.



#### Table 3-14Round 3 Notification Methods

Notification Met	hod	Purpose of Notification Method	Date(s) of Notification	Number of Recipients or Notifications Placed
Letters	Landowners	ALO Notification Letter (Notification Letter, Round 3 Newsletter, Preferred Route Map) via express post (required signature)	January 16, 2015	141
		MLO Notification Letter (Notification Letter, Round 3 Newsletter, Preferred Route Map)	January 16, 2015	2139
		ALO Follow-Up Letter (ALOs with no documented contact to-date via express post	March 31, 2015	33
		ALO Follow-Up Letter #2	April 21, 2015	140
Letters/Emails	Stakeholder Groups <sup>1</sup>	Project information and opportunity to schedule meeting, if desired.	January 16, 2015	74
		Meeting request for RMs, government departments and stakeholder organizations.	January 16, 2015	58
		Information for Stakeholder Groups identified for Glenboro expansion including meeting request, if necessary.	January 16, 2015	3
Postcards	Landowners	Summary of upcoming POH venues and dates.	January 19, 2015	26,583
Advertisements	Newspapers and Webpages	Advertisements placed in local and regional newspapers.	January 21, 2015 to March 4, 2015	21
Posters	Local Communities	Posters placed at well- frequented locations in 17 communities in the Project area	Week of January 26	42



Notification Met	hod	Purpose of Notification Method	Date(s) of Notification	Number of Recipients or Notifications Placed
Radio (NCI-FM)	Local Communities	Holding open houses and to visit the Project website	January 26 <sup>th</sup> to March 7 <sup>th</sup> three times daily Monday to Friday between 6am and 7pm Metis Hour x2 and the Bingo Show (Saturdays)	
Social Media	Manitoba Hydro Twitter Account	Twitter post related to the Project	January 20, 2015 February 9, 2015	>7,500 Followers
	Manitoba Hydro Facebook Page	Facebook posts related to the Project	January 20, 2015 February 9, 2015	>2,000 Visitors
Project Webpage	General Public	Updates relating to POH venues, dates and times were made available, along with all engagement materials developed.	Continuous Updates	
Telephone Calls	Past POH attendees	Calls were made to past POH participants that provided their contact information for future Project-related updates.	January 2015	274
Email Campaign	Email Campaign Sign-Up List	Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project: Draft Environmental Assessment Scoping Document Filed	January 13, 2015	441
		Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project: Preferred Route Determined	January 16, 2015	437
		Reminder open houses begin February 10th	February 6, 2015	445
		Open house reminder	February 25, 2015	448
		Open houses completed	March 17, 2015	667



Notification Method	Purpose of Notification Method	Date(s) of Notification	Number of Recipients or Notifications Placed
	Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project: Project survey	May 1, 2015	658
	Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project: Round 3 Survey Reminder	May 13, 2015	657
	Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project: Online Survey Closed	May 19, 2015	655

#### NOTE:

<sup>1</sup> 153 individuals from 132 stakeholder groups were identified for Round 3 in the MSL how ever, 18 individuals (2 individuals from stakeholder groups previously notified during Round 2 and 16 individuals from stakeholder groups which declined further participation in the Project prior to Round 1) declined participation in the Round 3 of the Project PEP and were not included in the Round 3 notification or engagement activities.



# 3.10.1.2 Engagement Activities

Hydro

Engagement activities for Round 3 were chosen to provide multiple methods and venues for participation. The public open houses, landowner information centers and stakeholder meetings were methods that continued to provide Stakeholder Groups and members of the public with opportunities to gather information about the Project and provide their feedback. Table 3-15 describes the engagement activities and level of participation during Round 3.

Engagement Activity	Purpose of Engagement Activity	Number of Invites or Requests (If Applicable)	Number of Events Held	Number of Attendees
Stakeholder Meetings	The meetings provided an opportunity to share issues and concerns related to the Preferred Route.	132 <sup>1</sup>	20	1–8 <sup>2</sup>
Public Open Houses	POHs were hosted to discuss the Project, answer questions and collect feedback from the public.	>28,826	10	435
Landowner Information Centres	An opportunity for ALOs and MLOs to meet with Manitoba Hydro representatives to discuss their property and provide their feedback on the Project. All ALOs and MLOs were invited to schedule a time to attend the LIC.	2293	16	169
Landowner Meetings	Manitoba Hydro began meeting with potentially affected landowners, as requested. The meetings were opportunities for landowners to share their feedback with Project representatives. Meetings were held with individual landowners and groups of residents. All ALOs and MLOs were invited to schedule a meeting with a Manitoba Hydro representative to discuss the Project.	As requested	7	1–8 <sup>2</sup>
Project Webpage	Engagement materials were made available to the public, including newsletters, maps, information on the PEP, route selection process and environmental assessment.	Continuous Updates		

#### Table 3-15 Round 3 Engagement Activities

NOTES:

<sup>1</sup> Includes participants w ho were deemed "information only" (unable to contact during Round 2). These participants were advised to contact the Project team if there is a desire to meet or participate in a workshop/meeting.

 $^2$  Various meetings w ere held w ith 1–8 individuals. Meeting notes w ere captured for all meetings held for the Project.



Manitoba Hydro involved representatives from their various departments including members of the environmental assessment team, public engagement specialists, a Manitoba Hydro employee knowledgeable on EMF and Manitoba Hydro property department employees during the Round 3 activities to help facilitate discussions with landowners.

# 3.10.1.3 Feedback Mechanisms

The feedback considered assisted in determining the Final Preferred Route and was used to support future planning for the Project, including potential tower spotting and mitigation measures. Feedback mechanisms selected for the Project are listed in Table 3-16.

#### Table 3-16 Round 3 Feedback Mechanisms

Feedback Mechanism	Purpose of Feedback Mechanism	Number of Responses Received
Meeting Minutes	Meeting minutes were recorded for meetings and incorporated into the environmental assessment and route selection processes.	27
Comment Sheets	The comment sheet was designed to determine issues and feedback on the proposed alternatives.	98
Online Comment Sheet	An electronic version of the Comment Sheet was made available through the Project webpage for visitors to submit their feedback on the Project.	92
Landowner Form	The form was developed from a collaborative process between the environmental assessment disciplines and the public engagement specialists. It was used during discussions with ALOs and MLOs to documents their feedback.	169
iPad Mapping Stations	The iPad mapping stations collected site-specific data and comments from the public at POHs.	30
Emails and Telephone Calls	Email and telephone correspondence included discussions regarding general preferences/concerns, data requests and other Project-related information.	421



# 3.10.2 Outcomes

# 3.10.2.1 Transmission Line Routing

During Round 3, participants in the La Broquerie area were concerned with the decisions that were made to determine a preferred route for the Project. The following outlines the concerns heard from participants regarding this area.

# 3.10.2.1.1 Segment 207 and 208

Segment 207 (as outlined in Map 3-4) was not deemed preferred following preference determination through the transmission line routing workshop that was held as part of Round 2 transmission line routing process. Although strong public desire was expressed in support of this route, Segment 207 would travel through an area of relatively intact habitat that interconnects protected conservation areas and supports a number of valued species. The segment would also affect an area noted for cultural and heritage value, that is valued as a resource use area by the public, First Nations and Metis. From a technical perspective, this option is in much closer proximity to the existing 230kV and 500kV international power lines which poses a greater risk to system reliability should severe weather (*e.g.* wind events, icing, tornados or fires) occur in the region.

Segment 208 (Map 3-4) became part of the preferred route following Round 2. This segment travels close to the community of La Broquerie and has a greater prevalence of privately owned lands. Concerns related to proximity of residences, potential effect on property values, perceived health risk due to the EMF exposure, the potential effect on proposed subdivisions, potential effect on agricultural land use and effects on expansion of the community were received through PEP feedback.

# 3.10.2.1.2 Use of Fire Guard 13

Various modifications were brought forward through the transmission line routing process. Many of these recommendations included the use of Fire Guard 13 and travelled back west of the Watson P. Davidson Wildlife Management Area. Consideration of this Fire Guard was strongly supported by the RM of La Broquerie and the local fire department. These mitigative segments are discussed below.

# 3.10.2.1.3 Mitigative Segments Developed and Decision of Acceptance

Normally finalizing the preferred route would entail gathering input from the PEP and discipline specialists to make small changes to the route within a mile wide buffer. However, because of the level of concern received in Round 3 PEP activities (as described above), larger deviations were considered than would be usual at this stage. For this reason, the exercise of finalizing the preferred route became more complicated and required a rigorous comparison of alternative



options. The Project team opted to use the tools of the model to guide this decision-making and hence the Final Preferred Route.

As in previous rounds, mitigative segments were developed by Manitoba Hydro to be considered in the transmission line routing process. These segments were developed to mitigate concerns raised by participants throughout Round 3. Mitigative segments that were evaluated for this round are presented in Map 3-9.

Numerous modifications were provided by participants throughout Round 3. Manitoba Hydro compiled the modifications and screened the modifications provided against the following criteria:

- technical feasibility;
- net minimization of effects and not unfairly passing effect onto another landowner; and
- cost considerations.

Following this screening, mitigative segments were developed and considered in the Transmission Line Routing Workshop and are outlined in Map 3-9. Further information regarding decision-making for the determination of a Final Preferred Route (acceptance/non-acceptance of segments) is provided in Chapter 5.

#### Segment 407 (east of Giroux)

This segment was developed as a portion of a segment east of the community of Giroux traversed the Balsam Willows Proposed Ecological Reserve. This modification was accepted as part of the Final Preferred Route.

#### Segment 450 (northwest of Ste. Genevieve)

This segment was brought forward by Landowner L (Section 3.10.2.2.17) to address visual concerns regarding the preferred route. This modification was considered but not accepted due to cost as part of the Final Preferred Route.

#### Segment 451 (west of Ste. Genevieve)

This modification was recommended by the RM of Tache and local landowners to parallel the existing 230kV transmission line (R49R) to avoid placing residences in between the two transmission lines and lessen potential effect on the municipal quarry. This paralleling option has been accepted as part of the Final Preferred Route.

#### Segment 452 (northwest of Richer)

This segment was recommended by landowner C (Section 3.10.2.2.9) to increase separation from the location of a planned future home and was accepted as part of the Final Preferred Route.



#### Segments 453-455 and 457-463 (east of La Broquerie)

These segments were developed to address the concerns raised by the RM of La Broquerie and the preference of participants to reconsider Segment 207 (Round 2) or utilize Fire Guard 13. These modifications were reviewed but were not accepted as part of the Final Preferred Route based on the balance of various perspectives on the landscape. Further information on the transmission line routing decision-making process is provided in Chapter 5.

#### Segment 456 (east of La Broquerie)

This segment was developed to avoid two future home sites that were currently under development along the Round 2 Segment 207. This segment was not accepted as part of the Final Preferred Route based on the balance of various perspectives on the landscape. Further information on the transmission line routing decision-making process is provided in Chapter 5.

#### Segment 478 (north of La Broquerie)

Developed based on feedback from the landowner that they would be accepting of an angle structure on their property. This segment became modified as part of Segment 479 and accepted as part of the Final Preferred Route.

#### Segment 479 (east of La Broquerie)

This segment was developed to gain separation from Quintro Road and an existing subdivision to the east near the community of La Broquerie (equidistant on either side). A modification to this mitigative segment was discussed at the workshop and a more beneficial stream crossing was presented which avoided removal of trees on the northeast corner of the La Broquerie golf course. The extended modification has been accepted as part of the Final Preferred Route.

#### Segments 409, 465-482 (west of the Watson P. Davidson Wildlife Management Area)

Segment was developed to avoid concerns raised regarding recreational use, livestock operations and biosecurity. These segments were accepted as part of the Final Preferred Route.

#### Segment 475 (east of Sundown)

This segment was developed in response to concerns raised by Landowner D (Section 3.10.2.2.10) regarding the potential effect of the transmission line on First Nations traditional and cultural land use on a privately held property. This segment was accepted as part of the Final Preferred Route.

#### Segment 420 (southeast of Piney)

This modification was accepted as part of the Final Preferred Route as the landowner welcomed an angle structure onto their property to avoid affecting a smaller 40 acre parcel located to the north.



#### Segment 412 (south of La Broquerie)

This modification was accepted as part of the Final Preferred Route as the landowner would prefer the transmission line to travel diagonally across his property as this area is frequently wet and he is unable to farm at this location.

### 3.10.2.1.4 Transmission Line Routing Workshop

Following the development of mitigative segments, a third Route Selection Workshop was undertaken. At this stage the Alternative Route Evaluation Model and Preference Determination processes assisted Manitoba Hydro in determining a Final Preferred Route for the Project. A detailed description of this process is provided in Chapter 5.

### 3.10.2.1.5 Determination of the Final Preferred Route

As outlined above (*Mitigative Segments Developed and Decision of Acceptance*) following Round 3, Map 3-10 corresponds to the location of modifications that were accepted as part of the Final Preferred Route. In total, 8 modifications provided by public feedback were accepted as part of the Final Preferred Route. The Final Preferred Route submitted as part of the EIS is presented on Map 3-11.

# 3.10.2.2 Other Outcomes

Based on the numerous discussions held throughout Round 3, other outcomes related to participants or PEP activities were identified. This section provides examples of other outcomes.

# 3.10.2.2.1 RM of Tache Quarry

Following a presentation to the Municipal council, Manitoba Hydro was requested to return to discuss the potential effects on the quarry owned by the Municipality. Council noted concerns with the additional effect another transmission line would have on their operations (existing line R49R currently passes through the quarry adjacent to current active sites). A Manitoba Hydro property representative was in attendance and discussed what limitations would be put in place if the preferred route were to remain and the general framework in which compensation would be calculated.

Through the discussions held with council as well as feedback received from local residents regarding proximity to home sites and future expansion plans, a modification has been accepted as part of the Final Preferred Route that will parallel an existing 230kV line through the quarry and limit additional effect.



# 3.10.2.2.2 La Broquerie (Various Levels of Government)

The RM of La Broquerie has been involved in the Project since initiation of the PEP. Manitoba Hydro has met with council numerous times throughout the PEP and has documented the concerns raised regarding route selection, potential effect on future development and the proximity of the transmission line to the community of La Broquerie. Manitoba Hydro has attended three (3) council meetings to discuss the Project and the route selection process in detail and had numerous email and in-person discussions at open houses. Discussions have included explaining how Manitoba Hydro determined the preferred placement for this transmission line, development potential, zoning, subdivisions and EMF. Manitoba Hydro also met with Provincial and Federal representatives for the area to discuss these same concerns. The council expressed a desire for the route to be further away from the community of La Broquerie (such as along Fire Guard 13 or in the RM of Reynolds). Manitoba Hydro understood this preference and developed various options to be considered when in the route evaluation and selection process. Although not selected as part of the Final Preferred Route (Chapter 5), Manitoba Hydro was able to lessen the potential effects of the transmission line on individual landowners in the municipality through specific route mitigations (outlined further in Chapter 5).

### 3.10.2.2.3 RMs of Stuartburn and Piney: Fiber Optic Cable

Through ongoing discussion with the RM of Stuartburn, Manitoba Hydro understood the desire for the community to potentially gain access to fibre optic cable that would run through the skywire of the transmission line. Concerns with minimal reception, high costs and safety led to a subsequent meeting with Manitoba Hydro and the RMs of Piney and Stuartburn to discuss potential fibre optic access opportunities. Subsequent correspondence outlined Manitoba Hydro's agreement to provide fibre optic cable to providers in the area and is viewed as a Project benefit for the municipalities. The following are excerpts from the communication (dated March 11, 2015) provided to the Reeves.

- "Although the primary purpose of the fibre optic link is to provide power system protection and control there will be sufficient capacity to permit other uses such as commercial telecom opportunities that may arise within the area of the proposed line."
- "Once the route is finalized we will begin our planning for splice access points which for this system will be approximately every 3 to 5 kilometres. If there is an initiative at the community level to take advantage of the fibre system, it would be helpful for you or your technology partner to engage us as early as possible so that we can plan the system to ensure access points are located as close as possible to where the service is to be delivered which will greatly reduce customer access costs."



# 3.10.2.2.4 Trapper's Open House in Steinbach

On April 9, 2015, Manitoba Hydro held an additional open house to focus on the trapping community in the southeast region of Manitoba. Through discussions with local representatives and the Manitoba Trapper's Association, Steinbach was selected as the location for the meeting. On the advice of the local trapping representatives, Manitoba Hydro used local newspapers, as well as the Manitoba Trappers Association's website, to notify local trappers as a primary means of notification. Seven attendees participated in the open house.

# 3.10.2.2.5 ALO Contact Completion

Manitoba Hydro used the engagement activities, phone line and email address to speak with potentially affected landowners (ALO). To date, Manitoba Hydro has had contact with potentially affected landowners (by express post (required a signature for tracking) or by phone) and has ensured they are aware of the Project potentially crossing their landholdings.

# 3.10.2.2.6 Out of Province Landowners

Upon receipt of the landowner list that was developed through the Manitoba Assessment Offices, Manitoba Hydro needed to provide a forum to gather feedback from out of province landowners. Manitoba Hydro sought out contact information for these landowners and contacted them directly if they had not already contacted the Project team through phone or email. Manitoba Hydro completed landowner forms with the landowners, if desired, or captured the information through email and telephone conversations.

# 3.10.2.2.7 Landowner Follow Ups

During round three engagement activities various questions and concerns were noted by participants through comment sheets and in person at POHs and LICs. In order to be responsive to individuals concerns and questions, 65 follow-ups were undertaken through email, phone and letter.

# 3.10.2.2.8 Response to SafeSpace Website

Participants approached Manitoba Hydro with EMF related information from a website (<u>www.safespaceprotection.com</u>) that aimed to sell EMF protection products. To be responsive to this information, Manitoba Hydro enlisted the help of Exponent Inc. to review the website and provide a response to participants that summarized the information being provided was not a peer-reviewed journal and sources were selected to "make a case" to sell a product. A copy of this has been provided in the supporting documentation that has been filed with this chapter (see Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 3 PEP – Appendix D1).



### 3.10.2.2.9 Landowner C

Hydro

These landowners were recent purchasers (2015) of a parcel potentially traversed by the preferred route. Manitoba Hydro representatives have had email, phone and personal visits to discuss concerns, process, and potential mitigation measures to lessen the potential effects the Project may have on their future home site. Through this communication, the landowners recommended a modification and tower spotting preferences. The modification has been accepted as part of the Final Preferred Route and tower spotting will be considered in final design.

### 3.10.2.2.10 Landowner D

Through the affected landowner notification process and numerous emails, Manitoba Hydro was made aware of privately owned land that is currently being used to collect medicinal plants. The preferred route traversed through the middle of two (2) quarter sections. The landowner and a representative outlined the potential effects this may have on the collection of traditional medicines from this parcel. Manitoba Hydro offered to visit the site and walk the proposed route through the property but was not provided with an opportunity to do so. Through the information collected with the landowner form and subsequent emails, a modification was developed by the routing team to address concerns raised regarding First Nations traditional and cultural land use on a privately held property. This modification was accepted as part of the Final Preferred Route.

### 3.10.2.2.11 Recreational Management Unit – Landowner E

Manitoba Hydro met with the landowner and his business partner and they outlined the trail development they had been undertaking for various years on 8 adjacent quarter sections near the Watson P. Davidson Wildlife Management Area. They were concerned that the Preferred Route would bisect the contiguous land owned and would allow unwanted access. They indicated that to access the property they require individuals to request permission and receive a permission slip. Following this meeting and meetings with other stakeholder groups in the vicinity, a modification was developed for consideration. This modification was adopted as part of the Final Preferred Route.

### 3.10.2.2.12 Local Livestock Operators – Landowners F and G

Manitoba Hydro has engaged with local livestock operators throughout the PEP and has documented concerns regarding biosecurity, calving areas, access and construction concerns. Manitoba Hydro collected feedback from two (2) large scale operators and developed a modification that may lessen the potential effects the Project may have regarding their operations and sensitive sites. The modification developed has been accepted as part of the Final Preferred Route.



# 3.10.2.2.13 Landowner H

Manitoba Hydro began discussions with Landowner H during the Border Crossing Modification engagement process undertaken in the fall of 2014. Meeting with the landowner yielded valuable insight into their current landholdings, locations of existing and future infrastructure as well as preferences and concerns with various route options being presented. Following the determination of a preferred route that was presented in Round 3, a meeting with the landowners was called to discuss the modification they had put forward that had become part of the preferred route. During this discussion, the landowners were satisfied with the location of the route as it reflected the feedback they had previously provided. With their understanding of the other landowners in the area, the landowners were accepting of an angle structure on their property so that placing the structure on a neighbouring, smaller 40-acre land holding could be avoided. This modification onto their property has been accepted as part of the Final Preferred Route.

### 3.10.2.2.14 Landowner I

With the incorporation of Segment 353 (Section 3.8.2.1.2), Manitoba Hydro began discussions with a homeowner who would require their home to be purchased as the ROW would overlap with the home. Manitoba Hydro had ongoing dialogue with this landowner and the landowner subsequently signed documents and accepted the buyout offer made by Manitoba Hydro.

### 3.10.2.2.15 Landowner J

Manitoba Hydro is in ongoing discussions with a potential home purchase due to Segment 353 being accepted as part of the preferred route. As outlined in the Landowner Compensation Brochure, a buy-out can be offered to provide compensation to landowners for all related and reasonable relocation costs, where the proximity of the transmission line is within 75 meters of the landowner's residence (and is associated with a new ROW). Manitoba Hydro has discussed various options with the landowner such as relocation of the home on the current land or potential purchase of the residence. Manitoba Hydro will continue to discuss potential options.

### 3.10.2.2.16 Landowner K

Manitoba Hydro began working with Landowner K when segments 202-204 (presented in Map 3-4) came under consideration. Concerns with the segments included perceived reduced enjoyment of the land, splitting the landholding by two transmission lines and concerns related to EMF exposure. Manitoba Hydro has met on numerous occasions at open houses and other locations, has had various phone calls and emails and has received letters outlining the concerns associated with routing through the landholding. Manitoba Hydro considered the feedback provided by the individual and was unable to make the requested modification as it would cross an existing 230kV line twice and would increase reliability risk to the electrical system of the community. Although not able to make the suggested modification, Manitoba Hydro will continue to work with the landowner and has put forward a mitigation measure to limit the ROW required



when paralleling R49R that would maintain more tree cover and increase separation from the residence (as outlined in Section 3.10.3.2)

### 3.10.2.2.17 Landowner L

Landowner L participated throughout Round 3 and provided four potential rerouting options to limit their aesthetic and proximity concerns. The Project team reviewed the four options and due to technical issues with the crossing of existing infrastructure, technical feasibility, and cost these modifications would not be accepted as part of the Final Preferred Route.

# 3.10.2.3 Lessons Learned for use in the Ongoing Engagement Process

Based on the feedback received, the notification methods used throughout the process were successful because the Project had more participation than previous transmission line projects undertaken by Manitoba Hydro.

Manitoba Hydro continues to gather email addresses from individuals who wish to be kept informed throughout the regulatory review process and subsequent Project activities.

Manitoba Hydro will continue to engage with the public, as discussed in Section 3.11.

# 3.10.3 Recommendations

# 3.10.3.1 Tower Spotting Recommendations

During discussions with potentially affected landowners throughout Round 3, tower spotting preferences were provided by 21 participants. Tower spotting preferences were predominantly provided by participants to limit potential aesthetic/viewshed concerns, to avoid agricultural lands or to have matching tower spans when paralleling lines of similar magnitude.

Following preliminary survey work to understand local landscapes and tower spacing, tower location preferences provided by participants will be provided to the Transmission Line Design team to consider for final tower placement. A full list of tower spotting recommendations is included in the supporting documentation filed with this chapter (see Technical Data Report - Summary of Round 3 PEP – Appendix F).

# 3.10.3.2 Proposed Mitigation Measures

Throughout Round 3, Manitoba Hydro representatives attempted to collect mitigation measures from local residents to limit potential effects the Project may have. Participants were informed that their suggestions would be provided to discipline specialists for their consideration in their environmental assessment work.



Many of the localized concerns raised have been mitigated through the transmission line routing process. Table 3-17 addresses potential concerns that could be lessened by implementing the following measures.

Table 3-17	Proposed Mitigation Measures
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Concern	Mitigation Measure
Celebration of Praznik at Ridgeland Cemetery	Praznik is a Ukrainian Catholic celebration of those who have passed away. Family activities occur at the Ridgeland Cemetery and Manitoba Hydro has indicated that if dates are known they should be provided to Manitoba Hydro staff. Manitoba Hydro will time construction and maintenance activities to avoid any religious ceremonies/practices or interments at a cemetery, as to not interfere with the celebration.
	In addition, to enhance treed area between the ROW and the cemetery, self-supporting structures will be installed to limit the ROW width.
	Avoidance of this area during construction will be done when possible unless emergency situations require immediate work.
Paralleling of R49R (existing 230kV Transmission Line)	Although unable to cross over R49R for technical and cost reasons, the PEP team is suggesting to tighten the ROW when paralleling R49R, where possible, to enhance separation from existing residences.
Notification of Real Estate Association	Due to the lengthy regulatory review process and the feedback received from new home purchasers in the proximity of the preferred route, Manitoba Hydro will notify the Manitoba Real Estate Association to disseminate information to local realtors about the potential Project that may be approved by regulatory authorities.

# 3.11 Ongoing Engagement

Manitoba Hydro is committed to sharing information with the public throughout the regulatory, construction and operations phases for the Project. Keeping information available and having mechanisms to address concerns or questions is important to the ongoing engagement and to maintain the relationships developed throughout the process. Mechanisms for ongoing engagement are listed below.

# 3.11.1.1.1 Webpage

Manitoba Hydro will continue to maintain the Project webpage and will upload regulatory filings as part of the MCWS and NEB regulatory review processes including contact information. Updates on current status of the Project, how to become involved in the regulatory review process and public materials will remain available on the Project website through construction and operation of the Project.



# 3.11.1.1.2 Plain Language Summary

Manitoba Hydro has developed a Plain Language Summary to simplify the findings of the EIS and will be made available to the public and stakeholder groups (through mail outs (hardcopy) and the webpage) to assist in their review of the EIS and participation throughout the regulatory review process.

# 3.11.1.1.3 Email Campaigns

Manitoba Hydro will continue building the list of email contacts and will inform those interested regarding upcoming milestones such as regulatory filings, windows for public participation, hearings, regulatory decisions, opportunities to participate, and updates on construction and operation. The mailing list will be used throughout the regulatory and construction phases of the Project until operation of the transmission line. The Manitoba Hydro webpage will continue to offer participant email sign up.

### 3.11.1.1.4 Letters

Formal letters will be sent to participants (including potentially affected landowners, mile landowners, stakeholder groups, and open house attendees) regarding filing of the EIS and subsequent licence decisions. Tax roll information has been collected during the summer of 2015 to capture any new landowners that may have recently purchased property and will be notified of the EIS submission and methods to participate in the regulatory review process. Registered letters will be used to notify potentially affected landowners.

# 3.11.1.1.5 Phone Line and Email Address

The toll-free information line and the dedicated Project email address will be maintained and continue to provide a mechanism to answer questions and address concerns throughout the regulatory, construction and operation phases of the Project.

# 3.11.1.1.6 Meetings

Manitoba Hydro welcomes meetings with stakeholder groups or landowners if requested following the presentation of the Final Preferred Route or later in the process. These meetings will continue to attempt to address outstanding concerns and/or for more information regarding any upcoming steps in the process.

# 3.11.1.1.7 Easement Negotiations

If the Project is approved, Manitoba Hydro will undertake easement discussions with landowners and will provide opportunity for landowners to share information and collect site specific feedback such as access to the property, appropriate contact methods and tower placement.



# 3.11.1.1.8 Real Estate Agent Notification and Information Packages

Manitoba Hydro will notify the Manitoba Real Estate Board to disseminate information regarding the Project. This will occur with the release of the Final Preferred Route and Manitoba Hydro welcomes discussions with real estate agents through upcoming phases of the Project.

# 3.11.1.1.9 Construction Discussions with Local Government and Emergency Crews

Manitoba Hydro construction crews will notify and meet with local municipal councils to discuss weight restrictions, road closures and other construction related topics if a licence is granted for the Project.

# 3.12 Summary

The PEP aimed to build trust and meaningful relationships with participants. This has been demonstrated by ongoing communication and continual follow up with stakeholder groups and members of the public. Through mutual understanding of local concerns, many issues have been addressed through routing modifications and understanding of individual use of landholdings. The methods used throughout the PEP aimed to develop these relationships and feedback received influenced the decisions being made by Manitoba Hydro.

Each participant may not always favour decisions made throughout the Project, whereas Manitoba Hydro strived to be transparent through the process. The decision-making processes were based around ensuring the PEP was responsive to participants. This includes ongoing engagement as Manitoba Hydro is committed to sharing information with the public throughout the regulatory, construction and operations phases for the Project. Keeping information available and having mechanisms to address concerns or questions is important to maintaining the relationships that have developed through this process.

# 3.13 References

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- IAIA (International Association for Impact Assessment), Institute of Environmental Assessment-UK. Principles of Environmental Impact Assessment Best Practice. Fargo: IAIA, 1999. <a href="http://www.iaia.org/publicdocuments/special-publications/Principles%200f%20IA\_web.pdf?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>">http://www.iaia.org/publicdocuments/special-publications/Principles%200f%20IA\_web.pdf?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>">http://www.iaia.org/publicdocuments/special-publications/Principles%200f%20IA\_web.pdf?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>">http://www.iaia.org/publicdocuments/special-publications/Principles%200f%20IA\_web.pdf?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>">http://www.iaia.org/publicdocuments/special-publications/Principles%200f%20IA\_web.pdf?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>">http://www.iaia.org/publicdocuments/special-publications/Principles%200f%20IA\_web.pdf?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>">http://www.iaia.org/publicdocuments/special-publications/Principles%200f%20IA\_web.pdf?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>">http://www.iaia.org/publicdocuments/special-publications/Principles%200f%20IA\_web.pdf?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>">http://www.iaia.org/publicdocuments/special-publications/Principles%200f%20IA\_web.pdf?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>">http://www.iaia.org/publicdocuments/special-publications/Principles%200f%20IA\_web.pdf?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>">http://www.iaia.org/publicdocuments/special-publications/Principles%200f%20IA\_web.pdf?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>">http://www.iaia.org/publications/Principles%200f%20IA\_web.pdf?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>">http://www.iaia.org/publications/Principles%200f%20IA\_web.pdf?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>">http://www.iaia.org/publications/Principles%200f%20IA\_web.pdf?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>">http://www.iaia.org/publications/Principles%200f%20IA\_web.pdf?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>">http://www.iaia.org/publications/Principles%200f%20IA\_web.pdf?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>">http://www.iaia.org/publications/Principle@200f%20IA\_web.pdf?AspxAutoDetectCookieSuppor



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- NEB (National Energy Board). "National Energy Board Electricity Filing Manual." Manual. 2015. Document. <a href="https://www.neb-one.gc.ca/bts/ctrg/gnnb/lctrct/lctrctflngmnl/lfmch5-eng.html">https://www.neb-one.gc.ca/bts/ctrg/gnnb/lctrct/lctrctflngmnl/lfmch5-eng.html</a>.



# Appendix 3A Stakeholder Contacts



Manitoba Hydro defined a stakeholder group as an interested party that may:

- Have potential feedback to provide
- Be affected by the decisions made regarding route selection
- Have specific interests or mandate in the route planning area
- Have potential data to share
- Have an ability to disseminate information to membership/constituency
- Possess an interest in the Project's route planning area

A desktop review of past Manitoba Hydro project Stakeholder Groups was conducted to identify potential Stakeholder Groups to be involved in the PEP for the Project. Groups were identified and included various interests. Additionally, an internet search was also conducted to identify organizations for involvement in the Project using key words in searches and reviewing local municipal websites.

Many groups have been involved in various Manitoba Hydro route selection processes for past projects and were asked if this Project would be of interest to their organization. Manitoba Hydro wanted to acknowledge the primary contact of the organization and other groups who the organization may be aware of that may have interest in the Project.

The following table shows the contacts where Manitoba Hydro shared Project information. This list contains duplicates but represents different individuals within the same organization. These individuals may have different responsibilities or they were noted as primary contact through pre-engagement.

At any time, groups/individuals were able to modify their level of engagement in the process and some declined further participation or became more involved.

Stakeholder Contacts	
50 by '30	
Agriculture (Rural Development)	
All Terrain Vehicles of Manitoba Inc.	
Assiniboine Hills Conservation District	
Association of Manitoba Municipalities	
Beausejour Community Planning Services	
Beausejour Community Planning Services	
Bipole III Coalition	



Bird Atlas
Boreal Forest Network
Canadian Pacific - Railline
Canadian Pacific - Railline
Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society
City of Steinbach
City of Winnipeg
CN Rail - manager CN Business Development & Real Estate
CN Rail - manager CN Business Development & Real Estate
Consumers Association of Canada
Cooks Creek Conservation District
Crown Lands
Culture, Heritage, Tourism (Heritage)
Culture, Heritage, Tourism (Tourism)
Dairy Farmers of Manitoba
Department of Fisheries and Oceans
Ducks Unlimited
Ducks Unlimited Native Plant Solutions
Green Action Centre
Green Action Centre
Green Party of Manitoba
Health (Environmental Health Unit)
HyLife, Land Manager
Innovation Energy & Mines (Energy Dev)
Innovation Energy & Mines (Mines)
Innovation Energy & Mines (Pertoleum)
Integrated Resource Management Team
Intergovernmental Affairs
KC's Outfitting
Keystone Agricultural Producers



Labour (Office of Fire Commisioner)

Labour (Office of Fire Commisioner)

Local Urban District of Richer, Committee Member-Chairperson

Macdonald-Ritchot Planning District

Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs

Manitoba Aerial Applicators

Manitoba Aerial Applicators

Manitoba Aerial Applicators

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

Manitoba Association of Cottage Owners

Manitoba Beef Producers (Policy Analyst)

Manitoba Chamber of Commerce

Manitoba Chicken Producers

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship: Head, Park System Planning and Ecology

Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism - Manager

Manitoba Eco Network

Manitoba Floodway Authority

Manitoba Forestry Association

Manitoba Forestry Association

Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation

Manitoba Infrastructure & Transportation - Materials Engineering

Manitoba Infrastructure & Transportation - Materials Engineering

Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation

Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation

Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation

Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation

Manitoba Infrastrucutre and Transportation

Manitoba Lodges and Outfitters

Manitoba Naturalists Society

Manitoba Parks and Natural Areas Branch (MCWS)



Stakeholder Contacts
Manitoba Pork Council (Industry Services Co-ordinator
Manitoba Trappers Association
Manitoba Trappers Association
Manitoba Trappers Association
Manitoba Wilderness Committee
Manitoba Wildlands
Manitoba Wildlife Federation
Manitoba Wildlife Society
Manitoba Woodlot Association
Maple Leaf Agri-Farms
MCWS (Aboriginal Relations)
MCWS (Air Quality)
MCWS (Climate Change)
MCWS (Env. Programs and Strategies)
MCWS (Fisheries)
MCWS (Forestry)
MCWS (Ground Water Management)
MCWS (Office of Drinking Water)
MCWS (Parks)
MCWS (Regional Director)
MCWS (Sustainable Resource Management)
MCWS (Water Control Works Licensing)
MCWS (Water Quality Management)
MCWS (Water Use Licensing)
MCWS (Wildlife)
MCWS Agriculture (Land Use)
MCWS (Water Control Works and Drainage Licensing)
Mining Association of Manitoba
Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation (Flood Forecasting & Coord)
Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation (Planning and Design)
Nature Conservancy
Orchid Society
Organic Producers Association of Manitoba Co-Operative Inc.



Portage la Prairie Community Planning Services
Protected Areas Initiative
RM of De Salaberry
RM of Franklin
RM of Hanover
RM of Headingley
RM of LaBroquerie
RM of MacDonald
RM of MacDonald
RM of Piney
RM of Reynolds
RM of Ritchot
RM of Rosser
RM of Rosser
RM of South Cypress
RM of Springfield
RM of Springfield
RM of Ste. Anne
RM of Stuartburn
RM of Stuartburn
RM of Tache
RM of Tache
Ruth Marr Consulting
Sandilands Cross Country Ski Club
Seine-Rat River Conservation District
Sierra Club (Prairie Chapter Manitoba)
Sno-Man Inc
South East Snoriders
St. Norbert Ward - Winnipeg
St. Vital Ward - Winnipeg
Steinbach Community Planning Services
Steinbach Office Local Government Planners
Town of St. Pierre Jolys



Town of Ste. Anne	
Trails Manitoba	
TransCanada Pipelines Limited	
TransCanada Pipelines Limited	
TransCanada Trail	
Travel Manitoba	
Travel Manitoba	
Travel Manitoba	
Turnbull Drive Association (768 Association Inc.)	
University of Manitoba	
University of Winnipeg	
Village of Glenboro	
Village of Glenboro	