

## Valued Components

# Traditional Land and Resource Use

### and the Manitoba–Minnesota Transmission Project

#### Why do we assess traditional land and resource use?

Traditional land and resource use refers to places, animals and vegetation on the landscape that are of cultural importance to First Nations and Metis. This includes, but is not limited to:

- hunting
- trapping
- fishing
- harvesting plant materials for food, medicines and cultural and traditional crafts
- areas of cultural importance.

The traditional use of lands and resources has a cultural, spiritual and economic value to the users, including First Nation and Metis people.

#### How will we determine potential effects on traditional land and resource use?

We will continue to meet with First Nations and Metis to understand resource use in the area under consideration. Through Aboriginal Traditional land use and knowledge studies, the assessment team will be able to better understand potential effects on practices such as trapping and fishing to prescribe appropriate mitigation measures to minimize potential effects.

#### What environmental assessment activities are underway?

Cultural and environmentally sensitive sites are being identified through Aboriginal Traditional



*Culturally sensitive sites will be identified.*

knowledge studies conducted by First Nation and Metis who have interest in the project area. Desktop studies are also underway to assist with identifying baseline information.

### **What are some of the potential effects on traditional land and resource use?**

Culturally sensitive sites such as burial grounds and harvesting areas that include hunting, trapping, fishing and gathering areas could be disturbed during construction (clearing and tower placement) and project operation.

### **What measures are we considering to reduce the potential effects on land and resource use?**

Cultural and environmentally sensitive sites will be identified as those areas requiring special consideration for mitigation, monitoring or management. Mitigation measures include avoiding sensitive sites through routing and low disturbance clearing methods in areas where berry and medicinal plant collection occurs.

An environmental protection program will be developed using feedback received from First Nations and Metis and used during construction and operation to avoid and reduce potential environmental and social effects.

*Valued components (VCs) 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.*

**For more information or if you would like to share your concerns, contact us at [mmtp@hydro.mb.ca](mailto:mmtp@hydro.mb.ca) or toll free at 1-877-343-1631.**

