

Environmental Assessment & Regulatory Review

and the Manitoba–Minnesota Transmission Project

What is an environmental assessment?

An environmental assessment is a multi-disciplinary evaluation of a project that examines what potential effects the project might have on the human and natural environment and how to minimize potential effects.

Environment Act Licence

Under The *Environment Act* (Manitoba), Manitoba Hydro is required to submit an application for a Class 3 Licence to construct the project. To do this, Manitoba Hydro will prepare an application for Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship, which will include an environmental impact statement (EIS). The Environmental Approvals Branch reviews the application and determines whether a licence will be approved. Conditions may be applied when a license is issued and Manitoba Hydro would be required to adhere to these conditions to maintain the licence.

National Energy Board environmental assessment

The National Energy Board (NEB) is an independent federal regulator that promotes safety and security, environmental protection and economic efficiency specific to energy projects.

The Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Line Project requires authorization of an international power line under the NEB Act. A review will be undertaken by the NEB for the project under *The Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*. The NEB ensures that an appropriate environmental assessment is conducted according to the standards prescribed by legislation in the project jurisdiction.

What happens after the EIS is submitted?

The Environmental Approvals Branch within Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship will review the application and determine whether:

- additional information is required;
- a Clean Environment Commission hearing is required (direction of the Minister of Conservation);
- the project can be approved.

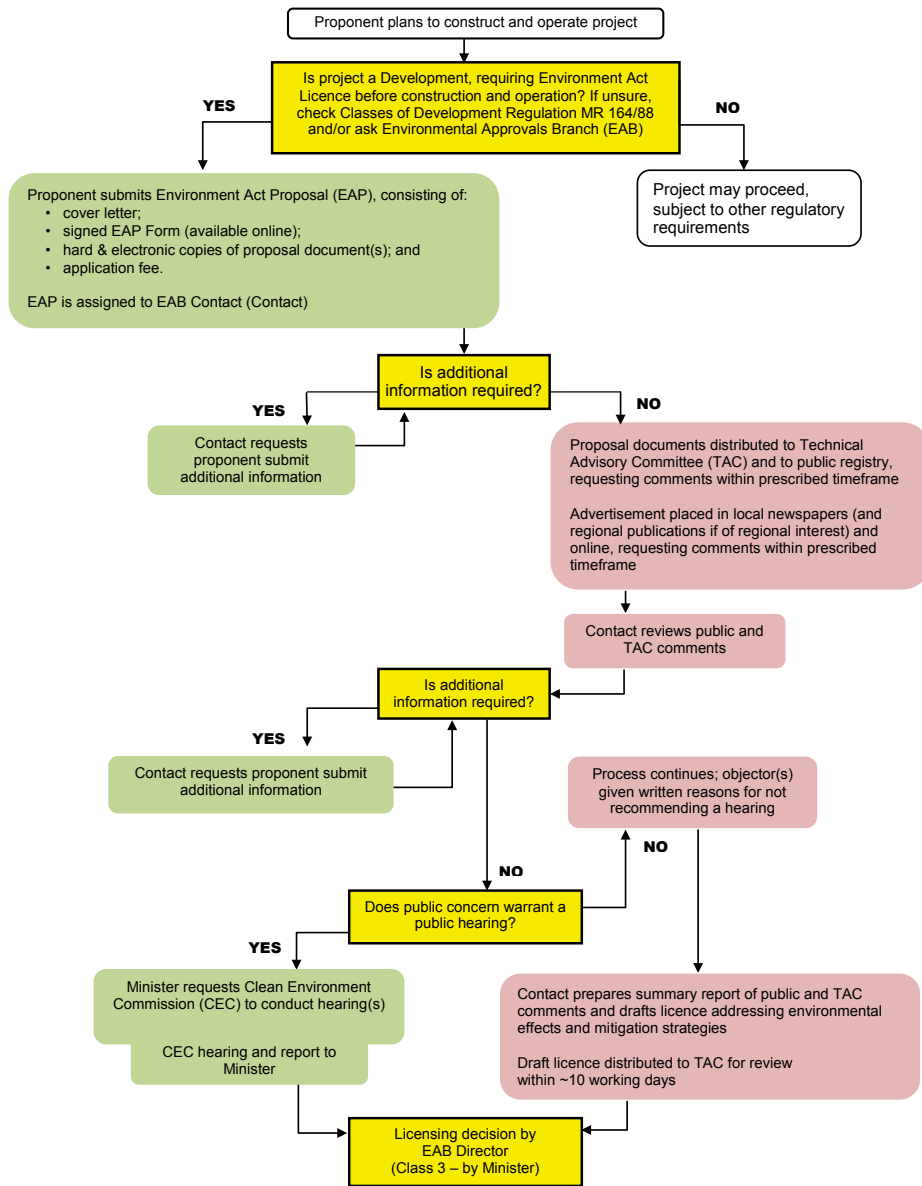
The NEB will also review and determine if additional information is required. They will make a decision whether to authorize the international power line under The National Energy Board Act.

How can the public get involved in the regulatory review process?

The public can participate in the regulatory review process by:

- Participating in a public review period through Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship to comment on the EIS;
- Submit written comments to Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship;
- Participate in a public hearing if one is called by the Minister of Conservation;
- Submit written comments to the NEB;
- Participate in an NEB hearing, if required.

Environmental Assessment Process Overview



Contact information

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

