


**Manitoba Minnesota  
Transmission Project**

**Round 3  
Preferred Route**

Winter 2015




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**Project Description**

- 500 kV AC Transmission Line
  - From Dorsey Station to MB-MN Border
  - will connect to the Great Northern Transmission Line, constructed by Minnesota Power
- Improvements to three stations (Dorsey, Riel, Glenboro)
- Anticipated in-service date is 2020.
- Estimated cost is \$350 million.




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**Project Description**

- Anticipated tower heights: 40-60 m
- Anticipated right-of-way: 80-100 m
- Anticipated tower spacing: 400-500 m (typical 450 m)


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### Project Need

- Export electric power based on current sales agreements
- Increase access to markets in the United States
- Improve reliability and import capacity in emergency and drought situations

*This project was approved by the Public Utilities Board in July 2014 as part of Manitoba Hydro's preferred development plan*



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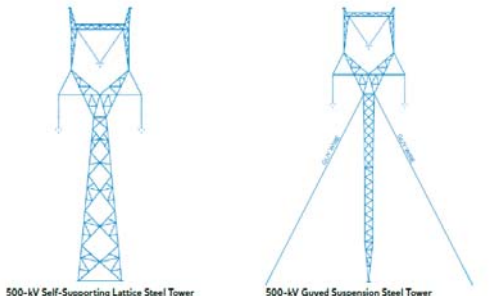
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### Preliminary Tower Design



**500-kV Self-Supporting Lattice Steel Tower**  
(Towers are not drawn to scale — conceptual only)

**500-kV Guyed Suspension Steel Tower**  
(Angle of guy wires depicted on tower are not accurate — conceptual only)



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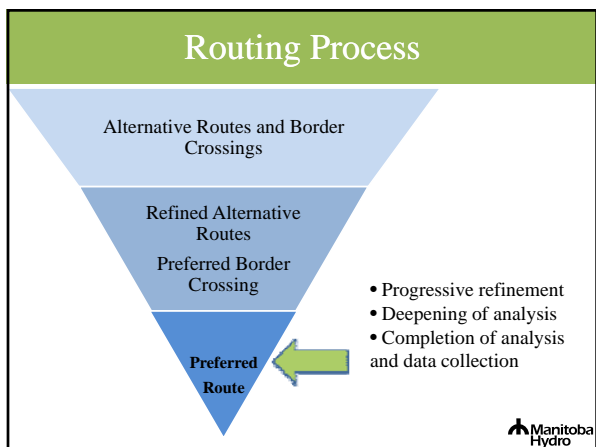
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**Border Crossing Modification**

- Border crossing modified due to ongoing discussions with Minnesota Power
  - Concerns regarding the Piney/Pinecreek Airport
- Notified local residents and landowners and stakeholders
- Undertook meetings and an Open House in November 2014
- Assisted in determining a preferred route in the Piney area

Manitoba Hydro

A rectangular box with a green header containing the title 'Border Crossing Modification'. Below the header is a bulleted list with four items. The first item has a sub-bullet. The Manitoba Hydro logo is in the bottom right corner.

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### Evaluative Routes

- Developed in addition to routes presented in Round 2
  - Slight deviations from refined alternative routes
- Mitigate public and discipline specialist concerns
- Considered and evaluated as part of the route evaluation process



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### Routing Process

- Feedback was received from discipline specialists, public, stakeholders, First Nations
- Evaluative routes included for consideration
- +500,000 route options were considered
  - Back tracking removed
  - Longest 25% removed



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### Routing Process

- +15,000 routes remained for consideration and evaluation.
- Aimed to balance the engineering, natural and built environment
- Narrowed to 5 routes to be compared against one another
  - Community, Cost, Reliability, Risk to Schedule, Natural Environment, Built Environment
- Preferred route was determined



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## Regulatory

- **Federal** : National Energy Board
  - CEAA 2012 applies (designated activity)
- **Provincial** : Class 3 project under the *Environment Act*
  - Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship
  - Manitoba's Clean Environment Commission
  
- An **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)** will be developed for use in both processes

*Anticipated filing with regulatory authorities will be summer of 2015*



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## Environmental Assessment

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project will include:

- **Study area characterization**, obtained through site visits and background investigations
- Documentation of **public engagement**
- Assessment of potential **environmental and socio-economic effects on valued components**
- Assessment of **cumulative effects** of the transmission line
- **Mitigation measures and monitoring plans** developed for the Project
- An **environmental protection program**



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## Valued Components

- Evaluate and assess various components to help focus the environmental assessment
- Examples include:
  - Agriculture
  - Land and Resource Use
  - Heritage Resources
  - Community Health & Well-Being
  - Vegetation & Wetlands
  - Wildlife (mammals, birds, amphibians, etc.)

*Materials have been developed to share the information known to date as we continue to assess these valued components*



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## Engagement and Route Selection

**Round 1: October - November 2013**


- Introduce the Project
- Present alternative routes and proposed border crossings
- Answer questions
- Identify and document routing criteria and concerns
- Use input to refine alternative routes and border crossing areas

**Round 2: Spring 2014**

- Present what we heard
- Present refined alternative routes and preferred border crossing
- Answer questions
- Identify and document routing criteria and concerns
- Use input to guide preferred route selection

**Round 3: Early 2015**

- Present what we heard
- Present the Preferred Route
- Answer questions
- Identify and document outstanding concerns
- Provide opportunity to discuss potential effects and possible mitigation measures to minimize effects



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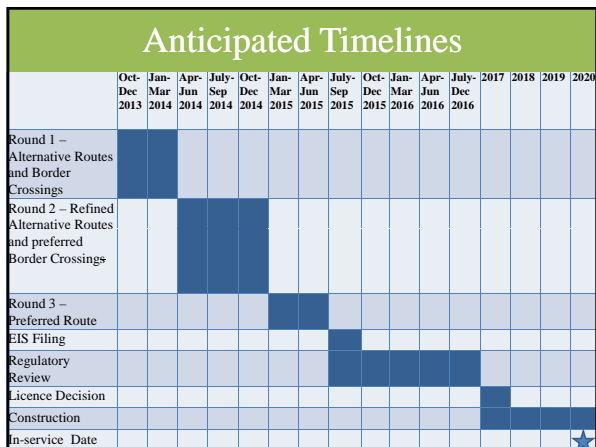
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## Next Steps

- Meeting with Stakeholders, First Nations, MMF, & affected Landowners
- Public Open Houses & Landowner Centres
- Ongoing notification
  - Newspaper, emails, posters, postcards, registered/non registered mail, etc.
- Ongoing field investigations & evaluations
- Development and finalization of the EIS



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Questions?

Thank you



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