

**Consultations
on the Proposed Wuskwatim Generation
and Transmission Projects**

CONSULTATION SUPPORT COSTS GUIDELINES

Background

Manitoba Conservation and the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) have initiated consultations with First Nations and aboriginal communities who may be affected by the proposed Wuskwatim Generation and Transmission Projects.

Manitoba Conservation and DFO acknowledge that they have a responsibility to consult in a meaningful way with First Nations and aboriginal communities when the granting of licences and permits might result in an infringement of Treaty or aboriginal rights.

The objective of the consultation is to hear and understand the concerns of First Nations and aboriginal communities about how their traditional use of resources, lands and waterways might be affected by the proposed Wuskwatim Projects.

Manitoba Conservation and DFO have developed a set of guidelines related to consultation support costs.

General Principles

1. Information Requirements

Manitoba Conservation and DFO will endeavor to provide information about the proposed projects that the First Nation, aboriginal community, or individual resource user may require.

Resources have been provided by both Manitoba Conservation (through its Participant Assistance Program) and Manitoba Hydro to review the Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) and associated documentation and to address specific issues of concern.

Manitoba Conservation and DFO consider these review mechanisms as sources for First Nations and aboriginal communities to assess how the proposed Wuskwatim Projects might affect their traditional use of resources, lands and waterways.

EXHIBIT # OTH-1027
WUSKWATIM GENERATION
& TRANSMISSION PROJECT
CLEAN ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION

Manitoba Conservation and DFO may refer First Nations and aboriginal communities to Manitoba Hydro for consideration under its aboriginal community consultation funding guidelines to assist with the review of any specific EIS issues of direct interest to the First Nation or aboriginal community.

Any request for additional funding will be considered.

2. Community Consultation Support Costs

Manitoba Conservation and DFO will cover the following costs for a consultation in the community:

- Meeting room rental, refreshments, audio and visual aids, translation services; and
- Reasonable honoraria, at the request of the community, according to community custom or protocol e.g. Elders participation.

Manitoba Conservation and DFO will consider the following costs for a consultation in the community:

- Consultation coordination costs to facilitate the organization of the consultation in the community.

3. Travel for Planning Meeting Away from Home Community

The consultations will take place in the community. If deemed necessary to have a consultation planning meeting away from the home community, Manitoba Conservation and DFO will cover travel costs at government rates for a community representative to travel to the meeting.