

WUSKWATIM GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION PROJECT EISs: EFFECTS ON MÉTIS AND OTHER ABORIGINAL PEOPLE

To address issues raised by the Manitoba Métis Association (MMF), the following are reviewed:

1. **Approach:** How the Wuskwatim Generation Project EIS and Wuskwatim Transmission Project EIS have addressed the EIS Guideline requirements relating to effects on people (focusing on effects related to Aboriginal people to address MMF concerns), including:
 - **Scoping** - How socio-economic effects, and specifically the topic of culture, was scoped for study in the environmental impact assessments.
 - **Methods and sources of Information** - What information was brought to bear in drawing conclusions about socio-economic effects, including effects on culture.
 - **Public Consultation and Involvement** – PIP activities beyond those noted above specifically relevant to MMF and Métis.
2. **Information regarding Effects on Aboriginal Peoples, including Métis:** This section takes note of additional information regarding Aboriginal populations in the study region as scoped for each Wuskwatim Project, including Métis populations.

The following attachments provide additional information to assist in consideration of Wuskwatim Project effects on Métis and other Aboriginal people:

- **Attachment A – Census Population Data for Wuskwatim Project Regions,** including persons identifying themselves as Aboriginal in 2001 Census.
- **Attachment B – Addendum: Summary of Public Involvement Consultation in the Site Selection and Environmental Assessment Process for Wuskwatim Transmission Project,** focusing on contacts beyond open houses (including contacts with resource users in areas affected by the Project).
- **Attachment C – MMF Reference to Plant Use by Métis People,** including review of referenced literature and treatment of plants in the Wuskwatim EISs.
- **Attachment D – Addendum re: Métis Historical Background.**
- **Attachment E - MH/NCN Contact with MMF – Wuskwatim Projects PIP.**

Table 1
Wuskwatim Generation Project Environmental Impact Assessment
Scoping of Socio-Economic & Heritage Resource Component Study Regions

Study Region	Resource use	Economy	Infrastructure and Services	Personal, Family & Community Life	Heritage Resources
Local Region Nelson House (reserve and Northern Affairs) South Indian Lake	X	X X	X	X	X
Project Region • Thompson • Other		X X	X	X	
Northern Region		X			
Manitoba and Canada		X			

Table 2
Wuskwatim Transmission Project
Key Person Interview Program: Socio-economic Topics

Community	Key Person Interviews
Thompson	3
Wabowden	2
Thicket Portage	2 workshops (11 individuals)
Snow Lake	7
Herb Lake Landing	1
Cormorant	2
	1 workshop (8 individuals)
The Pas	8
OCN	6
RM of Kelsey	2
	1 (Umpherville)

**ATTACHMENT A
CENSUS POPULATION DATA FOR WUSKWATIM PROJECT REGIONS**

MMF TESTIMONY

On May 14, 2004, MMF provided testimony on population in the Wuskwatim Project regions and in Manitoba, including:

- **Generation Region population** - Approximately 30,000 people in the Generation Project region based on 1996 Census, with approximately 10,000 First Nation people and about 3,000 Métis who are represented by the MMF (Teillet, Transcript p. 5888, where said that "the Métis figures we are telling you are low minimum numbers").
- **MMF adult membership in Generation Region** - The estimate of 3,000 Metis "come from the membership lists of the Manitoba Métis Federation" (Teillet, Transcript p. 6037); these are adults, 18 over (Chartrand, Transcript p. 6069).
- **Manitoba Métis population and MMF membership numbers** - Quoted over 100,000 Métis in Manitoba, including children (Chartrand, Transcript p. 6069); MMF membership of 36,000 in Manitoba, 18 and over voting members (Chartrand, Transcript p. 6069).
- **Métis mobility as a cultural marker** - Census data for 2001 show that 25% of the Métis surveyed moved within the previous year, and "that was almost double, if not more than double, what the average Canadian moves." (Teillet, Transcript p. 5906-5907).

CENSUS POPULATION DATA

Table A-1 attached provides Census 1996 and 2001 data for the Wuskwatim Project Regions. It also provides 2001 Census Aboriginal Profile data base composed of persons who self-identified with at least one Aboriginal group (i.e., "North American Indian", "Métis" or "Inuit") and/or who reported being "Treaty Indians" or "Registered Indians" as defined in the *Indian Act* and/or who were members of and "Indian Band" or "First Nation".¹

Generation Project Region: The overall Census population for the Generation Project region approximated 29,200 for 1996 and 27,300 for 2001; within this region in 2001, self-identified "Indians" approximated 14,700 and Métis slightly more than 2,000.

¹ The 2001 Census appears to understate populations to a significant degree in at least some Northern Affairs Communities (e.g., Cross Lake and Wabowden). Similar concerns exist for some reserve communities; for First Nations in the Generation Project Region, Statistics Canada appears to materially understate the populations of NCN and PCN (and possibly others); in total, Statistics Canada estimates a population of the six First Nations in the Generation Project Region at 10,493 in June 2001, while on-reserve population numbers recorded by INAC show 12,994 in January 2002 (Generation EIS Volume 1, p. 9-48). Nevertheless, the 2001 Census population data is used here to provide a ready basis for review of the recent MMF testimony on Wuskwatim Project regions population (including self-identifying Aboriginal populations).

- Approximately 67% of the 2001 self-identifying Métis population in the Generation Region resides in Thompson.
- In all communities other than Wabowden, the self-identifying 2001 Métis in the Generation Region is significantly less than the self-identifying "Indians".
- Within the **Local Region** as defined in the Generation EIS (Nelson House area and South Indian Lake populations), 2001 Census population approximated 2,600 with over 95% self-identifying as "Indians" and about 40 people (less than 2%) self-identifying as Métis (includes allowance for estimated Nelson House Northern Affairs Community self-identifying populations).

Additional communities in Transmission Project Region: The overall Census population for the additional communities in the Transmission Project Region approximated 11,300 for 1996 and 11,200 for 2001; within this region in 2001, self-identified "Indians" approximated 3,300 and Métis about 1,680.

- Adjusting to exclude the RM of Kelsey population outside the Umpherville area (see footnote #4 to Table A-1; about 200 people in Umpherville area), total population in these transmission areas would be reduced by about 1,500 people. Most of the Umpherville population is Treaty Indians.
- Over half of the 2001 self-identifying Métis population in these additional Transmission Project communities lives in The Pas.
- Outside of the OCN reserve and Umpherville, the self-identifying 2001 Métis in each of The Pas, Cormorant, and Snow Lake is equal to or greater than the self-identifying "Indians".

Manitoba 2001 Census population: In the 2001 Census Aboriginal Population Profile, self-identifying Métis in Manitoba approximated 56,800 people overall (with 55% residing in Winnipeg).

Métis and Aboriginal mobility in 2001 Census: Census data for 2001 for all of Canada show that 25% of the Métis surveyed moved within the previous year, compared with 22% for the total Aboriginal population and 14% for the overall population of Canada.

- Within all of Manitoba, similar mobility results are shown for the Aboriginal and overall populations in 2001 (data on only Métis are not as readily available). Most of these surveyed population changes (e.g., about 85%) were within the same census division within Manitoba.
- Within many northern Manitoba communities in the Wuskwatim Project regions, Census data for 2001 show that less than 16% of the Aboriginal population surveyed moved within the previous year, e.g., Cormorant (majority of population self-identifies as Métis) (8%), Kelsey (Carrot Valley) (10%), Wabowden (13%), South Indian Lake (14%), NCN at Nelson House (15%).
- Census data for 2001 show that more than 25% of the Aboriginal population surveyed moved within the previous year in some of the larger northern centres, e.g., The Pas (27%) and Thompson (36%).

TABLE A-1

1996 AND 2001 CENSUS POPULATION DATA FOR WUSKWATIM GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION PROJECT REGIONS AND PERSONS IDENTIFYING THEMSELVES AS ABORIGINAL IN 2001 CENSUS

PROJECT REGION & COMMUNITY	1996 Census Population	2001 Census Population	2001 "Indian" Single Response ¹	2001 "Métis" Single Response ¹	2001 Total Aboriginal Identity Response ¹
WUSKWATIM GENERATION PROJECT REGION					
Nisichawayashk Cree Nation (Nelson House)	1,760	1,710	1,675	10	1,690
Nelson House (Northern Affairs Community)	77	54	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Indian Lake	887	808	760	20	790
Tataskweyak Cree Nation (Split Lake)	1,500	1,581	1,550	0	1,560
War Lake First Nation (Ilford)	155	143	130	0	135
York Factory First Nation (York Landing)	300	421	410	10	415
Fox Lake Cree Nation (Reserve)	155	144	145	0	140
Pimickamak Cree Nation (Cross Lake Reserve)	3,157	2,544	2,325	10	2,520
Norway House Cree Nation (Reserve)	3,402	3,950	3,835	20	3,880
Pikwitonei (Northern Affairs Community)	140	117	N/A	N/A	N/A
Thicket Portage (Northern Affairs Community)	204	137	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wabowden (Northern Affairs Community)	563	497	205	235	440
Cross Lake (Northern Affairs Community)	412	294	200	75	280
Norway House (Northern Affairs Community)	575	456	245	115	365
Gillam	1,534	1,178	275	110	395
Thompson/LGD Mystery Lake	14,385	13,256	2,925	1,375	4,515
TOTAL – Generation Project Region	29,206	27,290	14,680	1,980	17,125
ADDITIONAL COMMUNITIES IN WUSKWATIM TRANSMISSION PROJECT REGION					
Opaskwayak Cree Nation (Reserve 21E)	1,776	2,025	1,925	45	1,980
Cormorant (Northern Affairs Community)	436	400	145	235	375
RM of Kelsey (Carrot Valley) ⁴	1,828	1,722	375	370	765
Herb Lake Landing (North. Affairs Community)	19	15	N/A	N/A	N/A
Town of Snow Lake	1,310	1,207	30	125	155
Town of The Pas	5,945	5,795	875	900	1,775
TOTAL – Additional for Transmission Project⁵	11,314	11,164	3,350	1,675	5,050
COMBINED TOTAL PROJECT REGION^{2, 3, 5}	40,520	38,454	18,030	3,655	22,175

Notes to Table A-1:

1. Data regarding the number of individuals responding by specific Aboriginal Identity (e.g., "North American Indian" or "Métis") was not available (N/A) for the Northern Affairs Communities of Nelson House, Pikwitonei, Thicket Portage and Herb Lake Landing due to small sample sizes. Statistics Canada included these communities (along with other small sample size communities) in unorganized Census Divisions #21 (Herb Lake Landing) and #22 (Nelson House, Pikwitonei, Thicket Portage, Herb Lake Landing). Total Unorganized 2001 populations for these two Census Divisions were as follows
 - Unorganized Census Division #21: total population 1,990 (includes Herb Lake Landing [15]) with self-identified Aboriginal population of 820 (includes 355 "Indian" and 465 "Métis")
 - Unorganized Census Division #22: total population 2,085 (includes Northern Affairs Communities of Nelson House [54], Thicket Portage [137] and Pikwitonei [117]) with self-identified Aboriginal population of 1,555 (includes 1,010 "Indian" and 530 "Métis")
2. The Combined Total Project Region Population is based on the sum of all the communities listed in either Project Region, omitting duplication of communities that are include in both Project regions (i.e., Thompson, Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation, Nelson House Northern Affairs Community, Wabowden Northern Affairs Community, and Thicket Portage Northern Affairs Community).
3. The Aboriginal Identity totals shown in the table for each Project Region are lower than actual estimated numbers because of the unavailability of data for the above-mentioned communities (Nelson House, Pikwitonei, Thicket Portage and Herb Lake Landing). Based on the proportion of overall Unorganized area populations in these communities where Aboriginal Identity data were not available, the total number of individuals responding as "Métis" would be increased by 83 within the Combined Total Project Region.
4. The portion of the RM of Kelsey (Carrot Valley), namely the Umpherville community area, that is within the study area affected by the preferred transmission line route is not a separate community for which Census Canada data are available. Based on key person interviews, Umpherville currently includes 35 to 50 houses (in the range of 200 people), and most of their residents are Treaty members of Opaskwayak Cree Nation.
5. Totals related to the Transmission Project are overstated with respect to the study area within the RM of Kelsey. See note #4.

Source: Statistics Canada 2001 Census and 2001 Census Aboriginal Population Profile.

The 2001 Census Aboriginal Profile is collected from a 20% sample basis (from a random sample of one in five households) with the data extrapolated to provide estimates for the entire population. The Aboriginal identity population is composed of persons who self-identified with at least one Aboriginal group, i.e., "Northern American Indian", "Métis" or "Inuit", and/or who reported being "Treaty Indians" or "Registered Indians" as defined in the *Indian Act (Canada)* and/or who were members of an "Indian Band" or "First Nation". Data are available for areas where the Aboriginal identity population count is over 250. The "single identity" response exclude those (1) who identified themselves as "Registered Indians" and/or band members without using the Aboriginal identity question and (2) those who identified more than one Aboriginal identity.

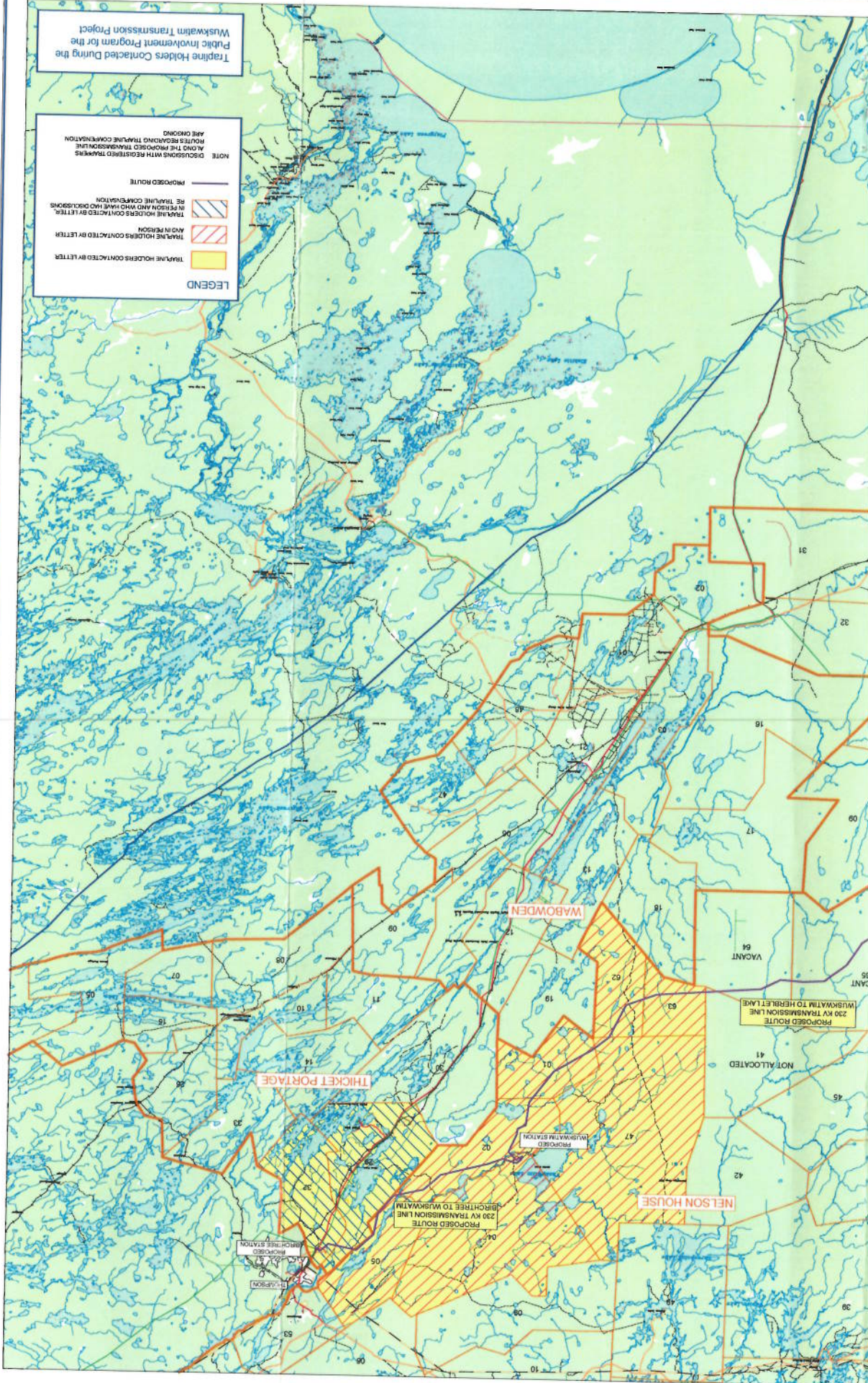
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Trapping Holders Contacted During the
Public Involvement Program for the
Wuskwaim Transmission Project

LEGEND

- Trapping Holders Contacted by Letter
- Trapping Holders Contacted by Letter and in Person
- Trapping Holders Contacted by Letter or Trapping Compensation
- Proposed Route

NOTE
 ALONG THE PROPOSED TRANSMISSION ROUTES REASON AND WHY HOLDERS DISCUSSIONS WITH REQUIRED TRAPPING ARE ONGOING



PROPOSED ROUTE
 230 KV TRANSMISSION LINE
 WUSKWAIM TO HERBERT LAKE

NOT ALLOCATED

VACANT

NELSON HOUSE

MABOWDEN

THICKET PORTAGE

PROPOSED ROUTE
 230 KV TRANSMISSION LINE
 BIRCHTREE TO WUSKWAIM

PROPOSED
 MABOWDEN STATION

PROPOSED
 BIRCHTREE STATION

ATTACHMENT C MMF REFERENCE TO PLANT USE BY METIS PEOPLE

MMF TESTIMONY

On May 14, 2004, MMF referenced in its evidence plant use by Métis people. Mr. Chartrand provided to the Commission a book pertaining to Métis plant use (Volume 25, page 6106) called *Aboriginal Plant Use in Canada's Northwest Boreal Forest*. Ms. Teillet clarified that this Natural Resource Canada publication "...distinguishes the natural resource plant use of the Métis from Indians."

LITERATURE AND MÉTIS PLANT USE

The publication provided by Mr. Chartrand (*Aboriginal Plant Use in Canada's Northwest Boreal Forest* (Marles *et al.* 2000)) was used in the preparation of the Wuskwatim EISs (both Generation and Transmission) and is referenced and listed in the bibliography.¹ This publication lists numerous plants that are used in similar ways by Dene and Cree. While there is a list of plants in the index of this publication, which refers to *Métis* use of plants, this is not reflected in the actual description of use in the text; rather, the Cree use is given. Further, all of the Métis people interviewed about these uses were from Alberta.

Plant harvesting may vary among communities due to local climatic differences and resource environment differences. No specific studies on the differences or similarities in food procurement and preparation have been conducted in the Wuskwatim Projects study area, but one would expect these probably are more similar than they are different for Métis and Cree people within Wuskwatim region Aboriginal communities. In addition to the above-noted document, examination of Hutchens (1973) *Indian Herbage of North America* suggests a universal knowledge of medicinal qualities of common plants within ecological zones. Thus, the *Métis* and First Nation knowledge of such qualities is based either on an ancient tradition which predates human migration into North America, or which was independently invented over time.

The publication provided by Mr. Chartrand lists specific references to Métis use of particular plants which could be unique (e.g., using wild mint as one component of a treatment of cancer and diabetes) but often the references are to common practices (e.g., making jelly from low-bush cranberries which is common to Cree, Métis and

¹ One of the co-authors, Natalie Tays, is from Nelson House and worked with Jackie Krindle (The EIS plant specialist) in collecting vegetation data and Traditional Knowledge in 2000 and 2001 for the Generation Project EIS and the Wuskwatim to Birchtree Transmission Project EIS.

Dene). Moreover, although uses may be unique to one people, the plants are typically common rather than rare.

Of all the plants used by the Métis (as referenced in this publication), most are common in Manitoba. A couple are not found in Manitoba or in the Wuskwatim study regions. White spruce, which is referenced as used by the Métis, is regionally rare in the Wuskwatim Generation Project Region (Generation EIS, Vol. 6 – 5.2.4.1.3) and has been considered as a VEC for the Generation EIS.²

Overall, review of the referenced material regarding Métis plant use does not indicate any species that is scarce enough in the Wuskwatim study areas to be adversely affected by construction or operation of either project. The scarcity of white spruce and appropriate mitigation in the Generation Project region, for example, is already dealt with in the EIS.

TREATMENT OF PLANTS IN WUSKWATIM EISs – MITIGATION MEASURES

In collecting data for major habitat types for the Wuskwatim Projects, uncommon habitat types and specific habitats that may sustain known rare species were sampled within the zone of impact and an appropriate buffer zone. All plant species were recorded, and sensitive plants were identified.

Supporting Volume 5 of the Wuskwatim Transmission Project EIS outlines the methods and results with respect to rare and endangered vegetation. In supporting volume 5, sensitive plants are identified, their locations and habitat recorded and the potential impacts predicted and mitigation measures described as required.

Sensitive plants include: endangered and threatened species protected by legislation [Species at Risk Act formerly Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC), Manitoba Endangered Species Act), species listed by Conservation Data Centre as very rare, rare and uncommon, and any species considered important by local people. Known records and locations of sensitive plants were compiled prior to surveys. Two field surveys (July 2002 and August 2003) of the preferred transmission line routes from Thompson Birchtree Station to Rall's Island Station in The Pas were conducted by two botanists. The focus of the field surveys was to survey typical representative habitats, any uncommon habitats and those with the potential to support rare species known to occur in north central Manitoba. All plant species identified during the field

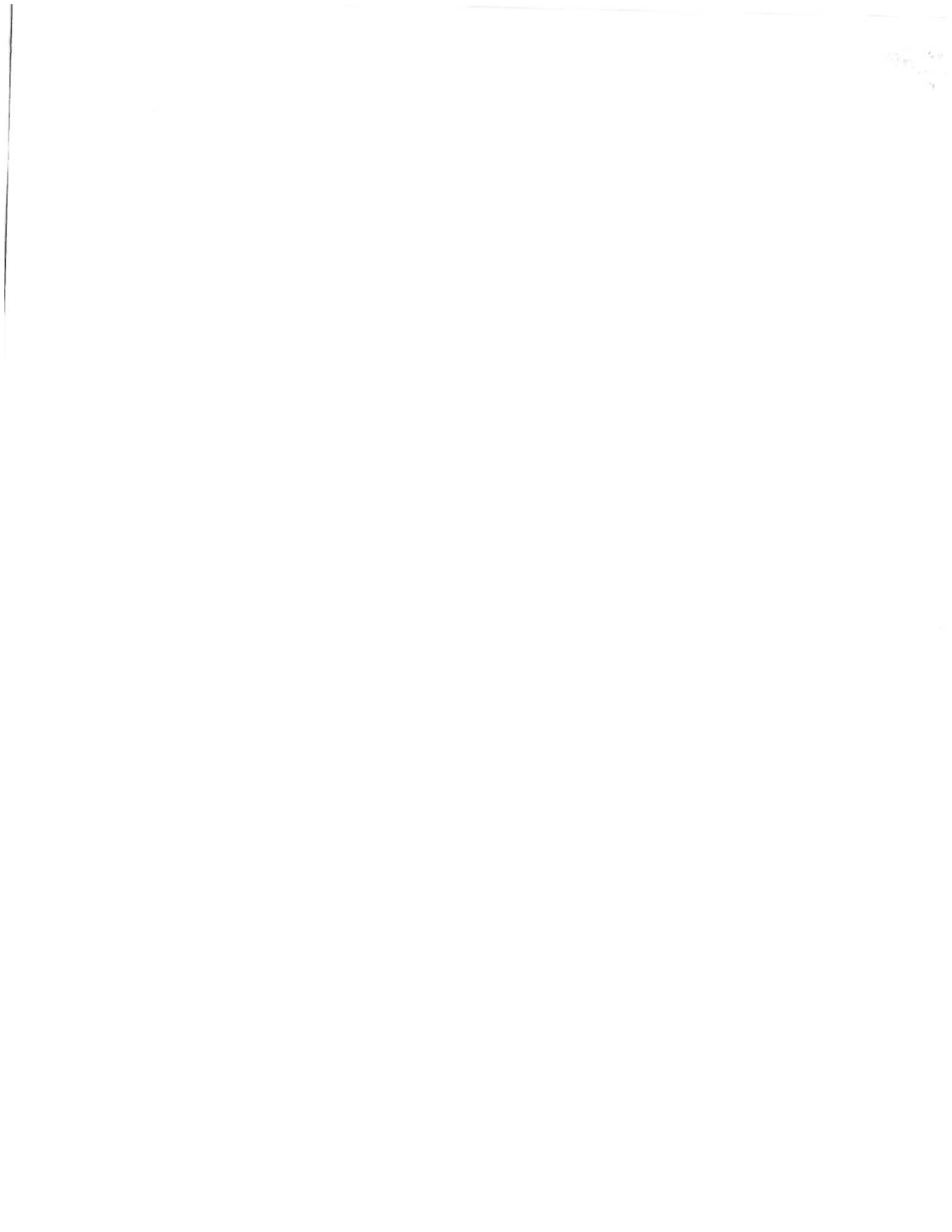
² In addition to white spruce, the Marles' book references sweet flag, wild mint and blueberry as being used by Metis. All four of these plants are identified as VECs in the Generation EIS and therefore detailed information is provided on each in this EIS (see Vol. 6, pages 6.5-26 and 27 and Table 5.5-1 at pages 6.5-243-4, as well as mitigation measures).

surveys were recorded. No plant species listed under the Committee on Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC), now protected under the Species at Risk Act, or the Manitoba Endangered Species Act were found nor were expected to be found during the field investigations.

Prior to construction, sites with high potential to support rare plants will be further investigated. Locations of rare plants and recommended mitigation measures will be specified in the Environmental Protection Plans for each of the proposed transmission line segments (Wuskwatim to Thompson Birchtree Station; Wuskwatim to Herblet Lake Station; Herblet Lake to Rall's Island Stations). An early season survey (Birchtree to Wuskwatim 230 kV transmission line proposed route) will be conducted in June along the proposed route for the Wuskwatim to Thompson Birchtree 230 kV transmission line to identify any rare early blooming species. Similar surveys will be conducted along the proposed routes for the Wuskwatim to Herblet Lake Station, and Herblet Lake to Rall's Island Stations proposed routes prior to construction.

The rare species found will be protected by winter construction of the proposed transmission lines when the plants are dormant and under snow cover. Other mitigative measures include hand cutting of trees in sensitive habitats in buffer zones and stream crossings and avoidance of rare populations through route refinement.

The Environmental Protection Plan for each route segment will address mitigation measures for populations of plants considered important by local people where plant populations will be adversely affected.



ATTACHMENT D

ADDENDUM RE: MÉTIS HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Introduction

The EIS documents filed in April 2003 for the Wuskwatim Generation Project and the Wuskwatim Transmission Project reviewed pre and post contact history in the Study Regions focusing on local Indian peoples (see Generation Vol. 9, pp 35-37 and Transmission Vol 8, Section 4 [Cultural Chronology] which addresses the overall region for both projects). The filed material in Transmission Vol 8 included an overview of the following post contact history:

- "Early Historic 1640 -1821" (Section 4.5 in Vol 8, which addressed fur trade era, including fur trade forts in the study region in Table 4),
- "Middle Historic 1821-1870 (Section 4.6 in Vol 8, which marked pressures on fur trade, closing of forts, and missionaries beginning to work among the northern Cree)
- "Late Historic 1871-1920" (Section 4.7 in Vol 8, which marked signing of Treaty 5 in 1875 and the NCN adhesion in 1908, with resulting establishing of reserves).

This addendum expands upon this earlier filing to focus on *Métis* historical background in the Wuskwatim Projects study regions.

Terms and Definitions

Overview

- The French word *Métis* means "simply mixed" and was used to describe those of mixed blood. This was probably used before Louis Riel, but he first penned the word, which has come to describe a distinct cultural entity. The term originally focused on persons with a mixture of European and Aboriginal (Indian) ancestry.
- Based on this interpretation, Redbird (1980), Sawchuck (1975) and Sealey (1975) have effectively stated that the first *Métis* came to be shortly after Europeans set foot in Canada.

- The Algonkian nations, especially the Ojibwa called the *Métis* "wis-sak-o de-win-mi", which means "burnt sticks", because of the colour of their skin. The French later called them Bois Brûlés. The Cree called them the "independent ones".
- The English referred to the *Métis* as mixed-bloods, half-breeds or country-born, but sometimes referred to them as Natives to distinguish them from the Indians. The term "Rupert's Lander" was also used to describe those of English and Indian ancestry since the term "country-born" was used to describe the children of Selkirk settlers and others who had no Indian ancestry (Spry1985: 113).
- *Métis* existence is the result of human relationships that originally had no political function.
- As addressed in the Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples (RCAP 1996:Vol. 4; xiv), "the term '*Aboriginal peoples*' refers to organic political and cultural entities that stem historically from the original peoples of North America...[it] includes the Indian, Inuit and *Métis* peoples of Canada (see section 35(2) of the *Constitution Act, 1982*)." As used in that report, "the term *Aboriginal nations* overlaps with the term *Aboriginal peoples* but also has a more specific usage "The RCAP report distinguished between local communities and nations, using "...terms such as a *First Nation community* and a *Métis community* to refer to a relatively small group of Aboriginal people residing in a single locality and forming part of a larger Aboriginal nation or people." The more specific term *Métis Nation* is used in the RCAP report to refer to *Métis* people who identify themselves as a nation with historical routes in the Canadian west; the report also notes the existence of other *Métis* peoples likely to be included in the overall "*Métis peoples*" of Canada. [RCAP Vol. 4, Appendix 5A:300 addresses the issues of there being "peoples within peoples", and notes "...that separate bands, even if not peoples in themselves, may exercise, as collectivities, at least some elements of their peoples' rights."]

Variations in *Métis* References and Historic Origins

- The term *Métis* is defined in a number of ways by a number of researchers. Most studies have concerned the Red River *Métis* who originally settled along the banks of the Red and Assiniboine after ca. 1800.

- In the present day context, however, the definition has developed into a living process. As Redbird, Sawchuk (1977) and others have alluded, the self-identity of the *Métis* themselves may be more significant than the cultural roots of their forefathers that is, Europeans and Indians.
- Researchers commonly refer to *Métis* as the offspring of French men and either Cree or Saulteaux women; they spoke primarily French and were Roman Catholic.
- Researchers also refer to "English Country Born", the offspring of English speaking men and either Cree or Saulteaux women, who spoke English and were of the Protestant faith. As noted above, though, "country born" has also been used to describe the children of Selkirk settlers and others who had no Indian ancestry.
- Sawchuk (1975) stated that the term "*Métis* has not had a precise meaning since the latter half of the 19th century, that is, French-speaking, half-breed of the Red River Settlement and adjacent areas. Later, it was loosely used to describe any person of mixed Indian and White ancestry, ranging from those living on the fringes of Indian reserves to those living in the small French-speaking *Métis* communities of southern Manitoba, as well as those partly or wholly integrated into white society" (Sawchuk 1975:3)
- RCAP [Vol. 4: Appendix 5A: 278] notes: "In unions between Aboriginal women and Scottish employees of the Hudson's Bay Company, the husbands had a common tendency to treat their 'country families' as temporary, to be left behind when they returned to Scotland. The French-Indian families tended to greater permanence, and their lifestyle, at least initially, were closer to Aboriginal patterns than to European ones." These initial differences may have influenced *Métis* development for different groups. Other early developmental differences could reflect the extent to which *Métis* in an area tended to be integrated within the local Aboriginal (Indian) community as compared with developing their own distinct Aboriginal community prior to effective European control in the local area. For example, RCAP [Vol 4:Chapter 5; 260] notes: "The *Métis* community in Sault Ste. Marie, a hub of early fur-trade activity, has a particularly long and eventful history. It would appear, in fact, that the area was largely under *Métis* control from the late seventeenth to the mid-nineteenth century." RCAP also notes [Vol 4, Appendix 5B: 325] that the settled population of Manitoba (the postage

stamp province area) in 1870 of approximately 12,000 was predominantly Métis (approximately 10,000).

- Regarding the Red River Settlement the distinction between English Country Born and *Métis* can only partially be made on the basis of geographical polarization, economic pursuits, language and religion. Spry (1985) has called attention to the fact that the *Métis*-mixed blood community may not have been as rigidly isolated from one another as previously suggested. By examining a series of marriage records found within the Hudson's Bay Company Archives and Parish Records, she indicated that there were a number of cross-marriages between *Métis* and mixed-bloods. Further to this, journals and records show that there was daily interaction between members of the two groups, that most were bilingual (French-Cree; Cree-English; Ojibwa-French; Ojibwa-English, etc.), religious affiliation was not stereotypical, and economic pursuits were not dependent on ethnic classification.
- Redbird stated that the Canadian government's use of a variety of terms to "describe and categorize the native peoples' populations and their descendants" has been without substance and used mostly as a means to restrict native people. He viewed the Indian Act of 1876 as a divisive act that arbitrarily sorted out people based on labels defined by government. This forced people to "decide" who they were culturally (Redbird 1964:1-2). The distinction between non-status Indians and *Métis* has always been confused because of this.
- The development of people of mixed blood followed different courses in Eastern and Western Canada, and the history of events set the seeds for the birth of the "New Nation" in Manitoba. In the east, because of New France policy, children of mixed unions were not acknowledged as such and they were quickly assimilated into either European or Native society. According to Dickason "...the children of mixed unions tended to identify with either the French or the Amerindians rather than considering themselves as a separate entity" (1985:29). The development of a *Métis* nation **could** have occurred in the Old Northwest, that is the Ohio Valley area, but with the establishment of the United States and the rush of settlers into the west mixed-blood inhabitants became subsumed in the larger population. As for the Northwest Coast, the conditions were never right for a separate *Métis* identity. For example, the moderate

climate did not require specific survival skills, as was the case in the interior. As well, the fur trade was dominant for about 50 years and was quickly replaced by agriculture and the gold rush. Further, the chieftainship society of coastal Indians was more politically structured than that of the autonomous bands of the boreal forest. Thus a symbiotic relationship never developed and there was no need for intermarriage for alliance purposes.

In the west, i.e. the prairie heartland, because of geographic and social isolation from the dominant European society, and the continued importance of the fur trade *Métis* grew in numbers and came to think of themselves as a separate and distinct people (Dickason 1985:30). When the Scottish settlers arrived at Red River they were too few in number to subdue the spirit of independence of the *Métis* and instead their presence spawned the evolution of *Métis* identity from "mild awareness into conviction" (Dickason 1985:31).

- The first *Métis* in the west, regardless of what they called themselves at that time, were most likely mixed-bloods of French/Indian ancestry who spearheaded movement westward into the Red River country about one hundred years before European settlement. The original *Métis* as noted above had little contact with Europeans in Upper and Lower Canada, they took Indian wives and by the 1800s were of a large enough population to be able to intermarry among themselves and develop their own culture, exclusive of Indian or European. Their culture had flavours of both Indian and European, which were blended, sifted and moulded to give rise to a unique cultural identity.
- Over time this developed into a recognized cultural entity, which provided identity to those Indians who lived outside the government definition of *Indian*. The term has become a concept as well as a real fact.
- Sawchuk has recognized two groups of *Métis* in Manitoba, the Red River *Métis* and the Northern *Métis*. The former group was defined as people who "derive genealogically, and usually in tradition from the historic population which had its centre in la nation metisse of the western plains" (Slobodin 1966:14). The Northern *Métis* is "a residual term to describe those who are not closely identified with the Red River *Métis*. That is,

those individuals who identify more closely with the "Indian" side of their ancestry than do the Red River *Métis*. These terms are not used by the people themselves, most of who consider that a *Métis* is a *Métis*." (Sawchuk 1975:9). In other words, there is no differentiation between most of the *Métis* themselves as to their explicit origins, that is, who is English and Cree, English and Ojibwa, French and Cree, Irish and Cree, etc. and what percentage of Indian versus European is in the mix. This was the experience of the *Métis* at the Red River Settlement during the 19th century and it appears to have maintained its cohesiveness through the ensuing 100 years.

- Modern historical reference to *Métis* (i.e., since the early 1900s) may introduce new confusion with "non-status Indians" and "off-reserve Indians". As a result of the Treaties and the Indian Act, off-reserve Aboriginal communities often came to be referred to as "Métis communities". Since Bill C-31 enactment, though, many Aboriginal people living in such communities have sought to regain "status". In any event, it is recognized today that there are Aboriginal peoples in Canada that are not Indian, Métis, or Inuit [RCAP: Vol. 4; Chapter 5: 208]. In this context, the fact that an Aboriginal person lives "off-reserve", or has "mixed blood", or is "non-status" does not establish that the person is a member of the *Métis* peoples.

Contemporary Overview of Métis Development Periods in Manitoba

- Aboriginal settlement in Manitoba from a *Métis* perspective can be divided into five time periods (see references under item 5):
 - Pre-1870 – development of *Métis*;
 - 1870-1912 – "from the creation of a substantially Aboriginal province of Canada to the extension of Manitoba to its present boundaries" – characterized by dispersion of *Métis* and creation of reserves;
 - 1912-51 – "era of significant legal repression and the beginning of major population growth";
 - 1951-82 – "a period of Aboriginal emergence and development..." and
 - 1982 – present – "the era during which Aboriginal people have become constitutionally and legally significant in Canada and when Aboriginal people

have been generally recognized again as a major element of the once-Aboriginal province (Corrigan and Annis 1996:125).

- These authors write that there was no legal distinction between Indian and *Métis* prior to 1870 and it was not until 1876 that a legal definition was presented. As well “the definition enacted in 1868 also included all spouses and children, all other persons living with Indians and all descendants of Indians regardless of any European ancestry. It was, in other words, a uniquely cultural definition rather than a narrowly legalistic one” (Dept of Indian Affairs and Northern Development 1975; Sawchuk 1992).

While *Métis* rights were acknowledged in the *Manitoba Act*, 1870 and 20% of the postage stamp province was reserved for the *Métis*, by the time the land came ready to be dispersed many *Métis* had migrated west and north.

With the extension of the Manitoba boundaries to its present size no further land was made available to Aboriginal people. While *Métis* communities existed they were unincorporated and considered squatters on Crown Lands.

The two remaining periods mark a change in attitude and movement towards a greater awareness of Aboriginal people, *Métis* and non-status. This culminated with the Constitution Act 1982, which gave definition to the term, “Aboriginal” to include “Indian, *Métis* and Inuit”.

Chronology of Events Relevant to Regions for Wuskwatim Projects

This chronology reflects time periods adopted in the initial EIS background filings, and focuses on *Métis*-related chronology. The 2003 Supreme Court of Canada decision on *Powley*, in setting out a new “pre-control” test, says that the unique history integral to a particular *Métis* community ...“can most appropriately be accommodated by a post contact but pre-control test that identifies when Europeans effectively established political and legal control in a particular area. The focus should be on the period after a particular *Métis* community arose and before it came under the effective control of European laws and customs.” This “pre-control” test defines different periods for different *Métis* communities – in the Wuskwatim Projects study region, the pre-control period for particular *Métis* communities has not been assessed, but may occur at some time between 1870 and around 1900 (reflecting the *Manitoba Act, 1870* and *Dominions Land Act, 1872 to 1879* as well as other developments in these areas as noted below).

Prior to Amalgamation of HBC and NWC (1770 - 1821)

- The spread of mixed blood children into the northern interior can be traced to the time that the HBC began expanding into the northwestern interior in the late 1770s.
- Prior to 1800, over 80% of the HBC workforce was recruited from the Orkney Islands.
- It was primarily these contract labourers who developed ties with the local Cree population along the Hudson Bay coast and then in the interior.
- Country marriages (*à la façon du pays*) between Cree women and HBC clerks or junior traders often served as alliance pacts. Most First Nations practiced this marriage custom.
- Some contract workers remained in Manitoba when their indenture expired, but many returned to Scotland leaving their First Nation wives and children behind.
- The wives and families left behind most often were absorbed back into their local First Nation groups who resided in the area of the post or were turned over to another post workers who had no wife or family.
- Similar patterns of intermarriage were prevalent in the North West Company.
- Marriages were arranged with leaders of Indian bands to secure their trade.
- Montreal-based voyageurs, representing the interests of their companies (for example, the XY Co. and later the North West Company) realized the advantages of "marrying" First Nation females who could assist them politically as well as through traditional knowledge of living on the land.
- However, there was a higher frequency for the voyageurs to remain with their wife and family once their engagement had expired than that experienced in the HBC.
- The voyageurs stayed in the northwest and functioned as provisioners to the various posts that were constructed in the northwest. A distinct language (*Michiff*) emerged with this group, blending components of French and Aboriginal languages in a novel way.
- Consequently, in contrast to the region under the control of the HBC (which included the northern Manitoba areas in the Wuskwatim study regions), the Montreal based firms gave rise to dozens of small villages inhabited by people of mixed ancestry.

- These settlements tied to the Montreal-based firms were primarily located in southern areas such as Pembina and, to a lesser extent, at The Forks of the Red and Assiniboine rivers.
- Bison hunting and the manufacture of pemmican were economic pursuits of these provisioners. This is why the Métis culture primarily developed on the plains and most of the studies have been on Red River Métis and Country Born.
- The Hudson's Bay Company sponsored agricultural settlement at Red River in the early 1800s. The policies of the company's governor of Assiniboia in 1815 and 1816 threatened the fur trade activities of the rival Northwest Company and its Métis employees and associates, erupting in violent confrontation in the bloody battle of Seven Oaks.
- Historically there were some characteristics, which set the *Métis* apart from both their Indian and the European parents. The *Métis* of the 19th century were considered to be co-operative rather than competitive; willing to compromise rather than face conflict; not bound by institutionalised law, but rather followed customary law based on ecological awareness. They had a highly developed social structure, kinship system and language. Decision-making was by consensus rather than by authority of a few. *Ad hoc* leadership recognized the strengths of individuals and leadership ended at the completion of a specific task. As for worldview, the *Métis* borrowed freely from their many cultural backgrounds and became recognized as colourful, proud, bold and creative. Their creativity is most obvious in such inventions as the Red River cart and the intricate beadwork patterns that adorned their attire. In the Red River Settlement, the *Métis* developed their own language *Michiff*, which contained Cree, Ojibwa and French components. The signature sash was considered a badge of being *Métis*. They combined the fiddle and jigging of the French and Irish with the chants of the Indians, producing a lively, yet haunting music. They maintained a concept of Mother Nature and respect for the environment, yet were able to carry out commerce with both Euro-Canadians and Indians. They were independent because of where they had come from. At the same time, the long, established social and family ties of their Indian ancestry were maintained. For example, during the Hind's expedition his "half-breed" Ojibwa guide met an old Indian in the Interlake region of Manitoba and after the exchange of a

few words declared themselves as brothers because they belonged to the same clan. The clan system has its roots in Native culture. The *Métis* also had a European concept of land ownership to some degree. They used the French river lot system to assign land to the various *Métis* who settled along the riverbanks of the Red and Assiniboine rivers. The Indian concept of land was, and to some extent still is, one of a commons that is to be shared. The tradition of a "dish with one spoon" which forged treaties between the Algonkian and Iroquoian nations was also prevalent amongst all First Nation groups (Lytwyn 1997). This allowed for various related and unrelated groups to use the resources of the land for their sustenance without fear of confrontation. These treaties were often sealed with wampum belts.

- The first meeting of European and Indian resulted in a hybrid, a mixed blood, which spawned the *Métis* nation. The second generation, hybrid and hybrid produced hybrid and so on. It has been shown by Redbird and others that by the third generation the beginning of a fledging cultural entity underway. From their Indian ancestry the *Métis* inherited an ancient philosophy based on the natural relationships of the environment. This was gestalt in its order, holistic and inter-related. The concept of land had a direct relationship to the native sense of being, which can be viewed as a realistic adaptation to the physical and cognitive environment. As Carl Jung stated "the country he [Native people] inhabits is at the same time the topography of the unconscious. Thus does [primitive] man dwell in his land and at the same time in the land of his unconscious. Everywhere his unconscious jumps out at him, alive and real" (Jung 1964:26). From their European ancestry they received knowledge of a new economic system and technological skills.

Amalgamation to Confederation (1821 – 1870)

- Amalgamation of the HBC and NWC resulted in the closure of a number of posts in the north and the loss of about 1300 jobs.
- About 15% of these "retired" employees settled at Red River.
- After 1821, Governor George Simpson developed a policy of using an increasing amount of *Métis* and Country Born as wage labourers to replace the more costly Orkney Scots.

- Consequently, more and more Métis and Country Born became part of the seasonal and even permanent labour force.
- By 1830, they accounted for about one-third of the labour force and by 1850, approximately one-half.
- They functioned primarily as tripmen on the York boats who were in demand from about 1831 until the mid-1870s.
- These tripmen were largely recruited from the populace at Red River.
- Figure 1 shows the expansion of the original Red River Settlement through time.
- Any census data during the pre-Confederation era is restricted to the Red River Settlement. The original “postage stamp” province created in 1870 when Manitoba entered confederation is shown in Figure 1, and focused only on the Red River settlement.
- Considerable research would be needed to assess the extent to which any distinctive Métis groups were living at this time in this northern area. For example, examination of relevant post journals from the northern study area for the Wuskwatim Projects might produce statistics on the population of Métis and Country Born surrounding or within the different posts.

Initial Post-Confederation (1870 – 1912)

- Following Manitoba’s entry into Confederation in 1870, Métis and English Country Born were required to prove “undisturbed occupancy” of the land.
- This was based on papers showing a grant from the HBC (who administered land occupancy in the Red River Settlement before 1870) or recognition of agricultural improvements as recorded by Dominion Land Surveyors between 1871 and 1874.
- Since most Métis and Country Born were neither listed in the HBC land register nor named as “occupants” by the surveyors, they had no basis for establishing land ownership.
- Many who did receive land patents often sold to incoming land speculators.
- The result was a dispersal west and north to take up areas outside of the province’s then border (i.e., the postage stamp area as shown in Figure 1 for 1870). These Métis moved in many cases to already established Métis communities outside the then areas

of Manitoba. In 1885, violent conflict arose at Batoche, Saskatchewan between Canada and a force of Indian and Métis. Further Métis dispersal followed the 1885 rebellion. Within Manitoba, a significant number of Métis families moved north and northwest, forming some of the major Métis settlements in the Interlake and moving as far north as The Pas (Northern Manitoba Economic Development Commission, Northern Manitoba - A Benchmark Report; 1992; 20].

- During the 1870-1912 period, Treaties were signed. As a result, small communities of non-status First Nation groups began to emerge adjacent to reserves that were being established under the various treaties. Treaty 5 was signed in 1875; The Pas band adhesion to this Treaty was in 1876 and the NCN adhesion to this Treaty was in 1908, before this area was included in the Province of Manitoba.
- In northern Manitoba, separate from the Métis dispersal from the south, there was a large sense of reliance by Métis and Country Born on the HBC trade posts for wage labourer and provisioning.
- With the closure of many northern posts after 1870, the families returned to those areas of major settlement established by their First Nation kin and pursued a way of life similar to their relatives.
- These reserves and settlements usually contained either an HBC outlet, such as that at Nelson House, or some type of commercial store both of which were essential for supplies, wage labour, fur outlets, etc.
- 1912 marked the final boundary change to create modern Manitoba (see Figure 1). Prior to this change, government charters were granted in 1880 to two private railway companies to construct a line to Hudson Bay. By 1908 the line had reached The Pas.

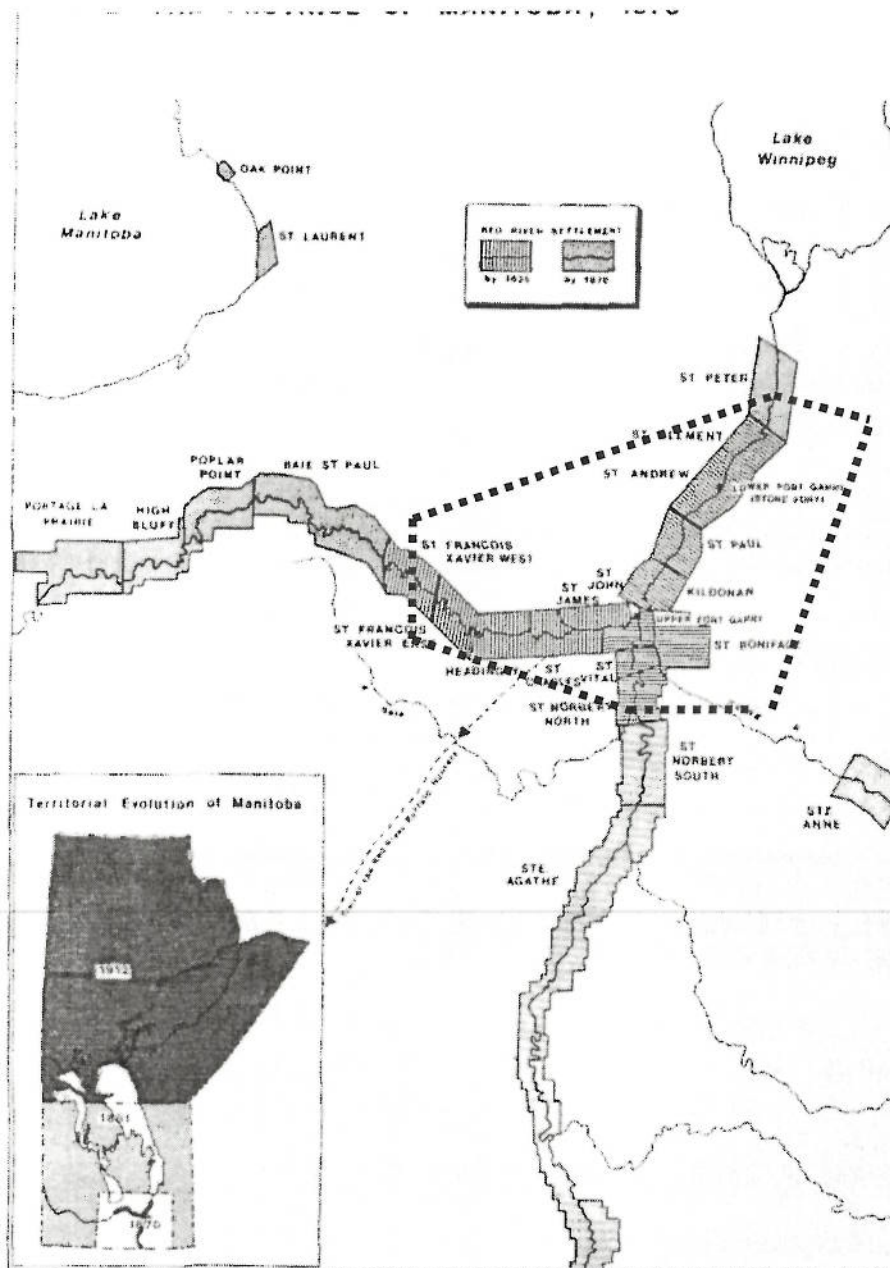
Modern History (1913 – Present)

- Considerable change has occurred in the Wuskwatim study regions since 1913; many of these changes directly affected Métis settlement in this area as well as the evolution of non-status and off-reserve Aboriginal peoples. As noted elsewhere in the EIS filing, many other changes occurred that affected way of life and resource use by Aboriginal peoples in these areas, including creation of Registered Trapline Districts, residential

schools, development of local transportation (rail, road, air, skidoos), social programs administered by governments, power developments (including transmission and hydroelectric generation development), and other resource developments (including mining and forestry).

- Many Métis people became labourers during this period helping to build the rail line to Churchill; in the process, they established and/or helped to develop a number of small communities along the railway, which are still in existence today with material Métis components (e.g., Cormorant, Wabowden and Thicket Portage). [The Dominion Government acted to extend the line from The Pas to Kettle Rapids (1918) but suspended construction until 1926. The line to Churchill finally opened in 1929, and a branch from The Pas to Flin Flon was completed in 1928.]
- The growth of "non-status Indian" communities adjacent to reserves also occurred during this period in the Wuskwatim study regions (e.g., Northern Affairs communities at Nelson House, Cross Lake and Norway House as well as the Umpherville settlement in the RM of Kelsey adjacent to The Pas) and in many cases these communities came to be referred to locally as "Métis communities".
- Bill C-31 reinstatements, however, have led to major changes with many "non-status" residents of such communities moving to regain formal "status". As reported elsewhere in the EIS, today over 90% of the Nelson House Northern Affairs community and 80 to 90% of the South Indian Lake Northern Affairs community are NCN members (see Generation EIS, Vol. 8 page 8-13 and Appendix 1 page 32). The community of Umpherville today is also composed mostly of Treaty Indians and is a TLE selection of OCN.
- Substantial *Métis* populations are found today in non-Aboriginal Wuskwatim Transmission Project Region communities, including The Pas, Snow Lake and Thompson. *Métis* components are also identified in this study region at the First Nation reserve communities of NCN and OCN. [See Attachment A for a discussion of available Census data regarding self-identifying *Métis* people; these statistics do not, however, necessarily meet the remaining tests in defining Métis community membership as set out by the Supreme Court of Canada in the *Powley* decision.]

- Following is a review of additional historical background information on some of the Aboriginal communities in the Wuskwatim Transmission Region (this information in many cases goes back to pre-modern periods):
 - The nearest trade post to Cormorant was Moose Lake (ca 1875-1907);
 - Umpherville – The Pas (ca 1879-1935);
 - Wabowden – Wegg’s House on Setting Lake (ca 1795-1796),
 - Wabowden (1929-1932). Wabowden history indicates that in the early 1900s a small settlement made up of a few families from Cross Lake and Nelson House emerged. In 1913 grading for the Hudson Bay Railway from The Pas to Churchill began and the town was moved to the rail line site. Originally called Mile 137, it was renamed Wabowden for W.A. Bowden, Chief Engineer in the Federal Department of Railways and Canals. Later the settlement became a freight centre for fur shipment, mail etc.
 - Thicket Portage may have had an earlier Métis component given its location near between Landing and Wintering lakes. Cross Portage Post was not that far away on Sipiwesk Lake.



Red River Settlement by 1835 (area within black dotted line) and by 1870 (remainder of map) [from Sprague and Frye 1984].

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ATTACHMENT E

MANITOBA HYDRO/NCN CONTACT WITH MMF

- 1. Exhibit MH/NCN 1026** - Table showing participation of the Manitoba Métis Federation in public activities associated with the Wuskwatim Generation and Transmission Projects

- 2. Round 2 PIP**
 - April 22, 2002 – invitation to Thompson/Opaskwayak/Snow Lake/Cormorant Open Houses to Senator Ed Head, Manitoba Métis Federation, Winnipeg, MB
 - April 22, 2002 – invitation to Thompson/Opaskwayak/Snow Lake/Cormorant Open Houses to Judy Mayer, Vice-President, Manitoba Métis Federation, The Pas, MB
 - April 22, 2002 – invitation to Thompson/Opaskwayak/Snow Lake/Cormorant Open Houses to Daryl Montgomery, Manitoba Métis Federation, Thompson, MB
 - April 22, 2002 – invitation to Thompson/Opaskwayak/Snow Lake/Cormorant Open Houses to David Chartrand, Manitoba Métis Federation, Winnipeg, MB
 - Note -- Round 2 Newsletter was enclosed with each letter

- 3. Round 3 PIP**
 - Poster Notice for Thompson Open House, December 11, 2002 -- poster mailed to: David Chartrand, Senator Ed Head and Darryl Montgomery
 - Poster Notice for Snow Lake and Cormorant Open Houses – January 14, 2003 (Snow Lake) and January 15, 2003 (Cormorant) - poster mailed to: Judy Mayer, Senator Ed Head and Darryl Montgomery
 - Poster Notice for OCN Open House – January 22, 2003 - poster mailed to: Judy Mayer
 - Poster Notice for Winnipeg Open House – January 29, 2003 - poster mailed to: Ed Ducharme and Senator Ed Head
 - Note -- Round 3 Newsletter was enclosed with open house notices
 - Environmental Impact Statements Filling provided to Senator Ed Head and Daniel Deslauriers

- 4. Round 4 PIP**
 - June 25, 2003 – invitation to Winnipeg Technical Workshops to Senator Ed Head, Manitoba Métis Federation, Winnipeg, MB; Round 5 Newsletter was enclosed with letter

- 5. Round 5 PIP**
 - February 11, 2004 letter to Al Benoit, Manitoba Métis Federation, Winnipeg, MB – Round 5 Newsletter; Round 5 Newsletter enclosed was with letter

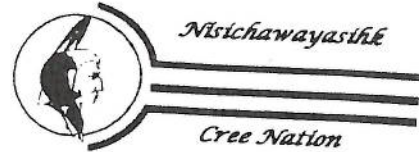
- 6. Filed documentation**

Table
Participation of the Manitoba Métis Federation in Public Involvement Activities
Associated with the Wuskwatim Generation Project

Activity	Representative Invited/Letter Recipient	Representative in Attendance
Round Two Open House) – Thompson (Generation and Transmission Focus) – Letter of Invitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daryl Montgomery, MMF Thompson • Judy Mayer, MMF The Pas • Senator Ed Head, MMF Winnipeg • David Chartrand, MMF Winnipeg 	None
Round Two Open Houses – Opaskwayak Cree Nation, Snow Lake and Cormorant (Transmission Only Focus) – Letter of Invitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daryl Montgomery, MMF Thompson • Judy Mayer, MMF The Pas • Senator Ed Head, MMF Winnipeg • David Chartrand, MMF Winnipeg 	None
Round Three Open House – Thompson (Generation and Transmission Focus) – Poster Notice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Chartrand, MMF Winnipeg • Senator Ed Head, MMF Winnipeg • Darryl Montgomery, MMF Thompson 	Darryl Montgomery, MMF Thompson
Round Three Open Houses – Snow Lake and Cormorant (Transmission Only Focus) – Poster Notice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judy Mayer, MMF The Pas • Senator Ed Head, MMF Winnipeg • Darryl Montgomery, MMF Thompson 	None
Round Three Open House – Opaskwayak Cree Nation (Transmission Only) – Poster Notice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judy Mayer, MMF The Pas 	None
Round Three Open House – Winnipeg (Generation and Transmission Focus) – Poster Notice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ed Ducharme, MMF Winnipeg • Senator Ed Head, MMF Winnipeg 	None
Round Four Technical EIS Review Workshops – Winnipeg – Letter of Invitation	Invitation sent to Senator Ed Head and cc'd to Darrel Deslauriers. Invitation sent in reponse to their application for assistance to participate in the CEC hearings	None (During a call to confirm their attendance, Senator Ed Head indicated both he and Darrel would attend the event.)

Round Five InterGroup Letter	Letter sent to Al Benoit in his capacity as a participant in the Clean Environment Commission Public Hearing Process	Not Applicable
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Round 2 PIP



April 22, 2002

Senator Ed Head
Manitoba Metis Federation
623-185 Smith Street
Winnipeg MB R3C 3G4

Dear Senator Head:

Re: Open Houses Regarding Possible Wuskwatim Generating Station Project and Preliminary Siting and Alternative Routes for the Proposed Associated Transmission Facilities

Manitoba Hydro and the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation (NCN) invite you to attend an upcoming Open House which will review a possible new northern hydro-electric generating station at the Wuskwatim site southwest of Thompson and associated transmission line facilities which are required to connect the generating station to the existing transmission system.

Manitoba Hydro and NCN have ratified an Agreement-In-Principle (AIP) to guide discussions pertaining to possible future development of the Wuskwatim Generating Station. The attached two newsletters provide an overview of the proposed generating station, associated transmission line facilities, and the anticipated regulatory and decision schedules.

If the Wuskwatim Generating Station were to be developed, it would be located approximately 45 km southwest of Thompson at Taskinigup Falls at the south end of Wuskwatim Lake. It would produce about 200 MW of electricity. The associated new transmission facilities would include a sub-station (Birchtree Station) to be located south of Thompson, one 230 kV transmission line between Birchtree Station and a new switching station at the Wuskwatim site, and two 230 kV lines between the Wuskwatim Switching Station and the existing Herblet Lake Station at Snow Lake. In addition, there would be one 230 kV transmission line between Herblet Lake Station and the existing Rall's Island Station at The Pas. The proposed transmission line facilities are illustrated schematically in the attached First Round newsletter.

To fulfill project environmental licensing requirements, Manitoba Hydro and NCN have initiated an environmental impact assessment study of the proposed Wuskwatim Generating Station. In addition, a Site Selection and Environmental Assessment (SSEA) study has been initiated to select routes for the proposed transmission lines. These studies will contribute to planning for the proposed project, but initiation of the studies does not mean that a decision has been made to proceed with the Wuskwatim project.

As part of this process, Manitoba Hydro and NCN have initiated discussions with potentially affected communities and interested parties outside the Nelson House Resource Management Area (RMA).

Public Open Houses will be held to share information with interested parties and the public about the proposed Wuskwatim generating station project and associated transmission facilities. Interested parties

will have an opportunity to review preliminary routing options. Representatives from Manitoba Hydro and NCN will be available to answer questions regarding the projects.

You are welcome to attend any of the upcoming open houses.

Generating Station and Associated Transmission Facilities

Thompson
May 2nd, 2002
St. Lawrence Hall
3:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Transmission Facilities

Community of Cormorant
May 1, 2002
Community Hall
3:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Opaskwayak
May 7, 2002
Kikiwak Inn
3:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Town of Snow Lake
May 8, 2002
Elk's Hall
1:00 – 4:00 p.m. & 7:00 – 10:00 p.m.

In closing, if you have any questions regarding the proposed project prior to the Open Houses, please feel free to contact Mr. Ron Rawluk (Manitoba Hydro re: transmission facilities) at (204) 474-3119, Mr. Nick Barnes (Manitoba Hydro re: the generating station) at (204) 474-3999, Mr. Norman Linklater (NCN Future Development) at (204) 484-3019, or Mr. Marcel Moody (NCN Future Development) at (204) 484-3018.

Sincerely,

MANITOBA HYDRO

NCN



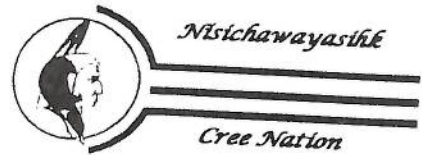
Ed Wojczynski
Division Manager
Power Planning and Operations



W. E. Thomas
Councillor
Future Development Portfolio

for

Att.



April 22, 2002

Mr. Mayer Judy, Vice-President
Manitoba Metis Federation
P.O. Box 2467
The Pas MB R9A 1M2

Dear Mr. Judy:

Re: Open Houses Regarding Possible Wuskwatim Generating Station Project and Preliminary Siting and Alternative Routes for the Proposed Associated Transmission Facilities

Manitoba Hydro and the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation (NCN) invite you to attend an upcoming Open House which will review a possible new northern hydro-electric generating station at the Wuskwatim site southwest of Thompson and associated transmission line facilities which are required to connect the generating station to the existing transmission system.

Manitoba Hydro and NCN have ratified an Agreement-In-Principle (AIP) to guide discussions pertaining to possible future development of the Wuskwatim Generating Station. The attached two newsletters provide an overview of the proposed generating station, associated transmission line facilities, and the anticipated regulatory and decision schedules.

If the Wuskwatim Generating Station were to be developed, it would be located approximately 45 km southwest of Thompson at Taskinigung Falls at the south end of Wuskwatim Lake. It would produce about 200 MW of electricity. The associated new transmission facilities would include a sub-station (Birchtree Station) to be located south of Thompson, one 230 kV transmission line between Birchtree Station and a new switching station at the Wuskwatim site, and two 230 kV lines between the Wuskwatim Switching Station and the existing Herblet Lake Station at Snow Lake. In addition, there would be one 230 kV transmission line between Herblet Lake Station and the existing Rall's Island Station at The Pas. The proposed transmission line facilities are illustrated schematically in the attached First Round newsletter.

To fulfill project environmental licensing requirements, Manitoba Hydro and NCN have initiated an environmental impact assessment study of the proposed Wuskwatim Generating Station. In addition, a Site Selection and Environmental Assessment (SSEA) study has been initiated to select routes for the proposed transmission lines. These studies will contribute to planning for the proposed project, but initiation of the studies does not mean that a decision has been made to proceed with the Wuskwatim project.

As part of this process, Manitoba Hydro and NCN have initiated discussions with potentially affected communities and interested parties outside the Nelson House Resource Management Area (RMA).

Public Open Houses will be held to share information with interested parties and the public about the proposed Wuskwatim generating station project and associated transmission facilities. Interested parties

will have an opportunity to review preliminary routing options. Representatives from Manitoba Hydro and NCN will be available to answer questions regarding the projects.

You are welcome to attend any of the upcoming open houses.

Generating Station and Associated Transmission Facilities

Thompson
May 2nd, 2002
St. Lawrence Hall
3:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Transmission Facilities

Community of Cormorant
May 1, 2002
Community Hall
3:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Opaskwayak
May 7, 2002
Kikiwak Inn
3:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Town of Snow Lake
May 8, 2002
Elk's Hall
1:00 – 4:00 p.m. & 7:00 – 10:00 p.m.

In closing, if you have any questions regarding the proposed project prior to the Open Houses, please feel free to contact Mr. Ron Rawluk (Manitoba Hydro re: transmission facilities) at (204) 474-3119, Mr. Nick Barnes (Manitoba Hydro re: the generating station) at (204) 474-3999, Mr. Norman Linklater (NCN Future Development) at (204) 484-3019, or Mr. Marcel Moody (NCN Future Development) at (204) 484-3018.

Sincerely,

MANITOBA HYDRO



Ed Wojczynski
Division Manager
Power Planning and Operations

NCN



W. E. Thomas
Councillor
Future Development Portfolio

for

Att.



April 22, 2002

Mr. Darryl Montgomery, Board Member
Manitoba Metis Federation
44 Copper Rd
Thompson MB R8N 0V6

Dear Mr. Montgomery:

Re: Open Houses Regarding Possible Wuskwatim Generating Station Project and Preliminary Siting and Alternative Routes for the Proposed Associated Transmission Facilities

Manitoba Hydro and the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation (NCN) invite you to attend an upcoming Open House which will review a possible new northern hydro-electric generating station at the Wuskwatim site southwest of Thompson and associated transmission line facilities which are required to connect the generating station to the existing transmission system.

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As part of this process, Manitoba Hydro and NCN have initiated discussions with potentially affected communities and interested parties outside the Nelson House Resource Management Area (RMA).

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Sincerely,

MANITOBA HYDRO



Ed Wojczynski
Division Manager
Power Planning and Operations

NCN



W. E. Thomas
Councillor
Future Development Portfolio

for

Att.



April 22, 2002

David Chartrand
Manitoba Métis Federation
3rd Floor – 150 Henry Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3B 0J7

Dear Mr. Chartrand:

Re: Open Houses Regarding Possible Wuskwatim Generating Station Project and Preliminary Siting and Alternative Routes for the Proposed Associated Transmission Facilities

Manitoba Hydro and the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation (NCN) invite you to attend an upcoming Open House which will review a possible new northern hydro-electric generating station at the Wuskwatim site southwest of Thompson and associated transmission line facilities which are required to connect the generating station to the existing transmission system.

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Sincerely,

MANITOBA HYDRO



Ed Wojczynski
Division Manager
Power Planning and Operations

NCN

 for

W. E. Thomas
Councillor
Future Development Portfolio

Att.

Round 3
PIP

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

*To share initial results from the environmental studies
associated with the proposed*

WUSKWATIM GENERATING STATION PROJECT AND WUSKWATIM TRANSMISSION PROJECT

We invite you to attend an Open House in Thompson on:

December 11, 2002
St. Lawrence Hall
114 Cree Road
3:00 – 8:00 p.m.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

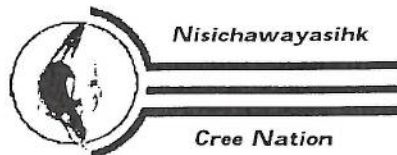
For more information please contact:

Ron Rawluk
Licensing & Environmental Assessment Dept.
Transmission Planning & Design
Winnipeg, MB R3C 2P4
Telephone: (204) 474-3119 (Collect)
Fax: (204) 474-4974

Nick Barnes
Power Planning and Operations
Manitoba Hydro
Winnipeg, MB R3C 2P4
Telephone: (204) 474-3999 (Collect)
Fax: (204) 474-4974

Norman Linklater
Co-Manager of Future Development, NCN
Nelson House, MB R0B 1A0
Telephone: (204) 484-3019
Fax: (204) 484-2980

Marcel Moody
Co-Manager of Future Development, NCN
Nelson House, MB R0B 1A0
Telephone: (204) 484-3018
Fax: (204) 484-2980



PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

To share information regarding the proposed **WUSKWATIM TRANSMISSION PROJECT**

We invite you to attend one of the upcoming Open Houses in your area. The dates and locations are:

Town of Snow Lake
January 14, 2003
Elk's Hall
1:00 – 4:00 p.m. & 7:00 – 10:00 p.m.

Cormorant
January 15, 2003
Community Hall
3:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Note: A Public Open House in Opaskwayak is also being planned — once the date is confirmed, it will be publicly advertised in local newspapers.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

For more information please contact:

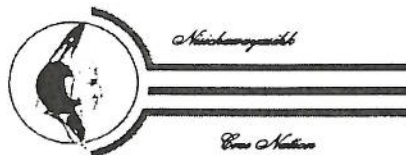
Ron Rawluk
Licensing & Environmental Assessment Dept.
Transmission Planning & Design
Winnipeg, MB., R3C 2P4
Telephone: (204) 474-3119 (Collect)
Fax: (204) 474-4974

For Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation (NCN):

Norman Linklater
Co-Manager of Future Development, NCN
Nelson House, MB., R0B 1A0
Telephone: (204) 484-3019
Fax: (204) 484-2980

Or

Marcel Moody
Co-Manager of Future Development, NCN
Nelson House, MB., R0B 1A0
Telephone: (204) 484-3018
Fax: (204) 484-2980



PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

To share information regarding the proposed **WUSKWATIM TRANSMISSION PROJECT**

We invite you to attend the upcoming Open House in your area. The date and location is:

Opaskwayak
January 22, 2003
Kikiwak Inn, Bignell Room B
3:30 – 8:00 p.m.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

For more information please contact:

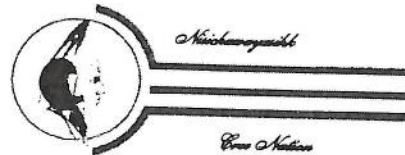
Ron Rawluk
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Telephone: (204) 474-3119 (Collect)
Fax: (204) 474-4974

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JOIN US AT A

PUBLIC

*Explore
and Discuss*

the Initial

Environmental

Findings for

the Proposed

WUSKWATIM

Generation and

Transmission

Projects

OPEN HOUSE

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2003,
3:00 - 8:00 P.M.**

Norwood Hotel, Large Banquet Room
112 Marion St., Winnipeg

Manitoba Hydro and the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation (NCN) are considering development of a new 200-megawatt hydroelectric generating station and associated transmission facilities in Northern Manitoba.

Environmental studies for these projects are now underway and this open house will provide you with an opportunity to learn about the projects and station and associated transmission facilities in Northern Manitoba.

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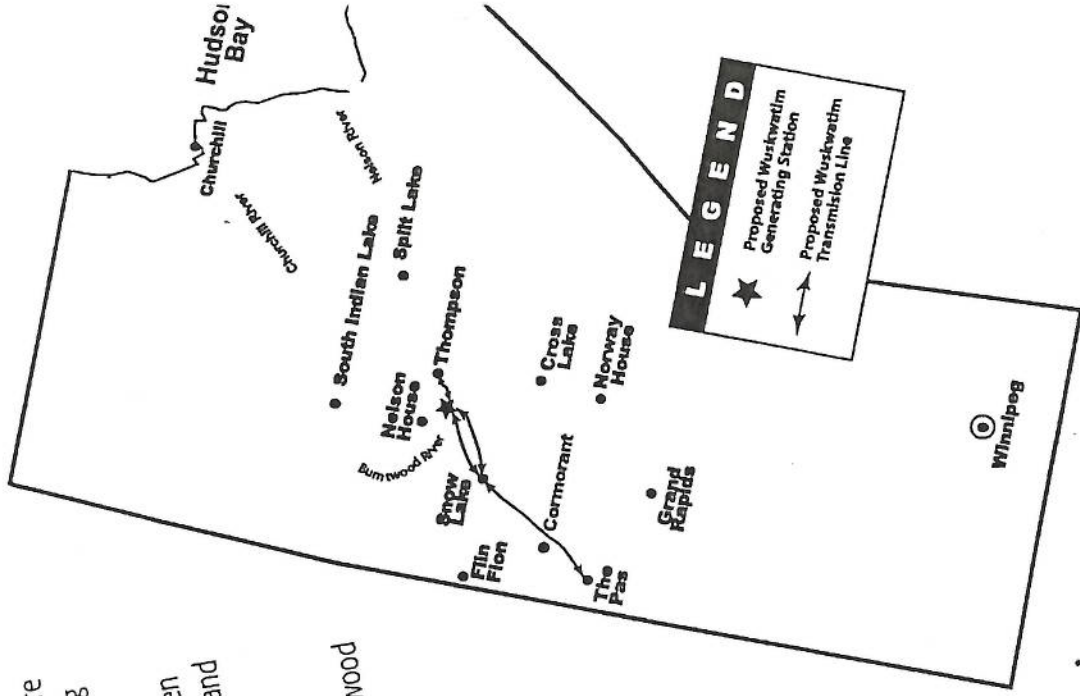
The preliminary findings of the environmental studies. It is also an opportunity to express your comments early in the process.

The proposed Wuskwatim Generation Project is located on the Burntwood River, about 45 km southwest of Thompson and 35 km southeast of Nelson House.

Subject to environmental approvals, the earliest that construction of the generating station infrastructure could begin is late 2003, with electricity flowing to market no sooner than 2009.

Manitoba Hydro and NCN representatives will be available for questions and discussion.

More information is available on Manitoba Hydro's website at www.hydro.mb.ca/wuskwatim where you can also submit questions and comments for NCN and Manitoba Hydro.



**Manitoba
Hydro**



EIS Documents sent to Manitoba Metis Federation

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Documents</u>
May 22, 2003	Senator Ed Head & Daniel Deslauriers	Executive Summary – Cree
May 22, 2003	Senator Ed Head & Daniel Deslauriers	Integrated Executive Summary
May 22, 2003	Senator Ed Head & Daniel Deslauriers	NFAAT – CD
May 22, 2003	Senator Ed Head & Daniel Deslauriers	NFAAT – Overview
May 22, 2003	Senator Ed Head & Daniel Deslauriers	NFAAT Volume 1 and 2
May 22, 2003	Senator Ed Head & Daniel Deslauriers	Volumes 1-10 of GS EIS
May 22, 2003	Senator Ed Head & Daniel Deslauriers	Volumes 1-10 of GS EIS – CD
May 22, 2003	Senator Ed Head & Daniel Deslauriers	Volumes 1-8 of TLine EIS – CD
May 27, 2003	Senator Ed Head & Daniel Deslauriers	Volumes 1-8 of TLine EIS
June 25, 2003	Senator Ed Head & Daniel Deslauriers	Master Table of Contents
June 25, 2003	Senator Ed Head & Daniel Deslauriers	Master Table of Contents - CD



Round 4
PIP

June 25, 2003

Senator Ed Head
Manitoba Métis Federation
3rd Floor, 150 Henry Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3B 0J7

Dear Senator Head:

RE: TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS REGARDING THE WUSKWATIM SUBMISSIONS TO REGULATORS FOR CEC HEARINGS

You have submitted an application for participant assistance funding to participate in the public hearing process respecting the proposed Wuskwatim Generation and Transmission Projects. Accordingly, the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation (NCN) and Manitoba Hydro are pleased to invite you to a series of technical workshops, on **July 7, 8 and 9, 2003 in the Riel Room at the Place Louis Hotel (190 Smith St.) in Winnipeg**, to review the Wuskwatim Generation and Transmission Projects' Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) and the Wuskwatim Project Need For and Alternatives To (NFAAT) report recently submitted to federal and provincial regulators. The July workshops are intended to facilitate your preparation to participate in the Clean Environment Commission (CEC) public hearing process regarding these documents.

Participants in the workshops will have the opportunity to hear an overview presentation on the Projects and the EIS and NFAAT documents, and also to participate in discussion on specific issues of interest to them associated with the EIS and NFAAT documents. Each workshop will consist of topic focused sessions, and will run from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. **Review of the Wuskwatim Generation and Transmission EIS submissions will take place on July 7 and 8; review of the NFAAT submission will take place on July 9.** Further detail on the format of the workshops can be found in the enclosed agendas.

Final Guidelines for the Preparation of EISs for the Wuskwatim Projects were issued in April 2002. This past winter, consultation focused on review of initial EIS conclusions regarding the Projects' predicted effects. Since then, separate EISs for the Wuskwatim Generation Project and Wuskwatim Transmission Project have been prepared, as well as a submission on the need for and alternatives to the Wuskwatim Project. These reports were filed with federal and provincial regulators on April 30, 2003. The Government of Manitoba has provided a Terms of Reference to the CEC to conduct a public review of these reports, anticipated to occur in the fall of 2003.

Current consultation on the Projects focuses on making available information about the EIS and NFAAT submissions, in advance of the formal public review process to be conducted by the CEC later this year. As an applicant for participant assistance funding we provided you with the following documents on May 22, 2003:

- Overview – Need For and Alternatives To the Wuskwatim Project
- Need For and Alternatives To the Wuskwatim Project (Volumes 1 and 2)
- Integrated Executive Summary of Environmental Impact Statements – Wuskwatim Generation and Transmission Projects
- Cree Voice-Translation Presentation of the Integrated Executive Summary (CD)
- Wuskwatim Generation Project Environmental Impact Statement (Volumes 1 through 10)
- Wuskwatim Transmission Project Environmental Impact Statement (Volumes 1 through 8)

A copy of the Round Four Newsletter is enclosed for your use and information. This is the fourth in a series of newsletters produced by Manitoba Hydro and NCN regarding the Wuskwatim Projects. Newsletter #4 provides a brief update on the Projects, as well as a guide to accessing the EIS and NFAAT materials. Further information about the Projects and EIS and NFAAT materials can be found on the Manitoba Hydro website at www.hydro.mb.ca/wuskwatim.

Although no decision has been made to proceed with the Project, Manitoba Hydro and the NCN have ratified an Agreement-in-Principle (AIP) to guide discussions pertaining to possible future development of the Wuskwatim Generation and Transmission Projects.

To RSVP for the July workshops, please contact Laura McKay at (204) 942-0654. We recognize that you may want to bring to the workshops any technical specialists involved in your participation in the CEC public hearing process. We would appreciate it if you could provide, when you RSVP, the names of any representatives that will be attending the event on your behalf.

We look forward to meeting with you in July.

Sincerely,

MANITOBA HYDRO



Ed Wojczynski
Division Manager
Power Planning and Development

NCN



Elvis Thomas
Councillor
Future Development Portfolio

Copy: Darrel Deslauriers

Enclosures

InterGroup

Suite 604-283 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3B 2B5
tel: (204) 942-0654
fax: (204) 943-3922
e-mail: intergroup@intergroup.ca

Round 5
PIP

February 11, 2004

Mr. Al Benoit
Manitoba Metis Federation
300-150 Henry Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R3B 0J7

Dear Mr. Benoit:

RE: MANITOBA HYDRO AND NCN ROUND FIVE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT NEWSLETTER

As a participant in the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission public hearing process, please find enclosed a copy of Manitoba Hydro's and NCN's Round Five Public Involvement Newsletter. Should you require copies of any of the earlier Public Involvement Newsletters, please feel free to contact me at (204) 942-0654, or visit Manitoba Hydro's web site to download an electronic version at www.hydro.mb.ca/wuskwatim.

Yours truly,
INTERGROUP CONSULTANTS LTD.

Laura McKay
Research Analyst

Enclosure

Filed Documentation

- General listing provided at Generation Project EIS Volume 1, Table 3.3-2 (pages 3-18 and 3-19) shows invitation to MMF (with newsletter) to round 2 and 3 open houses in Thompson (and round 3 open house in Winnipeg) -
- Appendix 5 of Generation Project EIS Volume 2 provides round 2 newsletter (sec 1) - includes (Section 2.3.1) sample invitations and distribution list for open house in Thompson with David Chartrand (MMF, Wpg), Ed Head (MMF, Wpg), Darryl Montgomery (MMF, Thompson), Judy Mayer (MMF, The Pas) in list of Thompson open house invitees (table on "Distribution List: Round Two Open House Stakeholders Invitation Sent to Potentially Interested Parties in the Project Region") - sample invitation letter is provided after this table (sample letter is not addressed to these people - but sample is same as letter sent to these people) - Sec 2.3.4 is sign-in sheet from Thompson open house (no MMF) - Section 2.3.7 provides summary of questions and comments heard at Thompson open house (no MMF)
- Appendix 6 of Generation Project EIS Volume 2 provides same for round 3 open houses - see Section 2.3.2 for Thompson open house and Sec 2.3.3 for Winnipeg open house - Darryl Montgomery is on Thompson Open House sign-in sheet -- no sample invitation letters here for this specific group (general sample letter)
- Supplemental Filing #2, Oct 9, 2002, provided documentation for Round 4 - see MH/NCN/PIP-S-2a (newsletter), 2e (PIP Technical Workshop materials for July 2003 - includes invitation list (to Senator Ed Head) and sample invitations, and participants (MMF did not attend)
- Transmission Project EIS Volume 1; Appendix E, Section 4 on Transmission PIP has Round 2 and 3 Distribution Lists for Open Houses as well as notices and sample invitation letters.