

EXHIBIT # OTH-1014

WUSKWATIM GENERATION
& TRANSMISSION PROJECT



CLEAN ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION

Clean Environment Commission Hearings

The Wuskwatim Hydro Development Project
“Let Us Not Throw Out the Baby With the Bath
Water”

Chief Clarence Easter
Chemawawin Cree Nation
March 25, 2004

The Project: As an Opportunity

- CCN never had an opportunity to have a partnership relationship with Manitoba Hydro
- Partnership between NCN and Manitoba Hydro is basis for exploring new relationship between aboriginal communities and corporate Canada
- Foundation for a strong and vibrant community through promotion of community and economic development
- A proactive effort to take charge, make a decision and work towards opportunities for community and its members

NCN and Manitoba Hydro Partnership

- As a model for collaboration, aboriginal nation has direct, meaningful and proactive input
- Structured and organized collaboration between NCN and Manitoba hydro allows for transfer of learnings related to large-scale projects
- Instills confidence in other businesses to partner with aboriginal communities
- Injection of new capital and resources into the community

Promotion of Community and Economic Development

- Community and economic development is also about social, political and cultural aspects. Future enhanced revenues will help realize these aspects as well
- Proactive means by which to reduce dependence on income-support and welfare economics
- Better future employment opportunities and quality of life without having to leave “home”

Taking Charge

NCN-Hydro collaboration and partnership has other benefits as well

- Template for future partnerships
- In addition to confidence, for aboriginal nations it demonstrates capacity for structured and organized undertaking completion of large-scale initiatives
- Institutional framework, required processes and procedures instill confidence especially for smaller and medium-sized businesses to pursue relationships with aboriginal communities

Taking Charge....Contd.

- A successful partnership between NCN and Hydro would allow for:
 - Meaningful ongoing discussions and “checks” to deal with issues of mitigation and damages
 - NCN as “influencer” and not just a “recipient” of change
 - Successful outcome will be a basis for future partnerships and collaborations with other external stakeholders

Towards.....

- We all want to be a people and community that is:
 - Self reliant and responsible for its future
 - A strong and vibrant community which offers each of its members better employment opportunities and a higher quality of life
 - A place where each person has the opportunity for personal growth/learning and contributes in their own way to the overall benefit of the community
 - A community which serves as role model for communities
 - For NCN, the Wuskwatim project and partnership with Hydro provides for one such possible opportunity

In the end...

- Leadership is all about providing a vision and direction
- However, for buy-in from the community, need to communicate in an meaningful and effective manner
- Addressing the needs and concerns helps to propose, implement and manage change
- So, let us not throw away the baby with the bath water....it may prove to be costly.

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