

Water Use Licensing Section  
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NOV 25 2014

November 21, 2014

File No.: 30.2.2

Mr. Terry Sargeant  
305 – 155 Carlton Street  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 3H8

Dear Mr. Sargeant:

Thank you for your letter dated November 3, 2014 regarding an information request for a final Lake Winnipeg Regulation Water Power Act Licence. The Water Power Licensing section response to your two questions is as follows:

**Question 1: Realizing that this situation has not yet happened, what procedures and/or operational imperatives would be put in place should Lake Winnipeg go below 711 ft. asl?**

**Response:** Water levels less than 711 feet asl may adversely affect boat launches at marinas and public access points. Low water levels may create situations where vessels are damaged by hitting the lake bottom thus creating unsafe boating conditions both on the Lake and in Netley Marsh.

When water levels drop below 711 feet outflows are set as ordered by the Minister responsible for the Water Power Act. Licence Term 15(f) states, "Notwithstanding any other terms or conditions of this Final License, the Licensee shall, during periods when the water level in Lake Winnipeg is below elevation 711.0 feet above mean sea level, Canadian Geodetic Datum, operate the said control structure at Jenpeg as ordered by the Minister under Section 72 of the Regulation."

**Question 2: Is there an on-going compliance monitoring program and how is it managed?**

**Response:** Licence Term 11 of the Interim Water Power Act Licence for Lake Winnipeg Regulation requires Manitoba Hydro to provide a 90-day forecast of flows and water levels for the Lake Winnipeg Regulation project each month to the Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship. These forecasts include daily inflows to Lake Winnipeg, flows for the Nelson River (west and east channels), and water levels for Lake Winnipeg, Playgreen and Kiskittogisu

Lakes. Manitoba Hydro also provides these forecasts on its website. Manitoba Hydro also provides a "Lake Winnipeg Regulation Weekly Report" to Conservation and Water Stewardship.

Furthermore, Manitoba Hydro provides Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship with an "Annual Water Levels and Flows Report" that is made available to both internal and external stakeholders. The report contains information on data collection, verification, and reporting related to all Water Power Act licences, as well as a summary of deviations from licence compliance during the calendar year. Annual Water Level and flows Reports from 2008 to 2013 are posted on the Manitoba government website at the following link:

[http://www.gov.mb.ca/waterstewardship/licensing/water\\_power\\_licensing.html](http://www.gov.mb.ca/waterstewardship/licensing/water_power_licensing.html)

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact Puru Singh at (204) 945-3613 or myself any time.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Matthews". The signature is stylized with a large initial "R" and "M".

Rob Matthews  
Manager  
Water Use Licensing Section