



Tazi Twé Hydroelectric Project

21 February, 2014

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Subject: Environmental Impact Statement – Tazi Twé Hydroelectric Project

Elizabeth Falls Hydro Limited Partnership and SaskPower are pleased to submit the enclosed Environmental Impact Statement for the Tazi Twé Hydroelectric Project, a 50 MW water diversion type of generating station to be located in northern Saskatchewan on Black Lake First Nation land.

This Environmental Impact Statement is being submitted separately and simultaneously to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency and Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment – Environmental Assessment. The Environmental Impact Statement has been prepared to meet the environmental assessment requirements of both levels of government that were identified specifically for the Tazi Twé Hydroelectric Project:

- the federal Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines dated April 2013; and
- the provincial Terms of Reference dated August 2013.

Through discussions with both agencies, it is the Proponent's understanding that each of the federal and provincial assessment agencies will follow their own review process and follow their own schedule.

The Proponent submits this Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to extensive environmental impact analyses and engineered design features that are structured to reduce negative effects from construction through to closure. As such, it is the Proponent's belief that the Project is not likely to cause significant adverse residual effects. The environmental assessment has also demonstrated there are notable benefits associated with the Tazi Twé Hydroelectric Project.

As presented in the Environmental Impact Statement, adverse effects to components of the environment are not predicted to be large enough to alter:

- the surface water quality for aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, and human use;
- maintenance of self-sustaining fish populations (including listed species);
- maintenance of a self-sustaining plant population and communities (including listed species);

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- maintenance of self-sustaining wildlife populations (including listed species);
- protection and preservation of heritage resources;
- continued opportunity for traditional and non-traditional activities such as hunting, fishing, trapping, and plant and berry gathering;
- continued opportunity for employment;
- continued access to health care, family services, education, and recreation; or
- protection of human health and maintenance of quality of life.

Both positive and negative socio-economic effects are anticipated as a result of the Tazi Twé Hydroelectric Project. It is recognized there is potential for some increased demand on local infrastructure and community services. However, recognizable positive effects to the economy will be seen during the construction phase when local contracting and employment opportunities will be the greatest. Furthermore, the effects from operation will produce meaningful outcomes for the community, be it through long-term permanent employment opportunities, or through the returns associated with Black Lake First Nation's 30% equity investment as a partner in the Tazi Twé Hydroelectric Project. The Black Lake First Nation's financial return on their investment in the project is expected to result in positive changes to infrastructure and services for the community of Black Lake.

The Proponent, as a Partnership, is committed to working cooperatively through the lifespan of the Project. A Project Advisory Committee, including equal representation from the Elizabeth Falls Hydroelectric Limited Partnership and SaskPower, will meet and review on a regular basis all aspects of the Tazi Twé Hydroelectric Project including environmental, engineering, construction activities, and community matters that relate to the completion and operation of the project.

On behalf of the Proponent, the Environmental Impact Statement is submitted by the principal contact for environmental assessment of the Project:

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