

January 18, 2017


Ms. Janet Scott
Project Manager, Prairie and Northern Region
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
Suite 1145, 700 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5J 4C3

Dear Ms. Scott:

RE: Agency File No.: 005519/Registry File 80094 - Response to Federal Information Requests – Round 2, Proposed Project 4 – All-Season Road Connecting Berens River and Poplar River First Nation (the Project)

Please find attached our response to the November 22, 2016 Round 2 Information Request from the Agency. As of November 28, 2016, as directed by the Manitoba Government, Manitoba Infrastructure has taken over responsibility for the Manitoba East Side Road Authority. Manitoba Infrastructure has created a division called Remote Road Operations to manage the all-season road projects on the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

If you have any questions please contact myself or Jaime Clarke.

Sincerely, 
<Original signed by>

Mike Knight, Acting Director
Remote Road Operations
MK/jc

Attachment

cc: Ryan Coulter, Manager of Environmental Services, Manitoba Infrastructure
Lance Vigfusson, Interim CEO and Deputy Minister, Manitoba Infrastructure
Tracey Braun, Manitoba Sustainable Development

Federal Environmental Assessment of Project 4 – All-Season Road Connecting Berens River to Poplar River First Nation
Federal Information Requests – Round #2

<i>IR Number (e.g. HC-IR-01)</i>	<i>Project Effects Link to CEAA 2012</i>	<i>Referenc e to EIS Guideline s</i>	<i>Referenc e to EIS</i>	<i>Context and Rationale</i>	<i>Specific Question / Request for Information</i>	<i>Response</i>
CEAA-0022 (Round 2)	5(1)(c) – an effect occurring in Canada of any change that may be caused to the environment on i) Health and socioeconomic conditions ii) Physical and cultural heritage iii) The current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, or iv) Any structure, site or thing that is of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance	EIS Guideline s, Part 2, Section 6.3.4	Chapter 10, Table 10.7	In the Oct.7, 2016 response to IR CEAA-22, the proponent commits to address potential effects of the Project of the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes. These mitigation measure commitments include sharing information and providing community notifications about construction interactions with navigation on area watercourses and land travel routes, fishing and trapping. The proponent also refers to community notification opportunities in the EIS, in Chapter 4, <i>Table 4-7 Summary of Proposed Future Engagement Activities & Notifications</i> , where in-community meetings/public open houses, newsletters, notices/communications plans, and other engagement activities are described as a way for community members to provide input on construction and Project related aspects. The federal environmental assessment of the Project will be informed by the information regarding the notification of Métis people not living in Poplar River First Nation, Berens River First Nation, and Berens River Northern Affairs Community, but who may use the area.	A. How will engagement and notification activities include the MMF and Métis people who may not live within Poplar River First Nation, Berens River First Nation and Berens River Northern Affairs Community but may utilize resources/exercise Aboriginal rights in the area of the project?	A. Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) and Métis people who may not live within Poplar River First Nation, Berens River First Nation and Berens River Northern Affairs Community but may utilize resources/exercise Aboriginal rights in the area of the project will be included in the following engagement and notification activities: a. Written invitation will be sent to MMF to invite Métis people to attend any Project 4 public open houses being held by MB Infrastructure (MI) (formerly ESRA) to provide Project 4 construction updates. b. Newsletters & notices prepared for Project 4 construction phase will be forwarded to MMF for redistribution to individual Métis. c. Notification boards will be located at the beginning & end of the project to provide project updates. d. Contact information will be listed in the newsletters, notices and notification boards for anyone wishing to provide feedback on the project.

Federal Environmental Assessment of Project 4 – All-Season Road Connecting Berens River to Poplar River First Nation
Advice to Proponent from Federal Authorities – Round #1

<i>Reference Number (e.g. HC--01)</i>	<i>Reference to EIS</i>	<i>Context and Rationale</i>	<i>Advice to the Proponent</i>	<i>Response</i>
CEAA-30/ECCC-EE-IR-07	<i>Chapter 5.0 - Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development (page 5-12), Chapter 12 - Accidents and Malfunctions (page 12-6, 12-7)</i>	<p>ECCC SIR1 Comment: D. Identify the magnitude of an accident or malfunction, including the quantity, mechanism, rate, form, and characteristics of the contaminants and other materials likely to be released into the environment during an accident or malfunction event. Assess the potential for adverse environmental effects as defined in Section 5 of CEAA 2012.</p> <p>Proponent Response: "With regard to identifying the magnitude of and assessing the potential adverse effects of accidents and malfunctions: See Annex 26 - Table of Accidents and Malfunctions."</p>	<p>Follow-up ECCC Comment: D. In addition to documenting environmental baseline data in advance of a project, the Proponent is encouraged to undertake environmental sensitivity mapping, especially in and around nearby water bodies and watercourses that have a potential to be affected by a spill incident. While conducting the hazard identification and risk assessment it is important to consider contributing and/or complicating factors. These factors may pose unintentional or unplanned risk and may include external hazards such as severe meteorological events or sensitivities such as fish spawning areas or important areas for migrating waterfowl or species at risk.</p> <p>ECCC encourages the Proponent to prepare Emergency Response and Spill Contingency Plans that reflect a consideration of potential accidents and malfunctions and that take into account site-specific conditions and sensitivities. The Canadian Standards Association publication, Emergency Preparedness and Response, CAN/CSA-Z731-03, is a useful reference for this.</p>	Noted.
ECCC - New	EIS Guidelines, Part 2, 6.6.1	<p>he Proponent indicates: <i>"All major spills of petroleum products or other hazardous substances with significant impact on the environment and threat to human health and safety (as defined in Table 1) shall be reported to Manitoba Conservation and the Contract Administrator, immediately after occurrence of the environmental accident, by calling the 24-hour emergency number (204) 945-4888."</i></p>	<p>ECCC recommends that all accidental spills and releases of hazardous substances, regardless of quantities, be reported as soon as feasible to Environment and Climate Change Canada, Manager of Enforcement, Manitoba District at (204) 983-7582 where the spill or release:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Is near or into a water body; 2) Is near or into a designated sensitive environment or sensitive wildlife habitat; 3) Poses an imminent threat to human health or safety; or 4) Poses an imminent threat to a listed species at risk or its critical habitat. This information should also be indicated in EPP Spill Response, Section 4.2 Emergency Response Plan for Spills, sub-section 5. <p>ECCC also recommends that EPP Spill Response, Section 3 lists: 1) the Canadian Environmental Protection Act and its associated regulations, 2) the Fisheries Act, and 3) the Migratory Birds Convention Act.</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Section 3 of EPP-3 Spill Response is being updated to include recommendation.</p>