Keeyask Questions – Winnipeg Workshop

November 2008

• How will Manitoba Hydro assess combined impacts in this large project area for Keeyask, Conawapa, and the potential top end of Bi Pole III?
• How is Manitoba Hydro identifying cumulative effects for all these projects?
• When will the timetable for Keeyask and other projects be made public? (Technical work for Keeyask has been going on for years, will these products and reports be made public?)
• Climate change and permafrost – Will they both be part of the Environmental Impact Statement for Keeyask?
• How much logging in total is happening for Keeyask dam?
• Manitoba Wildlands suggested that Manitoba Hydro needs to go beyond one project at a time and aim to provide the affected communities (and Manitobans) with a whole plan for this region that includes Keeyask, Conawapa, and options for the northern loop for Bi Pole III.
• How does Manitoba Hydro expect these communities to deal with possible multiple effects from multiple projects?
• Will the affected First Nation communities for Keeyask (and Conawapa) have an independent voice in the licensing process, including the hearings?
• Baseline data pre projects is part of environmental statement – How will Manitoba Hydro define the baseline for a huge project areas where there is already considerable charge to lands and water for previous hydro projects?
• Do First Nations affected by Keeyask have a say in the size and location of project area?
• Will MB Hydro use the data, studies, information available from previous hydro projects, and prior to any hydro projects in the region for its EIS for Keeyask (and Conawapa)? Will these be made available to the public?
• Will there be Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) guidelines as there were for Wuskwatim? Will the EIS Guidelines under go public review and will a full EIS be filed for public review? Or will the Wuskwatim EIS Guidelines be applied to the Keeyask (and Conawapa) projects?
Does Manitoba Hydro intend to maintain the EIS standards for Wuskwatim for the Keeyask project?

Minister of Conservation has confirmed there will be Clean Environment Commission hearings and participant assistance funds?. Does this fit with assumptions by Manitoba Hydro?

Will results of participant assistance activity, workshops and meetings regarding Keeyask be public?

Will Manitoba Hydro make all of its scientific, archaeological, and technical studies regarding Keeyask (and other projects in the region) public? Will these studies and reports be part of the EIS?

Forty-Five square miles of flooding is built into the current Keeyask design for its power generation potential – How much flooding would result for different design, smaller dam, lower head on the dam?

Will Manitoba Hydro build into its public statements and plans for Keeyask (and Conawapa) decommissioning plans?