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Chief Craig Alexander
Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation Tribal Council
P.O. Box 30, Ginew, Roseau River, MB, R0A 2R0

MAY 16 2019

Subject: Proposed Amendments to NEB Conditions on the Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project

Dear Chief Craig Alexander,

The Crown Consultation Team for the Manitoba Minnesota Transmission Project (the Project) is finalizing consultations with Indigenous groups in advance of a decision by the Governor in Council. The Governor in Council has approved an extension for this decision to June 14, 2019.

Per the Federal Court of Appeal (FCA) decision in *Tsleil-Waututh Nation v. Canada (2018 FCA 153)*, the FCA found consultation should include two way dialogue and consideration of accommodation. During the federal Crown's supplemental consultation process, the Crown heard a number of concerns from Indigenous groups that relate to potential impacts on Section 35 Aboriginal and Treaty Rights resulting from the Project. In an effort to further address these potential impacts, the Crown is prepared to propose amendments to several of the National Energy Board (NEB) conditions. We intend on sharing the text of draft conditions with you shortly.

As an additional measure to respond to concerns identified by Indigenous groups during the Crown consultation, Natural Resources Canada is establishing a terrestrial and cultural studies initiative to assist Indigenous-led studies to improve understanding of land-based issues such as harvesting plants on the land, hunting of land-based animals, and cultural impacts of changing the landscape and resources. The results of these studies could provide information on impacts to Indigenous groups' rights in southern Manitoba and could inform the operations and maintenance phase of this Project. The Crown is open to further discussing a study with Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation.

If you have any inquiries about the contents of this letter or the attached enclosure, please contact Marc-André Préfontaine by email at: Marc-Andre.Prefontaine@canada.ca or by telephone at: 343-292-6215.

Sincerely,

Sébastien Labelle
Director General
Major Projects Management Office

c.c. Councillors Keith Henry, Zongidaya Nelson, Lillian Patrick, Max Seenie J

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