

December 22, 2016

TO: Expert Panel
Review of Environmental Assessment
Processes

FROM: Ryan Coulter, M. Sc., P. Eng.
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**SUBJECT: Written Submission – Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012
Review**

On behalf of Manitoba Infrastructure (MI), I offer the following comments regarding the ongoing Expert Panel review of federal environmental assessment processes:

- MI is generally supportive of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA), 2012 in its current form which provides greater certainty on applicable project types than the previous iteration of the Act.
- A full and meaningful environmental assessment requires local understanding of the environment at the site of proposed development. The ability to complete thorough environmental assessment in Manitoba would be greatly enhanced with the re-establishment of the CEAA office in Winnipeg.
- Greater clarity on the applicability of Section 67 of CEAA, 2012 either through legislative amendment or development of a clear and concise policy of implementation is required. It appears that various federal departments are interpreting the requirements of Section 67 differently. This has created confusion for proponents and others on when and where a federal environmental assessment is required, particularly in the case of change in property ownership from the Government of Canada to others.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this review.

Yours truly,

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