



Three years of preparation in lead up to CEC Hearing

Nelson House, February 18, 2004 – Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Chief and Council are taking part in the Clean Environment Commission hearing on the Wuskwatim hydroelectric project, which begins March 1 in Winnipeg.

The CEC Hearing is open to the public

The hearing is designed to give the public an opportunity to make presentations to the CEC, as it considers the justification, need and alternatives to Wuskwatim.

The CEC will also consider the potential environmental, socio-economic and cultural effects of the construction and operation of the Wuskwatim project.

Following the hearing, the CEC will report to the Minister of Conservation with its recommendation. The minister will decide whether to approve the project and what conditions may be attached. The federal government will also have to approve it, as well as the Board of Manitoba Hydro and a majority of NCN Members, who will be asked to vote on the final Project Development Agreement between Manitoba Hydro and NCN.

Gerard Lecuyer, a former provincial government minister of environment and workplace safety and health, will chair the CEC Hearing.

Timetable for CEC Hearing

March 1	Hearing Opens Winnipeg	Times 9am-5pm (March 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16) 1pm-10pm (March 3, 10, 17)	Location Radisson Hotel 288 Portage Avenue Winnipeg
March 22	Hearing Opens Thompson	Times 1pm-10pm (March 22) 9am-5pm (March 23)	Location St. Lawrence Hall 114 Cree Road Thompson
March 25	Hearing Opens The Pas	Times 1pm-10pm (March 25) 9am-5pm (March 26)	Location Kikiwak Inn Hwy. 10 North The Pas
April 6 – 7	Closing Statements Winnipeg	Times- Tentative 9am – 5pm (April 6, 7)	Location Radisson Hotel 288 Portage Avenue Winnipeg
April 7	Hearing Adjourns		

WHERE THREE RIVERS MEET

© Copyright Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation