



VIA EMAIL

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September 23, 2024

Chief Laurie Carr
Hiawatha First Nation
431 Hiawatha Line
Hiawatha, ON K9J 0E6

Re: DNNP Licence to Construct hearing and future CNSC hearings

Dear Chief Carr,

Thank you for your letter of August 29, 2024. I was in the process of writing to you as your correspondence arrived and am grateful to receive your comments relating to the DNNP Licence to Construct (LTC) hearing process, as well as your perspectives on hearings more broadly.

In response to the key points in your letter:

- 1) A 3-part Hearing for the DNNP

The Registry understands that Hiawatha First Nation (HFN) prefers a 3-part hearing, for multiple reasons including your status as Rights Holders.

Your letter notes that the DNNP hearing is scheduled for October 2, 2024, and January 8, 2025. This is partially correct; the second part of the hearing starts on January 8, 2025, and its length is as yet undetermined. It is currently scheduled for January 8-10, 2025, but could extend into the following week depending on the number of interested participants.

The Registry appreciates your position as Rights Holders, and that you would like to see dedicated time specifically to hear and address the concerns of the Michi Saagiig Anishinaabeg, with your Nation and other Michi Saagiig Anishinaabeg Nations of the Williams Treaties First Nations (WTFN) providing input on the hearing format and process.

At this time, the Registry believes it would be premature to add a third part to this hearing, as Part 2 will be multi-day and will include dedicated time for WTFN. That said, we have not yet determined the structure of these days and will be considering your suggestions in order to ensure there is adequate dedicated time for Rights Holders; your input in this regard before the structure of Part 2 is finalized is invaluable. We also invite your input on hearing format and process generally, which I address further below.

2) Inclusion of Anishinaabe cultural practices and laws in CNSC proceedings

Thank you for this list, including some of the ways the Commission's hearing process could better include and reflect your cultural practices and laws. While we planned to reach out in advance of January 2025, to seek your views on which types of ceremony may be appropriate for Part 2 of the Hearing, having this proactive list is helpful to our planning and broadens our perspective to new ideas.

On the point of your participation, I want to express my sincere appreciation for the dedication and time that you have historically spent engaging in Commission hearing processes. The Commission greatly appreciates hearing from you and your community, and your perspectives are integral to the decision-making process.

As I am fairly new in the role of Commission Registrar, I want to start this role by building relationships with the First Nations and communities that participate in, or may want to participate in, Commission proceedings. This is one of the reasons I was so grateful to receive your letter—I am glad to see that you also want to build this relationship.

Going forward, we have a busy Commission schedule and I want to build on your correspondence and discuss in further detail how you may be better included in the Commission's proceedings, should you wish to participate. To that end, I believe it would be valuable for us to meet in-person, both so that I can hear directly from you and so that we can work together to find potential solutions to make Commission proceedings more welcoming, meaningfully inclusive, and culturally appropriate.

I am also reaching out to Chief Knott, Chief LaRocca, and Chief Simpson, and would be grateful to meet collectively or individually to have this conversation. I understand CNSC staff are organizing a meeting on November 18, 2024, with the WTFN leadership and OPG to discuss the DNNP and other projects. If there is interest, it may be possible to add our conversation about the hearing format as part of this meeting that is already scheduled. Additionally, if we are unable to meet in person, we could of course arrange a virtual meeting.

Thank you again for your letter, and for your perspectives and thoughts on the upcoming DNNP public Commission hearing. I look forward to speaking with you further and welcome your contributions and feedback.

Sincerely,



Candace Salmon

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