



MANITOBA ORDER IN COUNCIL

DATE: **April 27, 2026**

ORDER IN COUNCIL NO.: **88/2026**

RECOMMENDED BY: **Minister responsible for Manitoba Hydro**

ORDER

1. The proposed development of a 750 megawatt dual-fuel combustion turbine generation facility by Manitoba Hydro submitted to the Minister responsible for *The Manitoba Hydro Act* on February 24, 2026 is referred to The Public Utilities Board as the regulator for its review and recommendations regarding the need for, or alternatives to, the proposed development of a major new facility.
2. The review by The Public Utilities Board is to be carried out in accordance with the attached Terms of Reference.
3. The review of the proposed development of a major new facility is to be conducted jointly with the review of the integrated resource plan being carried out by The Public Utilities Board pursuant to Order in Council 12/2026.
4. The recommendations of The Public Utilities Board are to be submitted to the Minister responsible for *The Manitoba Hydro Act* within 60 days after the end of the review hearing.
5. This Order comes into effect on the day that it is made.

AUTHORITY

The Manitoba Hydro Act, C.C.S.M. c. H190, states:

"major new facility" means a major new facility for generating or transmitting power as described in subsection 16(5);

...

Powers of corporation with approval of L.G. in C.

16(1) With the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council the corporation may

...

(i.1) develop a major new facility for generating or transmitting power;

...

(j) enter into agreements and do all things proper or necessary for the due exercise of the powers mentioned in this section.

...

Public review before approval of major new facility

16(3) Before approving the development of a major new facility for generating or transmitting power, or of any physical component of such a facility, the Lieutenant Governor in Council must refer the proposed development to the regulator for its review and recommendations regarding the need for, or alternatives to, the proposed development.

...

Major facilities and contracts described

16(5) For the purposes of this section,

(a) a major new facility for generating or transmitting power is

- (i) a new power generating station with a peak capacity of at least 200 megawatts of power, or
 - (ii) a new transmission line for transmitting electricity at a voltage higher than 230 kV, that will require an investment by the corporation of \$200,000,000 or more; and
- (b) a major power purchase or export contract is
- (i) a long-term contract to purchase power from a Manitoba producer at a cost of \$200,000,000 or more over the term of the contract, including the term of any renewal of the contract, or
 - (ii) a long-term export contract that would require the development of, or advance the need for, a major new facility for the generation or transmission of power.

For this purpose, a contract is a long-term contract if its term, including the term of any optional renewal, is at least five years.

Public review considerations

16(6) As part of its review of a matter referred to the regulator under this section, the regulator must consider and provide advice to the Lieutenant Governor in Council about the potential impact of the proposed facility or contract on rates for power.

The Public Utilities Board Act, C.C.S.M. c. P280, states:

Procedure governed by rules

24(1) All hearings and investigations conducted by the board shall be governed by rules adopted by the board.

Rules of evidence not binding on board

24(2) The board is not bound by the technical rules of legal evidence.

Rules of practice, their publication

24(3) The board may make rules of practice, not inconsistent with this Act, regulating its procedure and the times of its sittings, but the rules do not come into force until they are published on the board's website.

BACKGROUND

1. On February 24, 2026 Manitoba Hydro submitted a proposal regarding the development of a 750 megawatt dual-fuel combustion turbine generation facility to the minister responsible for *The Manitoba Hydro Act* for approval by the Lieutenant Governor in Council in accordance with section 16 of *The Manitoba Hydro Act*.
2. The proposed dual-fuel combustion turbine facility is a major new facility for the purpose of section 16 of *The Manitoba Hydro Act* because it is proposed to generate 750 megawatts of power and is anticipated to require an investment by Manitoba Hydro of \$200,000,000 or more.
3. The minister responsible for *The Manitoba Hydro Act* recommends that:
 - a. the proposed development of a 750 megawatt dual-fuel combustion turbine generation facility be referred to The Public Utilities Board for its review and recommendations regarding the need for, or alternatives to, the proposed development of a major new facility;
 - b. the review be conducted in accordance with the attached Terms of Reference;
 - c. the review of the proposed development of a major new facility be conducted jointly with the review of the integrated resource plan pursuant to Order in Council 12/2026; and
 - d. the recommendations of The Public Utilities Board be submitted within 60 days after the end of the review hearing.
4. The review by The Public Utilities Board will be carried out in accordance with *The Public Utilities Board Act* and the Rules of Practice and Procedure adopted by The Public Utilities Board.