

[Natural Gas Power Station Project in Moose Jaw]

# FEEDBACK SUMMARY

April to October 2019

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## WHAT WE DID

We are committed to ongoing discussions with all stakeholders throughout this project's development and operations. Between April 13-16, 2019 we hosted small group discussions with neighbours and community representatives. We hosted a public open house on April 17, 2019. We shared the latest project plans and continued to learn about local interests and concerns.

- We spoke with **over 175 people** face-to-face.
- We received **around 40 feedback surveys** (paper and electronic).
- We received **over 40 emails and calls** between April to September.

Thank you City of Moose Jaw (City), Rural Municipality of Moose Jaw (RM) and Moose Jaw Chamber of Commerce for helping us promote our outreach activities and continuing to work with us.

Thank you to the many people who willingly gave their time and offered their sincere perspectives. Conversations continue today and we are grateful for your participation.

## WHAT WE HEARD

We compiled what we heard into 11 themes. We broke out each point and included our response. We did our best to summarize conversations. If you see something missing or misconstrued, please reach out to us so we can make corrections.

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### 1. TRAFFIC AND ROADS

#### **There's concern about more traffic in the area.**

There'll be increased traffic during construction. We expect peak traffic hours between 6:00 - 7:00 a.m. and 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. We'll continue to work with the City and the RM to finish the road use plans.

#### **There's a preference we use the east road for construction traffic.**

We expect most construction traffic will use Lorne Avenue and Coteau Street to connect to Corstorphine Avenue. The City is working through development plans for other roads in the area.

**Avoid traffic through Wakamow Park, even as a secondary route. There are lots of kids in the park and the infrastructure won't accommodate more traffic.**

We'll direct construction traffic to recommended routes that avoid River Drive. We'll continue to work with the City and the Wakamow Valley Authority to address any issues.

**Ensure dust control measures are in place.**

Steps will be taken to reduce dust from construction traffic. We'll work with the City and the RM. We'll check dust control methods during construction.

**There's concern about traffic speeds on Coteau Street and uncontrolled intersections.**

**Consider school bus routes in the area and request more stop signs.**

We've gathered details on the speed limits and traffic signs along the roads we propose to use. We've shared speed reduction and sign addition recommendations with the City and RM. As the project progresses, we'll keep evaluating traffic speeds.

We reached out to the school division and got a map of the current bus routes. We're working with the City and RM to make sure the final road plan considers bus routes. We also requested the City consider more stop signs.

**Conduct summer and winter traffic counts.**

We'll work with the City to establish traffic counts in the area.

**There's interest in traffic and knowing large load move schedules in real time.**

Once we determine traffic routes, we'll provide details to residents. We'll work with our build partner to reduce disruption to local traffic. Unfortunately, it will not be possible to provide notice of high load moves in real time.

**The drainage and roads in the area are poor and need upgrades.**

We'll upgrade the roads we need for construction traffic and heavy load hauling. But this is unlikely to improve drainage in the area. We've informed the City about the local drainage concerns we heard.

**Coteau Street should be paved.**

Although we'll upgrade designated roads, this will not include paving.

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## 2. PROXIMITY TO RESIDENCES

**There are questions on what the “buffer zone” is for natural gas power stations. There are questions on what is considered from a nearby resident or Rothesay Park perspective.**

There aren't specific "buffer zones" for natural gas facilities. But there are regulations we must follow that look at human health and the environment. For example, we study potential air emissions and noise effects on the closest homes. All this data goes to the federal government to confirm we'll meet the air quality standards. We also consider community land use plans. Moose Jaw's Industrial Park is a M2 Heavy Industrial zone.

**There isn't agreement the Industrial Park plans are in the local community's best interest. Some residents feel overlooked and ignored. There are requests for more information on the Industrial Park plans and SaskPower's development within it.**

We'll keep sharing our community outreach plans with the City so they can support us. We'll continue to share information in the ways the community has asked us to keep in touch.

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## 3. ENVIRONMENT/WILDLIFE

**There's an interest in local wildlife assessments.**

We're committed to environmental stewardship and sustainability. A third-party environmental assessment program began in 2018 and is ongoing. We look for plants and animals, archaeological resources and natural water patterns for example. A fall bird migration survey is underway. We expect to share our findings with the Province by the end of 2019.

**There's a lot of birds who use the lagoons; it's on a migration path for geese.**

Migratory bird surveys have and are being completed for the Project. These surveys take into consideration the use of the lagoon.

During construction and operations, we'll watch for birds on our property. We'll follow our Environmental Beneficial Management Practices to protect any nests and young identified.

**There's lots of deer, moose and rabbits in the area.**

We're building the project on cultivated land. So far our field studies haven't found a lot of wildlife use on the site.

We've seen animals in areas near construction sites adjust to the noise. While building our Chinook Power Station near Swift Current, wildlife was often observed moving along and feeding beside our fence line. Birds also nested in and around the property during construction.

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## 4. NOISE AND AIR EMISSIONS

**There's concern about more noise on top of the asphalt plant and trains. There's interest in current ambient noise levels and further noise studies.**

During operations, noise must stay below 50 decibels (dB) during the day and 40 dB during the night. For reference 50 dB sounds like a conversation at home. Whereas 40 dB sounds like a quiet room.

We submitted noise models to the federal government for approval. The approach includes:

- Location of nearest house.
- Noise receptors at different distances to check current noise levels in the area.
- Identifying noise sources from the power station.
- Identifying equipment that will lessen noise.
- Identifying design arrangements that lessen noise.
- External factors like prevailing winds.
- Predicted noise levels during operations at different distances.
- The Alberta Utilities Commission, Rule 012: Noise Control

The current noise levels came in at 35-50 decibels (dB) during the sample period. The results show our noise predictions will be within permissible levels. We'll share any new noise baseline information we collect with the community.

**There's concern about noise from steam blows. There's interest in what we learn from the Chinook Power Station steam blows. Provide advance notice for pile driving and steam blows.** During construction some noisy activities will be unavoidable such as pile driving and steam blows.

The Chinook Power Station steam blows occurred in August 2019. The highest noise recorded within property boundaries was 85 decibels (dB). For reference a vacuum cleaner is around 70 dB when in use.

The noise from steam blows on this project may be different due to many factors. There are different environmental and geological features. And the design of the equipment and the steam blow procedure itself may not be identical.

We'll do our best to let you know about the pile driving and steam blows in advance. Sign up here: [www.saskpower.com/proposedgas](http://www.saskpower.com/proposedgas) to receive ongoing project updates.

**There's concern about the impact of air emissions on human health and gardens. There are questions on air quality modelling and the government's role. Share the Continuous Emissions Monitoring System results.**

We must follow air quality standards that consider human health and the environment. The natural gas power station in Moose Jaw will emit:

- Nitrogen oxides [NO<sub>x</sub> (NO<sub>2</sub> and NO)]
- Particulate matter [PM, PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>] or [PM]
- Carbon monoxide [CO]
- Carbon dioxide [CO<sub>2</sub>]; and
- Sulphur dioxide [SO<sub>2</sub>].

We submitted air emissions models to the federal government for approval. The approach includes:

- The existing emissions in the area.
- The emission sources from the power station.
- External factors like prevailing winds.
- Location of nearest residents.
- Predicted emissions levels during operations.
- The federal and provincial air quality standards.

We used the AERMOD model because testing has proven it to be scientifically valid. It is a multisource, steady-state plume model that simulates air dispersion-based methods. The results show each emission predicted is **well** below the permissible level.

Once operating, we'll monitor the power station stack to track what we emit. The federal government will assess and post the results here: [www.ec.gc.ca/inrp-npri](http://www.ec.gc.ca/inrp-npri). We'll also share the results with anyone who wants to learn more.

**There are questions about the plume and whether the city will fog over from the plume on a cold day.**

We analyzed and modelled the thermal and visible plume for the power station.

The model predicts you'll see a condensed water vapour plume in the winter when the weather is right. The size of the condensed water vapor plume will vary on weather conditions.

The model also ruled out ground-level fog at 15 Wing. So the power station won't impact visibility within 15 Wing Moose Jaw's boundary.

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## 5. PLANT DESIGN

**It's important to position lighting so there's less of an impact to neighbours.**

We'll reduce the effects of permanent lighting by:



- Lowering the lumens;
- Optimizing the layout and orientation of lighting fixtures; and
- Using a more yellow light.

We're not sure if we can direct more light to the east, away from the nearest residences. But we're looking into it.

Here's what our Chinook Power Station looks like at night.

**There's a preference to lay out the facilities in an aesthetically pleasing way. There's interest in a tree buffer on the west side of the power station.**

We'll work with our build partner to develop a landscape plan. We'll consider berms and vegetation as part of this plan as well as any City bylaw requirements.

The City will approve the plan when they review our development permit application.

**There should be a visual buffer between industrial and residential areas.**

We've shared this request with the City of Moose Jaw.

**Use a state-of-the-art design to contain spills.**

Our power station design and construction procedures reflect our commitment to the environment.

We follow special requirements when storing chemicals, lubricants and oils. We use impermeable (leak tight) secondary containment. We use double walled tanks to prevent spills and leaks. In some instances, the containment must be at least 10% larger than the size of the largest container.

We follow Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) guidance and mark all containers so we know what's in them and use indoor storage when possible.

**There's concern about stack lighting and the potential impacts to birds.**

The stack will be painted and lit as per Transport Canada requirements. The stack should not create a hazard for birds.

Transmission lines can be a collision risk to birds if they migrate along a corridor. We're looking for bird migration corridors in our field studies. If we find any migration paths that overlap with our future power line, we'll use bird diverters to reduce collision risk.

**It's important to ensure surface drainage plans don't impact neighbours.**

We'll create plans for drainage during construction and operation of the power station. We'll manage site drainage to avoid impacting our neighbours.

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## **6. PROCUREMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**Local and Indigenous suppliers want to be a part of the project.**

We're looking for a partner to build the power station. We'll assess all potential partners on their community outreach plans – especially with local and Indigenous suppliers.

We want to improve on the successes from our recent Chinook Power Station project.

**Host opportunities for the build partner and general contractors.**

Once our potential build partners are shortlisted, local as well as Indigenous contractors and suppliers will have the chance to meet them.

**The project will be good for Moose Jaw and local businesses.**

We agree. Up to 500 workers may be on site during peak construction times. Our last power station project spurred \$140 million of work for Saskatchewan businesses. We expect even more local involvement for this project.

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## **7. INDIGENOUS INVOLVEMENT**

**There's an expectation the project will create training, employment, and procurement opportunities.**

Once our potential build partners are shortlisted, local contractors and suppliers will have the chance to meet them.

**General comments were shared on the historic problems Saskatchewan has regarding consultations with First Nations.**

We follow the provincial Duty to Consult parameters and seek to fulfill the requirements of the policy through meaningful consultations with rightsholders.

**Include rights holders in all future consultations. Involve a representative in future environment and heritage assessments.**

We'll continue to involve rights holders in our planning process. We value positive long-term relationships. They help us achieve mutually beneficial business objectives.

**Determine whether the “Cypress Trail” still exists. Cultivation practices may have destroyed it.**

We've asked the potential rights holder to help us scope out a study that would answer this question.

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## **8. TRANSMISSION LINE STUDY AREA**

**There's concern about power poles impacting land value and aesthetics.**

We've heard concerns about power poles impacting land value and aesthetics. We try to design and place power line structures with the least amount of impact to private property.

We check land sales in the area to help determine fair market value. Farming inputs are part of our compensation formula.

**Stay in touch with landowners when you need access for construction.**

Once a route's selected, we'll work with affected landowners to negotiate agreements to allow for construction, operation and maintenance of the power line. We'll let landowners know when construction activity is taking place on their property.

**Use the open circuit coming out of the Pasqua Switching Station. There's a preference the power line run along the north boundary of the study area. It may be acceptable to use the quarter line east of the project site as a route – it just depends where the route heads north.**

We're gathering information about the study area. Once we have route options, we'll continue to consult with stakeholders.

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## **9. OTHER SASKPOWER WORK IN THE AREA**

**Provide more information on other (distribution) power line projects in the area.**

We're rebuilding old power lines to support growth and increase reliability in the area. These power lines serve around 500 customers.

We hired a contractor who will construct the line this fall. This project will take around four weeks to complete.

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## 10. CONTINUE WITH RENEWABLES

**There's lots of interest in solar power. A solar farm is a good fit with the Industrial Park.**

We have a vision of a shared cleaner energy future. This means reducing emissions by adding more renewable power to our supply mix. Our goal is to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions from 2005 levels by 40% by 2030.

We'll continue to study Moose Jaw's Industrial Park to see whether it can support more generation.

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## 11. BE A LEADER

**You expect us to:**

- **Fulfill all commitments.**
- **Hold high standards for safety and construction performance.**
- **Hire the best people for the project.**
- **Hire the best company to run the project.**

We recognize that responsible behaviour is not only good business, but an expectation of our customers and stakeholders. We strive to live our values of safety, openness, collaboration and accountability every day.