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Date: July 14, 2026

To: **Param Joshi** A/Senior Consultation Analyst, Prairie and Northern Region Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) Canada

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Cc: Fatima-Zahra.Timoumi@iaac-aeic.gc.ca

Subject: Gambler First Nation Official Submission - Initial Project Description (Brandon Dispatchable Capacity Project - Registry #90571)

To the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC):

On behalf of Chief David LeDoux and Gambler First Nation, I am submitting our official comments regarding the Summary of the Initial Project Description for the Brandon Dispatchable Capacity Project proposed by Manitoba Hydro, in response to your letter dated June 29, 2026.

After a thorough review of the Initial Project Description (Document 166971E), we are grateful that you have given us the opportunity to review this document. We are happy to work with you as this project moves forward and would like to share the following information regarding our historical presence in the area for your records.

The City of Brandon, the Brandon Hills, and the Assiniboine River are documented core areas of Gambler First Nation's traditional territory. According to our comprehensive **GFN Traditional Land Use Study**:

- **Big Game, Trapping, and Fishing:** The Assiniboine River and Brandon are explicitly documented as historical and current locations for big game harvesting, trapping, and fishing.
- **Cultural Sites:** Brandon is a documented site for traditional ceremonies and Powwows. (*See attached excerpts from the GFN Traditional Land Use Study, specifically the textual records for harvesting locations, Figure 6: Sacred Grounds and Burial Sites, and Figure 9: Big Game Locations*).

We appreciate the funding and support provided by IAAC during this planning phase. Broadly speaking, Gambler First Nation is supportive of the Brandon Dispatchable Capacity Project and recognizes its value to the region. We approve of this initiative and sincerely wish Manitoba Hydro and the Agency every success as the project advances. We are hopeful that this project will pave the way for mutually beneficial cooperation and continued positive engagement in the future.

Sincerely,

Chief David LeDoux

<Original signed by>

Attachments:

1. Excerpts from the GFN Traditional Land Use Study (GFN_TLU_Study_Excerpts.pdf)