



Manitoba Home  
Builders' Association



July 19, 2023

Jay Grewal  
President & Chief Executive Officer  
Manitoba Hydro

Re: Potential IBEW Local 2034 strike

Dear Ms. Grewal:

The undersigned write on behalf of the Boards of Directors and members of the Construction Association of Rural Manitoba, Manitoba Heavy Construction Association, Manitoba Home Builders' Association and Winnipeg Construction Association. This follows upon our correspondence to you (March 3, 2023) and your reply (March 23, 2023) – both attached.

We understand Manitoba Hydro may be facing work action involving employee members of the IBEW Local 2034 as early as Friday, July 21. We ask for your urgent assurance the provision of utility locate services will not be disrupted nor impaired should strike action occur.

In follow-up to the above-noted communications, we request confirmation Manitoba Hydro's contingency plans will protect against delay in the provision of timely utility locate services to the construction industry. As you are aware, in absence of this critical service, construction projects cannot proceed.

The inability to proceed with work puts contractors in legal/contractual jeopardy, displaces employment for those in and supporting construction and obstructs the provision of infrastructure services to the general public and property owners. Delayed start to development and infrastructure projects in our short construction season risks considerable set back to the projects' completion, with accompanying negative economic impact.

Further, delay or disruption to the provision of locates poses a safety hazard for construction crews and the public. Given these considerations, we strongly urge the provision of locate services be deemed an essential service, to prevent any disruption and resulting risk.

We wish to emphasize how important Manitoba Hydro's utilities locate service and personnel are to our industries, to the completion of construction projects in a safe and timely manner.

In addition to confirmation that contingency will prevent delay to locates, we ask Manitoba Hydro to provide to our industry the contact information of a Manitoba Hydro official designated as a resource should industry experience delays in request for locate services or assistance.

Should you wish to discuss the matter, please contact Chris Lorenc at 204-230-0994 or [clorenc@mhca.mb.ca](mailto:clorenc@mhca.mb.ca).

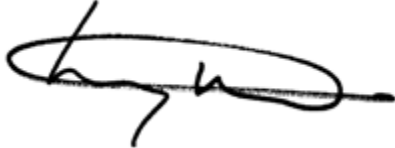
Sincerely,



Shawn Wood, CD  
Executive Director, CARM



Chris Lorenc, B.A., LL.B.  
President, MHCA



Lanny McInnes  
President & CEO, MHBA



Ronald Hambley, MCP  
President, WCA