

Tracey Braun  
Director  
Climate Change and Environmental Protection Division  
Environmental Approvals Branch  
123 Main Street, Suite 160, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 1A5

December 9, 2013

Dear Ms. Braun,

Thank you for your letter regarding Tolko's Environment Act License No. 2302 E.R.. Following up on confirmation from Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship (MCWS) that conditions 1A and 2 were completed I would like to outline our further progress to date on reaching those milestones.

**Condition 1(a).**

- Tolko initiated public consultations for the Saskatchewan River, Nelson River and Highrock Forest Sections in January 2013. Through direct mailings, public notices in newspapers, radio, and Tolko Manitoba's web site and in community open house meetings across the FML, individuals and groups were invited to discuss Tolko's forestry activities. The wording used in the public announcements and at the meetings was specifically chosen to fulfill the requirement of the Manitoba Submission Guidelines for Twenty Year Forest Management Plans
  - a. There were 211 mail outs, 11 different media outlets, 14 locations posters were sent to and 12 community meetings held.
  - b. The three specific questions asked at the meeting, on the posters and mail outs and also included on a survey form that could be completed later were:
    - i. What wildlife species do you want to see particular attention paid to in planning for sustainability and why. What is important habitat for these species?
    - ii. How would you like to see Tolko work with your community on development of a long term Forest Management Plan?
    - iii. What values, goods and services from the forest are important to you?

**Condition 1(b).**

- Initial selection of operating areas in the Nelson River forest section has been completed and submitted to Forestry Branch as of July 16, 2013, selection of primary and secondary roads is partially completed and Tolko is working with MC to finalize. Selection of final operating areas in the Saskatchewan River forest section and evaluation of the base case management approach is dependent on the provision of complete documentation for the Saskatchewan River forest inventory wood supply report from Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship (MCWS), which was delayed until December 2013.

**Condition 1 (c).**

- Since the last license extension, Tolko continues to develop the preferred management approach for the Saskatchewan River Forest Section . Presently Tolko is participating in a MCWS initiative to develop a landscape management approach. Harvest and long term retention areas will be required along with an attempt to provide even flow harvest levels on ecological planning unit's vs the current FMU boundaries. MCWS supports and encourages this approach while recognizing the ongoing development of the Manitoba Caribou Strategy, provincial policy revisions and gaps in available information for planning have to be overcome prior to developing the preferred management approach. A plan and timeline to resolve these issues will need to be addressed through updates to the Terms of Reference for the FMP.
- Through the Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement, Tolko is partnered with a number of ENGOs on active planning for endangered species recovery and protected area planning. Partners on the Manitoba Regional Working Group include Canadian Parks and Wilderness Committee and The Nature Conservancy Canada and FN representatives. Tolko has committed significant resources and funding for this important initiative and has continued to review the progress with MCWS.
- Manitoba continues to develop it's Caribou Recovery Strategy for the province and although not available at this time, Tolko is aware of its importance to the province. In addition, Tolko has recently voluntarily committed \$85,000 to a three year Caribou Collaring project in support of the Boreal Woodlands Caribou research being conducted by Manitoba Wildlife Branch which will support development of landscape level plans.

**Condition 2.**

- Tolko has received approval for its Operating Plan May 27, 2013.

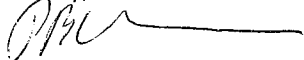
**Condition 3.**

- Tolko continues to adhere to the specifications, terms and conditions identified in Environment Act License No. 2302 E R.

***At this time based on the ongoing, progressive initiatives occurring in Manitoba, Tolko would like to request an extension of the current Environment Act License to December 31, 2018.***

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Paul Chapman  
Divisional Forester

CC Phil Keenan  
Grant Glessing  
Doug Hunt