



JUSTENERGY
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A project of Minnesotans for an Energy-Efficient Economy

The Price of Power: Hydropower Development, Climate Change Solutions and the Energy Justice Alliance

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Overview

- **Introductions. Who's ME3, anyway?**
- **Manitoba Hydro and the Churchill River Diversion-Lake Winnipeg Regulation project, and aspects of the campaign.**
- **Energy Justice Alliance—who we are, our mission and goals, and what we're currently doing.**



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Minnesotans for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ME3)

- US NGO/nonprofit organization, started in 1990
- Mission: Lead the transition to a clean, efficient and fair energy system.
- Work focused around climate change and sustainable solutions.



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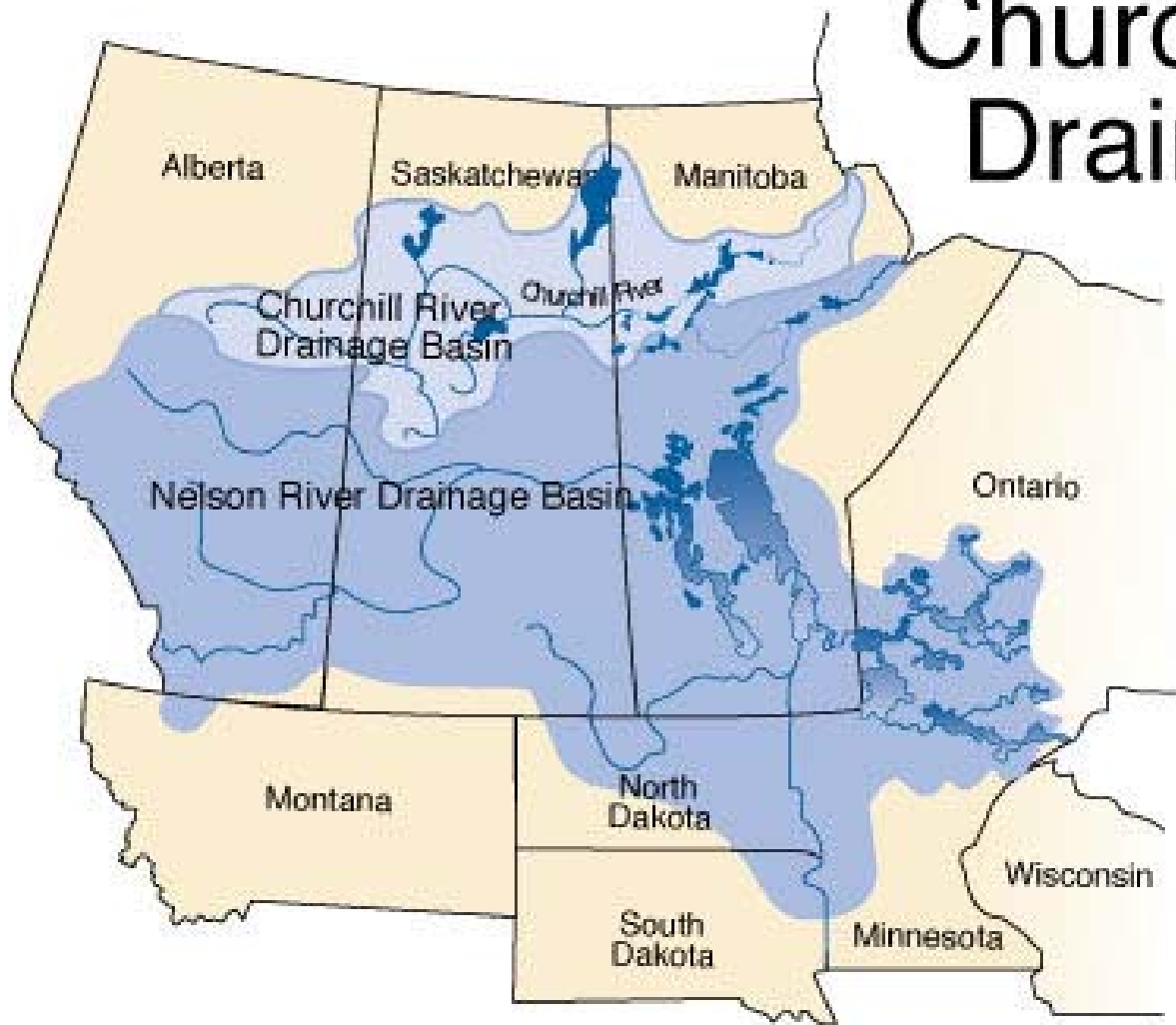
About ME3

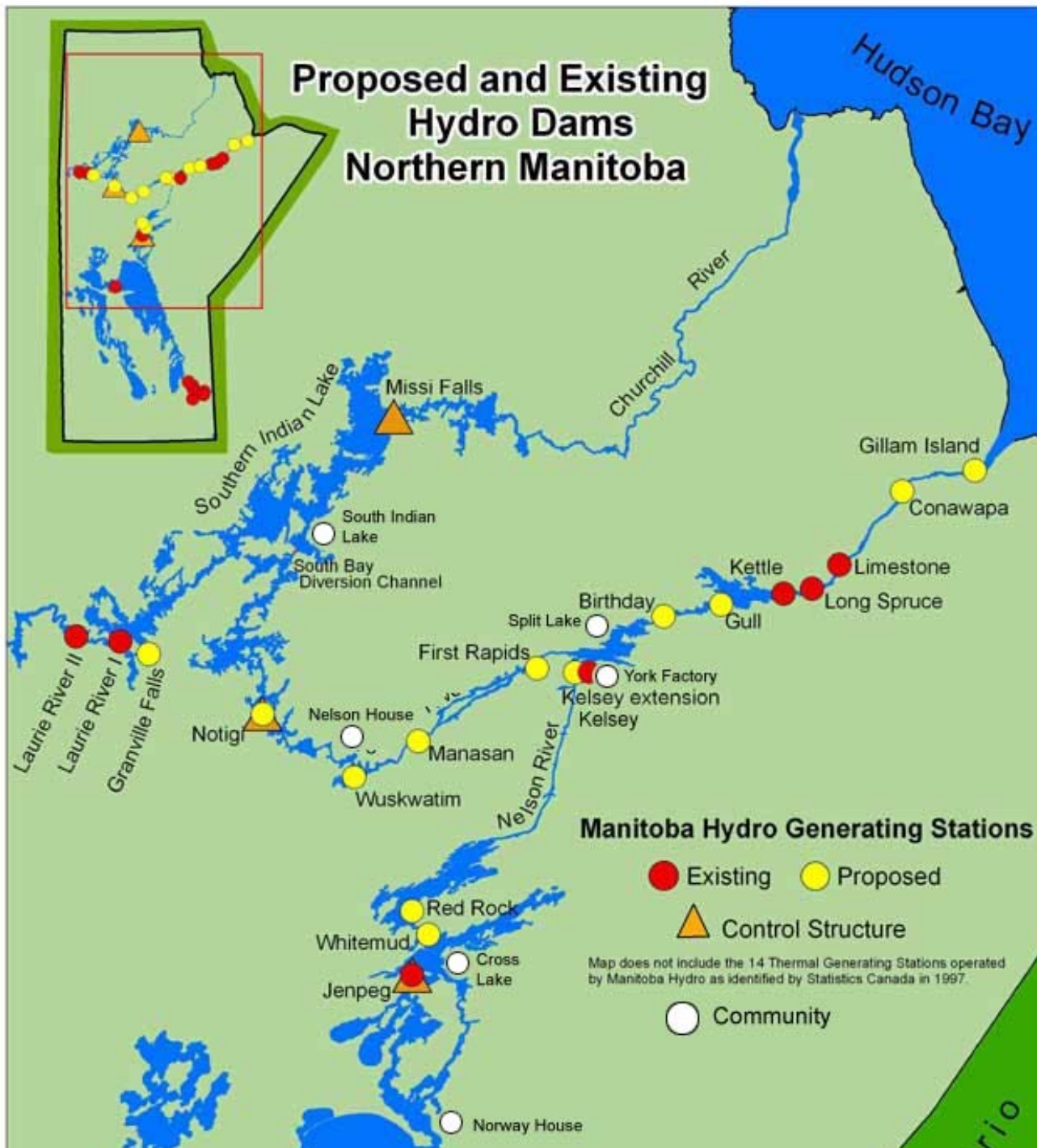
- We speak to the concerns of Minnesota consumers.
- We do not oppose all hydropower developments.
- We do not represent the views of the various Nations involved with these issues, and respect the sovereignty of each Nation.
- We listen to everyone.



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Churchill-Nelson Drainage Basin





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Lake Winnipeg Regulation/ Churchill River Diversion

No environmental permit.

Current Capacity:
 5000 MW
 (or about 3.5 1000 MW nuclear power plants)

Planned Capacity:
 5000 MW

Manitoba Hydro



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- “Crown Corporation”—80% of profits go to province as general revenue funds. \$588 million from US exports in 2002 alone.
- Exports 40% of current generation, almost entirely to MN (US) utilities
- 5,000 MW of generation now; adding another 5,000 MW of new dams in near future, beginning with 200MW Wuskwatim dam—currently under review. New generation entirely for export.
- Sold as “renewable energy,” and solution to climate change.



Agreements

- Northern Flood Agreement (1977): Between Manitoba, Manitoba Hydro, and Canada, and 5 impacted Nations:
Norway House, Nelson House (Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation), York Factory, Split Lake (Tataskweyak Cree Nation) and Cross Lake (Pimicikamak Cree Nation).
 - Compensation for land lost to flooding
 - Mitigation and restoration of environmental damage, lost hunting/fishing opportunities
 - Eradication of unemployment and poverty
- Implementation Agreements—four of those nations
- Other Nations impacted with minimal settlements, if any.



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Nelson House member Carol Kobliski on the island that once supported her family's home.





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The 15% of the Churchill River that still flows north, into the Hudson Bay. This picture was taken at Missi Falls. The rocks are where the rapids used to be.



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Missi Falls--without the falls.



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House built by
Manitoba
Hydro in South
Indian Lake.

South Indian
Lake was
entirely
relocated from
their homes.
Today, 1/3 of
the homes
don't have
running water
or sewage
systems.



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Erosion of
gravesites

Pimicikamak
Cree
Nation
territory





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Massive Erosion Washes Away Gravesites.

A sign marking the site where remains were reclaimed from the river, and reburied. South Indian Lake.

Thirty years after the fact, erosion continues to be a tremendous problem.



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Island eroding into
the river.

Taken on the
Churchill River,
Aug. 2003.

**Islands are in every state of erosion, from
this state...**

...to this one. See the buoy?

Islands are worn down to bedrock.





Facets of the Issue

- US: Minnesota and Wisconsin (so far)
 - Minnesota: social and environmental justice; economic impact of importing hydro vs. developing wind, renewables in MN.
 - Wisconsin: Arrowhead-Weston Transmission Line. Duluth, MN to Wasau, WI. Transport power to Milwaukee and Chicago, and eventually Eastern US. Condemning farm and native land.
- Canada:
 - New dam developments in the north,
 - New transmission lines and corridors through the east side of Lake Winnipeg.



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Energy Justice Alliance

- International alliance of social justice, environmental and native groups.
- Formed October 2003.





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Energy Justice Alliance

An international partnership of environmental, social justice groups and Indigenous Peoples

- Our mission is to seek justice for the people and environments impacted by hydro-electric energy development and to promote energy conservation and ensure truly renewable energy alternatives to hydro-electricity



Our goals are:

- To seek remediation of past environmental, social/economic damage and
- To promote truly renewable energy and energy conservation alternatives to hydro-electric power.
- To promote full cost accounting, independent risk analysis including the social, economic and environmental costs of previous, existing and potential hydro projects; and
- To educate the U.S. and Canadian consumers of hydro -electric power of the cumulative effects of hydro production on Indigenous Peoples and other affected communities.



Specifically, we call on:

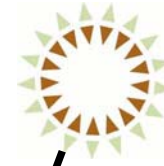
- Manitoba Hydro to honour all existing agreements with and commitments to Indigenous Peoples: Including the Northern Flood Agreement and other agreements.
- The Government of Canada and the Province of Manitoba to conduct a, joint and or federal, full panel review of the impacts of the entire Manitoba Hydro Project, including previous, existing and proposed projects.
- The Government of Canada to conduct a full environmental review of the impacts of all integrated hydro projects in Canada.
- The Government of Manitoba to fulfill all of its existing policies and environmental commitments; especially for protection of its boreal forest natural regions.

EJA Members



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- Anishinaabe Turtle Island Protectors—MB
- Nelson House Justice Seekers—MB
- South Indian Lake Nitaskenan (“Keepers of South Indian Lake”)—MB
- Displaced Residents of South Indian Lake—MB
- Boreal Forest Network—MB
- Manitoba Wildlands—MB
- Valhalla Wilderness Society—BC
- ME3—MN
- North American Water Office—MN
- Save Our Unique Lands (SOUL)—WI
- Sierra Club North Star Chapter—MN
- Honor the Earth—MN
- Minnesota Witness for Environmental Justice (MWEJ)—MN



Wuskwatim Dam/ Transmission Project

- **First of new projects. 200 MW on the Burntwood River.**
- **Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation at Nelson House has been named a partner in the project, but much internal opposition**
- **Manitoba Hydro claims project is “run of the river,” but it relies on Southern Indian Lake impoundment.**
- **Currently undergoing public review process.**



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On the horizon...

- Wuskwatim proceedings
- Arrowhead-Weston transmission line
- Minnesota policy evaluating the impact of increased hydropower imports on Minnesota jobs and renewable energy development.





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Questions/Comments?





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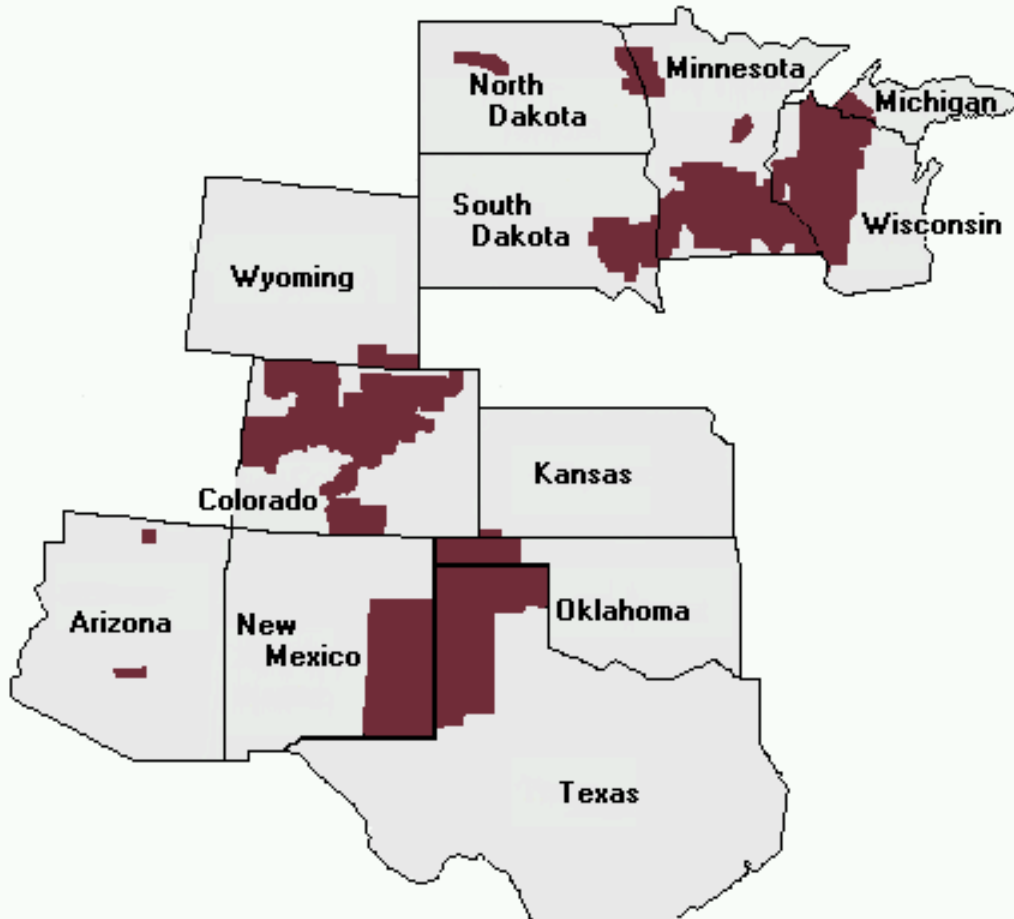
Thank you!

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Xcel Energy



Xcel Service Territory

- 4th largest US utility
- Biggest customer of Manitoba Hydro
- Based in Minneapolis and Denver.