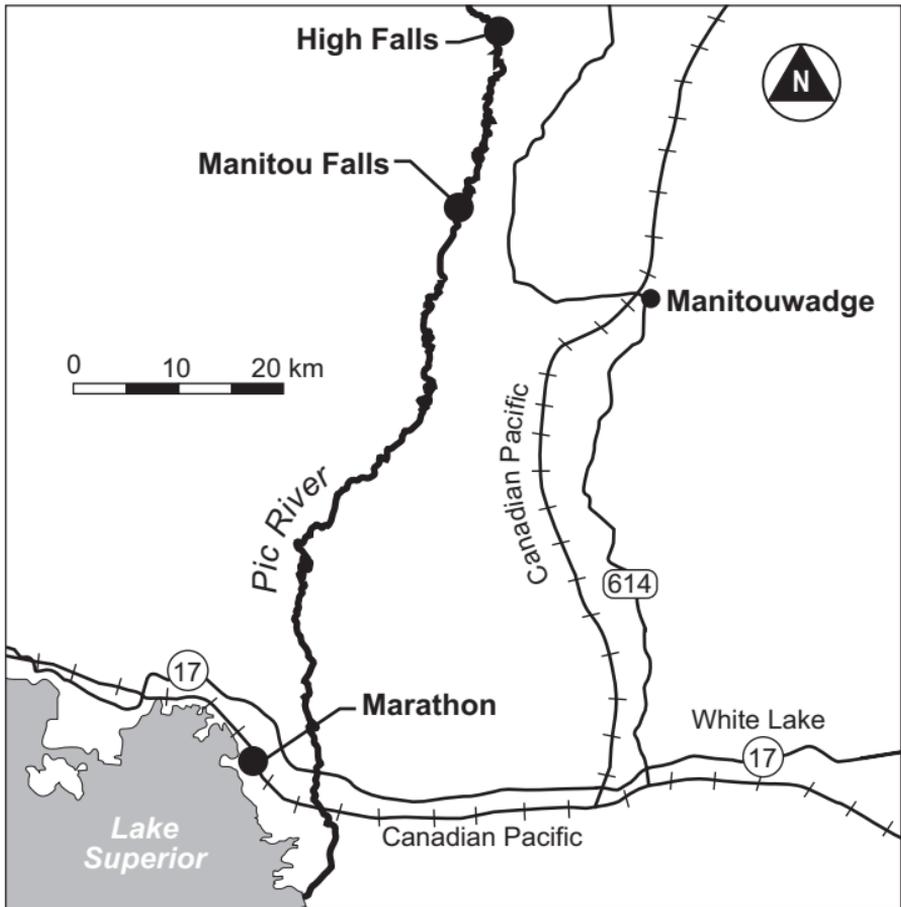


NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT

Class Environmental Assessment

High Falls and Manitou Falls Hydroelectric Project

The Ojibways of the Pic River First Nation is planning to undertake an environmental evaluation and assessment for the proposed High Falls and Manitou Falls Hydroelectric Projects on the Pic River, located approximately 70 and 85 km upstream of Lake Superior. If approved and constructed, these waterpower projects would have a combined installed capacity of 6 MW (3.2 MW for High Falls and 2.8 MW for Manitou Falls). Both facilities will be run-of-river developments, having an overflow weir near the top of the falls, a powerhouse near the base of the falls and connecting infrastructure.



The project is subject to the provisions of the Ontario Waterpower Association "Class Environmental Assessment for Waterpower Projects" (2008), and is considered to be on an 'unmanaged waterway' as defined under that process. The Class EA process requires an evaluation of the project to assess its potential effects to the environment and the preparation of a detailed environmental report. The project will also require an environmental screening under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act. Public consultation will be an integral component of these processes. This notice and the public consultation process for the project under the Class EA is intended to coordinate and meet the notification requirements relevant to the planning stage of the project under these statutes.

The Ojibways of the Pic River First Nation has retained Hatch Ltd to assist with the Class Environmental Assessment and associated processes. You are invited to provide comments on the issues to be addressed, and/or to ask to be placed on the project's mailing list. For information on the project proposal, to raise any issues or concerns, or to be placed on the mailing list, please contact:

Larry King, Project Manager

Hatch

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Under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and the Environmental Assessment Act, unless otherwise stated in the submission, any personal information such as name, address, telephone number and property location included in a submission will become part of the public record files for this matter and will be released, if requested, to any person.