SPECIAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY
DECEMBER 8, 9 & 10, 2009, OTTAWA, ON

Resolution no. 50/2009

TITLE:	Full Environmental Audit of Manitoba Hydro Projects
SUBJECT:	Resource Development / Environment
MOVED BY:	Chief Glenn Hudson, Peguis First Nation, Manitoba
SECONDED BY:	Leah Ballantyne, Proxy, Mathias Colomb Cree Nation, Manitoba
DECISION:	Carried by Consensus

WHEREAS:

A. Many Manitoba First Nations are adversely affected by hydro projects that control water flows on all major lakes and tributaries of watersheds flowing into the Hudson's bay.

B. The Provincial government through their Crown Corporation has constructed massive diversions and augmentations without final licensing, without adequate environmental assessments, and without the consent or consultation of impacted First Nations in Manitoba.

C. Hydro projects continue to cause adverse cultural and socio-economic effects on First Nations, including the flooding of lands and traditional territories; massive shoreline erosion; the destruction of the fisheries; mercury contamination; the destruction of burial grounds and sacred sites; community dislocation and severe poverty.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs-in-Assembly:

1. Call upon the government of Canada, and Her Majesty in Right of Manitoba, owing their fiduciary obligation to First Nations of Manitoba, and to International governments to conduct a full environmental audit of Manitoba Hydro projects, current and future, to assess their continuing environmental, cultural, and socio-economic impacts.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 10th day of December, 2009 in Ottawa, Ontario

SHAWN A-IN-CHUT ATLEO, NATIONAL CHIEF

2. Request that the process include an independent auditor and ombudsperson to ensure the proper mechanisms are in place for the effective conduct of the requested audits.

3. Mandate the AFN National Chief to advocate to all responsible governments and energy entities to ensure the rights and interests of First Nations are protected.

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SHAWN A-IN-CHUT ATLEO, NATIONAL CHIEF