

## **SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROPONENT:** Department Of Northern  
Affairs/Setting Lake Cottage Association  
**PROPOSAL NAME:** Setting Lake Wastewater Treatment  
Lagoon  
**CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT:** 2  
**TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT:** Wastewater Treatment Lagoon  
**CLIENT FILE NO.:** 4194.00

### **OVERVIEW:**

On August 11, 1996, the Department received a Proposal indicating that the Department of Northern Affairs and the Setting Lake Cottage Association were joint proponents for the Development to construct and to operate a new 2-cell wastewater treatment lagoon to service the Setting Lake Cottage and Recreational Area. An alteration to the Development dated December 23, 1996, was submitted to the department indicating that the size of the cells would be increased slightly (approximately 5%). On January 30, 1997, the department received a notice of alteration to the Development which indicated that the proponents did not have sufficient funds to complete the Development as proposed. The alteration indicated that the primary cell would be constructed in 1997 and would be used as a secondary cell in combination with the existing liquid pit until a secondary cell was constructed. It was indicated that the secondary cell would be constructed in the year 2000.

The Proposal and supporting documentation prepared by an advisory committee from the Setting Lake Cottage Association and Charles Boyd, Department of Northern Affairs, identified the in situ soil conditions as clay soils suitable to achieve the provincial permeability requirements for wastewater treatment lagoons.

The Department, on August 30, 1996, placed copies of the Proposal in the Public Registries located at Building 2, 139 Tuxedo Avenue; the Centennial Public Library, MKO, Wabowden Council Office; and the Thompson Public Library and provided copies of the Proposal to the Interdepartmental Planning Board and TAC members. As well, the Department place public notification of the Proposal in the Thompson Nickel Belt News on Monday, September 9, 1996. The newspaper and TAC notification invited responses until September 23, 1996.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

No public responses were received.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:**

#### **Highways**

- *No concerns.*

**Natural Resources**

- *Comment: Effluents from the proposed lagoon are to be discharged into a boggy area which eventually drains into Paint Lake. Adequate retention of these effluents should be provided by this boggy area so that downstream water bodies are not jeopardized.*

Disposition:

- The Proposal indicated that the wastewater treatment lagoon would be designed with a storage capacity of 230 days and would only be discharged between May 20 and October 20 of each year. The Fisheries Branch has indicated the fish spawning may occur in the discharge route. The discharge period can be changed to accommodate the concern over fish spawning. The draft Licence includes a clause which specifies the allowable discharge period between June 15 and November 1 of any year.

**Historic Resources**

- *No concerns.*

**Health**

- *No concerns.*

**Rural Development**

- *No concerns.*

**Environment-Operations Division**

- *No concerns. The Northern Region is in complete agreement with the Proposal which was presented to the Department. The liquid pit, which is being used as a wastewater disposal site has recently reached its hydraulic capacity and as a result the Region has ordered its closure.*
- *The Region has indicated that the staged development will be acceptable given the financial situation.*

**Environment-Water Quality Management**

- *Lagoon discharge should not have a significant impact on the downstream water quality in Whistler Lake, Brostrom Lake or Paint Lake.*
- *The regional Fisheries Biologist has indicated that whitefish, walleye, pike and common suckers would be expected to be present in Whistler Lake. If the discharge route to Whistler Lake is found to be an important fish spawning area, then a June 15 discharge date would be more appropriate than the proposed May 20 discharge date. The Fisheries Branch of Natural Resources should provide clarification as to the spawning potential in the proposed discharge stream.*
- *A later discharge date may also facilitate uptake of nutrients along the lagoon discharge route. Plants should be actively growing and taking up nutrients in June. Also the flow rate in the watershed should be reduced by June 15, as compared to May 20, thereby slowing down the movement of the effluent through the bog vegetation.*

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**Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency**

- *CEAA has indicated that application of The Canadian Environmental Assessment Act with respect to this proposal will not be required.*

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

A public hearing is not required.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

A Licence be issued in accordance with the attached draft. Funding difficulties have occurred and the Licencee has modified the Proposal to a staged Development. Enforcement of the Licence should be assigned to the Approvals Branch until the soil testing has been completed.

**PREPARED BY:**

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