

## **SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROPONENT:** Public Works and Government Services  
Canada  
**PROPOSAL NAME:** Roseau River Dyke Remediation  
**CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT:** Two  
**TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT:** Water Development and Control –  
Alteration to Streams  
**CLIENT FILE NO.:** 4504.00

### **OVERVIEW:**

The Proposal was received on February 29, 2000. It was dated February 28, 2000. The advertisement of the proposal was as follows:

“A Proposal has been filed by Public Works and Government Services Canada to reconstruct a failed riverbank and dyke adjacent to the Roseau River at the Roseau River First Nation. A short section of the riverbank failed during the construction of the dyke in 1998. This project proposes to stabilize the bank through the installation of granular rockfill caissons, re-establish the previous cross-section of the Roseau River, protect the shoreline from erosion with riprap, and re-establish the dyke to its design configuration. Construction is proposed to begin in the spring of 2000.”

The Proposal was advertised in the Altona Red River Valley Echo on Monday, March 20, 2000. It was placed in the Main, Centennial, Eco-Network and Jake Epp Public Library (Steinbach) public registries. It was also placed in the Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation office as a registry location. The Proposal was distributed to TAC members on March 10, 2000. The closing date for comments from members of the public and TAC members was April 10, 2000.

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

No public comments were received.

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

**Historic Resources** No concerns.

**Mines Branch** No concerns.

**Policy Coordination** There is a small possibility that hydraulic rupturing could occur in the caisson excavations due to the high artesian head. The probability of this occurring is low, but the contractor should be made aware of the potential problem. Backfilling of the caissons should occur immediately after the completion of excavation. Final details regarding bank stabilization and channel restoration should be discussed with the Fisheries Branch before work commences. No instream work should be conducted between April 1 and May 31 or September 15 and freezeup in any year. All instream work should be conducted during low flow periods. Sediment and erosion control plans should be developed for the slope reconstruction, channel reconstruction and bank stabilization work. Prior to this work commencing these plans should be submitted to the Fisheries Branch for review and approval. The plans should include the use of instream and streambank silt barriers, straw bales, deflectors and contingencies for schedule changes due to work suspension. A suspended sediment monitoring plan should be developed to monitor the effectiveness of the erosion control measures. Fueling, maintenance and equipment repairs should be conducted at least 100 m from the stream. All construction material should be removed from the site upon completion of the work.

**Disposition:**

Most of these comments can be addressed as licence conditions. As the construction site is limited in area and construction will be undertaken during a period of low flows, a suspended sediment monitoring plan will not be needed. (Spring and early summer flows on the Roseau River will be well below normal.) A contingency plan for groundwater blowouts in the caisson excavations has already been developed and is described in the draft specifications for the project (Appendix B of Appendix A of the Proposal.)

**Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency:** PFRA and Indian Affairs have provided notification that an environmental assessment under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act will be required. Environment Canada, Fisheries and Oceans and Natural Resources Canada have offered to provide specialist advice in accordance with subsection 12(3) of the Act. Comments are also provided from Public Works and Government Services Canada and Health Canada.

**Indian and Northern Affairs Canada:** INAC is the proponent and will be providing funding. Public Works and Government Services Canada will be conducting the work on behalf of INAC.

**Fisheries and Oceans:** The proposed works are the result of many team meetings beginning in the fall of 1998. Based on the information provided, DFO concludes that the proposal is not likely to adversely impact on fish and fish habitat with the implementation of the following mitigation measures: 1. No instream works should be constructed between April 1 and May 15 or between September 15 and freezeup in any year. 2. All instream works should be conducted during low flows. 3. Sediment and erosion control plans should be developed for the slope reconstruction, channel reconstruction and bank

stabilization works. These plans should be presented to DFO and Fisheries Branch staff for review and approval one month before work commences. The plans should include the use of instream and streambank silt barriers, straw bales, deflectors, etc., and contingencies for schedule changes due to work suspension resulting from heavy rain or high discharge events. Post construction erosion plans should include revegetation of the slopes of the dyke and river banks with grasses and willows. A suspended sediment monitoring plan should be developed to monitor the effectiveness of erosion control measures during construction. 4. The deposition of deleterious substances is prohibited under the Fisheries Act. All construction material should be removed from the site upon completion of the works. Fueling, maintenance and repairs of equipment should be conducted 100 m from the river or drains leading to the river. Spill contingencies should be in place. 5. Final details regarding bank stabilization and channel restoration should be discussed with DFO and Fisheries Branch staff and approved in writing prior to the commencement of the works.

With the implementation of these mitigation measures, DFO concludes that the proposal will not result in the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat, and so a Section 35(2) Fisheries Act Authorization will not be required. DFO is therefore not a Responsible Authority pursuant to Section 5 of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act.

**Disposition:**

These comments can be addressed as with the Policy Coordination comments.

**Public Works and Government Services Canada:** Wishes to participate in the provincial review of the project. Notes that the construction schedule should be modified to reflect summer construction rather than spring construction as in the Proposal. Requests that the possible use of temporary instream structures be assessed in the environmental assessment screening document, and that Coast Guard concerns be identified in the screening document.

**Disposition:**

PWGSC concerns were forwarded directly to the project consultants. A change in the construction schedule can be addressed in a licence condition prohibiting instream work during the fish spawning season.

**Health Canada:** Does not wish to participate in the review of the project, but will provide relevant information and knowledge if requested by a Responsible Authority or Manitoba Conservation.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

As no public concerns were identified, a public hearing is not recommended.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

All comments received on the Proposal can be addressed as licence conditions. Therefore, it is recommended that the Development be licensed under The Environment Act subject to the limits, terms and conditions as described on the attached Draft Environment Act Licence. It is further recommended that enforcement of the Licence be assigned to the Eastern-Interlake Region.

PREPARED BY:

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