

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS / RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPONENT: ECOMatters Inc.
PROPOSAL NAME: Cambrian Stone Inc.
CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: CLASS 1
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: Manufacturing and Industrial Plant
CLIENT FILE NO: 4727.00

OVERVIEW:

A proposal was filed by Mr. Steve Sheppard of ECOMatters Inc., on behalf of Cambrian Stone Inc. for the construction and operation of a 280,000 ft² plant to process granite, silica and structural polyester resins into counter tops. The development will be located in the Industrial Park on Lot 1 Plan 38003 WLTO in the E ½ of 1-13-7 EPM in the Town of Beausejour. The Proposal is to operate 8 hours/day 300 days/year. Specific activities are: storage and handling of rock and granular material; mixing of rock and sand with resins; thermal curing; and cutting and polishing of finished product. There is a potential for emission of particulates, vapour, odour and noise from the Development. A water clarification system is to be implemented to reduce water use.

The Department provided the Technical Advisory Committee with copies of the Proposal and published public notification in the Beausejour Clipper. The following summarizes the responses:

RELEVANT COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No citizen comments were received.

No response necessary.

RELEVANT COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

1. **Manitoba Culture, Heritage & Citizenship – Historical Resources Branch** – has no concerns.

No response necessary.

Disposition: No action needed.

2. **Manitoba Industry, Trade and Mines – Petroleum Branch** – have no concerns.

No response necessary.

Disposition: No action needed.

3. **Manitoba Industry, Trade and Mines – Mineral Resources Division** – commented:

- a) Is this a viable operation?

The proponent replies that supply of raw material is available and the operation is viable.

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Disposition: No action needed.

- b) There is no information presented that the silica sand will meet the physical and chemical criteria needed, nor that it is available in sufficient quantities.

The proponent replies that local silica sand has been used in the process in Italy with success.

Disposition: No action needed.

4. **Manitoba Intergovernmental Affairs** – did not respond.

No response necessary.

Disposition: No action needed.

5. **Manitoba Conservation – Climate Change Branch – Air Quality Management** – had the following comments:

- a) There is a potential for dust problems with certain aspects of the operations including mineral raw materials receiving/handling and drying of raw materials; and disposal of dust from the baghouse collection system with disposal to the local landfill.

The licence addresses emission of particulate matter. Acceptance of the dust at the landfill based on it's characterization is a municipal issue. Solid waste disposal is addressed in the licence.

Disposition: No action needed.

- b) The styrene collection and combustion system may need to be examined in more detail.

The proponent replies that this system is operating effectively in other similar facilities. A failure of this system could result in a shutdown of the processing.

Disposition: The licence will address pollution control.

- c) Local impacts of the Bretonstone slab process may have to be closely tracked in the final design.

The proponent replies that this is true, and that the Manitoba facility will be constructed much more tightly than those in Italy due to climate severity.

Disposition: No action needed.

- d) There may be a land use conflict as the development is to be located close to a proposed residential subdivision.

The facility is located in an appropriately zoned location. Proximity to alternately zoned areas is a matter for the local municipality.

Disposition: No action needed.

- e) The licence should contain the odour nuisance clause and specify a particulate emission rate plus opacity requirements for stack and fugitive releases. The licence should also address quantifying emission release impact and controls should it be deemed necessary in the future.

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The licence will incorporate these requests.

Disposition: No further action needed.

6. **Environment Canada – Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency** – state that Western Economic Diversification have notified them that they will conduct an environmental assessment under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* with respect to this project.

As no environmental concerns had been raised by any Federal Departments who have reviewed the proposal, the issue of WED funding remains between the proponent and the Responsible Federal Agency (WED).

Disposition: No further action needed.

7. **Manitoba Conservation – Policy Coordination Branch - Conservation Programs Division** – had the following comments not address by Climate Change Branch above:

- a) The proponent should obtain a water rights licence.

The proponent replied this is understood.

Disposition: No further action needed.

- b) The designed recycling plant should achieve and maintain water intakes of 0.5% of the plants 2.4 million litre water needs.

The proponent replied that the above numbers are the specifications submitted.

Disposition: No further action needed.

- c) The quality of wastewater discharge should be analysed and characterized for total phosphorous and BOD₅ and COD.

The proponent replied that the above analysis is appropriate.

Disposition: No further action needed.

- d) It should be confirmed that the additional hydraulic loading to the town's lagoon system will not cause an exceedance to the overall hydraulic capacity.

The proponent replied that the additional hydraulic loading will be equivalent to domestic use from approximately 60 additional people. Rainfall can also affect hydraulic loading. The lagoon has capacity to accept organic loading from 5-600 additional people.

Disposition: No further action needed.

- e) Water supply wells should be confined to the carbonate aquifer..

The proponent replied that this is understood, and that saline water from underlying aquifers would be unacceptable to their process.

Disposition: No further action needed.

8. **Manitoba Intergovernmental Affairs – Community Planning Services** – has no concerns.

No response necessary.

Disposition: No action needed.

9. **Manitoba Conservation – Environmental Operations Division – Eastern Region** – did not respond.

Disposition: No action needed.

10. **Manitoba Agriculture and Food – Soils and Crops Branch - Agricultural Resource Section** – commented that the location chosen for the development was very suitable.

No response necessary.

Disposition: No action needed.

11. **Manitoba Highways and Transportation - Highway Planning and Design** – replied that the proponent will have to pay for any on-highway improvements needed as a result of the development. A request was made for information on traffic type, volume, timing and routes.

Comments and request was forwarded to the proponent for information and response.

Disposition: No action needed.

12. **Manitoba Health - Public Health Branch- Environmental Health Unit** – concluded that the project was acceptable from a Health point of view, except for the following comments:

- a) Why was the location of the facility so close to residential areas?

The facility is located in an appropriately zoned location. Proximity to alternately zoned areas is a matter for the local municipality.

Disposition: No action needed.

- b) There is not much evidence of dust control effectiveness other than comparison to other plants. Dust is difficult to contain.

The licence addresses particulates.

Disposition: No action needed.

- c) Will the method proposed to collect and treat styrene emissions work all the time?

It is possible that there may be temporary shutdowns of the system.

Disposition: No action needed.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Public hearings were neither requested nor convened.

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RECOMMENDATIONS:

A Licence considering the above relevant concerns as well as those of the Approvals Branch be prepared and issued. Responsibility for enforcement of the Licence may be transferred to the Region upon the completion of the construction of the Development.

PREPARED BY:

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