

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPONENT: Incorporated Community of Nelson House
PROPOSAL NAME: Nelson House Water Treatment Plant
Wastewater Disposal

CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: One
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: Waste Disposal - Water Treatment Plants
(Wastewater)

CLIENT FILE NO.: 5456.00

OVERVIEW:

The Proposal was received on April 9, 2010. It was dated April 8, 2010. The advertisement of the proposal was as follows:

“A Proposal has been filed by Stantec Consulting Ltd. and Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs on behalf of the Incorporated Community of Nelson House for the disposal of wastewater from a new water treatment plant proposed for the community. The plant would obtain water from Footprint Lake and treat it with a conventional chemically assisted filtration package treatment plant. Wastewater from the plant, consisting of backwash water, rinse water and clarifier sludge, would be discharged to a settling tank, with settled water from the settling tank being discharged back to Footprint Lake. Settled sludge from the settling tank would be hauled to the Nelson House First Nation wastewater treatment lagoon. Approximately 10,000 litres of settled wastewater would be discharged daily. The plant is proposed to be constructed between the summer of 2010 and the spring of 2011, with operation following construction.”

The Proposal was advertised in the Thompson Citizen on Wednesday, April 21, 2010 and in the Thompson Nickel Belt News on Friday, April 23, 2010. It was placed in the Main, Eco-Network, Millennium Public Library (Winnipeg), Thompson Public Library and MKO public registries. The Proposal was distributed to TAC members on April 20, 2010. The closing date for comments from members of the public and TAC members was May 24, 2010.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No public comments were received.

COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Manitoba Conservation – Sustainable Resource and Policy Management Branch

No concerns.

Manitoba Conservation – Parks and Natural Areas Branch

No comments.

Manitoba Conservation – Environmental Services Branch

concerns.

No comments or

Manitoba Water Stewardship – Planning and Coordination Branch

- The Manitoba Department of Water Stewardship is mandated to ensure the sustainable development of Manitoba’s water resources. Manitoba Water Stewardship is committed to the goals of: protecting aquatic ecosystem health; ensuring drinking water is safe and clean for human health; managing water-related risks for human security; and stewarding the societal and economic values of our waterways, lakes and wetlands; for the best water for all life and lasting prosperity. Manitoba Water Stewardship achieves these goals, in part, through administering legislation, including The Water Protection Act, The Water Rights Act, and The Water Power Act.
- The Water Rights Act requires a person to obtain a valid licence to control water or construct, establish or maintain any “water control works.” “Water control works” are defined as any dyke, dam, surface or subsurface drain, drainage, improved natural waterway, canal, tunnel, bridge, culvert borehole or contrivance for carrying or conducting water, that temporarily or permanently alters or may alter the flow or level of water, including but not limited to water in a water body, by any means, including drainage, OR changes or may change the location or direction of flow of water, including but not limited to water in a water body, by any means, including drainage. If a proposal advocates any of the aforementioned activities, a person is required to submit an application for a Water Rights Licence to Construct Water Control Works. A person may contact the following Water Resource Officer to obtain an application and/or obtain information.
 - A contact person is Mr. Ed MacKay, C.E.T., Senior Water Resource Officer, Water Control Works and Drainage Licensing, Manitoba Water Stewardship, 1129 Queens Avenue, Brandon, Manitoba R7A 1L9, telephone: (204) 726-6226, email: ed.mackay@gov.mb.ca.

- The proponent needs to be informed that if the proposal in question advocates any construction activities, erosion and sediment control measures should be implemented until all of the sites have stabilized.
- Manitoba Water Stewardship recommends an Environment Act Licence to include the following requirements:
 - Excess capacity of the process waste tank shall be implemented as a means to improve the operations of the plant.
 - The proponent needs to implement a process waste tank with a larger capacity than the proposed 13.67m³. Using a tank that only contains a volume of one day's process waste (one backwash cycle) is likely to result in considerable operational issues. The settled solids would have to be removed frequently and if this is not done diligently, the tank's reduced capacity will result in insufficient settling time and, subsequently, carry-over of unsettled solids into the lake. The same problem would occur if the waste volume would happen to exceed the designed 13m³ * day⁻¹.
 - The intake and the supernatant discharge outlet shall be greater than the apparent 30-metre separation distance.
 - If there is any potential for fish to be captured within the screened-in excavation area, a Live Fish Handling Permit is required for the removal of fish.
 - The proponent needs to contact Manitoba Water Stewardship's Fisheries Branch by telephone at: (204) 945-7789.
 - In-water work in northern Manitoba shall not occur between April 15th and June 30th (inclusive).

Disposition:

These comments were provided to the proponent's consultant for information. Some comments can be addressed as licence conditions.

Manitoba Innovation, Energy and Mines – Mines Branch

No concerns.

Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation - Highway Planning and Design Branch

No concerns.

Manitoba Local Government – Community Planning Services Branch

Incorporated Community of Nelson House is not a Community Planning Service's community; therefore, our office does not have any comments in regards to this proposal. However, the community is an Aboriginal and Northern Affairs (ANA) community and it appears their department was not circulated this application. I recommend ANA be circulated the proposal to ensure that the proposal complies with any land use plans for that community.

Disposition:

ANA was involved in the preparation of the Proposal.

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency I have completed a survey of federal departments with respect to determining interest in the project noted. I can confirm that the project information that was provided has been reviewed by federal departments with a potential interest. I am enclosing copies of the relevant responses for your file. Based on the responses to the survey the application of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (the Act) by a federal authority will not be required for this project.

Health Canada (HC) has provided a letter stating areas of expertise that they can contribute to a provincial review. A request for specific information needs to be made in writing to HC.

Transport Canada (TC) has requested that the proponent submit a Navigable Waters Protection Act application to their Navigable Waters Protection Program office. A copy of the application is enclosed along with an application guide which includes the mailing address of the NWPP office.

A list of the appropriate federal contacts is attached.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

No additional information was required to address Technical Advisory Committee comments on the project.

PUBLIC HEARING:

As no public requests for a hearing were filed, a public hearing is not recommended.

RECOMMENDATION:

Comments received on the Proposal can be addressed through licence conditions. 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 Northeast Region.

PREPARED BY:

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Environmental Assessment and Licensing – Environmental Land Use Section

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