



Conservation and Water Stewardship

Environmental Stewardship Division
Environmental Approvals Branch
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File: 4929.10

November 23, 2015

Greg Elson
Rural Municipality of Springfield
Box 219
Oakbank, MB R0E 1J0

Via Email: gelson@rmofspringfield.ca

Dear Mr. Elson:

Re: Notice of Alteration – R.M. of Springfield Wastewater Treatment Lagoon – One-Time Sludge Disposal – Environment Act Licence No. 2910

The November 12, 2015 MMM Group Limited letter is acknowledged as a Notice of Alteration (NofA) in accordance with Section 14 of *The Environment Act*. The NofA requests authorization for a one-time removal and disposal event involving a quantity of sludge from the Rural Municipality of Springfield wastewater treatment lagoon (lagoon). Environment Act Licence No. 2910 (Licence) applies to this lagoon.

The NofA indicates that, after consideration of other options, an estimated quantity of up to 360 m³ of sludge from the primary cells of the lagoon will be removed from areas near the truck dumping stations of these cells to temporarily allow for improved operation. It is indicated that the characteristics of the sludge cause it to be not suitable for land application due to elevated metals concentrations and therefore it is proposed to be disposed of at the Prairie Green Landfill (Landfill). Environment Act Licence No. 2177E RRRR applies to the Landfill.

Upon review of this NoA letter and the Licence, I have decided that the environmental impacts of the proposed sludge removal and disposal at the Landfill are insignificant. Accordingly, I hereby approve the proposed dyke repair work pursuant to Section 14(2) of *The Environment Act* subject to the following conditions:

1. The integrity of the liner and structure of the lagoon must not be negatively impacted by the planned activities;
2. The responsible Environment Officer shall be notified at least one working day before the commencement of excavating and transferring the sludge from the lagoon;
3. The sludge must be transported in containers in such a manner to prevent loss of wastewater and sludge to the satisfaction of an Environment Officer;

4. The sludge must be disposed of as waste at a waste disposal ground operating under a permit issued in accordance with *Manitoba Regulation 150/91* or under the authority of a Licence issued pursuant to *The Environment Act*;
5. Once the removal, transfer, and disposal of the sludge has been completed, a brief summary describing the activities shall be provided to the Director;
6. Authorization for disposing of the sludge at the Landfill shall terminate December 7, 2015; and
7. The Rural Municipality of Springfield shall undertake an assessment of sources of wastewater being conveyed to the lagoon to determine possible causes of the elevated metals concentrations found in the sludge and provide a report that summarizes the findings of the assessment and discusses options for future operation of the lagoon and management of the sludge to the Director by not later than February 29, 2016.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the foregoing, please contact Robert Boswick, Environmental Engineer, at 204-945-6030.

Yours sincerely,

“original signed by”

Tracey Braun, M.Sc.
Director

- c. Don Labossiere/Donna Smiley/Yvonne Hawryliuk – Environmental Compliance and Enforcement, Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship
Darren Keam, MMM Group