

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPONENT: Rural Municipality of Montcalm
NAME OF DEVELOPMENT: Rural Municipality of Montcalm – St. Jean
Wastewater Treatment Lagoon and
Forcemain
CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: Two
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: Wastewater Treatment Lagoon
CLIENT FILE NO.: 5435.10

OVERVIEW

The Proposal was received on April 3, 2014. It was dated March 31, 2014. The advertisement of the proposal was as follows:

“A Proposal has been filed by JR Cousin Consultants Ltd. on behalf of the Rural Municipality of Montcalm for the construction of a new wastewater treatment lagoon on River Lots 225 and 227, Parish of Ste. Agathe, which is southeast of St. Jean and immediately south of the municipal shop east of PTH 75. An aerated lagoon was previously proposed for this site in late 2009. The current proposal involves a facultative lagoon that would discharge treated effluent to the Red River between June 15 and October 31. A new forcemain would be constructed to connect the community’s sewer system to the new facility, and the existing lagoon north of the community would be decommissioned. Construction of the new facility is proposed to take place as soon as possible.”

The Proposal was advertised in the Emerson Southeast Journal on Saturday, April 19, 2014. It was placed in the Legislative Library, Millennium Public Library (Winnipeg) and online public registries. The Proposal was distributed to TAC members on April 17, 2014. The closing date for comments from members of the public and TAC members was May 20, 2014.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No public comments were received.

COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Lands Branch

No concerns as there are no Crown lands impacted by this proposal.

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Lands Branch, Land Planning and Management Section

No comment as the surface tenure is under private ownership.

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Parks and Protected Spaces Branch

No comments or concerns to offer as it does not affect any provincial parks, park reserves, ecological reserves, areas of special interest, or proposed protected areas.

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Wildlife Branch

No concerns.

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Office of Drinking Water

The proposed treated effluent discharge point to the Red River is several miles (the EAP did not say exactly how many, but it is not far) upstream of the raw water intake for the Morris Regional Water Treatment Plant. The EAP notes normal treated effluent discharged from the proposed lagoon will meet Manitoba Conservation quality guidelines and will not be a threat to the environment. It should also not present problems for the Morris water plant. However, if a major spill of untreated or partially treated water to the river were to occur, it would have the potential to affect the treatment process at Morris.

As such, Office of Drinking Water recommends a provision be included in the Operating Licence for the proposed lagoon that the Owner of the lagoon have contact information for the Morris Regional Water Treatment Plant in the Emergency Response Plan for the lagoon with a requirement that, in the event of a major spill of untreated or partially treated effluent from the lagoon, the Morris water plant be contacted.

Disposition:

This information was provided to the proponent's consultant for inclusion in the facility's emergency response plan.

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship - Water Use Licensing

No concerns.

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Water Control Works and Drainage Licensing

Any water control works (drains, culverts, dykes, dams, etc.) associated with this project will require licensing under the *Water Rights Act* – an application is attached for the

proponent's convenience. Any inquiries in this regard may be directed to the local *Water Resource Officer*. Their contact information may be found at:

http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/waterstewardship/licensing/pdf/areas_of_focus_jan_23_12.pdf

Disposition:

This information was provided to the project's consultant.

Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation - Highway Planning and Design Branch, Environmental Services Section

No concerns with the development provided that necessary permits will be acquired from the Highway Traffic Board for any structures placed within the control area of PTH 75.

For more information, please contact

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Disposition:

This information was provided to the project's consultant.

Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation – Hydrologic Forecasting Branch

The site of the St. Jean lagoon is within the Red River Valley Designated Flood Area.

Section 2.6.7.1 Topography, of the Environment Act Proposal as prepared by J.R. Cousin Consultants Ltd. indicates that the crest elevation of the lagoon dikes will be at the Flood Protection Level of 239.7 metres (786.4 feet) G.S. of C. Datum. The Flood Protection Level, as indicated in our comments of January 15, 2010 regarding EAP 5435, is 239.76 metres (786.6 feet).

The dike side slopes, both interior and exterior will be constructed to 4H:1V grades.

While Hydrologic Forecasting has no objections to the approval of EAP 5435.1 Montcalm for the purposes indicated, dike crest must be at 239.76 metres (786.6 feet).

In accordance with Manitoba Regulation 59/2002, a regulation under The Water Resources Administration Act, the Rural Municipality of Montcalm must obtain a Designated Flood Area Permit for the dike prior to the commencement of construction.

Permit application will be forwarded to the municipality under separate cover.

Disposition:

This information was provided to the project's consultant. The required dyke elevation and permit requirement can be addressed as licence conditions.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

PUBLIC HEARING

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

CROWN-ABORIGINAL CONSULTATION

The Government of Manitoba recognizes it has a duty to consult in a meaningful way with First Nations, Métis communities and other Aboriginal communities when any proposed provincial law, regulation, decision or action may infringe upon or adversely affect the exercise of a treaty or Aboriginal right of that First Nation, Métis community or other Aboriginal community.

The proposal involves the construction of a new wastewater treatment facility on privately owned agricultural land with a small change in the effluent discharge route and no change in the effluent release pattern in comparison to the community's existing wastewater treatment lagoon. Adverse effects on surface water or habitat for wildlife or fisheries are not anticipated.

Since resource use is not affected by the project, it is concluded that Crown-Aboriginal consultation is not required for the project.

RECOMMENDATION

All comments received on the Proposal that require follow-up have been addressed through the provision of information to the proponent's consultant or 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 retained by the Environmental Approvals Branch until construction is completed. After the facility becomes operational, the licence should be assigned to the Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch.

PREPARED BY:

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May 22, 2014
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