

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPONENT: Rural Municipality of Montcalm
PROPOSAL NAME: Rural Municipality of Montcalm Rural
Water Supply Pipelines
CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: Two
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: Transportation/Transmission - Pipelines
CLIENT FILE NO.: 4438.00

OVERVIEW:

The Proposal was received on June 4, 1999. It was dated May 14, 1999. The advertisement of the proposal was as follows:

“A Proposal has been filed by PFRA on behalf of the Rural Municipality of Montcalm to construct additional water supply pipelines to supply all remaining interested rural residences which have not been previously serviced. All proposed pipeline would be located in the portion of the Municipality which is east of the Red River. The source of supply for all proposed pipelines would be the Morris Water Treatment Plant. All pipelines would be located on road allowances and easements. Construction of the pipelines is proposed to begin in the summer of 1999 and continue in future years as funding becomes available.”

The Proposal was advertised in the Altona Red River Valley Echo on Monday, June 21, 1999. It was placed in the Main, Centennial, Eco-Network and South Central Regional Library (Morden) public registries. The Proposal was distributed to TAC members on June 15, 1999. The closing date for comments from members of the public and TAC members was July 20, 1999.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Rural Municipality of Montcalm - No objections to the project. Letter from resident attached supporting project. A list of signatures of residents interested in obtaining a pipeline is available on request.

COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Manitoba Environment - South-Central Region - No concerns identified. As the project will end with construction, consideration should be given to a termination date for the licence. Eighteen months would allow sufficient time for construction.

Disposition:

Some the standard licence clauses for pipeline developments relate to operation rather than construction. Therefore, the licence would not terminate with the construction of the project.

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Manitoba Environment - Water Quality Management - Water Quality Management's concerns should be met if directional boring or tunneling under streams is done as per the Proposal.

Historic Resources - No concerns.

Mines Branch - No concerns.

Highway Planning and Design - The proponent will require underground agreements for placing any waterline adjacent to, on or across Highway rights-of-way and control areas. Underground agreements should be obtained prior to tendering any proposed installation. Drawings will be required and there is a time frame of three to four weeks for review / response.

Disposition:

The requirement for agreements can be addressed as a licence condition. Contacts for the department will be forwarded to the Proponent.

Community Economic Development Branch - No land use concerns.

Medical Officer of Health - Central Region - Manitoba Health supports proposals which provide a consistent supply of potable water to rural residences.

Natural Resources - If directional drilling cannot be carried out at a particular stream crossing DNR regional fisheries staff should be contacted immediately to review plans for any open trenching and other instream works.

Disposition:

These comments can be addressed as licence conditions.

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency - PFRA will conduct an environmental assessment under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, and is requesting additional information. Environment Canada and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans have offered to provide specialist advice.

Fisheries and Oceans - The project is not expected to result in the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat provided that the Red River and creek crossings

are undertaken as proposed. Should an open cut be required, detailed plans regarding methodology, location, scheduling and erosion control methods must be submitted for approval by fisheries agencies prior to commencement of the crossing. Where site specific concerns regarding fish habitat in the vicinity of a proposed crossing exist or if detailed information is unknown, a detailed fisheries and fish habitat investigation to further evaluate the sensitivity of the crossing should be undertaken. This information is necessary to determine whether an Authorization pursuant to Section 35(2) of the Fisheries Act is required.

Disposition:

These comments can be addressed as licence conditions.

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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 South-Central Region.

PREPARED BY:

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July 23, 1999

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