

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPOSER: Rural Municipality of St. Francois Xavier
PROPOSAL NAME: St. Francois Xavier Wastewater Treatment Lagoon Expansion
CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: 2
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: Waste/Scrap Wastewater Treatment Lagoons
CLIENT FILE NO.: 3369.10

OVERVIEW:

On March 15, 2004, the Department received a Proposal from J. R. Cousin Consultants Ltd. on behalf of the Rural Municipality of St. Francois Xavier for a Development to construct and operate an expansion of the existing R.M. of St. Francois Xavier wastewater treatment lagoon. The proposed development consists of the expansion of the existing primary cell and the construction of an additional secondary cell, located directly east of the existing lagoon on River Lots 183 and 184 in the Parish of St. Francois Xavier. The treated wastewater from the lagoon will be discharged into Second Creek between June 15th and October 31st of any year. Second Creek is a third order drain that empties into the Assiniboine River.

The Department, on March 29, 2004, placed copies of the Proposal in the Public Registries located at 123 Main St. (Union Station), the St. James-Assiniboia Public Library, the Manitoba Eco-Network and the Portage la Prairie City Library. Copies of the Proposal were also provided to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members. The Department placed a public notification of the Proposal in the Headingley Headliner on Monday, April 5, 2004. The newspaper and TAC notification invited responses until May 3, 2004.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No responses were received from the public notification.

COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Agriculture and Food

- *No concerns from an agricultural perspective, provided that the landowner is adequately compensated for the land required for the expansion and that the lagoon construction and effluent quality to be discharged into Second Creek meets the criteria and limits set by Manitoba Conservation.*

Conservation - Sustainable Resource Management

- *The proponent should be required to actively participate in any future watershed based management study, plan/or nutrient reduction program approved by the Director, for Second Creek, the Assiniboine River and associated waterways and watersheds.*

Additionally, Sustainable Resource Management had the following comments with respect to the proposal. However, after receiving additional information from the proponent, these comments were satisfied and are no longer of concern:

- *It is expected that there will be some nutrient removal along the drainage route prior to reaching the Assiniboine River. It would be preferable to ensure that the discharge coincided with periods of low flow in order to maximize this nutrient removal.*
- *There is some concern with the discharge of effluent into the creek in those years where the flow in the creek has been sufficient to attract and support fish yet is low enough to have limited dilution capability. Water quality information for Second Creek should be monitored to determine any potential impact of effluent discharged to this creek, particularly to fish.*
- *If deemed necessary, a monitoring program for seepage from the lagoon cells should be included in the requirements for operation of this system.*

Disposition:

- The attached draft Licence requires the proponent to actively participate in any future watershed management plan or nutrient reduction program, approved by the Director, for the Assiniboine River and associated waterways and watersheds.

Culture, Heritage and Tourism - Historic Resources

- *No concerns.*

Health

- *No comments received.*

Transportation and Government Services

- *No concerns.*

Intergovernmental Affairs

- *No concerns.*

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency

- *Following a review by all federal departments with a potential interest in the proposed development, Western Economic Diversification (WD) has indicated that the application of the CEAA will be required.*
- *Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Environment Canada and Health Canada would be able to offer specialist information with respect to the project review.*

Western Economic Diversification (PFRA)

- *No comments*

PUBLIC HEARING:

A public hearing is not recommended.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Proponent should be issued a Licence for the construction and operation of the expansion of the existing wastewater treatment lagoon in accordance with the specifications, terms and conditions of the attached draft Licence. Enforcement of the Licence should be assigned to the Approvals Branch until the soil testing has been completed.

PREPARED BY:

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