Public Comments Received on the Federal Environmental Assessment Document:

Screening Report
Red River Floodway Expansion Project

May 2005

The following lists the submissions received during the public comment review period that ran from May 20 to June 22, 2005.

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Screening Report
Red River Floodway Expansion Project

May 2005

Submission by: Paul Clifton

NOTE: This submission included a CD-rom. The disc can be accessed by contacting: Gerry Tessier, Senior Program Officer at the Canadian Environmental Assessment Office, Prairie Office, at (204) 984-8020.

June 22, 2005
P.E. Clifton
852 Red River Drive
Howden, Mb R5A 1J4

Mr. Gerry Tessier
Senior Program Officer
CEAA, Prairies Regional Office
Suite 445, 123 Main Street
Winnipeg, MB R3C 4W2

Re: Comments by PE Clifton on Manitoba Project 4967:00 The Red River Floodway Expansion

Dear Mr. Tessier,

I provide an executive summery of issues in the review of the Federal Screening report on the referenced project.

Because of time limitations and the receipt of forty four Privy Council yesterday afternoon, my comments will be brief, though my electronic records extensive, insightful and damming for both Manitoba and Canada. This as it relates to construction of past provincial flood protection projects, with federal funds and without proper CEAA assessments, federal, provincial and municipal Breach of Trust and Breach of the Canadian Constitution. This in requiring an arms length relationship for Municipal/Federal affairs and two party funding arrangements of projects. As well, Manitoba under a clandestine funding arrangement, wilful or inadvertent and is to be determined, for the constructing a Class 3 development under the Manitoba Environmental Act. This without Environmental Assessments and licensing in advance of the project.

How can we move forward with such a track record? I also find one of the most grievous and insensitive undertakings by Manitoba and Canada in this project endeavour. That is to "spin" the ~~imminent risk to the~~ imminent risk to the City of Winnipeg to Red River flooding and thus project haste. It is well known at the Canadian and Manitoba executive level that both former Premier Filmon and Minister Axworthy saw to it that Winnipeg's risk in their minds was unteniable, AND WAS CORRECTED.

That said, I find the Canadian screening very strong and complete by DFO and Transport Canada with their summaries of Cumulative Effects, well presented, reasoned and defensible.

Infrastructure Canada unfortunately is wholly another matter. Give all the records, all the documentation and all the personal witnessing at the CEC hearings, Infrastructure's Cumulative Effects assessment is not at all founded, even for the uniformed.

- There is no agreement on the "Natural".
- Compensation, flood easement or annual flooding right.
- Rule 4, that was unilaterally implemented.
- From Jan. 2002 CEC hearings on "Flood Protection Options for the City of Winnipeg".
- Compensation, Terms of Reference for KGS Report, Program of Operation (all facets)Rules 1, 2, 3, 4 and normal summer river level control and other flood protection options.
- No cumulative assessment of upstream damage through the current and ongoing "summer emergency" operation. Three times in four years or %75 of the time.

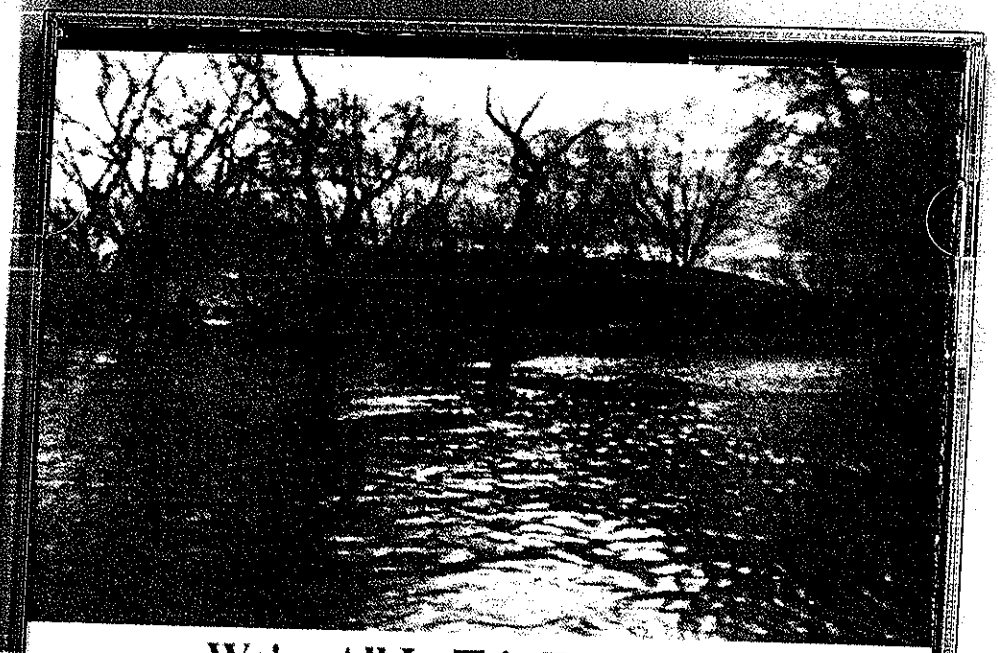
We have a lot, I repeated, a lot of work to do before we turn any dirt. Unfortunately, this is what I said at Meeting Number 1 on January 10, 2002 at the CEC public meeting. We will have a better project for the delay, something we can all live with!

CDRom disc entitled "We're All in This Together" was included with this submission.

Yours Sincerely

PE (Paul) Clifton
852 Red River Drive
Howden, MB R5A 1J4

June 22/2005



We're All In This Together

Manitoba EA File No. 4967:00 -- MB CEC Hearings - Red River Floodway Expansion

Presented by Paul E. Clifton

Public Comments Received on the Federal Environmental Assessment Document:

Screening Report
Red River Floodway Expansion Project

May 2005

Submission by: Cheryl Kennedy Courcelles

Review of the Federal Screening Report on the Manitoba Floodway Report Expansion 2005

Executive Summary Review:

Human, Environmental, First Nations, Health, Fish, Riparian and Nuisance Rights are being infringed upon, **broken** and abused by the Government on behalf of the people when this is not **morally** necessary or was ever the **intentions** of the Floodway in the very first place. At a **very small cost** compared to the overall budget of the MFA, we can remove this **excess polluted water** out of the Red River and away from Winnipeg, its **aging sewer systems** and its **low land flood zone developments.**

We as a province need to deal with the real issue which is **too much polluted water** in the **Red River 12 months** of the year right now and our up and coming Devil's Lake future water crisis.

Protect Winnipeg from improper and insufficient ice jams management whilst **retaining a qualified skilled labor force** to deal with **Manitoba's entire** water protection crisis.

The whole flood protection project is nowhere near over. This is **Round One** of a nasty band-aid solution that **is repairing 45 year old** equipment, infrastructures **- bridges**, and **licensing non-legal rules and procedures** of this admittedly **environmentally offending** operating Government Authority.

When our **Human, First Nation, Health, Ecosystem, Riparian and Nuisance Rights** are returned to us through the **stopping of Artificial Flooding** and we no longer have to **worry about our health** and our **drinking water**, are no longer subject to the **stress of living** in these artificially flooded areas, the **wildlife returns** to the Red River's banks, **artificial erosion is stopped** and our **lakes and beaches** are back to normal then the MFA shall have reached and dealt with the **SCOPE** of the **true issues** that we have here in this province. Then we shall have achieved the **purpose and vision** of **Water Protection** for all Manitobans and Canadians and the

Environmentally Sustainable Harmony that we once had and were proud of nationally and globally.

Until this happens, Manitoba, Canada has actually **gone backwards** in any and all visions of sustainability, action, and financial endorsement of this floodway expansion project.

Part of the **normal operations** of the Floodway has to incorporate **removing excess water** out of the Red River via **alternative additional natural and man-made ways i.e. watersheds, swamps, waffle systems, better drainage control, tree lines, water pipelines, water easements, etc...**

These alternatives **need to be incorporated into the beginning phase of the expansion and a % needs to be in operation** before the West Dyke is raised.

Due to provinces vast and fast flowing drainage to the Red River and increased water volumes out of the States, City of Winnipeg's protection plan is going to artificially flood the province, our drinking water and the Lakes, 3 months of the year. The cities sewer systems are in constant overdrive and in a crisis state with this entire polluted water heading straight to our environmentally taxed eco-systems and Lakes.

This is the real scope! Too much waste and pollution in our water, too much water in the Red River, too much removal of tree lines and forests, brushes, grasses, creeks and swamps in certain areas of this province. Too much passing the responsibility of seeing and acting upon these tell-tale signs of adverse environmental effects, never mind mitigation! We can not drink money like water! Can not eat money like Fish! Nor can Manitobans take that mitigation money with us when we die! This limited protection plan is so disrespectful to our ancestors, our heritage, our future and in this very moment. **Let us talk about the true scope!**

Let us as proud Manitobans and Canadians fix **the real problems** of water protection and sustainability all under the leadership and vision of Water stewardship and Conservation in a **transparent, equalitarian and cooperative, value-added, adaptive, sustainable**

manner with public involvement all the way throughout the process and follow-up actions required. **This vision is not achievable with spending $665 Million only on one aspect of the whole problem.**

All for One and One for All!

* It states that in the EMP, the Environmental Management Plan, shall be used as a management tool to monitor the MFA`s plans, intentions, actions and to ensure action from management to address potential adverse effects. And that the responsible authorities discuss the plans with the MFA and other stakeholders. **Who are all these people?**

This is Manitoba's water sustainability and water systems that the MFA is dealing with for the people.

On behalf of Mothers, Children, Wildlife, Animals and Terrestrial Species we believe the proposed project is <u>likely and shall cause</u> significant adverse environmental effects until rectified.

We agree to protect Winnipeg but the existing structure already does this quite effectively.

The very Human Rights of our Heritage and Province's spirit has been officially broken by the usage of artificial flooding as a Water Protection Act by the government.

Time to Heal. Time to Restore Mother Nature and her Natural Resources, our dignity and integrity to the moral responsibilities we have in protecting all life.

Time to realize that Artificial Flooding is VICTIM ABUSE behavior and practices. Nobody was wants to FLOOD their country neighbors.

We are all aware of the Governments results of victim abuse with the **Residential School operations** and how those **First Nations people** are recovering from being **victimized! Why** would Canada and Manitoba **want to do this again**! Nobody should feel threatened in your own home, scared for your health and safety while the

Governments artificially floods us and removes us from our homes, our jobs, our schools, our lives, etc.

Fix this before it hits the breaking point!

We thank the MFA, Federal and Provincial Government and Stakeholders for having the nerve and honor to legalize these issues, for putting them forward for further advancement in Global Sustainability Action and Management practices in this province. At least now we have an official stepping stone for forward growth to emerge from. However, we are behind the 8 ball, as we all know.

Federal Screening Report states:

(Bottom of Page 5)
Follow up Programs – As defined in the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, means a program for verifying that the accuracy of the environmental assessment of a project and determining the effectiveness of any measures taken to mitigate the adverse environmental effects of the project could include **the follow-up action needed to operate a water retention mitigation program.**

(Page 11)
Who shall consist of the **over-sight committee** that shall verify the work being done? It **should include the public as well**.

(Page 13 3.3)
The scope of the Assessment does not cover the full scope.
Not acceptable at all....cooperation on the truths and then we all can move forward with a clearer vision of the real scope.

(Page 14 3.5)
Cumulative Effects – the base line is not correct and not publicly set. ONE SIDED! Not acceptable.

(Page 15)
Project overview- 1997-2002, 2003, 2004 Houses built in the RM of Ritchot – artificially flooded area was told by Government to build at **774ft. Government now operating gate at 778ft.**

Problem! **4 feet** under and sand bags are good for **3 feet**.

Severe Emotional Health, Environmental, Stress, Nuisance and a breech of Riparian Right happening in the R.M.s right now.

Farmers are already showing **suicidal health indicators**, alcoholism, depression, etc. and now all of 1997 efforts money spent was garbage. This **lowers self-esteem**, worth and energy. I.e. First Nations victims

(Page 19)
Inlet control structure – summer months operated normal at 734.35 feet, controlled at Lockport. Baseline needed to ensure eco-system/fish and habitat sustainability.

(Page 20)
West Dyke- In addition to turning those peoples community into the Great Wall of China, the MFA needs to seriously:

1. Buy out at fair market values those farmers that are affected by this mountain range.
2. Ensure road safety, salted and cleared in the winter. That 2 way mirrors be installed to prevent head on collisions.
3. That tree lines and forests get planted to help absorb the sitting water that hills of these sizes make.
4. **That all mitigation and buy outs be publicly approved and in place before the West Dyke is completed.**

(Page 22)
All the baselines natural and cumulative effects are defined by an **independent third party for a Panel Review**.

(Page 25)
Emergency Operations under Rule 4 **a comprehensive third party Health review** needs to be undertaken in the region study area from 1996 to 2005. There has been far too may water operations to NOT

start seeing, feeling, living the effects on health and morale in these areas. Just ask EMO and all health workers for these flooded areas to tell their stories, even they burnt out!

(Page 26)
The lack of respect and common sense and resources given to **additional aspects** of water protection measures to the overall long term sustainable health, success and duplicate ability of water protection for the Globe and for our fellow CANADIANS.

That is enough reason alone to put some immediate government funding towards implementing immediate water alternatives. I.e. provisions under **Water Protection Act, Eco-system management Prevention, Conservation and Enhancement component of the Sustainable Development Agreement.**

The whole length of the Canadian Red River to the Lakes including Lake Winnipeg and Lake Manitoba and all of its water tributaries and drainage are absolutely being DROWNED by this province and agriculture practices. The expansion of the FLOODWAY is like turning on the tap to this bath tub with Winnipeg being the drain that is plugged. Look out!

Of course, Mother Nature is not going to like this out of balance water energy caused by humans. We have given water Energy too much POWER AND FORCE to flow swiftly and deadly to all that it touches.

Should we blame too much rain, snow, melts, thunderstorms, ice jams etc. for our problems or should we take full responsibility and deal with the truth?

Truth being, it is how we have used machines to re-landscape and bulldoze the trees' original terrain that once held, filtered, cleansed, nourished, and drained and all water in this fine province.

We have created this out of control water monster just trying to make a living, doing what the next person does ignoring the health of the environment and by trying to feed the world.

BUT - We are killing our ECO-SYSTEMS, WATER QUALITY, QUANTITY & FORECASTING AND RESPECT.

*Killing the Red River eco-systems and the Lakes to SAVE WINNIPEG IS ALSO an adverse effect that was removed out of scope because ...?

AGAIN, Manitobans and Canadians are not STUPID people.

To protect Winnipeg and to flood and kill the Red River and Lakes on a permanent basis because Winnipeg sewer system can not handle this is not the end result that anyone wants or even foresaw. But it is here now and with Devils Lake it is only going to escalate.

Alternative Additional measures are absolutely NECESSARY AND IMMEDIATE.

If not, GOOD-BYE to:

- FISH
- BEACHES
- RIVER BANKS
- TREE LINES
- WILD LIFE
- DRINKING WATER
- HEALTH
- WEALTH/AGRICULTURE
- SPRIRITUALITY
- NATURAL RESOURSES
- TRUST
- GLOBAL/CANADIAN RESPONSIBILITY
- CONSERVATION
- RESEARCH AND INNOVATION SUSTAINABILITY
- FAMILY, PERSONAL AND COMMUNITY LIFE
- FIRST NATIONS RIGHTS

It puzzles us that we are experiencing the real effects of all of this, but, the Governments are not seeing what an opportunity this is to deal with the true honest issues in a transparent manner and to get down to the real long term socio-environmental adverse effects of

protecting Winnipeg while not destroying the province at the same time.

Let's get on with this. Stop pretending that this is not SERIOUS and LONG TERM!

This is a **Make Work project** for all **ages** and **educations** for **generations** to come in order to globally sustainable adaptively eco-system manages this MAN-MADE water crisis and feeding the world - making a living conflict.

Start now, the water is here now and everyone, all ages, all over the province are feeling the questionable effects of SAVING WINNIPEG!

***David Grant, Bill McKoy, Karl Pohl, Watershed organizations, U of M and most presenters at the CEC hearings, the MFA, fellow Americans, and the IJC, ALL have inexpensive alternative methods of controlling water and eliminating artificial flooding.**

Funds have to be designated to these alternatives NOW. Not at the end of the project. This Conservation and Water stewardship Departments has a HUGE mandate that literally **could bankrupt Manitoba**, if not managed efficiently, effectively, cooperatively and transparently.

The scope, baselines, ethics, accumulative effects and operations of this whole expansion project and floodway standards needs a serious honest Federal /Provincial look at the WHOLE matter.

And thanks to the CEC hearings, the Federal Screening Report and Mother Nature providing us excess water, we ALL KNOW more and can now DO more equitably and surely cooperatively.

(Page 39) – Emergency Response
Needs clearer communication and interaction and respect between MFA, EMO, RM`s & public.

(Page 40) -Way of Life, Culture and Spirituality.
This process and project might **need a third party Human Resource (Trust/Communication/Cooperation) consultants** to navigate

through all these emotions, fears, pressures and stress of trying to settle all these issues to all these parties. They would be an ad hoc branch of support systems that would aid **to the overall success** of rehabilitating artificial flooding and floodway operations.

(Page 30)
First Nations also identified at the hearings.

- Their seriousness with **mould infiltrations** due to flooding.
- **Flood proof their communities, graveyards and St. Peters Church.**
- EQUALITY AND COMPASSION missing

(Page 50 7.3)
Peguis First Nation felt that they should be **given equal protection** from flooding as that being given to **the City of Winnipeg** and equal flood proofing and **compensation as the South and North.**

(Page 63 8.4.2.2)

- Under Operations
- **Community Liaison** – establish a community liaison committee needs to be done for all the RMs to promote and establish trust, concern and action for each of the study areas of the red flags warning areas nuisance or riparian rights being infringed upon by the MFA.

(Page 66 8.5.2.1 Construction)
These anticipated long term events, are water events that are here right now and were in 2002, and 2004.

What detailed eco-system plans are in place for protection of the eco-system and water whilst in construction?

Our lakes are hurting badly before construction so this contribution of pollution shall only worsen the situation.

Another reason for some additional **FILTERING water measures i.e. Nettlie Marsh, Watersheds, planting tree and shrubs, Ste-Agathe retention pond** etc.

(Page 69)
The MFA indicated that isolating impacts that could be directly attributable to effects from Rule 4 operations as opposed to other influences is complex and difficult.

There is no isolation when they listen, hear and see the truth of the people and the scars of the land.

We all have **pictures, videos, books, media coverage** on what **artificial flooding does to us**. There is the proof and there are the impacts of artificial flooding to the land, animals and people.

The compensation/easement/buyout mitigation has to be in effect, publicly approved and involved before any part of this expansion project is operate able.

Nothing LESS...

I personally feel that this aspect shall be crucial in the overall delivery and success and sustainability of this Water Protection Plan.

We the people wish for our Governments to have integrity and respect as outlined in your reports and the sustainable Development guidelines. Prove to Manitobans and Canadians that you do.

All for One! One for All!

(Page 76 Ice Jams)
Bravo this year **for hiring**, hopefully to own one of those **amphibian water backhoes**. Now we need to do it again if the water levels are a certain height and break up all the ice jamming potential spots from south of the inlet to the Lake.

Pro-active riparian, eco-system terrain management for MFA operations, mitigation and follow-up MAKES good common sense.

Failure to prevent artificial Ice Jamming shall have every tree drowned and/or uprooted by ice from Ste-Agathe to Winnipeg in the next 5 years. This year 2005 the inaction of the ice-breaking

machine on the upstream south side of the Floodway Inlet Structure directly caused thousands of trees to be torn up and float away when the MFA operated the gates which sends huge Ice Sheets into the River Banks destroying International Migratory Protected Bird territory and Fish and Wildlife Habitats and Eco-systems, as well as First Nations land.

If the machine would have broken up the ice into small pieces South of the inlet, we would not have experienced this damage this year. These trees are 150 years old and in 2005 we are still killing them by the thousands with summer operations of the gate.

IMAGINE the CITY loosing all of its River Trees and Forests! Why should the country?

Ice jamming is a real effect of the project than can be inexpensively helped.

ACT NOW before we totally embarrass ourselves and kill our childhood memories and heritage.

% of MFA expansion budget going towards renting /owning an ice breaking water machine.

(Page 78)- **Greenhouse Gas emissions**

We, the people, as a Province of Canada, as the Premier and Minister, as the Prime Minister are aware we are **way behind our global responsibilities** and understandings of ensuring sustainability of Natural Resource, Environmental, Human Health and Social Effects.

This Federal/Provincial and by the people funded Winnipeg's protection expansion project **has to meet the Canadian Kyoto agreement requirements.** This project is doing absolutely nothing towards making it a Universal Water Protection Innovative Green Plan that other Provinces and Nations would model and follow and use as sustainability research.

This massive construction, floodway expansion has to have a large in-house physical green component in it and not just the easy-gimme of saving Winnipeg's sewer system.

What is the construction physical phase of the **expansion** doing for our **Prime Ministers vision of a leading Nation in the Kyoto agreement** and training of other Nations to be Green? What are the follow-up actions planned and the public involvement?

What are we, Manitobans, Canadians doing with this project to be carbon neutral?

(Page 82)- Use of sport material
We agree with the CEC report that it would only help alleviate the breach on Nuisance rights to have these mosquito breeding death traps/ponds/holes/valleys filled in, totally repaired to their natural state by the MFA commencing in 2005.

These artificial ponds are a NUISANCE because they breed billions of mosquitoes increasing ones risk of **sleeping sickness**, diseases and infections such as **West Nile** and **Avian Flu viruses**. Every home has a whole dug in our yards, neighbor after neighbor. **We are afraid our kids shall drown in this pits as well.** They are ugly and scary! This is an adverse effect of protecting Winnipeg!

***This one also is an easy additional solution to the total water protection Plan enforced by our two governments. Fill in with the floodway dirt all holes at no cost or work from the property owner.**

(Pages 83 and 88 9.2.2)-Fish and Fish Habitat and surface water sediments
NASA has aerial images of dark brown water areas entering Lake Manitoba from the Portage Diversion as it is operating by the MFA to save Winnipeg's sewers. If the crap doesn't kill our Lakes, these agriculture water drainage fast-flowing water sediments from the **environmental erosion** then will kill the LAKES and the FISH and our WATER.

***This is another important reason to start immediate action of excess water retention practices and % of budget/funding for its operations as part of this whole expansion project.**

There are no more muskrats in Lake Manitoba. They used to live there by the thousands. WHY?

Water problems. Too **high of water levels** in the Lakes.

The signs of damage are huge when we take an honest public look at the BIG PICTURE for the province.

Show us by your Green Leadership, of actual ACTIONS and not a whole bunch of gimmes on a make-work project since 1997! Show us that you can do it! That, we all owe it our kids, to do it!

(Page 83) Surface Water quality
Under Green management and Health risk forward direction, STOP **utilizing all non human /enviro-safe fertilizers, herbicides** etc. in the floodway study area (everywhere). These pollutants affect everyone's water and health!

(Page 89)
Water / bank erosion, if a layer of sand helps eliminate the damages done to their Habitat could we not do it?

Riprap on its own does not stabilize the bank erosion.....
what are the MFA`s plans?

*****Funding set aside is necessary to flood proof all the provinces roads, driveways, lanes, etc. that get submerged under water with Rule 4 Artificial Flooding operations.**
SAFETY FIRST- A CONDITION TO LICENSING THE PROJECT

(Page 90 Section 9.24)
Please provide the details for the Habitat that will be lost?

2-14

(Page 93) Outlet Structure
Fish that are stranded due to Artificial Flooding have to be salvaged by perhaps the public phoning or emailing a notification **24 hour response / and action line.**

As for the long term solutions re-landscape repetitive low-lying fish areas so that they drain back to the rivers safely for the fish if it is environmentally eco-system possible.

It seems ironic that just a few people, the Commissioners & Mr. Pohl **realized the weakness** in the overall plan with the very safety and up keep of **the actual outlet structure**. Seems like the right place to start even **before we start expanding**.

So much new info learnt by all. Time to re-evaluate priorities of time, budget, urgency, responsibility and resources.

This very Water Protection Plan is far more complicated and implicated than perhaps any of the government or the public realized.

This is Serious!

And we have not even added Devils Lake and all its polluting side effects onto our growing list.

Action is Needed Now for All.

***Get a third party Human Resource Mediator as opposed to legal alternatives and solve these issues.**

(Page 95)
Five burrow areas will result from digging for the **West Dyke** – where are they? Are they a nuisance for the environment? **Dangerous** to the communities' health. Do they need to be **filled in** like the other nuisance holes for flood protection and safety?

(Page 97) Inlet Control Structure
What happens to the fish when the Gates are in operation for 1 month, 6 weeks, 2 weeks at a time? In the spring, in the summer, in the fall?

What happens to the fish supply for the Bald Eagles, the Hawks and eco-systems that live along the Red River?

(Page 95) DRAINS
The South Eastern part of Manitoba is the 7th largest Intensified Livestock Operators (ILO) and we have an incredible amount of them in the RM of Ritchot the most severely affected Artificially Flooded area. We flood this RM plus the government provides the fast drains and large diversions to come racing right to the Red through all that ILO pollution. The MFA is putting a drain right beside the land of U of M Glenlea Station and their newly government funded ILO operation of 10,000 hogs. Is there some water quality issues here?

Where are the trees?

Where are the filters on these drains?

What are we doing to our Water supply?

(Page 98 & 103)
The MFA determining that the gates would only be operated 4 out of 10 years is False. We have **seen it operated 3/5 and with Devils Lake**, agriculture drainage and summer operations are going to have an impact on the spawning, migrating fish. What are we going to do about the design of the gate? As well as the fish passage?

(Page115)
Bank erosion stability and revegetation has to be monitored and mitigated for the whole study area for the Red River from the States to the Lake.

(Page 117)
Temporary loss of habitat to be offset by adjacent habitat, we disagree with adjacent land, for it **is either toxic farmer fields or Highways**. There is no protected natural land for them there.

(Page 119 10.2.3 follow-up)
Under Operation – Active - Animal dens and fish salvaging need to be done in areas that receive Artificial Flooding. It is not

2-16

emotionally fair for the flood victims to also live with dying fish and rotting animals on top of their mosquito infested pot holes. This is a little too much anxiety to put on this family and community life.

(Page 127 11.1.3 Proposed Mitigation, Monitoring and Follow-up,
Page 140 Way of Life, Culture and Spirituality,
Page 147 Health)
The follow up reports after a major flood should be done by an independent third party because all the testimony, hardships, health and nuisance risks records are missing/destroyed – gone since the 1997 flood that EMO and other government departments recorded.
Please, is this not a cover up??? And again a complete lack of respect and a slap in the face for these victims.

Again do you think we are STUPID here in the COUNTRY? **We all have enough personal evidence to make governmental/public relations so intense and revealing if we choose to do so.**

I on behalf of the people can not STRESS it enough that the MFA, EMO and the two governments have a window of OPPORTUNITY to balance and regain trust and respect in dealing with the real protection TRUTHS and absolutely fair-equitable- leaning on the victim side of compensation, mitigation, easements, buy out programs, studies and follow-up with public involvement and workshops.

(Page 128 and 147) Responsible Authorities Conclusions
The healing plants that the Peguis Nation determines to be rare and medicinal should be protected in the WHOLE study region and not just those in Reserve land. All for One and One for All! These plants are our future too.

(Page 128)
MFA should provide **permanent water protection** for First Nations People and their graveyards plus all those affected North of the outlet.

(Page 129 11.2.3)
All the past flood-proofing measures are a joke now with the new operating rules. After 3 feet of sand bagging they are ineffective.

Our new house built in 2003-2004 was told by Water Stewardship to flood proof at 772 + 2 feet = 774 feet, but the MFA had plans already on operating at 778 feet.

Sandbags will do us no good but add stress and nuisance to our properties and family life who lives in Rule 4 affected areas.

The value of our property is immediately negatively affected by this not telling the truth and intentions in the first place of what the proper current flood proofing grade should be. The MFA already knew it was going to operate at 778 feet should have been transparent!

(Page 141)
MFA needs to **distribute pamphlets** that go to the real-estate agencies, RM offices, etc. informing the public that they are living in a Rule 4 artificial flooding area and to warn them of **the adverse effects of establishing a home and life in this area.**

People need to be warned, especially when moving from other provinces... They do not know and the old rules have changed.

Rule 4 is not rare. Stop saying it is!

(Page 162 and Page 163 Summary of Cumulative Effects)
Once again this is a joke in its very scope and narrow mandate. Please, the MFA turned this into a legal display of passing the buck **and destroyed the 1997 existing records.**

The compounding effects from 1997 are severely starting to show up, never mind 1996, 2002, 2004, 2005, etc. operations.

Appendix B Review

(Page 3)
Please listen and hear these people's truths and pains. Manitoba and Canada have put people at risk through operations of the Floodway for summer time operation and circumvented democratic rights of property owners in the Red River Valley. Winnipeg is the low spot.

Summer operations are killing, drowning, uprooting thousands of trees. What is government going to do about it? What is the compensation for a tree?

(Page 6 Artificial Flooding)
***We need a long term plan of Action for Artificial Flooding and we have to start monitoring and recording the long term Health Risks of Artificial Flooding before any operations of the expanded floodway.**

(Page 10)
*MFA has to do some serious erosion control, habitat cleanup work and re-vegetation plans immediately **following each and every floodgate operational event.**

The only way the valley residents shall have some peace **of mind** that their properties and wildlife habitat is not being destroyed due to Winnipeg lack of action on its aging sewer systems is for there to **be immediate compensation, removal of dead animals and fish salvaging the flooded areas and immediate erosion control and re-vegetation practices.**

(Page 14)
In regards to ice jamming, it's a serious problem due to the high levels of water in the river 12 months of the year now. Money needs to be designated to study this real threat to the safety of Winnipeg and the rural communities because the last large ice jam in 1997 caused a flood that measured 40 miles wide.

Whether the province needs to **rent that ice breaking amphibian** or own one and started operating it sooner, **both south and North of**

the city and all the **way to the Lake** to ensure proper safe water movement in the Spring. Proactive not reactive management style.

(Page 15 Climate, Air, Noise)
It is just out right embarrassing that seeing how Manitobans and Canadians are behind already in the Kyoto Agreement and that a 655 Million Dollar project is not a Green project is unheard of and shall not go unnoticed by Canadians and Global Citizens.

We hang our heads in sham and disrespect for the lack of attention, intention and action regarding the sustainability adaptive management practices that are arbitrarily used in a project this size that is all about protection in the fist place.

I'm feeling like I have a little Red River Mud on my face. How about you?

We think it would make good political sense and perhaps deepen the purse strings a little if we immediately put into the plans our definite actions to turn this project into a Kyoto friendly operation.

Let us be able to hold our heads up high with respect and dignity in following procedures and protocols that ensure Global sustainability and not be the BAD example of a disrespectful polluting province.

This one should be a given, people!

*All the right reasons, policies and bills to practice what we preach! Make it Green!

Public suggestions are true and straight forward regarding climate change.

(Page 19)
The MFA and Water Stewardship need to **know their baselines in Water quality** and improve from there. Serious **health concerns and potential crisis** here for all Manitobans. Act Now!

2-20

(Page 21)
In the Artificial Flooding areas, mosquito breeding is a huge health risk, with West Nile Virus being a life threatening factor for humans, domestic animals and wild life.

Due to Artificial flooding, the affected people can not go outside their own homes due to the sitting water on the land and the billions of mosquitoes, plus the disheartening effect of Artificial Flooding and seeing our 125 year old trees uprooted and floating away in the Artificially Flooded Red River. Less trees, so less birds to eat the mosquitoes, etc.

A serious non-toxic environmentally friendly mosquito reduction plan and action has to take place for the people in the artificially flooded areas.

This shall help mitigate the stress, anxiety and even fear of going outside to play, cut grass or to do chores and make a living.

(Page 22 Terrestrial Environment)
A much better job of planning and action needs to take place to ensure the **habitat of the Monarch Butterfly, Bald Eagles protected wildlife, etc. are planned for, protected and salvaged**.

The MFA pretty much ignored this **international migratory component** of the project. This is not acceptable global sustainable adaptive, value-added management practices.

Where are the protected areas of the Red River?

Review seriously all the public points on vegetation.

What is **the value** of a 5 year old tree, 15, 25, 50, 100, 125 year old tree?

We shall be claiming for these deaths of our yards and landscaping.

(Page 26)
An MFA interpretative center shall be hosted in Ste-Agathe and/or at the Forks but not at the inlet/outlet structures.

Do not insult the Artificially Flooded victims even further by incorporating some showy marketing displays and technology attractions and then displaying them at the St-Norbert Inlet Structure or the Northern Outlet Structure.

The inlet structure has its silent deadly duty of protection of our Capital City, Winnipeg, period. It should be left alone to the Fish, Wildlife and Terrestrial terrain that it also kills when put into operation.

As **wild and natural** as the MFA can leave the inlet structure and Artificially flooded areas, the better for future sustainability of the international migratory birds and wildlife that has always co-existed near Winnipeg on the Red River.

This area should be left to the MFA team and Mother Nature.

This **designated few kilometers** could help set off some of the already lost terrain **from Rule 4 operations** of the gate and help us with **Kyoto requirement**.

True hikers/trail people shall go through this area experiencing wildlife as natural as can be. **Some sort of paths would exist for the MFA team anyways.**

MFA ensuring all proper safety signs are posted in this Natural, "**Give Back" area** at and near the South Inlet area.

No pesticides and herbicides should be used at the South inlet and the North's outlet area which helps restore lost river bank areas.

These poisons kill the circles of life (bugs, butterflies, bees, flowers, etc.).

It certainly would be in the interest of water quality in the Floodway to immediately cease all toxic applications of anything on this crown land. **Manitoba has a severe and critical drinking water and**

surface water crisis on our hands with the MFA and our Lakes already. Mitigation measures for the whole study are a needs to be put in place.

Mother Nature is forcing us to use the Green Alternatives to control stuff we feel we do not need to. However, it is the plants etc. that complete all circles of life and sustainability on this planet. All eco-systems – weeds are good, animals do eat them. Weeds strengthen and cleanse our immune systems and that is what is breaking down with us and our animals.

Department of Water Stewardship and Department of Agriculture need to seriously get doing some studies and work together to ensure this **provinces Natural Resource sustainabilities**.

**(Page 31) Under Increased Snow Accumulation
An extension to the insurance, programs for planting crops needs to be awarded to those farmers who farm MFA affected land or a possible buy out for them too.

Special attention needs to be placed on the rural roads upkeep, safety because of the heights of this dangerous West Dyke. Two way mirrors are needed to warn off oncoming traffic and proper road signage.

It only makes good environmental sense for the MFA to make it part of their plan to **remove current hazardous materials storage sites out of the Red River flood plain "Establishing accurate baselines".

(Page 33, 34)
I hereby **endorse** all comments as true and valued concerns for all affected people and environment under the **personal, family and community life.**

The compensation/mitigation practices need to have a third party component and it needs to be fair to the victim with full public participation and be in place before the completion of the West Dyke.

Who are we kidding here? We are taking one part of society and saying you are more important than the other and are willing to risk the health, wealth, welfare and future of these people.

Pay Up Dignifyably, Now!

This is an embarrassing component of this whole Water Protection MFA expansion project Plan. It was quite evident **to all who personally attended the CEC hearings of the injustice of improper in-human, treatment, response time and compensation put forth** to the people over any and all of the Artificial Flooding that has been done thus far.

PAY UP! $ $ $

THE ABUSE IS OVER!

Set up respectful, grateful, truthful compensation and easement procedure and implementation.

(Page 34)

A Flood agreement should be reached so that upstream and downstream people are automatically compensated without going through the claims process, including the courts.

This will help towards installing measures of trust and oneness in this (we are bigger than you, so we shall remove your Rights) system that is currently in place.

Perhaps, these residents would feel like they are helping out Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada as opposed to be made continual victims with little support.

(Page 35)
MFA has to continue to work closely with **First Nations** in order to flood protect them and to help stop **the Mould Crisis**.

More respect and systems need to be put in place to deal with the **real fears and emotions** of the **Elderly, vulnerable** and the **young** when operating the floodway.

Better signage, **more pamphlets**, what **to do's, call #s, advance warnings, clean up crews**, etc.

As we all know, elderly people just sit and worry, worry. Think about what Rule 4 does to these people. **We need more than a MFA workshop**. We need some long-term monitoring counseling, pamphlets and programs regarding Artificial Flooding Health Care in this province.

I agree with all of page 38 on buy outs, quality of water, Red River Floodway Act as insufficient etc.

****Flood proofing deductibles should be refunded to all residents outside of ring dikes.**

(Page 36 Deficiencies)
On behalf of Manitobans and Mothers, **we agree with all the written deficiencies** found in this report

Include all the way to the US border and all the way to Lake Winnipeg that shall experience Artificial Flooding along the Red River.

(Page 48 Under Operating Rules)
Rule 4 is a motivating factor enough to fairly and justly designate a percentage of the overall budget to the automatic compensation because of the MFA operations.

(Page 50)
The cost benefit Analysis was never accurate in the first pace. Deal with the Truths and not cover-ups. The public is not dumb.

****Percentage of the budget of the MFA for the eco-systems based sustainably adaptive managed alternative solutions to the ULTIMATE PROBLEM OF TOO MUCH POLLUTED WATER COMING UP THE RED RIVER NORTH TO THE LAKES.**

(Page 52 Alternatives)
Long term sustainable true scope alternatives never did get addressed or recorded properly in the MFA comments CEC and Federal Screening Reports.

This is a part of the MFA water protection plan that still needs addressing and funding as part of this MFA expansion plan.

Too much at risk right now with the spring and summer operating and Devil's Lake operating in 2005 alone would warrant more resources, people, jobs, skills being assigned to this department the water crisis reality that Canada has on our hands.

(Page 56 EIS Review of License)
Review in 5 years is no acceptable due to the Human, Health, Fish, First Nation, Transport, Ecosystem, Sustainability, Artificial Flooding adverse effects the operation of the floodway s causing.

Three years is long enough before a review is held publicly.

The environmental Advisory Panel to include the public as well.

The ironic twist to this whole Manitoba/Canada /MFA/Water Stewardship problem is about NOT FACING THE TRUTHs.

What the MFA is doing to the Red River, the people, the environment and water, plus its protection and quality crisis is pretty much the same ISSUES AND CRISISES as DEVIL'S LAKE. Too much polluted water coming our way.

Why do we think we can get our **fellow American friends** to spend the proper environmental billion to really fix the issue when we won't properly **spend the dollars** right here in our own backyards.

Wake up and smell the coffee!

We didn't sign up with International Joint Commission (IJC) in 2002 because we were also starting to illegally artificially flood

our own people and environment in the Red River Valley at the exact same time.

So the province was HUSH, HUSH, push through the MFA/CEC project spring/early summer of 2005 and then try to stop Devil's Lake for July 1st 2005 and with what proof? We have not stepped up to any sort of environmental plan other than buy outs and law suits in dealing with the Red River as it's increasing flow and pollution.

We are the Pot calling the Kettle Black. Monkey see, Monkey do, the Americans shall say, see and do!

A percentage of the MFA budget had better start going towards ALTERNATIVE solutions to this very real and accumulative advancing water energy crisis.

Appendix C

(Page 2)
Under Environmental Management Plans a EMP should be developed and based on consultation with stakeholders and reflects the principles of adaptive management and best managed practices.

Both these practices should be listed in the EIS for public reviewing and monitoring.

The EMP shall be provided a minimum of **120 days** prior to the initiation of construction. **When is that date?**

***No separating Artificial Flooding with /from natural flooding, damages are all under Artificial not under two separate flood waters and claims. We are not the drain, Winnipeg is. **One claim, make it easy!**

2-27

One in 700 year flood does not exist. It is no insurance or assurance that it will be 700 years till we see that quantity of water. Tell the people how much water volumes. That is more real and current. Happens yearly now, due to Agriculture and Municipal drainage. One in 700 is a false sense of security for Winnipeg, Manitoba and the Canadian government.

June 14, 2005 the MFA and Water Stewardship choose to operate the gate for this rare event. This event is not rare, it happened in 2002, 2004 and 2005.

Why are we getting so much water?

What **lessons** is Mother Nature, our environment trying to tell us?

Why is she giving us so much water to deal with?

Is it a cleansing, a demonstrator, an indicator of things/areas gone right or wrong in our environment?

If we receive too much water what happens? **What are the possible causes/reasons/Karma for this?**

Perhaps it is an **indicator of Man-made drainage** increasing the flow, velocity, levels, toxicity of water from drainage to tributaries to rivers to our lakes and oceans.

Is this working for us? NO

Are there signs present of accumulative non-sustainable damage occurring in the environment? YES. Our water quality, quantity, health of our lakes, massive amounts of bank erosion and sediments of all our waterways.

WHY Mother Nature is giving us a Wake Up Call with Water Energy

The first message from Mother Nature is:

- To make Winnipeg clean up its **waste policies, actions, plans, sustainability and adaptive management issues.**
- To make **sewers back up** in non flood event.
- To get our attention to **see the side effects – crops fail, food chain- altered and made more precious.**
- **Too wet to spray for weeds, weeds win!** Is Mother Nature telling us to let weeds and their flowers to grow to feed the eco-systems?
- **Trees shall flourish** in the rain and seedlings perhaps shall start to grow on their own.
- Makes us/forces us to look at our **Water Quality and Quantity for Human and Animal consumption.**
- Too wet, cannot spread **liquid manure/dry manure** on the farm land which forces **ILO waste and industrial, municipal waste** and how we are mis-managing the integration of it back into the environment.
- There are better more, sustainable methods out there in **the World. Time to research alternatives!**
- **Until we equalize the waste/water/respect to the environment and the animals. This excess water energy shall not go away for the province and the nation.**

It is a calling card for few different injustices to the basic Rights of Humanity, Environmental and Global sustainability.

Until we correct the immoral, (felt in all Canadian Hearts) injustices done to the First Nations people from the Residential School Scandal none of this excess water shall leave the Red River.

Factually and symbolically, Winnipeg is the Heart of the Continent and the Red River is its Main artery. By operating the Floodway we are drowning /flooding ourselves, our spirit, our trust and our natural resources. This flooding has the same negative energy as not paying off the victims of the Residential school abuse, clearing the energy, respecting their dignity and rights to heal and to cleanse.

The universe shall give Manitoba, Canada too much water and water energy as the symbolic tears of the First Nations peoples victim abuse pain and the governments disrespectful inappropriate immediate INACTION of STOPPING this Canadian First Spirit/Heartfelt/Emotional Health Injustice of our Canadian Times. This "turning the other cheek", "passing the buck", "study it to death" management style of governmental dealing with this topic and issue of National and International Importance. Action and mitigation required is Now and not in March of 2006.

The longer Canada puts this First Nations issue off the **more damage** Mother Nature shall do to Manitoba and other provinces of Canada with water energy. **Exactly what we are seeing across our Nation this year. with water energy.**

When the Red People ruled Manitoba, the Red River ran white and clear. And when the White people ruled Manitoba the Red River ran Red and polluted.

You have been warned!

It is time to stop all this abuse!

All the signs are there.

Canadian governments at every level need to heal these injustices, read the environmental warning signs truthfully, make amends, pay the people and then follow-up to see if life and spirit is still suffering at its very core and heart or if it has finally healed.

The **second message** from **Mother Nature** is the **abuse to domestic animals by not allowing them turn out time outside of the buildings**. Currently never in their lifetime do they breathe fresh air or feel the sun on their back other than in the last ride to the slaughter house.

ILO systems disrespect the food chain and how to feed the world. Animals shall and **will self destruct** until we are forced to reduce their numbers kept in one location to smaller numbers and to give

them **outdoor immune building** environmental morally correct time. As we give our prisoners and other institutions the opportunity to see the sunshine, smell some outside air, etc. yet we have lost our forefather decency to do the same for our animals that feed us!

The **third message** from **Mother Nature** is to **PLANT TREES, shrubs, swamps, etc., restore watersheds and wild life habitat to help absorb and clean the water supply.** If you do not plant, Mother Nature shall flood your fields and economy.

Fourth message from Mother Nature is to STOP & FIND ALTERNATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL PESTICIDES/HERBICIDE or she shall bring in Avian Flu, West Nile Virus, etc. with diseases so drug resistant they shall kill millions of people.

We are also getting too much rain because we are willing to Artificially Flood people and environment and obstruct Canadian Human Rights just like we did over 125 years ago with the First Nation People. We have come full circle in disharmony of central heart water energy in the year 2005 committing the same energy mistakes that we did back then.

It is OVER!

We know better now!

And we will do better now!

God Bless!

Mother Nature is giving us a wake up call in order to correct our ignorance and abusive non-environmental, sustainable, manageable vision, practices and monitoring systems.

We need to put all this in place or Mother Nature shall bring life and the environment back into harmony and she shall balance Essential Core energies herself. Humans, health, spirit, greed, money and power shall be shaken up and made to suffer like she and her animal and ecosystem friends are right now under Humans Rule. WAKE UP! Fix the truths or else...

Read the History books and bibles to see the destructive cycles that are coming our way if we do not practice honesty, equality and compassion to All life forms.

It is going to get worse if we do not start ACTING and stop talking with an eco-system based approach and take an honest full picture look at the baseline conditions under adaptive management procedures with full transparency and public involvement all away along this process.

This is Canada.
We are Leaders.
We can and will do better NOW!

A special thank you to Falk Environmental Inc. in putting as much TRUTH and detail in this report that has ever been brought to government and public attention and documented thus far in Manitoba history.

On behalf of the Fish, Wildlife, Ecosystems, Water, Environment, People and Sustainability we thank you for this opportunity to tell our stories and to have some action and follow-up monitoring to take place immediately.

Thank you.

Yours truthfully,

Cheryl Kennedy Courcelles

Private Citizen
Box 480
St. Adolphe, Manitoba
R5A 1A2
Cheryl@rainyday.ca

Public Comments Received on the Federal Environmental Assessment Document:

Screening Report
Red River Floodway Expansion Project

May 2005

Submission by: Cynthia Cohlmeyer

Tessier,Gerry [CEAA]

From: Cynthia Cohlmeyer [cynthia@cohlarch.ca]
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 5:04 PM
To: Tessier,Gerry [CEAA]
Subject: Red River Floodway & the Seine River

Dear Mr. Tessier:

Please add my name to the list of people who are praying that the Seine River Crossing will be replaced with a structure that allows fish passage and adequate levels of water to sustain the river's vital functions.

While hundreds of citizen volunteers labour to improve life in the rivers and creeks of Winnipeg, it is astonishing that the new floodway could ignore their values as well as the science and modern urban planning that supports their goals.

The construction of a new crossing is an opportunity we must not let slip away.

Cynthia Cohlmeyer
cynthia@cohlarch.ca

Cynthia Cohlmeyer Landscape Architect
359 McDermot Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3A 0A6
Tel: (204) 943-1394 **Fax:** (204) 942-4426

Public Comments Received on the Federal Environmental Assessment Document:

Screening Report
Red River Floodway Expansion Project

May 2005

Submission by: Karl H. Pohl

Tessier,Gerry [CEAA]

From: Karl H. Pohl [karlpohl@prairie.ca]
Sent: Sunday, May 22, 2005 10:10 AM
To: Tessier,Gerry [CEAA]
Cc: Bezan, James - Assistant 1; Jim@jamesbezan.com; Strang
Subject: CEAA Registry, Assessment 03-01-611 (Public Participation Notice)

Dear Mr. Tessier,

I finally managed to download the federal screening report of the proposed Red River Floodway expansion project. The link that appeared in the Selkirk Journal will not access the report directly and only a convoluted backdoor search of the website will give access of the PDF report to interested parties. This is unacceptable.

I haven't read all of the huge volume of pages of the federal report, but I noticed, that a number of vital concerns are not listed in the 'Public Concerns Section' table. I trust that you agree with me that the screening report must be complete and comprehensive. Inconvinient testimony and evidence presented at the recent CEC hearings in Oakbank and Winnipeg has been summarily deleted from this report. This is unacceptable.

Several citizen presenters that made presentations at the above CEC hearings, including myself, haven't been reimbursed for our substantial travel expenses to-date. This is unacceptable.

Please understand, that I am leery of empty public participation funding promises that so far have never materialized for me.
Will I receive public funding for participating in the public review of this screening report despite being an opponent of the controversial floodway expansion project? There are better, more efficient and less dangerous options available to deal with Winnipeg's flood protection needs, that were never properly researched and studied by the government of Manitoba and the MFA.

In conclusion:

The Federal Govenment may well find it impossible to overcome the resistance of our area municipalities and residents to this dangerous, flawed and misrepresented floodway expansion. An independent peer review by an indepentent and international panel of qualified and experienced hydrological engineers would expose a number of hidden flaws in the MFA proposal.
I haven't seen the CEC report, because it hasn't been released yet. I did notice however during my attendance at the hearings, that the Commissioners were subjected to pressure tactics by the MFA and its legal team. It is unlikely, that the CEC report will be fair and unbiased, particularly in view of the fact that the Commissioners and the MFA team shared their lunches, while all public participants were unceremoniously kicked out of the lunchroom, including the Member of Parliament for Selkirk - Interlake, James Bezan and our Reeve, who where with me. The CEC is supposedly an independent and at arms lenght provincial authority.

I trust, that you will find such conduct as unacceptable as those of us that were treated in this manner.

Sincerely, Karl H. Pohl
Member of the North of Floodway Coalition
Box 103
Libau, Manitoba ROE 1CO

June 14, 2005

Karl H. Pohl
Box 103
Libau, Manitoba ROE 1CO

Gerry Tessier
Senior Program Officer
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
Suite 445, 123 Main Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 4W2

Comments and observations on the CEAA Screening Report and the Manitoba CEC Report

Having read the electronic copies of the CEC report and the CEAA screening report on the proposed Winnipeg floodway expansion, I have come to the conclusion, that the CEC heard the concerns of the approximately 100 presenters, but didn't listen to us and the highly qualified experts that made presentations and recommendations in our behalf.

Very few of the more than 100 presenters supported the floodway expansion, but a much greater number favored the alternatives to the floodway expansion. You will find those comments of various presenters in the summary transcript of the CEC hearings. While the CEC Commissioners addressed a number of comments that were outside its mandate, they declined to even mention those alternatives, save one expert testimony where an extension of the Winnipeg floodway was peripherally mentioned.

The only concerns that the CEC addresses in its recommendations are the need for a drinking water supply (aquifer) monitoring network and some help with sandbagging from the proponent MFA. I fully understand, that the CEC only has a mandate to make recommendations to the Federal and Provincial governments, but with the recommendations that the CEC made, or the lack of same, the federal screening report that was released prior to the CEC report, concludes that the Winnipeg floodway expansion will cause only minor problems north of the floodway. However, there is a higher authority that may very well delay or even scuttle the Winnipeg floodway expansion plans, if the recent abnormal weather patterns persist for the following reasons:

1. The MFA can't excavate when the existing floodway is being used during the construction season to divert water in summer, which has become a perennial practice to prevent basement flooding in Winnipeg .
2. If severe and consecutive rain storms occur during construction, Winnipeg will lose the benefits of the existing floodway and its inadequate and overloaded sewer systems will spew even more raw sewage during the by now all to frequent summer storms into the Red River and subsequently Lake Winnipeg.
3. The cost overruns caused by persistent interruptions during the construction seasons will be astronomical. The added sedimentation of the lower Red River and the south basin of Lake Winnipeg will further restrict the already compromised flow capacity of the lower Red River.
4. The lengthy traffic delays and detours on Provincial Trunk Highway 59 caused by the floodway expansion construction have not been inadequately addressed and will cause a lot of frustration by the beach traffic and impact on the local business community as well as the commuter traffic between Winnipeg and the outlying communities during the tourist season for several years.
5. Both reports fail to address the near failure of the control structure during the peak of the 1997 flood, during which the west gate structure vibrated excessively and developed a number of deep cracks in the concrete structure and twisted the trunions and attachments which then caused the gate to bind and scrape against the center concrete abutment. While they repaired the damage quietly, they haven't pinpointed the root cause of this near disaster. While the CEC did not expressly mention my PowerPoint presentation at the hearings, it may have prompted the commissioners to recommend checking the foundation of the structure.

6. I had also suggested to consult with engineers from an earthquake prone region such as California to have them do the recertification of the floodgates after the completion of the repairs due to the nature of the stress cracks that are clearly shown in the video portion of my CEC presentation.
7. I had also suggested to the CEC at a previous round of hearings that a row of precision laser motion sensors be installed on top of the control structure to provide a better margin of flash flood warning for Winnipeg prior to a potential gate and or structure failure. This critical structure is nearly 50 years old and will have to be replaced within the next twenty years or so.
8. Instead of a mere suggestion in the appendices of the CEC report of a secondary gate structure , it should be a pre-requisite prior to any additional flood protection works to protect Winnipeg, because a failure of this critical and rapidly aging structure would have tragic consequences in Winnipeg as well as much of the capital region.
9. The claim by the proponents of the Winnipeg floodway expansion authority (MFA), that there will be no artificial flooding in the Lockport - Selkirk area during a repeat of the flood of record in 1826 is preposterous, absurd and ridiculous. It also defies and invaluates the meticulous records and observations of Sir Sandford Fleming, a renowned railroad engineer at the time of this event.
10. A full and **INDEPENDENT** peer review of this controversial and dangerous Winnipeg floodway expansion would be in order, because it is highly unlikely, that the expanded floodway will protect the city of Winnipeg from a repeat of the flood of record or larger. We live in a time of dramatic and unpredictable climate changes, during which such disastrous floods are most likely to occur. It is therefore imprudent of any level of government to spend upwards of three quarter Billions of Dollars on a flood protection scheme that is likely to fail during the first major flood.

In conclusion:
I, and most of the presenters at the CEC hearings were hoping for a more balanced report, but despite our best effort, common sense did not prevail. The good that I see in the CEC report are the meticulous minutes and the six videotapes that the proponent MFA recorded over frequent and often vociferous objections by several presenters at the CEC hearings that felt intimidated by this practice. They are part of the record now and will be invaluable at any future court proceedings and litigation.

I am well known as a strong supporter of a basin wide solution to our and Winnipeg's flooding woes and will always bemoan the lost opportunity of the alternatives that were available but rejected by the proponent MFA and the provincial government. I made my presentation in good faith and with the assurance that my considerable travel expenses to the CEC hearings in Oakbank and Winnipeg would be reimbursed out of the provincial grant that our Coalition North of the Floodway received to participate in the hearings. Please see to it that I will be reimbursed for my travel and parking expenses without further delay. I had submitted a signed copy of my expense sheet to our Chairman Jack Jonasson, but he informs me that he has no money to reimburse me and Doug Chorney.
Somehow our Chairman Mr. Jack Jonasson found enough money to cover his own travel expenses of almost 4 500 dollars out of the grant that we received from the Province.

Karl H. Pohl

Attached: Travel and Parking expenses
Copies: RM of St. Clements, James Bezan, MP for Selkirk - Interlake

Expense report Karl H. Pohl, Coalition for Flood Protection

	Travel	Meals	Parking	Misc.
CEC public hearings, Oakbank, MB				
Feb 21	80 Km	N.C.		
Feb 22	80 Km	N.C.		
Feb 23	80 Km	N.C.		
Feb 24	80 Km	N.C.		10 CDs
CEC public hearings, Winnipeg MB				
Feb 28	140 Km	N.C.	$6.50	
Mar 1	140 Km	N.C.	$6.50	
Mar 2	140 Km	N.C.	$6.50	
Mar 7	140 Km	N.C.	$6.50	
Mar 8	140 Km	N.C.	$6.50	
Mar 9	140 Km	N.C.	$6.50	
Sub totals	1 160 Km x 40c/Km		$39.-	$13.65
	$464.-		$39.-	$13.65
+ Parking	$ 39.-			
+ Misc.	$ 13.65			
Total expenses claim	$516.65			

Note:
Meals provided at N.C. by several area municipal councilors. Blank CD pack was used for PowerPoint presentation copies to CEC, our experts, lawyer and councilors. Parking receipts not available. The parkade where I parked in Winnipeg does not issue receipts.

Karl H. Pohl

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Public Comments Received on the Federal Environmental Assessment Document:

Screening Report
Red River Floodway Expansion Project

May 2005

Submission by: Harold Thwaites

Tessier,Gerry [CEAA]

From: harold.thwaites@mts.ca
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 10:42 AM
To: Tessier,Gerry [CEAA]
Subject: RED RIVER FLOODWAY/SEINE RIVER SIPHON

I am writing to add my voice to the request by SOS (Save Our Seine River Environment) to have the Seine River Siphon replaced with a structure that allows fish passage and adequate levels of water to sustain critical riverbank habitat.

It is my opinion that while the Floodway expansion is being done, the government should take the opportunity to expand the Seine River Siphon. An expanded siphon would allow greater amounts of water to flow under the Floodway into the northern part of the river within the city of Winnipeg. I also believe that the trash rack in the inlet structure should be re-designed to make it self-cleaning. Perhaps angle it to keep trash from accumulating and plugging the inlet. This should help with fish passage as well as lessening the amount of water diverted into the Floodway during non flood rain events.

The Grande Point control structure design should be reassessed at the same time as the Siphon because it directly relates to water diversion from the Seine to the Floodway.

The recent study done by SOS concluded that the Seine River could easily accommodate much higher water levels without increasing flood risks.

It is time now to create a design that takes into consideration low flows in dry years, as well as flood situations.

Harold Thwaites

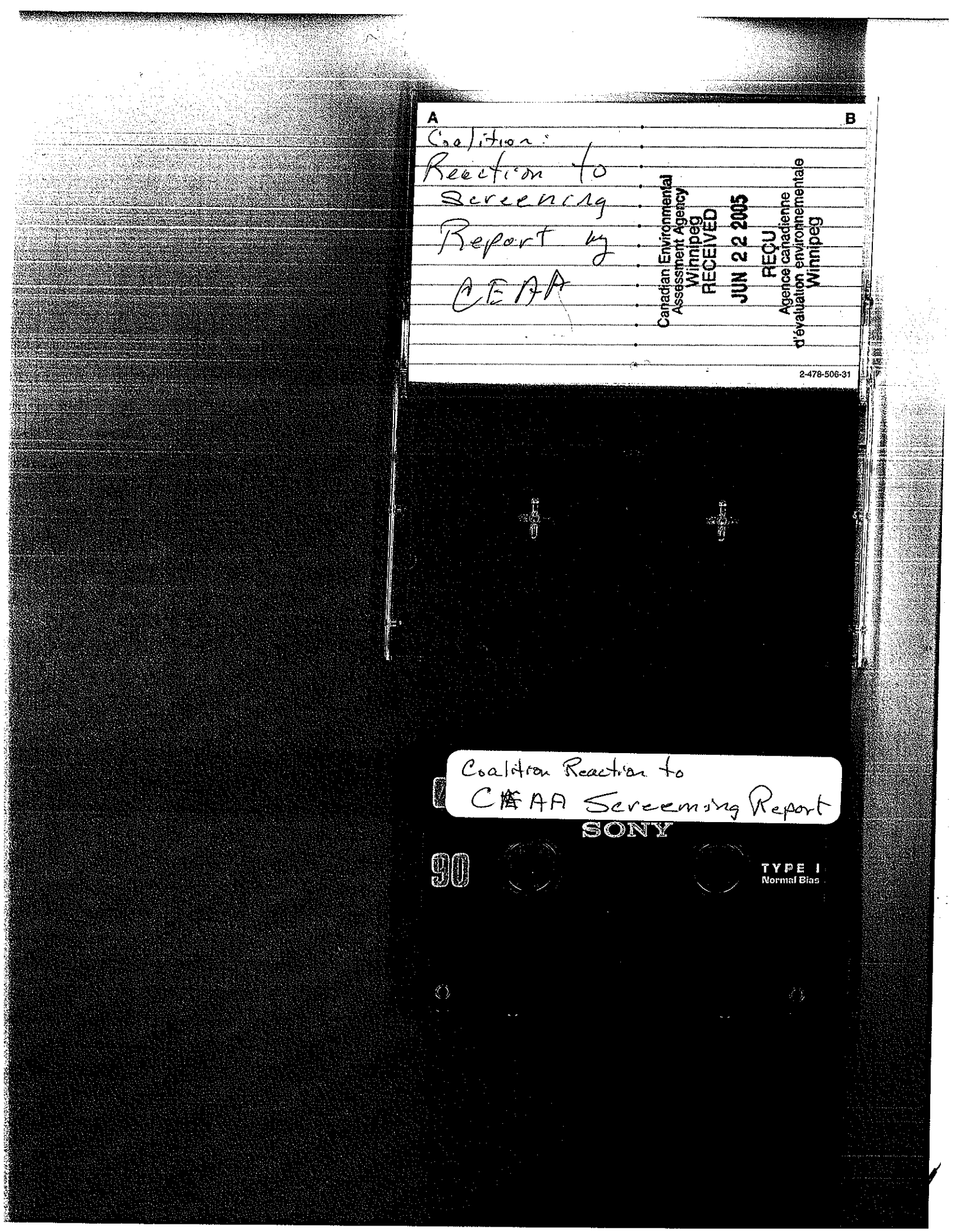
Public Comments Received on the Federal Environmental Assessment Document:

Screening Report
Red River Floodway Expansion Project

May 2005

Submission by: Coalition for Flood Protection North of the Floodway

NOTE: This submission was provided as an audio tape only, and has not been transcribed. The audio tape can be accessed by contacting:
Gerry Tessier, Senior Program Officer at the Canadian Environmental Assessment Office, Prairie Office, at (204) 984-8020.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Reaction to
Screening
Report by
CEAA
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
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Agence canadienne d'évaluation environnementale
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