

## **SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROPONENT:** Town of Snow Lake  
**PROPOSAL NAME:** Town of Snow Lake - Sewage Treatment Plant Upgrade/Expansion  
**CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT:** 2  
**TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT:** Sewage Treatment Plant – Waste/Scrap  
**CLIENT FILE NO.:** 5480.00

### **OVERVIEW:**

On August 10, 2010, the Department received a Proposal from Stantec Consulting Ltd. on behalf of The Town of Snow Lake for the upgrade/expansion of the existing Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) located on Parcel A, Plan 7743 in Township 68, Range 17 WPM in the Town of Snow Lake, Manitoba. The proposed upgrade/expansion will consist of a truck haul receiving station, headworks facility, secondary treatment process, secondary clarification, chemical feed system, UV disinfection, aerated sludge holding tank, sludge dewatering, and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system. Treated wastewater from the STP will be discharged to Snow Lake via the existing outfall pipe.

On September 2, 2010, Manitoba Conservation placed copies of the Proposal in the Public Registries located at 123 Main St. (Union Station), the Winnipeg Millennium Public Library, the Manitoba Eco-Network, and The Town of Snow Lake Office. Copies of the Proposal were also provided to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members. The Department placed public notifications of the Proposal in the Flin Flon/Creighton Northern Visions Gazette on Friday, September 3, 2010 and Snow Lake Underground Press on Thursday, September 16, 2010.

On October 6, 2010, Manitoba Conservation forwarded requests for additional information from the TAC to the proponent's consultant. On October 20, 2010, Manitoba Conservation received comments/responses on TAC comments from the proponent.

On October 22, 2010 the consultant's responses were distributed to the participating TAC for review and comment.

On November 8, 2010, Manitoba Conservation received comments from participating TAC.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

No comments were received from the public.

**COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:**

**Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation**

- *No concerns*

**Manitoba Conservation - Sustainable Resource & Policy Management Branch & Land Branch**

- *No concerns*

**Manitoba Conservation – Parks and Natural Areas Branch**

- *No concerns*

**Manitoba Conservation – Aboriginal Relations Branch**

- *No concerns*

**Manitoba Innovation, Energy and Mines – Mines Branch**

- *No concerns*

**Manitoba Conservation – Wildlife and Ecosystem Protection Areas**

- *No concerns*

**Manitoba Conservation – Pollution Prevention Branch**

- *No concerns*

**Manitoba Water Stewardship – Planning and Coordination Branch**

October 1, 2010

- *Manitoba Water Stewardship recommends an Environment Act Licence to include the following requirements:*
  - *The proponent shall be required to actively participate in any future watershed based management study, plan/or nutrient reduction program, approved by the Director, Water Science and Management Branch, Manitoba Water Stewardship.*
    - *Note: Manitoba Water Stewardship is concerned with any discharges that have the potential to impact the aquatic environment and/or restrict present and future uses of the water.*
  - *Proper sediment and erosion control devices such as silt curtains and sediment containment barriers shall be utilized during site development.*
  - *The proposed development shall meet a phosphorus limit of 1.0 mg/L.*

- *Note: The Lake Winnipeg Stewardship Board has recommended that all small wastewater treatment facilities, should meet a phosphorus limit of 1.0 mg/L. The proposed phosphorus limit of 1.0 mg/L is consistent with efforts underway across Manitoba and in upstream jurisdictions to reduce nutrient loads to Lake Winnipeg and its watershed.*
- *Water quality sampling to detect fecal and total coliforms shall be determined by a monthly geometric mean of 1 grab sample collected at equal intervals, at a minimum of 3 consecutive days per week.*
  - *Note: This is consistent with the R. M. of Headingly and the R. M. of East St. Paul treatment plant licences.*
- *Manitoba Water Stewardship submits the following concern:*
  - *The proponent discusses disposing of biosolids in a landfill. The Province of Manitoba views the biosolids as containing nutrients valuable to crop growth.*
    - *The proponent is requested to provide information on other options available for disposing of biosolids in a landfill.*
- *Manitoba Water Stewardship submits the following comments:*
  - *Manitoba Water Stewardship does not object to this proposal, at this time.*
  - *The Manitoba Department of Water Stewardship is mandated to ensure the sustainable development of Manitoba's water resources. Manitoba Water Stewardship is committed to the goals of: protecting aquatic ecosystem health; ensuring drinking water is safe and clean for human health; managing water-related risks for human security; and stewarding the societal and economic values of our waterways, lakes and wetlands; for the best water for all life and lasting prosperity. Manitoba Water Stewardship achieves these goals, in part, through administering legislation, including The Water Protection Act, The Water Rights Act, and The Water Power Act.*

Proponent Response (October 20, 2010):

Water quality sampling for fecal and total coliforms

We request that you consider collecting 3 grab samples at equal intervals, once a week rather than on 3 consecutive days in a week. Snow Lake is a remote community and

samples have to be sent by bus to Winnipeg for laboratory analysis. It is not practical to send a single sample on 3 consecutive days.

#### Biosolids Management

Manitoba Water Stewardship has requested alternatives to the proposed disposal of biosolids in a landfill. As you are probably aware, Snow Lake is situated in the Precambrian Shield with significant granite bedrock deposits. There are no agricultural practices in the area. Given the size and location of the proposed facility, landfilling of biosolids is the only feasible option.

November 8, 2010

- *Given the frequency of transportation service available in Snow Lake, the proponent's consultant has proposed a reasonable alternative to collect three water quality samples at equal intervals once each week.*

#### Disposition:

- The proponent's responses have addressed the Manitoba Water Stewardship's concerns. No further actions required.

#### **COMMENTS FROM FEDERAL REPRESENTATION:**

##### **Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEEA)**

October 6 & 5, 2010

- *Project information was shared with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, Health Canada (HC) and Environment Canada (EC) as part of the federal coordination process.*
- *Based on the responses to the survey an environmental assessment of the project under the Act is not required for this project.*
- *HC has determined it can provide expert advice related to human health if a written request is submitted to HC.*

#### **PUBLIC HEARING:**

A public hearing is not recommended because no comments were received from the public.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Proponent should be issued a Licence for the upgrade/expansion of the existing Sewage Treatment Plant in accordance with the specifications, limits, terms and conditions of the attached draft Licence. An inspection should be completed by an Environment Officer from the Environmental Assessment & Licensing Branch prior to transferring the Licence to the Region for enforcement.

A draft Environment Act Licence is attached for the Director's consideration.

**PREPARED BY:**

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November 12, 2010

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