

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPONENT: Rural Municipality of Kelsey
PROPOSAL NAME: Rural Municipality of Kelsey -
Rural Water Pipelines
CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: Two
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: Transportation/Transmission - Pipelines
CLIENT FILE NO.: 4516.00

OVERVIEW:

The Proposal was received on April 11. It was dated April 5, 2000. The advertisement of the proposal was as follows:

“A Proposal has been filed by the Manitoba Water Services Board on behalf of the Rural Municipality of Kelsey to construct rural water supply pipelines to supply rural residences southwest of The Pas between the Carrot River and the Pasquia River. The source of supply for the system would be a proposed wellsite in NW 9-56-27W. A treatment plant and reservoir located in NE 34-55-27W would distribute chlorinated water to the distribution system. Approximately 145 km of pipeline ranging in size from 150 mm to 50 mm would be installed on road allowances by chain trencher, plough or backhoe. Construction of the pipeline system is proposed to begin in 2000 and continue in future years as funding becomes available.”

The Proposal was advertised in The Pas Opasquia Times on Friday, April 28, 2000. It was placed in the Environment, Centennial, Eco-Network and The Pas Public Library public registries. The Proposal was distributed to TAC members on April 17, 2000. The closing date for comments from members of the public and TAC members was May 17, 2000.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No public comments were received.

COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Manitoba Conservation - Northern Region - Staff of the Northern Region has reviewed the Environment Act Proposal for the above project and has no concerns relating to the proposal as presented.

We suggest the proponent be informed that approval of this proposal does not extend beyond the proposal itself to the associated water works including the water treatment plant. Approval of the water works still requires ministerial approval subject to Manitoba Regulations 331/88R the *Water Works, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Regulation* and MR 330/88 R the *Water Supplies Regulation*.

Disposition:

Approval of the project pursuant to The Public Health Act can be addressed as a licence condition.

...2

Manitoba Conservation – Water Quality Management - WQM concerns appear to have been addressed for the most part by this proposal. Directional boring beneath the streambeds should be utilized for crossings of the Carrot River and Pasquia River as anticipated in the Proposal. However, “Manitoba Stream Crossing Guidelines for the Protection of Fish and Fish Habitat” and DFO (1986) “Policy for the Management of Fish Habitat” should also apply.

Disposition:

These comments can be addressed as licence conditions.

Manitoba Conservation – Policy Coordination - In the event that the crossings of the Carrot and Pasquia rivers cannot be carried out by directional drilling and open cut trenching is required, the Regional Fisheries Manager in The Pas should be contacted so that plans can be made to mitigate adverse impacts to fish and fish habitat. No application has been received for a Water Rights Licence for the project.

Disposition:

The fisheries concern may be addressed with a licence condition. Additional information was requested to address the Water Rights issue.

Manitoba Conservation - Environmental Land Use Approvals - The Proposal does not contain some information requested in the Department’s Supplementary Guidelines for Municipal Water Supply Systems. Specifically, information on the status of a Water Rights application, some estimated consumption data, and water conservation plans are not provided.

Disposition:

Additional information was requested to address these items.

Historic Resources - No concerns.

Mines Branch - No concerns.

Highway Planning and Design - The proponent is expected to meet or exceed certain standards when working adjacent to a provincial road or highway. For example, highway traffic control standards must be met, all waterline crossings of PTHs and PRs must be sleeved, and rights-of-way, ditches and drainage patterns must be restored to a satisfactory condition. An underground agreement is required for placing any waterlines on or adjacent to rights-of-way.

Disposition:

This information will be forwarded to the proponent.

Community Economic Development Branch - No land use or development concerns.

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency - An environmental assessment under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act with respect to this project will be required. The contact will be with PFRA. Environment Canada, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, and Natural Resources Canada have offered to provide specialist advice.

...3

Environment Canada - The environmental impact portion of the report generally provides minimal information. Recommendations are as follows: Trenching should be carried out as much as possible with a plough trencher because of the minimal impact to right-of-way habitat. Works should commence in late summer (preferably after August 15) to ensure migratory birds that utilize the roadside cover for nesting have reared their broods. Riparian habitat and vegetation should be disturbed as little as possible, and any stream crossings should be carried out in accordance with the Manitoba Stream Crossing Guidelines. Flushing of chlorinated water from pipelines into or near watercourses should not be allowed.

Disposition:

These comments can be addressed as licence conditions.

Fisheries and Oceans - The project is not likely to cause significant adverse effects on fish and fish habitat if the project is conducted as described in the proposal, (i.e. all water crossings will be conducted by directional boring equipment) and with the following mitigation measures: Instream work should be done in accordance with the Manitoba Stream Crossing Guidelines for the Protection of Fish and Fish Habitat, precautions shall be taken to prevent sediment from entering the Carrot River and Pasquia River, and the proponent shall minimize the disturbance to the banks of the Carrot River and Pasquia River and existing vegetated areas shall be retained as much as possible.

Disposition:

These comments can be addressed as licence conditions.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Additional information was requested on May 25, 2000 to address the concerns identified in the preliminary review of the project. A response from the Water Services Board dated June 6, 2000 was received which provided all requested information.

PUBLIC HEARING:

As no public concerns were identified, a public hearing is not recommended.

RECOMMENDATION:

All comments received on the Proposal have been addressed by additional information 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 assigned to the Northern Region.

PREPARED BY:

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June 21, 2000

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