

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPONENT: Town of Lynn Lake
PROPOSAL NAME: Water Treatment Plant and Associated Works
CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: One
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: Waste Disposal - Water Treatment Plants
(Wastewater)
CLIENT FILE NO.: 4753.00

OVERVIEW:

The Proposal was received on January 21, 2002. It was dated January 14, 2002. The advertisement of the proposal was as follows:

“A Proposal has been filed by Stantec Consulting Ltd. on behalf of the Town of Lynn Lake for the construction and operation of upgraded water treatment facilities. A new water treatment plant would be constructed adjacent to the existing plant. The capacity of the new plant would be 10 litres per second, intended to accommodate the Town’s demands to the year 2022. The plant would withdraw water from West Lynn Lake with a new intake system, treat it using a conventional coagulation/flocculation/sedimentation/filtration process, and store the treated water in a reservoir under the plant. Wastewater from the plant would be discharged to the Town’s sewer system. Construction of the facilities is proposed for 2002.”

The Proposal was advertised in the Thompson Nickel Belt News on Monday, March 11, 2002. It was placed in the Main, Centennial and Thompson Public Library public registries. It was also placed in the Town of Lynn Lake office as a public registry. The Proposal was distributed to TAC members on March 8, 2002. The closing date for comments from members of the public and TAC members was April 12, 2002.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No public comments were received.

COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Manitoba Conservation – Northeast Region - The proposal does not address the potential impact of backwash water on the existing sewage treatment facilities e.g. does the existing lagoon have the capacity to handle any additional flows resulting from the new plant. (This problem has occurred with some types of water treatment systems installed in other communities.)

Disposition:

Additional information was requested to address this comment.

Manitoba Conservation – Sustainable Resource Management - The water intake pipe should meet design criteria recommended by Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Water treatment plant wastes must be directed to the wastewater treatment plant. It should be confirmed with the Office of Drinking Water that the proposed system is adequate to protect the community from pathogens such as giardia and cryptosporidium. Comments concerning the potential impact of backwash water on the existing sewage treatment plant have been forwarded directly by regional staff.

Disposition:

The first two comments can be addressed through licence conditions. The Office of Drinking Water will review plans for the plant pursuant to the Public Health Act.

Manitoba Conservation – Environmental Approvals - Additional information is needed to address the Department's supplementary guidelines for EAPs involving municipal water supply systems. Information is needed on Water Rights licensing requirements and water conservation plans. Information is also needed on the impact of the additional hydraulic loading imposed by the proposed plant on the community's wastewater treatment facilities.

Disposition:

Additional information was requested to address these information requirements.

Historic Resources Branch - No concerns.

Highway Planning and Design Branch - No concerns.

Community Planning Services - No land use or development concerns.

Medical Officer of Health – Burntwood and Churchill RHAs - No concerns. Would like progress updates.

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency - An environmental assessment under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act with respect to this project will be required. (The Responsible Authority is Western Economic Diversification, represented by PFRA.) Environment Canada and Health Canada have offered to provide specialist advice. Environment Canada indicated an interest in participating in the provincial assessment of the proposal.

Environment Canada - Environment Canada has concerns with the direct disposal of water treatment plant residues into surface waters, and supports their treatment in the municipal treatment system or by other suitable means, as is being planned in this project. The EIA report lacks information on how the water intake will be constructed and located, as well as the potential impacts of its installation on fish and other aquatic species in the area. Although the report indicates that DFO procedures will be followed, additional information should be provided on the installation techniques, scheduling, anticipated impacts, etc. Mitigation measures for erosion control and minimization of impacts to

surface water (see Appendix A, page 1) should be discussed in the EIA document, rather than stating it is the contractor's responsibility to ensure adequate erosion control and other mitigation measures. Similarly, potential impacts and mitigation measures to prevent erosion and sedimentation from other areas of construction (e.g. blasting of water lines) near surface waters should be presented in the report. If flushing of water lines and other areas of the distribution system with chlorinated water is to be done prior to commissioning of the system, the chlorinated water should not be directed to surface waters unless the residual chlorine is non-detectable. Chlorine is toxic to fish and other aquatic species at very low concentrations.

Disposition:

Additional information to address these comments was requested. As the water distribution system downstream of the water treatment plant will not be altered by the Proposal, the discharge of chlorinated water is not a concern.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Additional information was requested by e-mail on April 16, 2002. The Applicant's consultants provided the requested information on May 6, 2002. The response is attached. It is noted that the proposed new raw water intake has been deleted from the project. Future replacement of the existing raw water intake can be addressed as a licence condition. With respect to concerns regarding the impact of plant wastewater on the existing wastewater treatment system, the response indicates that the existing lagoon was designed for a population of 4050. Since the design population for the current project is 1100, the existing facility has ample capacity to accommodate the projected wastewater.

PUBLIC HEARING:

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

RECOMMENDATION:

All comments received on the Proposal have been addressed in the 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 Northeast Region.

PREPARED BY:

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May 8, 2002

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