

## **SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROPONENT:** Rural Municipality of Headingley  
**PROPOSAL NAME:** Rural Municipality of Headingley  
Assiniboine River Watermain, Sewermain  
and Sewer Forcemain Crossings

**CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT:** Two  
**TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT:** Water Development and Control  
**CLIENT FILE NO.:** 4363.00

### **OVERVIEW:**

The Proposal was received on July 29, 1998. It was dated July 24, 1998. The advertisement of the proposal was as follows:

“A Proposal has been filed by J. R. Cousin Consultants Ltd. on behalf of the Rural Municipality of Headingley for the construction of watermain, sewermain and sewer forcemain crossings of the Assiniboine River at Headingley. The proposed watermain and sewermain crossings would each consist of a 250 mm pipe between Bobiche Street on the north side of the river and Rodney Street on the south side of the river. These pipes would connect with water distribution and sewage collection systems planned for construction in the community. The proposed sewer forcemain would be a 300 mm pipe crossing the river in the Manitoba Hydro right-of-way between river lots 26 and 27. All pipelines would be trenched one metre below the riverbed. Construction of the river crossings would occur in open water during the fall of 1998, or through ice during the winter of 1998-1999.”

The Proposal was advertised in the Winnipeg Free Press on Saturday, August 15, 1998 and in the Headingley Headliner on Monday, August 17, 1998. It was placed in the Main, Centennial and Eco-Network public registries. It was distributed to TAC members on August 11, 1998. The closing date for comments from members of the public and TAC members was September 10, 1998.

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

No comments were received from members of the public.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:**

**Manitoba Environment - Water Quality Management** It would be preferable that the directional boring option is used for crossing the Assiniboine River. Only if soil conditions preclude directional boring should the trenching method be used.

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Disposition:

Directional boring should be specified as the preferred option in an Environment Act Licence. Additional information as discussed below will be needed if open cut techniques are required.

**Historic Resources Branch** The information in section 2.8.6 of the proposal discusses the project's potential to impact heritage resources, and is based on Branch correspondence in December, 1997. Because there is low to moderate potential for heritage resources to be present, the Branch is prepared to monitor the excavations. It was requested that the Branch be contacted several days prior to construction to ensure staff availability. The proponent is also aware that if heritage resources are exposed, construction will be halted until the heritage significance of the objects is determined. The Branch recommends that Branch monitoring of the trenching operation be required as a licence condition, and that staff be notified three days prior to construction. Furthermore, in the event that heritage resources are exposed, a licence condition should state that construction will be halted until the heritage significance of the object(s) is determined.

Disposition:

These recommendations can be included as a licence condition.

**Mines Branch** No concerns.

**Community Economic Development Branch** No concerns.

**Urban Affairs** Manitoba Urban Affairs assumes that the adverse impacts on surface water quality, fisheries and navigation related to trenching will be addressed through mitigative measures as a condition of environmental licensing. Directional boring would produce fewer environmental concerns and could be a viable alternative to trenching if feasible.

**Medical Officer of Health – Central Region** In agreement with a proposal that provides a reliable source of potable water to rural residents as well as a municipal wastewater system.

**Natural Resources** Directional boring is the preferred method for crossing the Assiniboine River. If it is determined that directional drilling is not possible and that trenching is required, the proponent should notify the MNR Fisheries Branch and Regional Fisheries Manager before any instream work is carried out. Detailed information on these crossings should be made available well in advance of any field work. A 1992 survey indicated the presence of clam beds in the Assiniboine River in the area of the proposed crossings. Should trenching be required, a survey should be conducted to determine the extent and densities of clams in the proposed crossing areas prior to any work being carried out. This survey should be conducted this fall.

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If extensive clam beds are located consideration should be given to relocating the crossings or moving the clams to suitable upstream areas. Bank areas impacted during construction should be reseeded with locally grown native species or their cultivars.

Disposition:

These comments can be addressed as licence conditions.

**Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency** Application of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act with respect to this project will not be required. Environment Canada, Natural Resources Canada and Fisheries and Oceans would be able to provide specialist advice in accordance with Section 12(3) of the Act.

**Fisheries and Oceans** The proposed method of crossing is to directional drill if possible, and failing this, to open trench. Directional drilling has the least potential for impacts to fish habitat, and is the method recommended by DFO. If this method is not found to be feasible, and open trench methods are employed, additional mitigation measures will be required to prevent the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish and fish habitat. Provided that the following mitigation measures are implemented, the proposal is not likely to adversely affect fish and fish habitat. 1. The proponent should notify DFO and Manitoba Fisheries Branch at least five days prior to directional drilling. 2. Sediment and erosion control methods recommended within the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers Water Crossing Guidelines for Pipeline Systems should be adhered to. 3. Disturbance to riparian vegetation in the vicinity of the approach to the river should be minimized. 4. All disturbed soil should be stabilized immediately after completion of the project, including riprap and revegetation of disturbed soil on each of the riverbanks. 5. The deposit of deleterious into waters frequented by fish is prohibited under the Fisheries Act. All refueling, repairs and

maintenance of construction equipment should take place at least 100 metres from the Assiniboine River. 6. In the event that open trenching is necessary, additional mitigation measures will be necessary to protect fish habitat. The section of the river where the crossing is proposed provides important habitat for freshwater mussels, several species that are long lived and fairly rare. DFO requests that clams within and 5 metres downstream of the proposed trenches are relocated to other known mussel beds. Please contact DFO and Manitoba Fisheries Branch to discuss the protocol necessary to successfully transplant clams. Detailed plans regarding the methodology, location, scheduling and erosion control methods should be provided for review and approval by DFO and Manitoba Fisheries Branch prior to commencement of trenching.

Disposition:

These recommendations can be addressed as licence conditions.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

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

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

All comments received on the Proposal 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 Winnipeg Region.

PREPARED BY:

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September 22, 1998

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