



Executive Summary

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The purpose of this Environmental Impact Assessment is to provide supporting information to the OlyWest Environment Act Proposal. It identifies and describes potential environmental effects that may occur as a result of the construction and operation of the proposed OlyWest pork processing facility in the St. Boniface Industrial Park in the City of Winnipeg, Manitoba. The document has been prepared in general accordance with the Manitoba Conservation document “Advice Document for OlyWest for the Preparation of an Environment Act Proposal for a New Hog Processing Plant in Winnipeg” issued on June 13, 2006. This Advice Document is available at:

http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/envapprovals/registries/olywest/final_advisedoc.pdf

The proposed facility will be located on a 19 ha (48 acre) section on the west side of the 46 ha (114 acre) parcel of land with a total floor area of approximately 35,415 m² (381,200 ft²). The property is bounded to the west by a proposed extension of Mazenod Road, to the east by Plessis Road, to the north by a section of the Winnipeg aqueduct, and to the south by the Canadian National Railway’s Symington Yards and Intermodal Terminal and a Manitoba Hydro Substation. The proposed facility will employ approximately 1,134 employees and will process, at full capacity, approximately 9,000 hogs per day with a line speed of 600 hogs per hour.

The proposed facility will include an integrated protein recycling system, a truck wash, a holding area for up to 2,780 hogs, an asphyxiation area, kill floor, coolers, cut floor, packaging, refrigeration and freezing, and a shipping area in addition to other processes. Products of the proposed facility will include primal cuts of pork, edible and inedible by-products, blood meal, meat and bone meal, tallow, and liquid blood. In producing these products, some waste will be generated in the form of pre-treated wastewater, hog manure, solids/truck bedding material/truck wash solids, normal packaging and office waste, normal domestic waste, and odour emissions.

The wastewater will be pre-treated on the site to remove phosphorous, nitrogen, suspended solids, and other contaminants prior to discharging to the City of Winnipeg North End Water Pollution Control Centre for additional treatment. As a result, no significant additional nutrient load will be introduced to the receiving water bodies from the facility. Wastewater sludge generated in the pre-treatment system will be collected and utilized in the protein recycling system, thereby removing the issues associated with land application of sludge that is generated on a year-round basis.

The hog manure solids and truck bedding material and truck wash screenings will be collected and temporarily stored indoors prior to being transported to a rural agricultural location to be stored and land applied in accordance with provincial regulations.

Waste packaging, office wastes, wastes typical of cafeteria waste, and domestic waste generated at the proposed site will be recycled to the extent practical with the remainder of the materials being deposited at a landfill. Some of these materials will undergo compaction prior to transport to the landfill to reduce transportation costs and maximize efficiency.

Odour emissions resulting from the proposed facility operations will mostly emanate from the following sources:

- Incoming trucks carrying live hogs to the site
- Manure storage bins that are housed within the holding area
- Holding facility exhaust
- Protein recycling building exhaust
- On-site wastewater treatment building exhaust

Data was collected on odour emissions from representative sources for each of these to be quantified and modeled to characterize the extent and strength of odours anticipated after mitigation measures were applied (principally in the form good housekeeping, source minimization and isolation, and operation of multi-stage scrubbers installed in the protein recycling system). The results indicated that odours would be adequately mitigated with the proposed controls when compared to Manitoba Conservation's odour guidelines and no significant complaints are anticipated from the use of the odour nuisance clause which would typically be the measure of compliance with the Environment Act Licence.

The information presented on the anticipated effects from the construction and operation of the proposed OlyWest pork processing facility was guided by, and includes the results from public input from two Open Houses, internet website feedback and meetings with a Community Advisory Committee. The public communication and consultation work helped to identify the primary issues and questions of the general public. In general, four main issues (wastewater, traffic, groundwater, and odour) were addressed through the Community Advisory Committee and Open Houses, in addition to several other issues.

Information related to the environmental component of the study and the expected impacts on the environment was collected from a variety of sources, including:

- Published information and maps, supplemented with air photograph interpretation
- On-site field reconnaissance and examination
- Discussions with technical representatives from major facility component suppliers
- On-site examination of similar facilities within Canada and the United States

In all, during construction all evaluated impacts were considered to be either negligible or low in magnitude prior to mitigation with the exception of potential noise effects during certain construction activities and traffic related concerns. The noise effects are mitigated by separation distances to residential areas and considered to present a minor residual impact. The traffic concerns represent what is considered to be a normal inconvenience for construction related traffic in Winnipeg. Mitigation for the traffic concerns and related potential increase in accident rates is achieved through the use of signage and traffic control according to City of Winnipeg guidelines.

Operational impacts that were not considered to be negligible or low in magnitude prior to mitigation included potential odours (moderate), potable water demand (moderate), traffic effects (moderate), potential flooding from runoff (high), and nutrient loads (high). Mitigation measures employed (detailed

further in Section 7.0) result in reducing all of these to negligible to minor residual impacts. As a result there were no socio-economic effects that stem from direct environmental effects related to this project although a summary of perceived economic effects has been provided for information.

All of the environmental impacts and the corresponding mitigation measures examined are presented along with a subjective assessment of residual impacts in Tables 6.17 and 6.18.