

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPOSER: City of Brandon
PROPOSAL NAME: Brandon Water Treatment Plant Waste Management
CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: One
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: Waste Disposal - Water Treatment Plants (Wastewater)
CLIENT FILE NO.: 4262.00

OVERVIEW:

The Proposal was received on June 20, 1997. It was dated June 13, 1997. The advertisement of the proposal was as follows:

“A Proposal has been filed by the City of Brandon to construct a sludge dewatering system at the Brandon Water Treatment Plant. Sludge from the plant contains suspended solids removed from the Assiniboine River water during the water treatment process. It is currently discharged back to the river. The proposed dewatering system would concentrate the sludge by gravity thickening and then by belt press filtration. This would increase the solids content of the sludge from less than 3% to almost 50%. The sludge would then be disposed of at the Brandon waste disposal ground. The system would improve water quality in the Assiniboine River by removing up to 85% of the suspended material which currently re-enters the river from the water treatment plant. The removal of this material would substantially reduce the increase in suspended sediment which the plant causes on the river. Construction of the new system would occur in the summer and fall of 1998.”

The Proposal was advertised in the Brandon Sun on Saturday, July 26, 1997. It was placed in the Main, Centennial and Western Manitoba Regional Library (Brandon) public registries. The Proposal was distributed to TAC members on July 22, 1997. The closing date for comments from members of the public and TAC members was August 25, 1997.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No public responses were received.

COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Manitoba Environment - Water Quality Management The proposed upgrade should have a positive impact on the Assiniboine River, as the suspended solid load will be reduced over 80%. No concerns with respect to this proposal.

Manitoba Environment - Land Use Approvals Proposals involving municipal water supplies should identify plans for water conservation measures as a standard part of each proposal. As this has not been done for the current proposal, a water conservation plan or discussion should be requested as a licence condition.

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Historic Resources Branch No concerns.

Highway Planning and Design No concerns.

Medical Officer of Health - Westman Region Extensive studies of potential release/discharges to the Assiniboine River are summarized in the proposal. No negative impacts are identified.

Natural Resources The proposed development will result in a significant reduction in the quantity of reactor sludge being emitted to the Assiniboine River. This reduction should have a positive impact on fish and other aquatic life in the river. Information could have been provided in the proposal on whether or not there will be any residual chlorine in the filter backwash water. The proposal also states that water quality in the Assiniboine River in the Brandon area is good for aquatic life because significant volumes of sport fish are caught. Good catches of fish do not necessarily imply that effluents are not adversely impacting water quality, fish or other aquatic organisms.

Disposition:

As treated water will be used for filter backwashing, it is likely that a chlorine residual will be present in the backwash water. Chlorine can be a monitoring parameter in the plant monitoring which will be a licence requirement.

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency Application of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act with respect to this project will not be required.

PUBLIC HEARING:

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

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 Park-West Region.

PREPARED BY:

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September 2, 1997
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