

Notice of Environment Act Proposal

Manitoba Sustainable Development has received a proposal pursuant to *The Environment Act* regarding the following operation and invites public participation in the review process:

MANITOBA INFRASTRUCTURE – LAKE ST. MARTIN EMERGENCY OUTLET CHANNEL – INTERIM OPERATION – FILE: 5865.00

Manitoba Infrastructure has filed an Environment Act Proposal for the interim operation of the Lake St. Martin Emergency Outlet Channel. The channel was constructed in 2011 following high levels on Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin, and was operated between late 2011 and 2012, and again in mid 2014 – 2015 under emergency conditions. The Proposal addresses future potential emergency operation between the spring of 2017 and the completion of construction on permanent additional outlet works for Lake St. Martin and Lake Manitoba. The channel would be opened when levels on Lake St. Martin are forecast to be above an elevation of 244.7 m above sea level for an extended period of time. Once opened, the channel would be operated until Lake St. Martin levels declined to 244.1 m, and the channel would not be closed until after mid June of the following year to prevent fish stranding. The channel would operate as in the past by providing additional outlet capacity for Lake St. Martin, diverting water from the north basin of the lake to the Big Buffalo Lake area which flows to Buffalo Creek. The diverted water would flow into the lower Dauphin River upstream of the community of Dauphin River. A plan for the future use or decommissioning of the emergency outlet channel will be part of a future proposal for permanent additional outlet works.

Anyone likely to be affected by the above operation and who wishes to make a representation either for or against the proposal should contact the Department, in writing or by E-mail (bruce.webb@gov.mb.ca), not later than FEBRUARY 27, 2017. Further information is available from the Public Registries located at: Legislative Library, 200 Vaughan St., Winnipeg; Millennium Public Library, 4th Floor, 251 Donald St., Winnipeg; Online Registry: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/eal/registries/index.html> or by contacting Bruce Webb, Environmental Engineer.

Information submitted in response to this proposal is considered public information and will be made available to the proponent and placed on the public registry established in accordance with Section 17 of *The Environment Act*.

**Environmental Approvals Branch
Manitoba Sustainable Development**
123 Main Street, Suite 160
Winnipeg MB R3C 1A5
Toll Free: 1-800-282-8069
Fax: (204) 945-5229
Website: www.gov.mb.ca/sd/eal

For publication in:

**Winnipeg Free Press, Saturday, January 21, 2017
Interlake Spectator, Thursday, January 26, 2017**

