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June 10, 2019

**Re: Eagle Creek Colony
Technical Review - Response to Public Concerns**

Dear Mr. Malinowski;

In response to concerns expressed by the public we have prepared this letter in consultation with the proponent in order to address the concerns expressed.

Concern #1 – Raymond and Joanne Dueck

We are writing in concern to the expansion of Eagle Creek Colony Ltd. adding 75,000 broiler chickens to their operation. (TRC 12-052)

We live a 1/2 mile south of Eagle Creek Colony and our concern is the smell on our property. Will there be anything in place to help with odor control?

Thank-you for hearing our concern,
Raymond and Joanne Dueck

Response #1 – The proposed broiler barn will incorporate a dry manure handling system incorporating straw bedding as a means to maintain favourable growing conditions for the poultry. By maintaining dry manure the production of ammonia and hydrogen sulphide commonly associated with the odour production associated with wet or liquid manure is essentially eliminated. As the colony residential development is within the direct path of the proposed operation and the Dueck residence it is also the desire of the colony to minimize and even eliminate any potential odour impacts as they would be equally impacted.

A shelterbelt has been established surrounding the colony development. Although some significant growth has been established, further growth will help to mitigate odour transfer from the production barn by sheltering the facility from wind. Eagle Creek Colony has also indicated that they will avoid field storing the poultry manure in locations where prevailing winds will impact the Dueck residence. Similarly, when manure from the proposed operation is field applied, it will be incorporated as soon as practical to minimize any nuisance odours.

Concern #2 – Mathew Friesen

In regards to the Eagle Creek Colony proposal; I would like to express my opposition. There is a ravine directly to the southeast of the colony that is MWF land. I spend much time there hunting and hiking. Since the colony located across the road the once pristine ravine now smells strongly of hog manure. At times it is so strong that even with my poor sense of smell I cannot remain in the area. Further, when the colony is emptying the lagoon, the manure pipeline is often stretched across roads in the area, blocking traffic.

I was profoundly disappointed and amazed to find that a large livestock operation was allowed so close to a ravine in the first place. To expand it would be compounding the error. Surely the colony could find a location further from an amazing, unspoiled habitat.

Thank you,

Matthew Friesen
Miami MB

Response #2 – The proposed broiler barn is not intended to produce any liquid manure thus having no further impact on the existing earthen manure storage. As indicated in Response #1, it is expected and essential for animal health that the manure will be dry and the production of ammonia and hydrogen sulphide that are associated with odour production will be minimal. Field storage of the manure produced by the operation will be well separated from the ravine identified by Mr. Friesen in order to mitigate any concerns over runoff and will therefore also coincidentally minimize the potential of odour impacts.

Unfortunately, emptying of the earthen manure storage associated with the hog operation occurs in late fall when hunting activity is most prominent. Agitation of the contents of the earthen manure storage to re-suspend solids in the manure is essential to retaining the available storage capacity. It is this agitation that results in more intense odours as ammonia and hydrogen sulphide are released from the liquid mass. As the only means to mitigate the odour production during this period of activity is to limit the duration, the colony does endeavor to undertake the application and agitation procedures as quickly as possible as these odours also impact the colony residential development. The colony has also undertaken to utilize enzyme treatment of the manure from the hog operation to reduce manure solids and have noted that there has been a notable reduction in manure gases as a result.

Further development and growth of the shelterbelt that has been planted is also anticipated to decrease the movement of odours by protecting the surface of the earthen manure storage from prevailing winds.

Closing:

The proponent would like to thank those who took the time to express their concerns and give us the opportunity to provide additional insight into the type of operation which is expected to be established. Numerous other broiler barn sites have been developed within the province within much closer proximity to neighbours and have co-existed in harmony. Eagle Creek Colony intends to operate and manage the facility in a professional and responsible manner protecting both the environment and respecting adjacent land owners and nearby communities.