

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROponent: Clearwater Holding Co.
PROPOSAL NAME: Clearwater Colony Wastewater Treatment Lagoon
CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: 2
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: Waste/Scrap Wastewater Treatment Lagoon
CLIENT FILE NO.: 2797.00

OVERVIEW:

On March 14, 2001, the Department received a Proposal from Cochrane Engineering Ltd. on behalf of Clearwater Holding Co for a Development to construct and operate a new wastewater treatment lagoon. The lagoon facility will be located on the northeast quarter of Section 3-15-2 EPM. The treated wastewater will be discharged twice annually to a road ditch system which drains south and east into Stolars Drain, which empties into Wavey Creek about 1.6 kilometres further south. Wavey Creek joins Netley Creek, which discharges into the Red River.

The Department, on March 19, 2001, placed copies of the Proposal in the Public Registries located at 123 Main St. (Union Station), the Centennial Public Library and the Selkirk Community Library in Selkirk. As well, copies of the Proposal were provided to the Interdepartmental Planning Board and TAC members. The Department placed a public notification of the Proposal in the Stonewall Argus & Teulon Times on Monday, March 26, 2001. The newspaper and TAC notification invited responses until April 19, 2001.

On June 13, 2001, the Department received a revised Proposal from Cochrane Engineering Ltd. on behalf of Clearwater Holding Co to alter the proposed discharge route from surface discharge to irrigation onto agricultural land. The Proponent was requested to provide additional information respecting this alteration on July 11, 2001.

On November 9, 2001, the Department received a notice from Cochrane Engineering Ltd. on behalf of Clearwater Holding Co to revert to the original Proposal filed March 14, 2001. Additional information requested from the original advertisement was provided June 21, 2002.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

One telephone response was received to the public notification. The following are comments/concerns related to the proposal:

Hilary Versavel, Stonewall

- *Lagoons don't work in Manitoba.*
- *The standards for lagoon effluent quality are not stringent enough.*
- *There are already too many lagoons discharging into surface water in the area.*

Disposition:

- A copy of the Draft Manitoba Water Quality Standards, Objectives and Guidelines and a copy of the Draft Nutrient Management Strategy were sent to Ms. Versavel and she was invited to participate in the review process.
- The draft Licence includes a clause requiring the participation of the Licencee in any future watershed-based nutrient management plan for the Wavey Creek - Netley Creek watershed.

COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Agriculture

Agriculture expressed concerns with the revised proposal for land irrigation of effluent. The proposal was subsequently reverted to the original, advertised, proposal. The additional information was forwarded to Agriculture for comment:

- *No comment.*

Conservation – Programs

- *Is the proposed discharge route new, or is it essentially the same as the current discharge route?*
- *The diagrams do not show where the existing lagoon is located.*
- *Will the wastewater still enter settling tanks prior to being pumped into the new facility? If it is the intention of the proponent to remove or bypass the settling tanks it should be noted in the proposal since this has the potential to affect the quality of the effluent.*
- *The proposal estimates the flow in Wavey Creek to be between 250 and 300 L/sec. If this is considered the average or usual flow in the Creek, why then is a flow value of 270 L/sec used in the "worst case" scenario presented in Table 2?*
- *Details concerning the decommissioning of the old lagoon should be dealt with in a separate proposal.*
- *The proponent may be asked to participate in a watershed-based nutrient management plan should one be developed for the Wavey Creek - Netley Creek watershed in the future.*

Disposition:

- The discharge route from the current lagoon is the same as that from the proposed lagoon.
- A drawing was provided showing the location of the existing lagoon.

- The wastewater currently is being discharged directly to a new lift station. The housing units at the Colony did not have septic tanks as previously indicated; the earlier reference to settling tanks was the result of a misunderstanding. The proposed new lagoon is designed to accommodate the wastewater without the need for any pretreatment.
- Additional information pertaining to the calculation of flow in Wavey Creek was provided by the Proponent.
- The draft Licence includes clauses requiring the proponent to submit to the Director for approval a decommissioning plan for the existing lagoon, and to carry out the decommissioning plan as approved by the Director.
- The draft Licence includes a clause requiring the participation of the Licencee in any future watershed-based nutrient management plan for the Wavey Creek - Netley Creek watershed.

Conservation – Regional Operations

- *The proposal indicates that wastewater discharged into the system will be limited to domestic sources only. This Colony may do some processing of geese in the fall. Has all of the processing that may be carried out on the colony in addition to the domestic waste been taken into account for the design?*
- *Ditches along the discharge route should be properly sloped to ensure wastewater flows along the route properly and does not stagnate in the ditches.*
- *Drawing No. G05 does not indicate the location of neighbouring residences along the discharge route. Residents along the discharge route should be informed of the proposal.*

Disposition:

- The Proponent indicated that the Colony does not raise geese nor are they planning to do so. The draft Licence restricts wastewater discharged to the lagoon to domestic wastewater.
- The Proponent provided information obtained during the spring discharge of the current lagoon facility. The effluent flowed along the discharge route to Wavey Creek.

Conservation - Sustainable Resource Management

Comments received after TAC response close date:

- *There are no concerns with this proposal.*
- *The new wastewater system could be further improved with the addition of a third "polishing" cell that would remove nutrients flowing into Wavey Creek which is used by fish stocks from both Lake Winnipeg and the Red River.*

Disposition:

- None required.

Culture, Heritage and Tourism - Historic Resources

- *No concerns.*

Health

- *No comment.*

Highways and Government Services

- *No concerns. >100 metres from PTH 7.*

Intergovernmental Affairs

- *Besides recommending that the applicant obtain a Conditional Use approval for the new wastewater treatment lagoon, our office has no concerns.*

Disposition:

- The Proponent indicated that the appropriate arrangement will be made.

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency

- *An environmental assessment of the project under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act will not be necessary.*

PUBLIC HEARING:

A public hearing is not recommended.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Proponent should be issued a Licence for the construction and operation of the wastewater treatment lagoon in accordance with the specifications, terms and conditions of the attached draft Licence. Enforcement of the Licence should be assigned to the Approvals Branch until the soil testing has been completed.

PREPARED BY:

Siobhan Burland, EIT, M. Eng.
Municipal, Industrial and Hazardous Waste Approvals
August 9, 2002

Telephone: (204) 945-7012
Fax: (204) 945-5229
E-mail Address: sburland@gov.mb.ca