

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPONENT: Rural Municipality of South Norfolk
PROPOSAL NAME: Rathwell Water Treatment Plant Upgrade
CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: One
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: Waste Disposal - Water Treatment Plants
(Wastewater)
CLIENT FILE NO.: 4832.00

OVERVIEW:

The Proposal was received on July 5, 2002. It was dated July 4, 2002. The advertisement of the proposal was as follows:

“A Proposal has been filed by Cochrane Engineering Ltd. on behalf of the R.M. of South Norfolk for the construction and operation of upgraded water treatment facilities for the community of Rathwell. The upgrades include a new oxidation and filtration system, and a replacement chlorination system. The capacity of the upgraded plant would remain at approximately 0.3 litres per second, which will accommodate the Village’s demands to the year 2021. Filter backwash water from the plant would be discharged to a settling tank and evaporation field. Construction of the facilities is proposed to begin in the fall of 2002.”

The Proposal was advertised in the Treherne Times on Monday, August 12, 2002. It was placed in the Main, Centennial, Eco-Network and Portage la Prairie City Library public registries. It was also placed in the R. M. of South Norfolk office as a public registry. The Proposal was distributed to TAC members on August 2, 2002. The closing date for comments from members of the public and TAC members was September 9, 2002.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No public comments were received.

COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Manitoba Conservation – Sustainable Resource Management - Upgrade of the pump and pressure control equipment should be included as part of the general upgrade of this facility. If possible, a laboratory-office area separated from the operating and chemical storage area with separate ventilation should be provided. This should also include a test bench and sink area. A review and possible upgrade of the test equipment may be desirable to ensure that the operator is provided with the required tools to monitor and adjust the treatment process.

Raw and treated water samples should be submitted to an accredited laboratory for complete chemical analysis on a regular basis.

...2

A species of concern (Annual Skeletonweed) has been identified in the vicinity of the proposed development. The proponent should contact the Biodiversity Conservation Section of the Wildlife Branch to ensure that development activities do not impact this species.

Disposition:

Comments respecting equipment and building configuration were provided to the Proponent's consultant for information. Water sampling of raw and treated water is routinely done at all water treatment plants through Public Health Act requirements. The comment concerning Annual Skeletonweed was forwarded to the Proponent's consultant for followup. Some contact with the Biodiversity Conservation Section has already occurred.

Historic Resources Branch - No concerns.

Soils and Crops Branch - No concerns.

Medical Officer of Health – Assiniboine and Brandon RHAs - Although treated water samples have been satisfactory, raw water results show poor microbiological quality. In addition, high heterotrophic plate counts indicate a potential concern warranting improvement. The proposed upgrades are warranted and appropriate given the above comment.

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency - Western Economic Diversification has provided notification that an environmental assessment under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act with respect to this project will be required. (The Responsible Authority is Western Economic Diversification, represented by PFRA.) Environment Canada and Health Canada have offered to provide specialist advice. No federal agencies indicated an interest in participating in the provincial assessment of the proposal.

PUBLIC HEARING:

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

RECOMMENDATION:

All comments received on the Proposal can be addressed through regulatory requirements or procedures, or have been forwarded to the Proponent's consultant for information. 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 Red River Region.

PREPARED BY:

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Environmental Approvals - Environmental Land Use Approvals

November 25, 2002

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