

File No. 1069.10

April 14, 2022

Chris Carroll, P.Eng., Manager
Wastewater Services Division
City of Winnipeg
109-1199 Pacific Avenue
Winnipeg MB RE3 3S8
ccarroll@winnipeg.ca

Dear Chris Carroll:

**Re: South End Water Pollution Control Centre (SEWPCC) - Environment Act
Licence No. 2716 RR - Notice of Alteration Response**

This letter is in response to your notice of alteration, dated February 25, 2022, in accordance with Section 14 of The Environment Act, for the South End Water Pollution Control Centre operating under Environment Act Licence No. 2716 RR (licence).

The notice you provided summarizes a history of multiple extensions made by the City of Winnipeg (City). The extensions were requested due to the City's inability to meet its deadlines for achieving the 1.0 mg/L phosphorous limit in effluent, completing upgrades, and compliance planning. The current request outlines further delays in upgrading the facility. It deviates from the approved commissioning sequence and seeks to revise compliance dates as follows:

- start demonstration testing and seeding of the biological nutrient removal process on or around June 6, 2022, instead of January 10, 2022
- compliance with the licence limit for phosphorus and total nitrogen under average flow conditions by August 29, 2022, instead of March 29, 2022
- compliance with all licence effluent limits for all flow conditions by September 30, 2022, instead of July 31, 2022
- full licence compliance by July 31, 2023, instead of January 31, 2023

The City's lack of control over the project and routinely missed deadlines is increasingly concerning. The department has granted multiple extensions that incorporated sufficient time to address the complications raised in the most recent notice of alteration, including poor weather, challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and other issues. Therefore, this notice of alteration is denied.

The expectation is that the City will complete the upgrades under the currently approved timeline. No further extensions will be issued.

The City of Winnipeg had originally planned to have the South End plant completed in 2012. Repeated delays to this project have increased risks to environmental and human health, and this is not acceptable. The department of Environment, Climate and Parks expects that the City will prioritize this project and come into environmental compliance.

As noted above, the department acknowledges delays and accepts the submission as a compliance plan. The City is required to do the following:

1. meet the phosphorous and total nitrogen limits, specified in Clause 28 of Licence No. 2716 RR, complete the upgrades, and achieve full licence compliance
2. continue to submit monthly and quarterly progress reports
3. identify and describe all measures taken to prevent further delays in the monthly and quarterly progress reports

Should you have any technical questions regarding this response, please contact Bereket Assefa, Senior Environmental Engineer, Environmental Approvals Branch, at 204-330-4613 or Bereket.Assefa@gov.mb.ca.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

James Capotosto
Director

- c. Moira Geer, Cynthia Wiebe, Linda McCusker, Colin Javra, Michelle Paetkau –
City of Winnipeg
Nicole Armstrong – Water Science and Watershed Management
Kristal Harman – Environmental Compliance and Enforcement
Siobhan Burland Ross – Environmental Approvals
Public Registry