

## **Environment and Climate Change**

Environmental Approvals Branch Box 35, 14 Fultz Boulevard Winnipeg MB R3Y 0L6 T 204-945-8321 F 204-945-5229 EABDirector@gov.mb.ca

File No.: 1071.10

July 15, 2024

Tim Shanks
Director
Water and Waste
2nd Floor, 510 Main Street
City of Winnipeg
Winnipeg MB R3B 1B9
tshanks@winnipeg.ca

Dear Tim Shanks:

Re: Response to the North End Water Pollution Control Centre (NEWPCC)
Upgrade Plan Update submission - Environment Act Licence No. 2684 RRR

Thank you for your submission of the updated version of the NEWPCC Upgrade Plan Update received on February 23, 2024. The upgrades are a requirement under the licence and this updated version was provided in response to the department's letter dated February 9, 2024, requesting revisions of the update report submitted on December 29, 2023.

Manitoba Environment and Climate Change has reviewed the NEWPCC Upgrade Plan Update submission. After assessing the impacts of the proposed extended timelines listed within the submission and the likely effect on the environment, the department has determined not to approve the NEWPCC Upgrade Plan Update submission. In particular, the department cannot accept the City of Winnipeg's proposal to extend the deadline for completion by two years at this time.

In the department's view, it is important that the initial stages of the project proceed with a level of engineering design and scoping that allows meaningful funding discussions and a meaningful evaluation of schedule risks. In the course of those discussions, the department may be prepared to re-evaluate the project completion date.

You stated in the recent quarterly and monthly progress reports for NEWPCC upgrades that the City of Winnipeg targeted completion dates for updating the enhanced preliminary design (EPD) for the Nutrient Removal Facilities is June 30, 2024, and for revising the Class 3 cost estimate is September 30, 2024. It is critical that these milestones are met to continue moving forward to completion of the upgrades.

You are hereby required to submit a confirmation letter to the department by December 15, 2024, that the enhanced preliminary design (EPD) for the Nutrient Removal Facilities and revised Class 3 cost estimate of that design are completed. The department requires you to work toward meeting your targeted project milestones of the multiyear upgrade plan for the NEWPCC on schedule. This requirement has been forwarded to our Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch for follow-up.

The City of Winnipeg should not pause any upgrade work related to the NEWPCC project. The City of Winnipeg is required to continue to provide regular monthly and quarterly updates as requested previously.

If you have any additional questions or would like to discuss this matter further, please contact me at <a href="mailto:EABDirector@gov.mb.ca">EABDirector@gov.mb.ca</a> or 204-945-8321.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By Agnes Wittmann Director The Environment Act

c. Sherwood Armbruster, Cynthia Wiebe – City of Winnipeg Yvonne Hawryliuk, Neil Rentz, Kristy Forrestall – Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Kelly-Anne Richmond – Water Science and Watershed Management Siobhan Burland Ross, Barsha Sagan – Environmental Approvals Public Registry