



**Conservation and Water Stewardship**

Environmental Stewardship Division  
Environmental Approvals Branch  
123 Main Street, Suite 160, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 1A5  
T 204 945-8321 F 204 945-5229  
[www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/eal](http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/eal)

**File: 3087.10**

April 8, 2014

Walter Gross  
Whiteshell Colony  
General Delivery  
Rover Hills, MB R0E 1T0

Dear Mr. Gross:

**Re: Whiteshell Colony Wastewater Treatment Lagoon Discharge Alteration –  
Environment Act Proposal**

The initial review of the Whiteshell Colony wastewater treatment lagoon discharge alteration Environment Act Proposal (EAP) has been completed.

The review has generated requests for additional information. Please address and provide responses to the comments from the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the public that are presented in the attached items. The EAP review process will continue upon receipt of your response.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 204-945-7012.

Yours truly,

*“original signed by”*

Jennifer Winsor, P.Eng.  
Environmental Approvals Branch

Enclosures

- c. Jason Bunn, P.Eng. - WSP  
Public Registries

**Manitoba**



**Infrastructure and Transportation**

Highway Planning and Design Branch  
Environmental Services Section  
1420 - 215 Garry St., Winnipeg, MB R3C 3P3  
T (204) 819-4359 F (204) 945-0593

January 24, 2014

Tracey Braun, M. Sc.  
Director, Environmental Approvals Branch  
Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship  
123 Main St., Suite 160  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 1A5

RE: Whiteshell Colony WWTL  
Client File No. 3087.10

Dear Ms. Braun:

MIT has reviewed the proposal under the Environment Act noted above and we do not have any concern.

Thank you very much for providing us the opportunity to review the proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Coulter", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Ryan Coulter, M. Sc., P. Eng.  
Manager of Environmental Services

**Winsor, Jennifer (CWS)**

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**Subject:** FW: Request for TAC Review/Comments - Whiteshell Colony WWTL - File: 3087.10

Hello:

Wildlife Branch has no comments on this file.

Thank you.

Caroline Boissonneault

Conservation and Water Stewardship

Wildlife Branch

Tel.: 204-945-6810

[Caroline.boissonneault@gov.mb.ca](mailto:Caroline.boissonneault@gov.mb.ca)

**Winsor, Jennifer (CWS)**

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**From:** Stibbard, James (CWS)  
**Sent:** February-04-14 9:32 AM  
**To:** Winsor, Jennifer (CWS)  
**Subject:** Re: 3087.10 Whiteshell Colony WW Lagoon Discharge EAL Application

Ms. Winsor,

I reviewed the above noted application for modification of EAL and found no concerns respecting drinking water safety in it.

If you have any questions, please call.

Regards,

**James Stibbard P. Eng.**

Approvals Engineer

Office of Drinking Water

1007 Century Street

Winnipeg MB R3H 0W4

phone: (204) 945-5949

fax: (204) 945-1365

email: [James.Stibbard@gov.mb.ca](mailto:James.Stibbard@gov.mb.ca)

website: [www.manitoba.ca/drinkingwater](http://www.manitoba.ca/drinkingwater)

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**From:** Molod, Rommel (CWS)  
**Sent:** January-31-14 1:39 PM  
**To:** Winsor, Jennifer (CWS)  
**Cc:** Streich, Laurie (CWS)  
**Subject:** FW: Request for TAC Review/Comments - Whiteshell Colony WWTL - File: 3087.10

Jennifer, Air Quality has reviewed the above proposal and have no comment. The proposal has no significant impact on air quality.

Thank you for the opportunity to review.  
Rommel

**From:** Kubish, Cheryl (OFC)  
**Sent:** January-30-14 9:03 AM  
**To:** Winsor, Jennifer (CWS)  
**Subject:** RE: Request for TAC Review/Comments - Whiteshell Colony WWTL - File: 3087.10

The Office of the Fire Commissioner has no concerns or comments on the proposed alterations to the waste water treatment lagoon.

Cheryl Kubish  
Administrative Assistant  
Office of the Fire Commissioner  
508-401 York Avenue  
Winnipeg MB R3C 0P8  
Phone: 945-3328  
Fax: 948-2089

E-Mail address: [Cheryl.Kubish@gov.mb.ca](mailto:Cheryl.Kubish@gov.mb.ca)

**Winsor, Jennifer (CWS)**

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**Subject:** Request for TAC Review/Comments - Whiteshell Colony WWTL - File: 3087.10

Land Management & Planning Section has no comment as the surface ownership is privately held.

Dale Sobkowich  
Lands Branch

**From:** Janusz, Laureen R (CWS)  
**Sent:** February-05-14 9:56 AM  
**To:** Winsor, Jennifer (CWS)  
**Cc:** Kroeker, Derek (CWS); Long, Jeff (CWS)  
**Subject:** EAP 3087.10 Whiteshell Colony WWTL due Feb. 5, 2014

**Importance:** High

Hi Jennifer,

Fisheries Branch has reviewed this request to construct a discharge pipe and discharge treated effluent to an existing ravine which discharges to the Whitemouth River. Discharge to surface water would occur when discharge via irrigation by injection into agricultural land cannot occur as was the situation in 2013. The proponent indicates that they would trickle discharge over a period of two to four weeks between June 15<sup>th</sup> and November 1<sup>st</sup>. In 2013 when an emergency discharge was required the average discharge rate was 3.8 L/s over the two week period. They indicate that based on historical flow data from a gauging station on the Whitemouth River under mean and minimum monthly flows the effluent would represent 0.0082% and 0.9% of the flows based on a discharge rate of 2.7 L/s (maximum volume 3,268 m<sup>3</sup>).

The proponent has highlighted the fact that carmine shiner are present in the Whitemouth River. The Whitemouth River in fact supports a unique assemblage of fish species including the carmine shiner. It is very important that any effluent to surface water meets or exceeds the Manitoba Water Quality Standards Objectives and Guidelines. While we defer to the recommendations of our colleagues in Water Science Management we would be very supportive of the inclusion of a monitoring clause that requires the proponent to sample upstream and downstream of the discharge site during the discharge period and would include parameters such as TSS, phosphorous and ammonia.

We would also like to see erosion and sediment control measures implemented during the construction of the discharge pipe and outlet and until the area has been stabilized.

We've been requesting that the following clause be included in licences to reduce the potential to introduce or spread aquatic and terrestrial invasive species:

The Licencee shall, during construction and maintenance of the Development, prevent the introduction and spread of foreign aquatic and terrestrial biota by cleaning equipment prior to its delivery to the site of the Development.

Thanks Jennifer.

Laureen Janusz  
Fisheries Science and Fish Culture Section  
Fisheries Branch  
Conservation and Water Stewardship  
Phone: 204 945-7789  
Cell: 204 793-1154  
Email: [Laureen.Janusz@gov.mb.ca](mailto:Laureen.Janusz@gov.mb.ca)



## **Winsor, Jennifer (CWS)**

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**From:** Vivekananda, Prashanna (MLG)  
**Sent:** February-05-14 3:20 PM  
**To:** Winsor, Jennifer (CWS)  
**Cc:** Sumner, Kevan (MLG)  
**Subject:** RE: Request for TAC Review/Comments - Whiteshell Colony WWTL - File: 3087.10 - Comment deadline: Feb. 5, 2014

Dear Jennifer Winsor,

I have reviewed the EA on behalf of Community and Regional Planning.

The lands appear to be zoned A80 under the Whitemouth Zoning By-Law and designated Rural Mixed Use 2 in the Whitemouth Reynolds Planning District Development Plan.

Please note that the following policies under the Provincial Planning Regulations of the Planning Act discuss this sort of development:

5.1.1 Water bodies, groundwater and riparian areas must be identified and protected from the risks associated with development. In particular, land uses, activities and developments that have a high risk of causing pollution, such as disposal fields, fuel tanks, waste disposal grounds, lagoons and chemical and fertilizer storage facilities, must be considered and prevented or suitably mitigated.

5.1.2 In order to ensure water quality is protected, development in or near water bodies or riparian areas must not be permitted if the development may result in

- a) the contribution of nutrients, deleterious chemicals or materials to water bodies or a riparian area;
- b) an acceleration of erosion or bank instability;
- c) the removal of natural vegetative cover; or
- d) an impact on any in-stream flows needed to maintain a healthy aquatic ecosystem.

However, we have no concerns.

**Prashanna Vivekananda**  
Community Planner  
Community and Regional Planning - Beausejour Regional Office  
Manitoba Municipal Government  
PO Box 50, 125 - 20 First Street  
Beausejour, MB ROE OCO  
Ph: (204) 268-6065  
Fx: (204) 268-6007  
Email: [prashanna.vivekananda@gov.mb.ca](mailto:prashanna.vivekananda@gov.mb.ca)

**From:** Kaita, Adara (CWS) on behalf of +WPG1212 - Conservation\_Circulars (CWS)  
**Sent:** February-04-14 10:54 AM  
**To:** Winsor, Jennifer (CWS)  
**Subject:** EA Proposal - Whiteshell Colony WWTL - File: 3087.10

Hello Jennifer,

The Protected Areas Initiative has no concerns. The Lands Branch notes that the applicant identifies the NE 33-12-11E as the proposed discharge route. The colony has provided a Certificate of title to SE 33-12-11E, however it appears that the NE is also private land. Confirmation is required to determine if the Colony is owner of the NE quarter.

Thank you for the opportunity to review.

**Adara Kaita**

Crown Land Programs and Policy Manager  
Conservation and Water Stewardship  
Box 25, 200 Saulteaux Crescent  
Winnipeg, MB R3J 3W3  
Cell: (204) 945-6301  
F: (204) 948-2197

DATE: January 30, 2014

TO: Jennifer Winsor  
Environmental Approvals  
Conservation and Water Stewardship  
123 Main St Suite 160 (Box 80)  
Winnipeg MB R3C 1A5

FROM: Environmental Compliance and Enforcement  
Conservation and Water Stewardship  
Unit B – 284 Reimer Avenue  
Steinbach MB R5G 0R5

**SUBJECT: Environment Act Proposal – Whiteshell Holding Co. Ltd. – Wastewater Treatment Lagoon Discharge Alteration (Client File No. 3087.10; EA Licence # 1377)**

Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (Eastern Region) has reviewed the above noted Environment Act Proposal (EAP). Please find the following comments regarding the proposal.

1) Regarding available land for Manure and Effluent Application

Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch requests confirmation that the proponent has enough agricultural land on which to apply both the wastewater effluent and livestock manure generated with respect to nutrient management.

2) Regarding Section 2.6 Effluent Quality and Discharge Route

The proponent has opted to implement a nutrient reduction strategy (Trickle Discharge) instead of a 1mg/L Phosphorus limit. It is proposed to trickle discharge the storage cells over a two to four week period. Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch requests that the proponent clarify that the existing primary cell has adequate hydraulic capacity to accommodate incoming wastewater over the entire isolation, sampling and discharge period.

3) Regarding Section 3.1 Sources of Wastewater

Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch is aware that the applicant operates industrial facilities at the site, including a poultry processing plant. As such, we request confirmation that the additional hydraulic and organic loading from this operation were accounted for in the capacity calculations.

4) Regarding Section 4.0 Proposed Development

This section of the proposal indicates the applicant wishes to "maintain their current ability to discharge by irrigation (injection) to their agricultural land." This section also indicates that irrigation takes place after crops have been harvested in the fall. However, Clause 8 of their current Environment Act Licence requires that all treated effluent be disposed of by spray irrigation, and if it is to be applied to crop land, it can only be discharged to actively growing cereal, forage or oil seed crops, or to agricultural crops where irrigation does not take place during or for at least 7 days prior to harvesting of the crops. The current licence does not allow for application of the effluent to agricultural land after harvest, or application by injection.

From: Bruce Pihulak & Louise Fortier  
To: Jennifer Winsor

Re: Whiteshell Holding Co., Ltd. -Wastewater Treatment Lagoon Discharge Alteration -  
File: 3087.10

We've had a chance to review the Whiteshell Holding Co. Ltd. proposal and would like to raise the following concerns regarding the decline in the quality of the drinking water from the Winnipeg River for the past twenty years.

My family has lived on the west side of the Winnipeg River since 1971 approximately 2 1/2 miles north of the Whitemouth Falls. We were drinking the water directly from the Winnipeg River like all of the neighbors who lived along the river. The neighborhood saw an increase in the development of water co-ops during the 1980's in Awanipark, Southwood Bay, Pihulak Drive and later the Brookfield water co-op. The Winnipeg River became the main source of the drinking water for the area.

We started to question the safety of our own drinking water following a number of issues. During the spring run off or if there was a heavy rain in the area, we began to notice the smell of manure in the water when taking a shower. Water samples of the Winnipeg River in 2002 and 2006 also failed to meet the drinking water standards for total coliform and e. coli. Faced with this information, we decided to put a treated water system into our home in 2006 with a value in excess of \$2,000.00. Today there continues to be a lot of questions about the safety of the drinking water with neighbors buying bottled water because they no longer feel it is safe to drink the water directly from the Winnipeg River.

We realize that the Whiteshell Holding Co. Ltd. is looking for a solution to their problem. The Winnipeg River, on the other hand, continues to be an important source of water in the home and for recreation. The Whitemouth River has become an important factor in this scenario because it flows directly into the Winnipeg River. We hope that the Environmental Approvals Branch will consider the impact of the proposal on the Winnipeg River when making their decision.