



Sustainable Development

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

File: 4095.10

August 9, 2016

Ms. Jennifer Blatz
Chief Administrative Officer
Rural Municipality of Ste. Anne
Box 6, Grp50, RR1
Ste. Anne MB R5H 1R1

Dear Ms. Blatz:

**Re: Ste. Anne Wastewater Treatment Lagoon – Cattail Bio-Platform Pilot Project
Environment Act Licence No. 2849 R**

This is in response to your June 27, 2016 letter requesting an alteration to exempt the above facility from the 1 mg/L phosphorus limit in the above noted Licence during the proposed cattail pilot project.

The request does not discuss why the limit needs to be removed during the trial, and is not specific about whether the request applies to the entire trial period or only to the summers of 2018 and 2019. Further, the request does not describe the anticipated environmental effects of the requested alteration.

From the description of the operation of the trial, it appears that there is no need to modify the effluent requirements of the licence. The facility is a truck haul only facility that is not discharged regularly. Harvesting for the cattail pilot project will be completed each year by early fall. If a fall discharge from the facility is needed, there will be time to test the secondary cell for licence parameters including phosphorus, treat the cell to precipitate the phosphorus, and discharge before the October 31 cutoff date. During the following cattail growing season, the secondary cell will be filling with effluent which has not had the phosphorus removed. The pilot project appears to be entirely compatible with the existing licence limits.

We anticipate that the small size of the trial (250 m²) will result in minimal changes in the phosphorus content of the secondary cell of the facility. Accordingly, we anticipate that the environmental effects of the proposed trial will be insignificant. Approval is hereby given pursuant to Section 14 (2) of *The Environment Act* to implement the trial for the period 2017 – 2019, with no changes in the effluent limits contained in Clause 31 of the above Licence.

We note that any application of composed cattail biomass to agricultural land must comply with the requirements of the Nutrient Management Regulation (Manitoba Regulation 62/2008).

Should you have any questions concerning this approval, please contact Bruce Webb of this office at Bruce.Webb@gov.mb.ca.

Yours sincerely,

“original signed by”

Tracey Braun, M.Sc.
Director

- c. Gavin van der Linde, Eco-West
Don Labossiere/Donna Smiley/Diane Oertel/Justin Paille, Environmental Compliance and Enforcement
Nicole Armstrong, Water Science and Management
Public Registries