

## **SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROPONENT:** Rural Municipality of Miniota  
**NAME OF DEVELOPMENT:** Rural Municipality of Miniota Wastewater Treatment Lagoon Expansion  
**CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT:** Two  
**TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT:** Wastewater Treatment Lagoon  
**CLIENT FILE NO.:** 4884.10

### **OVERVIEW**

The Proposal was received on March 21, 2014. It was dated March 11, 2014. The advertisement of the proposal was as follows:

“A Proposal has been filed by WSP Canada Inc. on behalf of the Rural Municipality of Miniota for an expansion of the Miniota wastewater treatment lagoon. The facility is located in NE 25-13-27W, which is southwest of the community of Miniota. The project would involve the expansion of the facility’s existing primary cell on the east side and the construction of an additional secondary cell to the south of the existing facility. Discharges of treated effluent from the facility would continue to occur between June 15 and October 31, and would continue to be made to a drain leading to the Assiniboine River. Construction of the expansion is proposed to take place in the late summer and fall of 2014.”

The Proposal was advertised in the Virden Empire-Advance on Friday, April 11, 2014. It was placed in the Legislative Library, Millennium Public Library (Winnipeg) and online public registries. The Proposal was distributed to TAC members on April 4, 2014. The closing date for comments from members of the public and TAC members was May 12, 2014.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

No public comments were received.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

#### **Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Environmental Compliance and Enforcement**

No comments.

**Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Environmental Programs and Strategies Branch, Air Quality Section**

- The proposal is not expected to have a significant impact on air quality
- The odour clause is suggested to be included in the Licence.

Disposition:

This suggestion can be included as a licence condition.

**Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Lands Branch**

No concerns with the proposal since the parcel is under private ownership.

**Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Parks and Protected Spaces Branch**

No comments or concerns to offer as it does not affect any provincial parks, park reserves, ecological reserves, areas of special interest, or proposed protected areas.

**Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Wildlife Branch**

No concerns or any further comments.

**Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Water Science and Management Branch, Water Quality Management Section**

- The following effluent standards should be in place for the RM of Miniota wastewater treatment facility as per the *Manitoba Water Quality Standards, Objectives and Guidelines Regulation* (196/2011).
  - BOD<sub>5</sub> 25 mg/L
  - TSS 25 mg/L
  - Fecal Coliforms 200 MPN / 100mL
  - Total phosphorus <1 mg/L or demonstrated nutrient reduction strategy.
- The *Manitoba Water Quality Standards, Objectives and Guidelines Regulation* requires new or expanding wastewater treatment facilities to meet a <1 mg/L phosphorus limit or implement a nutrient reduction strategy. The effluent standards of the RM of Miniota wastewater treatment facility should not allow discharge where the total phosphorus content of the effluent is in excess of 1 milligram per litre or demonstrate the effectiveness of trickle discharge to <1 mg/L phosphorus limit at the outlet of where the Proponent has control of the discharge water.

- The Water Quality Management Section is concerned with any discharges that have the potential to impact the aquatic environment and/or restrict present and future uses of the water. Therefore it is recommended that the license require the proponent to actively participate in any future watershed based management study, plan/or nutrient reduction program, approved by the Director.

Disposition:

These comments can be addressed in licence conditions. Because the discharge route for the facility is short and has a significant slope, it is unlikely that phosphorus can be adequately removed between the wastewater treatment lagoon and the receiving waterway. As a result, a phosphorus limit will be applied at the lagoon rather than at the end of the discharge route.

**Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Office of Drinking Water**

The only concern ODW would have with this lagoon expansion would be that, in the event of a major spill of untreated or semi-treated water into the Assiniboine River, the City of Brandon water system raw water intake is downstream. ODW would recommend that contact information for the City of Brandon water plant be included in the Emergency Response Plan for the lagoon system with an instruction that, in the event of a major spill of wastewater from the lagoons, the Brandon Water Plant be notified. Beyond this point, ODW has no other concerns with this EAP.

Disposition:

This information was provided to the proponent's consultant for inclusion in the facility's emergency response plan.

**Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship - Water Use Licensing**

No concerns.

**Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Water Control Works and Drainage Licensing**

If, there is any drainage infrastructure associated with this expansion, then those works would have to be licensed – an application is attached for the proponent's convenience. Any inquiries in this regard may be directed to the local *Water Resource Officer*. Their contact information may be found at:

[http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/waterstewardship/licensing/pdf/areas\\_of\\_focus\\_jan\\_23\\_12.pdf](http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/waterstewardship/licensing/pdf/areas_of_focus_jan_23_12.pdf)

Otherwise, on behalf of the *Water Control Works and Drainage Licensing Section*, there are no concerns.

Disposition:

The existing discharge route will be used for the expanded facility, so no changes will be required.

**Manitoba Municipal Government – Community and Regional Planning Branch**

I have reviewed this Proposal on behalf of Community and Regional Planning. Sewage lagoons are listed as a conditional use in the “AG” Agricultural General Zone in the Rural Municipality of Miniota Zoning By-law. Expansion of the lagoon will require conditional use approval from the R.M. of Miniota council. If conditional use approval is granted, we have no other concerns with the Proposal.

Disposition:

This information was provided to the proponent’s consultant.

**Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation - Highway Planning and Design Branch, Environmental Services Section**

No concern.

**Manitoba Health – Medical Officer of Health**

No further concerns.

**Office of the Fire Commissioner**

No concerns or comments.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

No additional information was needed to address Technical Advisory Committee comments on the project.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

As no requests for a public hearing were made, a public hearing is not recommended.

## **CROWN-ABORIGINAL CONSULTATION**

The Government of Manitoba recognizes it has a duty to consult in a meaningful way with First Nations, Métis communities and other Aboriginal communities when any proposed provincial law, regulation, decision or action may infringe upon or adversely affect the exercise of a treaty or Aboriginal right of that First Nation, Métis community or other Aboriginal community.

The proposal involves the expansion of an existing wastewater treatment facility on agricultural land with no change in the effluent discharge route or effluent release pattern. Adverse effects on surface water or habitat for wildlife or fisheries are not anticipated.

Since resource use is not affected by the project, it is concluded that Crown-Aboriginal consultation is not required for the project.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

All comments received on the Proposal that require follow-up have been addressed through the provision of information to the proponent's consultant or can be addressed as licence conditions. Therefore, 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 retained by the Environmental Approvals Branch until construction is completed. After the facility becomes operational, the licence should be assigned to the Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch.

PREPARED BY:

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