



Section 11.0
Sustainable Development
Strategy

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

OlyWest fully supports the principles and guidelines of sustainable development as outlined in the document “Sustainable Development Strategy for Manitoba”. OlyWest recognizes that environmental stewardship, human health and social well-being need to be considered in concert with economic development to be compatible with *The Sustainable Development Act*.

11.1 PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

OlyWest is committed to the seven principles of sustainable development. OlyWest supports these principles recognizing that the goals of environmental protection, sustainable human health and social well-being are achievable without conflicting with the goal of economic development. Their commitment to each of the seven principles of sustainable development is outlined below:

1. Integration of Environmental and Economic Decisions

- Concerns and impacts related to the environment, human health and social well-being of the community will be integrated in all economic decisions, including the evaluation and design of the proposed facility right from the early planning stages
- Economic, human health and social consequences will be adequately taken into account for all environmental and health initiatives
- Regular assessment and review of Corporate Policy will be undertaken with the view of protection of the environment, human health and social well-being

2. Stewardship

- OlyWest commits to environmental stewardship, sustainable human health and social well-being for the equal benefit of present and future generations
- Sound environmental, human health and social practices are used in the design, construction and operation of the pork processing
- Recognition that in achieving economic goals, environmental stewardship, sustainable human health, and social well-being must be integrated into all aspects of business planning and operation

3. Shared Responsibility and Understanding

- OlyWest commits to adhering to all applicable laws, regulations and standards to maintain the economic, physical and social environments that all Manitobans share
- Proper and adequate education and training of employees will be provided in order to adhere to relevant laws, regulations and standards
- Commitment to understand, consider and respect differing economic, social, ethnic, or religious views, values, traditions, and aspirations
- OlyWest recognizes its responsibility to identify and correct situations that endanger human health, social well-being or safety of the environment; to this end, OlyWest will organize a joint Health and Safety Committee at the proposed facility

- Commitment to work with regulatory agencies, public officials and community organizations in the spirit of co-operation to further mutual concern for the environment, human health and social well-being

4. Prevention

- Utilization of industry leading technology and management practices to minimize adverse impacts to the environment, human health, social well-being, and the economy and implement mitigative measures when necessary

5. Conservation and Enhancement

- OlyWest has documented conservation practices in their policy manual which are to be reviewed annually
- Use of processed hogs on a sustainable yield basis
- Development and marketing of products which do not require materials from sensitive environments and minimize the utilization of non-renewable resources
- Support the use of process by-products for secondary uses (e.g. tallow is commonly used in cosmetics, candles, soaps, etc.)
- Minimize the use of products and materials that are hazardous
- Promotion of source reduction, waste minimization and recycling programs such as water recovery
- Consideration given to alternate forms of transportation such as rail
- The proposed processing facility and its operations are aligned with hog operations to reduce waste and conserve resources in the production of processed pork products
- Avoidance of environmentally sensitive areas to maintain ecological processes and enhance the long-term productive capability, quality and capacity of natural ecosystems

6. Rehabilitation and Reclamation

- Commitment to properly decommission the proposed processing facility and site
- Plan to restore damaged environments to beneficial uses

7. Global Responsibility

- OlyWest will consider and integrate global economic, ecological and social factors when making local decisions
- Commits to work with federal, provincial and local regulators to ensure needs of global environments are not compromised

11.2 FUNDAMENTAL GUIDELINES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

OlyWest recognizes the importance of the meat processing industry in Canada and the Province of Manitoba and the need to ensure the sustainability of its supply while preserving the environment's ability to provide associated resources for future generations. OlyWest also believes that by adding to Manitoba's existing meat processing industry, it contributes to the overall Manitoba economy and its competitiveness and prosperity. OlyWest commits to satisfy the six guidelines of sustainable development as outlined below:

1. Efficient Use of Resources

OlyWest endorses the integration of environmental, human health and social well-being with economic decision-making to make efficient use of resources. The facility will be designed incorporating "state of the art" energy efficient equipment to conserve resources where possible. Operational processes will be designed using the most industry advanced technology to maximize the efficient use of resources. Conservation of water resources will be enabled through a water recycling program whereby water used in the dehairing process will be recovered and used for washing the holding facility. As well, by constructing the proposed OlyWest pork processing facility in Winnipeg, it will be more accessible to its workforce, thereby minimizing the use of scarce fuel resources for transportation.

2. Public Participation

OlyWest is aware that the communities in the vicinity of the proposed site are unique and that their aspirations, needs and views must be considered. OlyWest is cognizant that it must share the environment with the local community and existing industries; and that working cooperatively is the key to a successful operation. OlyWest is committed to working with the community to the greatest extent possible and will strive to alleviate any concerns they may have.

Public participation has been a key ingredient in the assessment of the potential for a meat processing facility in Winnipeg, and is a vital component of the EA process. OlyWest has made every effort to address public concerns through Open Houses and the development of a website to facilitate an ongoing forum for community feedback. As well, a CAC was established to provide insight, offer advice, share information with the community, and gather concerns regarding the OlyWest proposal from a community perspective. More detailed information regarding Public Consultation is included in Section 12. As a concerned corporate citizen, OlyWest is committed to ongoing public communication to assure the community that they will be environmentally and socially responsible.

3. Access to Information

OlyWest is committed to the EA process as a way to supply accurate project information to the local community as well as to all interested individuals. The development of the OlyWest Proposal Environmental Assessment website has been an essential tool to facilitate this process. The website provides information on focal community concerns, CAC meeting minutes, Open House presentations and feedback, notice of upcoming events, as well as links to related sites, such as Manitoba Conservation and the CEC. In addition to participation in Open Houses and the establishment of the CAC, OlyWest will set up an office in the vicinity of the project area to provide the community convenient access to information. Upon completion, the EA along with the project proposal will be deposited with the local and central Public Registries to ensure the public is well informed about the project.

4. Integrated Decision Making and Planning

OlyWest and their representatives have participated in numerous meetings with the City of Winnipeg, Government officials, Manitoba Conservation, Business Community Leaders, local businesses in the St. Boniface Industrial Park, and local area residents. Their commitment to an efficient, accountable, detailed planning process which incorporates information gained from these communications reinforces their intention of being a long-term, profitable and responsible corporate citizen of Winnipeg.

5. Waste Minimization and Substitution

Waste minimization is an integral part of the proposed OlyWest pork processing facility operations. Accordingly, the facility will minimize its waste stream through recycling programs, source reduction and on-site wastewater pre-treatment prior to discharge into the City of Winnipeg sewer system. As an example, operation of the proposed OlyWest facility will include taking hogs off feed for at least 12 hours prior to transport to the processing facility thereby minimizing waste generation in the holding facility and throughout the process. Furthermore, the recovery and land application of the bedding material and manure solids to agricultural land as fertilizer reduces the amount of waste that would otherwise be destined for a landfill. Recycling of process waste streams where possible, such as inedible offal, bones, trimmings, blood, hair, and wastewater sludge using an on-site protein recycling facility, will produce marketable by-products, ensuring that the hogs are used to the maximum extent and not adding to waste generation. OlyWest has also committed to recycle process water from dehairing for washing the holding facility to minimize wastewater production. OlyWest's policy to minimize or substitute the use of scarce resources where environmentally sound and economically viable is part of their commitment to responsible resource management.

6. Research and Innovation

OlyWest is committed to continual research and development that will encourage new technology and innovation which will further the economic, environmental, human health, and social well-being of our community.