



**Conservation and Water Stewardship**

Environmental Stewardship Division

Environmental Approvals Branch

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Environmental Management  
MMM Group Limited  
111 – 93 Lombard Avenue  
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Email: [keamd@mmm.ca](mailto:keamd@mmm.ca)

Dear Mr. Keam:

**Re: Environment Act Licence No. 2994 – Rural Municipality of Springfield Wastewater Treatment Lagoons – Land Application of Sludge – Notice of Alteration – Altered Receiving Lands and Reduction of Required Buffer Zones**

I am responding to the February 22, 2016 MMM Group Limited (MMM) Notice of Alteration (NoA) letter regarding land application of sludge from the two Rural Municipality of Springfield (RM) wastewater treatment lagoons (lagoons) that are being decommissioned. Environment Act Licence No. 2994 (Licence) applies to the decommissioning endeavours.

The NoA indicates that land parcels originally identified as being potential sites that would have lagoon biosolids and sludge solids applied to them have been altered and includes removal of some originally proposed land parcels and addition of other new adjoining land parcels. The new land parcels proposed to have biosolids and sludge solids applied are the following: NW 10-11-5EPM; SW 17-11-5EPM; and SW 26-11-5EPM. The NoA also requests reduction of required buffer zones between land parcels that are to receive biosolids and sludge solids application and occupied residences. The NoA provides information regarding required buffer zones for similar applications in other Canadian jurisdictions that supports the requested reduction of the buffer zone for this instance. Finally, the NoA requests that composting of the vegetation matter from both lagoons that are being decommissioned be authorized to occur in Cell 4 of the wastewater treatment lagoon as identified in Figure 1B of the NoA and that was previously licenced under Environment Act Licence No. 1772 S1.

Upon review of this NoA and the Licence, I have decided pursuant to Section 14(2) of *The Environment Act* that the environmental impacts of the changes to the proposed land parcels that

are to have biosolids and sludge solids applied to them and the reduction of the identified buffer zone distances are insignificant. Accordingly, I hereby approve the proposed modifications to the land application of biosolids and sludge solids activities relative to this Licence pursuant to the following conditions:

1. Land owner agreements relative to any additional land being integrated to the land application of biosolids and sludge solids activities or land identified to be included in the original EAP that has since changed ownership must be provided to the Environmental Approvals Branch (EAB) for approval a minimum of two weeks in advance of any planned land application of sludge on these land parcels;
2. Clause 14c of the Licence is modified such that land application of biosolids and sludge solids shall not occur within 75 metres of an occupied residence. Incorporation of the applied biosolids and sludge solids to the soil must occur within 48 hours of application;
3. Details of all operation and maintenance activities associated with the proposed composting of organic materials from the sites of the two lagoons must be submitted to the EAB for approval by May 9, 2016; and
4. This approval shall terminate December 31, 2022.

Authorization to compost the organic vegetation from the two RM lagoons that are being decommissioned as proposed is not provided at this time. A decision on this matter will be made following an opportunity to review and consider the information requested in Item 3 above.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss these items, please contact Robert Boswick, Environmental Engineer, at 204-945-6030.

Yours sincerely,

*“original signed by”*

Tracey Braun, M. Sc.  
Director  
Environment Act

c: Justin Magne – RM of Springfield  
Don Labossiere/Donna Smiley – Environmental Compliance and Enforcement, Manitoba  
Conservation and Water Stewardship  
Public Registries