

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPONENT: Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs
PROPOSAL NAME: Crane River Water Treatment Plant

CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: One
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: Waste Disposal - Water Treatment Plants
(Wastewater)
CLIENT FILE NO.: 5678.00

OVERVIEW:

The Proposal was received on September 26, 2013. It was dated September 24, 2013. The advertisement of the proposal was as follows:

“A proposal has been received from Arnason Industries Ltd. on behalf of Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs for the upgrading of the Crane River water treatment plant. The upgraded plant would be located at the site of the existing water treatment plant, and would utilize a slow sand filtration and nanofiltration treatment process followed by ultraviolet disinfection and chlorination. The plant would treat approximately 40,000 litres of water daily. Raw water for the system would continue to be pumped from Lake Manitoba, and wastewater from the water treatment process would continue to be returned to the lake. This wastewater would consist of backwash water from the sand filters and reject water from the nanofiltration process. Approximately 9,600 litres per day of reject water would be generated. Construction of the upgraded plant is proposed for the winter of 2013/2014.”

The Proposal was advertised in the Dauphin Herald on Tuesday, October 15, 2013. It was placed in the online public registry, the Legislative Library and Millennium Public Library (Winnipeg) public registries. The Proposal was distributed to TAC members on October 15, 2013. The closing date for comments from members of the public and TAC members was November 14, 2013.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No public comments were received.

COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch

No comments or concerns.

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Watersheds and Protected Areas Branch

No concerns.

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Lands Branch

No concerns, conditional on the following:

- No haying or bale storage within 50 feet of structures/buildings
- The proponent will be responsible to determine if the project proposed will impact any Crown land. The proponent should be advised that any/all works involving or impacting Crown lands will require proper authorizations as per The Crown Lands Act (e.g., Crown Lands dispositions – Permits or leases, and/or Crown Land Work Permits etc.).
- Once Crown land applications are submitted, the Site Plan is to be updated to include the facility and associated structures.

Disposition:

These comments were provided to the consultant. Crown lands authorizations can be addressed as a licence condition.

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Parks and Natural Areas Branch

No comments to offer as this does not impact any parks or ecological reserves.

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Wildlife Branch

No concerns.

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

The proposal does not provide detailed information regarding the quality of the reject water, or attempt to evaluate what impact the reject water will have on the receiving stream. However, due to the small size of the facility (i.e. serving 130 people), it seems unlikely that the receiving stream would be significantly impacted by the discharge.

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Office of Drinking Water

The Proponent has submitted an application for a Permit to Construct or Alter a Public Water System as required under *The Drinking Water Safety Act*, so I have no other cause for concern respecting drinking water safety with the EAP or proposed work.

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Water Use Licensing

No comments other than to say that the community has a valid water rights licence (2012-066) and that annual water use reporting is a condition of the licence. If as a result of the installation of the new water treatment plant that raw water use approaches or exceeds the licensed allocation on the water rights licence the community and/or ANA should apply for an increase in the authorized annual diversion of water under the water rights licence.

Disposition:

This information was forwarded to the proponent's consultant for information. Water Rights Licence requirements can also be addressed through a licence condition.

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

No concerns.

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

No concerns.

Manitoba Health – Public Health Branch

- The report does not mention the proximity of the project to residential areas though it does note that the land is not used for anything at the moment. Would like to have further information on whether there may be any health issues during the construction period such as noise, dust, waste removal for residents near to the site (if any)
- Please provide information on any health issues related to the change over from the old treatment to the new treatment system and how this process will occur as safely as possible.

Disposition:

Construction effects are not expected to be significant because the water treatment plant's building shell has already been constructed. The remaining construction consists of the installation of equipment inside the building. The new water treatment plant is constructed adjacent to the existing plant, which will remain in operation until the new plant is constructed and commissioned. Therefore, changing from the existing plant to the new plant can be done almost instantly with no degradation in delivered water quality.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

No additional information was required to address comments on the proposal.

PUBLIC HEARING:

As no public comments were received and no requests for a hearing were filed, 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 a change in the water treatment process, with no change in the water use, water withdrawal location, water treatment location, or wastewater discharge location. The water treatment plant is relatively small, and process wastewater from the plant is not anticipated to have a significant effect on the receiving watercourse. Since resource use is not affected by the project, it is concluded that Crown-Aboriginal consultation is not required for the project.

RECOMMENDATION:

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 assigned to the Western Regional office of the Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch.

PREPARED BY:

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