

Notice of Environment Act Proposal

Conservation and Water Stewardship has received a proposal pursuant to *The Environment Act* regarding the following operation and invites public participation in the review process:

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA – CHURCHILL MARINE OBSERVATORY - FILE: 5803.00

A proposal has been filed by KGS Group on behalf of the University of Manitoba, Centre for Earth Observation Science for the construction and operation of an experimental facility to study the impacts of oil, liquefied natural gas and other contaminants on the arctic marine environment. The facility would be constructed in the Town of Churchill between the port and Cape Merry, and would be enclosed within a 1.2 hectare fenced compound. The facility would include two water tanks for simultaneous contaminated and control experiments, with a combined storage capacity of 500 cubic metres. The tanks would be covered by a removable roof which could be retracted during experiments. Seawater and freshwater for the experiments would be obtained from the Churchill River Estuary, and water contaminated in the experiments would be treated to remove contaminants and then discharged back to the estuary. Intake and discharge pipelines between the facility and the estuary would be enclosed in a utilidor system. Removed contaminants would be disposed of at an existing soil treatment facility. The experimental facility would include laboratory and storage space adjacent to the tanks. A dock and boat ramp on the estuary west of the facility would allow river access for the facility. Construction of the facility is proposed for the summer of 2016, with operation beginning in 2017.

Anyone likely to be affected by the above operation and who wishes to make a representation either for or against the proposal should contact the Department, in writing or by E-mail (bruce.webb@gov.mb.ca), not later than DECEMBER 28, 2015 Further information is available from the Public Registries located at: Legislative Library, 200 Vaughan St., Winnipeg; Millennium Public Library, 4th Floor, 251 Donald St., Winnipeg; Online Registry: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/eal/registries/index.html> or by contacting Bruce Webb, Environmental Engineer at 204-945-7021.

Information submitted in response to this proposal is considered public information and will be made available to the proponent and placed on the public registry established in accordance with Section 17 of *The Environment Act*.

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