

CanWhite Sands – Sand Processing Facility Environment Act Proposal – File No. 6057.00

Public Comments Received From:

Carolyn Bryan	Darin morash
Halle Rempel	Chantille Papko
Chris and Marianne Bowker	Lynsay Perkins
A Stutski	Annette Gargol
Danielle Jones	Janice Brolly and Robert Wood
Kayla Kuzina	Steven
Karen McDonald	Eddie & Pearl Domienik
Irene Hudek	Colleen Edmunds
John Hasenack	Michael Plischke
Aurora Dekker	Natalie Normandeau
Sarah Hill	Véronique Reynolds
Gualter Reis	LINDA HICKLING
James Wasyluk	FRANK HICKLING
Kathryn Ayers	
Malina Tillberg	
Kevin Miller	
Meghan Bunio	
Eric Schiffmann	
Kayla Sinclair	
Alex	
Meagan Morfoot	
Monique Lapointe	
Heather A. Erickson	
Wayne Janz	
Sher Stoddard and Family	
Art Quanbury	
Lori Bohn	

The aquifer impacted by the Vivian Sand Facility is a water source for my community. I have deep concerns. There must be a public hearing and independent environmental assessment done! I ask that you determine the Vivian Sand Facility (processing plant) be combined with the mining/extraction portion of the operation and be considered as a Class 3 development with a Clean Environment Commission public hearing with participant funding.

My reasons are as follows:

The size and scope of this project: The mining claims of 166,890 acres (67,537 hectares) of land is the largest given to any one company in Manitoba's history. The impacts of the processing plant cannot be properly assessed without including an assessment of the impacts of sand extraction, because the processing plant cannot operate without the sand extraction portion of this project.

Impacts to the Sandstone and Carbonate Aquifers: This silica mining will take place over 200 feet into the Winnipeg Formation of the Sandstone aquifer. The shale that separates the two aquifers and the sand contains sulphide which when exposed to air will turn to acid and cause leaching of acid and heavy metals into the water from the shale.

Aquifer Sustainability and Cumulative Impacts: The aquifers support many municipal water systems, agriculture, industry, private well users and of course an abundance of wildlife and ecosystems. The sustainable yield of these aquifers have not been established. Also, the processing plant and the sand extraction aspects of this project function in tandem.

Potential Transboundary Impacts: The aquifers extend into Minnesota and therefore transboundary impacts need to be addressed.

Unproven Mining Method: CanWhite Sands Corp. is experimenting with a new, unprecedented method for mining silica sand 200 feet below the surface out of the Winnipeg Formation, a process that has only been experimented within Manitoba, without much success in the past.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Bryan

Water is life. Water is vital. We should not be mining underground aquifers—harming our water sources. This does harm to us, animals, plants, our foods, and our environment as a whole. Listen to Indigenous Land Protectors and protect the Land and the Water.

Yours truly,

Halle Rempel

My wife and I are asking for your help to ensure our access to cleaning drinking water is maintained for us and our children. As long time residents of Anola, MB, I am very aware that rural properties like ours depend on access to clean water through our wells. I strongly believe that our elected officials must do everything possible to ensure that our access to cleaning drinking water is maintained. This is a health and economic issue. Without clean drinking water

through our wells we will see many negative health impacts as well as negative economic impacts such as lower property values and the movement of people out of the rural areas.

I ask that you determine the Vivian Sand Facility (processing plant) be combined with the mining/extraction portion of the operation and be considered as a Class 3 development with a Clean Environment Commission public hearing with participant funding.

My reasons are as follows:

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Sincerely,

Chris and Marianne Bowker

Stage licencing is underhanded, secretive, and against the public interest.
Mining the sand from deep underground in the aquifer where it has been safely filtering our groundwater for thousands of years is a terrible idea. Water is sacred.

Yours truly,

A Stutski

Sand to operate this sand cleaning plant doesn't appear by magic and we need to have the sand mining included in environmental assessment.

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Mining the sand from deep underground in the aquifer where it has been safely filtering our groundwater for thousands of years is a terrible idea. Water is sacred.

We should not be mining our groundwater aquifers! Water is life.

Under no circumstance can we mine sand in Manitoba for fracking. All elected officials should take a stand against the expansion of this destructive process.

Unless this sand plant can prove it is not using the sand for fracking, it must not be given a licence

Yours truly,

Danielle Jones

THIS IS NOT OKAY.

Yours truly,

Kayla Kuzina

I am very concerned with the possible construction of a silica sand processing plant near Vivian, Manitoba and the Brokenhead River becoming the dumping ground for the toxic waste from this plant, which will be owned by CanWhite Sands Corp of Alberta.

The 85% water that apparently will be extracted to reach the 15% sand that CWS want to mine is a staggering stat as recorded in Winnipeg Free Press, August 19.

The threat of such extraction is so serious to the aquifer and it's recharging ability. South eastern Manitoba then would potentially have a critical problem with its drinking water for humans, livestock and agriculture. Possibly there would be threat for Winnipeg's water supply also, because it originates in Eastern Manitoba as well.

I have lived by the Brokenhead River for forty years. I initially developed with my first husband a large horticulture farming business and operated for twenty years. We irrigated from the Brokenhead River and grew fabulous fruits and vegetables.

Then, with my partner we developed a very extensive tourism business, with a healthy Brokenhead River playing a vital role, ie, swimming, canoeing, kayaking, tubing and fishing! Tourism, agriculture and residents of SE Manitoba rely on a healthy river and also the aquifer to recharge itself for drinking water for that area.

It is disastrous to think of the effect toxic substances would have on the Brokenhead River's aquatic life, animals and birds. The list includes; crayfish, minnows, jackfish, perch, pickerel, sucker fish, snapping turtles, Painted Western turtles, eels, otters, beavers, minks, deer and bears. Also the water bird population would be affected such as: Mallards, wood ducks, kingfishers, blue herons, bald eagles, mergansers, teals, geese, sandpipers and swans.

I definitely do not want to have the demise or threat to all these creature's lives because CWS releases toxic material into the Brokenhead River.

I have raised two children to appreciate and respect the Brokenhead River and do not want CWS to destroy this water system for future generations.

I therefore want the Manitoba PC Government to suspend it's approval process for CWS until all information is acquired provincially and federally to determine the extent of the impacts of the proposed development mine and plant project. It is such a serious situation for the environment, water system, agriculture, tourism and families living in that are of SE Manitoba. We must do our utmost to protect our water and land—valuable natural resources for the present and future generations!!!

Thank you.

Karen McDonald

I am very concerned about CanWhite Sand's proposed silica sand mining operation near Vivian. From what I understand the effect of the project will put the Sandilands Aquifer at risk. I am asking for more hearings, more investigation and more public input before the project is approved.

Thank you kindly

Irene Hudek

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Under no circumstance can we mine sand in Manitoba for fracking. All elected officials should take a stand against the expansion of this destructive process. Unless this sand plant can prove it is not using the sand for fracking, it must not be given a licence.

Yours truly,

John Hasenack

I do not support a silica sand mine in Manitoba. We are in the model of a climate crisis and a global pandemic and focus needs to be on protecting our natural environment, including aquifers.

I have family members living in this area and am concerned about their health and welfare. They depend on this aquifer for drinking water.

I do not support sand mining that will be used in fracking projects.

We only borrow this land from future generations. Utmost care and consideration should be given to its usage.

Yours truly,

Aurora Dekker

I'm a resident of Oakbank in the RM of Springfield. I think we need a full Clean Environment Commission Assessment of the Vivian Sands Project. I'm concerned there hasn't been enough scrutiny and rigour to the approvals of this project so far. As you know, it's important that mining development be safe and sustainable.

Regards,

Sarah Hill

I'm a resident of Oakbank in the RM of Springfield. I think we need a full Clean Environment Commission Assessment of the Vivian Sands Project. I'm concerned there hasn't been enough scrutiny and rigour to the approvals of this project so far. As you know, it's important that mining development be safe and sustainable.

Regards,

Gualter Reis

I am a Winnipeg resident who is concerned about the proposal of fracking in Springfield by CanWhite Sands.

The damage and danger to our clean water supply and environment will negatively affect Manitobans for generations to come.

Fracking does not belong in Manitoba. Please put the needs of present and future Manitobans before corporate interests!

Thank you,

James Wasyluk

I live in the Hanover Municipality and am deeply concerned about the Vivian silica sand mining project. The aquifer that supplies the water for my family, my garden, and my animals could be compromised from heavy metals such as iron that will leach out during extraction. This aquifer supplies a growing population in South East Manitoba, without safe water to drink what will we do? Water is life.

Please reconsider this project, it's mining and processing, as one for environmental assessment. The Brokenhead River which feeds into Lake Winnipeg would also be at risk.

Fracking is a destructive environmental practice and not sustainable. Mining silica sand for the use in fracking is risky, pollutes safe drinking water and is short term thinking.

Invest in the future generations by stopping this project!

Thank you

Yours truly,

Kathryn Ayers

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Yours truly,

Malina Tillberg

The Vivian Sand Facility should be combined with the mining/extraction portion of the operation and be considered as a Class 3 development with a Clean Environment Commission public hearing with participant funding.

This is a massive project that impacts to the Sandstone and Carbonate Aquifers and threatens their long-term sustainability.

Yours truly,

Kevin Miller

I am writing you with much concern regarding the Canwhite Sands Corporation and their proposed drilling project in southeastern Manitoba.

As a lifelong resident of the RM of Taché and now Ste. Anne, I am deeply concerned about the short and long term environmental impact that the sand drilling will have on many communities, including my own. The degradation of our aquifer caused by the drilling and silica particles released onto the surface and into the air are amongst the most concerning to myself, my extended family and MANY members of my community.

Therefore I am strongly opposed to this project, and any similar projects that directly threaten a vital water source in return for such minimal monetary profit. My family and I are asking you to fight for us and our community!

As well if you can suggest any other avenues I can take to stop this project, please let me know. Any help you can provide would be greatly appreciated!

Thank you,

Meghan Bunio

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Yours truly,

Eric Schiffmann

I recently was informed of the Vivian Sands project and was quite disturbed. Mining sand from the aquifer where it has been filtering our groundwater is not a decision that will serve us or future generations. With climate change at a tipping point we need to be on the right side of history and ban projects that disturb our natural land. We should not be mining our groundwater aquifers!

Under no circumstance can we mine sand in Manitoba for fracking. All elected officials should take a stand against the expansion of this destructive process. Unless this sand plant can prove it is not using the sand for fracking, it must not be given a licence. A full environmental assessment must be completed for this project, stage licensing is against public interest. Any official who

does not see the common sense of this argument proves they value profit over people and our environment. We must do better.

Yours truly,

Kayla Sinclair

Who approved test wells 2 mi away from Lorette water supply wells?
Do you know we are currently on water conservation notice?

Thanks

Alex

I'm opposed to the silica sand mining company contaminating the ALREADY low water supply. As a resident who recently moved to the area after months of searching for the perfect place to begin a family, this is devastating news to hear. What happens when the water supply is contaminated? Will the government pay for water trucks to service every residential address? Will the government pay for the loss of value on my home when I'm unable to sell? Unlikely.

This silica sand mining plan can't go through. The damage it has done everywhere else is a clear sign of what we are in for.

Meagan Morfoot

I am strongly opposed to the fracking and mining of silica sand in Manitoba especially in the Brokenhead, Tache and Springfield areas which will deplete and pollute our drinking water. I am appalled that the PC government signed off on this without proper consultation of the people that this will affect.

Obviously this government is more interested in promoting whatever private business wants to set up shop in our province at the expense of the people's health and well-being. When things go wrong, this company will not be held accountable as they will return to Alberta with their profits and Manitobans will be stuck paying the price.

Shame on this government!

Monique Lapointe

I am writing to state my opposition to the above noted proposal. I will outline my reasons below.

1) I listened to the presentation of this company on the telephone and what I particularly noticed is that it is full of assurances that this mining will be of benefit to the RM of Springfield but is completely lacking in specifics as to potential environmental impacts. Then I noticed the ad in the Clipper for the approval of the Processing Facility they propose but no mention of the mining application. To me, first you should obtain permission to mine and then worry about the processing later unless they are going to be processing sand from elsewhere, as for example Wanipigow and that is a whole different ball of wax because in all likelihood it would be trucked here and there is already too much traffic on Highway #15 and it has just been re-surfaced and is already showing signs of wear and tear.

2) I live on a rural property and get my water from a well which accesses the Sandilands Aquifer. Boring holes all over the Eastern quadrant of Springfield and forcing silica sand admixed with the water to the surface from 200 ft. below the surface in that aquifer does not bode well for my drinking water. Is the province going to be responsible for trucking potable water to my home when my well is destroyed by this mining venture? Is CanWhite? Water is a necessity of life and must be protected at all costs. We here are fortunate enough to have pretty good quality water but if you allow this industry to interfere with it, through their mining of silica sand, I foresee law suits aplenty against the Province.

3) Thus far, in their exploration process, CanWhite has not proved to be good stewards of the water by properly capping the bore holes they have already done and there is evidence of this collected by concerned citizens. Further when you remove a substance from 200 ft. below the surface of the earth, leaving cavities hither and yon, something has to give and I foresee a collapse of this aquifer and the destruction of the lives of the residents of the RMs of Brokenhead, Springfield, Ste. Anne, Tache, Hanover, Steinbach, Piney and Reynolds. I seem to have read somewhere that that is the cause of mini earthquakes being experienced in Saskatchewan where potash is being mined. Does the Province really give priority to a company from Alberta over the residents that voted them into office?

4) I understand the Environment Act Proposal submitted by CanWhite fails to properly address the cumulative impacts of this project on local groundwater. It is also misleading suggesting that the sand can be delivered to the facility by portable pipeline over a 24 year period and I understand this is not a proven technique. As mentioned in Point 1, that will mean increased traffic on our municipal roads and provincial trunk highways.

5) I live 1/4 mile from the CN main line that runs parallel to #15 highway east of Anola. There is already lots of train traffic during the day and especially during the night when the whistling can be heard as it passes the crossing. How many more trains is this proposal going to generate. They claim only 3 but I believe in their presentation they mentioned 4. However, further west just on the other side of the tracks, on Poplar Road, Parrish and Heimbacker have been approved by your department, I understand, to construct a giant concrete grain terminal and bulk fertilizer storage plant which will also be drawing down on our water supply in the Sandilands Aquifer and is immediately adjacent to two new Municipal wells. How many more trains will that facility generate with its apparent associated spur line and it has already negatively affected the lives of the residents that live in close proximity to the site.

6) I understand that in addition to the threat of silicosis caused by piles of silica sand waiting to be processed and blowing in the wind (and that sand has been underground for hundreds of years and has not been washed by the elements), there is also a distinct possibility of the flocculant material being used in the process degrading into a water-soluble acrylamide monomer which is a cancer-causing neuro toxin. Does the province not care about the health of its citizens?

7) I also have heard that scientific research states that removing that amount of water from the Sandilands Aquifer is not sustainable and that means all our wells in the Southeastern quadrant of the Province will go dry!!!! This is serious!

8) While CanWest tried to convince its audience that the sand was going to be used in TV Monitors and cell phones and test tubes, 3 trains a week would suggest a quantity of sand being extracted that far exceeds the miniscule amounts likely used for those purposes and suggests the majority of it will be used for fracking oil and gas, an industry that should be abandoned in favour of more environmentally friendly types of energy. We in Canada should be setting a good environmental example for the less privileged countries of this world, not the opposite.

9) In my opinion, this will ruin the lives of the inhabitants of Vivian, a quiet little hamlet that has existed for many, many years and there is already people moving away in anticipation of this. This plant is going to run 24/7, there will be increased rail and vehicular traffic, the availability of potable water is a real and present threat, this will devalue properties of people who have invested their lives in this community. Where is your sense of responsibility if you allow this proposal to go forward? Are you going to explain to myself, who does not live in Vivian but west of it 8 or 9 miles, and the residents of the quiet little village, why their lives are being destroyed by a corporation from Alberta?

In conclusion, I implore you to deny this application and let our lives continue as there were.

Yours truly

Heather A. Erickson

Is there anyone that might have a hint of progressiveness in our government still doing business with petroleum companies. Why are you not developing our hydro and other green energy sources?

You are sitting back thinking that the vision displayed by past governments is good enough for now. Where are the incentives to switch to hydro power, which, as you know, we have an over abundance of.

Risking the contamination of our water aquifers is truly a display of wrong headed and lazy thinking.

C'mon guys, get to work, or find someone capable of doing the the job of thinking and planning.

Yours truly,

Wayne Janz

Last night we were informed by Steve Stein and Armand Porier, Council of Rm of Tache, that they had received notice from the Manitoba Conservation and Climate Department that Can White (an Alberta company) is proposing testing for silica sand 2 miles from our town of Lorette.

This testing and subsequent mining of silica sand will have a direct and profound effect on thousands of people immediately and for many decades to come. It will affect the health and safety of people and the environment in which we live.

Can White will be pumping out 143 million litres of water from our aquifer to flush for silica. They will drill hundreds of holes through the shale layer that protects the aquifer. They will be removing the sand, which helps filter the ground water back into the aquifer. This aquifer is used by the people and businesses in the town of Lorette, the surrounding rural inhabitants, businesses and the farmers.

This would leave a void under the layer of shale. It will directly affect the water local supply for my community and that of at least 64 thousand other residents that depend on this aquifer.

Pyrite in the sand and shale brought to the surface by the solution mining will generate acid that will mobilize iron oxide and heavy metals contamination.

Toxic excess water will follow the natural drainage pathways and drain back into our rivers, ponds, wells and seep into the carbonate aquifer as migrates.

There are KNOWN health risks to mining for silica sand such as; Silicosis, Pulmonary Disease, Lung Cancer, Chronic Obstructive, Respiratory Failure, Shortness of breath, Kidney Disease, Chronic Fatigue, Death etc.

There are KNOWN health risks from the use of a flocculant material (PAM) in their outdoor clarifying such as; cancer causing neuro toxins that deforms fetuses.

Industrial activity, noise, light, silica dust will affect the quality of life living rurally provides. This suffering will cause unnecessary stress and anxiety about the safety of our water and the risks to our families health.

We are already under great stress dealing with the health and safety risks of COVID-19, the potential to have Can White expose thousands of people to harmful levels silica dust and the toxins involved in mining is expecting too much from us.

Can White's proposal is worded in THEIR best interest as a company looking to profit at the expense of children, families, farmers, communities, the environment and all the species it supports.

This is a proposal that may create a few jobs but the enormous devastation it will have on the health and safety of families and the environment greatly outweighs those jobs.

I am devastated, disappointed and angry this proposal has even considered and truly hope for the health and safety of families and communities it is not allowed to happen.

Sincerely,
Sher Stoddard and Family

I am opposed to the silica extraction process in the Oakbank-Dugald-Anola area. Not enough is known about the effects on the aquifers when large scale sand removal takes place. The operation of fracking should not be expanded due to the known negative effects of this operation.

Yours truly,

Art Quanbury

I am an average citizen, but I am concerned about the planet and Manitoba's environment. I want to leave a livable and green environment for my children and grandchildren.

I want to express my concern about the proposed CanWhite Sands Corp processing facility and mine near Vivian Manitoba. I am very worried about several issues related to this project. First, it will use 7.7 million cubic meters of water annually from the Winnipeg Formation aquifer. This is a large quantity and could lead to shortages. Many people depend on this aquifer for drinking water. Second, the unused water sucked up through the boreholes, which now will be acidic and contain toxic heavy metals, will likely be drained into the Brokenhead River and possibly the aquifer itself. This would certainly threaten aquatic life in the river, including an at-risk species of eel. The river ultimately leads to Lake Winnipeg, which we know is dying. We need to prevent any further assaults on this jewel of Manitoba. There is no remediation for pollution of the river and aquifer such as this. This needs a very careful and full assessment.

Please wait with the assessment process of this plant until CWS has provided complete information and submits its silica sand mine and mining method also. I have read they have only submitted a request for the processing facility. They should include both in their request. This project should fall under the federal Impact Assessment Act and if not, please urge it to be an IAA project. The Brokenhead First Nation should also be consulted thoroughly.

Besides the dangers of this project, some of the processed sand may be used for fracking. I am against fracking also as it releases large amounts of Co2 and methane into the air. It is not "clean" energy as some assert. We simply cannot afford to support any projects that do not result in zero emissions.

Thank you for your attention.

Lori Bohn

Do not destroy our source of water. How can this possibly be a good idea?

Yours truly,

darin morash

I'm truly disgusted and horrified that a project of this magnitude is even being considered by our elected officials. If the drinking water is contaminated, it will devastate the communities that live there. It would not only crash local housing and economies, but it would cause unimaginable burdens to people relying on this aquifer. Does this government really want to be responsible for such atrocities?

Under no circumstances should this sand plant be given a license. I want this project to cease immediately.

Yours truly,

Chantille Papko

Please keep our water safe and do not allow the Vivian Sand Facility to touch the sand in our aquifers. This is an essential part of keeping clean and healthy resources for all living things.

Yours truly,

Lynsay Perkins

I am appalled to learn of the plan to mine sand from one of our Manitoba aquifers for fracking purposes. Fracking is incredibly destructive to the environment and this industry should not be supported in any way, shape or form. And so to hear that not only is the Government of Manitoba supporting it, but allowing one of the Provinces' aquifers to be damaged in the process is completely unacceptable. Water is sacred and mining the sand from deep underground in the aquifer where it has been safely filtering our groundwater for thousands of years is a terrible idea. We should not be mining our groundwater aquifers! Water is life.

Also, I understand that the stage licensing process has been secretive and underhanded. Why would this not have to be a public and open process including a comprehensive environmental assessment? This must be because it cannot stand the test of public scrutiny and is completely against the public interest. This enrichment of an elite few at the expense of the earth and the vast many is beyond comprehension in these times of environmental crisis; this cannot be accepted. Under no circumstances can we mine sand in Manitoba for fracking. I request that all elected officials take a stand against the expansion of this destructive process.

Yours truly,

Annette Gargol

We are residents of the RM of Brokenhead and live alongside The Brokenhead River.

We realize that this proposal is not for the mining itself, but for the building of the facility.

But why build a facility if you don't have the intent or approval to mine? If the approval is not obtained, will the building/property be abandoned? Or does having the facility built make approval for the mining a foregone conclusion? We are having trouble understanding why this is being split into two stages.

I'm sure by now you have read the numerous newspaper articles (as we have) regarding how CanWhite Sands Corp would put both the river and the Aquifer under dire threat if it gets full approval. After all, the founder, Faisal Somji, is not a "man of his word". He has been quoted as telling the community that "Our intention is to be in Manitoba for years to come..." but is also quoted as telling his investors "The business intent here is to build and sell. And that's the end goal for us." He plans to sell to Wisconsin Sands. Do we want a company, outside of Canada, to extract silica sand and ruin our environment?

Also, CanWhite Sands has yet to deal with the 2018/2019 issues of sand piles being left and test wells not being capped. They have already shown themselves to be environmentally irresponsible.

This is not the type of company which the community wants in their neighbourhood. There is too much at risk, from the aquifer which thousands rely on for water, to the Brokenhead River which empties into Lake Winnipeg!

Can we not suspend the approval process until such a time that CanWhite Sands submits information not only for its proposed silica sand processing facility, but also its silica sand mine and mining method in order to determine the extent of the adverse impacts?

Regards

Janice Brolly and Robert Wood

As a new landowner in Anola and planning to build a house on my property. I'm concerned about this project and the risk of contamination of the groundwater and all the other risks that come with fracking.

I would like to see at least a full Clean Environment Commission Assessment of this Project.

I am against this project, as the risks outway the gains, by having this facility here.

Regards,
Steven

After reading an article in the Winnipeg Free Press, (Friday August 14th edition) I was alarmed to see that there is a possibility that the Sandilands Aquifer could become contaminated if the CanWhite Sands Corp. plans to proceed with removal of millions of sand from it's Vivian sand mine near Anola, in the R.M. of Springfield.

I strongly protest that this NOT be allowed to happen to a drinking water supply that could affect 64,000 Manitobans. The Sandilands Aquifer belongs to the people of Springfield, as well as all the people of Manitoba and should be guarded against any contamination from mining companies. Manitoba and the rest of Canada have a bad history of mines sites being abandoned after "profits" have been depleted and the lands left looking like lunar landscapes.

As a concerned citizen and resident of the R.M. of Springfield I feel the the Manitoba government as well as the R.M. scrutinize the proposals of CanWhite Sands Corp before any damage could happen to our drinking water source.

I will be watching over the coming month's to see what developments transpire of this very important decision regarding the mining of sands and our naturel water source.

Concerned citizens,

Eddie & Pearl Domienik

Thank you for your work on this file. I am in favour of industry entering Manitoba.

I have read some reports in the news and by the project.

What I did not see in the official documents from CanWhite was a clear plan about how tailings will be managed and how external surface water quality will be maintained (e.g. down stream).

I know that you are doing your background work and I trust that the process will be managed appropriately.

My question is part of the process; **I want to ensure due diligence and see answers to a wider spectrum of questions which seem to have been excluded.**

Thank you

Colleen Edmunds

I ask that you determine the Vivian Sand Facility (processing plant) be combined with the mining/extraction portion of the operation and be considered as a Class 3 development with a Clean Environment Commission public hearing with participant funding.

My reasons are as follows:

The size and scope of this project: The mining claims of 166,890 acres (67,537 hectares) of land is the largest given to any one company in Manitoba's history. The impacts of the processing plant cannot be properly assessed without including an assessment of the impacts of sand extraction, because the processing plant cannot operate without the sand extraction portion of this project.

Impacts to the Sandstone and Carbonate Aquifers: This silica mining will take place over 200 feet into the Winnipeg Formation of the Sandstone aquifer. The shale that separates the two aquifers and the sand contains sulphide which when exposed to air will turn to acid and cause leaching of acid and heavy metals into the water from the shale.

Aquifer Sustainability and Cumulative Impacts: The aquifers support many municipal water systems, agriculture, industry, private well users and of course an abundance of wildlife and ecosystems. The sustainable yield of these aquifers have not been established. Also, the processing plant and the sand extraction aspects of this project function in tandem.

Potential Transboundary Impacts: The aquifers extend into Minnesota and therefore transboundary impacts need to be addressed.

Unproven Mining Method: CanWhite Sands Corp. is experimenting with a new, unprecedented method for mining silica sand 200 feet below the surface out of the Winnipeg Formation, a process that has only been experimented within Manitoba, without much success in the past.

Sincerely,

Michael Plischke

Sand to operate this sand cleaning plant doesn't appear by magic and we need to have the sand mining included in environmental assessment.

Stage licencing is underhanded, secretive, and against the public interest.

Mining the sand from deep underground in the aquifer where it has been safely filtering our groundwater for thousands of years is a terrible idea. Water is sacred.

We should not be mining our groundwater aquifers! Water is life.

Under no circumstance can we mine sand in Manitoba for fracking.

All elected officials should take a stand against the expansion of this destructive process.

Unless this sand plant can prove it is not using the sand for fracking, it must not be given a licence.

Yours truly,

Natalie Normandeau

My name is Véronique Reynolds from Winnipeg. I am deeply concerned about the proposed Vivian Sand Project. I strongly believe this project is short sighted and dangerous. At this point in our history we should be doing everything to insure a clean water supply for all. Any project that could potentially negatively impact our aquifers should be rejected. We should not be mining our groundwater aquifers! Water is life.

Under no circumstance can we mine sand in Manitoba for fracking. All elected officials should take a stand against the expansion of this destructive process.

Yours truly,

Véronique Reynolds

I wish to register my opposition to the proposed Vivian Sand Processing Facility File: 6057.00.

The processing facility and sand extraction facility should be reviewed together rather than independently. The impacts of the processing facility cannot be properly assessed without including an assessment of the impacts of sand extraction, because the processing facility cannot operate without the sand extraction portion of this project.

The Environment Act Proposal submitted by CanWhite fails to properly address the cumulative impacts of this project on local groundwater. As per the previous point, the processing facility and sand extraction aspects of this project function in tandem, and so the effects of pumping thousands of litres of sand slurry from the ground must be assessed when determining the environmental impacts of this project.

The Environment Act Proposal is misleading with respect to the claim that there will be no truck traffic associated with the project. In the Proposal there is no information that supports that all sand can be delivered to the facility by portable pipeline over the 24-year life of the plant; therefore the assertion that there will be no truck traffic cannot be supported.

Three fully loaded freight trains will be added weekly to an already congested CN mainline. But this has been dismissed from the Environment Act Proposal and discussions with CN have not been finalized. If discussions fall through, truck transport is the only option. This increases risks for Silicosis and nuisance dust impacts.

The Environment Act Proposal states use of a flocculant material PAM in their outdoor clarifier (settling/treatment pond). Polyacrylamide (PAM) is nontoxic but **degrades with sun, acid and iron** into a water-soluble acrylamide monomer, a cancer-causing neurotoxin that deforms fetus' at parts per billion. https://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/pubs/water/drinking_water/final_factsheet_tce.pdf

The Facility is located in an area of sandy and porous soil. Some acid, acrylamide and heavy metals will seep into the aquifer just as occurred with a small surface spill of trichlorethylene in the 90's, contaminating all wells within 24 square kms, now called the Rockwood Sensitive Area.

Removing the amount of water that 64,000 people would use every year for 24 years, is beyond the sustainable limit of the Winnipeg Formation. See Kennedy & Woodbury's 2005 Sustainability of the Bedrock Aquifer Systems in South Central Manitoba: Implications for Large Scale Modelling. 40% of the sand will be used for fracking in the oil and gas industry. This prevents us reaching our emission reduction targets pledged under the Paris Agreement. (see Appendix I of the EAP)

The facility is near a network of historic cart trails leading to/from the area that served as a travel corridor for Past Peoples. Development within the area has the potential to impact heritage resources, therefore the Historic Resources Branch has concerns. (Pg.14 Appendix d to f of EAP)

The Environment Act Proposal provides no evidence to support their claim that property values will not suffer under their facility that will increase rail and truck traffic, noise and light pollution, increased risks to groundwater and silica related diseases, and operate 24/7.

In closing, the effects of CanWhite Sands Corp. plans are of such a magnitude and will generate far too many environmental, socioeconomic and health issues and allowing these plans to be divided has produced an incomplete and incomprehensible Environment Act Proposal. Full impacts of the project cannot be properly assessed.

I would ask that you carefully consider all the objections you are receiving and deny CanWhite Sands Corp. – Vivian Sands Processing Facility - File: 6057.00.

Sincerely,

LINDA HICKLING

I wish to register my opposition to the proposed Vivian Sand Processing Facility File: 6057.00.

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Sincerely,

FRANK HICKLING