

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPONENT:	Town of Beausejour
PROPOSAL NAME:	Town of Beausejour Water Supply System
CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT:	Two
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT:	Water Development and Control – Water Use Greater than 200 dam³/ year
FILE NO.:	6059.00

OVERVIEW

The Proposal was received on June 6, 2020. It was dated May 25, 2020. The advertisement of the Proposal was as follows:

“An Environment Act Proposal has been filed by the Manitoba Water Services Board on behalf of the Town of Beausejour for the construction and operation of an upgraded water supply system. The system would include two wells along Pescitelli Road southwest of Beausejour, a raw water pipeline connecting the wells with a new water treatment plant off Park Avenue east of the existing water treatment plant, and a concentrate pipeline from the new water treatment plant east along Park Avenue and Provincial Trunk Highway 44 to the Brokenhead River. The new water treatment plant would use a combination of membrane filtration and manganese greensand filtration to produce up to 36 litres per second of treated water. Up to 6 litres per second of concentrate water would be produced in the treatment process. Construction of the system is anticipated to begin in 2020 or 2021.”

The Proposal was advertised in the Beausejour – Lac du Bonnet Clipper on Thursday, June 25, 2020. It was placed in the following public registries:

- Legislative Library (Winnipeg)
- Online: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/eal/registries/6059beausejour/index.html>

The Proposal was distributed to Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members on June 25, 2020.

The closing date for comments from members of the public and TAC members was July 25, 2020.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Public comments were received from 49 individuals and organizations. Full comments are provided in the public registries. All those commenting had concerns about the disposal of water treatment plant concentrate in the Brokenhead River. Concerns focused on water quality, with some additional concern on the effect of the additional discharge on water levels as well as icing during winter months. Two people also commented on the potential effect of the project on groundwater supplies.

COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) responses are summarized in Table 1 below. Substantive comments and their dispositions follow the table. TAC comments are provided in full in the public registries.

Table 1 Town of Beausejour Water Supply System
Technical Advisory Committee Comments

No	Technical Advisory Committee Member	Response Provided
1	Manitoba Conservation and Climate	
	Environmental Approvals:	
	Water Power Act Licensing	No concern
	Air Quality Management	No response
	Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch	No comments
	Office of Drinking Water	July 3, 2020
	Drainage and Water Use Licensing Branch:	
	Water Use Licensing Section	June 25, 2020
	Water Control Works and Drainage Licensing Section	No concerns
	Climate Change and Clean Technology	No response
	Parks and Protected Spaces Branch	No comments / concerns
2	Manitoba Agriculture and Resource Development	
	Agri-Resource Branch	No response
	Wildlife and Fisheries Branch (wildlife)	No wildlife concerns
	Wildlife and Fisheries Branch (fisheries)	No response
	Forestry Branch	No concerns
	Lands Branch	No response
	Regional Land Manager / Integrated Resource Management Team	No response
	Water Science and Watershed Management Branch:	
	Water Quality Management Section	No response
	Groundwater Management Section	No response
	Mines Branch	No response
	Petroleum Branch	No response
3	Manitoba Sport, Culture, and Heritage – Historic Resources Branch	June 23, 2020
4	Manitoba Municipal Relations:	
	Community and Regional Planning Branch	No response
5	Manitoba Infrastructure – Highway Planning and Design Branch	July 27, 2020
6	Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living – Environmental Health Unit	No response
7	Impact Assessment Agency of Canada	No response

Manitoba Conservation and Climate, Office of Drinking Water

The Office of Drinking Water has the following comments:

- Permit to Construct or Alter a Public Water System for the Office of Drinking Water (ODW) will have to be submitted.
- Construction should follow Manitoba Water Services Board (MWSB) standards.

Disposition:

These comments were provided to the consultant to the project for information. The permit requirement can also be addressed as a licence condition.

Manitoba Conservation and Climate, Drainage and Water Rights Licensing Branch, Water Use Licensing Section

The Town of Beausejour has already submitted an application for a Water Rights Licence under The Water Rights Act, for which a Groundwater Exploration Permit has been issued. This project is considered in good standing with the Water Use Licensing Section.

Disposition:

This comment was provided to the consultant to the project for information, and can be addressed as a licence condition.

Manitoba Sport, Culture and Heritage – Historic Resources Branch

The Archaeological Assessment Services Unit (AASU) has heritage concerns regarding the construction of the 2.6 km concentrate water pipeline. The current proposed route outlined on page 38 of the EAP is unclear due to the scale of the map, therefore, it is not possible to assess the footprint of the development and where the discharge point is to be situated along the river. There are numerous sites along the river in the area, which has high potential for heritage resources.

We request that a detailed footprint/development plan (including any temporary work spaces) be forwarded to the AASU so that it may conduct a review of the proposed development against heritage resources. As the current plans stand, the AASU is requesting a heritage resource impact assessment (HRIA) for the proposed pipeline. We do not have concerns regarding the construction of the proposed well sites.

Under Section 12(2) of The Heritage Resources Act, if there is reason to believe that heritage resources or human remains are known, or thought likely to be present, on lands that are to be developed, then the owner/developer is required to conduct at his/her own expense, a heritage resource impact assessment (HRIA) and mitigation, if necessary, prior to the project's start.

The developer must contract a qualified archaeological consultant to conduct a Heritage Resources Impact assessment (HRIA) of the proposed development location, in order to identify and assess any heritage resources that may be negatively impacted by development. The Branch can work with the developer/land owners and its consultant to draw up terms of reference for this project.

If you have any further questions or comments, please feel free to contact the Branch.

Disposition:

These comments were provided to the consultant for the project for information. They can also be addressed through a licence condition.

Manitoba Infrastructure – Highway Planning and Design Branch, Environmental Services Section

Eastern Regional Operations:

It should be noted that any proposed water lines or work within or crossing highway right of way need prior review and permissions before any lines can be installed. The application forms can be found on the MI website.

Roadside Development Section:

We have reviewed this EAP and have no concerns. Manitoba Infrastructure will not approve any additional access onto PR 215. Please note the following statutory requirements affecting PR 215:

Statutory Requirements:

Under the Transportation Infrastructure Act, a permit is required from Manitoba Infrastructure to construct, modify, relocate, remove or intensify the use of an access.

Disposition:

This information was provided to the consultant for the project.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information was not required to address Technical Advisory Committee comments.

PUBLIC HEARING

As no requests were received for a public hearing, a public hearing is not recommended. Numerous requests were received concerning a public information meeting. The Town of Beausejour arranged a public open house held on August 27, 2020 to provide further information on the project, focusing on the concentrate disposal aspects.

CROWN-INDIGENOUS CONSULTATION

The Government of Manitoba recognizes it has a duty to consult in a meaningful way with Indigenous communities when any proposed provincial law, regulation, decision or action may infringe upon or adversely affect the exercise of the Indigenous rights of that community.

The proposal involves the construction and operation of a municipal water supply project with a water treatment plant to be located on land within the Town of Beausejour, and wells and pipeline components on provincial, municipal and town right-of-way. The

water supply would be obtained in the same aquifer that is presently being used for this purpose. As resource use would not be affected, Crown-Indigenous consultation would not be required for the project.

RECOMMENDATION

Comments received have been addressed by providing information to the proponent and through licence conditions, including conditions for monitoring water quality in the Brokenhead River. Environmental effects and monitoring requirements are well understood, as similar water supply systems with concentrate disposal to the environment are in use throughout Manitoba. 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. Administration of the Licence should be assigned to the Eastern Region of the Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch.

PREPARED BY:

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