

**CanWhite Sands – Silica Sand Extraction Project Environment Act
Proposal – File No. 6119.00
Public Comments Received From**

Sonya May
Jennifer Vandenbosch
Jerry Carriere
Wayne Lovenuk
Christine Hutlet
Erica Wood Terri & Edmond Ross

Dear Honorable Pallister,

I am a resident of Oakbank, and am very concerned with the Silica Sand Mining that CanWestSands is proposing for SE Manitoba. After submitting their proposal to the environmental act, an unbiased science researcher identified 17 major concerns with their proposal!!

Last night, AECOM and CanWhiteSands held an open house. Interested parties were to email their questions and register to join their Zoom Open House. The entire event was biased and none of our concerns that were considered 'negative' were answered. People were 'accidentally' kicked out of the session and when they called back on the toll free line, questions were still not answered.

This project has been chopped into pieces to run under the radar of proper environmental studies and that is a true shame. There are so many contradictions from CanWhite Sands on the scope of the project. In some cases they state 25 years, in others they say 100 years. BEFORE you step down, I implore you and your colleagues to do the right thing. 50-60 additional jobs is NOT worth the possibility of having the largest environmental water disaster if their methods (which experts have questioned) contaminate the only water aquifer which supplies so many rural communities. Water IS NOT and should never be a commodity that is tradeable, it is a natural resource that should remain as such.

I hope and pray that your legacy will not be one that history will mark as the worst premier of Manitoba who cared more about the economy than the environment, but of one who did his job thoroughly and allowed experts to do their diligence and question mining methods that have never been done before in such a large scale project.

I thank you for your service and wish you the best in your retirement.

Regards,
Sonya May

Dear Minister,

As a resident of the Rural Municipality of Springfield, I am writing to express my concern over the proposed silica sand processing facility and mine that is planned to be built in Vivian, Manitoba by the CanWhite Sands Corporation of Alberta. There is a high probability that the extraction effects from CanWhite Sands new and unproven mining methods will contaminate the Brokenhead River, Lake Winnipeg and an extremely large aquifer that supplies drinking water to over 64,000 people in the rural areas of Springfield, Tache, La Broquerie, Ste. Anne, Hanover, Reynolds, Brokenhead and the Brokenhead First Nations.

CanWhite Sands has indicated that there will be no impact to the aquifer or to fish-bearing waters but have yet to validate their claims.

How will you and your party protect our valuable aquifer, river, and lake?

Given that the CanWhite Sands extraction process is unconventional, will the Government of Manitoba consider conducting a Clean Environment Commission (CEC) hearing into the CanWhite Sands proposed silica sand mining operation?

Thank you for your time. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Vandenbosch

Sarah Guillemard
Dear Sir/Madam :

I am writing to register my opposition to this ill conceived project. I will preface my concerns by saying I am not a geologist or academic but it does not require a physics degree to know that when you remove the soil from under your foundation, at some point that foundation will fail. I live in the RM of Tache and draw my water from the very substrate they wish to mine , putting my only source of drinking water in jeopardy. Based on information provided by CanWhite they plan to drill a series of wells and pump water saturated sand from beneath the limestone "foundation" we all live on. They plan to leave "pillars" of sand between the wells to hold up the limestone. Am I the only one to see that it will only be a matter of time before these "pillars" level off creating a unstable void which will inevitably collapse creating a catastrophe in yours and my backyard ? The area of this collapse will be unpredictable but with the number of pipelines, hydro transmission lines , the city of Winnipeg aqueduct and thousands of private wells we cannot afford the risk. I ask you to make every effort to put a halt to this inevitable disaster. I would also request a Clean Environment Commission to investigate and stop this project before irreversible damage is done to our province.

Thank you
J. Carriere

Minister Guillemard,

I am writing in regard to the CanWhite Sands Corp. File 6057.00.

The whole concept of this Project is without question "TOTAL INSANITY". Why "anyone in their right mind" would want to mix " the mining of sand out of an acquirer " with water consumption from the same aquifer ,is bewildering.

You have , on your sites , many pages of question and statements by people who have interest in the acquirer ... FOR A SAFE CONSUMABLE WATER SOURCE.

As the Minister responsible for this " PRECIOUS" natural resource, you and all " your people should be making SURE that this is stopped and no more " MINING IS PERMITTED".

I have worked in the mines for 11years in different locations. There are many different formation down there that can be challenging. If something goes wrong in a larger space one , has options. What kind of options do you have in a well?

Why the PROVINCE even considers this concept is astonishing! If this is the OLD AGE RHETORIC , " Oh look at the JOBS we will create", THE TRADE OFF is not worth the risk !!

If “we are as concerned as we talk about leaving this planet for future generations”, THEN LET US ALL DO SO , start by leaving the GENERATIONS “ CLEAN USABLE WATER.

We went to Third World Countries to help them get “Good quality water”, here we are looking at “ DESTROYING “ good water. Mining companies should possibly “ strike a deal with Egypt or anywhere else I the Middle East for the sand that is already ,ON TOP OF THE GROUND. They could probably pulverize it to any texture they need.

So in closing, I trust you may forward this letter to the proper department.

Thank you

Wayne Lovenuk

Good Afternoon Honourable Minister Guillemard,
Please accept the attached correspondence on behalf of the Municipal Silica Sand Advisory Committee requesting the Province to hold a formal Clean Environment Commission Hearing regarding EAP File No. 6119.00 for CanWhite Sands Corporations submission dated August 3, 2021.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

With regards,

Christine Hutlet, CMMA
Chief Administrative Officer
Rural Municipality of Tache

October 5, 2021

Manitoba Conservation and Climate
Room 344, Legislative Building
450 Broadway
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0V8

E-mailed to: mincc@leg.gov.mb.ca

Attention: Honourable Sarah Guillemard, Minister of Conservation and Climate

Dear Honourable Guillemard,

Re: CanWhite Sands Corp. – Silica Sand Extraction Project – File 6119.00

Seven southeastern municipalities have established a Municipal Silica Sand Advisory Committee (MSSAC) to serve as an advisory body to the municipal council of each participating Municipality regarding independent review and obtaining of information to better understand the effects that may arise as a result of the silica sand extraction project proposed by CanWhite Sands Corp. Committee members are the rural municipalities of Tache, Ste. Anne, La Broquerie, Hanover, Brokenhead, and Reynolds, and the City of Steinbach.

Collectively, we respectfully request that a public hearing on this project, together with the proposed processing facility (File 6057.00 in the Public Registry) be conducted by the Clean Environment Commission. This project is very complex and the methodology for extraction appears to be unproven, and the potential for significant negative impacts to the groundwater resource in southeastern Manitoba is too risky not to have the project more fully scrutinized by the public, municipalities, subject matter experts and other interested parties. We feel that the Environment Act Proposal document is incomplete and leaves many unanswered questions about our precious water resource. There very well could be a way to safely extract silica sand from the sandstone aquifer, however this proposal does not demonstrate with any degree of certainty that what is being proposed will not have negative effects.

We have e-mailed separate correspondence directly to the Public Registry outlining many detailed comments and concerns on the silica sand extraction proposal.

Yours truly and on behalf of the Mayors and Reeves and administrators of the seven municipalities,



Christine Hutlet, CMMA
Chief Administrative Officer
R. M. of Tache

c. R.M.s of Ste. Anne, La Broquerie, Hanover, Brokenhead, and Reynolds, City of Steinbach

Good Afternoon,

Please find attached our letter in regard to File Number 6119.00, CanWhite Sands Corp, regarding the Silica Sand Extraction Project.

I trust you will find the attached in order. Should your office have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Colleen Draper, Chief Administrative Officer at the RM of Springfield at [REDACTED]

Thank you,

Erica Wood, BSW

Executive Assistant

RM of Springfield



Rural Municipality of Springfield

www.rmofspringfield.ca

October 5, 2021

Minister of Conservation and Climate
Honourable Sarah Guillemard
Room 344 – 450 Broadway
Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0V8

Dear Honourable Minister Guillemard:

Re: CanWhite Sands Corp. – Silica Sand Extraction Project – File: 6119.00

The safety of the Rural Municipality of Springfield residents and stakeholders, including the protection of our precious and valuable natural groundwater water resources is of the utmost importance to Council of the Rural Municipality of Springfield.

Following a review of the most recent CanWhite Sands Environment Act Proposal, Council has determined that the application is deficient in addressing concerns in regards to protection of the Carbonate and Winnipeg Sandstone Formation Aquifer Systems. The far-reaching impacts that this project could potentially have on the Rural Municipality of Springfield and Southeastern Manitoba as a whole, whom rely on these aquifers for their public and private drinking water is not something that Council is willing to support until all concerns are properly addressed.

Council hereby formally requests that you deem this sensitive project an issue that needs further review and refer it to the Clean Environment Commission for a full inquiry. A certified Resolution of Council in this regard is attached for your records.

Sincerely,


Tiffany Fell
Mayor



RM of Springfield
100 Springfield Centre Drive, Manitoba, R0E 1J0
Tel: [REDACTED]

5 October, 2021

RESOLUTION

Resolution # 21-436

Moved by: Valerie Ralke

Seconded by: Howard Bredin

WHEREAS CanWhite Sands has submitted an Environment Act License Proposal (EAP) for a Silica Sand Extraction Project within the RM of Springfield (File: 6119.00);

AND WHEREAS following a review of the CanWhite Sands Environment Act proposal, Council and staff of the RM of Springfield have significant concerns and questions that remain unanswered;

AND WHEREAS this proposal has far-reaching impacts that could potentially affect all of Southeastern Manitoba who rely on this aquifer for their drinking water;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the RM of Springfield formally requests that the Minister of Conservation and Climate deem this project an issue that needs further review and refer it to the Clean Environment Commission for a full investigation.

Carried

Certified True Copy

[REDACTED]
Chief Administrative Officer

September 22, 2021

To the Environmental Approval Branch

Clean water for future generations needs our protection now!

CanWhite Sands recently submitted an EAP for extraction activities for a silica mine, as a resident of Lorette, Manitoba I am very concerned and 100% against this.

It will jeopardize the source of drinking water for the entire region and leave us with contaminated water.

I want a call for a Clean Environment Commission public hearing and am requesting that the proponent develop a full Environmental Impact Statement which provides a detailed assessment and preferably not to drill for silica mines in our region.

Thank You for your time

Terri & Edmond Ross

Lorette Residents