1

Date: 10-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very supportive of this project because:

- the environmental impacts will be negligible,

- the project, and its downstream value added manufacturing and processing will be a significant contributor to MB becoming a "have" province,

I live in the region that shares the aquifers and am dependant on well water for my home. I have read the entire CEC report.

2

Date: 10-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I would like to express my strong support for the Sio Silica Project in southeastern Manitoba. After following the review process and reading the available environmental, technical, and economic documentation, I believe this project represents a significant opportunity for Manitoba to responsibly develop its natural resources while promoting sustainable economic growth, innovation, and environmental stewardship.

Sio Silicas approach to extracting high-purity silica sand using a closed-loop water system and minimal surface disturbance demonstrates a modern, science-based model for resource development. The companys commitment to environmental monitoring, groundwater protection, and engagement with local communities shows that this project is being designed with long-term sustainability in mind. Importantly, the extraction method avoids traditional open-pit mining, which greatly reduces land disruption and associated emissions compared to conventional mining practices.

The potential economic benefits to Manitoba are substantial. The project would create hundreds of skilled jobs during both construction and operation phases, while also providing significant tax revenues and economic spin-offs to the local region. Moreover, the silica resource has important applications in advanced industries such as solar panel manufacturing, glass, and high-tech materials all of which align with Canadas and Manitobas broader goals of building a cleaner, greener economy.

From an environmental and regulatory standpoint, it is clear that extensive studies have been undertaken to assess groundwater safety, aquifer integrity, and potential cumulative impacts. These assessments, combined with ongoing monitoring commitments, provide confidence that the project can proceed safely under the appropriate oversight and with adaptive management if necessary. Manitobas environmental assessment process is robust, and this project appears to have met those requirements with diligence and transparency.

In a time when communities across Canada are seeking ways to balance environmental protection with responsible economic growth, the Sio Silica Project offers a path forward that demonstrates both are possible. By supporting innovative and low-impact resource development, Manitoba can attract investment, create jobs, and strengthen its reputation as a province that leads in responsible resource management and clean technology.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Government of Manitoba and the Clean Environment Commission to approve the Sio Silica Project and allow it to proceed under the recommended environmental safeguards. This project has the potential to deliver long-term benefits to Manitobans while setting a positive example for sustainable resource development across Canada

3

Date: 10-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Good day,

I personally believe that this project will create a great future for our Province. It will create numerous jobs for our people and it is the economy.

4

Date: 10-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As someone deeply committed to sustainable development and community-centered innovation, I support projects that responsibly advance Manitobas economic potential while safeguarding our environment and public health. The revised Sio Silica proposal reflects meaningful progress in that direction.

1. Responsiveness to Community and Regulatory Feedback

The scaled-back scope and reduced well count show that Sio Silica has taken public and government concerns seriously. This kind of adaptive planning builds trust and demonstrates a willingness to collaborate with Manitobans not just operate within the province.

2. Phased Implementation with Environmental Monitoring

The five-year phased rollout allows for continuous oversight and course correction. This approach aligns with best practices in environmental risk management and supports long-term aquifer protection critical for both ecological integrity and public confidence.

3. Water Treatment and Re-injection Safeguards

The inclusion of filtration and UV treatment before reinjection is a strong signal that the company is prioritizing groundwater health. These measures reflect a thoughtful balance between industrial activity and environmental stewardship.

4. Efficient Use of Existing Infrastructure

By transporting silica sand to a previously licensed facility via a closed-loop slurry line, the project avoids unnecessary land disturbance and infrastructure duplication. This is a smart use of existing resources that minimizes environmental impact.

5. Strategic Economic Opportunity

High-purity silica is essential for solar panels, semiconductors, and fiber optic industries that drive clean energy and digital infrastructure. Manitoba's participation in this supply chain positions us as a contributor to global sustainability while creating local jobs and investment.

6. Built-In Transparency and Oversight

The revised proposals structure allows for ongoing public input and regulatory review. This ensures that environmental performance remains accountable and responsive to community expectations.

5

Date: 10-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yes, I do have concerns. The original CEC report recommended that Sio Silica revise both the timelines for its project, and investigate various technical alternatives to its stated process, including additional testing prior to expansion. As I read their resubmission, I only see evidence that the company will slow down the timeline, but not that it will address any of the unknown or little-tested potential risks identified in the CEC report. (I am not an engineer so there may be technical language somewhere, but I don't see mention of the technical elements listed by CEC in the executive summary of the resubmission.) Further, I see no clear accountability plan if environmental damage to the water supply is discovered, and have little confidence that this corporation will duely monitor its assets after its profit window has passed (as per pretty much every resource-extraction project in Canada, ever). I also do not have faith that a government, however well-intentioned, will be able to hold a corporation to its promises for long-term remediation after the project profit-window passes, particularly when there are known members of one major political party who were found in ethical breach in supporting the original proposal. Further, in the original report there were also concerns about the degree to which Sio Silica consulted with local community, and in my view the 'consultations' conducted since the original submission have not been sufficient in number, nor meaningfully built lasting relationships founded on trust, reciprocity, and collaboration. In particular, Brokenhead First Nation rejected a collaboration with the company after a series of meetings that seemed murky and underpublicized at best. To me this rejection suggests that there is not widespread Indigenous support for the project and therefore it should not proceed, following the best principles of truth and reconciliation.

Finally, the original CEC report is clear: this aquifer is the source of drinking water for a huge Manitoba population that is expected to grow. The report itself names the uncertain impacts of climate change and drought that are making things more fragile, and in the years since this situation has only worsened. As a resident in the impacted area, I urge the province to reject this application.

6

Date: 10-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have water concerns as well as environmental concerns. These have been voiced many times by myself and many people. When will officials start to listen and stop considering this project.

7

Date: 10-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water quality is a concern. If the mine is approved in East St Paul they will be mining through our aquifer. Carla devlin is also the president of sio silica which is a huge conflict of interest.

8

Date: 10-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It would be great to see more mining in Manitoba, we need to bring more jobs to this province. This project seems like a no brainer.

9

Date: 10-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As an environmental studies grad from the U of Winnipeg, I am more than qualified to say this project is a nightmare.

Aquifers should be protected from any and all industries that would seek to mine them or alter them in an experimental project. The legacy of protection is what will make Manitoba great.

The risk of damage or degradation to one of the worlds most pure aquifers for commercial industrial use is beyond acceptable to anybody with a basic knowledge of hydrology.

The benefits of a few dozen low paying jobs for a few dozen people- out of tens of thousands who rely on that aquifer - is not a measurable or necessary benefit.

I would ethically and morally support any parties who wished to sabotage such a project through nonviolent direct action. I would financially and logistically support such a group.

10

Date: 10-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not support this project. There is too much risk that the company will be unable to keep environmental safeguards in place over the length of time the sand mine would be in production. Once contaminated there will be no coming back for the aquifer.

11

Date: 10-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Great project MB, will creat lots of jobs and help to boost economy.

12

Date: 10-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I'm commenting in support of this project for the following reasons:

1) It seems the company has gone above and beyond in terms of mitigating and potential risks to the aquifer;

2) As a nation, Canada desperately needs to become more pro-development and pro-industry, especially in the face of a long-lasting trade war with a neighbour to the south;

3) Silica is an incredibly important mineral in terms of the energy transition and also in terms of supporting the hardware development necessary for AI, which is coming whether we like it or not, and it is important that Canada develops its own supply chain to support this.

4) The economic benefits for Manitoba and our country cannot be ignored, especially given we cannot hope to balance our national budget without a stark increase in output.

13

Date: 10-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I fully support the Sio Silica Project and greatly respect the hard work Sio has done over the past year to rebrand and advance this initiative. Manitoba needs sustainable economic growth and job creation, and this project has the potential to deliver significant opportunities across engineering, manufacturing, trades, and innovation. By fostering vertical integration within the province, it will bring substantial revenue back to Manitoba, supporting important public services such as healthcare.

I also believe the project is environmentally safe, given that Sio is working closely with respected firms like AECOM and Stantec to ensure responsible, science-based environmental practices. This is a project that balances economic benefits with environmental stewardship, and I fully support it moving forward.

14

Date: 10-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: You keep drilling Wells and the Shale air which contains heavy mineral elements will leach into our groundwater and destroy the water source for thousands of people this cannot be allowed to continue say no once and for all their experimental process is not welcome here it's too great of a risk to our drinking water supply9

15

Date: 10-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Zero concerns. Think it will be awesome for Springfield. I would suggest staffing a university science degree student from the geographic area of the municipality to give feedback to the municipality on concerns or suggestions or compliments to help the community feel safe

16

Date: 10-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water quality

17

Date: 10-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We don't know how their mining may impact our water. Water being a necessity to live, it is not something that should be messed with.

18

Date: 10-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing in support of Sio Silicas Simba Sand Extraction Project. After reviewing the publicly available materials, it is clear that the company has undertaken a thorough and science-based approach to environmental management, ensuring minimal impact on water quality, air quality, and surrounding ecosystems.

Sio Silicas innovative extraction method, which does not rely on traditional open-pit mining, demonstrates a strong commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainable resource development. The projects closed-loop water system and focus on reducing surface disturbance represent a responsible path forward for Manitobas resource sector.

This project also provides meaningful economic and social benefits, including local job creation, increased investment in rural Manitoba, and the potential to position the province as a leader in low-impact silica productionan important material in renewable energy, technology, and advanced manufacturing sectors.

In my view, the environmental safeguards, transparency of the assessment process, and economic opportunities presented make this a well-balanced and forward-thinking development. I fully support the approval of the Sio Silica Extraction Project.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

19

Date: 10-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I currently drink my well water with a filter and consider it the best tasting water coming from our largest aqueduct in the province. There is no one person or experts that can guarantee that

the water remains that way if the mine happens. Why would we gamble with this precious resource that effects so many Manitobians.

20

Date: 10-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Finally a critical minerals project in Manitoba. What an opportunity to maximize benefits to all Manitobans. As a long time Winnipeger and having visited the Vivian site - I can think of no other project using only air and water - to extract high quality, critical and profitable sand.

21

Date: 10-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Great project for Manitoba and Canada.

It should proceed.

22

Date: 11-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I live in the town of Oakbank and I am on well water. The research has not been conclusive to state that the long term health of water in the area is not at risk. I am strongly opposed to the location of the operation.

23

Date: 10-31-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have been following the Sio Silica proposed project for some time now and it seems to me that it is the perfect type of project for Manitoba at a time when our economy and workforce needs some stimulus. Manitoba needs new mining ventures and this project from all I have seen is relatively uninvasive and is environmentally friendly. It taps in so well with other current Manitoba priorities such as the development of the Port of Churchill. I believe exporting of silica sand around the world would be most efficient using this port. The project could also attract new high tech ventures in Manitoba if the government were to encourage high tech companies that use silica sand

to construct manufacturing and other facilities in Manitoba. All of this would add jobs in Manitoba and further diversify our economy. Many of these jobs would be high paying jobs.

Canada and Manitoba need to further develop world markets as a response to trade issues with the U.S. This would be an ideal way to do so, as the product is an important component in so many industries around the world. It seems that the upsides to this project are huge and the downsides minimal. I am strongly in support and would encourage the government to add it's support.

24

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project will bring very little money for the province and potentially ruin the drinking water for thousands of people with little reproductions if they do damage the aquifers. Projects that could potentially ruin drinking water should not even be considered on such a large scale. If they want to experiment with this technique they should be trying it where they are not going to be ruining peoples lives in the process.

25

Date: 11-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is an extremely ill advised attempt at taking profits from a natural resource. The silica sand is the reason we are able to drink the water from the aquifer as it acts as a filter. Removing the sand and replacing it with anything else is defeating the purpose of the silica sand itself. I do not trust any company to not contaminate the underground water source that many people depend on to live. Any amount of money they are offering is not worth destroying our water sources as they are the most important resource on our planet. Please do not move forward with the project.

26

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: You can not guarantee the safety of our water, then don't fuck with our water. Shut this shit down once and for all, MB Gov't.

27

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Protect our water at all costs!

28

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We simply cannot risk impacting irreplaceable fresh water sources for generations to come. Canada does not have strong enough environmental legislation, laws, and over site in place to hold this company accountable in the long term. I am adamantly against this project for the above reasons, as well as other detrimental environmental impacts such as deforestation, landscape degradation, the destruction of wetland and forest ecosystems, and most importantly, the depletion of local aquifers

29

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We need to protect our drinking water at all cost first and foremost. Secondly, what will it do to ground stability? If the sand is water soaked and you removed the sand what happens? Does the ground start to sink as the water is displaced by the heavy ground above and infrastructure above? Does the water get pushed above ground or just away. Also If the sand was below bedrock, the red river formation is 150-175m below according to government data, then I think it would be different but considering its sitting on top I think its a very bad idea. I dont think the return on investment is worth even if the province or its citizens would receive all the profits(which we wont see any) as the cost of farm land, clean drinking water and infrastructure damage will cost and unpredictable amount of money. This is something that the citizens should vote on not the elected officials. We the people should be the ones to decide, not corporations or the government. This should be our choice not yours.

30

Date: 11-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project would have disastrous, irreversible effects on the environment. This project should not be approved.

31

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have concerns with the structural integrity of the ground where the sands are proposed to be extracted. Removing structure from beneath the sub soil opens up the possibility of sinkholes caused by unrestricted flow of water which would have been slowed and filtered by passing through the layers of sand. The next issue is whether there will be funds setup by the company and not taxpayers for future cleanup and compensation for these mines.

32

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project will contaminate the water table with clay and sand intrusion and will have wide effects on residents including my parents who rely on well water. This should never be approved. We are not Michigan but we will become them soon with projects like this. Put people before greed.

33

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not approve of the proposed project because of the lack of proper studies and assessments related to the negative and long term effects of said project relating to contamination of existing water tables

34

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I think this project is against the best interests of manitobans and Canadians. Please do not proceed.

35

Date: 10-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I hope the project should go ahead ASAP. We need to pay for environment measures. But environmental issues shouldn't be a block for development.

36

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am opposed to this extraction project. I am concerned about the contamination of the aquifer. It is almost certain iron bacteria will be introduced and proliferate by use of compressed air. There will be no way to undo that.

37

Date: 11-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It's not how many wells they are proposing this time, it's drilling through our only water supply and not knowing what will happen to the aquifer. Our water supply should not be the testing grounds so Sio Silica can make millions.

38

Date: 11-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Extremely concerned about our water being contaminated with a project like this. I dont understand how our mayor can also be head of this project, very large conflict of interest. This should be investigated by government officials

39

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My God, please don't sell us out and destroy farmland and civilian water sources for multiple townships if the water table gets damaged. Sio does not care and will cut corners. Please don't. Please. I'm begging you.

40

Date: 10-31-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Subject: Strong Opposition to Sio Silica Corporation Simba Sand Extraction Project (File 6275.00) Risk to Private Well Water

To: Environmental Approvals Branch, Manitoba Environment and Climate Change

I am a resident of the R.M. of Springfield and rely exclusively on a private groundwater well for my household drinking water, located within 5 km of the proposed silica sand extraction wells. I strongly oppose the Sio Silica Simba Sand Extraction Project due to unacceptable risks to my well water quality and quantity.

1. Direct Threat to Aquifer Integrity

The proposal involves drilling multiple extraction wells to ~61 m (200 ft) depth and injecting compressed air to mobilize silica sand slurry. This process will:

Depressurize the aquifer, potentially lowering water tables and reducing well yields.

Mobilize fine sediments and contaminants, increasing turbidity and risking chemical changes (e.g., iron, manganese, or naturally occurring arsenic).

Create pathways for surface contaminants to enter the aquifer via poorly sealed or abandoned wells.

My well draws from the same carbonate aquifer targeted by the project. No baseline water testing has been provided for nearby private wells, and the proponents claim of no impact is unsubstantiated.

2. Flawed Water Reuse Plan

The proponent states water will be separated, filtered, UV-treated, and returned down the wells. This closed-loop claim is misleading:

UV treatment does not remove dissolved metals, radionuclides, or fine silica particles (<0.45 m), which can remain suspended and re-injected.

No third-party monitoring plan ensures 100% water recovery or prevents aquifer cross-contamination.

Slurry transport to an off-site facility risks spills and pipeline leaks, further threatening groundwater.

3. Lack of Meaningful Setbacks and Cumulative Impact Assessment

Extraction wells on private land with no minimum setback from neighboring wells violate precautionary principles.

The 5-year phased approach masks long-term cumulative drawdown and contamination risks.

No hydrogeological model accounts for fracture networks in the carbonate aquifer, which can transmit impacts kilometers from well sites.

4. Precedent of Failure

Similar air-lift sand extraction in Alberta (Vivian Sand Project) caused well interference complaints within 1 km, with turbidity increases up to 300 NTU. Manitobas geology is more fractured, amplifying risks.

Requested Action:

Reject the Environment Act Proposal unless the proponent:

1. Conducts mandatory pre-drilling water testing (quantity, quality, isotopes) for all wells within 5 km.

2. Establishes a third-party monitored compensation fund for affected well owners.

3. Commits to minimum 2 km setbacks from existing wells and zero-discharge slurry transport.

Until these safeguards are legally binding, this project poses an irreversible threat to my familys sole water source.

Name: [redacted]

Address: [redacted]

Date: [redacted]

41

Date: 11-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project regardless of their claims, will ultimately affect the source water supply in surrounding areas. Most of the properties water source is delivered via a well. Why should our water source be disturbed or contaminated for a private businesses profit? Absolutely against the approval of this proposal.

42

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I strongly oppose the proposed Sio project. Nothing Sio has presented has assuaged any concerns about long term environmental damage. Their continuing attempts to push the project through despite active community opposition, shady government dealings, and without answers for legitimate public concerns is alarming.

I'm all for economic development but this is not it. We cannot mortgage our future by compromising aquifers for private enterprise. Once an aquifer is compromised it's gone forever. There's no coming back from it. I know, I've lived over a ruined aquifer.

I implore the government to block this project.

43

Date: 11-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about the impact on water quality, forests that support biodiversity, animal habitat and natural settings which support the health and well-being of Manitobans.

44

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This seems like a stupid idea to sell out for. The short term benefits are not worth the potential long term effects to future generations.

45

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project is a danger to our aquifer and our water table. This entire project has been scary/poorly managed from the beginning and should be cancelled once and for all. NO TO SIO SILICA.

46

Date: 11-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Given that the science behind the extraction method has not changed; Given that the extraction of sand sediments beneath the aquifer shall leave substantial voids in the rock strata surrounding/supporting the aquifer; Given there is no existing extraction site utilizing this method to draw conclusions from; My

Comment is that the water quality of a regional population should not be a testing ground for new technologies. The size of the project is NOT the determining factor here, the science is NOT

Proven. ALSO: should the worst case scenario (aquifer degradation/contamination) occur, it would be incumbent on the proponents involved to replace, at their own expense, water of similar quality and quantities (prior to time of extraction) to all affected parties (as required).

I VOTE NO, as the risk of this extraction method to life (dense rural population) and livelihood (farm communities) is too great, given the unproven extraction process.

47

Date: 11-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I don't want my aquifer destroyed. I don't want my well water contaminated. Go drill somewhere else!!

48

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My concern is the extraction method. The are using something entirely new that they're calling 'airlifting' to bring silica out of the aquifer. Problem is, aquifers are very carefully stratified/layered waterways created over tens of thousands of years. The layering is inherent to their function. If the layers get disturbed by the airlifting, then it could destroy the ability for the aquifer to supply water, or to soak up flood waters. If that happens, it is impossible to remedy.

Now consider that 100,000 people use that aquifer for their water supply. It's important for farmland irrigation and flood mitigation across vast areas of the province. If Sio Silica damages the aquifer, there's no going back. No matter how slow they go, no matter how careful they are, no matter how many controls are in place, the risk is ALWAYS there that the aquifer could be destroyed.

This project should NEVER go ahead. The risk is far too great. Our waterways above and below ground are far too important and too fragile for this.

49

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The long-term threat this project presents to an irreplaceable water resource for many is not justified by the short-term economic gains it stands to generate for a few.

50

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned that this project will endanger the ground water which is vital to homes, agriculture practices and wildlife in the area. There is no guarantee that Sio silica is going to follow proper procedures and if the water is ruined, that's it there's no going back. Please do not give up our precious water resources for short term gain.

51

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There are multiple farms that rely on the water from the aquifer they'll be pulling the sand out of. It could lead to some serious contamination of crops across a huge area. Having the environmental assessment done by a neutral third party is of the upmost importance if this province wants to uphold and maintain at least some semblance of environment protection.

52

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our water is so much more important than lining the pockets of a company that will immediately merge with an American company. They don't care about the quality of our natural resources. We can't drink money.

53

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am in opposition of this development. There are too many variables with this extraction method that have gone untested because of limited datasets. I think anything that can and will have an effect on groundwater sources needs to be 100% understood before irreversible or irreparable damage occurs.

I am not a geologist, or a geo-engineer or any type of scientist that has an understanding of fluid dynamics, material and density or hydraulic pressures within strata and/or the effects of their fluctuations from their current stasis; but what I found concerning is that there is no discussion or explanation about how the density of the water sand mixture (at current untouched state) changing will ultimately affect the surrounding strata. A sand/water mixture has a density that can be measured, but removing the sand portion and replacing the void with just water changes that density and the pressures it can exert markedly; right?

So what does the density differential mean for the structural integrity of those voids? Is there going to be something else added to the water to maintain a density rating consistent with its current (original) state? If so; why not? How could this be mitigated should negative impacts to the superficial strata occur? Does water alone provide the same amount of "support" that a sand /water mixture provides?

I can't have been the only person to wonder about this. I know that extraction wells in other resource industries tend to replace the resulting voids with salt water I believe, but because they are so deep they do not have any effect on superficial geological strata and their aquifers. if mineral agents are added to the water to replace this lost density provided by the sand; then what will be used? Whatever foreign material is used to replace this density will absolutely affect the aquifers.

Anyways, that's just my two cents.

54

Date: 10-31-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: What an opportunity for Canada and Manitoba. Sio Silica and the SiMba Project will offer an environmental conscious mining approach that not only will be clean, with no open pits and no harmful chemicals among many other conscious approaches, this company will provide jobs and will make Manitoba a global leader. With US politics being what they are today, this will definitely be a win for Manitobans and Canadians.

55

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am against the Sio silica project. The risks to the aquifer are too great. Clean potable water is a more valuable resource than silica from a basic human needs perspective. Please do not let greed destroy our province.

56

Date: 11-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project will help advance our transition to cleaner energy, provide investment and employment for Canada. I support this project.

57

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a property owner in this area, I strongly oppose this project. Drilled wells are a potential point of entry for contamination of the aquifer. Potable water is life. Once Silo Silica gets there "foot-in-the-door" with the proposed smaller project, it will be difficult to stop future expansion.

58

Date: 11-03-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yes I oppose this project because of concerns over water pollution.

59

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project will undoubtedly contaminate the environment. The water from the aquifer will be contaminated and will not be useable by people and animals.

This is another example of business executives putting short term profit over the future health and safety of countless humans.

Water pollution is already a problem, this project can only make it worse.

60

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This company keeps trying to get this project established but it will be hell on our drinking water and we won't even get to see the profits for agreeing to poison ourselves. There is no win here for Manitoba and I will show up to every meeting I have to to fight this corporate driven travesty. I refuse to destroy our environments to line the pockets of foreign capital.

61

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It will contaminate my drinking water

62

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yeah, as someone who has lived in resource extracted places and have seen/lived through the fall out due to lack of maintenance or due to the lack of companies giving a crap as they know that should a disaster befall them they will be able to do minimal clean up if any, what are the actual protections and monitoring going to be in place to ensure drinking water and that this project isn't going to fuck over our drinking water? IF the worst case scenario befalls us what are the steps that will be taken? I want to see a fully fleshed out plan of remediation and, if remediation isn't possible, where are we going to pull our drinking water from that will not be put on the average tax payer? Will this include any other groups who will be impacted as well under this plan?

Our environmental laws are disgustingly weak and I have seen what happens when companies are allowed to progress with minimal oversight. It always ends on the side of profits everyone else can suffer the consequences. I think this is a terrible idea. It will not benefit Manitoba residents and puts our drinking water of our main city at risk.

63

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We only have so much clean water.. if we destroy the way it's filtered, that's it no more clean water. This is not something we should even be entertaining. This project is not in the best interest of Manitobans. it is only there to funnel money into US company's that will never have to deal with the consequences.

64

Date: 11-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We live in the area and use well water. This will drastically impact land and water. Not worth the millions. Our health and land is at risk.

65

Date: 11-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yes, I am concerned about the risks to our water and do not feel that there is a foolproof plan to keep it safe.

66

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio really, really, really wants this resource, obviously. That should be a clue to not act like we are desperate.

Only allow extraction (if it is allowed at all) that respects and protects the water and natural environment. Dont settle for BS greenwashing.

And if at all possible, cut out the middleman and develop it ourselves. Why send profits outside our borders? If it really is a sought-after, precious commodity, lets not act like suckers for a change.

67

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Why are we allowing this company to continue to ammendment proposals for this project that only benefits the community in the short term? Preposterous.

68

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: What will replace the sand that is being taken out. There is no prof that this will not cause catastrophic damage later on. Who will be responsible if there are issues with drinking water later on. If this company is so sure that will be no issues later on. They should have to put up a billon dollar bond. Fixing this if there is issues, should not come on tax payers.

69

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Hi

This was turned before right? So why is it being resubmitted ? If it's the same proposal based on precedent it should have been rejected .

What other options are there to harvest sand with less risk to the environment and water sources ? Request an analysis of an open mine . Only one option is insufficient and bordering on negligence.

Look forward to your response .

Sincerely

[redacted]

70

Date: 10-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Who will be held truly accountable for any shortcuts or accidents that occur during the initial build and through ongoing extraction which impacts the water table.

If this moves forward we need personal guarantees from sio executives and the executive of their parent company that issues which arise will be remedied and paid in for in full by them. If they are

comfortable enough to risk the drinking water of Manitobans surely they can pledge their own assets against the same?

Resource extraction can be a powerful growth lever for Manitoba - but don't do it where it could negatively impact so many of the people who live here.

71

Date: 11-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I think that we should deny this project, it has been shut down in different iterations before they need to get the message and just leave. Money isn't everything, but clearly it is to these people who couldnt care less about the damage this will cause our aquifers that people rely on for clean water. Once damaged there is no repairing our aquifers its simply not worth the risk at all.

72

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not want Sio Silica's silica extraction project to be approved by the province. I believe they have failed to guarantee that the drinking water for Manitobans will remain safe if their project goes through. I do not think the economic benefit is worth the risk of communities losing access to potable water.

73

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project was previously rejected due to unknown impacts on local aquifers. Manitoba must protect the natural environment and especially clean water sources in the face of climate change. There is no reason for Manitoba to allow an outside company to destroy our environment for their private gain. If Manitoba wants to exploit this resource, all of the benefits must stay in Manitoba through a crown corporation. I do not support this project being approved in any shape or form, as there is unknown and unknowable impacts on our fresh water supply that so many Manitobans rely upon for drinking and recreation.

74

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I strongly oppose this proposed project. There is not sufficient evidence to show that the extraction method will do no harm to the affected aquifer. We are at a crucial time in the history of our province, and our country. We must respect our natural resources, and must not risk our vital natural habitats for the sake of profit. The proposal does not adequately address the potential environmental risk of the project.

75

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very concerned about the environmental impacts, we need a 3rd party environmental assessment to make sure nothing is impacted, why do you keep ignoring the multiple farms and ranches in this area that rely in the water from the aquifer they'll be pulling the sand out of, and the clay/soil intrusion that will occur once they start pulling the sand out. They're going to be causing massive contamination across a massive area and don't give a dam.

76

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am opposed to Sio Silica proceeding with this proposed plan to mine in our province. I have concerns about the environment and this company causing permanent damage to the water supply in the area. They are deceitful and make misleading comments and are not to be trusted. The first nations in the area have also rejected there proposals and I stand with them.

77

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am against the sio silica deal in manitoba, we should not be allowing private, non manitoban companies to mine for our resources, we should not be disturbing the natural areas and risking them for profit, no one will hold them accountable if something goes wrong. This second attempt to gain approval is in itself proof for their disregard for the publics opinion of this project,

we already said no. They will just keep trying and trying until they get their way and it's manitoba that will suffer for it. Do not allow this deal, WE ALREADY VOTED NO ONCE.

78

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about the water quality, Wild life and long term effects on the environment.

79

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My position is as follows. Given that we are going to be directly affected by climate change going forward, we cannot afford to do anything that even remotely affects potable water. Water is a basic need and human right. No one no matter what the reason should be allowed to impact a natural resource necessary to life. Environmental concerns should err exceptionally far into caution to save this resource.i dont believe that there should ever be a circumstance where mining by SioSilica, or any other entity, for whatever reason should be approved.

80

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have concerns about how it will affect water systems and wells in the area. I do not believe that the environmental impact and possible risks are worth it in regards to our drinking water. Also I do not have any trust in this company due to the shady dealings the last time there was a proposal.

81

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Am not convinced this is safe. Considering the consequences I dont feel it is worth the risk reward.

82

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There is no way proposed in this project that protects the water in the aquifer which provides drinking water for the area. As Manitobans and Canadians we should be at the forefront of environmentalism, especially as US politics continues to pollute our country. Selling out our environment to the highest bidder for little to no value return is abhorrent. I find it shameful that Sio continues to push for this, trying to be sneaky and underhanded to slip by, when it has been made abundantly clear that the community does not want this. But what is most shameful is that our government keeps entertaining Sio. Shut it down.

83

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Concerned about the negative environmental impact of this project, specifically the affect on the water table for the area.

SIo Silica seem to be relentlessly pushing this project until they get what they want. Public perception is that they are hoping to enrich themselves at the cost of everyone else and I ask you, what is in it for Manitobans?

84

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I oppose sio silica's extraction of silica through use of bore holes into our province's most precious resource, it's aquifers. The danger this project poses is not worth the short term profit it will provide to the shareholders of the sio silica corporation. The potential long term consequences would be disastrous to our province. Please oppose this project in order to protect our clean waters.

85

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am expressly concerned about the heavy environmental exploitation that will have in this province. The proposed project will only further our lands degradation and have grave impact

on our water systems, local communities and will only serve to benefit the wealthy. There is an unhealthy investment by large corporations that dont care about Manitoba or its people.

This projected was tabled during the previous Conservative government for a reason.

86

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The risk of contamination to the aqaufir and droundwater is way too high. The loss of habitat can not be fully measured. This project is the exact opposite of the kind of projects we need, in order to protect the environment, flora and fauna, and future generations.

87

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am incredibly concerned about the damage that will be done to our environment if this goes through. Not only has it not passed multiple times, but there is very clear conflict of interest from people and politicians involved in this project. It has been rejected multiple times for a reason.

The environmental damage will be irreversible. For the love of god, shoal lake 40, who provides our clean water, has been under a boil water advisory for nearly 30 or more years!!

There was massive sewage runoff that went into our river this year!!

When will the health of the people, the animals, the water, and the environment come first?

We do NOT want the Sio Silica project!!!

88

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am a former resident of the RM of Springfield and currently reside in the RM of Taché, and I am adamantly against the Sio Silica mining project. I attended the CEC hearings and several town halls and its been clear from the beginning that this project is far too risky.

Thousands of Manitobans rely on our aquifer and its too precious to put at risk. What happens when the aquifer is compromised and we can no longer drink the water? Will Sio Silica be held accountable? Will the province be held accountable? History has shown us that mining companies

are rarely held accountable for any environmental issues they cause, why should we believe that Sio Silica would be any different?

After years of filings from Sio Silica, the Clean Environment Commission report says they dont have enough information to approve the project. Mining this sand will cause irreversible cross contamination of water between two different aquifers. The process of vacuuming sand out of an aquifer has never been done to this scale. The Manitoba government must reject this proposal, as the residents of southeastern Manitoba have made it clear several times that we do not want to take the risk.

89

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please protect our most valuable resource which is fresh water from this mining project. Mark my words they will contaminate our water supply, all they care about is money and short term profit. Protect our water

90

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am deeply concerned about the environmental consequences of this project. The entire extraction methodology would be incredibly detrimental to the water supply. I completely oppose this project.

91

Date: 11-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very concerned by this project and dont want it to go ahead as it will contaminate our water supplies that we all use for drinking cooking and such, also how a mayor of east St. Paul can be on the board of directors of sio silica isnt that a conflict of interest ??? She needs to be looked into by government officials

92

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It will ruin our water and cause a huge environmental impact.

It will force wildlife away from.

It will bring too much pollution , noise and traffic

93

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a concerned citizen, I do not wish to allow Sio Silica to go ahead with this process. This company is working in it's own self interests, and allowing them to go ahead with silica mining could contaminate and damage our province and drinkable water sources.

94

Date: 11-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Is there truly any more important natural resource currently or in the near future than water? Why risk the safety of our drinking water for a couple hundred jobs and tax revenue? My wife and I are raising our two children on an acreage with well water. I would like to feel safe having my family bathe and drink the water from our aquifers for years to come.

95

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The fact that the company keeps pushing ahead despite the glaring unanswered questions, especially around the protection of our drinking water and aquifers is very very concerning.

Their proposal still relies on the same extraction method that involves penetrating the protective shale layer between aquifers which is exactly the mechanism that former independent experts warned could lead to irreversible mixing of pristine limestone and sandstone aquifers. Thousands

of Manitobans depend on those aquifers now and for generations to come and it is sad that we are taking it for granted.

Its reckless for the company and regulators to proceed when so many variables are unknown. The absence of comprehensive hydrogeological studies and the lack of transparency about how drinking-water wells will be sealed or protected only heighten the risk.

As a Manitoban, I oppose the licence for this project being granted until every risk has been independently assessed, until read-in safeguards are in place, and until the voices of those who live here have been genuinely heard and respected.

I would urge regulators to reject any approval for Sio Silicas "new" proposal.

96

Date: 11-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: From a high-level standpoint I've read that Sio Silica is planning on using air pressure to push water and the sand up from the aquifer, then pump the water back down into the ground. What are they planning on replacing the sand with? This extraction method will lead to voids being created within the aquifer, and eventual soil intrusion and possible sinkholes developing. The aquifer they are tapping into is used by a large number of people for drinking water and agriculture uses across a large area. When these collapses start a large number of people will lose access to the aquifer, as the flow will be blocked for them, and an even higher number will have water contaminated with silt and soil, plugging pumps, etc.

Is there any remediation for this? Do they have any plans for monitoring? Considering the past actions of attempting to hide information, and the lack of transparency by the company can we even trust any monitoring information completed by them? How can we be sure that if a major collapse occurs that the company won't simply claim bankruptcy and disappear without any form of environmental clean up and remediation for the people affected?

97

Date: 10-31-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Subject to meeting environmental standards, I believe this project should move forward. The economy needs the injection, it will create good paying jobs and provide significant income for social programs.

98

Date: 11-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Unproven methodology with a significant possibility of permanently contaminating water supply to a large area of southeastern Manitoba. I can see no good reason why this Alberta based company should be allowed to experiment at the peril of clean potable water for Manitobans. What has changed with their proposal from the last time when it was deemed too risky to proceed? What assurances are being provided (and by whom) that we will have access to drinkable water?

99

Date: 11-03-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our concern is in regards to what will happen to the water quality with this project to home owners like myself who have our own wells? Disturbing the natural aqua system could certainly change the water quality.

100

Date: 11-03-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The impact on air quality, wildlife and water by the SIO process is far less than all similar methods of mining silica.

The positive impact on job creation and revenue for everyone is too important to pass up.

101

Date: 11-03-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not want the sio Silica project to be approved. There is no guarantee that our water won't be contaminated

102

Date: 11-03-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am against the sio sand project and every aspect of it. It must be stopped. The risks are too high for the limited rewards for non area residents.

103

Date: 11-03-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned that this project will affect the aquifer for consumable drinking water in the rm of Springfield.

104

Date: 11-03-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Hello, I live in the rural municipality of Springfield and I am very upset by Sio Silica's proposal, once again rearing it's ugly head. This proposal will ruin the water in the area. It has been explained many times at many meetings by scientist and geologist that the extraction will add oxygen to the water (which is inevitable) and then returning that water to the ground will cause an increase of heavy metals into the water. I am a biology teacher and I know how heavy metals or bioaccumulates are bad for all organic life. Our water in Oakbank/Springfield is perfect, but our mayor has started an 80 million dollar water treatment plant that is going to increase our debt 10 X and is unnecessary. The only reason it is happening is that they know that this proposal will contaminate our water. On top of that, any home owner who has a well, which is me, will not be helped if our well water is contaminated. So we have to help pay for water treatment that we will not be able to benefit from!! Is that not ridiculous? This proposal is bad for many Manitobans as well as the environment. This is a greedy company that cares little for those affected since they live in Alberta and will be making millions if not billions off our resources. The government of Manitoba should care for it's citizens and stop Sio Silica from this and any further proposal like other provinces and municipalities have.

105

Date: 11-04-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Is there any way the area of this aquifer can be made a water conservation area so the subject of drilling through the aquifer can be ended once and for all?

This project must not be approved. There are other areas where Silica may be mined while there are increasing limited sources of potable water. We all know once it is destroyed there is no coming back. This project is not providing any long-term financial benefits to the citizen who are the ones who will suffer the very negative outcomes. The owners are here for only as long as it takes to extract the silica, make their fortune, and leave.

106

Date: 11-03-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about what our water quality will become of this project goes through. I am also worried that the RM of Springfield does not have the residents best interests at heart.

107

Date: 11-03-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not agree with, or wish to have any mining of silica sand extraction. The health and well being of our drinking water is more important than someone making a buck. I do not agree with the proposal from sio silica corporation

108

Date: 11-03-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have issues related to water quality, air quality, wildlife. I do not want this in my community. I strongly object.

109

Date: 11-03-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The Project was initially divided into 2 parts , one of rezoning land and one of operation. Citizens had no information of the experimental extraction of sand. Once provided this information, they realized that the source of their drinking for thousands of Manitobans and farmers could be

harmed. Sio Silica has confirmed that the thin layer of shale could potentially break off and end up in our water supply. There are numerous examples of mining where sink holes develop following mining operations deep in the earth destroying the environment. There is no history of this mining process being used anywhere. Sio has stated that they will start small with fewer wells and extraction, but one well has the potential of changing our water. Preliminary test wells showed the change in water quality in the nearby areas. Residents are against using this experimental process to prove or disapprove its effectiveness when their quality drinking water is at stake. Clean water is essential for life. It significantly outweighs corporate profit. Citizens are not willing to gamble with their quality water source. There are many independent scientists who can provide factual information why this should not be allowed. I am speaking as a citizen and there are thousands of us depending on this aquifer for healthy quality drinking water. There are safer ways to stimulate our economy. Thank you.

110

Date: 11-03-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No Sio Silica! Concerned about aquifer and water quality.

111

Date: 11-03-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have concerns about water quality and wildlife impacts. Our water supply is a well on our property and I do not feel confident that this initiative will not negatively impact drinking water from local wells. The area is rich in diverse wildlife and their habitat should be preserved.

112

Date: 11-03-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We do not want this project going forward. We have lived in this area for years and don't want our water and children's lives effected by this pollution. We have a great ecosystem with lots of wildlife and a calm peaceful neighborhood and we want to keep it that way.

113

Date: 11-03-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The renewed proposal of Sio Silica does not remedy the issues of public concern. It only prolongs them. Sio should not be allowed to drill period. The project has almost inevitable probability of causing significant water quality issues to the residents of Springfield and surrounding municipalities. It could also cause irreparable damage to the aquifer and potentially threaten lives and property if their drilling leads to eventual sinkhole activity. The proposal should not be allowed to progress. Our clean water and safety are more important than Sio's profit.

114

Date: 11-04-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The SiMba Project by Sio Silica sets a new global benchmark for environmentally responsible resource development. Using a fully enclosed, non-invasive extraction process, the operation eliminates the need for open-pit mining, heavy machinery, truck traffic, harmful chemicals, and water waste resulting in virtually zero environmental disruption.

By harnessing Manitobas exceptional silica quartz resources, the SiMba Project will establish the province as a global hub for one of the worlds most in-demand materials the foundation for semiconductors, computer chips, AI infrastructure, solar panels, medical devices, and advanced battery technologies. This initiative strengthens Canadas position as a strategic partner to the United States and advances North Americas leadership in critical technology supply chains currently dominated by China.

115

Date: 11-04-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We need to do everything we can to protect our water supply now and for the future. There are plenty of other large scale projects that can be brought into Manitoba that will not risk the aquifer we depend on.

Sio Silica is not a corporation we need to be introducing into our province or doing business with whatsoever.

116

Date: 11-05-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Dir Sirs,

My wife and I have lived in the Springfield Municipality for over 29 years ad have enjoyed pristine water. The proposal to removed tons of Silica Sand from the aquifer is going to destroy the pristine water supply of the aquifer.

What is going to fill the void of the extracted silica sand? CONTAMINANTS! We are totally against removing the silica sand from the aquafer!

[redacted]

117

Date: 11-05-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The whole project is a concern. You already know the ins and outs. When the aquifer gets contaminated and everyones property value is worthless, farms will suffer, over 100 000 people/business effected. Will Sio and the province promise to supply everyone effected with treated water out of pocket when that happens?

118

Date: 11-05-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I don't think the risk of contaminating our aquifers is worth the small economic gain in terms of jobs created and private business profits. When the company is negligent and our aquifer becomes contaminated, we will lose our most important resource, clean drinkable water. We Manitobans have to stop thinking about short term economic gains at the expense of our environment and our livelyhoods. It absolutely disgusts me to see the damage businesses have already done to our surface water. To risk our only option for clean water would be a death sentence for future Manitobans.

119

Date: 11-06-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The Sio Silica extraction project represents an exciting step forward for our community and local economy. By creating new employment opportunities and supporting local businesses, this project will bring sustainable economic growth to the region. Its especially encouraging to see the company's commitment to environmental stewardship including thorough and proper water testing before any water is released back into the aquifer. This careful approach helps ensure that our natural resources remain protected while local families benefit from new job opportunities and a stronger economy. Projects like this show how responsible development and environmental care can work hand in hand for the good of everyone.

120

Date: 11-05-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The Sio Silica extraction project must surely be recognized as an environmental nightmare.

Water is fundamental to life; without it there could not be life on earth. Those who seek possible other livable planets search for signs of water.

If none can be found, habitation is impossible. To use clean water aquifers to flush sand to the surface is not just dangerous, it is stupid. Silica sand is abundant in Manitoba. The real reason for utilizing water to flush sand to the surface is because it is a very cheap way of harvesting silica sand. Well drillers would be under contract and sand filtration equipment rented. There is a very lucrative market for silica sand fracking. Oil wells that have become useless because of a lack of oil flow can now be reactivated by fracking.

Sio Silica's application should be denied. Not only is endangering a huge clean water source unacceptable so is the apparent very questionable tactics of this corporation. Some of these tactics include:

Giving the applicant a new image - an attractive woman now heading the initiative;

The alleged threat to an RM of Springfield Councillor to not oppose Sio Silca's application;

The obvious pressure on the Stephanson government to approve their application despite long-standing legislative restrictions.

Sio Silica promises to monitor its operations so they can cease operations should that be Necessary. How would Sio Silica rectify an aquifer disaster? Corporations just declare bankruptcy. No great risk to money mad promoters. Not only should Sio Silica's Application be denied, the Clean Environment Commission should recommend that the provincial Government pass legislation protecting aquifers from any form of use other than traditional use as clean water sources.

121

Date: 11-06-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project should not be considered for approval until all items from the original Clean Environment Commission report have been address to the CEC's satisfaction. The supply of safe clean drinking water for thousands of Manitobans like myself is too valuable to be put at risk by an untested method from a mining company. They have not proven beyond a shadow of doubt that they will be able to keep the aquifer safe from contamination.

122

Date: 11-06-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It is with sadness, frustration and bafflement that we must again battle for our aquifers protection. I object empathically to Sio Silica's current application under the name of Project SIMBA to gain approval to dig more wells into our pristine aquifer to extract silica sand. Further I request that a new CEC hearing happen if it gets to the point where you are even considering the application.

For the following reasons:

1) Our Premiere Wab Kinew has already stated in public that there would be no drilling ever in the aquifer to take out silica sand. I was at the announcement.

2) Sio Silica's unproven and experimental process introduces air into the anaerobic aquifer water and will forever change the composition of the water making it toxic for consumption. There was sufficient information provided from experts to this at the previous CEC hearings.

3) The drilling will cause collapse in the aquifer, and the land above will have sink holes making it dangerous for people and cattle and agriculture.

4) This company has shown indifference to monitoring the bore holes that they have made. They have not capped off properly the ones that they made. As has been pointed out repeatedly.

There is not enough difference in their new application to quell the myriads of questions raised during the previous 3-week hearing by the CEC. The sand they wish to extract is not for Solar panel development as this sand is not the correct type for use in solar panels. This false hood was identified during the previous hearings. The sand is for fracking which further exasperates remediation of our climates issues.

Please turn away from this application. We want to be able to still live in southern Manitoba drinking and using the pristine water we presently have.

No one or company should have access to the aquifer for extraction.

123

Date: 11-06-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I'm concerned about the long term impacts of this project on the ground water in the RM of Springfield. Assurances of safety mean nothing when it is discovered that the ground water has been contaminated and is no longer fit for consumption or worse, it has been impacting residents health without our knowledge. The risk is too great for the opportunity that is presented. This project should not be allowed to proceed.

124

Date: 11-08-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I strongly oppose this project.

125

Date: 11-08-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please do not gamble with our well water quality here in the southeast. Leave the sand and our precious aquifers alone. These RMs need support via a CEC Hearing on this project as possible short term profits are not worth the risks! Silicosis for workers stressing our healthcare system, and water contamination for rural enterprises and homes is too likely and can not be mitigated. Dollar signs may cause blindness to long range problems. No cummulative impact assessment has been done. It is ilegal to license an experimental, modal based proposal such as this. Our Environmental Act needs strengthening to ensure precious life giving resources such as watersheds and aquifers are better protected than they are today. We are in times of extreme weather events where droughts make our water resources all the more precious. This project is ill conceived and the proponents dishonest. Where is the hydrogeologist who has the knowledge to supervize projects such as this? No where, as what they propose in untenable to simple science. It is a greed based pipedream impossible to supervise sufficiently or remediate in any way. They have a biologist in charge? This is an example of the proponents lack of respect for honesty, science and the citizenry they will impact so negatively with degraded water quality. At the very least insist Sio pay for the hiring of independent hydrogeological consultants on behalf of the local population. Please show you understand basic science; inludung how gravity can not just be wished away, as these proponents wish in this computer model based, greed fueled, proposal.

126

Date: 11-08-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I think our water is to sacred to gamble with and this company only wants to make money and has no interest in maintaining a clean water source for the people in the area . This a very sensitive area and the aquifer should not be disturbed . Many people depend on this water so leave it alone !

127

Date: 11-07-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Hi,

My name is [redacted] and I am a mother of two young children who lives in the Roseau River Watershed. I am deeply concerned about the Sio Silica license application that has once again been submitted to the province of Manitoba. Under the first application, it became apparent that Sio Silica had not done due diligence in providing a full environmental impact assessment for the 24 year life of the project. I am grateful that the province of Manitoba responded accordingly by refusing to grant the license.

As a person who lives, works, and raises my family in a Southeastern watershed, I am deeply concerned about an outside company planning an environmentally risky, short-term project in a place that is not their backyard. We depend on our aquifers for drinking water, for water to grow our food, and for the water in which we wash our clothes and bathe our children. If this water becomes contaminated through the Sio Silica project, it is ourselves and our children that will be suffering the health consequences that can arise from contamined water such as organ damage, cardiovascular diseases, neurological damage, and an increased risk of cancer. Furthermore, as taxpayers of this province, it is our money that will be going to treat the health problems that arise from an external company's disregard for our home.

When I dream of the world I want for my children. It is not a world where corporations come into communities to extract the natural resources those communities depend on to live their lives. Rather, I dream of a world where humans have learned to live in right relationship with the natural world, where we have learned to temper our greed, to be aware of our needs (clean water, clean air, and community to name a few), and to nurture the earth we depend upon instead of destroying it for a better bottom line. Our bottom line is not dollars on a balance sheet, but the water that flows beneath our feet, the sacred gift upon which we depend for life.

For the sake of our children, for the sake of our province, I am asking you to once again reject the application for Sio Silica's project on the grounds that 24 years of economic growth with inadequate environmental oversight is not worth the risk to the health and long-term viability of life in this place for the people who make Southeastern watersheds their home.

Respectfully,

[redacted]

128

Date: 11-07-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a resident of Dugald, we are concerned over water contamination as our water comes from local wells.

129

Date: 11-10-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have deep concerns regarding this project and how it has been handled. No environmental changes have happened for the good, they (Sio) just keep shuffling the deck and adding more money to the groups of interest in hopes that it falls their way. Keep the water and wildlife their! Let them have clean water! Stand up for your people instead of lining your pockets!

130

Date: 11-14-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a resident of a bordering community I am deeply concerned with this project and the potential long term negative consequences it will have to drinking water within and around the area for future generations. Water is necessary for life, sio silica sand is not. I understand that Manitoba has an abundance of this resource and interested parties seek to make a good profit, however, I really cannot see how drilling into the earth to extract material which helps to naturally filter safe and clean drinking water will not have a negative impact at some point in time. I very much hope that the province will consider all concerns that are voiced by residents and will look to the future and how it will affect those that come after them. Please choose to protect our resources and not allow others to exploit them. Clean and safe water is truly such an important thing. So many others in this world are not as fortunate, even those in our own province. We should not take it for granted and not take the risk in having another community lose access to this precious resource.

131

Date: 11-13-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing to express my strong opposition and deep concern regarding the proposed Sio Silica mining activity planned near our home. The risks posed by this project extend far beyond inconvenience, they threaten the integrity of our drinking water, the health of residents, and the environmental stability of the entire RM of Springfield.

1. Threats to Drinking Water and the Aquifer

Our clean drinking water is our most vital resource. The aquifer beneath Springfield supports thousands of residents. Any disturbance or contamination, especially from an extraction method that has never been applied in real-world conditions, places our entire community at unacceptable risk. My understanding is that Sio Silicas proposed method has still only been tested in theory or laboratory conditions, meaning no proven safety record exists. Proceeding without real-world validation is not responsible governance; it is experimentation with our health and water supply.

2. Personal and Community Health Risks

I am a cancer survivor, and as someone who has already gone through this life-altering journey, I am at a higher risk of developing secondary cancers. Because of this, we are acutely aware of environmental exposures and the profound, long-term effects they can have on human health.

Silica exposure is not hypothetical, it is well-established in medical research to cause lung cancer, chronic bronchitis, respiratory diseases, and contribute to autoimmune disorders. Silica particles can remain suspended in the air for long periods. Given our proximity to the proposed mining area, the risk of inhalation is significant. For individuals like myself, who have already experienced cancer, this is not merely a concern, it is a direct threat to my life and long-term health.

3. Environmental Impacts on Local Ecosystems

We currently live in an area with a healthy, balanced ecosystem, thriving plant life, wildlife, and clean air. Silica mining has been shown to deposit particulate matter on leaves, disrupting photosynthesis and respiration. This disrupts the entire ecological chain and affects residents, agriculture, wildlife, and the natural environment that makes Springfield what it is. Increased air pollution from mining operations would also degrade the quality of life for everyone in the region.

4. Climate and Environmental Oversight

I am uncertain whether Climate Change and Environment Manitoba has been fully engaged regarding the Vivian Silica Sand mining proposal. I am requesting confirmation of their involvement and, if they have not yet been consulted, that they be formally included. This proposal cannot be evaluated responsibly without climate, hydrology, and public health experts at the table.

Given the significant concerns outlined above, health risks, water security threats, environmental impacts, and the unproven extraction method, I strongly urge the government to intervene, reassess, and prevent this project from moving forward.

Our health, our water, and our environment are not replaceable resources. I ask that you take these concerns with the seriousness they deserve.

Thank you for your attention to this critically important issue. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

132

Date: 11-15-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please tell me Sio to stop trying to get passed. They need to take a hike, and not poison our water aquifers for the next generation.

How many times must they be told no?

Enough is enough!

133

Date: 11-13-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Hi, I believe that this is a disaster in the making. The project remains the same, all they have done is scaled it down. Once they get their foot in the door how do you close it again? People have the right to clean drinking water, period. No company should be allowed to put that in jeopardy! There are so many environmental issues that they can't address or just don't bother answering. Please let's do the right thing and say no once and for all.

134

Date: 11-13-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This has been voted down several times, why is this being allowed another chance? We do not want this facility in our area, contaminating our water aquifers, and stripping our land. Stop them once and for all, make them leave, abs make them pay a hearty fine for operating when told not to.

135

Date: 11-13-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Will this affect our clean drinking water? How will this benefit our community? How do we stop this from happening?

136

Date: 11-13-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Good Day,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Sio Silica mining project near our home. As a lifelong resident of the RM of Springfield, a hunter, and a proud Métis, I am deeply concerned about the harm this project poses to our land, water, wildlife, and community.

1. Threat to Our Drinking Water and the Springfield Aquifer

The aquifer that runs beneath our municipality supplies clean drinking water to thousands of families. Any disturbance to this system risks contaminating or permanently damaging our only source of groundwater. The extraction method Sio Silica is proposing has never once been used in real-world practiceonly in laboratory or theoretical conditions. Approving an untested method that could compromise the structural integrity of the aquifer is an unacceptable gamble with our health and safety.

2. Serious Health Risks for My Household and Community

Silica dust is a proven carcinogen. It causes lung cancer, chronic bronchitis, respiratory diseases, and autoimmune conditions. Silica particles travel long distances and remain airborne, meaning exposure is not limited to the mine site.

My household already faces significant health vulnerabilities. Any additional carcinogenic exposure poses a very real and immediate threat to our familys well-being. I am extremely concerned about how this mining project would impact the air we breathe and the long-term health of our neighbours, elders, and children throughout Springfield.

3. Impacts on Wildlife, Hunting Grounds, and Métis Cultural Practices

As a hunter and Métis person, the land, water, and wildlife in this area are part of my way of life, my culture, and my identity. Disruption to the ecosystem directly affects my ability to harvest, feed my family, and practice traditions that Métis people have carried for generations.

Silica mining has been shown to:

-deposit dust onto vegetation, disrupting photosynthesis,

-damage habitat for deer, birds, and small game,

-affect waterways and wetlands essential for wildlife, and

-contribute to air and noise pollution that pushes animals out of traditional hunting grounds.

These environmental impacts are not only ecological issues, they are infringements on Métis cultural practices, food sovereignty, and our connection to the land. Once wildlife patterns are disrupted or habitats are damaged, they may never fully recover.

4. Need for Full Climate and Environmental Oversight

I am requesting confirmation that Climate Change and Environment Manitoba has been fully engaged in the assessment of this project. Given the risk to the aquifer, the ecosystem, and the cultural rights of Indigenous and Métis residents, their involvement is absolutely necessary. If they have not yet been consulted, I ask that they be brought into the review immediately.

Given the enormous risks to water security, public health, wildlife, and Métis cultural rights, and the fact that the extraction method has no proven safety record, I strongly urge the government to halt this project based on the precautionary principle.

This land is our home, our water source, our food system, and part of our identity. We need decisions that protect it, not decisions that put us, our children, and the next generations at risk.

Sincerely,

137

Date: 11-14-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: With disturbing the ground with drilling - what happens with our aqua system and to our drinking water - those with wells may e greatly affected. Is this company prepared to pay for the consequences should that be the end result if they are granted to move forward. A more robust assessment must be made!!

138

Date: 11-14-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yes, I have serious concerns about the extraction process in the Sio application and the risk of contaminating the acquifer in South Eastern Manitoba. It is an unproven method and the Province must safe-guard the water quality for the environment, residents, business, and industry. Current legislation does not allow for mixing the water between acquifers and the government has a

responsibility to ensure proper oversight, compliance, and accountability with all aspects of Sio operations. In addition Sio must be required to put up a significant financial reserve for remedy and restoration of potable water for those affected by their actions, not only now but in perpetuity.

139

Date: 11-13-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We have been following the Sio Silica controversy for years now. Our family has lived and farmed on land within the RM of Springfield, not far from the former Centre Lind Road silica site, for 70 years. This beautiful area is our home. We do not want our water supply or the integrity of the land compromised. We are not convinced that there is no risk to our water, or to the landscape. Referendums have shown the majority of R.M. residents don't want this mining operation. There is too much at stake. It is not worth the risk.

Signed, [redacted]

November 13, 2025

140

Date: 11-13-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our groundwater resources are precious. This project is based on unproven methodologies that may adversely affect the water table and/or the stability of underground aquifers. Once these are damaged, there is no way to mitigate the consequences. There are far too many unknowns that could impact water quality for many generations. Please do not issue a license for this project. There is too much at stake. One commercial enterprise should not be allowed to potentially harm a vast area of south-eastern Manitoba.

141

Date: 11-17-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a resident of Springfield I have significant concerns related to the Sio Silica project. I have attempted to read the proposal, but am no expert in this field and want simple answers to my questions/concerns. These are my questions/concerns. Sio's extraction method is experimental; common sense says one shouldn't experiment on a pristine water supply that thousands of people depend on. Will Sio stop drilling if there is any indication of contamination of our water supply? Who will monitor the water supply-Sio? (the fox guarding the henhouse) or the government? Or

independent companies with no stake in the profits? How will residents be compensated if their water supply is contaminated? What happens to the property values if water supply is contaminated?

Any amount of contamination to our pristine aquafer would be catastrophic! The availability of clean healthy water far outweighs the need for silica sand. The unknown risks of this project far outweigh the benefits.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

142

Date: 11-13-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed silica mining operation by Sio Silica in our aquifer that supplies our community drinking water. As a resident deeply concerned about the health and safety of our environment and community, I believe that this project poses an unacceptable risk to our vital water resources.

Our aquifer is a precious and limited resource that sustains not only our drinking water but also the broader ecosystem. The potential for contamination or disruption caused by silica mining activities could have devastating consequences for public health, local wildlife, and the sustainability of our water supply. Once compromised, aquifer contamination can be extremely difficult or impossible to remediate.

Protecting our drinking water must be our highest priority. The risks associated with mining operations such as groundwater contamination cannot be overlooked. Economic interests should not outweigh the health and safety of residents who rely on this aquifer for their daily water needs.

I urge the Manitoba Department of Environment and Climate Change to thoroughly evaluate the potential environmental impacts of Sio Silica's proposed project and to prioritize the protection of our water resources. It is essential that our community's drinking water remains safe and clean for current and future generations.

"Manitoba families can rest easy, knowing that your drinking water will stay pristine," - Wab Kinew (February 16, 2024)

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. I trust that you will carefully consider the concerns of residents like myself who are committed to safeguarding our environment and health.

143

Date: 11-14-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No. Just NO. Don't ever mess with people's water. If this goes through it really shows just how scummy people.arw willing to be for money.

144

Date: 11-14-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I live in the RM of Springfield and all humans and animals at our residence rely on well water for drinking and other uses. I have serious concerns about the Sio project. The concerns and unknowns that CEC had about the first proposal have not been resolved. All of the concerns regarding contamination of the aquifer and the integrity of the limestone are still present. The down scaling of the project only addresses the magnitude of the impact but does eliminate the impact. To reduce the number of wells will not eliminate the water contact with pollutants and therefore the contamination of the water supply will not be eliminated. Even a small amount of contamination can cause the quality of the water to deteriorate. This problem can not be reversed once it has occurred. This would affect the water quality used by thousands of people in the region. It would be a tragedy if an untested mining project be approved and then the quality of life in this region would be affected. I urge you to consider the well being of humans and wildlife before you bend to the pressure of corporate greed. I patiently wait for your decision and the decision of the government.

145

Date: 11-18-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned for drinking water quality and ground stability should this project move forward.

There must be a financial contingency to provide abundant clean drinking water to all affected residents and businesses as the risk of this is very real. This contingency should be ready to be inactive to prevent disruption to affected parties. The cost of this alone would outweigh the benefit of the project.

Better off, a third party or government funded pilot project should be undertaken with time allowed for peer review and public consultation of results, rather than this full scale (albeit scaled back) corporate venture.

I am not against economic development. But I am against this underplanned high risk project.

146

Date: 11-17-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am fully against this.This is untested, and if we screw up our water under the ground, there is no going back.If you vote yes, you are crazy.We drink the water out of the ground. Think of the next generation and where is the insurance policy, if all of our water is ruined, how do we work around that. Also all of the water shortages around manitoba and canada.The groundwater is very precious, and we only have one Source of it out here.

147

Date: 11-18-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Opposed to silica sand project.

148

Date: 11-18-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned for drinking water quality and ground stability should this project move forward.

There must be a financial contingency to provide abundant clean drinking water to all affected residents and businesses as the risk of this is very real. This contingency should be ready to be inactive to prevent disruption to affected parties. The cost of this alone would outweigh the benefit of the project.

Better off, a third party or government funded pilot project should be undertaken with time allowed for peer review and public consultation of results, rather than this full scale (albeit scaled back) corporate venture.

I am not against economic development. But I am against this underplanned high risk project.

149

Date: 11-17-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This whole project is unproven it threatens our drinking water for not just the local communities but communities all over the province this should not be allowed to continue there is

two greater risk to the aquifer. This is already been proven by many experts and this application must be suspended now.

150

Date: 11-18-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I oppose the testing of any aquifer sand which has not been substantiated by proper research to protect our water systems.

151

Date: 11-18-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have a Winnipeg address, but we live on the extreme south east corner of Winnipeg and are on a well. This well is supplied by the aquifer that this project plans to drill through, and dump wast back into. There has been several engineering reports done on this project, and they all come up with the same conclusion - this is a disaster waiting to happen! One well through the water supply that supplies tens of thousands of homes is simply not a good idea! What is this government's plan when our well becomes contaminated? Who is going to pay to test all of our water to ensure continues to be safe to drink? STOP THIS PROJECT!

152

Date: 11-18-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Myself and family are totally against this project as without clean drinking water is a nessesity for our livestock and our lives..They have tried so many different angles to push this trough and if it wasnt for a change of government it would have been pushed though.They have two of the test wells that were showing cave ins already with mixing of the two acquirers already which is not permitted.There are other areas were silica is available,just not as convenient to main rail line and not goin to effect the aquifer.We draw our water out of the sandstone for45 years and dumping filtered water back down these wells is not good as contamination is to risky.Also how is water supposed to support these huge voids.when the problems surface years down the road they will be long gone.We say no to this project

153

Date: 11-18-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No level of technology, contingencies, money, lies, pressure (politically or monetary) will convince me that drilling into an aquifer is a good idea. I won't argue the technical/scientific aspects of this work because I truly don't care and I truly don't trust the company. No matter what level of planning occurs, somethinfmg can always go wrong, and we're talking about destroying an entire aquifer of fresh water. Why is this not being immediately shut down when it comes to fresh water?

154

Date: 11-18-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Opposed to silica sand project.

155

Date: 11-17-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This company has no proposal regarding how they will compensate everyone if the aquifer is compromised. Where will our clean water come from? This company left piles of silica to blow in the wind which is a health hazard if inhaled, what is the guarantee this doesn't occur? I do not consent to mining under my property which can eventually result in sink holes as well.

156

Date: 11-17-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Hi! This silica sand project will ruin the water in the Vivian MB area. Water is life. If we don't have good water we don't have nothing!

157

Date: 11-18-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: While I am all for development, as a resident of Vivian, I am deeply concerned about this project and its potential to impact my drinking water and clean air. I am also not pleased with the methods Sio has used to try and strong-arm our community (and surrounding Indigenous communities) into agreement. As a latest example, Sio is holding a community information session in Regent. I have asked them to come to the actual community (in Vivian) to discuss the project and they refuse. Why will they not do this? What are they afraid of? People asking questions?

The fact that the Brokenhead community declined to partner with Sio is telling. I trust Indigenous communities with their ability to sustainably harvest from the land. If they do not want to participate in this venture, something is obviously wrong.

Let me be clear: this is not NIMBism. I would be voicing the same concerns it this were 5000 km away from where I live. Sio has not, in my view, demonstrated ethical community engagement or environmental stewardship. I do not trust them, their political allies in the disgraced Stefanson administration, or anyone else trying to force this operation on our community in Manitoba.

I trust our municipal, provincial, and (if necessary) federal decision-makers to make the right decision here and deny Sio for one last time.

Thank you for reading this concern.

158

Date: 11-17-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water quality

159

Date: 11-19-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about our aquifier. We currently have very good water, which will very likely become contaminated or drained resulting in residents being stuck with the bill for drilling new, deeper wells.

Sio Silica insists that this will not be the case, but they don't know. They are guessing and trying to convince area residents that our water will suffer no ill effects from them pulling water out of the aquifier and returning it after they have mixed chemicals into it. It stands to reason that the quality and quantity of water will change.

We have already sent a resounding NO to them in the past and they are coming back for another round. They don't care about the residents or the environment. They only care about making money.

160

Date: 11-17-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Extremely concerned about this project and the way it is being handled. The Mayor of East St. Paul, who is also the CEO of Sio Silica, cannot make any impartial or independent decisions related to this development. This represents a clear conflict of interest. This UNTESTED mining proposal poses a serious risk of contaminating the aquifer that thousands rely on for clean, safe drinking water.

161

Date: 11-18-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Mixing of groundwater between aquifers is not allowed under provincial legislation, yet this will undoubtedly happen. This type of silica sand extraction has only been theoretical and lab based. Tampering and experimenting even on a low scale drilling plan can still leave the water vulnerable. Introducing oxygen into the aquifer may cause new bacteria(s), other pathogens or organic matter to emerge threatening the water quality to ten of thousands of residents. Silica sand will become airborne (in whatever small amounts) causing human health consequences or incidences to neighbouring property owners.

There will be affects to the local floura and fauna. Disturbances to the immediate undeveloped forested area and watershed will be imposed. Why should this be overlooked and not mitigated. Introducing high hydrocarbon emitting machinery (i.e. trucks, drilling apparatus, lubricants, diesel rail, tractors) into the area will impact air quality and noise to the immediate neighbours and increase the environmental and carbon footprint of Manitoba.

While modeling sometimes shows the stability of the aquatard and overburden, there is potential for collapse of the ground and overburden deposits as has been proven in North and South Dakota when oil is taken from the fracking process. Who is responsible to monitor, mitigate and what affect does this have on the broader underground surface and/or aquifer.

Unanticipated, unexpected accidents, climate change events and potential human intervention may disturb the aquifer or create risks of human health and the environment.

While the proposal is initially reduced in scope in the onset from an earlier proposal, the aim is to ramp up with risks increasing without the ability to fully assess all elements of risk. And, what liability does a company have if they are sold off to a Cayman Island registered entity. Likely impossible for the Province to retrieve or litigate successfully, insulating shareholders from any financial responsibility.

Give an inch, they will take a mile and Manitoban's get left with the consequences and remnants for remediation and cleanup large scale after the profits are extracted to the majority of shareholders

outside of Manitoba. If Sio intends to sell the enterprise as noted previously to Pyrophyte Acquisition Corp. or other venture capitalists, does this really safeguard our environment before profits?

Remember also the Manitoba Ethics Commissioners Report on this file. There is undue political influences at force. None to do with the protection of the environment and human health, only promoted and motivated economic benefit. Put people and the environment before profit.

My comments are only the beginning. Intervener status for the public would be a positive step to elicit broader issues, concerns and evidence.

Residents DO NOT want the government to risk precious water for the exploitation of critical minerals.

162

Date: 11-18-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am abhorred that Sio Silica not only re-applied to attempt this project here, but that it wasn't rejected out of hand...especially considering how much the NDP government uses it as a talking point to shift optics to the Conservative's shady dealings before they exited power. As an NDP supporter and voter, I urge the government to NOT allow Sio Silica to build here. We already know how much environmental damage is going to occur to the aquifer they are going to build on. With the hyper increase of AI data centres proliferating all across North America, I can already see the forest for the trees: this project is only the beginning or more extractive, damaging enterprises that just destroy our communities, export our precious finite natural resources to the already-rich, and leave the citizens suffering. STOP SIO SILICA. Public hearings before the Clean Environment Commission are once again needed for this damaging venture.

163

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I moved out here to enjoy nature and solitude. Sio silica is going to ruin the natural wild life along with our well water. If we ever decide to move, our land will be worthless. Even a little risk is too much. I don't care about the money it will bring, because the money will only last as long as the silica is around.

164

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have a very strong opposition to this project due to environmental concerns. I feel that we as a province and even a country should not be considering any project which poses a possible risk to our water supply. Once this supply is tainted we cannot reverse it. Water is the essence of life. What will happen to the agricultural farms in the area that rely on a large amount of water for stock and crops? Where would fresh clean water come from? This is a large aquifer that supplies an enormous area of both people and wildlife. If we want to protect and preserve what Manitoba and Canada is known for and successful with we need to first protect water and our natural resources. Money will not replace this source if it is ruined. A mining operation of this scale would negatively impact the quality of life for the wildlife in the area and the people that have lived in the area for generations. I have lived there for over 20 years and have seen the negative impact that encroachment has caused of the wildlife numbers. If this project is approved I am seriously considering moving away as the entire area will change for the worse.

165

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am against Sio Silica and their proposed mining project. I am concerned about our potable water to be compromised by their project, i am against the extractive industry nobody asked for in our community.

Sio Silica will keep trying hoping the citizens of Springfield will slack or become ignorant of their plans but I speak for the majority of our RM when I say we do not want Sio Silica operating in our community and to leave it in the ground. We have a high population for a rural area and do not want our wildlife, groundwater or natural resources destroyed for profit.

Thank you!

166

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Concerns with Sio Silica sand mining include potential harm to water quality and aquifers, the risk of silicosis from airborne silica dust, and environmental impacts on the local area and its wildlife. The proposed mining method, which involves drilling into aquifers, raises concerns about aquifer mixing and the leaching of heavy metals, while the physical process of mining could cause wells to run dry. Additionally, some community members have expressed fears about the

disruption to their lives and the local environment, with the health risks of silica dust inhalation being a major concern.

Environmental concerns

Water quality: The primary concern is the potential contamination of groundwater, especially drinking water sources. The proposed method of drilling thousands of wells could mix different aquifers, potentially introducing contaminants into clean freshwater sources.

Aquifer depletion: There is a fear that the removal of sand could cause a local water table to drop, potentially causing nearby wells to run dry.

Geological stability: Experts have raised concerns that the mining process could lead to the collapse of rock layers, further destabilizing the geological structure and increasing the risk of contamination.

Surface water and biodiversity: The project could negatively impact the Brokenhead River, which is already facing environmental issues, and affect the biodiversity of the watershed.

Health concerns

Silicosis: Inhalation of silica dust, which can be a byproduct of sand mining, can lead to silicosis. This is a serious and potentially fatal lung disease caused by scarring of the lungs from inhaling crystalline silica particles.

Air quality: Residents worry about airborne sand, and the associated health risks, that could be generated during the extraction and transportation process.

Social and community concerns

Community division: The project has caused a significant divide within the community, with some members feeling that their concerns are not being adequately addressed.

Disruption to life: Residents have fears about the long-term disruption to their community, their quality of life, and the potential need to relocate, impacting family and professional lives.

Transparency and process: Some community members have raised concerns about the transparency of the process and the influence of lobbyists, as well as a perceived lack of meaningful engagement with residents and local leaders.

167

Date: 11-19-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: They voted last year. 95% voted no. The people that live here said no.

If their actions cause damage are they financially liable to fully compensate all manitoban families and communities effected including rural that a treatment plant will not fix.

Perhaps politicians who go against 95% of what the people want should also be held liable.

168

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio is an untested company who has already failed before at producing a comprehensive plan that ensured environmental safety regarding the drinking water of many Manitobans. That risk still exists no mater what size their extraction plans may be. Over the past few years I and many of the people in this area have had to drill new wells, much deeper than our original wells. If Sio create contamination to our drinking water supply, we will ultimately loose everything. Water is life.

169

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Of course our familys concern is with maintaining our reliability of (at present) a fantastic water source. We are not sure how the new application regarding the technique for drawing out the sand is any different than their first shot at the original application The other issue our family has is the company behind the project. I have searched for any projects that have been completed and could not find much other than some trouble they got into with securitys They have nada for a track record. As well their recruiting of a mayor from a neighbouring municipality, having lockdown meetings with First Nations just reinforces our negative thoughts of this company. Thank goodness (I believe) the Brokenhead band could not be swayed by future promises of wealth, knowing you cannot have good life without good water Thankyou.

170

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Why do we have to go through this battle with the same company every year. Put a 5 year ban.

171

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Im not in favour of an unproven method of extraction that puts our aquifer at any risk. The scope of this mining operation is almost beyond comprehension. The number of wells that will be dug and extraction will without doubt cause environmental damage in addition to the risk to our drinking water.

172

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am opposed to the Sio Silica proposal, as I was the first time it was raised as an issue in Springfield. As a long time Springfield resident, I am concerned for our water quality. The methods proposed by Sio are untested at the scale being considered. There was significant public opposition previously and it continues. Protect our water, please!

173

Date: 11-19-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned that this project does not protect Manitobans interest in reliable, safe, and equitable water supply. The company behind the project is local, and does not have the weather the impacts of the resource extraction. We have the opportunity to safeguard an area that can be used for agriculture, wildlife preserves, community spaces, and prairie regeneration. This should be the focus when considering if this extraction project is safe, and has the best interests of current and future generations in mind.

The use of a child's voice in their advertising campaign is manipulative and out of scope.

174

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is our precious water that Sia Silica wants to rinse silica out of sand and return to our only source of drinking water.This process is first of its kind in the world and we are the Guinea pigs.!! We should have full rights to reject this project that will endanger the quality of our lives,

cause health problems (if no absolute guarantees of accidents and place us at great risk) and environmental concerns. Five rural municipalities would be affected.

It is outrageous to think that this company wouldn

175

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Not in agreement with this process and risk to our aquafir

176

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I object to sio silica sand extraction in east Manitoba.

177

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: untested mining technique

-Simply a re-invented application, no new evidence presented. Tell them to stop applying

-water is a finite quantity, there is no way to make more,once our acquifer is contaminated

-this acquifer is the only water source for all of south-east Manitoba

Other countries have water shortages, we will too, if this mine contaminates our aquifer.

178

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have concerns about the risk factors for this aquifer and the potential devastating consequences of a project that has not been adequately proven for its long term safety. Water is the ultimate resource.

I have concerns related to a company's desire to exploit for profit without regard for any long term environmental consequences. If something goes wrong, they walk away with their profit and those remaining have to deal with the devastating effects.

179

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned that the water quality and long term cleanliness will be compromised, especially with a company that has a history of false promises. The accountability of the companies long term interest in the health of the water and local communities is not present nor have they proved their standards.

180

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project was rejected by our government once as a threat to our water supply. This is going to endanger our clean water supplied by our aquifer. This company should not be allowed to continue with this proposal.

181

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The fact that this project might even be considered is unconscionable, a handful of people will line their pockets with ill-gotten money at no material risk of their own health and ability to live while the people of Manitoba risk and may loose their ability to survive. Why are we even talking about this.

182

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: If it wasnt clear enough by 5500 residents in the RM of Springfield voting against this project I am opposed to anything that could jeopardize our drinking water. I am outside of town and I have a well for drinking water. If something happened to the aquifer just hooking up to town water

is not an option. I cant imagine a world where the integrity of drinking water is possible due to greed. Please shut down this project.

183

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: What do we not get about the word NO

184

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water is a necessity of life- for all life forms. Scientists are predicting there will be a shortage of water worldwide in not so many years. We cannot afford unproven ways of extraction and threaten a valuable life resource. We cannot drink computer chips never mind buy water

when there is little to no water left. Greed and profit seekers have damaged and destroyed a great deal of natural resources.

It can also be said that many farmers and citizens in Alberta are struggling with litigation regard clean up and compensation for damage and debris left in fields.

185

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project has way too much risk for the local families. Families that have chosen to live and grow here for a long time . There isnt a 100% chance of our water being safe during or after this project. All this risk for the fortune of already very wealthy people makes me very sick . There is also no buy out for our homes when it does happen. It has been voted down already so please drop this project.

186

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our rural home and way of life is entirely dependant on our ability to have safe, reliable drinking water. Allowing SIO to extract silica from our aquifer puts this in jeopardy. Please do not grant them license. There have been no changes in their methods and plans since the last application just a lot of propaganda and money spent to bring people alongside. It is a very dangerous path that can irrevocably impact too many homes and businesses. We also worry about the impact to air quality, land subsidence and an huge increase to light and noise pollution from their operations.

187

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This company was told no already, so then why are we addressing this again? No means no our water is not for them to pollute and drive away with the sand. We as a community said an overwhelming no so go away and stop asking.

188

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Environmental concerns

189

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project has been denied once already and I do not understand why it is up for debate again. As a resident of Vivian I am totally against it.

190

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: To Whom this concerns - we plead with the Province of Manitoba to keep our water clean and safe! Please consider us that live very close to where this project is currently considering damaging our water infrastructure!

Other provinces had kicked them out - yet here we are again fighting for our own health and well-being. We beg to put a stop to this project once and for all. Very concerned citizens for our well-being!!!

191

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Good day, My residence is located [redacted] of the proposed mine site. My well is drilled to 375 feet/114 meters with a water table normally between 10-15 feet, 3.0-4.5 meters. My water needs are met with a shallow well system and we have a prestine water source with minimal hardness and zero suspended or dissolved solids.

My concerns with this project is first contamination of my water source and second, the possible lowering of my water table and the need to install a deep well system or submersible pump. This will cost several thousands of dollars.

This project is direct threat to my personal well being and a potential loss of my lifetime investments and our property will become worthless.

192

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Environmental concerns

193

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I don't understand how this is still ongoing if I am being honest. Our community has come out over and over again to each and ever meeting that has been held and in each and every meeting we have expressed LOUDLY our disapproval of this mining project from moving forward. How is this or any government even contemplating sacrificing the drinking water quality of over 100,000 Manitoba residents. NOTHING IS WORTH THAT PRICE! Who pays for the remediation WHEN this falls apart, because everyone with any intelligence has to understand that SIO will not be 100% perfect in their execution of mining nor recapping the bore holes properly when completed. Who is going to reimburse the Manitoba residents when the resale value of their property plummets because their is no longer potable water available? Please please please refuse

this project from moving forward, please for the health and safety of all of the residents this WILL affect.

194

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: NO SIO SILICA!!

195

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am against the Sio Silica extraction process. The safety of our water should be our highest priority

196

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not think that a precious resource such as our water should be tampered with for the purpose of a company to profit from. Our future and that of our children and grandchildren should not be risked for something unknown, this is a recipe for disaster! When residents of Springfield, RM of Hanover, Indigenous communities all say NO and turn down this project then it should stand as refusal that can not be reversed!

197

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a resident of Oakbank, Manitoba, my wife and I are adamantly opposed to the Sio Silica Sand Project Application proposed for eastern Manitoba.

The people of this region rely on the acquifer to supply homes and businesses in this region of our province. For our provincial government to approve such a project and allow a for-profit company access to such a precious resource is tantamount to playing Russian Roulette with live ammunition in every chamber of the cylinder.

198

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very familiar with the process and aquifer referred to in this project.

We live in the local area and draw our potable water directly from the sandstone aquifer.

The arguments about silicosis risk are without merit - we face more risk with our rural gravel roads.

Water quality risk related to the project is minimal if the project is properly monitored and executed.

Manitoba needs this development and the project to move forward to support our crumbling civic infrastructure and broken health care system.

Please move forward with this project.

199

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project is ranpant with conflicts of interest from the Reece of East St Paul to our Chamber of Commerce. This type of mining is untested. Our water is our most precious resource. Damaging the aquifer will effect hundreds of families.

200

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Availability and quality of water.

Potential for directional drilling impact

Lack of transparency between municipality, sio stakeholders and corruption associated with above groups and previous government

201

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project could be disastrous for our whole province and everyone down stream. I vehemently stand against this project.

202

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: An entire municipality composed of several communities containing over 16000 people would be negatively affected by this project. Not to mention countless livestock, businesses and wildlife in the area. This project would contaminate water sources for the area as the mining process releases contaminants through water runoff and general groundwater depletion. The mining process is also a very real threat to air quality in the area as silica particulates are released into the air during the process which will affect humans, animals and plants alike. The exposure to silica particulate matter would result in significant respiratory disease.

The project also has the potential to negatively impact water drainage in the surrounding areas. Implementing a silica mine would also facilitate erosion and disrupt water tables leading to inevitable impact on infrastructure.

There is no good outcome for this project. The aggravating factors and negative implications far outweigh the mitigating factors (if any) in the consideration of this project. It would be a colossal mistake to endorse this project in creating environmental destruction, water and air contamination, infrastructure destruction, threats to animal/wildlife health and human illness. Its also important to note that the inevitable damage and destruction from this project would be irreversible. We have a finite amount of resources available to protect, and this is an opportunity to do so - by not allowing this project to move forward.

203

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am totally against this. Why is it still being pushed on us when 95% of the residents voted NO!!! Absolutely not!

204

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please; do not allow this UNTESTED mining proposal to be passed. It poses a serious risk of contaminating the aquifer that thousands rely on for clean, safe drinking water. Protect Springfield residents.

205

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about our water quality and supply and the polution into our ground and environment. It will impact wildlife in the area and also possibly polute our water supply.

206

Date: 11-19-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project should not be approved. Sio Silica will be endangering the aquifer that provides safe drinking water to people and their children, and to the agricultural sector, for livestock, fields, and gardens. Imagine thousands of wells piercing the ceiling and floor of the aquifer. And when the lease is up for Sio, then what, those wells will remain forever, pierced through the aquifer. They will become a source of potential contamination from the ground level and also the "sludge" they will pump back into the voided areas below the aquifer. These wells may be capped when the lease to drill is up, or the silica sand runs out, but they will remain, and in time, they will fail. Then what? Who will be held responsible when the aquifer is no longer safe? Why aren't there laws protecting aquifers? How can their project be approved when there is the potential of the mixing of the safe waters of the aquifer with what lies beneath? The water quality of the aquifer will be endangered if this project is approved. Despite their claims that their untested technology is safe, wasn't there already a minor incident of water contamination with a lubricant oil at a test site? Safe water sources are becoming more precious than gold. The people that depend on the aquifer know this. You can live without a smartphone, but you can't survive without safe clean water.

207

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have been attended the public meetings regarding Sio Silica for the last number of years. I attended the hearings where presentations were made about the extraction process, I attended the council meetings regarding Sio issues, I attending the open houses held by some of our council members in Springfield. I even voted in the Sio referendum held a few years ago. I have

lived in Anola my entire 40 years of life. I grew up in a beef farm and my husband and I currently run a beef and hay farm with our kids. I am totally AGAINST Sio Silica coming into our community. They have already proven that they cannot be trusted with their open silica sand piles and trying to tell us that the way they are mining the sand is safe when it is completely unproven. Why is our water going to be risked in such a highly populated area with such a small margin for error? It is not worth it!!! We have had our water tested many times through the years. It is the best you can find. Why are we risking it??? If my water becomes contaminated from them drilling into the aqyuifer, if sink holes start happening, etc, my land becomes worthless. The farm my husband and I have worked so hard for becomes worthless and we then have no livelihood. Sio won't come save us when that happens. They will be running away leaving residents in the mess that Sio created. I vehemently say no to Sio. Protect our land, protect our water, protect our homes and families from Sio Silica. Please. The pros do not outweigh the coms with this project. Thank you.

208

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Hi, I'm not necessarily opposed to the project, but feel ill-informed on the true science behind it. I think we should push ahead with this, but with iron-clad guarantees of fresh water provided to effective residents indefinitely, if their water source is impacted in any way whatsoever. Second this must pay large royaltys (likely a 2% top line sales royalty this will capture the variation in price by grade) and paid to each resident of the RM equally by either per taxable roll number or achers owned. Lets get creative, lets be inivative, lets open our minds to a better future, lets benefit the province and the RM of Springfield residents.

209

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I wish to make it known that I am very much opposed to this project, although I have no "additional" concerns to raise. I am deeply concerned about the possible environmental/water quality risks to the area concerned.

210

Date: 11-20-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: we have spring water known as HEIDLEBERG SPRINGS world class need protection

211

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I don't think this project should be approved. Our drinking water should not be jeopardize for some large company wanting to profet at our and our future generations expense.

212

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Keep Sio Silica out of MB

213

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Very concerned about the lack of care given to areas water supply. This odd not a remote location.

Any kind of disruption to the earth has consequence

Dont like it. All about money. They dont care as it will not effect them.

214

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We're not interested in having that crap out in our area

We do not agree with this plan and must be stopped.

215

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I'm concerned about the environmental effects and water quality changes that will happen as a result of approving Sio Silica to mine. What are the biological effects on our drinking water aquafers as a result of mining?

216

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Based on the projects own technical documentation, the proposal has major unresolved uncertainties related to:

Water quality changes especially to acquifer well users and restitution should the acquifer become tainted

Processes for acquifer users to register their water samples before any approvals to enable monitoring and identify water quality changes should the development be confirmed

A fund established for funding water restitution issues and challenges created by the province and company

Groundwater modeling reliability

Long-term aquifer impacts

Reinjection feasibility

Shale collapse consequences

Actual well interference risk

Climate sensitivity

Incomplete geochemical dataset

Lack of robust recharge and water balance measurements

The project should not proceed until these fundamental issues are addressed with real-world testing, expanded data collection, and validated modeling.

217

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water quality and contamination!!!!

218

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am not ok with this so close to the city. There is no way that it is environmentally safe. The owners already have been charged for trying to "weasel" their way in. If it goes through we know who all from the city is just as corrupt.

219

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Worries about our water and the effects this project will have one it.

220

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My concerns are environment like every one else

221

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Residents believe this UNTESTED mining proposal poses a serious risk of contaminating the aquifer that thousands rely on for clean, safe drinking water.

There is so much evidence to show that this is unsafe. We should not be messing with clean water.

222

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Hello,

I have concerns about the proposed silica plant. The extraction process of silica would have disastrous impact on the environment especially the water. This is based on a recent environmental report available from the community of Brokenhead Ojiway first nation. The concerns are the water will be very contaminated and this water is used by the community. The impact will be far reaching into the future if this isn't stopped now. There isn't a prosperous future for no one if this project goes ahead.

223

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned Sio Silica continues to bring forth applications when their safety and conservation tactics have not changed. It is important we do our due diligence and support evidence- based science in going about with any extractions of our land and minerals. In addition to consulting with our Indigenous leaders. This government needs to ensure our precious water and minerals are conserved in our province for the present and future generations.

224

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Dear Government of Manitoba,

I am writing as a concerned resident to express my strong opposition to the proposed silica sand-mining project by Sio Silica. I understand that the companys revised proposal recently submitted to the provincial review process would extract high-purity quartz sand from a freshwater aquifer that supplies drinking water to thousands of Manitobans.

My key concerns are as follows:

The project would involve drilling hundreds (eventually thousands) of wells into the aquifer, using an airlift extraction method that has never before been used at this scale for sand mining a process with serious unknowns.

Experts reviewing the proposal (the Clean Environment Commission) concluded they cannot state with confidence that all potential environmental effects have been fully considered, including long-term risks to groundwater quality and aquifer stability.

The plan could permanently damage the aquifer, threatening drinking water for residents, farmland, and natural ecosystems.

There is currently no clear, credible plan for long-term monitoring, groundwater protection, site reclamation, or emergency response in case of contamination or aquifer damage.

Given these serious risks especially to our clean drinking water I urge the Province to reject the Sio Silica proposal, or at minimum demand far more comprehensive environmental review, baseline aquifer studies, public and Indigenous community consultation, and enforceable remediation plans, before any further licensing moves forward.

Thank you for considering my concerns. I believe the health and future of our community and our water must come first.

225

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am definitely opposed to this development. Water quality will suffer and our community and property values will be at risk.

Why would this project be allowed when we currently have pristine water and there is opposition from the community? We may be in the same position as other communities where water will have to be trucked in. Also, it is evident the company executives are not trustworthy and I see no reason jeopardize our community. I hope the right decision is made to protect our interests and that of the environment.

226

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Concerns over silo silica have not changed since their last application. They were denied and their second application should have been denied in the RM of Springfield. The majority of residents do not want this environment hazard that is just waiting to happen. Nothing is 100% error rate and Springfield citizens have spoken we do not want this. Please listen to the residents of Springfield and deny their application. Thank you!

227

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Dear Manitoba Environment and Climate Change,

I am writing to you with my grave concerns about the SIO SILICA proposed silica sand extraction via unproven mining practices that will destroy our aquifer and drinking water quality. SIO SILICA is advertising via a full page ad in MBIZ, Winter 2025: "15 Billion Tonnes of Opportunity", which is to

assume the amount of silica sand they plan to extract. During extraction and processing huge amounts of water will be needed to wash this sand. Chemical reactions take place that create acid and leach heavy metals. Please see the acid pollution left on Black Island with brown acid water continuing to drain into Lake Winnipeg to this day, even after mining stopped in 1990. In addition, silica dust released during processing will impact the air quality and health of those in the area. SIO SILICA is not to be trusted with their green and more recently red washing. First they were going to use the sand for fracking, then for soloar panels, now for optic fibres related to data centres. These are shady, untrustworthy opportunists, that will look for government _tax payers_ development funding and then sell the mine, as they have already openly stated. This is not an opportunity for Manitobans, if anything, it is an opportunity for SIO SILICA to extract wealth from Manitobans. Decision makers, beware! Look at the science first, and ensure you protect Manitobans, the safety of their drinking water and environment for now and for future generations. WATER IS LIFE.

228

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I live very close to Vivian Manitoba where the mining site is planned. I have a great concern that my water will be compromised. For many years now we have had less and less ground water. Soon our well is going to go dry because it is shallow and then with the company needing to use more water for it's processing plant we will have no water for use in our home. Not to mention we already have rusty water accumulating because of them going into the aquifer. We can't control Mother Nature and if I need to drill a deeper well so be it but if a company wants to compromise the water in our area that goes way past lake Winnipeg for personal gain, there's something wrong. I appose what they want to do just so they can get rich and we suffer without water. We moved out here for the peace and quiet with the occasional train whistle not a constant noise a factory would have and all the light pollution. Yes, water is too important to have it be gone in this area. Their process of extracting the sand is not proven. They don't know if it's even going to work. And what about all the sand that's sitting there blowing around. Dangerous stuff. They are not even taking care of what they have done. They do not take care of the environment above ground properly. Please stop this from happening even though it's smaller. Water is too important. Barbara Simmons.

229

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Why let Silica sand mine near were drinking water is. I thought this discussion is over. Why do people keep trying to do something that was voted NO for already. Give your head a shake MB government. How would you like this mining done were you live!!!! We as a community said no

so why is this even an issue. I read about how they come in and take over and wreck everything around them

230

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very concerned about our well water situation.

We do not have any options when our clean/satisfactory well water situation becomes affected. Municipal water only supplies very little water to the East St. Paul area. Even that water supply is limited to those customers during the summer. We have also been in a drought situation for many years. East St Paul residents cannot deal with an unsafe water situation and an even lesser supply of water. If something goes wrong with the SioSilica situation, all residents need to be compensated for loss of safe drinking water and for devaluation of their properties. Please inform concerned citizens in advance HOW We Will Be Compensated. Unfortunately, I do have to ask this question? How is it that we have been quite uninformed by our Mayor who is also president of SioSilica? Please explain to me how this is ok and how it is not a conflict of interest. But most importantly I need to ask the question?.. I thought our elected officials should be looking after our best interests. I am a very confused citizen. Recently in the news people like Heather Stephenson were sued for conflict of interest. I am not a pushy individual, but am a very confused one, when it comes to this situation. I do not think that soooo many residents well water should be affected by a company's financial gain. Most people in this situation are extremely upset and confused by this. Our water comes from an aquifer in Springfield area. SPRINGFIELD IS ALREADY SAYING NO! I, AS AN EAST ST PAUL RESIDENT SAY NO ALSO! Please inform citizens how the province of Manitoba will compensate each individual when our wells and safe drinking water has been damaged/affected by this unsafe project. And to ensure that our property values will remain the same. Again, I will say I need some more information as I am confused how this is ok. I am a senior individual that has not received very little to NO clear information and compensation info for me to understand how this is ok. Thanking you in advance.

231

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We have to protect our water quality before the damage is done. Now is the time to do it.

232

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The clean drinking water for the residents of eastern Manitoba should not be up for sale so a large corporation can profit. We the people that live here need clean, drinking water to survive and the environment needs water to survive.

We need to look at the Nestlé scandal at the First Nations in Ontario where water was extracted. The results was negative for both the people living near the land and the ecosystems surrounding.

Profit for these big corporations should not be a priority over people. Profit for these big corporations should not be a priority for the environment, the wildlife and the ecosystems it will affect.

It is absolutely disgusting that this issue has gone as far as it has.

233

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Long term impacts have not been fully explored and will only be determined 50 plus years from now when it is too late. This is being rushed and pushed through without proper research or concern of public health. If they want access this type of material why does it have to be in heavily populated areas why cant they explore options away from towns and city's.

234

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: To risk our water quality is unconscionable.

Simply put, if there is even the slightest risk it cannot be allowed.

235

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing to you not only as a concerned resident [redacted] in Springfield who represents thousands of constituents who also share my concern and opposition to the proposed Sio Silica mining proposal.

Our water is a precious and finite resource that should for no reason be put at risk. We rely on this water as a basic necessity of life.

I have two main concerns that could put our water at risk:

1. Mixing separate water aquifers whether intentionally (e.g., through wells, injection, or pumping) or unintentionally (e.g., poorly sealed boreholes) can create several environmental, geological, and public-health risks. Here are the main ones:

Contamination Spread

Different aquifers often have different water quality. Mixing them can:

Spread pollutants (nitrates, industrial chemicals, saltwater, pathogens) from a contaminated aquifer into a clean one.

Mobilize natural contaminants like arsenic, manganese, or fluoride that were previously isolated.

Result: Loss of potable water; costly remediation.

Loss of Natural Protection

Some aquifers are confined (under pressure) and protected by impermeable layers. If they are connected by drilling, fractures, or improper well construction:

Surface contaminants can bypass natural barriers.

Confined aquifers lose their sealed status, making them vulnerable.

Pressure Imbalance and Hydrological Changes

Aquifers have different hydraulic pressures. Connecting them can:

Cause uncontrolled flows between aquifers.

Lower water levels in one and raise them in another.

Destabilize groundwater gradients, affecting springs, wetlands, and rivers.

In artesian aquifers, breaching pressure seals can cause permanent pressure loss.

Depletion of Higher-Quality Aquifers

If a high-quality aquifer becomes connected to a lower-quality or heavily pumped one:

Water may drain out of the cleaner aquifer.

The good source becomes depleted or degraded.

Well Integrity Risks

Poorly constructed or abandoned wells can act as conduits between aquifers:

Mixing can occur unintentionally.

Corroded well casings can accelerate mixing or collapse.

Ecosystem and Structural Impacts

Groundwater-dependent ecosystems can be stressed or destroyed.

Land subsidence may worsen if over-pumping spreads across aquifers.

Geochemical reactions may occur when waters with different chemistry mix (e.g., precipitation of minerals, dissolution of carbonate layers).

Legal and Regulatory Complications

Many regions legally require aquifers to remain isolated. Mixing them, especially through improper drilling, can result in:

Liability for contamination

Fines

2. Introducing oxygen into a groundwater aquifer whether through drilling, pumping, injection, or leaks can create several chemical, biological, and physical risks. Aquifers are normally low-oxygen, stable environments, so adding air can disrupt them significantly.

Below are the main risks explained clearly:

Oxidation of Minerals (Arsenic, Iron, Manganese Release)

Air introduces oxygen, which can rapidly oxidize minerals in the aquifer:

Arsenic bound in sediments can be released into the water.

Iron and manganese can dissolve or precipitate, causing discoloration and clogging.

Pyrite (iron sulfide) oxidation can create sulfuric acid, lowering pH and mobilizing metals.

Result: Permanent degradation of water quality.

Growth of Aerobic Microorganisms

Most aquifers are anaerobic (oxygen-free). Introducing air:

Allows new bacteria to grow, including iron bacteria, sulfur-oxidizing bacteria, or biofilm-formers.

Can clog well screens, pumps, and aquifer pores.

Can shift the microbial balance, affecting natural water chemistry.

Result: Biofouling, taste/odor issues, reduced well yield.

Pressure and Flow Disruptions

Injecting air can:

- Change the hydraulic pressure in a confined aquifer.
- Create unwanted movement of groundwater or contaminants.
- Cause gas binding, reducing pump effectiveness.

In extreme cases, compressed air can fracture sediments.

Corrosion and Infrastructure Damage

Oxygen in air accelerates corrosion of:

- Steel well casings
- Pumps and fittings
- Screens and pipes

This can cause holes that allow mixing of aquifers or surface contamination.

Mobilization of Contaminants

Air bubbles can:

- Strip volatile contaminants (like solvents, gasoline components) and move them upward.
- Change water pH and redox conditions, releasing heavy metals or nutrients.

Introduced oxygen can also break equilibrium and dissolve carbonate materials.

Loss of Natural Aquifer Integrity

Aquifers typically remain stable for thousands of years because they lack oxygen. Air introduction:

- Changes the aquifer from reducing to oxidizing.
- Can permanently alter its natural chemistry.
- May ruin a potable aquifer.

Common Causes of Air Introduction

- Poorly sealed or damaged wells
- Air-lift pumping techniques
- Leaking air lines in well systems
- Improper aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) systems
- Injection wells not purged of air

I call on Minister Moyes to initiate a Clean Environment Commission hearing for this proposed project and urge Premier Kinew and the department of Environment and Climate Change to deny this proposal.

236

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Im very concerned that our water supply will be contaminated by the Sio Silica project! We do not want this in our community! Please listen to the residents and stop this project!

237

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am deeply concerned about the long term environmental impacts of this mine.

238

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Hello,

Based on the projects own technical documentation, the proposal has major unresolved uncertainties related to:

Groundwater modeling reliability

Long-term aquifer impacts

Reinjection feasibility

Shale collapse consequences

Water quality changes

Actual well interference risk

Climate sensitivity

Incomplete geochemical dataset

Lack of robust recharge and water balance measurements

The project should not proceed until these fundamental issues are addressed with real-world testing, expanded data collection, and validated modeling.

239

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: i have spring water wells

240

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very concerned about this project contaminating my drinking water ! where can I find info on how they are planing to do this , how deep is the silica sand they are after ?

241

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We simply can not take this risk with our water. If it goes wrong can it be reversed? Will they pay everyones water costs if they can no longer usectheir wells?

242

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We voted this down once already. We should not have to keep doing it. They should not be allowed to continue to keep applying.

243

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: please protect the aquifer

244

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Protect our Mother Earth for future generations

245

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We are very disappointed in the fact that we are having to vote yet again to have this project halted. We are very concerned if this project was to pass - no one can tell us what will happen to our water once they proceed drilling. How will this affect our water supply? Why does the RM of Springfield and the Province not listen to the residents when we all voted to not have Sio Silica disturbing our water- please do not allow this to happen to us and our environment

Alberta and Saskatchewan said no and chased them out. Lets do the same in Manitoba. Please say NO!!

246

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not see how this can possibly end well. Pumping air into an anaerobic environment is irresponsible. The high risk of causing sink holes and mixing in the layers of the aquafir is frightening. Please do not approve this project.

247

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We believe this UNTESTED mining proposal poses a serious risk of contaminating the aquifer that thousands rely on for clean, safe drinking water.

248

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I'm concerned about the water and the environment. You haven't investigated this enough and I'm sure there will be some drastic consequences

249

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Too much at risk!!!! I Do not support this project.

250

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am strongly against Silica mining in the area of East St Paul.

251

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned of the risk for water contamination. Water is life and will be the next resource war!!!

252

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I'm not interested in poisoning our ground water just so we can "improve the economy".

253

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We have concerns about water quality, air quality, and wildlife. This will cause a major shift in our local environment and has no need to be present.

254

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Im sure Sio Silica has every intention of protecting our drinking water supply. However, good intentions dont always translate to positive outcomes.

If something disastrous occurs, there is no plan B. This water source is far too valuable and counted on by thousands to gamble away.

Creating a few local jobs does not justify the potential of harming our water. They should try elsewhere, where there is no potential of destroying an aquifer used for drinking water.

255

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Investigate and if necessary lock up Jeff Wharton

256

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My family relies entirely upon the water from our well. SioSilica cannot guarantee that our water will be safe. They cannot guarantee that the aquifer will not collapse. They cannot guarantee that we will not end up with sink holes throughout the region. If they cannot make those guarantees with scientific evidence than they should be allowed to tamper with out water. Should thousands of manitobans lose their water due to a collapsed aquifer, what then? Will SioSilica provide every residence with clean water for drinking, livestock, or just doing dishes? This doesnt even take into account all the water we use for just basic living. No, SioSilica should not allowed to proceed with this project. Protect our water. Please. Thousands of manitobans are counting on you to protect our way of life, for now and future generations.

Industry should never take precedent over communities. When the wells dry up or collapse and industry moves on, what will we , those who depend on the aquifer, be left with? Nothing. There will be nothing for our children to inherit. Protect our water. Protect our livelihoods. Protect future generations. Please. We are begging. Other opportunities for dusty will come along. We dont need this one.

257

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Dear Minister Moyes,

Re: Support for the Revised SIO Silica Vivian Sand Extraction Project File No. _Insert if known, e.g., from public registry: 6119_

I am writing to express my strong support for the revised silica sand extraction proposal submitted by SIO Silica Corporation on October 28, 2025, for the Vivian Sand Facility Project in the Rural Municipality of Springfield. As a _your connection, e.g., concerned Manitoban / local resident / business owner in the region_, I appreciate the opportunity to provide input during this public consultation period. This scaled-back project represents a thoughtful evolution that balances environmental stewardship with the economic opportunities vital to our province's future. I urge your department to approve the environmental licence, as it demonstrates how innovative resource development can protect our precious aquifers while advancing Manitoba's green economy.

The revisions to the project directly address the concerns raised by the Clean Environment Commission (CEC) in its 2023 report and the government's 2024 decision, transforming potential risks into manageable, monitored outcomes. Originally proposed as a 24-year operation involving up to 7,200 wells and 33 million tonnes of extraction, the new plan is a five-year pilot focused on a much smaller area south of Vivian. It limits initial drilling to a graduated series of wells, capping annual extraction at 500,000 tonnes by year fourfar below the original scale. Critically, SIO Silica has incorporated robust groundwater protection measures, including on-site separation of sand from water, advanced filtration, and UV treatment before reinjecting the purified water back into the aquifer via the same wells. This closed-loop system minimizes surface disruption and ensures no untreated water is released, safeguarding the Winnipeg Sandstone aquifer that supplies drinking water to over 100,000 Manitobans. These enhancements, combined with phased implementation and real-time monitoring, provide the data-driven oversight needed to confirm the project's safety, allowing for adaptive management if any issues arise.

Beyond environmental prudence, this project is a catalyst for sustainable economic growth in southeastern Manitoba. High-purity silica sand from the region is a globally sought-after resource, essential for manufacturing solar panels, fiber optics, semiconductors, and electric vehicle componentskey enablers of the clean energy transition. By approving this initiative, Manitoba can position itself as a North American hub for green technology supply chains, creating hundreds of high-skilled jobs in extraction, processing, and logistics right here at home. The proposed facility on

land already zoned for industrial activities would generate royalties, taxes, and local spending, bolstering rural communities like Springfield and Vivian without relying on volatile global markets. Moreover, SIO Silica's commitments to Indigenous partnerships, including a memorandum of understanding with Long Plain First Nation to lead an independent environmental assessment and a revenue-sharing offer of up to 5% of profits (potentially $20 million annually at full capacity) to Brokenhead Ojibway Nation, underscore a collaborative approach that respects Treaty rights and fosters reconciliation.

Manitoba's recent approval of the Canadian Premium Sand project near Lake Winnipeg shows that responsible silica extraction is feasible and beneficial when risks are mitigated. The SIO Silica revisions go even further, using proven airlift extraction methods adapted from the water well industry to avoid the open-pit mining concerns of traditional operations. Rejecting this opportunity would forfeit a chance to diversify our economy, reduce reliance on imported materials, and contribute to global decarbonization effortsall while upholding the highest environmental standards. I am confident that your technical advisory committee's rigorous review will affirm these strengths, and I encourage swift approval to unlock this potential.

Thank you for considering my views and for your dedication to balancing prosperity with planetary health. I would welcome the chance to discuss this further and can be reached at _your phone/email_. Manitoba's future depends on bold, informed decisions like this one.

258

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Worried about drinking water contamination

259

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: If sio, or any other company that operates this mine, can guarantee the quality and purity of my water will not change, and that I will not incur any costs due to their work. then Id be on board. Just guarantee they will pay for any costs incurred due to water quality or quantity changes. If they say it wont be an issue, then they should have no problem guaranteeing to each property for expenses in the future. If they cannot guarantee, then they shouldn't proceed.

260

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is not good for the land and this is not reconcilition. It's still committing the act of genocide, only it is too the land. Life over money!

261

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: If it has a chance to ruin rural well/water systems, then it is not worth the risk. Simple as that. You will have worldwide news with your names attached to it. Not a legacy to get behind.

262

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio Silica does not have the best interest of Manitoba at heart. Please deny their licence to mine in Manitoba. Clean water is a human right that will be destroyed by this project. Mr. Kinew does not want this to be his legacy.

Thank you

263

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Im concerned about the possible effects on ground water, in particular when the ground water is also being used as drinking water. I understand that silica sand is needed for cement and other uses but we NEED clean water. The other things are wants. We have to change our ways to be more sustainable.

Thanks for listening,

264

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The area of proposed sight and ground water concerns is not capable of this type of operation. The risk to Brokenhead River with already contaminated water at 6 litres per minute from town will cease testing in 2027. Sio footprint on top of this would be catastrophic.

265

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No, just no. Nobody can guarantee that my drinking water will be undisturbed. Like my neighbours we are on wells.

266

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: In a time where our national resources and land is being threatened, we should be doing everything possible to protect them, including turning away large businesses from exploiting them. This should not even be debated or be left up to politics. Our land and water is not for sale.

267

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My husband and I have lived here for over 40 years. We depend on good clean drinking water for ourselves

and our animals. The horses drink a substancial amount of water. If the quality of our drinking water changes

due to removing the silica sand, which by the way is a natural filter for our water, we would lose everything.

Do you think there is a back up plan in place? No there isn,t. Not where I live, we depend on our well and good clean drinking water.

Please don't take that away, there are thousands of families that depend on this water source. How many times do all

of us have to say NO. Do we count, or does big business call all the shots. Please don't ruin our aquifer.

268

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: On top of property damages and possible property seizures on top of disturbing the water and lack of hygiene. Oxygen will be added to an area that has never been exposed to oxygen chemical reactions occur changes that cant be

269

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It is not acceptable to disturb the aquifer! Find a different project

270

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: They are going to destroy the land and contaminate the water. As an indigenous knowledge keeper I urge you not to let this happen.

271

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Protecting our land, waters, ecosystems and our health should be top considerations. Extensive independent in-depth impact assessments should be made of the lands Sio plans to mine, as well as Sio's historical practices regarding First Nation communities and politicians. Sio has demonstrated again and again unethical practices, caught in lies and presenting false information to the public. Please explain to the public why govenrments at different levels continue to engage with this company.

272

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very concerned about the impact this will have on our environment especially for our wildlife. This is not a good plan.

273

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Canada needs to do better, extraction of natural materials is hurting the people. Companies that use the land for profit should be HIGHLY regulated and enforced. Canada and canadians deserve protection.

274

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Statement: Opposition to the Sio Silica Project

After reviewing the available information on the proposed Sio Silica project, I am not in favour of this development. There are significant unresolved risks, no meaningful guarantees for public safety or environmental protection, and several areas where conflicts of interest and transparency issues appear evident. At this time, the project does not meet the standard of responsibility or assurance that our community deserves.

Major Concerns and Reasons for Opposition

1. Groundwater and Aquifer Risk

The project targets a sensitive, multi-layered aquifer system used by thousands of residents.

There is no proven method guaranteeing that pumping out silica wont destabilize the sandstone layers or compromise drinking water.

Risks include aquifer mixing, contamination, loss of well pressure, and long-term water quality issues.

2. Subsidence and Land Stability

Removing underground material can create voids and weaken geological layers.

There are no guarantees that land wont shift, settle, or collapse over timethis could affect homes, foundations, roads, and farmland.

3. Environmental Uncertainty

Wildlife assessments are incomplete and rely on assumptions rather than extensive field research.

Noise, traffic, light pollution, and habitat disturbance have all been downplayed without strong evidence.

4. Lack of Long-Term Guarantees

The company cannot guarantee:

Water safety

Land stability

Long-term environmental protection

Sufficient financial bonds to cover worst-case scenarios

Once extraction begins, the consequences are irreversible.

5. Conflicts of Interest and Transparency Issues

Several consultations, meetings, and environmental assessments have been questioned for accuracy or completeness.

Concerns have been raised about:

Selective data use

Pressure on Indigenous communities to support the project

Inconsistent information provided to the public

Consultants paid by the proponent rather than arms-length experts

These issues create major credibility problems.

6. Provincial Rejection and Ongoing Concerns

The Manitoba government already rejected this project once due to environmental and public-safety concerns.

The companys revised submission still does not resolve the core risks.

7. Community Impact

Increased industrial activity, truck routes, noise, and disturbance are incompatible with nearby residential communities like East St. Paul.

The long-term cost to property values, quality of life, and rural character could be significant.

Conclusion

Based on the unresolved risks, lack of independent verification, absence of meaningful guarantees, and ongoing transparency concerns, I do not support the Sio Silica project. The potential long-term harms to our water, land, environment, and community far outweigh the speculative economic benefits put forward by the company

275

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project proposes needless degradation of precious natural resources that countless lifeforms rely on in order to make a profit and is unacceptable. Sio silica has utilized children in ad campaigns in an attempt to virtue signal prosperity and in an attempt to undermine the potential long lasting negative environmental impacts of the project.

276

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have a rare autoimmune disease. I am concerned with water quality and air quality.

277

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Say No To Sio Silica For Future Generations Protection.

It is getting to the point Canadians need to start taking initiative to protect the quality of Life in every province. And to allow projects of this nature is never in that interest.

Say No. And Never.

Protect Precious Water Resources At All Cost.

And saying No to Sio Silica is the EASIEST No said from my generation as a young person.

Hands off and dismantle your business, you're a danger to the future I'm trying to protect and others like me.

Shame on companies who have no remorse for the slaughter they're so comfortable with risking for dollars and cents using zero common sense at the state of the world.

Canada's value as a country will be destroyed to let companies like Sio Silica do as they please. Protect our environment by providing protection against those who aim to ruin and dismantle for temporary profit.

278

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Absolutely Opposited. Most of us like our drinking water and not some big Money hungry company coming to a town and digging it up and causing all kinds of problems

279

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am vehemently opposed to the Sio Silica project going forward. There is nothing I have seen that shows the alleged minimal impact to the environment via the proposed process of extraction.

Do NOT let this project proceed!!!

280

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not support the silico sand mine, now or ever. Why is the provincial government even allowing silico to apply for another permit when he was denied TWO times already?! People do not want it now or ever! Consultation has taken place and the people said no! No to silico! And any other respurce extraction company that wanta to kill our lands and waters for profit!

281

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our household is against mining in our drinking water aquifer. Safety both short and long term are of grave concern. Environmental concerns including potential damage to the ecosystem is concerning. The track record of Sio Sand including all previous incarnations of Sio Sand has a horrible track record. Stop Sio Sand. Protect The Water.

282

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not agree with the proposal for Sio Silica to draw water from the same supply as local residents. The possibility of contamination far out weighs the risk of the health to the public. It would cause irreparable damage to the infrastructure of the community should it go awry.

283

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned for the water

284

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Ground water will be negatively impacted. Huge conflict of interest the the East St. Paul mayor being president of sio silica. Very Shady. Not good.

285

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The people of this province have spoken out overwhelmingly against this project, why are you still pursuing it? Sio Silica will destroy the groundwater for generations to come, do not build this mine.

286

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Hi, I believe that all people are entitled to clean and safe water! Sio sand just keeps trying to push this down our throats and no one seems to be listening to the people. They can't guarantee that this project will not harm the water and the environment so why are we entertaining this. Plus they have stated that all they want to do is start it up and sell it. Does that sound like a company that really cares about the area or environment that this project will be affecting. I think not. Please do the right thing and say NO once and for all!

287

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This mining proposal has not gone through all proper testing standards and poses a serious risk of contaminating the aquifer that thousands of us residents rely on for clean, safe drinking water. I have met the Founder and CEO myself, and though I don't believe that they have nefarious purposes with this project, I do believe that they have no way of fully assuring that the water aquifer can't be contaminated by this project and therefore the risks are too great to us residents who actually live in this area (they do not live here).

288

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project is a risky endeavor with unproven techniques for mining the silica sand. Silica sand is what filters the water going into our aquifer that Eastern MB relies on for drinking water. The risk is too high. This project was voted down a few years back and needs to be voted down again.

289

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Silica sand mining negatively affects the land and the animals/humans that live there

-permanently scars the landscape

-destroys microbial communities

-alters natural drainage, and increases erosion

-sediment from erosion can degrade nearby rivers and streams

-large water withdrawals can lower local water tables, potentially causing wells to go dry

-chemicals used in processing can also leach into groundwater

-removal of natural vegetation and habitats disrupts ecosystems, leading to a loss of biodiversity.

-processing activities can release airborne particulate matter and respirable crystalline silica, which can cause lung disease, kidney disease particularly for workers exposed long-term

- could negatively affect drinking water quality.

There is inadequate research, planning and testing to prove there will be minimal impact on the land and water.

290

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: PLEASE dont let them set up here. they are a private business that will contaminate our water for their bottom line. please listen to the community we dont need this type of investment in our province. KEEP OUR WATER SAFE FOR OUR NEXT GENERATIONS, my children and yours

291

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The Sio Silica project must be stopped and not allowed to proceed! This is not about stopping a project from proceeding, this is about protecting the potable water table needed for survival! It is of very grave concern that any activity in a potable water table be protected with the utmost of protection! Activity in this water table could be open to a variety of accidents many of which have perhaps not even been thought of yet, which would contaminate and destroy the ability for anyone to access potable water from that aquifer perhaps ever again! I live just north of the RM of Springfield and have a very healthy and safe water table which I and my family use and need for our health and survival every day! Perhaps this special water aquifer used by our family is exactly the one Sio Silica is wanting access to? Even if not, a potable aquifer is not something that should be given over to any industry for profit. The government themself have made statements of the need to protect our water. The health and livelihood of the residents of the RM of Springfield and beyond

must be taken as priority consideration over the profits of industry, ESPECIALLY as it pertains to our drinking water!

Secondly, there are numerous other locations and ways of obtaining silica sand in Canada. Potentially giving up a potable aquifer for industry profit is unreasonable and Sio Silica ought to be ashamed of their persistent efforts to have access to our drinking water for the self centered desire of personal profit. Nobody but Sio Silica will benefit from this project and the potential long-term damage to the potable water availability to the residents of Manitoba could have devastating long-term consequences. They must be encouraged to seek others sources for their silica sand operation.

This project must be stopped at all costs now before many rural residents pay a price beyond anyone's ability to pay!!

292

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Too many companies are getting greedy and not caring how it affects the people around these operations or the people downstream. It seems to me from the research I've done, that there's a serious risk of contaminating the aquifer. Every drinking well from the proposed drilling area to the lake could be at risk. I don't want this project moving forward, I think it's careless, and a sad attempt to boost job numbers in the province. If it goes through, the only acceptable thing would be that, if any drinking well is affected or altered from it's past production in quantity and quality...the owners are .are whole...and by that I mean SioSilica pays through the nose until that well produces the same water quality and quality it did before their operations. They also need to be held responsible for the water quality of the lake. If they don't like it, then too bad, go drift somewhere else.

293

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I really dont think this extraction method is a good idea, if anything would happen to the aqueduct what happens to our water supply? My house depends on this water supply because we have no way of hooking up to town water.

Will the mining company supply us with the same quality of water indefinitely because they are the ones that damaged our supply?

The mining company is be very vague with any information. It seams like they are keeping us in the dark as much as possible.

I think you should reconsider this project!!

[redacted]

294

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: we have spring water well and need protection

295

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Go get your silica sand somewhere else

296

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My concern is that permanent ecological impairment seems arguably likely to result as a consequence of this project which would have relatively short-term and modest economic benefits for people of that community and Manitobans.

297

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Stop silica mining in Manitoba.

298

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: First and foremost, I firmly believe that not everything is for sale. If we dont set precedent to something so essential as our drinking water Im not sure what we value.

299

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Messing with people's drinking water is a crime against humanity and should be prosecuted up to the highest court, even the one in the Hague.

300

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Why would the Province of Manitoba grant any approval for Sio Silica to destroy our aquifer, natural habitats and environmental well being? Absolutely unwarranted that this company needs to be in close proximity to many Municipalities and natural habitats and ecosystems that source water from this area. Does the Provincial Government prioritize the profits of a private company above those of the citizens and destroying the environment? That is all kinds of wrong and we do not want this.

301

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: They keep trying and was once turned down by in coming NDP. They tried using Rez card, twice. Come on quit already, people have spoken why do people that have spoken should keep saying no repetitively.

No means No, get it to their greedy skulls.

302

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a resident of East St Paul who relies on the well water, I am concerned for the impact of this project on our environment and our water safety. Our community is very concerned on the fact that this project has not been transparent in its potential impact on our environment and water source.

303

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Until Silica mining is fully researched, silica mining should be paused. Pritecting our l water tables is of utmost priority, above silica mining.

304

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We utilize this water for a food source and the process for removing silica sand disrupts the environment that is needed to sustain our fishing resources.

305

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing to state my firm opposition to the proposed Sio Silica / SIMBA sand extraction project.

There is not enough credible, independent scientific evidence to conclude that this project can be carried out safely. The risks to the aquifer are significant, poorly understood, and potentially irreversible. Manitobas aquifer is one of our provinces most valuable and essential resources, and it must not be treated as an acceptable casualty in pursuit of short-term mining profits.

I do not believe this project can be justified under any circumstances. The potential environmental and community harm far outweighs any claimed economic benefit. Protecting our water must come first.

I strongly urge the Manitoba Government to reject this project outright.

306

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water is life . Its not work the risk to our Aquifers. I reside in the Red River Valley and most residents struggle with salt water so they pipe or transport their water from the aquifer under St Malo which is on a ridge. If a company starts fracking for Silca sand this will for sure disrupt the water eventually. Please say no for the future of my kids and their kids.

307

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our land and water is SACRED. You will destroy the water quality, the air quality and the food quality.. Something that we can never get back once it contaminated.

The future of this province will be destroyed if this gets approved. I was born and raised here. My family has been here for generations. The water in this land is getting worse. The government needs to get its shit together and actually care about the land and everyone and everything on it. The future depends on it.

Say no to Sio Silica Virus. Say yes to clean water and a safe province for generations to come.

Ill continue to pray for the people who work within the government of so called Canada. To love themselves enough to make their home a safe and healthy place for everyone..

308

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please be certain that all environmental impacts are reviewed. This company is not to be trusted or given free rein. The water is priority for so many of my family living in the area of Springfield.

309

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We must protect our fresh water sources, If the government cares about environment

310

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Im very concerned about the proposed mining into my aquifer as there is many residents who rely on the clean water from under our properties

I have seen first hand damage from a collapsed well and it is devastating to the home owners the costs to clean and replace appliances from the fine sand that damaged everything

311

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned for the quality of my drinking water which comes from a private well on my property. I own 6 acres in the RM of Springfield. I do not want to see this project proceed. I feel there are other opportunities for our RM to grow and generate income.

312

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: STOP Sio Silica - As a resident of the RM of Springfield we are against this proposal of Sio Silica for many reasons.

313

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I attended almost all public meetings on this up until it was shut down. The corruption that has been displayed and methods they chose to try to get this agreement done was deplorable! The lies we were told and the facts hidden from the public angered even the calmest citizens in Springfeild. The real science behind the project shows an absolute threat to the water supply for thousands of people even outside the Springfield area. Property values have been proven to drop significantly and the so called slight increase in ambient noise of 40 decibels for 24 hours a day 7 days a week in the peaceful town of Vivian is unacceptable ! Our referendum on the mater almost showed 100 % of the people in Springfeild are against it ! Dont let our corrupt politicians tell you anything different. Just come to the next meeting.

314

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My wife and I have just purchased our new home in Birds Hill with a possession date of [redacted]. We knew it had well water and definitely looked at the most recent water quality test [redacted] as part of our decision to purchase the property or not. We worked hard our whole lives to be able to purchase our last home in a fine, pristine community. Needless to say, we were devastated at the thought of losing our very good water quality, and the potential financial loss of our newly acquired property. Please do not let this move forward !!

Thank you

315

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Life cannot exist without Water. It is something that we cannot risk because lobbyists for Sio Silica are pushing for it. The Clean Environment Commission report identified many concerns and were NOT confident that the risks to our water aquifer could be managed. The Manitoba Government rejected the project in February 2024 because the risk was too great.

Sio Silica is still aggressively pursuing what Manitoba has already said no to. Companies routinely promise jobs that rarely materialize and use unscrupulous marketing ads, in this case children, to promote their own agenda in an attempt to gather ill-informed public support. The Manitoba Government, Springfield residents (95% voted NO in a referendum poll) and the Clean Environment Commission do not want the project and rejected it. We shouldn't be entertaining this discussion. NO MEANS NO!

The risks are far too high. Tens of thousands of manitobans could have their water source damaged or destroyed. For what benefit?

A few dozen jobs, more traffic, noise and polution? Sure the company investors will get rich, but how will manitobans benefit? Compare the tax revenue to the costs if this project fails? Very little benefit for HUGE risk.

I live near Anola and like most around me depend on my well to provide clean water. Contamination to our ground water would harm residents, farming, wildlife and add the risk of significantly reduced property values. A project that has the potential to cause permanent damage across such a large area should NEVER be allowed to proceed.

I am not against responsible mining, but I AM AGAINST drilling THROUGH a water aquifer and risk contaminating an enormous area of ground water. Even a small risk is too large especially when we are dealing with an UNTESTED mining proposal.

Sio's intent is to build the mines and sell them. The CEO bragged about this fact in a recent video. Build it, sell it. Who will be left to pay for the damage. The Sio investors will be long gone.

Manitobans have to live with the consequences left by them.

I do NOT want Sio mining in our aquifer.

316

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project will not just effect or drinking water but all types of life including g livestock etc. we cannot let this proceed as its experimental at best. We cannot pit loves of farmers and people and wildlife at risk. This is so bad for a lot of people.

317

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We are a family of 3 and we all agree Sio Silica should not be allowed in. Our aquafir is important to all of us in the community and it should NOT be taken from us. To many other things affect our environment and another one should not be willingly allowed.

318

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We should be protecting our waters no exploiting it. The wild life, trees and fauna also deserve to be considered also. Canada has signed an act to protect our fungi and we should consider that also.

My well is fed by that aquafer and am terrified.

319

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do NOT want sio silica mining to happen in the Rm of Springfield.

320

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please keep these companies out of Manitoba. They are underhanded and totally unwelcome. Their technology is suspect at best.

321

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It would be interesting to get a hydrologist to interpret the data. My husband worked for a [redacted], and he was told that the water comes from the lake if the woods originally, having said that, our own well water is excellent. Wouldn't want to jeopardize it.

322

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Without fresh drinking water we have nothing, does not mater what part of the world you live in. The risk is not worth it!

323

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We all live on well out in the country. I am worried about the mining affecting the water table and quality for those close to the mines as well as the towns supply as well.

324

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Dont spoil our water supply

Dont allow us to be pressured by money for our lives

Say NO!!!!!

325

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project serves only the buyers and nobody else. There is no value to the local residential landowners and farmers and even more landowners all the way down the aquifer stream. The negative and permanent affects on the land and aquifer will have a huge impact on Manitoba residents longer than anybody really knows. I say NO now to this now and I want these kind of companies to know that we will always say NO. We won't grown tired of their constant attempts but instead we will grow stronger. Don't make bad irreversible decisions now. The NDP government needs to stand behind the people and not cave in to corporate pressure.

326

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We object to this project because safe drinking water is a fundamental human need and preserving the quality of our drinking water should always take priority over resource extraction. There are no guarantees that damage to the aquifer could result from this activity. There is also no commitment from Silo Silica take responsibility if this mining activity results in the aquifer being jeopardized. Additionally, the Mayor of East St. Paul has placed herself in a conflict of interest situation. While serving as Mayor she is also representing the interests of Silo Silica. The aquifer provides high quality safe drinking water to a large number of Manitoba residents, including the RM of East St. Paul. We are very opposed to this project.

327

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Not interested keep this shit out of my neighborhood.

Shut the [redacted] down nobody in the area wants this nor do they want to incur the huge debt funding a [redacted] that nobody wants

328

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not support this extraction project.

329

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Not in support of the sio silica project. Concerns are for water quality

330

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I DO NOT support the Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project. This project directly affects the underground aquafir that supplies my familys drinking water. There has been no discussion on what will happen when, not if, WHEN the water source is contaminated and we can no longer use this water to wash our clothes and dishes, bathe in, and drink. Will each home affected receive money when they have to put in an underground cistern and pay to have water hauled in for the remainder of our lives.

331

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The process of this mine approval has already shown signs of corrupt process, evidenced by the fines imposed on the PC government leaders. Sio has failed to demonstrate any real care for environmental impact and concern for the drinking water of our province.

332

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not support Sio Silicas proposal to mine silica beneath the aquifer that supplies my community with drinking water. The extraction method outlined in their new environmental license application remains untested at the scale they are proposing, and introducing unknown mechanical, chemical, and hydraulic stresses into an active groundwater system carries clear potential for aquifer disturbance, pathway creation for contaminants, and long-term changes in water quality. Thousands of people rely on this aquifer for safe, clean water, and no private company should be permitted to treat a critical public resource as a profit-generating test bed. The health and well-being of the communities depending on this water must take precedence over

experimental extraction techniques, especially when failure or miscalculation could lead to irreversible environmental damage. Our water supply exists to sustain the people who live herenot to be risked, degraded, or exploited for corporate gain.

333

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio Silica's licence must be rejected because their sand extraction proposal poses far too much risk to Southeastern Manitoba's ability to access clean water!

334

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The most precious commodity we have here in Springfield is the best water in the world let's not have some small minded people at Sio Silica poison this commodity that will be more valuable than Gold very soon

335

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am against silo silica, its operators, executives and any other employees.

336

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We must protect our fresh water sources, If the government cares about environment

337

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My wife has a rare autoimmune disease. I am concerned with water quality and air quality.

338

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I grew up in Springfield. My chilchood home, neighbour's homes, and our personal histories were all taken away by Hydro. Please don't allow Sio Silica to do a similar thing. Springfirld already has enough mining operations moving soil, forcing out wildlife, and damaging the landscape. Don't add damaging the water supply to the list.

339

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a Metis woman, I bought 30 acres to build a dream home and have invested my life in this land. Plans to have a bird sanctuary, and protect the wildlife and plant trees and give back to Mother Earth. I do not support this project! It is a risk that can ruin our water and soil and millions of dollars we invested in this community. Protection of this land and its wildlife is essential as well as the investment we have made to live here. NO to the silica project. Character is what you do when no one is looking. Do not let anyone decide your character but you. Say No

340

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio Silica is a blight on the planet. Keep them put of our province, we have other projects and opportunities that will bring revenue and growth without risking our groundwater and aquifers.

Or just wait 20 years and see what happens to Alberta first.

341

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is an untested risky extraction method that puts our drinking water at risk.

342

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a resident, I DO NOT want Sio Silica mining silica sand from underneath our aquifer, as that could result in serious contamination of the aquifer that supplies our homes with clean, safe drinking water.

Thank you,

[redacted]

343

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Just dont think its a good idea for our water.

344

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The housing expansion in the RM of Springfield is already putting a strain on the aquifer. The quality of water has declined since we built on family land 30 years ago. Mayor and council have increased development of small holdings and town expansion, with more planned in the future. Introducing mining into the mix that will increase the use of the existing aquifer, which is not an unlimited supply. If Sio Silica is allowed to extract the sand using our water source, we have no guarantees that our potable water will not be jeopardized. Once the aquifer is compromised it is done. In addition to the possible water contamination, is the dangers of silica dust. Residents, domestic and wildlife in and around the mining site are at risk of lung disease, cancer and other respiratory illness, if the fine dust is not captured properly. It is up to us to keep all residents of the RM safe.

345

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am against anyone messing with our aquifer. Please do not allow this. Clean drinking water is important and don't believe for one second that they can mine without contaminating our water.

346

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: After a little research I came across this bit of information on our topic. Now Im really concerned and hope you understand everyones concerns. Silica sand is found both above and below the water aquifer, as well as being a primary component of many aquifers themselves. Its location depends entirely on the specific local geology.

Key points regarding the location of silica sand:

Within Aquifers: Many significant silica sand deposits, particularly in areas like southeastern Manitoba, are found deep within sandstone aquifers (sometimes as deep as 60 meters or more below the ground surface). In these cases, the sand is the water-bearing material., as well as being a primary component of many aquifers themselves.

347

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have concerns about water quality, this project should not go forward - clearly there is corruption. when the PC government trying to force the project forward at the end of their term (Heather Stephanson) and the Executives of this company have been accused of bribery etc.

348

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I'm concerned about Sio Silica application to mine sand in drinking water and request CEC hearing with participant funding.

Mining in drinking water aquifers supplying entire South East Manitoba should not be allowed.

They are proposing un tested extraction method causing aquifer to collapse.

349

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Leave our aquifer alone. We can live without a lot of things but our water is more precious than anything else!!!

350

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: They cannot be allowed to mine sand and ruin our well drinking water that a lot of us use and depend on Carla devlin cannot be a mayor of east St. Paul and sitting member on board director of scio silica this has to be investigated and it has to be stoped she is here for the money and no for the people or environment #stopsciosillica

351

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Before it's even been approved, Sio Silica is intending to sell the mine. Their partner's chairman has been convicted, and fined $250 M, for bribery, falsifying records and illegal deals with sanctioned regimes. Bribing Brokenhead First Nation was second nature to them.

Even if only one of these allegations is true it's grounds to never deal with this slimy company ever, ever, ever again, why are you so intent on doing business with these people? Keep Manitoba pristine and ethically viable, you get in bed with these clowns and we aren't ethic anymore.

352

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I strongly object to the sio silica project. I lived in RM of Springfield the majority of my life and many family members reside there. The way this project is being pushed through despite catastrophic environmental concerns is unconscionable. Thank you.

353

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not want one of the province's main aquifers forever polluted and ruined in the name I know profit for a few of the one percenters. This project must not go through, the health of generation after generations of manitobans is at risk.

354

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I strongly disagree with sio sands or any other silica sand extraction company wanting to extract silica sand from any area. This could absolutley affect well water for any rural residents in the area. We as rural property owners rely on our well water, and the possible contamination, or destruction of that water source is absolutley unacceptable. It simply isn't worth the risk to anyone.

Please say no to this project or any future projects. There is no evidence these extraction methods work without harm. These are unproven methods. Water is life. Without it, we can't survive.

355

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not believe that enough work has been taken to ensure that no damage to our water will result from the drilling of multiple holes through the aquifer that supplies our water. Without water, our community will suffer economically and see values plummet. No company will invest in business without reliable safe water. Unless there are guarantees and legally binding personal and company obligations to remediate any damage to the environment, I do not see how this project can be approved. You risk sacrificing the livelihood of many thousands or residents for a few jobs. If the project goes south, Manitoba will be faced with major costs to fix the mess as I am sure the company and its owners will just claim bankruptcy and walk away leaving us their legacy. DONOT approve this project. If you have to, make the principles of the project put up their personal assets as well as hundreds of millions for potential remediation costs.

356

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I don't think the sio sand project should take place due to the large impact on a vast areas water supply, no one I have ever talked to in the area is in favour of this my self included. The area where this mining has taken place used to be rich with wild berries and mushrooms with plenty for locals and wildlife to enjoy and just with test drilling all this is gone, we are not interested in large scale operations moving into the area, especially if it will potentially poison the water we use on a daily basis.

357

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Stop silo silica!

358

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We are opposed to the silica project moving forward until there is the necessary testing of water and related environmental concerns are fully addressed. Thank you

359

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am extremely opposed to this project. It should have been immediately rejected simply based on the known sneaky approach that was used to try and approve it. We do not even know the full details of that, and it is extremely unlikely that Siosilica was not also obviously involved in that process jn the background. There was obviously an incentive to the PC members to push this through, and that incentive could only have come from Siosilica. Carla Devlin has been found to have broken election rules by the Ombudsman, she was also found to have broken conflict of interest rules by the ombudsman, and she was also subsequently found to have intentionally lied to the Ombudsman. How can anything that Siosilica says be accepted as truth or fact? It would be plain stupid to accept anything that Siosilica now says as truth

The risks of the project are just too large and too uncertain to approve this shady project. If the aquifer is contaminated Siosilica declares bankruptcy and Manitoban's who rely on the water are left without clean water.

360

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Removing a vital part of natures system to filter our water source couldnt be a better example of

Corporate greed.

361

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned and reject a mining company using our drinking water aquifer in Manitoba. We voted to stop them operating in our RM and yet they are back. We deplored the crookedness they have done to get their company ahead in the RM of Springfield.

I dont trust they will follow any regulations.

362

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We need to stop Sio silica from destroying our drinking water.

363

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I VOTE NO TO SIO SILICA. My reasons have already been stated over and over again by many others. There is no guarentee that this process can be done safely and we, the residents, are the ones who will the suffer the consequences.

364

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: A fresh water supply is sacroscant to all living things. The mining project proposed by Sio Silica would undermine the stability of the aquifer.

365

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have lots of concerns regarding this project and do not stand for this project to move forward.

It is an untested mining proposal and it poses serious risk of contaminating out safe drinking water.

This is a huge concern for me and my family.

366

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about our wells that we need for ourselves and our livestock. Mining of this nature requires thousands of gallons of water. During dry spells we already experience shortages in our water. We will be forced to haul in water for our animals if this project destroys our water source.

367

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Companies can find the minerals they need on other places. Just because this location is so close to major thoroughfares, that shouldn't give a company priority over the WATER INTENDED for life and farming. This should never be approved and resources should always be in the hands of the people, not a company.

368

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about this project's very real potential to contaminate drinking water. I am also worried that if this project moves ahead and contamination does happen, money will do little to remediate the problem.

369

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Unproven extraction method, without proof the aquifer will not be affected.

370

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water is our most precious resource. It is something that we cannot risk because lobbyists for Sio Silica are pushing for it. The Clean Environment Commission report identified many concerns and were NOT confident that the risks to our water aquifer could be managed. The Manitoba Government rejected the project in February 2024 because the risk was too great.

Sio Silica is still aggressively pursuing what Manitoba has already said no to. Companies routinely promise jobs that rarely materialize and use unscrupulous marketing ads, in this case children, to promote their own agenda in an attempt to gather ill-informed public support. The Manitoba Government, Springfield residents (95% voted NO in a referendum poll) and the Clean Environment Commission do not want the project and rejected it. We shouldn't be entertaining this discussion. NO MEANS NO!

I live near Anola and like most around me depend on my well to provide clean water. Contamination to our ground water would harm residents, farming, wildlife and add the risk of significantly reduced property values. A project that has the potential to cause permanent damage across such a large area should NEVER be allowed to proceed.

I am not against responsible mining, but I AM AGAINST drilling THROUGH a water aquifer and risk contaminating an

enormous area of ground water. Even a small risk is too large especially when we are dealing with an UNTESTED mining proposal.

Sio's intent is to build the mines and sell them. Manitobans have to live with the consequences left by them.

I do NOT want Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction mining in our aquifer.

371

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We are strongly opposed to the Sio Silica - Simba Sand and Extraction project which proposes to use mining methods that have the potential to contaminate the huge, pristine aquifer the extends across south-eastern Manitoba. It is beyond reckless to experiment with our drinking water for the sake of a business endeavour. This could have devastating impact not only on current communities but on the drinking water of future generations. Reducing the scope of this experiment will not reduce the risk as all you need to do is contaminate one small area of the aquifer and it will spread throughout. There is no contingency fund that could ever remediate contamination once it occurs. Without water, there is no community, no future.

372

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not comply with this project! I believe it is not safe for our land. I voted NO last year and will continue to vote NO!

373

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It is difficult to believe that this proposal from Sio Silica is even being considered. The potential of damage to our water supply is very real. We must say NO.

374

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project can jeopardize drinking water for future generations. Are we putting profit over people?

375

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Concerned for natural health and wildlife

376

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio sand can cause number of problems for the environment which includes contamination to water, clear cutting forests and trees, effects to the Wildlife ecosystem, can effect hunting and harvesting, spills, erosion, noise cause by increased truck and equipment use, pollution and dust emissions. These are just some of the reasons that the sio sand project should be shut down for good. The people that live in this community and area will be heavily impacted.

377

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am saying NO we don't want this project to go through. We are not sure it can be done safely and ruin our water supply. Once this happens we will have no water and therefore lose our homes, since we won't have any clean drinking water. We have the best equifer in SE Manitboa which won a gold metal award for best in the world. Input from Engineers, Biophysics - Atomic energy of Canada and Water Specialists have stated it will collapse all over the place causing sinkhole after sinkhole. Please do not let this project happen. It is all just for profit and the money will be going to the investors or people involved and I'm sure most do even live or use this water. Do NOT let this project go through it is no benefit to the people that need this water and only profit for the investors and the company.

378

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about the effects to water quality and pollution/damage to the environment, including wildlife. These environmental risks/harms to our environment greatly outweigh the financial/economical gain the mining may provide for our province.

379

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am against sio silica mining in our area and causing potential harm to our drinking water

380

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Based on the projects own technical documentation, the proposal has major unresolved uncertainties related to:

Groundwater modeling reliability

Long-term aquifer impacts

Reinjection feasibility

Shale collapse consequences

Water quality changes

Actual well interference risk

Climate sensitivity

Incomplete geochemical dataset

Lack of robust recharge and water balance measurements

The project should not proceed until these fundamental issues are addressed with real-world testing, expanded data collection, and validated modeling.

381

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Messing with our water supply must never happen as there is no going back once bad things happen. This fellow/corporation has no fealty to our area but only profit profit profit. A GIANT No to Sio Silica.

382

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This cannot happen.

383

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My family and our livestock get our water from this aquifer. We must protect it from mining that will invariably introduce contaminants. A 25 year economic benefit from resource extraction is nothing compared to the multi-generational devastation that could be introduced.

384

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is an untested risky extraction method that puts our drinking water at risk.

385

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have significant concerns about this project and the inability of the for profit company to guarantee the safety for current and future residents and our water supply. Additionally I have concerns regarding the transparency of the company and the leadership as there appears to be considerable conflict of interests to a point of unethical business practice.

386

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I dont want to take chances with this as my area only has well water.

387

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please dont destroy our drinking water. Once its gone bad we could never get it back

388

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We live in the area of where this would be. Concerns about the risk to our water and wildlife. Also have concerns about the behaviours and potentially illegal activities of the group involved. I don't trust our environment to a company who is not following the rules before they even start.

389

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Since testing began in our province I have already noticed water quality go down from my well. This company and project will destroy our fresh water. Clean fresh water is more important than anything else for our lives! Do not let this company destroy that!

390

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: protect the aquifer

391

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water quality negative impact, please do not allow this to go forward

392

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not want this project to go ahead even if there is a 1 % chance it could destroy my drinking water.

393

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water Quality/ Land damage - it will contaminated our water supplies. Cause sink holes and inject toxins into our land causing longtime concerns for our health. Completely unacceptable. There is no benefit to the people of manitoba only harm.

394

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The proposed Sio Silica mine in Manitoba poses significant potential harmful effects on the local water source, particularly the region's freshwater aquifers. The project requires drilling through multiple aquifer layers, which risks mixing waters of different quality and potentially introducing contaminants such as heavy metals into clean freshwater sources. Experts and residents have expressed deep concerns about this mixing violating Manitoba laws that forbid aquifer mixing due to the fragile hydrogeological structure. The mining technique, considered experimental, involves leaving large cavities that could destabilize the geological layers, exacerbating risks of water contamination and aquifer damage.

The Clean Environment Commission's report highlights that there is insufficient confidence that the risks to the drinking water source have been adequately defined or managed. It recommends strong conditions on the project, including risk assessments for worst-case scenarios like limestone layer collapse, and rigorous water quality monitoring and management plans. Key risks include contamination from chemicals used in mining and processing, changes in water acidity, depletion of groundwater levels, and adverse impacts on local wells and ecosystems. Opponents have emphasized that water is vital for the community, farms, and ecosystems, and any threats to its quality and quantity are unacceptable without thorough scientific assurances.

In summary, the main potential harmful effects on the water source at the proposed Sio Silica mine site include contamination from aquifer mixing and chemical use, groundwater depletion,

increased water acidity, and long-term ecosystem disruption. These remain subjects of ongoing debate, with regulatory authorities still assessing how to mitigate these risks effectively before the project proceeds.

Without resolving these concerns, with scientific proof that water safety will be preserved, this project can not proceed.

395

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Im very concerned about the impact this process will have to the water in the area.

396

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am not wanting this sio silica mining project to go ahead as there is no proven method to conduct this mining that does not put our aquifers at risk of irreversible damage. This puts all our futures at risk for access to clean drinking water. Above all else this must be protected first regardless of how many $$$ sio silica is promising people. This is a shame that they are back at this again after the concerned community residents already shut this down with a 95% NO vote. It is clear the people have spoken and it is unwanted and unproven.

397

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Key Technical Gaps and Reasons the Project Should Not Proceed

I have completed a review of the Hydrogeology and Geochemistry Assessment submitted for the proposed Sio Silica project. Based on the reports own statements, there are several major uncertainties, untested assumptions, and unresolved issues that indicate the project should not be approved or constructed at this time.

Below is a summary of the core concerns and what the report does not adequately address.

1. Groundwater Model Uncertainty and Non-Uniqueness

The report openly acknowledges that the groundwater model suffers from equifinality different inputs can produce the same results. This means the predictions of drawdown, impacts to wells, and aquifer responses are not uniquely reliable.

The model also relies on inaccurate or unmapped well locations, meaning the real magnitude and timing of impacts could be very different.

Additionally, the model was built using professional judgment for key boundary conditions rather than measured water balances, adding another layer of uncertainty.

2. Reinjection System Has Never Been Demonstrated

_part_1 (1)

The project depends heavily on reinjecting large volumes of water to maintain aquifer stability. However, the report clearly states that reinjection at operational scale has never been tested, and efficiency could vary significantly over time.

The project assessment assumes a worst-case scenario of zero reinjection, but does not demonstrate that the planned reinjection strategy will actually work or be sustainable.

3. Geochemical Assessment Based on Extremely Limited Data

Only three samples per formation were used to predict geochemical behavior for the entire project area. The report admits that shale mineralogy, especially pyrite content, is variable and requires additional investigation.

This limited dataset is insufficient to confidently model long-term water quality impacts, metal mobility, or redox changes after shale collapse.

4. Model Does Not Address Real-World Contaminant Pathways

The vulnerability analysis explicitly states that it does not consider preferential pathways such as open boreholes despite the project creating hundreds of them.

It also assumes contaminants travel vertically at the same rate as water, which is not realistic for many substances.

5. Collapse of Winnipeg Shale Creates Uncertain Long-Term Risks

The project assumes localized collapse of the shale layer above the sandstone. The long-term structural and hydrogeological consequences of creating hundreds of these voids remain poorly quantified.

Reactive transport modelling also uses a number of extreme, unrealistic assumptions such as disabling natural mineral precipitation to make the scenario conservative, but this also removes real-world stabilizing processes, skewing results.

6. Climate Change Impacts Are Highly Uncertain and Modelled With Only One Scenario

The climate impact model uses only a single high-emission scenario, which the report acknowledges carries considerable uncertainty.

Simulated drawdown increases fourfold under this projection (from 290 m to 1,300 m), showing how sensitive the system is to climate variables yet no alternative scenarios are tested.

7. Incomplete Understanding of Regional Recharge and Water Balances

The report states directly that groundwater use has not been measured and a full water balance for the aquifers does not exist.

Without measured recharge and discharge rates, the model predictions for drawdown and aquifer recovery cannot be considered reliable.

8. Heavy Reliance on Future Monitoring and Mitigation Instead of Proven Safety

A recurring theme throughout the report is that uncertainties will be managed through future monitoring plans, adaptive management, and mitigation if things go wrong.

This means the assessment cannot confirm impacts before construction making it reactive, not preventative.

Summary

Based on the projects own technical documentation, the proposal has major unresolved uncertainties related to:

Groundwater modeling reliability

Long-term aquifer impacts

Reinjection feasibility

Shale collapse consequences

Water quality changes

Actual well interference risk

Climate sensitivity

Incomplete geochemical dataset

Lack of robust recharge and water balance measurements

The project should not proceed until these fundamental issues are addressed with real-world testing, expanded data collection, and validated modeling.

398

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I think the so silica can affect the water supplies for the RM of Springfield. I previously lived in Springfield and have family members and friends living there. I do not want their water supply compromised. Please do not allow them to endanger the water supply.

399

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio silica mining is unacceptable in areas where there is so many residential homes, especially homes that use well water. I cannot fathom the idea that this would be safe from environmental disaster. That completely disregards human safety, environmental safety and human rights to have access to drinkable water. No, having to purchase bottled water is not an option. Its insanity to destroy our aquifer, and have to rely on bottled water services when the pristine aquifer should simply be untouched and unpolluted from mining operations. The Manitoba Metis federation has addresses this travesty in the annual general assembly, as more government steps up and speaks against this plan, we all will work together to keep the destruction of our clean aquifer and stealing water from the aquifer to sell, businesses also want to pump the pristine water out of the aquifer in the RM of Springfield Manitoba to SELL. God given water, our natural resource should never be allowed to be run dry by big companies making profits. Leave the water alone. The consequences will speak for itself. Make the right choice and protect our waterways.

400

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am 100% concerned about my personal and my communities wells and therefore drinking water. Plan does not properly assess and address short and long term concerns.

401

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No silica sand mining in south east MB!

402

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water is life. We need to protect the water.

403

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Don't disturb the aquafer. The risks are too high, and the process is untested. Please don't mess with this water! No to this and any future mining of silica in Manitoba.

404

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The proposal uses fresh water from residents homes and community to help fund a massive companys mining project- unacceptable. Development is inevitable yea but it does not have to be mining. Fresh water is not a renewable resource.

405

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I don't think this project should be approved. Our drinking water should not be jeopardize for some large company wanting to profet at our and our future generations expense.

406

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio Silica has already attempted to set up and foul our precious waters. They are sneaky and underhanded, and are in this strictly for monetary gain with no regard to the devastating environmental impact this would create. Once our water is polluted there is no going back. Water is life! Send them back to the already polluted province of Alberta!!

407

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: With regards to the above stated issue, we are definitely opposed to having this once again submitted to our RM. Safe clear, clean orderless water is a vital and most important factor when considering this untested, sketchy proposal to drill wells. Even by drilling less wells by the number, doesn't make it any safer. The risks are far greater than what its worth. I believe this has potential environmental impacts on our residents as well. Thank you.

408

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Government needs to start Listen to its people. We put you in power and we keep or remove you from there.

This silica plant is owned by criminals that have been proven to lie, and try to bribe there way into our province. The people have spoken alvery loudly. There was even police called to some of the RM meetings regarding this.

For the love of this world. Listen to your people. Not your wallets.

409

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Based on the projects own technical documentation, the proposal has major unresolved uncertainties related to:

Groundwater modeling reliability

Long-term aquifer impacts

Reinjection feasibility

Shale collapse consequences

Water quality changes

Actual well interference risk

Climate sensitivity

Incomplete geochemical dataset

Lack of robust recharge and water balance measurements

The project should not proceed until these fundamental issues are addressed with real-world testing, expanded data collection, and validated modeling.

I, my children and their children deserve to have access to clean drinking water at all times. Putting that at risk is unacceptable. Putting anyone's health at risk is wrong. I am a definite No to this.

410

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: You must reject Sio silica's application to mine into our aquifer. To approve this type of project is an assault on the health of our children. And no amount of money is worth that compromise.

411

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is our clean drinking water for the town of Oakbank and the RM of Springfield. If contaminated then what? We cannot mess with this aquifer.

412

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not support this project and the risk to our communities aquifer.

413

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have a strong a objection to this project due to the certain contamination of our aquifer. The extraction process is a serious environmental concern and should not be approved.

414

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please don't let these greedy people ruin our only source of water, stand up for your people. Common sense should tell you that an unproven method of extraction can cause irreparable damage, when that happens what are we supposed to do?

I don't care how many ex politicians they buy it's still a bad idea, tell them to pound sand(see what I did there)!

415

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Stop this project protect out fresh water supply!

416

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My family and I do NOT want Sio mining in our aquifer. Our family counts on the well attached to our house to give us good clean drinking water.

417

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My concern is the effect on water quality and the damage to the water aquifers.

418

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I'm against silica sand mining. It poses many environmental concerns.

419

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I believe this UNTESTED mining proposal poses a serious risk of contaminating the aquifer that thousands, including our Household, rely on for clean, safe drinking water.

420

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This will be hazardous to our water!

421

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our household is extremely concerned about the proximity of this project to our residence, where we rely on a well for our drinking water. The effects of this mining technique are not proven and so there is concern regarding the effects to our water quality. Thank you.

422

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned this project is being rushed thru! Not enough testing to ensure the quality of our water supply.

423

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I think every person in Springfield should be concerned about this proposal. I've lived here my whole life and cannot believe that a process/technology that has not been remotely proven, is being seriously considered. The negative ramifications related to accessibility of clean water, could have very long lasting and disasterous consequences for every resident in Springfield and for future generations. I say emphatically, "NO"!!!

424

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As someone who relies on the Manitoba aquifer I oppose the further development of this project. Additionally, other similar projects have polluted the environment and waters in Manitoba. This only benefits the pockets of a few greedy people.

425

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do NOT want Sio, mining in our aquifer.....EVER

Thank You

426

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I love fresh water, what I also like is work, to earn an income, but most importantly. I want to be apart of the future, Up In Cooks Creek. I cant be that unless we are given shares and true value for our vote in my stake holding, in Sio Silica Sand, in tangible income value, from the project to which must be in tangible currency CAD. $$$ to myself and for my families future income.

427

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The method that Sio Silica is planning on using in our aquifer is experimental. This is unacceptable. Our drinking water needs to be protected from Sio. If our water is contaminated then WHAT. PLEASE STOP THEM FROM DRILLING INTO OUT AQUIFER.

428

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project will potentially disrupt and/or contaminate the aquifer that dozens of communities and thousands of people rely on for clean drinking water, and so I fundamentally oppose the progression of this project.

429

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: In a time of great climate shifts and threats to drinking water across the globe, I would like to ask that the Sio Silica project be thoughtfully vetted and reviewed for any possible threat to the clean water supply of the RM of Springfield and beyond. Our reach for supplies for technology must not over ride the need for clean uncontaminated water. This project has been sneaky and underhanded from the beginning. Leave our aquifer untouched.

430

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Citizens have already expressed loud and clear we DO NOT want nor support the Sio Silica project. It poses critical risks to our drinking water and is not needed at all. Get these crooks out of Manitoba for good. Quite frankly it's disgusting to me that they still think they have any place here. The people have voted NO by a vast majority.

431

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have my bachelor of Science in Geological science, I have learned of impacts on surrounding areas when mining comes into a community. I use the aquifer in Narol MB, and have serious concerns about this project and would like to have my objections documented.

432

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I very concerned for myself, my family and all my neighbours. I do not want Sio Silica to drill in my backyard!

433

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I dont believe any untested processes of mining with out the thought for environmental impact should be allowed to be done in Springfield, Manitoba. When the risk to our drinking water is too unknown why allow it? And why is there even any option being given to this company when the public has clearly stated we do not want this activity going on in our community. Where has true democracy gone? Is this another corporation with a lot of money that gets to bully its way through the process agains the wishes of the public? There has been plenty of us who have said NO! I live off of a well on my property. My family and I moved to Springfield and bought our dream property out in the county. Hearing that a company wants to mine near our place and has potential to hurt the natural aquifers that give us reliable drinking water to our property is not what I would like to hear. If there is even a 1% chance of disrupting, or worse yet, poisoning our water then the answer is a strong no! Enough is enough. The majority of the public has said no and that alone should be enough to stop this company from ever operating in our community. Thank you for hearing my concerns.

434

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio silica was already denied a license and they are trying to make an end run around the regulations applying a second time. This is unproven technology that could irreversible damage/contaminate the water table/aquifer for 10's of thousand of people in Manitoba. We don't need this project do to the high risk to a valuable resource. Thank you.

435

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our farm will be directly impacted by this. Why are we having to deal with this again? Did they not get turned down once already? Our land value and our water is at stake. This will affect our future generations!! This company should not be allowed to keep applying after their initial application was denied!

436

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is going to destroy our water and create so many issues throughout the area. This cannot happen. All our friends da and family are strongly against this. Even ones that are in the mining industry as they no how bad the after math will be. Do not allow this to happen and destroy our water!!!

437

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am against the Sio Silica protect. This region is close to Birds Hill Park which is an important ecosystem in the area. Many people rely on the aquifer for drinking water. We love our community! Opposing this project and stopping it from going forward is a way to protect the environment for another 7 generations. Environmental protection would outlast the benefits from the glass and electronics produced. This company seems like they will not give up. Decline approval now and let us have more time to learn how to deal with them. They will be gone when the resources dry up and our descendants will still be here. Please do not let them inherit polluted lands. Please save our water!

438

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Clean drinking water is far more important than Sio being able to mine in our area. They have not been transparent with the potential environmental concerns that may come with their operations. I vote no to Sio being allowed to mine in our area.

439

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Stop Silva project! We cannot risk losing the best resource we have and need-Water.

This company is about profit and if they ruined our water they just file Chapter 11 and we are the ones left with a disaster.

440

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have concerns about the safety of our water supply if this project goes ahead.

441

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Copied from another concerned citizen:

Here is my SIO SILICA submission to MB Gov. Environment and Climate Change:

Dear Manitoba Environment and Climate Change,

I am writing to you with my grave concerns about the SIO SILICA proposed silica sand extraction via unproven mining practices that will destroy our aquifer and drinking water quality. SIO SILICA is advertising via a full page ad in MBIZ, Winter 2025: "15 Billion Tonnes of Opportunity", which is to assume the amount of silica sand they plan to extract. During extraction and processing huge amounts of water will be needed to wash this sand. Chemical reactions take place that create acid and leach heavy metals. Please see the acid pollution left on Black Island with brown acid water continuing to drain into Lake Winnipeg to this day, even after mining stopped in 1990. In addition, silica dust released during processing will impact the air quality and health of those in the area. SIO SILICA is not to be trusted with their green and more recently red washing. First they were going to use the sand for fracking, then for solar panels, now for optic fibres related to data centres. These are shady, untrustworthy opportunists, that will look for government _tax payers_ development funding and then sell the mine, as they have already openly stated. This is not an opportunity for Manitobans, if anything, it is an opportunity for SIO SILICA to extract wealth from Manitobans. Decision makers, beware! Look at the science first, and ensure you protect Manitobans, the safety of their drinking water and environment for now and for future generations. WATER IS LIFE.

442

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am vehemently opposed to any of the Sio Silica projects in the RM of Springfield and beyond. While this company continues to try and put a different spin on the projects with new applications, keeps slithering into First Nations to obtain their approval with wild promises of jobs, etc.....all I can think of this "leopard" can't change its spots. They can spin it in any manner that they want, but the chances of our aquifer being damaged and residences far and wide being affected are too great.

Thank you

443

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The comments and concerns about this project have been named and listed by people a lot more qualified than me. I believe we need a planet to live on that can sustain us, and that it shouldn't be sold to the highest bidder. Please protect our lands, that is what you're there to do as a government.

444

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As someone who depends on that aquifer for water in our home and who proudly boasts of the high quality of our water compared to our city friends living just north of us, I am extremely concerned about the long term effects of this project on our aquifer and our water quality and quantity. Having read through the executive summary, and browsing the proposal, I still have concerns which I think will be difficult to address over the long term. One of my concerns is the effect of this proposal on aquifer levels in drought years. I did not see this mentioned in the proposal at all. The other concern is the long term affects of the extraction. I see information about the plan to space out the wells to leave pillars of sand to support the overburden, however we know from experience that sometimes the effects of extraction are not seen for decades and should there be collapses, what effect will this have on our groundwater, the topography above, etc. and who will be responsible long after the corporation has finished extraction and left the province.

There are tens of thousands of people and farming operations depending on this aquifer for their well water on a daily basis. My family and I don't see the economic sense of risking this valuable resource for a project which will yield a very limited economic benefit for the residents of Manitoba.

445

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am opposed to the approval of sio Silva extraction project. Concerned about the water quality being contaminated for Springfield and surrounding communities. As well as harm to the wildlife who will also be drinking from water runoff etc. please do not allow this project to be approved without the company doing extensive environmental testing.

446

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Based on the projects own technical documentation, the proposal has major unresolved uncertainties related to:

Groundwater modeling reliability

Long-term aquifer impacts

Reinjection feasibility

Shale collapse consequences

Water quality changes

Actual well interference risk

Climate sensitivity

Incomplete geochemical dataset

Lack of robust recharge and water balance measurements

The project should not proceed until these fundamental issues are addressed with real-world testing, expanded data collection, and validated modeling.

447

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: How can a project such as this even proceed? If the risk to contaminating our water supply is greater than even just half a percent, THE RISK IS TOO GREAT.

These people that stand to gain from this. Are they residents in the area? Will it be their own drinking water they contaminate? Or will they be able to ride off into the sunset after they cause their damage and destroy property values?

What do the residents of Springfield stand to gain from this? Nothing. What are we risking? EVERYTHING.

Shame on this government for opening yet ANOTHER proposal.

The last was denied for a reason. We just going to keep applying for the same thing until approved?

Despicable behavior.

448

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project will affect my water quality

449

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This whole region acts as the natural filter and cleaner of our water. The entire southern Manitoba depends on its safety. As a history specialist, I can tell you about the dramatic difference in 100 yrs. Lets not make it worse!

450

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I oppose Silo Silicas proposal in Anola. Beyond the traffic, noise, and dust concerns, the companys plan to inject wastewater directly into the aquifer that many local residents rely on is unacceptable. This aquifer is a vital source of clean drinking water, and any contaminationwhether

immediate or long-termwould have irreversible consequences for families, farms, and the surrounding environment. Silo Silica has not demonstrated that this risk can be safely managed, and the community should not be asked to gamble with its water supply. For these reasons, I urge decision-makers to reject this proposal.

451

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My husband and I justly purchased land and built our dream home off [redacted]. I am very concerned with the idea of Sio Silica mining silica, which could affect our water supply.

452

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Concerned about maintaining our water supply. We rely on our ground water!

453

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have expressed my concerns about this Sio silica project for years. Consultations with all Indigenous Rightsholders have not been done. The MMF has gathered and submitted Red River Métis Citizens concerns and Premier Kinew has also said it is unconscionable to risk irreparable damage to the aquifer, damaging previous potable water. The aquifer being targeted spans into the USA so this should be a Federal Government jurisdiction and managed at level. Brokenhead First Nations said NO to the $20M carrot presented to them as they know Mother Earths waters are priceless. Aquifers need personhood recognition in law, similar to the Magpie River in PQ. Stop this incessant nonsense once and for all!

454

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We have grave concerns about the long term affects of silica mining and what it will do to do the underground water. Research and testing must be mandatory before allowing silica sands

to move forward. Also, where is the transparency in the negotiating that has already been taking place? Our water must be protected. Our voices need to be heard against those who want to exploit land for personal gain.

455

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: How is it even possible to think you can mine in an aquifer that supplies thousands of people and animals fresh clean drinking water and not contaminated it? What kind of world will we have if we have no fresh water?

Please use common sense and do not allow Sio Silica to destroy our aquifer.

456

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am strongly opposed to mining of silica in the same aquifer that the community draws its drinking water from. These are untested mining practices and more science and research should be done before putting the aquifer at risk. I am strongly opposed at this time.

457

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please do not proceed with this project. We need to protect our aquifer.

458

Date: 11-22-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I live on 30 acres and very concerned about this project effecting our water supply.

It should not be done

Thanks

459

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Mining sand in East St. Paul puts the communitys drinking and well water at serious risk. Sand extraction disrupts natural groundwater flow, removes protective soil layers, and can introduce contaminants into the aquifer that supplies local homes. Once that barrier is disturbed, pollutants can travel more quickly and directly into wells, reducing water quality and increasing health risks. For a community that relies on clean, stable groundwater, sand mining threatens a resource that cant be easily repaired or replaced.

460

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am deeply concerned about the Sio Silica Project. It will certainly poison my well water, that I drink. Also, Ridiculous to think a mine is going to be of great economic benefit. And the water for thousands will be poisoned. This issue was already resolved. The answer remains NO!

461

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: People's lives, homes and livelihoods of farming is NOT worth the risk!! You can say how safe it is but only from your tests. When someone dies from contamination where will Silica be then! Is just not worth the risk period.

462

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Based on the projects own technical documentation, the proposal has major unresolved uncertainties related to:

Groundwater modeling reliability

Long-term aquifer impacts

Reinjection feasibility

Shale collapse consequences

Water quality changes

Actual well interference risk

Climate sensitivity

Incomplete geochemical dataset

Lack of robust recharge and water balance measurements

The project should not proceed until these fundamental issues are addressed with real-world testing, expanded data collection, and validated modeling.

As well, there is wildlife in the area and the impact on these animals has not been considered or addressed.

463

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: stop sio silica.

464

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: High risk of contamination of water supply. Also, what impact will this have on local wildlife and the environment?

465

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am against the Sio Silica project of drilling wells that I believe will effect the water quality in the aquifers that supply drinking water to several communities.

466

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have grave concerns about this project affecting our drinking water and the land surrounding this project. At the end of the day who will be responsible if this project goes through and poisons the water and possibly the people who drink it. Not to mention some of the council in Birds hill happen to work for the company in question, how this is not a conflict of interest is beyond me

467

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This will destroy our land. Do not go ahead with this plan. Of course we're going to have sink holes. And what happens to the toxins (selenium) left behind? It will pollute and destroy our water systems. HARD NO!

468

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Drinking water contamination and the impact on the aquifer is horrendous. There could be heavy metals that leach into the water supply. Water is so important to human survival. Also their extraction methods are unproven. Sinkholes also could be a problem for the aquifer. We need to shut Sio Siluca down as this is a bad deal for the environment and the people of Manitoba.

469

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: So if they are removing the filtration system ie the silica sand. How does this not impact our drinking water!!!!!

470

Date: 11-23-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: am writing as a resident of East St. Paul to express my strong opposition to the proposed Sio Silica project. My primary concern is the serious and irreversible risk this project poses to our aquifer, which is the sole source of drinking water for our community.

The aquifer system in our region is uniquely sensitive. Any disturbance to its structuresuch as large-scale extraction, drilling, or removal of sand formationscreates the potential for contamination, groundwater mixing, and long-term destabilization. Once an aquifer is compromised, it cannot simply be repaired. The consequences would be permanent and would directly impact the health, safety, and quality of life of thousands of residents.

I am deeply concerned about:

Potential contamination of our drinking water source from drilling, chemical exposure, or changes in groundwater flow.

The lack of proven long-term data showing that this method of silica extraction can be done safely in a community-reliant aquifer.

The risk of collapsing or weakening the geological structures that naturally protect our water supply.

Insufficient independent, third-party environmental oversight to guarantee unbiased evaluation and monitoring.

The long-term burden on taxpayers and residents if environmental damage occurs after the company leaves.

Our aquifer is not something that can be replaced or rebuilt. It supports our homes, our families, and our entire municipality. Allowing any project that jeopardizes such a critical resource is an unacceptable risk.

I urge you to protect the residents of East St. Paul by rejecting the Sio Silica proposal and prioritizing safe, sustainable environmental stewardship. The potential risks far outweigh any economic benefit.

Thank you for your attention to this issue and for your continued responsibility in safeguarding our communitys future.

471

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The risk of the sand removal causing a collapse of or aquifer is too high. Top many people rely on that water. They should not be granted a permit to do this. I have been to their information sessions and still feel the risk is too high

472

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: To whom it may concern,

I am a resident of the RM of Springfield, and I am deeply concerned about the proposed silica sand mining operation in our area.

Reports indicate that this project could pose significant risks to our aquifer, which is a critical source of clean water for residents.

Protecting our water supply is essential for the health and well-being of our community, as well as for future generations.

I urge you to carefully consider the potential environmental and public health impacts before allowing this project to proceed.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

I look forward to your response and to learning how you plan to safeguard our water resources.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

473

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about the proposed mining of our aquifer for monetary gain. We stand to loose so much more than money when our water is gone. Water is life and without it there is nothing. Do not allow this venture to go any further than it already has. Stop Sio Silica.

474

Date: 11-21-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please stop this !!!

475

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yes many concerns with the sio project! Water contamination, the greed and corruption of those involved!!

476

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This will affect our drinking water, that is a fact. This cannot be allowed to proceed. Our drinking water is at stake, as well as our property values. The sheer size of this operation will guarantee that the voids created by the removal of the silica sand, will collapse and our community is literally left high and dry.

The project's use of a new extraction method with unproven long-term impacts introduces significant uncertainty and risk, particularly since the method has not been tested in this environment.

From Environment Canada:

Once an aquifer is contaminated, it may be unusable for decades. The residence time, as noted earlier, can be anywhere from two weeks or 10,000 years.

Sio Silica will be long gone when the damage to our aquifer is realised. Will the Manitoba government immediately come to the aid of all the residents of Southeast Manitoba? Most likely it will take years of bureaucracy to fix the damage left by Sio Silica. Residents will be on a boil water advisory for years and their property values will be severely deflated.

This will have long reaching repercussions not only for our community, but for our province.

477

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I oppose this process as it is not a tested and proven technology and to allow it 4to proceed would be jeopardizing the drinking water of thousands of Manitobans. Safe drinking water is more important that silica sand extraction. It is clear that a significant number of Manitoba residents are opposed to the Sio Silica plan. Government needs to listen to the residents. If Silo Silica is so certain of this technology then Sio Silica should be mandated to provide a bond/insurance policy payable to all residents on well water in the event aquifers are compromised.

478

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Myself [redacted] do not want Sio mining in our Aquifer. They do not provide any proof that what they are planning to do will not create irreparable damage and destroy the aquifer. Will this company be held liable for any damages created and held responsible for the damages.

This is too big a risk to the environment in this area to allow this to continue. How do they guarantee the water quality remains the same, how do they guarantee the drilling of the thousands of wells does not do damage not only to the aquifer but the land above it, as well as the wildlife that lives in the area.

479

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I don't understand how lifting inert sand that already exists in an aquifer, could in any way harm the aquifer. I could be wrong, but the uproar sounds stupid. I'm for development and for new jobs.

480

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My name is [redacted] Manitoba, [redacted]

I am submitting this comment to clearly state my opposition to the proposed silica drilling and extraction activity. My home is located within the area that would be affected by drilling through the aquifer, and any damage or contamination to that groundwater would directly impact my household and my ability to rely on my own well. The aquifer is not something the community can simply inure itself to losing. Once damaged, it cannot be restored.

There remain serious unresolved issues related to groundwater integrity, well interference, subsidence, long term aquifer stability, and the reliability of the companys technical modeling. Previous assessments and public registry documents show gaps in baseline data, unanswered hydrogeological questions, and inconsistent risk evaluations. With so much uncertainty surrounding a resource that thousands of residents depend on, the burden of proof must be extremely high and independently verified.

I am requesting the following:

1. A full independent hydrogeological audit, including multi year baseline monitoring, before any licence can be considered.

2. A Clean Environment Commission hearing so the public can examine evidence and question experts directly.

3. No approval unless independent reviewers confirm that the long term risk to groundwater, human health, and local infrastructure is negligible, and that enforceable monitoring and mitigation plans are in place.

The potential for irreversible harm to a shared and essential water source is too great to allow this project to proceed without a far more thorough and independent review. I respectfully ask that the licence be denied unless and until these conditions are met.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

[redacted]

481

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Why rush the contamination of this pristine water source? Greed appears to be the answer, this will not benefits the community that lives there and I am against the project ass such.

482

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is not welcomed in our area!!

This project will put our drinking water at risk. Digging into the earth/sand This way is not even recommended by miners who work in the industry.

Stop the nonsense...NO to Sia Silica digging

483

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am totally against this project attempting yet again to move forward. We, the residents have majority voted against this and again, we are faced with trying to protect our PROPERTY and ENVIRONMENT. This will destroy our drinking water and this is not a risk we are willing to take. We the Springfield residents have to live here..we do not need large industry ruining our world. End of discussion.

484

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Nobody wants SIO Silica! 95% of people in the area voted NO! Protect our aquifers and do not let this project go through! The NDP government must do what they were elected to do! Protect our land and water from exploitation!

485

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We have lived here our whole lives and have attended meetings, our concerns about this project have not changed, it should NOT proceed

486

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am strongly opposed to the proposed Sio Silica project. Our water is not for sale. As a family who relies on well water from an aquifer, I feel anything that potentially contaminates a supply of fresh water should not even be entertained. Nevermind the environmental impact on the land and wildlife. Stop this project.

487

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about the impact of removing the sand under the ground, will sink holes be caused all over? Who is responsible for fixing the sink holes or what happens if someone is harmed if one were to happen. I am concerned about what will happen to the water and the contamination it could cause. When you remove the earth from under the ground, it will cause waters to reroute, water follows the path of the least resistance. This water supplies many private wells and livestock and wildlife dugouts in the area. It will mobilize contaminant or saline water and threaten other water supplies. The extraction method is new technology with no proven track record creating uncertainty regarding the long term enviromental and health impacts. Inhalation of crystalline silica is a serious respiratory hazard, who will be responsible for monitoring this and can we trust it is being done with good faith? It is close to homes and towns making this a serious concern. The impact this project could have to the agriculture land is detrimental. The increase traffic of this project will threaten wildlife and change migration patterns. What type of reclamation will have to be done and who will do it?

488

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It is beyond reason we are revisiting this. The implications and the damage to us as humans, the animals, the damages to the ecosystem should be enough to close this and future applications. They have yet to prove their methods will not cause harm. No one should be forced to be the guinea pig. Has no one learned from history yet? This time its affecting not only the indigenous (Devlin has attempted to bribe to make this project go through) but every single human and animal will pay for the damages of no clean drinking water if you let this project proceed.

489

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I live in the town of vivian. So right next to the proposed site.

So many concerns. With the contamination risk of the aquifer.

Deep wells are generally anaerobic. This drilling will introduce oxygen into the water system which could cause a whole change to the ecosystem.

It will be drilling through another aquifer which will cause cross contamination.

In terms of the ground. Have you ever built a sand castle in wet sand. When you take your finger and pull a little of the sand away the sand castle may still be standing. If you pull a little more away. The whole sand castle will collapse. Think of the sand inside the aquifer. As you start to pull the sand away. What is to prevent the reserves from collapsing. That will number 1 foul the water. Number 2 can cause an instability of the actual ground. Looking at the ground reports. If this was to happen. I live very close and have a high risk of my ground collapsing.

One of my biggest concerns is planning.

IF the ground water gets contaminated what will the residents use as water. Immediately what will they drink and bath with. Little children. Seniors. Buying bottled water Immediately. That will help with drinking. But what about everything else. Washing dishes etc. Who will pay for all this bottled water? Who will get it to the homes. For how long will this be provided to the residents? This is the aquifer. It is not like they can just go and drill a new well. Because they will be drilling into the same water source. If they were needing a new well. Who will be paying for it. But again. It would be pointless.

How often will the water be tested. And it shpuld be from an independent company that sio is sent the bill. Not self monitoring. If it came back not potable how will all the residents be notified. Since it is done on testing. How long were residents consuming water that is not good. Is there a system to be in place that residence can frequently check there water at no cost. With a local drop off.

From the last application. The amount of money set aside for emergency is pitiful. Looking at a number on a piece of paper looks impressive until you realize how many people are on the aquifer. And how small a number is for each person to deal with no longer having water. The emergency fund. The insurance... it will not cover ensuring that all the residents will be made whole in some way. Will not ensure that those homes will always have water from that point on..

490

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please do not allow sio silica sand to extract sand next to our aquifer. I do not want our aquifer to be contaminated.

491

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very concerned of the quality of our democracy through the proposal of the Sio Silica mining project proposed for South-Eastern Manitoba. The public of Manitoba has already confirmed that this project is not in favour with the citizens and the project was once already declined for operation. The fact that it is being proposed again with the same level of threat and destruction makes me worried that our choices as people are not being heard. The ramifications of this project will devastating no matter the risk assessment. We've already had experts tell us the threat. There is no need to begin new extraction projects. We need to respect the decisions that have been made already and keep this project from going forward.

492

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I own farm property by Anola. The risks to the ground water are not worth this project proceeding.

493

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Why would anyone consider a experimental mining process to be granted if even there was only a .001% chance of our aquifer/ water being harmed or altered in anyway. Look around the world at how many people do not have clean drinking water. We have it right under our feet, the earth provides us with everything we need to survive but greed and power always seem to destroy it. Why potentially damage what we have just to build something to create what we already have? Remember we are all here renting these lands not to rape them of what has been naturally provided to us for survival.

494

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Just wondering if it will affect the artesian wells in the area near 302. I am for the project and understand that people have concerns but thats why we have regulations and governing bodies to make sure its safe

495

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It has not been proven that our water will be safe during and after the mining process. There is also no responsibility for the company to rectify the problem if our well water is damaged (ie filtration systems for homes, financial assistance for loss of property value, etc). Life is dependent on clean and safe drinking water, something we have taken for granted but is now being threatened. This project should not go through until it has been proven safe beyond a shadow of a doubt. Water is not something acceptable to gamble with.

496

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Do not approve this project. It will affect well water quality.

497

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing to express my sincere concern and strong opposition to the proposed Sio Silica sand extraction project within our municipality. While I recognize the importance of responsible economic development, this project poses significant and unacceptable risks to the long-term health, safety, and sustainability of our community.

The most serious concern is the potential impact on our drinking water supply. The proposed mining methodpenetrating the carbonate and sandstone aquifersintroduces real and irreversible risks to the structural integrity of the groundwater system we all depend on. Even minor disruptions or contamination events could have far-reaching consequences for households, farms, and local

businesses. Once an aquifer is compromised, it cannot simply be repaired or replaced. Our water security must be protected above all else.

In addition, many technical experts, including hydrogeologists, have raised questions about the lack of conclusive evidence that this mining approach can be carried out safely. The uncertainty surrounding the projects environmental impacts, combined with the potential for long-term contamination, makes moving forward not only premature but deeply concerning.

Springfield is a community built on environmental stewardship, family wellbeing, and responsible growth. Allowing this project to proceed would jeopardize these values and our future. Economic opportunities come and go, but the safety of our residents and the integrity of our natural resources must remain our top priority.

I respectfully urge the Council to reject the Sio Silica proposal and to continue advocating for development that strengthens Springfield without putting our water, our environment, and our community at risk.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue and for your continued commitment to protecting the wellbeing of the residents of Springfield.

498

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As an indigenous person, my job is to protect the water and the land and by pushing for the silica project

You will be destroying one of our most prize possessions, our aquifer. Shame on anyone endorsing this project. Its not up to you, I know indigenous people have supported many many projects over the years. But we will refuse to support anything that will ruin our turtle Island.

499

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Acquifier contamination

500

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yes the company has court actions against them in Alberta already and likely have the legal wherewithal to drag that out until doomsday. Why would we trust them with the water supply to a large area of our province, including my personal water supply. They are clearly uncaring of what ever mess they make. Please please please do not grant them drilling rights in a populated area.

If pockets are being lined so that this goes forward Sio and the province should buy out every single household that may be affected.

501

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I vote NO to this project period! Grave concerns to water quality - air quality and wildlife.

502

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I used a well for all my water, and have water concerns with what is planed by Sio Silica in MB and near my home. My kids drink that water, and I'd prefer it is not tampered with by people who do not have my families best interests in mind.

503

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: never never never never

504

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Concerns about water quality and air quality and the damage to the environment and to our drinking water. Concerns about the safety of our people and wildlife.

505

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It would be absurd to allow this project to continue.

506

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There are many concerns with an industry like this to the environment, with unproven technology and unknown long term effects. I hope this project will be reconsidered, especially from an out of province FOR PROFIT company.

507

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: REJECT this project! It will affect well water in a negative way!

508

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Hi! I am worried about silica extraction as it will have an impact on the water. We must protect out water as it's important. We must protect our environment

509

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project needs an independent review to help stakeholders wade through all the misinformation coming from amateur environmentalists and professional protesters.

510

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project needs to have a better environmental study, Water will be the future of this province , not sand extraction

511

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Major concerns for the water, what could happen to the aquifier, the surrounding land.

512

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We cannot risk our water source to a company with a new mining technique.

Also, directors of this company have run afoul of the Securities in Alberta. They do not seem to be men of good will nor integrity.

Do not give them an entry to our water source.

513

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There are major unresolved uncertainties in this proposal related to:

Groundwater modeling reliability

Long-term aquifer impacts

Reinjection feasibility

Shale collapse consequences

Water quality changes

Actual well interference risk

Climate sensitivity

Incomplete geochemical dataset

Lack of robust recharge and water balance measurements

The project should not proceed until these fundamental issues are addressed with real-world testing, expanded data collection, and validated modeling.

514

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Concerns about water quality and other environmental impacts from the project

515

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Many concerns and questions I have but only a few I put forward here:

How much sand is currently available? What % of sand will be extracted over lifetime of project with whats available? How much water is in the aquifers? What % of total water will be extracted over lifetime of the project? How long will it take for the aquifer to replenish all the water extracted by silico? What geotechnical impacts would there be with these sinkholes created?

The potential $ generated is of little concern to the irreparable loss of sands and especially water (which is quite large despite their comparisons from this revised proposal to their former proposal). The financial projections appear highly inflated.

I was at the open house this evening (Nov 24/25) and the story boards etc mostly mentioned the what would be extracted compared with their revised extractions - these #s mean nothing when we are not presented within the context of whats currently available and what % would be extracted from this.

I dont think Silicos entire proposal document was available at this open house this evening (could not see this anywhere) - only a few summary sheets of selected parts. Talking to their representatives was just talk. I dont trust them. They are motivated to make this project happen.

People we know that live really close to the proposed project area dont want this project yet still and we dont either (we too rely on a nearby aquifer for our water source).

Whether we live close or not: we do not support this project.

516

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: 3 years ago I moved to Anola with my wife to start a family. Just last month we welcomed our first child to the world. My family like many others depend on clean, uncontaminated drinking water from the Winnipeg River aquifer. Any major industrial disturbance of that aquifer is a serious concern, and if my family's drinking water becomes contaminated, we'll be forced to make some tough decisions.

This project is essentially all downsides for the RM and surrounding area. There's little economic impact for the local residents, but substantial risk to people's health if ground water contamination occurs. The proposed extraction method is not well understood, and the environmental proposal section 7.4 says they don't have a monitoring plan prepared yet, nor have they fully complied with the CECs findings from the last time they sought approval.

Springfield residents have repeatedly made it clear that this project is unwanted by the community. We are not lab rats, our drinking water should not be put at risk for a questionable new mining process.

517

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This will destroy their water. P

For profit companies have no care for what happens to the environment.

518

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water quality, wildlife

519

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Will SIO Silica ensure that the water and for my self and my family (all will be property owners in anola) will be drinkable and able to be used for our produce for years to come? If they

can't guarantee it, I would expect them to pay for trucking my water in for the next 50 years. We are 100% against this project which will see a corporation benefit from Manitobas water aquifers destruction. NO TO SIO SILICA.

520

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My concern are there is no guarantee for leeching and we have our own well which we use for drinking. I believe from my reading and news information that this should not go ahead until all information has been gathered and the citizens it affects can vote.

521

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We are not interested in having that garbage being developed in Oakbank area.

We moved out of the city for a reason. Stop the tax Extortion we are not interested in this crap and we MOST certainly do not wan to pay for this crap. (Extortion)

Keep this out of our area and we're not paying for this .

We will take action against this gross infringement

522

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned that the water put back into the aquifer will contain contamination. No matter what precautions are taken, nothing is 100% foolproof. This is our water supply now and in the future. I am also concerned about any contamination the process may put into the air. These types of projects should be kept to areas where there is no worry of it affecting people's resources.

523

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Existing assessments state clearly that the existing aquifer WILL be negatively impacted by this project. The shale layers will cave in, destroying the aquafer and impacting water quality. Combined with the BLATANT conflict of interest with the Mayor of East St. Paul being the CEO of Sio Silica, with a financial incentive to see this project pushed through, it's a lesson in government corruption at the expense of the people and environment.

524

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is an untested risky extraction method that puts our drinking water at risk

525

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is a large swarth of land and it is unproven technology. You extract sand and it the land will sink. Water tables will be affected. Then the company will skip out and pay nothing for cleanup leaving a legacy of destruction. It will impact the homeowners/landowners. DO NOT LET THIS COMPANY BRIBE YOU!

526

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I resided in Springfield for over 50 years. We brought up our family there , and felt very fortunate to have such pristine drinking water. Sio Silica is presenting an untested risky extraction method that puts drinking water at risk. Endangering the water quality for the present generation and those to follow is certainly not worth any financial gains which may or may not be realized. Please do not allow Sio Silica to proceed in Springfield.

527

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My home town of Garson Mb will be impacted by this project. My children and grandkids in Oakbank will be impacted. Therefore, I am weighing in on this matter.

I too am of the same opinions as expressed by the below letter (from another concerned citizen). Ive attached.her letter: for your information.

Here is my SIO SILICA submission to MB Gov. Environment and Climate Change:

Dear Manitoba Environment and Climate Change,

I am writing to you with my grave concerns about the SIO SILICA proposed silica sand extraction via unproven mining practices that will destroy our aquifer and drinking water quality. SIO SILICA is advertising via a full page ad in MBIZ, Winter 2025: "15 Billion Tonnes of Opportunity", which is to assume the amount of silica sand they plan to extract. During extraction and processing huge amounts of water will be needed to wash this sand. Chemical reactions take place that create acid and leach heavy metals. Please see the acid pollution left on Black Island with brown acid water continuing to drain into Lake Winnipeg to this day, even after mining stopped in 1990. In addition, silica dust released during processing will impact the air quality and health of those in the area. SIO SILICA is not to be trusted with their green and more recently red washing. First they were going to use the sand for fracking, then for solar panels, now for optic fibres related to data centres. These are shady, untrustworthy opportunists, that will look for government _tax payers_ development funding and then sell the mine, as they have already openly stated. This is not an opportunity for Manitobans, if anything, it is an opportunity for SIO SILICA to extract wealth from Manitobans. Decision makers, beware! Look at the science first, and ensure you protect Manitobans, the safety of their drinking water and environment for now and for future generations. WATER IS LIFE.

Photo credit: Kevin Settee - drone footage of Black Island abandoned silica sand mine

528

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please do not allow this project to move forward! This will be terrible for our RM and surrounding areas

529

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My greatest concern regarding the proposed silica sand project is the potential for irreversible negative impacts on the aquifer and the surrounding habitat. I recognize that silica sand extraction is necessary for many of the products we rely on, and I appreciate the importance of responsible mining. However, the company's previous fast-paced attempt to push this project forward has caused me to lose trust and faith in their operations.

I value hearing all sides and was open to learning about their plan, but the absence of a clear and credible strategy last time left me worried that the protection of the water my family and farm depend on was not a priority. With so many wells located near the proposed site, I believe the risks are simply too great. Allowing Sio to begin mining in the R.M. of Springfield would be irresponsible and is not in the best interest of the community or the environment we live with. I do hope money does not get in the way of sound judgement.

Thank you for considering my perspective.

530

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The residents of the RM od Springfield have previously voiced their objection with clarity and justification to Sio mining in our aquifier. The risk to damaging our aquifier if too grate to even reconsider another attempt from Sio. Please respect the will of the people who would be directly affected in this matter and stop Sio permanently from impacting our comunity.

531

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am completely against this. This will directly affect our (as well as wildlife) water quality, therefore affecting our health.

532

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a resident in the area, I'm disgusted that the full environmental testing required has not been completed to safeguard our water. The stripping of Manitoba's natural resources is unethical at this junction of global growth, and with steady opposition from local people, there is no reason to grant this destruction of nature (displacing wildlife, altering water patterns, affecting local weather and conditions) to support the financial demands of an out-of-province company.

Just because we have a large sand deposit, is it ethical to downgrade the residents living conditions to support this?

533

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: yes i am concerned about the heath issues relating to silica mining and water

534

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am worried this will destroy our well water

535

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am opposed to this project. I am a resident of Springfield and have concerns about our water table being compromised.

536

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our residents of Springfield MB strongly reject any Sio activity. We cannot be guaranteed safe water in the future due to their activity and the water system Springfield has in place cannot reach the residents this will affect. We vote NO!

537

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Manitoba's water is our most precious resource. Our water is a gift that has been passed down for generations to protect so those who come after can enjoy clean clear drinking water. Do not let big business tamper with the water of Manitobans! We will be following!

538

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned this will ruin our well water

539

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Ground water is incredibly sensitive to pollution and disturbance. Look at the Rockwood Sensitive area. Bristol aerospace contaminated a huge area and now the public is on the hook and our watershed and ecosystem is paying the price. Every company says they have contingency upon contingency, but in reality the story is always the same: privatized profit, socialized loss. Whatever benefits Sio is promising, I can guarantee that they won't be better than pollution free water. You can't drink money.

540

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: NO MEANS NO!! STOP TRYING TO BULLY US INTO RISKING OUR WATER!!!! MONEY IS WORTHLESS IF OUR WATER GETS CONTAMINATED! MONEY IS NOT THAT IMPORTANT!!! LEAVE OUR WATER ALONE!

541

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned that Sio has zero interest in protecting Manitobas water supply. I worry that any further explanation or investigation by Sio in this province will only continue to sway the public. I believe that is Sio is allowed to mine for silica sand, the ground water and aquifers in the areas absolutely will be compromised. The question is not IF it will happen, the question is how soon it happens.

Please put a stop to this project or the damage to out previous water will be absolutely and completely irreversible

542

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Leave the Silica Sand in the Ground

I strongly oppose the proposed silica sand mine in southeastern Manitoba. The project poses serious, irreversible risks to our community's water and land.

Critical aquifer at risk:

The mine would drill through the sandstone aquifer supplying water to tens of thousands of people. Even with mitigation, there is no guarantee the water quality or pressure will remain safe. Once damaged, the aquifer cannot be restored.

Untested extraction method:

The proposed in-situ sand removal has no proven record at this depth or scale. Large-scale removal could destabilize the ground, causing subsidence and long-term changes to the aquifer.

Environmental and chemical uncertainty:

Exposing deep geological layers may mobilize contaminants or alter water chemistry. Current studies do not fully quantify these risks.

Short-term gain vs. long-term consequences:

Any economic benefits are temporary. The permanent loss or contamination of a vital water source far outweighs speculative profits.

Conclusion:

The only responsible decision is to leave the sand in the ground. Until independent, long-term scientific evidence demonstrates this extraction can be done safely, this project should not proceed. Protecting our water, land, Indigenous and other local communities and future generations must take priority.

543

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Previous published scientific studies, which have been discounted by Sio Silica, indicate that this type of mining would introduce oxygenation into the anaerobic layer of our aquifer, resulting in chemical reactions resulting in producing toxic substances, including cyanide. The community of Vivian Manitoba is currently dealing with the contamination of their town, drinking water with unacceptable levels of cyanide, and has a water advisory, barring consumption of its public water supply. How can silica guarantee that an untested method of mining which damages

or introduces oxygenation into an aquifer that serves the entire south eastern area of the province of Manitoba will not permanently contaminate the quality of water throughout this region of our province? Manitoba already has a safe method of mining this valuable commodity on the east side of Lake Winnipeg. Why should we even consider taking chances with the quality of water, land and future prosperity for future generations by considering the dangerous method of mining proposed by Sio Silica or any other corporate interests?

544

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Concern for air pollution and water pollution for the horses and community of Springfield. It is a large horse community and can pose a serious risk to humans and animals in this area if the mining is allowed

545

Date: 11-24-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project has the potential to be detrimental to all current and future Manitobans. The general public receives no benefit from this project and it comes at great risk. It can not be allowed to proceed. It has only gotten this far through political cronyism and must be stopped permanently with robust reviews on permitting any such future projects.

546

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My concern is that the practices that Sio Silica is planning to use to extract the minerals they are after. Are not yet fully tested/approved in such a way, that it does not 100% confirm that these procedures/practices won't effect our Aquifer/water supply. If it were to effect our water supply, 1st it would mean we would have no avalible drinking water, and 2nd our property/housing value would plummet and would be considered useless. That's a massive blow to any family or household. It would cause bankruptcy and homelessness for the vast majority. Im highly against a cooperation going after minerals in our pristine Aquifer. It should never be exposed to harm/Alteration. Too many citizens depend on it for daily life.

547

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We need to protect our environment and resources and this unproven method of extracting our precious resources should not be allowed in any way shape and form. This will be the downfall of this province if we allow companies that only care about profits in to exploit us. Please do not allow this, this is not progress and this is not what Manitobans want.

548

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We are opposed to the use of unproven technologies on the aquifer we rely on for drinking water. The Sio Silica project has the potential to alter our water supply. All the acreages in our neighbourhood depend on this water.

549

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My concern is with the long term affects on the aquifer

I am voting against the extraction

550

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We do not want it !

551

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I attended a meeting (November 24th) on the Silo Silica project for eastern Mb. Iobject to this project. It is going to drain all the water from my residence. Do you have insurance to cover the cost of my home if I am forced to move because we have no water?

And secondly, you are using the dutches for this project. That is unacceptable. We have numerous oil spills across the world. You do not think for a minute the same will happen using ditches, plus the environmental effect of rayon.

The oremier of Manitoba cast it down once. We will get him to do it again,

8000 jobs is a farce. This project is basically all machinery.

552

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio Silica is only concerned with making billions of dollars at our expense. They don't care about destroying our aquifer they don't live in the Springfield Municipality the fallout will not affect them just all of us who do live here including the wildlife, birds and farm animals and crops. I am 100% against this Sio Silica proposed project near Vivian, Manitoba. Thankyou

553

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We use well water as our water source for our home. We dont want this project here as it could disrupt the aquifers. Tell sio silica to find someplace else like their own backyards. Who will pay for us to dig a new well if thats even possible after they ruin our water supply. This cant happen here. Sure jobs are good for province but not at expense of people losing their water supply. They were turned down once. Please tell sio to go away

554

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I believe evidence based, proven methods to ensure and protect the health of workers and surrounding communities, air quality, and water supply need to be in place before silica mining projects should be allowed to begin operations.

555

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have lived most of my life around some kind of gravel pit. I have also been impacted negatively by the lack of regulations on gravel pits and their impact of residents living in the area. We had great water. Our well was drilled by Friesen Drilling. The gravel pit in the area did pumping and went deeper, we lost our well as did others in our neighbourhood. We had to have another well drilled. Friesen confirmed out well would not have run dry if not for the impact of the gravel pit. Our current water is terrible and we had to invest in filtration and purification systems to make it drinkable. I hope this project is not authorized as I do believe I will experience another negative impact.

556

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I believe the risk of this project to water and air quality should make this a nonstarter.

557

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We don't want this drilling done cuz environmental studies show there's a great risk of collapsing and contaminating our drinking water

558

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: These comments are in response to the Environment Act Proposal (EAP) for the Sio Silica Corporations proposed Simba Sand Extraction Project (formerly known as the Vivian Sand Extraction Project). Based on the information provided by Sio Silica in the EAP and their behaviour over the past few years, I think the Simba silica sand extraction project should be rejected now and not be allowed to move forward in the assessment and licensing process.

The ongoing concerns about the potential impacts of silica sand extraction on environment and human health have not been alleviated by the information in the EAP for the proposed Simba Project. Sio Silicas failure to address the main concerns and recommendations of the Clean Environment Commission (CEC) and produce credible data to support their novel extraction process is a major red flag and an indication that this project is not being developed with the best interests of Manitobans in mind.

As noted by our Premier Wab Kinew when Sio Silicas extraction project was rejected for the first time: In order for Manitobans to be healthy now and for generations into the future, we have to protect a clean, safe and healthy environment. This will require a high standard of impact assessment and meaningful public participation, including participant funding, to ensure the full scope of concerns and potential impacts are properly understood before irreversible harm occurs to the Winnipeg Sandstone and Red River Carbonate aquifers.

I agree with Premier Wab Kinew that Manitobas resources should be developed with higher labour standards, higher environmental standards and greater respect for human rights compared to any other jurisdiction in the world. So, I think that if this project is allowed to continue through the impact assessment and licensing process under The Environment Act, the Minister/Director should take the following actions:

1) Designate the Simba Silica Sand Project as a Class 3 development due to the potential significant and irreversible harm to the drinking water source of 100,000 Manitobans. A Class 3 designation will also ensure the Minister is the decision-maker for the impact assessment and licensing process.

2) Require Sio Silica to produce and publicly publish a cumulative effects assessment report before proceeding any further in the licensing process.

3) Require Sio Silica to produce and publicly publish their plans for post-approval practices (monitoring, follow-up and adaptive management) and emergencies in the public registry so they can be independently reviewed prior to the licensing decision.

4) Request the CEC to hold a public hearing to review Project Simba, with full participant funding.

Thank-you for considering my comments on Sio Silicas proposed Simba extraction project.

559

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: "These comments are in response to the Environment Act Proposal (EAP) for the Sio Silica Corporations proposed Simba Sand Extraction Project (formerly known as the Vivian Sand Extraction Project). Based on the information provided by Sio Silica in the EAP and their behaviour over the past few years, I think the Simba silica sand extraction project should be rejected now and not be allowed to move forward in the assessment and licensing process.

The ongoing concerns about the potential impacts of silica sand extraction on environment and human health have not been alleviated by the information in the EAP for the proposed Simba Project. Sio Silicas failure to address the main concerns and recommendations of the Clean Environment Commission (CEC) and produce credible data to support their novel extraction process is a major red flag and an indication that this project is not being developed with the best interests of Manitobans in mind.

As noted by our Premier Wab Kinew when Sio Silicas extraction project was rejected for the first time: In order for Manitobans to be healthy now and for generations into the future, we have to protect a clean, safe and healthy environment. This will require a high standard of impact assessment and meaningful public participation, including participant funding, to ensure the full scope of concerns and potential impacts are properly understood before irreversible harm occurs to the Winnipeg Sandstone and Red River Carbonate aquifers.

I agree with Premier Wab Kinew that Manitobas resources should be developed with higher labour standards, higher environmental standards and greater respect for human rights compared to any other jurisdiction in the world. So, I think that if this project is allowed to continue through the impact assessment and licensing process under The Environment Act, the Minister/Director should take the following actions:

1) Designate the Simba Silica Sand Project as a Class 3 development due to the potential significant and irreversible harm to the drinking water source of 100,000 Manitobans. A Class 3 designation will also ensure the Minister is the decision-maker for the impact assessment and licensing process.

2) Require Sio Silica to produce and publicly publish a cumulative effects assessment report before proceeding any further in the licensing process.

3) Require Sio Silica to produce and publicly publish their plans for post-approval practices (monitoring, follow-up and adaptive management) and emergencies in the public registry so they can be independently reviewed prior to the licensing decision.

4) Request the CEC to hold a public hearing to review Project Simba, with full participant funding.

Thank-you for considering my comments on Sio Silicas proposed Simba extraction project."

560

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project is another example of corporate greed disregarding quality of human and animal life for the sake of making money. Sio Silica should not be allowed to endanger our livelihoods, quality of drinking water, and the natural environment for many reasons far smarter people have researched extensively. As a resident of Anola, it is terrifying and there is zero community buy in. This project was rejected previously for a good reason, and there is no additional transparency or proof they have improved their plan to guaranteed safe levels.

561

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No to silico sand

562

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Contamination of water table, voices are being dismissed all too often.

563

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am looking to acquire training for slurry transportation equipment class one ticket...

564

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not support sio silicas proposed plan. I as a landowner in the RM of Springfield am greatly concerned about the environmental concerns directly affecting our water supply and quality. It is not worth the risk

565

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I live and draw my water from a well in the RM of Springfield. I am concerned about the aquifer quality being forever damaged by the establishment of this "mining" operation.

566

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We have beautifully pristine water here in Garson, beausejour and surrounding areas...

this is madness to allow anyone to touch it for any uses other then drinking it. What happens if and when, something gets into the water. Company goes belly up, and leave the problem with us all to deal with. Go watch Erin Brokovich if you need any details how this will go, but the problem will never change.

567

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project will harm wildlife and surrounding areas

568

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Manitoba turned down Sio Silicas initial proposal/application due to environmental concerns and their new proposal/application is NO different. Now they are only saying that they will downsize in the earlier years but downsizing does not stop them from ruining the aquifer and our water resource. There are no assurances otherwise and their application is no different. DO NOT LET THIS COMPANY MOVE FORWARD as the majority of us who have lived in the Rm of Springfield our whole lives are not for this project and we are the taxpayers of our land! WATER IS A NECESSITY!

569

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Hi,

Please Reject the project now. The company has not addressed the reasons that led to the original rejection. There is no need to move any further with the licensing and assessment process. The application can simply be rejected at this stage.

However, in the event this project is allowed to continue further through the impact assessment and licensing process then:

-Please designate the Project a Class 3 development .

-Please require a cumulative effects assessment report before proceeding further this was a CEC recommendation when this project was previously rejected, why hasnt the company done the work of producing one already?

-Require public post approval practices and plans (i.e. monitoring, follow-up and adaptive management) before proceeding further how can we assess this project without such vital details? Why hasnt the company produced them?

-Request the CEC hold public hearings with full participant funding. Public CEC hearings must be held again. And this time participants should be provided participant funding, as has been the case for most prior CEC hearings.

Thank you

[redacted]

570

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have seen what silica sand mining can do to the water on surface mines. All the disruptions to the sand releases heavy metals and other toxins that if were not disturbed would not have been released into the water system. I can't see how this system that they are proposing would do any different. This is fresh drinking water that will be completely contaminated and lost due to mining, how can any one believe that mining in clean drinking water is a good idea? This will also destroy land values of all the homes on this water system.

Is there not a process that can force them to guarantee the water will not be contaminated? if you were to force them to guaranteed that if they were to contaminate the water system they would be force to supply clean drinking water to every home they affected they would never be pushing for this mine as they know they would lose that bet.

571

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am not an expert, but I see this as a profit over people situation. If we allow companies to come into our province to potentially destroy our environment, in this case our clean water supply, we are going to regret it . Please as our elected officials, put a stop to this company trying

to make profit off of our community and in the process destroying our beautiful land . This company has been told no , yet they keep persisting, why is that ? They think they can manipulate the system? do not let them .

572

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing to strong urge you to deny/reject this project. The environmental -- and then corresponding social and economic - risks are simply too high and too irreversible.

Others will try to argue that if the project were to proceed, you could wrap around some protections - such as: designate it as a Class 3 development; require a cumulative effects assessment report before proceeding ; and demand that the developers public post approval practices and plans (i.e. monitoring, follow-up and adaptive management) before proceeding further. But none of these will protect Manitobans sufficiently.

Protecting groundwater is simply too important.

573

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: How many times does the public have to say no to this project? The citizens of this province have made it abundantly clear we do not wish this project to go forward for a number of valid reasons. Sacrificing the ecology for the economy is like eating your own fingers to satisfy your hunger - in the end you don't gain anything but lose a lot. No to the SioSand project.

574

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We do not want iit!

575

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a resident of the Rural Municipality of Springfield, I am writing to formally register my objection to Sio Silica Corporations proposed Project SiMbA Sand Extraction (Environmental Act File 6275.00). While the proponent has rebranded the project and shortened its proposed timeline (from a 24-year operation to an initial 45 year phase), the fundamental risks to our aquifer remain unresolved. This apparent scaling-back is essentially project splitting a cosmetic change that does not meaningfully reduce the dangers. It remains the same unprecedented experiment on our groundwater, only divided into shorter segments. We should not be misled by a smaller initial scope when the ultimate 24-year plan and its impacts lurk behind it.

My opposition is based on the projects failure to meet the standards of safety and certainty required by The Environment Act. Below I outline the key reasons this proposal must be rejected in order to protect our water.

1. Rebranding or Phasing Does Not Eliminate the Risk

The proponents decision to split the project into a short initial phase does nothing to address the core risks. Sio Silica initially sought to drill over 7,000 wells over 24 years; now it seeks approval for a 45 year pilot with far fewer wells. This phased approach appears designed to downplay the projects true scope and gain approval by increments. However, breaking a 24-year scheme into smaller pieces is a piecemeal strategy that has been criticized by experts. It sidesteps a comprehensive assessment of the cumulative effects of the full project. We cannot allow a tactical timeline change to substitute for actual risk reduction. Whether done in 5 years or 24, injecting air into an intact aquifer to extract sand poses the same threats of geological destabilization and water contamination.

2. The Burden of Proof Has Not Been Met

In any environmental licensing process, the onus is on the proponent not the public to prove with certainty that a project will not harm the environment. To date, Sio Silica has failed to meet this burden of proof. The Clean Environment Commission (CEC) review of the previous Vivian Sand Project (the earlier iteration of SiMbA) concluded that the risks to our water were not adequately defined and that insufficient information was provided to guarantee safety. The CEC expressly found it was *unable to state with confidence that all potential environmental effects… have been fully considered and that adequate detailed plans have been prepared for preventing or mitigating these effects.* In the new SiMbA proposal, nothing of substance has changed: it relies on the exact same novel airlift extraction technology that raised red flags previously. No new conclusive scientific evidence has been provided to demonstrate that injecting pressurized air into the aquifer is safe for our specific geology. In short, the proponent has not discharged its burden to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that this project will not damage the aquifer. The government must not approve a project that hinges on hope or after-the-fact monitoring when real proof of safety is lacking.

The Intent of The Environment Act is Protection, Not Correction

Section 1(1) of Manitobas Environment Act clearly states that the intent of the legislation is to *ensure that the environment is protected and maintained in such a manner as to sustain a high quality of life… for this and future generations.* This means the Act is fundamentally preventative

its purpose is to prevent environmental damage before it occurs, rather than deal with cleanup afterward. Approving the SiMbA project despite known data gaps and unresolved questions (e.g. about aquifer stability and heavy metal mobilization) would violate this protective intent. There are significant uncertainties about whether the Winnipeg Shale aquitard the clay-rich layer that separates the sand aquifer from the carbonate aquifer will remain intact when thousands of tonnes of sand are removed. There are unresolved concerns that exposing the shale and sand to air could oxidize pyrite and mobilize arsenic or other heavy metals into our water supply. Under the Acts precautionary spirit, if we do not have certainty, we cannot proceed. The purpose of the law is to prevent irreversible harm, not to gamble and then attempt remediation. If this project proceeds and the aquitard is compromised or arsenic is leached into the aquifer, the damage will be irreversible. We cannot undrill thousands of wells, and we cannot un-poison an aquifer once contamination takes place. To protect the high quality of life for future generations as the law intends, we must err on the side of caution now, before any damage is done.

We Cannot Wait Until It Is Too Late

The proponent suggests using a phased or adaptive management approach is essentially, lets start and see what happens. This is utterly unacceptable when dealing with a drinking water source. The notion that if problems are detected, operations can simply be halted is a dangerous fallacy in hydrogeology. Once the seal is broken or a chemical chain reaction begins underground, the damage is done. Stopping the project at that point would not undo the contamination or restore the aquifers structural integrity. We should not have to wait until our water tests positive for arsenic or other toxins to say oops, this was a mistake. By then, it would be far too late the consequences of even a single failed phase could be existential for our communities water supply. Adaptive management might be appropriate for minor issues, but it is not a responsible strategy when a single misstep can permanently ruin an aquifer. In the words of concerned environmental groups, its time to halt this shoddy, piece-meal approach to evaluating such a large and risky project. Our communities health and safety cannot be subject to live experimentation. The only truly safe approach is to prevent the risk entirely by refusing to let the experiment commence.

Sio Silica has failed to prove that its novel mining method is safe for the unique geology and hydrochemistry of southeastern Manitoba. Rebranding the project under a new name and trimming the initial timeline to a few years does not change the inherent danger. Until and unless Sio Silica can demonstrate with 100% certainty backed by rigorous, peer-reviewed science that their extraction process will not harm our aquifers now or in the future, the government has a duty to withhold approval. The intent of The Environment Act is to protect Manitobans and our environment proactively, not to react after a disaster.

I urge you to uphold the protective intent of the law and deny the Project SiMbA license application. Our groundwater is simply too important to gamble with. Please choose the long-term safety of Manitobas environment and residents over this risky and unproven venture.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Resident of RM of Springfield

576

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Do not let this project go forward please! This will destroy our water supply

577

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Risking water quality and quality of life for Manitoban's so that a few people can line their pockets is a non starter, we wont need the jobs when no one can drink the water.

578

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about how this will affect water quality in the areas touched by this project.

579

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Putting a mine there is going to affect the water that the people who live near it rely on, go mine somewhere else

580

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Where and for what is the final use for the sand?

581

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I strongly believe this mining proposal poses a serious risk of contaminating the aquifer that thousands rely on for clean, safe drinking water.

582

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have concerns with the draw of the aquifer. There are no meaures of offsetting to provide assurance that this work will not impact thr water we drink (quantity and quality) as well as the transport of silica across the rail lines that are close to where we live. The monitoring plan in place doesnt address what meaures will be implemented if the water for nearby residents are affected. Who will be testing this and where will the reports go?

583

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am opposed to this extraction project due to concerns of aquifer contamination affected a large area of SE Manitoba.

584

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As long-term residents of Sunnyside, we are writing to express our strong opposition to the proposed Sio Silica project in our area. We have called this community home for many years and take great pride in the safety, health, and well-being of our families and neighbours.

The risks associated with silica mining are well-documented. Exposure to silica dust can cause serious health problems, including lung disease and respiratory illness. Additionally, industrial activity of this scale threatens the purity of our water, which is vital for our households, agriculture, and local wildlife. The potential environmental and health impacts extend far beyond today and could affect generations to come.

Our community is built on the values of safety, sustainability, and shared responsibility for our land and resources. Approving this project would compromise those values and the long-term health of our residents. We urge your government to prioritize the protection of our community and the environment over industrial development that brings unacceptable risk.

We respectfully request that you reject the Sio Silica proposal and ensure that Manitoba remains a safe, healthy place for all current and future generations. Our communitys health, water, and future are at stake, and we trust you will make the decision to protect them.

Thank you for your attention and commitment to the people of Manitoba.

585

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Only someone so selfish, so uneducated would drill into clean drinking water. Only someone so selfish, so uneducated would keep pushing for this project. Cancel this project for good, people want safe water

586

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Do not approve of project due to implications on water systems

587

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned that a project already rejected due to environmental concerns regarding groundwater impacts, is being revisited without a discernable difference of negative impact.

588

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very concerned about the adverse affects that naturally come from undermining. We have a pristine water system and its integrity needs to be upheld with upmost importance. I

whole heartedly believe that any negative reprocussions that come from this type of mining will only be felt by the citizens and taxpayers. This company has also been plagued with corruption and bribery, alarming to be placing any trust/good faith for contracts that they are proposing.

589

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am opposed to the Sio Silica project because clean healthy uncompromised water for thousands of people will always supercede lining the pockets and filling bank accounts of already wealthy individuals. This world had become so toxic with all the chemicals and toxins in food air and yes, some drinking water, that we cannot afford to continue taking risks leaving people in dire need of *safe* drinking water. I am not willing to make that sacrifice for someone else to gain riches. My opinion matters as does every other citizen within this community because it directly affects us. I vote no on this project.

590

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am against this drilling! environmental and scientific studies have shown that there is a likelihood that it'll contaminate the water. The risk is too high. And this is only a money making business and most people don't even live in this area that are wanting to drill there so it won't affect them

591

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This would have a huge effect and could contaminate our water. This is 100% dangerous and not reversible. Say no to silica sand project!

592

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Once again Sio Silica has filed another environmental licence application to mine silica sand under our aquifer in Vivian Mb

(Springfield) .

This new application was made despite previous documented concerns regarding potential effects to groundwater quality affecting more than 100,000 Manitobans.

Even more alarming were the efforts of the outgoing PC government to push through approval of Sio Silicas mining proposal before the new government took office.

Springfield residents including myself attended numerous public meetings regarding Sio Silica mining , geological opinions, and other related expert presentations .

With this information in hand the Springfield residents held a vote which resulted with a clear majority voting NO to mining in Vivian. Our premier acknowledged the vote outcome and heard our concerns.

So here we are again.

I believe that less drilling of number of wells do not equal less risk to quality drinking water.

I have grave concerns about this mining project and its potential for devastating consequences on our water quality. Our homes will have no value without quality drinking water. We cannot survive without quality water.

I humbly request that Sio Silica NOT be provided a license to mine in Springfield Mb and risk devastation to our water source.

593

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Endangering drinking water for people, animals and also unknown impacts on the environment should be a hard NO. You may say it doesn't impact everyone just those in the neighborhood of the wells but the beef, chicken (livestock) and grain/crops impacted by this contamination will hit everybody's table (as your dinner) , can you live with that risk?

594

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is an unproven extraction method. Our water aquifer is more important than a business that just wants to take our resources without caring what will be left behind for future generations.

595

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am firmly against the Sio Silica project in the RM of Springfield. We absolutely should not be risking the quality and safety of our groundwater. No amount of profit is worth the damage.

596

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There are no guarantees that our aquifer will not be damaged or contaminated and there does not to seem to be any plan if one of the potential damaging scenarios does happen to our aquifer. I understand that resource development is important but we cannot forget that the the second most important resource for our species to be alive is drinkable water. The first most important resource is air/oxygen, which one can only survive a matter of minutes before death occurs. The second most important resource is drinkable water, which one can only survive a matter of days without, before death occurs. I do not think there is any wisdom in putting the extraction of silica sand before the potential availability of fresh drinking water for generations to come. We are blessed here in South East Manitoba with having one of the largest and highest water quality aquifers in the world. I do not think we should take this for granted and we should do everything in our power to protect it. In doing so we can potentially insure that there is fresh, potable, drinking water for our people, industries and farms for hundreds of years to come. As well when our community voted on this topic in the RM of Springfield, the people voted "95% NO" to letting Sio Silica mine or aquifer. Please do not risk this most precious resource of water.

597

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am extremely concerned about our water quality.

598

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: A drinking water table is simply too important to experiment with.

Mining this sand will cause irreversible cross contamination of water between two different aquifers.

The Clean Environment Commission (CEC) asked for more information regarding the physical structure of the underground sand area, but the company has not done this work yet.

CEC asked for 10 separate and detailed plans regarding things like erosion, water and revegetation be finalized and available for comment, but Sio Silica has not completed them.

CEC asked for a worst-case scenario plan and the company has not provided it.

CEC asked for a cumulative impacts assessment of the 24-year life of the project, but the company said no.

599

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This will be an experiment, we do not know in what direction it will end up going ? Will it be ok with the aquifer and if not, there goes our water supply. Do we want to risk that happening ??? We need clean water to survive. Can business not understand we do not want them, do we have to go through this every few years. I also feel the mayor of East St Paul is in a conflict of interest because she is the CEO of the company who wants to drill into the aquifer.

600

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Stop Sio extraction project. Protect our water supply!!!!

601

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please do not let sio silica proceed with mining in Manitoba. They will rape the land, destroy our water, and threaten the topography.

602

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The simple fact that this was voted against recently and is now back on the table shows complete disregard for persons and nature that this will effected by sio silica. All the environmental issues that we have going on in the province already with our freshwater its hard to understand how any government would even take this into consideration. Its time for our leaders to stand up and start protecting this province, environment, nature and the people! The risk to all the communities who use the drinking water as our main water supply should out weigh any of this, we have northern communities without clean drinking water as is and should focus on fixing that instead of adding to the list. Save our water! Save our environment! Save our nature! Protect our water!!

603

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very concern about our drinking water that it will get contaminated over this drilling process. Also the extraction of the sand leaving hollow areas under ground and later having sink holes appear out of no where

604

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Can contaminate water quality down the road

605

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This will cause an issue with the water quality and amount of water for the residents in the nearby areas in the future.

606

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned for the wellbeing of our water system. Is the full environmental (water, wildlife, ecosystems) impact of a silica mine really understood? And can we really afford to take such a risk when our environment is already suffering? I am having a kid in 2026 and it is stressful to see our government not taking a stronger stand for the environment for the sake of future generations of Manitobans.

607

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very concerned about Sio Silica sand extraction project and the impact it will have on our local aquifers . I do NOT want this project to happen in my community.

608

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: i live in oakbank and have family and friends around anola and i dont agree with them mining sio silica around spots where it will mess up the water for people who live in this area. i am worried for their heath and i dont agree with it at all.

609

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My concerns are firstly about the possible negative effects on the quality of the water in the aquifer. The track record of a past iteration of this company began clearing the bush in the Hollow Water reserve BEFORE they had approval of the environmental study. They seemed willing to bend/break the rules. That being the case, I have no confidence that this present company will abide by provincial legislations.

610

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Reasons I object

A drinking water table is simply too important to experiment with.

Mining this sand will cause irreversible cross contamination of water between two different aquifers.

The Clean Environment Commission (CEC) asked for more information regarding the physical structure of the underground sand area, but the company has not done this work yet.

CEC asked for 10 separate and detailed plans regarding things like erosion, water and revegetation be finalized and available for comment, but Sio Silica has not completed them.

CEC asked for a worst-case scenario plan and the company has not provided it.

CEC asked for a cumulative impacts assessment of the 24-year life of the project, but the company said no.

If the company says no to the CEC then we will say no to the company.

The lack of cumulative assessment for projects in Manitoba is an indication that we should modernize our Environment Act and approvals process.

For nearly four decades the precautionary principle has been recognized around the world as the standard for environmental care. Projects which can result in serious environmental harm should not go forward.

611

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water is essential to life, not sand.

The real stakeholders are those of us who live on the land and drink the water, one slip up on the part of the drillers could contaminate our water, they will just go home and life goes on. We need water not sand.

612

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The untested practices of extraction have the capability to destroy our drinking water. With how they tried to push through the project with the Conservative government(hence why Premier Steffansen was fined) profit or public safety.

613

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The government already stopped this project from happening because of the environmental concerns and risks to Springfields water. They are trying to say they will drill less holes but ultimately, the results will be the same as the company will need to continue drilling to produce more product to stay in business. We can pretend that they will stay true to their word but everyone with a brain knows that it is not the reality. The people of Springfield have already spoken. The elected mayor came to our house to say he opposed it which is why we voted for him. He then turned around and was supporting them, which is very suspicious considering that there was an environmental scan done and it was shown to be a poor idea. We have one earth, Turtle Island needs to be protected. If the government will not oppose this because of monetary greed, at least oppose this as a form of truth and reconciliation. Elders tell us to take only what we need from the land and to live sustainably. This project is not sustainable. Silica does not grow back, drinking water will not suddenly be filtered and safe, animals will lose homes and places to forage. We live in a time where the climate is in a precarious spot. Why would we further the destruction of that for greed? I urge the NDP government to deny this proposal once again. The company is not even based in Manitoba, they are from Alberta - the province that famously declares themselves self sustainable and carrying the Canadian economy on their backs. Why would we let them destroy this province so they can continue to build their economy. Please do not approve this project. Think of the people. The future generations. Think of the wildlife and the creator.

614

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I oppose this project!!! Terrible idea

615

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This company has no intention of protecting MB's water source, which in today's Climate seems more valuable to protect than ever before. proprietary chemicals are always being

created for mining/extractions, our legislation is generally behind and any analytical test results will miss these harmful proprietary chemicals being used. We allready see this at a municipal water treatment level in the city of winnipeg. Pfa's etc etc. It's a game and it needs to stop. Humans and animals alike rely on the quality water our province has and instead the gov should be looking to capitalize on this opportunity that does not involve using chemicals and tainting the inter-connected ground water that makes up this swampy province. Revenue from the extraction license does not offset the risk of contamination of such a valuable resource and would be heavily considered during election time. Please say no and stand firm on protecting Manitoba's and the world's most valuable resource. Fresh water.

Thank you for your time and consideration

616

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We do not want Sio Silica near our water supply. I sent a video explaining more to the email given for that

617

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The project was already reviewed by the Clean Environment Commission in 2023. Expert submissions showed the potential threats. The risk to this vital water supply is too great. Since we just don't know that this can be done safely, it cannot proceed.

618

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Why isnt the city of Wpg get more involved if they realized a few simple facts. Most of which can be learned playing on the beach. Sand , (specially pure clean sand like silica) when mixed with water will eventually find its own level. The material above the sand is not bedrock or granite but a mixture of material that will eventually slump down to again rest on the sand. How much sand removal would it take to,say affect the pipeline that brings water to Wpg or affect the literally hundreds of hydro towers, or the railroad ? This Ill conceived project is just too risky. Licensing needs to better understand the term irreversible. A fully funded CEC review with public input is , or should be, a requirement

619

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I DO NOT WANT THIS NEAR MY HOME OR CONTAMINATING THE WATER THAT I DRINK OR THAT MY FUTURE CHILDREN WILL DRINK. I VOTE NO TO SIO SILICA. NO. NO. NO. DON'T YOU DARE POISON ME.

620

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have a close family friend, who is Métis and in her 80s and living in the area, and this is terrible for her. She relies on well water, and this will devastate her. She barely gets by on her old age security. She has lived her whole life in the area and does not want to give up her farm. The data is clear on the harms of silica pits, and the government needs to handle this. Stop the selling of our resource and land to foreign entities. Protect our people and our resources. We also rely on harvesting deer yearly on the farm to feed our families, and this could directly affect us.

621

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not want this environmentally irresponsible company mining anywhere near the water that my family drinks from our well. If they pollute our water table that affects people as far south as new bothwell or farther and none of us need our water poisoned for drinking or animals from drinking or fish living in.

622

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Manitoba doesn't NEED more extractive mining. Canada doesn't NEED more extractive mining. Turtle Island shouldn't be mined any more than it already has been. My environmental concerns are being stated because our planet is in a fresh water crisis. Approving new mining projects, fracking, pipelines, and corporate farms that jeopardize fresh water supplies is dangerous for the health of our planet, the wildlife and humans who live here (correct me if I'm wrong, but that

IS all of us, right?). Bottled water shouldn't be a commercial giant but here we are, and now mining companies are coming for free water by potentially polluting it. This is a logical, hard 'NO' for most of us, but for some reason the Province needs convincing why approval here is unethical.

The air quality for wildlife and residents will be affected too. No one enjoys driving through East Kildonan, and Transcona most days, due to he horrific industrial smells from the Loveday Mushroom Farm, Maple Leaf rendering plant and Dog food producers in Dugald industrial. Imagine how far unwanted smells and the dangerous air quality that follows when mining for silica sand is in full production. Not the potential particulate any of us want our children inhaling.

And then there is the wildlife! Mining an area of this size WILL disrupt movement patterns, and an entire ecosystem of wildlife, and as a result of that disruption, affect community members equally.

My point is that all of these systems need protecting from the dollar value underneath the surface. Once that value is gone, it's gone, leaving a literal hole in the earth. We need to stop raping mother Earth of the elements that make her whole of we stand a chance to continue inhabiting this planet long term. Thank you for your time.

623

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned that Sio Silica drilling for sand will damage the aquifer and pollute the water that many Manitobans rely on for clean drinking water.

624

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: How many times must the Sio Silica people be told to get the hell out of our municipality?

They are pulling dirty tricks and operating without proper permits, and they have been told NO several times and continue to push and push.

Nobody wants them here, and nobody wants our water poisoned, or our land raped.

Please shut them done and tell them to leave once and for all!

625

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Concerns for water contamination, the distribution of wildlife and air pollution.

626

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The whole Sio Silica mining is going to mine out mother natures water filter and will cause water contamination for the whole area and including into the city of Winnipeg. The whole project should be cut out forever

627

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My property uses well water from the aquifer. Sio silica's own test wells and water samples indicate the acquifer will become contaminated.

Sonar scans show dome collapse and mixing of the two waters above and below the shale layer. leading to sinkholes.

The mining method has not been proven elsewhere. it is experimental. Unforeseen ground subsidence and water contamination will be left in Manitoba while the mining company leaves.

This is not what manitobans want.

[redacted]

628

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about any move to revisit this proposal after it had already been turned down. We who reside in the area aren't satisfied that environmental questions have been properly addressed. We worry about the future of our drinking water. There is considerable discomfort within our region about reports that Sio Silica is reported to have a history of not being responsible with regards to clean up and maintenance of the land. Please hear our voices of concern.

629

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a farmer relying on a clean source of water I am very concerned about this Silica project. Its an unproven extraction method and will be going into the aquifer that supplies good water to a huge portion of Manitoba, including life stock operations, cities and towns.

Why would we take a chance of contaminating this source?

Also 1.5 billion tons extracted could mean collapsing a huge portion of land

Please say No

630

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I wish to submit my 100% opposition to the Sio Silica Sand-Simba Sand Extraction Project!

I am requesting that this license application be denied. I am a homeowner in the Rm of Brokenhead and am extremely appalled that this unproven, untested plan is being pursued for the second time.

There are a number of reasons why this should never be approved. The Clean Environment Commission(CEC) asked for more information regarding the physical structure of the underground sand area, detailed plans regarding things like erosion, water, revegetation and that they be finalized and available for comment, a worst-case scenario plan and cumulative impact assessments of the 24-year life of the project, but to my knowledge, they have not provided proof and have said no.

Our pristine aquifer is at a high risk of becoming contaminated(silica sand's role is to trap contaminants and harmful microorganisms etc.) and as a result my families' water supply will become unsafe. Our wells will run dry due to the years of excessive amounts of water needed to wash the sand. My property will then be uninhabitable and worthless. As a tax paying Canadian, this is egregious, it is our basic right to have access to clean and safe water. It must remain a priority to protect us, our children and vulnerable individuals. There is already a housing crisis in Manitoba and the likelihood of sink holes due to the nature and level of mining that is planned would only exacerbate this problem.

All of us that live in the area and surrounding areas will ultimately suffer from this in the end. It must remain a priority to protect us, our children and vulnerable individuals. There are far too many unknowns, no one can guarantee that this can be done safely, there are zero positive benefits to all

homeowners and the 10's of thousands of residents. The Indigenous who live in the area are keepers of the land and approving this would contradict all reconciliation efforts. This project which can result in serious environmental harm should not move forward, it will only benefit Mr. Feisal Somji and Pyrophyte Acquisition Corp. etc. and must be stopped.

Please help us to protect our land, aquifer, water and future generations.

631

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am deeply concerned about this project and the implications for the drinking water for all families in the vicinity. My grandchildren and parents will be affected by this project and I have grave concerns on how it will affect drinking water. We cannot afford to put profits over people and make a mistake on this project. It is an environmental inmate waiting to happen and we cannot afford to risk our drinking water being contaminated. I urge the Manitoba government to say no to this project Do not risk our current and future generations health and welfare by offering up silica sand at any cost. I urge you to permanently veto this project.

632

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio does not care about the residents of Springfield and their safe drinking water for our families, farms and livestock. Their mining proposal is untested and their corporation is corrupt. Please think of the health of Manitobans and say no to Sio.

633

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: To the Director of Environmental Approvals Branch,

These comments are in response to the Environment Act Proposal (EAP) for the Sio Silica Corporations proposed Simba Sand Extraction Project (formerly known as the Vivian Sand Extraction Project). Based on the information provided by Sio Silica in the EAP and their behaviour over the past few years, I strongly believe the Simba silica sand extraction project should be rejected now and not be allowed to move forward in the assessment and licensing process. I live north of Vivian and my drinking water, which I also use for my livestock operation, and the drinking

water of thousands of other Manitobans, and the water used by many farms, would be at risk of contamination if this project goes ahead.

The ongoing concerns about the potential impacts of silica sand extraction on environment and human health have not been alleviated by the information in the EAP for the proposed Simba Project. Sio Silica's failure to address the main concerns and recommendations of the Clean Environment Commission (CEC) and produce credible data to support their novel extraction process is a major red flag and an indication that this project is not being developed with the best interests of Manitobans in mind.

As noted by our Premier Wab Kinew when Sio Silica's extraction project was rejected for the first time, "In order for Manitobans to be healthy now and for generations into the future, we have to protect a clean, safe and healthy environment." This drinking water aquifer is too valuable to experiment with. There are numerous reasons to be concerned that irreversible damage will occur. As just one example, mining this sand will cause irreversible cross contamination of water between two aquifers (the Red River Carbonate aquifer and the Winnipeg Sandstone aquifer. Therefore, following the precautionary principle leads to cancellation of this project.

At minimum, before any Environment Act license is issued for this project, the company should be required to adhere to the CEC's recommendation that a cumulative effects assessment for the full 24-year life of the originally proposed project be carried out and its impact be considered in light of other existing and foreseeable projects in the area. In addition to this recommendation by the CEC, the proponent should be required to thoroughly assess risks associated with climate change, such as extreme drought and extreme flooding.

I agree with Premier Wab Kinew that Manitoba's resources should be developed with higher labour standards, higher environmental standards and greater respect for human rights compared to any other jurisdiction in the world. So, while I strongly believe that this project should not proceed, if this project is allowed to continue through the impact assessment and licensing process under The Environment Act, the Minister/Director should take the following actions:

1) Designate the Simba Silica Sand Project as a Class 3 development due to the potential significant and irreversible harm to the drinking water source of 100,000 Manitobans. A Class 3 designation will also ensure the Minister is the decision-maker for the impact assessment and licensing process.

2) Require Sio Silica to produce and publicly publish a cumulative effects assessment report before proceeding any further in the licensing process.

3) Require Sio Silica to produce and publicly publish their plans for post-approval practices (monitoring, follow-up and adaptive management) and emergencies in the public registry so they can be independently reviewed prior to the licensing decision.

4) Request the CEC to hold a public hearing to review Project Simba, with full participant funding.

Thank-you for considering my comments on Sio Silicas proposed Simba extraction project.

[redacted]

634

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: [redacted] our home property of 40 acres are disturbing our property by noise, ground subsidence, vibrations and affects on our treed the observed extreme water saturation and cutting resistance in the local poplars appears to be pathological wetwood resulting from forced hydrostatic pressure introduced by nearby industrial operations 200m away. The drones in neighborhood ar is violating ours and neighboring homes privacy.

635

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project will damage our great water supply and the aquifer that that allows all of eastern Manitoba clean drinking water. This project CANNOT go forward.

636

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We must aim for better environmental stewardship

637

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yes! Sio silica will RUIN our natural water resources that thousands rely on for drinking water. All our pre existing wells will be come not useful and potentially cost home owns money and the risk of our health by contaminating the water that we would have left. Absolutely NO to Sio. They do not belong here!!!

638

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: At the end of the day, I dont think there is anything scientific, heartfelt , or factual that I can write to stop this, which is so heartbreaking. This was already opposed by the people it will effect. Now it will go through because people care about money more than eachother , more than the water, more than the animals that drink the water. I am 24 years old and I am planning to live on land that uses this drinking water for the rest of my life, Im heartbroken. I can assure you my peers feel the same, unfortunately they are too familiar with how our government operates to write in, there is no care for the future. Heartbreaking.

639

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Do not let sio silica ruin our aquifer.

640

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Reject the project now. The company has not addressed the reasons that led to the original rejection. There is no need to move any further with the licensing and assessment process. The application can simply be rejected at this stage.

However, in the event this project is allowed to continue further through the impact assessment and licensing process then:

Designate the Project a Class 3 development the Minister not the Director should ultimately make this decision.

Require a cumulative effects assessment report before proceeding further this was a CEC recommendation when this project was previously rejected, why hasnt the company done the work of producing one already?

Require public post approval practices and plans (i.e. monitoring, follow-up and adaptive management) before proceeding further how can we assess this project without such vital details? Why hasnt the company produced them?

Request the CEC hold public hearings with full participant funding. As we have already stated, this project should be rejected outright. However, should this project proceed further then public CEC

hearings must be held again. And this time participants should be provided participant funding, as has been the case for most prior CEC hearings

641

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Thousands and thousands of human lives, animals, ecosystems depend on this. Aquifer, literally, for life. No company, person or entity has the right to interfere and possibly contaminate, this aquifer that we all need to sustain us and for us to live healthy lives. This actually angers me, that someone feels they have the right to put thousands and thousands of lives at risk, for profit. The answer was no and the answer needs to continue to be a resounding, NO! The environmental hazards and risks, to all life that depend on this aquifier, are simply too high to ignore.

642

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My family and friends live only miles from where this is. We are greatly concerned. This will forever ruin our water. Absolutely nothing beneficial can come of this. Not to mention their radio ad has a child saying it's their future. Does that child even know what Sio plans to do? How horrible!!! WE DO NOT WANT SIO HERE!!!

643

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: When they undermine our property, the overburden will fall into the water and cause sinkholes in our fields and yards and turn our clean water into muddy water, destroying our good clean water. Our property values will be destroyed and all our hard work and expense will be lost. This is an untested procedure the Sio Silica/Simba is proposing. There are many silica deposits in Manitoba in unpopulated areas where they can test this process and safely mine without causing so much damage to our water and property.

644

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water Quality:

This is a paramount concern that a large percentage of R.M. of Springfield residents share. You will not get the full scale of concerned residents coming forward as some are simply too busy with today's world or do not have the technical ability or access to complete a form such as this. I am originally from Southern California and have been a resident of the R.M. of Springfield for 17.5 years now. I know the difference between chemically-treated water, water scarcity, and our pristine, natural well-water here. Family and friends who have visited have commented on our crisp, clean, cool well-water and once again, know the difference.

Air Quality:

As residents of a rural municipality, we value our non-city, superior air-quality. Silica sand mining significantly impacts air quality through the release of airborne particulate matter, including respirable crystalline silica (RCS), PM10, and PM2.5. These particles, particularly those less than four microns in size (PM4), can penetrate deep into the lungs and are associated with serious health risks such as silicosis, lung cancer, chronic bronchitis, and other respiratory diseases. The mining, processing, and transportation of sand generate dust that can degrade air quality, with potential health effects especially concerning for workers, nearby communities, and wildlife.

Wildlife:

Silica sand mining generates significant noise pollution that disrupts wildlife behaviour and habitats. The noise, primarily from machinery, blasting, crushing, and conveyor systems creates widespread disturbances that can stress animals and alter their natural activities. This displacement can lead to restricted movement and range contraction.

Birds, mammals, and insects also rely on sound for navigation, communication, mating, and predator avoidance, and excessive noise from mining operations can interfere with these essential functions, leading to stress, disorientation, and reduced reproductive success.

Furthermore, noise pollution contributes to broader ecosystem imbalances, potentially increasing human-wildlife conflicts as animals seek quieter areas, and can negatively impact pollinators like bees and bats, which are sensitive to noise and vital for agriculture.

Population:

We live rurally for peace and lower population. Don't make the repeat mistake of driving inhabitants out of their homes and ways of life.

Noise Pollution:

Trucks, increased traffic, more road damage, increased public safety risks, hydraulic fracking, vibration, blasting, and excavation.

Light Pollution:

When we can enjoy our rural life with our families and enjoy no light pollution, we have the quality of life that we chose by living rurally. We can all see an example of light pollution that industrial corporations cause to our peaceful night sky. We DO NOT live where we do to have our peaceful RURAL lives negatively impacted by environmentally disrupting corporations.

All of these concerns not only impact the current human residents of our RURAL municipality, but also our future family members. Please do not forget how these concerns do not stop at our human residents, but also our domestic pets, farm animals/livestock, and our precious wildlife that so many of us enjoy and bring us the quality of life we love.

645

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about the unknown impacts on drinking water naturally held in the aquifers which must be drilled to obtain the sand. It seems that there is little long term study on the impact of this drilling and disturbance of the aquifers. I also feel some discomfort with the approval of the project by the Indigenous communities nearby. It is a great opportunity for income to support important development on Indigenous land, but the Indigenous citizens have the right to free, prior and informed consent. Clearly Chiefs and Councils are in favor of this economic opportunity, but the band members are not fully informed or aware of the possible ramifications. In some communities band members are not informed or consulted and are not giving consent.

I appreciate that there may be a need for silica sand in manufacture of important items such as solar panels but hope that the project can at least be limited in scope until impacts are determined. It is unlikely that the companies proposing the project will think about future generations as they are focused on profit.

646

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about the damages this project will lead to. I say no to Silica!

647

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing as a concerned citizen, a parent, and a resident of Manitoba to express my deep worry regarding the Sio Silica mining project and the very real risk it poses to our water supply.

Our drinking water is not just a resourceit is the foundation of our health, our childrens health, and the health of future generations. Any industrial project that puts this water at risk must be held to the highest possible standards of transparency, caution, and independent scientific review.

Many of us have watched with alarm as communities across Canada have faced long-term health consequences after contaminants entered their water supplies from industrial activity. I personally know families in the Lorette area who suffered devastating health issues, including cancer, and while every situation is complex, there is no denying that our water must be protected from any preventable harm. Once an aquifer is damaged, it is nearly impossible to restore. The risk is permanent. Our children will live with the consequences long after corporations are gone.

How can any government approve a project that opens the door to irreversible contamination of the provinces most essential resource? What would any of us say if it were our own children exposed to these risks? How would we feel if it were our families who had to drink unsafe water?

I urge the Government of Manitoba to prioritize public health over industrial interests and to take the most cautious approach possibleincluding pausing approval until independent, transparent, and fully peer-reviewed studies demonstrate beyond doubt that our drinking water and our aquifer will be protected.

There is no acceptable margin of error when it comes to our most precious and irreplaceable resource.

Our families are depending on you.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

648

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This application is just the same actors reapplying after already being denied permits due to aquifer concerns.

[redacted] one of their test wells drilled north of highway 15 in [redacted]

I remain very concerned of the impact on and contamination of our aquifer.

This includes but not limited to the concern of injecting air for extraction, unproven uv light treatment of water being returned.

There have been several scientists voice concerns with the unproven methods of extraction and more importantly, confirming that there will be an impact on the aquifer.

We live within their target area and this project directly impacts our water quality and land values. Please do let them continue drilling new oversized wells, removing tons of sand and re-injecting contaminated water back into the aquifer.

Please listen to the experts that have no financial incentives to remove sand, not the people expected to reap the rewards of a new unproven mining project.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment

649

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Endangering drinking water for people, animals and also unknown impacts on the environment should be a hard NO. You may say it doesn't impact everyone just those in the neighborhood of the wells but the beef, chicken (livestock) and grain/crops impacted by this contamination will hit everybody's table (as your dinner) , can you live with that risk?

650

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We said no to this before. NO is still the answer. We don't want this Sand Extraction to happen in our community.

651

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Listen to communities who live near that project area. They are the most impacted people by the project. The company and the province have obligations to protect Indigenous rights under constitutions and honour them.

652

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about contamination of our drinking water.

653

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This proposed project directly threatens the clean safe drinking water that my family and I use.

Sio Silica has not in any way been able to prove this project to be safe long term. They have been asked and are unable to provide adequate plans.

This project will contaminate our Aquafer. This project is a proposal of money over human life. Clean safe drinking water is a human right, one which here in Canada we already fail to provide in many communities. The people here will not forget. We have already definitively said no to this project once.

My children drink this water. My husband drinks this water. The family dogs drink this water. Our chickens drink this water. The local bird population bathes and enjoys this water. Our garden grows with this water. Trucking water in is not an option. Piping water in is not an option. We need clean safe water.

We have said no to this project, we will continue to say no to this project because water is life. We are fighting for our lives. Do not take our lives from us.

654

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: To whom it may concern,

Please do not touch or disrupt the auquifers.

I am told there is a law suit in the process and there will

be several more against Springfield Municipality!

Respectively submitted

655

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am extremely concerned about any project that could jeopardise my well water. Any risk regardless how small, is too much of a risk.

656

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have many concerns about this project. Having been born and raised in Anola and Springfields with plans to return to live and grow my family I do NOT want a silica sand mine built.

I am concerned how this will effect our water quality. Fresh water is a limited resource we need to protect for generations to come.

I am concerned about the impacts on Air Quality. Silica sand mining significantly impacts air quality through the release of airborne particulate matter. These particles, particularly those less than four microns in size (PM4), can penetrate deep into the lungs and are associated with serious health risks such as silicosis, lung cancer, chronic bronchitis, and other respiratory diseases.

I am concerned how it will effect the wildlife in how area. The significant noise pollution that disrupts wildlife behaviour and habitats. The noise, primarily from machinery, blasting, crushing, and conveyor systems creates widespread disturbances that can stress animals and alter their natural activities. This displacement can lead to restricted movement and range contraction.

I am concerned for the noise Pollution with trucks, increased traffic, increased safety risk on the highway, hydraulic fracking, vibration, blasting, and excavation.

I do NOT want the Silica mine and I want to protect my community for generations to come. I do not want an american company bullying their way into our water and resources.

657

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project will effect every day to day things we take for granted like clean water, pollution that it will create not to mention the livestock that we need to survive. This project also will destroy our beautiful wildlife. This project will take away everything that we work so hard to preserve.

658

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My concerns include:

-negative impacts on the environment and human health;

-no credible, independent 3rd party data to support the plan;

-potential for negative, generational impact. We cannot leave a mess for future generations to clean-up (if it is even possible to be cleaned up, that is, as damage could be irreversible);

-private financial gains for a few should not outweigh widespread, negative public impact;

-failure to honour the Treaty One Declaration with respect to resource use and development;

-the company is devoid of risk/liability should there be negative environmental impacts.

659

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: our drinking water will be compromised and surrounding areas so not in favour of sio silica drilling anywhere

660

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am employed in the manufacturing and distribution of quartz countertops and with that am deeply aware of the issues and concerns with silica.

661

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Dear Manitoba Environment and Climate Change,

I am writing to you with my grave concerns about the SIO SILICA proposed silica sand extraction via unproven mining practices that will destroy our aquifer and drinking water quality. During extraction and processing huge amounts of water will be needed to wash this sand. Clean water is not a ressource that can be renewed, you cannot place a value on clean water sources. Why are we letting companies extract wealth from our Manitoban soil and leaving it in disrepair, polluted and contaminate our aquifers. Please consider that many generations will be affected negatively, the science tells you how badly this will impact the communities water sources. Clean water should not be comprimised as it is such a precious ressource. My water is not for sale.

662

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I live in Vivian [redacted] where the sio silica is proposing to mine. I am deeply concerned with the definate possibility of contaminating our aquifer that serves an awful lot of homes and people. That should be the main reason the project should not go through. Being so close I am also worried about the burden the noise, lights at night and all the trucks to haul away the sand are going to have on the value of my property. If my property value decreased because of the mining and the problems it will most definately bring to this community then I will sue for the difference and any costs accrued. I will invite any and all in the immediate area to join me. This was shut down once for many good reasons and it is insulting to us locals that there is another attempt so soon. How classless of Sio Silica. They are not wanted here. Go back to Alberta where ya belong and digbup your own back yard, not ours.

663

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I believe that it is possible to proceed with new mining projects in a way that respects the environment. But when these projects are privately owned for profit then the government must take responsibility for protecting the interests of citizens not businesses. All new projects have opportunity costs because we as citizens could be working on other projects.

There will always be pressure from the federal government to maximize exports even when projects have high external costs that burden local communities. The provincial government should mediate these interests and not overvalue exports or the pursuit of growth targets and economic statistics.

The real measure of success for Manitoba is our quality of life not our GDP. GDP can be concentrated to a small group while ignoring true measures of success.

Lets make sure that the burden of proof is on the project and that the necessary steps are taken because this company will not be posting any retainer that could remotely prevent a financial disaster for taxpayers if a cleanup is needed.

Thanks

[redacted]

664

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Ecosystem disruption,

665

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am opposed to the Silica mining project . This project is an experimental one and if there is any risk to our water supply that too much of a risk. We have not recourse once the damage is done. NO is NO. Not worth the risk. Please listen to the people.

666

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a family and community we object to the silo silica extraction project. The community voted virtually unanimously against this. It is concerning that our decision is being muted.

There are real concerns and health risks associated with the extraction. Primarily environmental and water contamination, and several associated health risks.

The mining can effect the bio diversity, of existing water ways (broken head river for starters) and its associated wildlife. This doesn't stop here as it can contaminate the drinking water we all depend on.

Long term effects of ingesting contaminated water can include, lung cancer, chronic bronchitis, lung scarring and stiffening ect. Also their are studies that indicate the disrupted silica can lead to auto immune diseases.

Simply, their is always a reaction with any disruption to nature. And when it is man made it is almost always detrimental to the local community.

Please respect our previous decision as a community. We have voted against silo Silica extraction.

667

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water contamination, wildlife affects, transport issues, health concerns to humans

668

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The Clean Environment Commission (CEC) asked for a cumulative impacts assessment of the 24-year life of the project, but the company said no.

A drinking water table is simply too important to experiment with. Mining this sand will cause irreversible cross contamination of water between two different aquifers. CEC asked for a cumulative impacts assessment of the 24-year life of the project, but the company said no.

669

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about the impact on our water quality.

670

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: C'mon already...NO means NO!

671

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water quality, ecology.

672

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a resident of anola I do not want then mining in the same aquifer that my drinking water comes from. I am worried for my health and my family and friends health. This project should nit go through and there are other opportunities in safer areas that dont involve threatening people's drinking water.

673

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Im very concerned that should Sio Silica be granted permission to mine near Vivian, MB that the groundwater will be contaminated.

674

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have extreme concerns with our water (wells) being contaminated. This will affect our lives, animals, the environment and traffic issues in the area. Our home is set up for my husband disability from a spinal cord injury and if we do not have clean water, we can not live here have no where else go.

675

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The public voted, over 95% said no. This is a concern for our future of our precious water resource and for our children. Will the government be responsible for when the aquifer gets

damaged and contaminates our water? Who will be held responsible? Will the government be responsible for both town and rural water treatments when the water becomes contaminated? Lots of unknowns. The public voted no, so I'm not sure why this is coming up again. We don't want Sio Silica in the municipality of Springfield.

676

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please don't mess with my water. Is it not a conflict of interest having our mayor as president of Sio Silica? I vote no.

677

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Protect whats left of our environment. Land guardians protect our waters..they shouldnt have to keep fighting for it..Murray Sinclairs 7 generations is now

678

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: i am very concerned about that this project and its untested science could potentially harm our water supply permanently.

679

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Thousands of Manitoba residents rely on the aquifers in the Springfield area for clean water for our families, farms and businesses.

The hydrology report submitted as part of the application contains multiple references to assumptions on conditions below the surface. These assumptions must be correct for our aquifers to remain unaffected after wells are drilled, sand is removed and the rock bed between the sand and aquifers collapses. But what if any of these assumptions are wrong?

Sio Silica attests they will follow through on promises to safeguard our water, to restore our landscape, and more importantly, to act quickly and efficiently to address any problems that may arise. But what of those problems are not be reversible? What happens to our daily lives, and our property values, without clean drinking water?

There is too much at stake for thousands of current and future residents. We do not want our government to risk the future, our future, for the sake of quick profits today. We expect them to safeguard our health and our basic right to retain the clean water we currently enjoy on our own properties.

680

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Big time concerns for our environment.

Water and air quality especially as I live right across from the expected site.

This project has tried way too many times and has failed to provide the public with assurance of safety and I will not hesitate to stop this from happening!

681

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do have concerns with the extraction processes related to this project. As stated by many the process of extraction is yet unproven as far as long term safety. As always the people that are to profit from this project assure us that it is safe. When asked if they had a plan of action if damage was done to the quality of the drinking water, crickets ,nothing . Also when asked what compensation they would provide if a catastrophic event occurred? Also nothing.

I think they know there is a potential that the extraction process is flawed and are trying to push forth with promises and misinformation.

The oil fields in west Texas are currently being poisoned by toxic water seeping past the concrete used to seal the casings at the "impermeable" cap rock. So that was supposed proven science as well, until it isn't

Thanks for your attention and I hope you make the right choice for the majority and the greater good.

682

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Reject the project now. The company has not addressed the reasons that led to the original rejection. There is no need to move any further with the licensing and assessment process. The application can simply be rejected at this stage. In the event this project is allowed to continue further through the impact assessment and licensing process then:

- Designate the Project a Class 3 development the Minister not the Director should ultimately make this decision.

- Require a cumulative effects assessment report before proceeding further this was a CEC recommendation when this project was previously rejected, why hasn't the company done the work of producing one already?

- Require public post approval practices and plans (i.e. monitoring, follow-up and adaptive management) before proceeding further how can we assess this project without such vital details? Why hasn't the company produced them?

- Request the CEC hold public hearings with full participant funding. As we have already stated, this project should be rejected outright. However, should this project proceed further then public CEC hearings must be held again. And this time participants should be provided participant funding, as has been the case for most prior CEC hearings.

683

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: STOP THIS MADNESS YOU IDIOTS

684

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I feel this project should never be allowed to proceed. The need to protect our aquifers far exceeds the outcome if our aquifers are compromised.

685

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: These comments are in response to the Environment Act Proposal (EAP) for the Sio Silica Corporations proposed Simba Sand Extraction Project (formerly known as the Vivian Sand Extraction Project). Based on the information provided by Sio Silica in the EAP and their behaviour over the past few years, I think the Simba silica sand extraction project should be rejected now and not be allowed to move forward in the assessment and licensing process.

The ongoing concerns about the potential impacts of silica sand extraction on environment and human health have not been alleviated by the information in the EAP for the proposed Simba Project. Sio Silicas failure to address the main concerns and recommendations of the Clean Environment Commission (CEC) and produce credible data to support their novel extraction process is a major red flag and an indication that this project is not being developed with the best interests of Manitobans in mind.

As noted by our Premier Wab Kinew when Sio Silicas extraction project was rejected for the first time: In order for Manitobans to be healthy now and for generations into the future, we have to protect a clean, safe and healthy environment. This will require a high standard of impact assessment and meaningful public participation, including participant funding, to ensure the full scope of concerns and potential impacts are properly understood before irreversible harm occurs to the Winnipeg Sandstone and Red River Carbonate aquifers.

I agree with Premier Wab Kinew that Manitobas resources should be developed with higher labour standards, higher environmental standards and greater respect for human rights compared to any other jurisdiction in the world. So, I think that if this project is allowed to continue through the impact assessment and licensing process under The Environment Act, the Minister/Director should take the following actions:

1) Designate the Simba Silica Sand Project as a Class 3 development due to the potential significant and irreversible harm to the drinking water source of 100,000 Manitobans. A Class 3 designation will also ensure the Minister is the decision-maker for the impact assessment and licensing process.

2) Require Sio Silica to produce and publicly publish a cumulative effects assessment report before proceeding any further in the licensing process.

3) Require Sio Silica to produce and publicly publish their plans for post-approval practices (monitoring, follow-up and adaptive management) and emergencies in the public registry so they can be independently reviewed prior to the licensing decision.

4) Request the CEC to hold a public hearing to review Project Simba, with full participant funding.

Thank-you for considering my comments on Sio Silicas proposed Simba extraction project

686

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project is so very dangerous to humans and wildlife alike. Both should be assured of safe, non-contaminated drinking water and should not be sacrificed for economic benefit.

687

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The SIO Silica mine is going to be a short term cash grab with little benefit to the locals, or more broadly, to the province outside of a very meager payback. This negative impacts and costs in health and wellbeing of the local communities will be felt for generations.

We need to stop prioritizing short term profit over the long term wellbeing of our people.

688

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My personal well is in the Limestone aquifer. My concern relates to the likely intermixing of the two aquifers. The creation of a void as a result of extraction below the fragile shale layer creates the risk of the shale layer collapsing allowing the poor water quality aquifer to mix with the good water quality aquifer. This is a concern has also been expressed by a very credible expert. The mining method creates unknown environmental risks. The area potentially effected is extensive. The risk will be there forever, possibly not manifesting until many years later.

SioSilica was charged by the Alberta Securities Commission on two occasions. There had to have been reasonable and probable grounds for charges to have been laid. It is only reasonable to assume SioSilica was aware of and acquiesced to the former Manitoba government wrongfully attempt, after being defeated, to have a license issued without authority . Much project promotional material is not factual. All of the foregoing should be red flags.

A license should not be issued due the environmental risks. A license should not be issued in the absence of proven regulatory compliance and transparency. Accurate and meaningful information is fundamental. If any self reporting were to be part of the regulatory process for this project it would be a fundamental flaw.

689

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: C'mon already...NO means NO!

690

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned that there is a high risk of contaminating a high value drinking water source with the extraction of this sand aquifer. The sand is the aquifer and the removal of the sand cause settlement of the soul and will affect countless farms and industries that rely on this aquifer.

691

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: we are concerned these people will ruin the water supply sell and take off.

692

Date: 11-25-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Hello there. I lived in Springfield all of my life 39 years. I dont want to see silica mine go through.

693

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a resident of the R.M of Springfield [redacted] from the proposed mining site I have grave concerns over this project. The aquifer from which the sand will be extracted contains some of the purest potable water on the planet. To greenlight any project that puts this water at risk would be irresponsible to say the least as it will negatively affect thousands of Manitoba residents and businesses. The long term potential risks far out way any short term benefits. I am sure that if Winnipeg's water supply was under such a threat you would take steps to protect it. Until this

experimental mining procedure has been been tested thoroughly and proven beyond any doubt to be safe it should not be permitted to proceed. Thankyou for listening and considering the valid concerns of affected Manitobans.

694

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: "These comments are in response to the Environment Act Proposal (EAP) for the Sio Silica Corporations proposed Simba Sand Extraction Project (formerly known as the Vivian Sand Extraction Project). Based on the information provided by Sio Silica in the EAP and their behaviour over the past few years, I think the Simba silica sand extraction project should be rejected now and not be allowed to move forward in the assessment and licensing process.

The ongoing concerns about the potential impacts of silica sand extraction on environment and human health have not been alleviated by the information in the EAP for the proposed Simba Project. Sio Silicas failure to address the main concerns and recommendations of the Clean Environment Commission (CEC) and produce credible data to support their novel extraction process is a major red flag and an indication that this project is not being developed with the best interests of Manitobans in mind.

As noted by our Premier Wab Kinew when Sio Silicas extraction project was rejected for the first time: In order for Manitobans to be healthy now and for generations into the future, we have to protect a clean, safe and healthy environment. This will require a high standard of impact assessment and meaningful public participation, including participant funding, to ensure the full scope of concerns and potential impacts are properly understood before irreversible harm occurs to the Winnipeg Sandstone and Red River Carbonate aquifers.

I agree with Premier Wab Kinew that Manitobas resources should be developed with higher labour standards, higher environmental standards and greater respect for human rights compared to any other jurisdiction in the world. So, I think that if this project is allowed to continue through the impact assessment and licensing process under The Environment Act, the Minister/Director should take the following actions:

1) Designate the Simba Silica Sand Project as a Class 3 development due to the potential significant and irreversible harm to the drinking water source of 100,000 Manitobans. A Class 3 designation will also ensure the Minister is the decision-maker for the impact assessment and licensing process.

2) Require Sio Silica to produce and publicly publish a cumulative effects assessment report before proceeding any further in the licensing process.

3) Require Sio Silica to produce and publicly publish their plans for post-approval practices (monitoring, follow-up and adaptive management) and emergencies in the public registry so they can be independently reviewed prior to the licensing decision.

4) Request the CEC to hold a public hearing to review Project Simba, with full participant funding.

Thank-you for considering my comments on Sio Silicas proposed Simba extraction project."

695

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It doesn't matter. The sand will be extracted. The priceless water supply will be destroyed. The billions of dollars involved and the proven character of the main two entities involved dictate the outcome and no human being or community of humans has the power to oppose them. You mock all of us by going through this "process".

696

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please don't allow this uncertain project to go through. We need i most precious resource to be protected.

I oppose this project.

Thankyou

697

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I fear that the water will be affected once they start pumping the sand out and pumping the water back in. This is the water that the people of Springfield rely on for their drinking water.

Wildlife will be greatly impacted because they will be forced out of their natural environments to find new places to exist. This needs to be taken into consideration.

This company is only concerned about making money and doesn't care at all about the effects their drilling will have on the environment or the quality of the water. They need to be stopped before they start because once they start it will be too late. The damage will be done.

Stop this now!!

698

Date: 11-26-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Save our water , this is complete potential for containimated water, where do the prople get clean clear water after that happens, accidents happen, slip up can happen breaking of equipment and responsibility is very high ,and water is gone for ever, save our water, Enough of the applications , Shut them down for good, why is once not enough

699

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned that our well water will be contaminated.

700

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: After a cursory review of the project documentation, it seems like Sio has worked to implement additional environmental protection measures in their project proposal based on comments from a previous proposal. It seems like they implemented these comments in a way that not only addresses previous concerns, but also actually improves the economics of the project. In short, this seems to be a win-win for both Sio and those with environmental concerns.

It is impossible to develop natural resources with 0 environmental impact. However, this is not the position we find ourselves in, living in an unspoiled Eden. Globally, human beings have already caused massive environmental damage through the use of fossil fuels. Even if we were to stop all fossil fuel extraction, processing, and consumption immediately, the damage caused by excess carbon in the biosphere is already potentially catastrophic. Furthermore, this excess atmospheric carbon risks triggering a carbon release cascade, further exacerbating anthropogenic climate change. Therefore, whether we like it or not, in order to reduce atmospheric carbon levels to a safer concentration, and thus mitigate anthropogenic climate change, we need to deploy open air carbon capture and storage. And for this, we need clean energy (like solar), and lots of it.

To sum up, as a Manitoba resident who is concerned about environmental degradation, including anthropogenic climate change, I believe that this project will help improve Manitoba's environment by helping to mitigate anthropogenic climate change, and is overall a net positive for current and future Manitobans.

701

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The water that the silica sand is purifying and protecting will be worth 1000 x whatever the people from Sio Silica are willing to pay to destroy this precious commodity that everyone in this municipality desperately depends on for their livelihood and the livelihood of their families and the families of the people to come

702

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This was voted down once by a big margin. Why are we still discussing this, until they prove that there is no chance there will be no harm to the aquifer. This is just one Reeve pushing his agenda.

703

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Im completely against the Sio Silica extraction. It will affect everyones water supply/contamination.

704

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio Silica sand extraction process is not scientifically proven and poses significant and irreversible harm to the aquifer, a source of clean drinking water for thousands of Manitobans and to the environmental Eco system and the natural habitat of the flora and fauna.

I do not support this unproven mining project.

705

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Lands and waters are extremely important to the health and well-being of all Manitobans. Sio Silica's unproven process is extremely damaging to the environment, the neighbouring communities, and the water that interconnects all of us in the Lake Winnipeg Watershed. It is time to stop choosing profit over the well-being of people, their livelihoods, families, and generations of land stewardship. The "build and sell" model put forward by Sio Silica completely removes them from the long-term liability to the community. The people of Manitoba deserve clean drinking water and a government that fight to protect it.

706

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not wish this to be in our neighborhood for all the reasons of leakage into our water, wildlife preservation and air quality effective

707

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I vote NO to SioSilica

Thank you

708

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yes I'm very concerned about water quality. The potential for contamination and no one wants to take responsibility in the event our water gets contaminated.

709

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water quality will be affected. If water is contaminated then properties are worthless. Where are our elected government officials to stand up for us. 98 percent of the R.M of Springfield already voted against this project.

710

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is not something our community wants. Yes i have concerns about all these things. The quality of life for our community is at stake and we do not want this going forward

711

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The Sio Silica project is not backed by sufficient data to prove it will not pollute the aquifer. There should be no more debate required.

712

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am not in favour of the Sio Silica project going forward in our municipality. The health and longevity of the people living in this rural area should absolutely come before monetary gain.

713

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Me and my family does NOT want Sio mining in our aquifer.

714

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Potential contamination and or destruction, no matter how small the odds may be, should not go forward with this project due to even the slightest chance of water contamination. If the project does go forward every single house hild that uses the water should be composted minimum $1 Million dollars or be given shares of the company in excess of $1 million dollars for

each house hold. The company can do this, if not then no risk can be taken in the destruction of our drinking water.

715

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I object to this whole project being brought up again, I thought it was decided a few years back that this project would endanger our aquifer. And why is our Reeve, Carla Delvin named president of this Calgary storefront company, is this not a huge conflict of interest????

716

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a resident of the RM of Springfield, I oppose the Sio Silica project due to the serious risks to our groundwater. Aquifer damage or contamination cannot be reversed and poses long-term health consequences. The environmental impact and the likely decline in property values further strengthen my opposition. Clean water and a safe environment must come first.

717

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am against the province allowing sio silica access to drilling within my municipality and putting my aquifer and water quality at risk

718

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Silica mines in other countries have been known to cause severe ecological damage that heavily impacts the residents of the area. It is harmful to our environment and communities alike, and will only exacerbate current financial hardships. It has no place in our country and should not be permitted.

719

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not want Sio silica to extract sand anywhere near our aquifer. Water is life contaminating it by accident is deadly to our people. Water is the future of our children.

720

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Stop this now and forever!

721

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yes I am concerned about how this will affect our water.

I'm also very concerned about how this project does not seem to be going through the proper channels.

722

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water quality will be affected. Project will contaminate surrounding areas. I am against this project.

723

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Strongly against!

724

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Major concerns..with water aquifer/environment/wildlife.Does this company not hear the major concerns of Springfield residents?PC government tried to slip this one past us.Grateful for NDP gov.who listens to we residents/voters.

725

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: You are doing untested mining in an aquifer that we all rely on. You dont care about your residents at all

726

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water is the most valuable resource. How could anyone fathom risking compromising or damaging one of our most valuable resources. I strongly oppose any process that would risk this. SIO Silica is a hard NO!

727

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our drinking water aqua fur is not to be made light of . The silo sands project is irresponsible and a danger of pollution of our drinking water.

Regards

[redacted]

728

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have genuine concerns regarding this. We have all voted no already, an astounding no. Yet this is still being brought back. Why? We dont want to take the risk to a precious resource for pure greed. We dont get more water, we have a finite amount. We cannot risk it. It dosent grow back

729

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I live [redacted] My water supply well is at 135 feet, above the proposed depth of the drill well proposed by Sio, and I fear for the safety of my water supply. The negative impact this drilling will have on a Province that has already been struggling with out of control wild fires and a region that has been experiencing low water levels should be a clear indicator for the Prov of MB to once again do the right thing and deny Sio the authorization to conduct their proposed operations.

730

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Say NO to Sio!! We want to keep our water safe.

731

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The people voted against this October, 2024,, why is this back on the table? I DO NOT WANT ANYONE messing with our natural resource of water!!!! This is absolutely ABSURD!!! We the people clearly voted NO!!

732

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a former resident of Springfield for 10 years and having family members living there for > 40 years, I am very concerned with the Sio Silica project moving forward and the impacts on safe drinking water for people living in the municipality.

I am concerned that Sio Silica has not stated how it's drilling process has changed to ensure safety going forward. I am a registered nurse for over 40 years and the risk to human health is a big concern.

733

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The effects on water quality are a huge concern!

734

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yes, I am concerned about water quality based on the research and ignored risks. I believe an independent impartial evaluation and investigation needs to be done, especially since these review meetings were not held to allow for witness and comment from the residents it will impact.

735

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: St. Malo Wastewater Treatment Lagoon Expansion

Comment: This whole thing stinks from the beginning it has been underhanded non transparent BS that needs to be stopped. Springfield has already spoken not in favor of this and if it wasnt for the current and last crooked mayor this would have already been over.

736

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Youd have to be pretty stupid to think this is a good idea. No to Sio Silica.

737

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We do not agree with the Siloca Sand project I. Oakbank.

738

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It is impossible in this age to get the truth about any controversial issue. Despite the fact that there is probably some fear mongering going on concerning the effects of this project, common sense tells us that you cannot drill hundred of wells through the aquifers and remove tons of sand without eventually damaging them. Once damaged who is responsible for fixing the problem if it is even possible? No one (government or companies) can guarantee what the long term effects will be. What does this mean for the future of this area if there is no drinkable water or usable land. The risk takers in all of this are the current and future residents. This is a risk we are unwilling to take and think the project should not be approved.

739

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Do not destroy my water. The Sio project will affect my water. Do not destroy the ecosystem. The gravel pits are destructive enough.

People do not want this. Do not keep pushing this down people's throats.

Listen to the people. We elected you... listen to the people, you work for us, the people.

740

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: What I don't understand is why has the government not stopped this already. All this company is about is making a profit. Understandable, that is what they do. But, they are making this profit by destroying the one resource other than air, which everything on this earth needs to survive. They will start mining and making profits. Then the next course of action will be to expand the drilling sites, to increase the profits. Where will it stop? It wont until all the sand is extracted

and no more profits to be made. By then we will have a destroyed aquafer and left with a sever water crisis. How can this mining be allowed? It has to be stopped now. There will be nothing left of this province if it goes through and this company is allowed to mine. Also there will be sand floating around the drill sites from the mining process, its unavoidable. Silica Sand floating through the air. Silicosis, COPD, Kidney Disease all caused by Silica Sand. This is not something I want floating through the air. Maybe there is a reason it is buried underground. Somethings should just be left alone.

741

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please STOP this project as we are deeply concerned for our well-being our water and land. Allowing Sio Silica would destroy our water supply, as they clearly can not guarantee it will not be harmful. We do not understand why we are having to say NO to this project yet again, because they change their name does not mean we say yes to you! Please consider saying NO to this project and have them clean the mess they have now left in the site and go somewhere else. PLEASE SAY NO to SIO SILICA!

742

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I oppose the project

743

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Concerns about exposure and health related issues for both animals and people.

744

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: To who it concerns,

I am a concerned citizen of oakbank/anola area. I do not want this in my back yard. More research needs to be done. Please look at all the information and stop this from happening. There is too much unknown and uncertainty for this project to move forward. Please do not let this go through. We have fantastic water quality right now and we cant let that change. Not to mention the noise pollution and environmental pollution this will affect the wildlife around. The areas they want to dig wells. Please do your die diligence. Former ministers have warned of the dangers and what can happen if they move forward with this. This will only be good for those who will be lining their pockets with money. Not for any land owners in the immediate and secondary areas.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

745

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: What are we gonna do if we have no clean drinking water?? They can go do their testing somewhere else without ruining the beauty of south east Manitoba. I have been drinking tap water my entire life.

746

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio Silica wants access to silica sand in my area. Their digging will interfere in our aquifer. We rely on our drinking water source for our potable water. STOP Sio Silica once again please. They tried before and failed because the people stood up to them. The province needs to listen to the residents in this area.

747

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am totally against Sio Silica drilling one hole that may affect our drinking water in Springfield let alone 1000 wells. The CEC has already identified several serious environmental concerns with their UNTESTED METHOD last go around. Sio Silica's applicatiin was denied once by our government already, I think Sio Silica has a lot of nerve applying again, the community has spoken with 96% saying no last time. I believe the people of my community have not changed their minds this time either. Thank you!

748

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a resident in the Springfield RM, my concern is the contamination or destruction of the aquifer that supplys my home's drinking water and the health risk of my family. There needs to be protections and insurances in place for this kind of situation. No company should gain to profit without a plan in a way that places risks of private home property value in the owner should or drinking water be compromised or the owner be expected to pay for compete change in their homes water (holding tank, delivery fees, municipal water connection) due to private companies profit and environmental mismanagement.

749

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Once water has been contaminated, how do we fix it? The amount of water being consumed by this money making mine does not account for the loss to the public. Their only concern is for themselves and not the public.

750

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Stop the project. It will use up vast amounts of groundwater at a time in climate catastrophe when we are dealing with drought, wild fires, and other degradation of the ecosystem that relies on nothing more than it relies on water. As do we.

751

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: What has changed since the last session from this company? What breakthrough technology has come about that now makes it safe to drill through the aquifers without consequences?

This company needs to look at remote areas to drill that do not affect the water quality affecting thousands of people and animals.

Just testing could affect the water!!

I cant believe this issue has not been laid to rest after the first challenge. Why is this not a dead issue. Money cannot be what decides this

Why would the government approve this project given hazards of contamination to a pristine water source for so many? And the majority of people affected have already voted no on this?

Let silo look elsewhere, perhaps somewhere closer to where they live and depend on a clean , uncontaminated water source.

In this day and age, clean water is far more valuable than sand extraction. Respectfully

752

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Even compressed air will cause mixing of the aquafer it is also an oxidizer which will add turdbidity to the aquafer .

now as once mixed it will not return to what it once was remember you are removeing the verything that filters it Silica sand . I say no ,no no

753

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We do not want any chance of our water being contaminated.

754

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Considering the test results, the potential dangers and impacts this mining has on our essential water, how can anyone approve Sio permit application. The risk/reward analysis is compelling!! Who is responsible should this mining destroy drilling water for thousands of residents,Sio, they will disappear. The NDP would suffer irreparable damage as ultimately they would shoulder this responsibility! Profit is simply not worth it!!!

755

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My concern is that this has been dragging on with misinformation being spread: approved the project and get it built: bring some jobs and prosperity to Springfield and Manitoba!

756

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a long term resident in the area , I am against this project in the strongest possible .terms .

Well water and air quality contamination are my primary concerns why this project should NOT be approved .

757

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No concerns from my family. Hopefully the project moves ahead. The forum definitely addressed my concerns and left me feeling much better about the situation.

758

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water contamination, wildlife ,

Hard NO before and now again. Feel trying again is trying to catch residents off guard

759

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We voted against this and there was no support for this project. If this manages to be pushed through I don't think we can call this a democracy anymore. This mineing technology is untested and likely to cause the groundwater to be contaminated.

760

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Saying NO to sio !!!!!!!

761

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am a long time resident in the Springfield municipality and am also a retired plumber. I have been plumbing in the municipality for many years and have had the opportunity to work with the community . The quality of the water supply in regards to my customers was always a point of concern. Over the last view years many have voiced their concerns to me when the topic of Silo was raised. The general consensus was that they were against Silos ventures in the municipality. I am also of the same view. Please consider this as a no where Silo is concerned.

762

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have every concern for our aquifer, farm lands, wildlife and basic quality of life for those of us living in Springfield. The community was NAMED Springfield specifically for its water, which prompted Heidelberg breweries to operate a plant on Garven Road, in past years. The people of Springfield only stand to lose, significantly should this operation be approved. We have lost enough with our federal government for years; please protect us in this case.

763

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is an untested risky extraction method that puts our drinking water at risk.

Unanticipated environmental damage

764

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Hello, My name is [redacted] rd and a soon to be mother. I am reaching out because I am deeply concerned about the proposed Sio Silica mining activities in our area and the potential long term impacts on our water, health, and community.

As someone preparing to raise a child in this community, I feel it is important to voice these concerns and ask for your leadership in ensuring our community stays safe.

The mining process involves extracting silica from deep sandstone layers beneath our aquifers. Many experts have raised concerns that this could destabilize the layers that protect our drinking water. The long-term risks to groundwater contamination and water table disruption feel far too great for our families.

The method proposed by Sio Silica is relatively new and not used at this scale anywhere else. There are no long-term studies proving it is safe for the environment or for the communities living above these aquifers. Approving a project like this without decades of peer-reviewed evidence jeopardizes the people who live here.

Silica mining is associated with airborne particulate matter and increased dust in surrounding areas. As an expecting mother, I am especially concerned about respiratory issues and long-term health implications for children growing up near these sites.

If something goes wrong, we cannot fix our aquifers. We cannot undo collapsed geological layers or contamination. The cost of cleanup or water replacement would far exceed any economic benefit promised by the company.

I am asking for:

Full public transparency on all environmental assessments.

Meaningful community consultation that includes health experts, environmental scientists, and local families.

A commitment to protecting our aquifers as a critical and irreplaceable public resource.

We deserve evidence-based decision making that prioritizes health and safety over unproven industrial experiments.

Thank you. Please advocate for the caution and wellbeing of the families who live in this community.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

[redacted]

765

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our water aquifer is priceless. No amount of money could replace it. Do not allow the folly of mining it. If the license is granted, it should be with the stipulation that insurance be provided in the amount to compensate every resident and impacted party with full compensation should the water supply be harmed.

766

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not want this project in my municipality.

We are talking about contamination of our ground water and I am fully against any developed of this being initiated in our area.

767

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Upon reviewing the project proposal it remains unanswered by Sio silica whether the mining process would guarantee that there would be no mixing of drinking water in the sandstone aquifer and the limestone aquifer. The proposal identifies grout plugs, bentonite and cement however there is no guarantee that this process will ensure there are no cross contamination risks.

Additionally there is a lack of explanation surrounding the UV light treatment of water being returned to the aquifer such as dual processes for filtering, backup lighting should a bulb fail or should there be a power outage, and risks of contamination to the water lines themselves via accidental damage from agricultural practices, drain maintenance practices or utility instalments.

Additionally it is furthermore irresponsible that Sio silica refuses to complete a cumulative effects assessment for the 24 year lifespan despite having received the request from CEC. To simply investigate 4 years worth of extraction processes and to not consider impacts beyond that is irresponsible.

The RM of Springfield is home to many agricultural producers that depend on clean and safe drinking water for their livestock and irrigation operations, let alone the thousands of residents who simply rely on a safe drinking water source.

768

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I oppose the project. It will hurt the water table. People were opposed to it before with valid reasons that are still valid. Reapplying with a few changes does not change why it will do terrible damage to our water. This current government cancelled it and should not be supporting it now.

769

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Future of our water sources

770

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not want Sio Silica to develop in our RM. We do not want to be the guinea pigs for you to see if our water is destroyed by your extracting methods. Ruin our water, you ruin our future. We do not want Sio Silica to develop!!!

771

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project of extracting silica from the ground will negatively impact the quality of the water and quality of the RM. Manitoba has been one of the most pur clean water in the world as evidenced by Marchand winning the cleanest water in the world. Let keep it that way.

772

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Very concerned about water quality. Once it becomes contaminated it will be too late to fix.

Please say NO to SIO SILICA

PROTECT OUR WATER!!

773

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing to formally express my strong opposition to the proposed drilling and silica extraction by Sio Silica in the Sunnyside, Manitoba area. This proposal presents unacceptable and irreversible risks to the integrity of our aquifer and to the long-term health and safety of our community.

1. Risk of Aquifer Contamination

The drilling method required for silica extraction involves penetrating multiple geological layers, including critical protective formations that separate distinct groundwater systems. Disturbing, weakening, or breaching these layers creates a significant risk of mixing water from different aquifers a process that is scientifically recognized as both irreversible and impossible to remediate with current technologies. Once an aquifer is compromised, generations of Manitobans could lose safe, potable water.

2. Structural and Long-Term Integrity Concerns

The project envisions drilling numerous wells across a large geographic area. Each well represents a potential point of failure. Over time, well casings can degrade, seals can fail, and induced fractures can propagate. Even a small rate of failure across thousands of wells could lead to widespread and permanent impacts to groundwater quality. The cumulative risk is far too high for a resource as essential and irreplaceable as our drinking water supply.

3. Chemical and Processing Hazards

Silica extraction and water clarification processes may involve polymers and other chemical agents that carry known environmental risks. Any leak, spill, containment failure, or subsurface migration could introduce contaminants into our water system. The consequences of such contamination would extend not only to residents, but also to local agriculture, ecosystems, and infrastructure that depend on clean groundwater.

4. Insufficient Scientific Evidence and Unproven Methods

Regulators, hydrogeologists, and independent experts have already raised concerns about the lack of comprehensive long-term studies validating the safety of this extraction technique. The method proposed is unproven at the scale envisioned, and there is no credible evidence demonstrating that these risks can be fully mitigated. When the health of our water system is at stake, the absence of reliable scientific certainty must be treated as a clear warning not as an acceptable gamble.

5. Alignment With Manitobas Public Interest

Clean water is a foundational public resource. Earlier reviews of related proposals have already demonstrated how seriously the province must treat threats to aquifer integrity. Manitoba has a clear responsibility to apply the precautionary principle: when a project carries the possibility of severe or irreversible harm, it should not proceed unless its safety can be conclusively demonstrated. In this case, it cannot.

For these reasons, I strongly urge the Province of Manitoba and all relevant regulatory bodies to prohibit Sio Silica from drilling or conducting extraction activities in Sunnyside and the surrounding area.

Our aquifer is not replaceable. The risks are too high, the science too uncertain, and the potential consequences far too severe for this project to move forward.

774

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am worried about the water quality as it would affect me.

775

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am AGAINST the province and municipality allowing silica sand access to drilling within my municipality and putting my aquifer and quality of water at risk.

776

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The risk reward of this project is too catastrophic if it takes a turn for the worse. The company does have a checkered past. This project should not go forward.

777

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project is untested and its effects are unknown to the area and land around it. Water effects, our surrounding water tables, surrounding farm fields, the pollution it will bring, Including traffic to the local areas. The wildlife itll displace

778

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Even with drilling fewer wells I am concerned that the aquifer is threatened, Manitoba drinking water could be compromised, and subsurface collapses cannot be prevented from happening.

779

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very concerned that Sio Silica is again threatening our water aquifer. I think it was made very clear the last time they attempted to invade our RM that we, the citizens of this RM, do not want Sio Silica to mine silica sand from our aquifer. The potential for polluting our water sources is too real. Please hear us and deny this application by Sio Scilica.

780

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Despite the claim by Sico of fewer drilling sites the technology has not changed!! I voted for the NDP believing they would stop this project!

The research has yet to prove that any damage will occur to aquifers!!!!

781

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Dont ruin my water! We already put a stop to this. Why do we have to fight this again? What do we have to do to stop this? Enough already nobody wants this! Water is important. So if we stop them again are we going to have to do it more times yet?

782

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project is not wanted. Who is be held responsible if the aquafir is danafed and people wells are contaminated. The residents have voted against this ince already. Why is this still a question. The majority said NO already!!!

783

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As an Oakbank resident I do not want to see our water with any kind of contamination.

784

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please do not let this project or test wells go ahead. This will adversely affect our water table and endanger our drinking and agricultural water.

I read that the model submitted was inaccurate in several key factors, nor did the simulation run long enough to be meaningful in terms of environmental impacts.

The risk to our water table is not worth enriching the sio silica bank account

Regards

785

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It worries me about how safe our drinking water will be if this goes through.

786

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Across the planet water is one of our most precious resources. In Canada we have an abundance of fresh water. Instead of protecting our water sources, we have depleted our aquafers, polluted our lakes and rivers, drained our marshes, and built damns. We need water to grow food for Manitoba citizens. We need water to keep our forests healthy and to fight forest fires. We all need drinking water. We especially need a government who proactively protects water for both people and the planet.

The Sio Silica Sand extraction project threatens water quality in southeastern Manitoba. The local watershed provides drinking water for 100,000 Manitobans. This companies previous application was rejected by the Manitoba government in February 2024 because it did not meet rigorous environmental standards.

Rather than caving in to corporate lobbyists, we should create jobs that will protect and revitalize our water sources. This will help to prevent future drought and forest fires. It will protect our food and drinking water.

787

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project should not be allowed to proceed as it risks contaminating the drinking water source for a high percentage of the population of Manitoba. Corporate profits should not be put ahead of the safety and quality of drinking water for Manitobans.

788

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I believe this is a threat to our water system and should not happen in our municipality. Thank you.

789

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We can not afford to gamble with our water supply. The CEC review has already recommended against this proposed form of mining. There is too great a risk of serious environmental harm, we do not need to gamble with our water which is life it's self. There is just too great a risk of causing irreversible damage. I say No to Sio Silicas Simba Sand Extraction Project. NO!

790

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Very concerned about the aquifer being contaminated with the drilling methods proposed .

791

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about water quality and wildlife. This was strongly opposed the last time they attempted to bring the sand extraction project. How does this benefit use as people living the area? Will it bring down taxes, why would we want it? The government is supposed to represent the people that elected them and there should be a clear list of benefits if you want your constituents to approve.

792

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I wish to express my opposition to this project on the grounds that the risk to our water supply is not worth taking, especially when there is no possible way to absolutely guarantee it can be done safely. Any potential contamination or damage could not be undone after the fact and

even if any financial compensation were offered after the fact, it would never be enough to offset the financial and emotional loss. Even if there is the slightest possibility or perception of contamination or water depletion, either now or down the road, then we risk a potential collapse in property values which in turn could result in financial devastation for affected communities. Why take the chance on something when the real risks outweigh any potential benefit, especially when a precious commodity such as water is involved. Fresh, safe drinking water is not a given and is becoming more scarce as a whole through out many regions and the world itself. This is not a project I support. Thank you.

793

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Once again this controversial plan is being proposed. St. Germaine/Vermette just lost their battle with the Daman Farm Development developer, A and S Homes despite unanimously rejecting it 4 years ago based on decades of evidence that the aquifer is very fragile and prone to salinity based on extensive investigations dating back to 1975. Salinity has increased in our wells during my 30 plus years here. Therefore the development is free to continue despite the fact that wells can continue to be dug as there is no mechanism to halt this. Its unbelievable that I continue hear advertising career opportunities for Sio Silica on various radio stations in Winnipeg on a daily basis.

794

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project will be a complete environmental and a humanitarian catastrophe. I am well educated professional engineer and have researched the unproven technology they are proposing. Sio Silica's extraction procedures are highly questionable and anyone with any common sense can see how it will have a devastating effect on the land and its people FOREVER. Nothing good will come of from this and MANY people will suffer so that a FEW can benefit. If this goes through, I am selling my property and moving out of the province because then I will know that the Manitoba government does not care about the people or the environment.

795

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am highly sceptical of the above named process of mining. We are not guaranteed the aquifer will not be contaminated. Future restitution is not addressed, nor course of action addressed for so many who rely on this for pure water.

796

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: High risk to contaminated drinking water.

797

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My vote is no for Sio Silica

798

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Very concerned regarding this project and its almost certain negative impact on our water supply.

799

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project does not have the well being and safety of this Municipality in mind. I do not support this project and nor should you.

800

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very concerned about the water aquifers we have had many water issues in the past and that is without the silica plant. There needs to be diligent, deep water testing on the water system to confirm whether it can handle the plant. As well as the highways and other infrastructure problems that will be created.

801

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Concern of poisoning our aquifer and that there is always risk for this. The question is if a disaster does happen and it poisons the aquifer, what is the mitigation. Can the effects be reversed or are residents forced to implement stored water for domestic purposes. If the latter, who pays this cost and for how long until it becomes the owners or municipalities problem.

802

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is horrible for the environment because of the number of wells to be drilled, how they want to mix water from the different aquifers, the amount of sand they want to extract. If the aquifers are contaminated, what are the 100% guarantees that they won't be contaminated. We are talking about tens of thousands of people who rely on these aquifers for fresh water. Is Sio Silica willing to put hundreds of millions of dollars into a trust that would supply fresh water to all those affected should their mining efforts pollute and destroy the aquifers??

803

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I strongly oppose this project being introduced annd developed into our community nor am I supportive of the damaging effects it WILL have on our water, the surrounding environments. They can find another location which is more remote that does impede on smaller communities.

804

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio Silica which changed their name from CanWhite Sands, does not have a good history of caring about job site safety or the environment. There was a whistle blower, one of their former employees that raised many concerns about their lack of safety. Link to article: https://www.thecarillon.com/local/2021/11/16/former-canwhite-employee-alleges-well-contamination-lax-site-safety . I have very strong concerns about removing the sand that filters the water in an aquifer that many people and farmers rely on for clean water. There is no reversal process after the water has been contaminated or quality changed. Sio Silica does not seem to care or have any plans if something goes wrong with the mining process and contaminates our water. They only seem to care about getting the sand and their Profits. Are they going to come back and fix the land if their wells start to collapse and cause sink holes? Are they going to supply drinking water to everyone that is effected by contaminated water? The risk to our drinking water far is too great for this project to proceed.

805

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have been informed that this action is not guaranteed against affecting my water source and the surrounding natural habitat. I would be grateful to not have my environment impacted by an unnecessary mining effort. Please reject this proposal.

806

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Very concerned about our water supply. Without water none of us can live in Springfield r.m. This company just wont stop pushing to get in. Let them stay in their own province and leave us and our water alone

807

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio-silica can not guarantee 100% that their proposal will not negatively impact our water quality. Springfield could become a wasteland. This is my home, I am not prepared to lose it

808

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is another attempt by this company to mine for sand. The fact is that there are many residence who rely on this water and it would directly impact our clean water sources, this has not been tested or looked into thoroughly.

809

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My concerns are this project will damage and affect my clean well water. This will damage the aquifer that my well uses. Not only is it damaging that there's wildlife and the area of the mine. These are precious lands, beautiful, i don't want Sio Silica here.

810

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: NO to silo silica!

811

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The fact that this is even being reconsidered is outrageous. The people of the community overwhelmingly voted against this previously so what makes you think that they have changed their mind? It is unproven as to the long-term effects it will have on the aquifer and this in turn should be enough to decline the mining. WATER IS LIFE! Don't mess around when it comes to a water supply.

It's hard to remain professional when it comes to topics like this. You honestly have to be a complete idiot to consider Sio Silica mining without knowing the repercussions and effects it has on the water source.

The RM of Springfield is one of the nicest places to live and raise a family. This will no longer be the case if Sio Silica mining is given the go ahead. Politics have already tanked Canada and it's

economy. No need for the boneheads at the RM to follow suit. They've already messed up enough in the short time they've been in power.

NO NO NO to Sio Silica. I will always choose NO to Sio Silica so stop reconsidering this BS!

812

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: You were told no one wanted this before and no one wants it now. Youre going to ruin and destroy the aquifer and everyones water

813

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We have to preserve what have . We must protect and stand up to stop reckless destruction of the eco systems and our environment . We only have one earth .

814

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Mining, crushing, and transporting silica sand can release fine crystalline silica particles into the air.

Long-term exposure can increase risk of silicosis, lung cancer, and other respiratory diseases.

Dust can travel beyond the mine site, affecting neighborhoods, farms, and schools.

Runoff from wash ponds can contain:

- Fine sediments
- Processing chemicals (if used)
- Increased turbidity

These can impact streams, wetlands, and aquifers, harming ecosystems and drinking-water sources.

815

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Concerned about water contamination

816

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Cancel this project immediately and kick them out to never come back in any other form. This is the last thing we need in a benefits nobody. Water is our precious resource and we really don't need to sell it out to China.

817

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yes, this is not a safe project and you can not guarantee our wildlife, environment and plants will be safe.

818

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We have so little access to water in the east it seems very dangerous to put a water resource at risk.

819

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water is Life! Why would a corporation be allowed to mess with, disrupt, and potentially ruin a water source that feeds thousands of people. They cannot prove without a reasonable doubt, that it wont effect the aquifer.

820

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Major concerns..with water aquifer/environment/wildlife.Does this company not hear the major concerns of Springfield residents?PC government tried to slip this one past us.Grateful for NDP gov.who listens to we residents/voters.

821

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Honourable Mike Moyes

Minister of Environment and Climate Change

Director Agnes Wittman

Environmental Approvals Branch

Public Registry

Re: File#6275 Sio Silica Simba Sand

The Water and Land are too important to allow this project to proceed.

Reducing the mine area, the multi-generational life of the mine to 5 years, and number of wells for assessment is disingenuous and misleading.

It takes just one well to irreversibly damage an aquifer - In one case an area of approximately 10 km2 of the carbonate rock aquifer just south of Winnipeg has experienced water quality degradation as a result of outflow from an improperly sealed oil exploration well drilled into the Winnipeg Formation (F. Render, personal communication). (Groundwater in Manitoba: Hydrology, Quality Concerns, Management)
https://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/pubs/water/groundwater/publication/1995_betcher_groundwater_manitoba_hydrogeology_quality_concerns_management.1db

The Rockwood Municipality disaster or the hydrocarbon contamination of Birds Hill community groundwater are other examples. East St Pauls municipal well field is in the RM of Springfield due to this irreversible impact.
https://manitoba.ca/sd/waste_management/contaminated_sites/registry/18863/reports/2009_05_08_esa.pdf

The last Sio Silica proposal showed that this project was an experiment. This Sio Silica Simba proposal shows the experiment continues. There is a large and unacceptable amount of missing

information, data, Plans, Programs, and Reports that will only be provided if they get a license. Too late for public review and we are the ones who have to live with the damages.

Since 2017, mining has occurred but the mining company and consultants have failed to do their due diligence or will not reveal data for review.

It took a whistle blower to show Sio allowed machine oil to leak into a well, ran an unsafe job site, and greenwashed its motives.(Former CanWhite employee alleges well contamination, lax site safety, Carillon News Nov 16, 2021). These questionable actions and procedures prove Sio cannot be trusted with the Water and Land. I highly doubt with government cutbacks that the remaining public service can monitor operations or prevent damages and harms.

Manitobas environment and mineral legislation is inadequate to address this type of project or the push for data centres recently in the news. Licensing this project will set some serious precedents that will not be in the public interest.

I wrote to the CEC opposing the project. Nothing new has been provided in this proposal to change my mind. Please register my opposition to the project, again.

If this government wants to develop Manitobas resources with higher labour standards, higher environmental standards and greater respect for human rights compared to any other jurisdiction in the world then this project must be designated a Class 3 development, that the CEC holds a public hearing with full participant funding, and all omissions and deficient material identified in the motions filed to the 2023 CEC hearing, be produced and provided for the new hearing.

MBs Ethics Commissioner investigation reveals an unhealthy relationship between elected officials and public servants and Sio Silica reps. Premier Wab Kinew publicly stated We have an obligation to you as Manitobans to try and figure out more about what went onWhen asked if hed call a public inquiry, Kinew said that would be expensive.(WFP, Sio caught in stink of Tory ethics scandal: Kinew May 24, 2025)

Only a thorough, independent public inquiry under The Evidence Act, will provide answers, establish that our democratic institutions and processes are sound, and present recommendations to ensure that this cannot happen again. The expense is worth it, Premier Kinew, I request that you call one.

822

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Stop Sio Silica

823

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: When are we going to realize that if we continue to destroy the planet we will have no planet to make profit from anymore. Money is stupid and if thats all you care about than may you all be buried with it and Noone to mourn you

824

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Totally against anything that puts our water (life) at risk. There is no going back once the damage is done. Leave nature alone. Our quality of life is more important than some companies profits!

825

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Solstice sands must be stopped (Again)

So many of us use the water aquifers that they have the potential to harm.

We need more studies done to ensure that this is done safely and without harmful effects to the environment and our water tables

826

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a resident of the RM of Springfield, I oppose the Sio Silica project because it puts our groundwater at unacceptable risk. Damage or contamination to the aquifer cannot be reversed and threatens the long-term health of our community. The project also jeopardizes local ecosystems and will likely reduce property values. Protecting our water and our land must take priority over any industrial development.

827

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I agree completely with the following comments already submitted to you by Manitoban [redacted]

Dear Manitoba Environment and Climate Change,

I am writing to you with my grave concerns about the SIO SILICA proposed silica sand extraction via unproven mining practices that will destroy our aquifer and drinking water quality. SIO SILICA is advertising via a full page ad in MBIZ, Winter 2025: "15 Billion Tonnes of Opportunity", which is to assume the amount of silica sand they plan to extract. During extraction and processing huge amounts of water will be needed to wash this sand. Chemical reactions take place that create acid and leach heavy metals. Please see the acid pollution left on Black Island with brown acid water continuing to drain into Lake Winnipeg to this day, even after mining stopped in 1990. In addition, silica dust released during processing will impact the air quality and health of those in the area. SIO SILICA is not to be trusted with their green and more recently red washing. First they were going to use the sand for fracking, then for solar panels, now for optic fibres related to data centres. These are shady, untrustworthy opportunists, that will look for government _tax payers_ development funding and then sell the mine, as they have already openly stated. This is not an opportunity for Manitobans, if anything, it is an opportunity for SIO SILICA to extract wealth from Manitobans. Decision makers, beware! Look at the science first, and ensure you protect Manitobans, the safety of their drinking water and environment for now and for future generations. WATER IS LIFE.

828

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: dome collapse after sand extraction will will cause mixing of the two aquifers. This is prohibited under the Manitoba Groundwater and well water act which prohibits the mixing of aquifer waters.

829

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: An untested unapproved mining practice can have a catastrophic affect on the affected aquifer for years to come ... Water and water quality outweigh ALL other aspects of this hazardous undertaking that has already been unanimously unapproved by the people and the province.

830

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water is a precious resource as were finding out when major droughts and pollution are depleting the worlds water supply.

Why would Manitobans ever risk the pollution of our aquifer?

If it ever got contaminated, I believe that the damage would be irreversible.

I am so tired of silica badgering us to submit to an organization thats just concerned about making money.

Once they have made their profits and put our aquifer at risk, they do not have to live here, back and move on.

I can just imagine our property values plummeting should our water supply be contaminated.

Massive risk for us if their project goes ahead, but this company moves on and has no responsibility for any damage that it has left behind.

They say it as a safe procedure. What if its not!

I say shame on our government for allowing this badgering company to keep threatening our water system.

When it comes to saving our resources or making money, my vote is always with saving our resources.

Respectfully submitted by,[redacted]

831

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Very concerned about water quality.

832

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We voted against this company polluting our area once already. Why would we need to do this again. They are not benefiting the Springfield area or the people. If this is allowed it will be another example of more corrupt government politicians. As tax payers we have had enough of the corruption in municipal, provincial and federal governments.

833

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I believe this UNTESTED mining proposal poses a serious risk of contaminating the aquifer that thousands rely on for clean, safe drinking water. Please don't allow the project to proceed without further, extensive testing. Thank you.

834

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: These comments are in response to the Environment Act Proposal (EAP) for the Sio Silica Corporations proposed Simba Sand Extraction Project (formerly known as the Vivian Sand Extraction Project). Based on the information provided by Sio Silica in the EAP and their behaviour over the past few years, I think the Simba silica sand extraction project should be rejected now and not be allowed to move forward in the assessment and licensing process.

The ongoing concerns about the potential impacts of silica sand extraction on environment and human health have not been alleviated by the information in the EAP for the proposed Simba Project. Sio Silicas failure to address the main concerns and recommendations of the Clean Environment Commission (CEC) and produce credible data to support their novel extraction process is a major red flag and an indication that this project is not being developed with the best interests of Manitobans in mind.

As noted by our Premier Wab Kinew when Sio Silicas extraction project was rejected for the first time: In order for Manitobans to be healthy now and for generations into the future, we have to protect a clean, safe and healthy environment. This will require a high standard of impact assessment and meaningful public participation, including participant funding, to ensure the full scope of concerns and potential impacts are properly understood before irreversible harm occurs to the Winnipeg Sandstone and Red River Carbonate aquifers.

I agree with Premier Wab Kinew that Manitobas resources should be developed with higher labour standards, higher environmental standards and greater respect for human rights compared to any other jurisdiction in the world. So, I think that if this project is allowed to continue through the impact assessment and licensing process under The Environment Act, the Minister/Director should take the following actions:

1) Designate the Simba Silica Sand Project as a Class 3 development due to the potential significant and irreversible harm to the drinking water source of 100,000 Manitobans. A Class 3 designation will also ensure the Minister is the decision-maker for the impact assessment and licensing process.

2) Require Sio Silica to produce and publicly publish a cumulative effects assessment report before proceeding any further in the licensing process.

3) Require Sio Silica to produce and publicly publish their plans for post-approval practices (monitoring, follow-up and adaptive management) and emergencies in the public registry so they can be independently reviewed prior to the licensing decision.

4) Request the CEC to hold a public hearing to review Project Simba, with full participant funding.

Thank-you for considering my comments on Sio Silicas proposed Simba extraction project.

835

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I vote NO

836

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Clean, fresh water is our most precious resource. Go mine your [redacted] sand somewhere else

837

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am submitting this comment because I am concerned that the current Sio Silica / SiMbA groundwater modeling does not fully reflect the potential risks to the aquifers used for drinking water in southeastern Manitoba.

Key issues:

1. Oxygenated water changes aquifer chemistry.

Sio acknowledges that returning oxygen-rich water to the deep aquifer will create oxidizing conditions. This is known to mobilize contaminants like selenium, arsenic, and uranium that are naturally present in the shale and limestone.

2. The model assumes an unrealistically small amount of contamination.

Calculations show the collapsed rock around each mined cavity contains roughly 198 kg of selenium.

The model only allows 0.25 kg (0.126%) to dissolve.

Even with that tiny percentage, selenium still exceeds guideline limits for about 7 years.

3. Lab tests contradict the model.

Shake Flask Evidence shows 42.6% of selenium dissolved in 24 hours, producing levels more than 100 above drinking-water limits.

If real-world dissolution is closer to the lab results, contamination could be hundreds of times worse than the current model predicts.

4. Important real-world factors are not modeled.

Oxygen from the air-lift mining process

Multiple cavities operating in clusters

Interactions between plumes

Long-term movement toward the carbonate aquifer

Time frames beyond 10 years

These omissions mean the model likely underestimates contamination and does not capture cumulative effects across the entire mining zone.

Request:

I strongly urge the Province to require a Clean Environment Commission (CEC) public hearing with participant funding to ensure an independent, scientifically rigorous assessment. Our drinking water and aquifer integrity deserve the highest level of scrutiny.

838

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not agree with sio silica being given a license to mine silica sand in rm of springfield as it has a very high chance of polluting our aquifer.

839

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I'm not convinced this new project is safe and I am concerned that it will impact drinking water quality.

840

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We are very concerned about the water quality and possible contamination and or changing of the aquifers. We have a beautiful source of water at the moment and also use water for heat pump system (careful well to well system to avoid depleting the aquifer etc).

We are concerned about the number of wells going in and the potential for land shifting and when we questioned the number of wells in one spot and the force of conic influence and how it may affect the area when you have a number of wells in one area we did not get a satisfactory response. Will it cause damage or drop in water or something else - the engineer could not answer.

We do not want to lose water quantity or quality to affect either our well system for personal use in drinking etc or our heat pump. No one will assist if we losing our heating system or loss of value either life wise or house values if the water is contaminated or drops in quantity.

We are also concerned about the wildlife in the area - we live here for a reason and enjoy cranes and deer and fox and various birds any many more.

We also do not want to see any loss of farmland if the mineral rights are determined as in priority to farmland.

We do not want to lose our quality of life - water is a need and we do not want to see it damaged or lost in any way.

841

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very much against the Sio Silica sand project. This will damage our water and we dont need big corporations taking over our precious land for their gain.

842

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Major concerns..with water aquifer/environment/wildlife.Does this company not hear the major concerns of Springfield residents?PC government tried to slip this one past us.Grateful for NDP gov.who listens to we residents/voters.

843

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I say NO to Silica in Springfield, this is our home and our water to protect.

844

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am against the province allowing sio silica access to drilling within my municipality and putting my aquifer and water quality at risk

845

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing to register strong opposition to Sio Silicas revised SiMbA Project.

The core issue remains the same: this proposal puts our drinking water at risk. Communities in southeast Manitoba rely entirely on the sandstone aquifer beneath us. It is our only water source. Any project that involves disturbing that structure carries a level of risk that is simply not acceptable. A phased or stepwise approach does not meaningfully reduce that risk it only spreads it out over time.

If any part of the province were to lose access to safe water, the economic and social impact would be enormous. The cost of attempting to replace or restore a compromised aquifer is essentially impossible. Meanwhile, the benefits of this project are limited to the company and its investors. It is not reasonable to risk the water supply of thousands of people so that a small corporation can extract silica sand for private profit. That tradeoff makes no sense for Manitoba.

Sio Silicas previous proposal went through a full Clean Environment Commission review and failed to receive an Environment Act Licence. The Commission identified serious concerns about groundwater contamination, aquifer stability, and long-term impacts that were never resolved. Those concerns do not disappear because the project has been repackaged or slightly scaled back for the early years.

Beyond the technical issues, Sio Silica has already eroded public trust. Their previous project was pushed forward in a way that was widely viewed as inappropriate, including an attempt by an outgoing government to approve it after losing the election a decision later overturned. The companys approach throughout that process showed a disregard for public opposition and for the integrity of Manitobas environmental review system. That history matters.

Sio Silica also holds mineral claims across Manitoba, and this proposal cannot be viewed in isolation. Allowing even one of these projects to advance opens the door for further attempts across the province. Given their record, Manitoba needs to send a clear message now: this company is not welcome to proceed with resource extraction that threatens public water supplies. Their past conduct should, frankly, disqualify them from further consideration. We cannot reward a track record of undermining public trust by granting even a narrow opening for future projects.

Sand mining is not known for transparency, and this process has been no exception. The public has faced incomplete information, shifting explanations, and a lack of clarity about long-term impacts. This is unacceptable when the only clean water source for thousands of residents is at stake.

The economic benefit of this project is small compared to the consequences of getting it wrong. An aquifer cannot simply be repaired or replaced. People live here. We do not have the Shoal Lake pipeline to rely on. Our water comes directly from the ground beneath us, and protecting it must come first.

Manitoba should not be setting a precedent that its aquifers are open to industrial extraction. Our drinking water is far more valuable than silica sand. This proposal needs to be rejected outright.

846

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water quality ,possible decrease in wildlife

847

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The impact to the water source will be disastrous. This company will say whatever it takes to push this through. Huge profits is their motivation.

A large majority of residents said no to this previously and here we are again. The federal govt continually professes for the environment. This contradicts that. No sand extraction is the prudent approach.

848

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: poses threats to our towns water!! we have voted against this already. our disagreement with this project due to the potential threats it could bring to our water has been very clear.

849

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Financial gain should not be the priority people come first and their well being. Not worth the risk in my opinion

850

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is absurd. How many times do we need to oppose this! The residents have said they DO NOT want this. This affects our water supply! Our clean drinking water! Make this stop once and for all! ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

851

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do NOT want Sio mining in our aquifer, it is untested and could ruin our source of water and contaminate it. Please shut this down.

852

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I object to the Sio Silica Simba Sand Extraction Project going forward. FILE: 6275.00. There is too much risk to the drinking water of this area, as it can contaminate, pollute the water between the two different aquifers. This is experimental and unproven technology. As well, with the proposed storage for the extracted sand, I'm worried that the monitoring process will be difficult. The capacity for the the Province to monitor is uncertain. Any silica dust around the area can drift into living space, 100 metres isn't much for drifting sand. Silica Sand dust can get into lungs and cause silicosis, and lead to lung cancer. Also the transportation of the sand can be a problem. I'm not sure where this sand will actually end up and get processed, and any moving around can expose dust, which could get airborne and cause harm. Thank you.

853

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is one of the very few places in the province that cougars are being seen after being gone from the province for many years. Its a delicate ecosystem that this mining project will devastate.

The risk to the ground water also cannot be overstated. Please don't allow our water sources to be contaminated.

854

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing to formally express my strong opposition to the proposed drilling and silica extraction by Sio Silica in the Sunnyside, Manitoba area. This proposal presents unacceptable and irreversible risks to the integrity of our aquifer and to the long-term health and safety of our community.

1. Risk of Aquifer Contamination

The drilling method required for silica extraction involves penetrating multiple geological layers, including critical protective formations that separate distinct groundwater systems. Disturbing, weakening, or breaching these layers creates a significant risk of mixing water from different aquifers a process that is scientifically recognized as both irreversible and impossible to remediate with current technologies. Once an aquifer is compromised, generations of Manitobans could lose safe, potable water.

2. Structural and Long-Term Integrity Concerns

The project envisions drilling numerous wells across a large geographic area. Each well represents a potential point of failure. Over time, well casings can degrade, seals can fail, and induced fractures can propagate. Even a small rate of failure across thousands of wells could lead to widespread and permanent impacts to groundwater quality. The cumulative risk is far too high for a resource as essential and irreplaceable as our drinking water supply.

3. Chemical and Processing Hazards

Silica extraction and water clarification processes may involve polymers and other chemical agents that carry known environmental risks. Any leak, spill, containment failure, or subsurface migration could introduce contaminants into our water system. The consequences of such contamination would extend not only to residents, but also to local agriculture, ecosystems, and infrastructure that depend on clean groundwater.

4. Insufficient Scientific Evidence and Unproven Methods

Regulators, hydrogeologists, and independent experts have already raised concerns about the lack of comprehensive long-term studies validating the safety of this extraction technique. The method proposed is unproven at the scale envisioned, and there is no credible evidence demonstrating that these risks can be fully mitigated. When the health of our water system is at stake, the absence of reliable scientific certainty must be treated as a clear warning not as an acceptable gamble.

5. Alignment With Manitobas Public Interest

Clean water is a foundational public resource. Earlier reviews of related proposals have already demonstrated how seriously the province must treat threats to aquifer integrity. Manitoba has a clear responsibility to apply the precautionary principle: when a project carries the possibility of

severe or irreversible harm, it should not proceed unless its safety can be conclusively demonstrated. In this case, it cannot.

For these reasons, I strongly urge the Province of Manitoba and all relevant regulatory bodies to prohibit Sio Silica from drilling or conducting extraction activities in Sunnyside and the surrounding area.

Our aquifer is not replaceable. The risks are too high, the science too uncertain, and the potential consequences far too severe for this project to move forward.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue. I request that you respond with clarification on the steps your office will take to ensure the protection of our communitys water supply.

855

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: During the European PV conference in September 2022 I met Faisal Somji and Brent Bullen. In my role I managed a program focused at re- and friend-shoring the PV value chain, supporting industry. When I learned of the high-purity quartz deposit they planned to develop employing the advanced hydronic and compressed air extraction technology I immediately saw the tremendous value to the photovoltaic industry and encouraged Sio Silica to pursue this unique opportunity. High-purity silica is the material from where advanced semiconductors such as SiC, solar cells, solar glass, quartz crucibles for single crystal silicon ingot growth, and quartz ware for high temperature processing of semiconductors and solar cells are derived. While quartz is everywhere, high-purity quartz is rare.

Mining operations impact the environment, but there is a difference in impact based on methods and environmental regulations. The extraction method pursued by Sio Silica has multiple advantages over open-pit mining, but irrespective, I would expect the Province of Manitoba to apply reasonable provisions under the Environment Act to monitor the local aquifer.

As for the economic impact of this project. Besides the direct and indirect job creation associated with the silica mining operation the Province of Manitoba should consider further economic benefits besides exporting the washed silica to e.g., the U.S. or China. I.e., support Sio Silica in their plans to create value-added manufacturing from the silica in Manitoba. This could be solar glass or quartz cruciblescurrently there is no production of either in North America, the global PV manufacturing ecosystem is almost entirely dependent on China. A 1,500 mt/day solar glass facility equates to about 10GW of solar modules and can create about 1,000 direct jobs. Adding further solar manufacturing steps e.g., module assembly, solar cell, and ingot/wafer at the same 10GW annual capacity adds another 5,500 direct high-tech manufacturing jobs.

The global economy is decarbonizing. High-purity silica plays a major role in advanced power electronics for inverters (solar, wind power, battery storage) and EVs/EV charging, battery storage

(anodes), and solar cells. Today this supply chain is dominated by China. This is not long-term viable. Manitoba and Canada have a unique opportunity to not just supply global customers with raw materials, such as high-purity silica, but to establish environmentally responsible manufacturing leveraging Canada's natural resources to the maximum.

Implementing reasonable monitoring and enforcement mechanisms under the Environment Act, I strongly support Sio Silica's application.

856

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: NO !!! ..to Sio Silica

Not now not ever!!!

857

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I live [redacted] from this proposed drilling site. This will be mining into my water, I am sorry that i cannot support this mining and risk contamination into the water I need to live. I have drank this water since 1978 and raised my family drinking this water. I winter over 100 head of cattle on this water and hauling in water is not an option. I lived south of Winnipeg in my younger years and hauling in water and drinking water out a cistern with dead moulding mice in it was not something I could do then and it is something I want to do now.

858

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I was born and raised in the RM of Springfield and I am now raising my family here, in the RM of Springfield. I am a proud resident and thankful for all that the RM has to offer, including clean and un-tampered with water. The water we drink is a blessing; not a privilege.

The Sio Silica Simba Sand Extraction Project poses a serious threat to our water quality and supply here in the RM of Springfield. This is an untested mining project focused on money generated with disregard for the wellbeing of the people.

Entertaining the Sio Silica project needs to stop. It is very clear that the people, who make up this wonderful community and call this place home, do not want an experimental mining project occur that poses a serious threat to our clean and pure drinking water.

Thank you for allowing community residents the opportunity to speak.

Sincerely, [redacted]

859

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is an untested mining procedure. Please do not approve , there are to many risks involved with our only water source.

860

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Stop the project as it will harm the aquifer near my home.

861

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do NOT want Sio mining in our aquifer! The current and all future Manitoba and Canadian Government elected by the people must stand firm to do ALL that is necessary to PROTECT the most important resource we and future generations all require to survive our clear and clean drinking water. Allowing Sio Silica to use an untested process in our aquifer and for that matter any aquifer in Manitoba would be simply putting business and profits ahead of doing what is right for protecting our fresh water supplies!

862

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about this possibility of contamination to a pristine aquifer relied upon by residents for drinking water. If this vast aquifer is contaminated, public health is at risk.

Properties with this contaminated water are rendered worthless. Is this project by an out of province company, with few Manitoba jobs, worth the risk. No matter how few wells are drilled, with water quality monitored, can contamination be rectified? Local politicians trying to get this project rammed through is questionable! Will this company stop after 5 years , or continue on with the full scaled project originally proposed!

863

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No to the Project

864

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project is dangerous for our ground water

865

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Whos to say they don't mess up our water forcing our wells in the area to be jeopardized, and most likely having no accountability or concern for everyone in the area. If they get the go ahead theres no saying the damage they can do. Seeing as hard there pushing trying to flex there power and trying to manipulate everyone by putting a young kid on there commercials to make them seem caring. Bad news

866

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The SIO Silica extraction project in Springfield should not go ahead because of the devastating and irreparable damage to our aquifer that is likely to be the result. The tests and studies that have supposedly been performed are not sufficient to prove the safety of this project

867

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I feel as a Winnipeg resident, we need to be taking note of who is pushing these projects with Sio Silca and ensuring we hold them to account.

This is not only extremely dangerous for the water supply and local residents of Springfield, but just an overall dirty deal.

Economic progress and the limited (>100) number of jobs this creates at the cost of a huge watershed, is not progress, its regression. Sio Silica does not have the best interests of Manitoba, or its residents in mind.

868

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is not only going to ruin our water table in Springfield, it will also ruin Winnipeg, and the surrounding communities. It's all connected and this just cannot happen. This is not 100% safe and the owners of this company are lying to us all. All to fill there pockets with billions of dollars earned on the backs of our community. Shame on you Sio Silica, Shame on you! DO BETTER!!

869

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Im extremely concerned about this Project and how big the impact of drilling would have on our drinking water. Water is life. Thousands of people rely on the water on a daily basis.

This project will destroy this.

870

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I believe this UNTESTED mining proposal poses a serious risk of contaminating the aquifer that thousands rely on for clean, safe drinking water.

871

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I feel I have expressed my deepest concerns regarding this project several times already through letters, attendance.at info sessions and local voting with concerned citizens groups. I am a 30 year resident of the RM of Springfield who moved here for the peace and quiet and most importantly the great WATER QUALITY. Myself and my family are very concerned about this project - particularly their less than stellar past activities, the highly questionable science and the likelihood of limited monitoring and ability to remedy the damages once they occur. ITS A BIG NO TO THIS PROJECT!

872

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I believe we didn't have enough evidence to support sio Silica mining to be safe and should not be allowed taking the risk of contaminating our water supply.

873

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No drilling and no messing with our water

874

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am opposed to the Sio Silica-Simba Sand Extraction Project. It will affect the environment and health of people based on the information.

875

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Lifetime Manitoba resident requesting Manitoba government continue to say NO to any silica sand project due to the incredible risk of contamination to our provinces aquifer. Once contamination happens, there is no going back. The current advertising by Sio Silica by children is incredibly manipulative and certainly does not address the environment issues at hand. This should also be stopped. I am also requesting that the MB government begin an independent study of all the possible negative impacts this project will have on the environment and all inhabitants. This project needs to be shut down immediately for current and all future generations of Manitobans.

876

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Once again Sio Silica has filed an application to mine silica sand under our aquifer. This new application was made despite previous documented concerns by the Clean Environment Commission, data provided by various experts, and by the majority of Springfield residents who rely on safe drinking water.

Springfield residents including myself have attended numerous public meetings regarding this mining proposal and the majority of residents have voted NO to the proposal. We have grave concerns about this mining project and its impact not only on our drinking water quality today and in the future, but our homes and communities (air quality impacts from blowing sand, increased highway traffic on an already stressed highway, loss of property value, etc.)

The Provincial government has already put a stop to this, so why are they entertaining the proposal again despite knowing the environmental impacts have not been addressed in this new proposal? We cannot replace water once its gone! We cannot afford to gamble with our already fragile groundwater system in a world where fresh water is becoming a hot commodity.

I am asking that the Provincial Government put a stop to Sio Silica's proposal once and for all! Please do not mine in Springfield and risk the contamination of our drinking water now and for future generations!

877

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We are against this project,

878

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The mining/wellsp puts PUBLIC FRESH WATER AT RISK.

There is no proper 3rd party hydrological research for confirmation or proof anywhere in the world to validate their guess work.

I am against giving them ANY DRILLING RIGHTS

879

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We are very concerned about the irreversible damage Sio Silica will cause. They will contaminate our water even further. We stand against Sio Silica

880

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Environmental Concerns Regarding the Sio Silica Project in Springfield, Manitoba

1. Risk to Our Drinking Water (Sandstone Aquifer)

The proposed extraction method involves removing large volumes of water and sand from the aquifer. Many residents are deeply concerned that this could

reduce water levels,

change water flow patterns,

introduce contamination pathways.

Springfield relies heavily on groundwater, and once an aquifer is damaged, it cannot be restored.

2. Potential Aquifer Collapse / Subsidence

Experts and local hydrogeologists have warned that dissolving or weakening the sandstone formations could lead to instability underground. This raises the risk of surface subsidence or long-term structural weakness beneath homes, farms, and municipal infrastructure.

3. Chemical and Operational Contamination Risks

Even if the company claims clean extraction, there is still the possibility of:

accidental chemical leaks,

contamination from equipment,

improper water reinjection.

A single contamination event could impact thousands of residents.

4. Long-Term, Uncertain Environmental Impact

Sio Silicas project is unprecedented in scale and technique in Canada. There is no long-term proof that this extraction method is safe. Our community would be the experiment, while the environmental damageif it occurswill be permanent.

5. Impact on Local Ecosystems

Changes in groundwater levels or contamination could affect:

wetlands,

wildlife habitats,

agricultural lands.

These natural systems depend on stable groundwater conditions.

6. Lack of Transparency and Insufficient Independent Studies

Many residents feel that the environmental assessments provided by Sio Silica do not answer critical hydrogeological and geological safety questions. Independent experts have repeatedly called for further investigation before any approval.

7. Potential Impact on Property Values

Environmental uncertainty and groundwater risks can lower property values, making it harder for residents to sell or refinance their homes.

8. Community Health Concerns

Water is the most essential resource for human health. Any contamination or depletion of the aquifer would have direct and severe consequences for families living in Springfield

881

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water quality will suffer. 98 percent of RM of Springfield residents already voted against this project the first time. How can you push through a project that has already been voted down.

882

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We voted no to Silica wanting to mine this area a few years ago. What gives them the right to pressure the residents to have to go through this ordeal again. Last time I heard no was no we don't want them mining here. I want to know how this is going to effect the wild life the water and the environment in the area. If and once they start mining the area the company will sit back and count the profits they make while the residents suffer the consequences of their failure. so keep them out of our territory. As is we are destroying enough of the world environment for profit.

883

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing to express my opposition to Sio Silicas proposal to drill into the aquifer system in southeast Manitoba. While I understand the interest in economic development, I am deeply concerned about the potential impacts on our water security and on the many species that depend on these ecosystems, especially those already recognized as threatened or endangered.

Manitoba has a responsibility to protect species listed under The Endangered Species and Ecosystems Act, which provides legal protection for animals, plants, and habitats at risk of disappearing from our province. This responsibility should guide decisions that may affect the long-term health of our natural systems.

Several species that rely on clean, stable aquatic and grassland ecosystems could be affected by groundwater disruption, contamination, or long-term changes to the water table. These include at-risk species such as the Mapleleaf Mussel, Burrowing Owl, Piping Plover, Spragues Pipit, and the Western Prairie Fringed Orchid. Many of these species are extremely sensitive to changes in water quality, wetland levels, sediment movement, and habitat disturbance.

Aquifer drilling and extraction can alter groundwater levels, water flow paths, and water quality which can change conditions for aquatic species (like mussels) that rely on stable clean water, and for wetlands, streams, or rivers connected to the groundwater. Even if the drilling is deep, aquifers often connect to surface waters, wetlands, or springs changes can propagate outward. Habitats for birds, amphibians, plants, and other species are often fragile: water-table shifts, changes in wetland extent, or contamination may harm breeding grounds, food chains, or migration/foraging patterns.

For species already struggling under the pressures of habitat loss and climate change, any additional disruption can push them further toward local extinction. I urge the Province to ensure a

thorough, independent environmental review that includes specific assessment of impacts on endangered species and their habitats, as required under provincial legislation.

I respectfully request that no approval be granted for the sake of our wildlife and for all residents impacted.

Thank you for considering the importance of safeguarding our water and biodiversity for future generations.

884

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water is one of the most precious resources. There are areas where there is silica sand that do not run the risk of contaminating water resources. Why are we allowing Sio Silica (Simba) to tamper in any way with the aquifer.

My family and I vote NO toward allowing Sio Silica from experimenting with so many variables on our aquifer.

885

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am not comfortable putting our drinking water at risk so that this company can make money. Our communities rely on the clean water from our aquifer. Please do not approve this application unless there is 100% certainty that our water source will not be at risk. Water is life.

886

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a miner with 20 years experience and of first nation descent. I dont believe this is a good project to undertake for Manitoba. This will contanminate the local water supply forever. No to sio silica

887

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As being a son and son inlaw to water and sewer trends men and family of drilling experts around the world highly recommend that you do not drill as it will do so much damage to our aquifer for generations this is crazy that this is even a thought!

I hope for everyone safety and health this does not happen

888

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water is the only thing to sustain life, it seems Sio Silica is only for profit and does not care if the water gets contaminated for all of the people that rely on water and live stock to survive life. When the water gets contaminated my property value would be nil if no water is there to survive, will the government buy me out at the present value before Sio contaminates our water. This is a mater of life and death.

889

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Nothing should be implemented until all testing has been proven to be safe for our environment . Until then none of this should go forward , for the sake of our children and grandchilden things need to change in that department..

890

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Brokenhead and the residents strongly oppose this project and their wishes to keep the risk of contaminating their water should be respected. So no to sia

891

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio silica is gambling with our water supply. Some of us have lived here for many years and don't want to see our water contaminated by the extraction process. We ask you to not allow this. Thank you for your time.

892

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Due to the water situation here in Oakbank, this project puts all of us at risk of having unusable water or no water at all. Please please do not allow this to pass. Thanks so much for your time.

[redacted]

Concerned Oakbank resident

893

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: All I can say is Why Why Why is our government which is elected by the people for the people not listening to its people. Even Ed Schreyer our former leader was against this many years ago. It seems obvious to me if our water has won awards in the world then we should fight to put it on the protected list like so many other things such as the Boreal Forest that has been designated as a protected area. This is going to destroy our whole southern province. All living things rely on good drinking water and we are going to loose this and I see it as a garantee 100% and I am not a scientist. Please Please listen to the people that voted you in to fight for us. We have a huge majority against this. Please protect us and our environment for our childrens and childrens futures.

894

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Stop silica sand our water is not for sale we dont want it contaminated

895

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I'm absolutely against being a testing ground for unproven technology.

if there is even a tiny chance of our aquifer becoming affected...IT SHOULD NOT EVEN BE CONSIDERED!!!

we have very little (some tax dollars and licenses fees perhaps a few jobs) and everything (because water is life) to loose.

take this project and tell them to beat it!

896

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: To Whom It May Concern,

I am a resident in the Rm of Springfield and I am extremely concerned about the Sio Silica project. It's experimental. It affects our water aquifer. Nothing is ever 100% safe, nothing. Accidents happen, parts break down, calculations are inaccurate. The company skids around the issue. This is playing Russian Roulette with our water. It's not a question of IF but WHEN will the water will be contaminated.

As a public servant, working for the people, I ask you to stand behind what the people of Springfield want. Do not allow the SioSilica plant to operate.

897

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I support the studies and the science saying this is not safe for our community. As a homeowner whose water comes from our own well we do not want drilling, air, or any other disturbance to our aquifer. Please do not approve this application f on Sio Silica.

898

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Stop the Silo Silica project, it will pollute our environment!

899

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: How can the province even think about allowing a out of province investor with the buy in of a couple local developers to even consider a untried process to extract silica from the aquifiers that provide potable drinking water to thousands of residents in the south eastern area of the province, Springfield and RMs to the south, east and north with the flow of the contamination flowing toward the Red River and RMs of East St Paul and St Clements. This makes the pulp mills and mines that contaminated the water for some of the reserves look like childs play in the magnitude. The companies that did that harm and the residents affected were ignorant of the effect that was happening to the water. Today we are no longer ignorant of the impact that this project can have on the water, but our govenment is still running ahead to approve this untried and very dangerous endevour in search of the al mighty dollar profit for the company and it's backers and executives. What is the future for the people that live and earn their livelyhood in the regions affected? Is the provincial government going to provide pipeline with clean, good tasting water to all the farms and residents or maybe water treatment plants for every homestead. Or do we just sell our properties that we have worked hard all our lives to get, take a loss and move to another province. Somehow I can't see the province providing clean water in the magnitude of a project that would require, I can see people being forced to move though. This project will supply some jobs in developing the wells and some to maintain them but how many jobs and businesses will disappear due to a negative impact on the water supply throughout the affected minicipalities, all for profit of a out of province company and some local developers. The impact of the contamination caused by pulp mills and mines has had a terrible impact for generations on the victims of those water contaminations. What will the effects be on the residents of the south easter part of our province from the east side of the Red River be and for how many generations will the people of Manitoba be the victims of this irresponsible action by our provincial government . How will your children and grandchildred feel when they know that you were one of the people that were responsible for this.

900

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As I know little other than what I've read, it's enough to stop these greedy monsters from mining and possibly destroying or hindering our clean water supply.

901

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My comment is this: We the tax payer some how always get screwed. I seem to have missed the part about how this benefits us money wise and environmentally? Besides damaging the water systems, for years to come, whose pockets will be getting filled??? Also, who if any one will be held accountable for problems in the future??

I GIVE A BIG " NO" to sio!!

902

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: i believe that its not worth the risk of contamination of the aquifer by going forward with this type of mining as its not been proven to be safe.

903

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Once again Sio silica has filed an application to mine silica sand under our aquifer. This new application was made despite previous documented concerns by the Clean Environment Commission, data provided by various experts, and by the majority of Springfield residents who rely on safe drinking water. Springfield residents including myself have attended numerous public meetings regarding this mining proposal and the majority of residents have voted NO to the proposal. We have grave concerns about this mining project and its impact not only on our drinking water quality today and in the future, but our homes and communities (air quality impacts from blowing sand, increased highway traffic on an already stressed highway, loss of property value, etc.) The Provincial government has put a stop to this once, why are they entertaining the proposal again, despite knowing the environmental impacts have not been addressed in this new proposal? We cannot replace water once its gone. We cannot afford to gamble with our already fragile groundwater system in a world where fresh water is becoming a hot commodity. I am asking that the Provincial Government put a stop to Sio Silicas proposal once and for all and not mine in Springfield and risk the contamination of our drinking water in this life and in the future!

904

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Subject: Registry 6275 Strong concerns Request CEC hearing with funding

The updated Appendix B hydrogeological modelling now admits that re-injected oxygenated water will create oxidizing conditions in mined cavities, yet it grossly under-predicts contamination.

The X1t model allows only 0.126 % of available selenium to dissolve, while independent shake-flask tests show 42.6 % dissolves in 24 hours a 333-fold underestimate.

Selenium is projected to exceed drinking-water guidelines (0.01 mg/L) for at least 7 years (Fig. 4-10), but modelling stops at 10 years and ignores ongoing dissolution, interbedded shales, gaseous air entrainment from air-lift mining, cavity interactions, and potential breach into the overlying carbonate aquifer.

Similar irreversible mobilization is predicted for arsenic and uranium.

These same risks were detailed in the 2023 CEC submission (LeNeveu) and remain unaddressed.

I strongly oppose licensing this project in its current form. I request a full Clean Environment Commission public hearing with participant funding so that independent experts can properly assess the irreversible threat to Manitobas aquifers.

Water is life. Do not gamble with it.

Thank you. (

905

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: If there is any risk to our water supply how can this even be considered as a good idea. I dont think theres a dollar amount worth the risk of losing fresh water. This is a terrible idea. Think about the future generations.

906

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Stay away from our water source and our rural lands.

We do not support this project moving forward.

907

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not want the sio silica project in Springfield... It will damage our drinking water. Then Who will fix it... NO to sio silica.....

908

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I for one completely oppose this project along with many others. As we know this province is rich, but when you start disturbing it will destroys life and all creatures of this land, domestic and wild.

This project impacts survival, nationally and globally. FOR WHAT ? MONEY!!!

909

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am a concerned community member and do not want this mining project in our area, contaminating our aquifer

910

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: aquifer pollution

911

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The testing for the proposed mining project by Sio Silica/Simba is inherently flawed. The testing is not adequate and not nearly extensive enough in scope of time for the risks involved with very possible PERMANENT and IRREVERSIBLE contamination of the aquifer. This project is clearly being driven by the immediate financial gain for a corporation (and likely some other local parties). The environmental impact of failure of any kind will be devastating to life in the region and beyond.

It is IMPERATIVE that a CEC PUBLIC HEARING with participant funding hearing is scheduled for independent assessment of the viability of this proposal before any approval of the project is undertaken.

912

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I think that the Simba silica sand extraction project should be rejected now and not be allowed to move forward in the assessment and license process thank you very much

913

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am worried about the long term effects on our water supply

914

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I think this is a very unique opportunity for Manitoba especially towards making us more sustainable. I trust that all safety measures will be considered to avoid any downsides to the well-being of lives around.

915

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No to Sio Sliica. Save our water!

916

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very strongly opposed to the Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project. I am very concerned that there is no guarantee that the process used to extract sand will not threaten the water quality in this aquifer that supplies water to my well. Based on their first attempt that was stopped in 2023, I do not trust Sio Silica representatives, who want to mine the area for their own financial gain. There is no way to replace one of our most important natural resources once it is contaminated. I ask for your support to help put a stop to any company wanting to mine silica sand in this region. Thank you for your consideration.

917

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Concerned that our we'll water will become contaminated.

918

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Major concerns..with water aquifer/environment/wildlife.Does this company not hear the major concerns of Springfield residents?PC government tried to slip this one past us.Grateful for NDP gov.who listens to we residents/voters.

919

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I live in the area which will be directly affected if this project proceeds. My water comes from the Aquifer that is at high risk of contamination from this project should it be given approval. This is not acceptable. We deserve protection from profiteers who gain while we take all the risk.

920

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Manitoba aquifers supply drinking water to about 100,000 Manitobans. Manitoba law prohibits mixing groundwater from separate aquifers. Sio Silicas method involves puncturing both aquifers. Having just drilled a brand new well myself in 2025, I know this to be true as bacteria was introduced into our drinking water from that simple act. Cross-contamination between aquifers is a guarantee. How can it not. Provide documentation otherwise. I have a test result from the water testing lab demonstrating how easy it is to contaminate drinking water. The proposed UV sterilization is limited in its abilities. The Canadian national standard is ZERO bacteria allowed. When a farm site has a water compromised how will the livestock on that farm be treated. How do they handle this in winter this drilling is proposed to go year-round. Good luck getting clean water to livestock during the cold months. Livestock includes rescues, pet ducks, sheep, lamas, horses, donkeys as well as larger scale cattle, dairy and pork operations.

Springfield and Southeast Manitoba are agricultural communities, preserved forests and parkland. We NEED the silica sand to remain intact as filter to keep water clean from these activities already in place. Experts agree that Sio Silica's planned room-and-pillar mining could cause collapse of overlying shale, leading to land subsidence or sinkholes, risks that have not been fully modeled or mitigated. Given the number of drill sites they propose, collapses are a guarantee. Prove it otherwise. Provide the actual data and testing to assess drill site failures. What is the exact Emergency Response Plan Exactly what is it? Treat it like BP and put video underground so we can all sit at watch a failure through our precious glass touch screens. Well shrug shoulders and say, "We didn't think that could happen."

Land clearing, killing of trees, soil disturbance, noise, traffic are disruption top people and threaten local wildlife and migratory birds. Sio Silica does not care of such things as demonstrated by the rush in which they cleared land for their facility in Vivian during nesting season. The leaders of such an ambitious project need to be held at a tremendously higher level of accountability and research of the impact of their actions. All must be considered. Nature, environment, climate, communities, people, agriculture, micro systems, eco systems, the future Seven Generations is no joke. This project will satisfy a short-term greedy demand. You and I wont be here to witness how this shakes out. We all cry the blues when its too late. How about we clean up the yard we currently live in before rewarding ourselves the new touch-screen technologies.

This is my favourite. Lets sacrifice more land for industrial infrastructure. Lets make jobs for people who already dont want to work by building a monster land section size glass manufacturing plant in the middle of the forest. Rail, roads, water treatment, power lines will destroy farmland, wetlands, increase traffic, increase accidents, provide more opportunities for crime. How many people are killed or seriously injured already on highway 15? All so we can have more noise, more particulate in the air and more wildlife loss. Give me more. Give me more. Give me more.

Each drill site is expected to run up to seven days. Day and night. That's after they took who knows how long to get the site online. A small crew of locals will be required the entire time. What's the

safety and liability risk to the landowner and the neighbours? Will these people have criminal checks? What if neighbours oppose the drill site. The tension created will absolutely be a factor. Continuous disruption during the entire process. Dogs barking, worried livestock, inability to sleep due to lights and noise, increased traffic are all environmental risks.

There are compelling environmental reasons to reject this project, yet some decision makers appear prepared to overlook these risks in pursuit of short term economic gain. Recent news coverage has raised serious concerns about political influence and the appearance of undue industry access, which further erodes public trust in the review process.

These points have been said again and again, by locals, by experts, by politicians.

Any project drawing on shared resources like groundwater must demonstrate it can maintain or improve those resources for at least seven generations.

Sio Silica does not know our community, doesn't relate to the Indigenous people, doesn't know the local wildlife habits, our ecosystem, the precious gift of nature's murmurs at night under the stars. This board has one agenda. Shareholder profit.

921

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing to express my concerns regarding Sio Silicas proposal to drill into the aquifer system in southeast Manitoba. As a resident, I am opposed to Sio mining in our aquifer.

The aquifer system in this region is a critical source of drinking water for many communities. Once an aquifer is disturbed or contaminated, the impacts can be long-lasting or irreversible. Because of this, I am concerned about the potential risks related to:

-Protection of drinking water quality and quantity

-Possible long-term environmental impacts on underground structures and natural systems

-Gaps or uncertainties in scientific assessments regarding deep drilling in sensitive aquifers

-Emergency response and accountability if something goes wrong

-Implications for future generations who rely on this same water supply

I respectfully ask that the Province ensure independent, comprehensive scientific review, full public transparency, and precautionary decision-making before granting any permissions that could affect this essential resource.

Water security is one of Manitoba's most important responsibilities, and I hope you will consider the concerns of residents who rely on these aquifers every day.

Thank you,

[redacted]

922

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Against - do not support Sio Silica

No to Sio Silica

923

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have a concern for the future of our water source for me and my young family. The process Sio is proposing is untested and has never been proven to be safe and frankly I don't want to be apart of their science experiment. Thank you

924

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We and many others are on well water, do to want our water contaminated.

925

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As someone that worked for a sandblasting company in the past that used silica sand and understands the risks and dangers and left that industry, I am not ok with this and could effect our drinking water as well. I signed NO when we voted on this and my answer is still NO

926

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It is hard enough to get clean water and we definitely do not need more traffic on the highways

927

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: You can't buy potable water sources, and I am completely horrified at the idea of the untested methods in this proposal doing irreparable damage to an aquifer so many Manitobans rely upon. As the world becomes drier due to the effects of climate change, local fresh water will become even more valuable. The relentless efforts of Sio Silica to push this through via shady methods, e.g. attempted bribery of Brokenhead FN, moving the project site around, suspicious dealings with former provincial politicians, uncomfortable optics with various other of their representatives like Carla Devlin being mayor of East St Paul, make Sio Silica extremely untrustworthy and I have significant doubts in their ethical standards. The whole deal smells awfully fishy, and we protecting our clean water sources should be at the top of mind of every politician in this province who has a say. This feels like a textbook case of privatize the gains, socialize the losses. Please send Sio Silica and any future permutations of this project to seek their fortunes elsewhere.

928

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This second submission by Sio Silica Simba Sand does not meet the standards the Clean Environment Commission set out during the hearing on the first application. Missing documentation includes :

-more information on the physical structure of the underground sand area

-10 separate detailed plans regarding erosion, water, and revegetation

-a worst case scenario plan

-a cumulative impacts assessment for the life of the project

None of the above items were submitted in this recent application. I am not sure why Clean Environment Commission recommendations are ignored.

This large aquifer and the potential for cross-contamination is too risky to pass the sniff test without adequate scientific studies and documentation. I also am concerned that the noise mitigation plans are being left to later.

It is time to modernize our Environment Act and approvals process to consider cumulative impacts and people's connection to land. I would absolutely go out of my mind if I bought a property in the country, only to have a 100 Db generator 50m from my home or cottage and have to haul water from the city because I fear contamination.

I know, sadly, that mining is still considered "the best use of the land" under Manitoba's Mining Act. Other jurisdictions have put limitations on prospecting after collaborating with communities on land use conflicts introducing new rules around prospecting limitations. Consideration of the precautionary principle in a revamp of the Mining Act and The Environmental Act should be considered.

I realize this environmental application is due process, but I feel this should go straight to a Clean Environment Commission as a next step. I am confused about the license review process the Sio Silica Simba Extraction Project is engaging in, So far, they have entered into discussions with three different First Nations. Sio Silica can hire whoever they want to do studies, but I am perplexed as to why all information would not be available in this environmental application package. I understand you can't consider what is reported in the news, but it is one thing that is missing from this application.

929

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a resident of Springfield, Manitoba, I strongly oppose any approval of Sio Silicas proposed silica sand extraction project in our municipality. Manitobas own Clean Environment Commission has already concluded that Sio Silica did not provide sufficient evidence to demonstrate that long-term risks to our groundwater are acceptable, and that key information about impacts on the sandstone and carbonate aquifers is missing or inadequate.

The Narwhal 2

mbeconetwork.org 2

Expert reviews have warned that the project could damage the shale layer separating aquifers, increase void space in the sandstone, and open pathways for contamination or saline water to move into fresh drinking water sources that serve Springfield and much of southern Manitoba.

cecmanitoba.ca 1

In February 2024, the Manitoba government rejected Sio Silicas licence application following these serious environmental concerns.

mbeconetwork.org 1

Given this clear, science-based caution from independent experts and the province itself, I do not support Sio Silica operating here now or in the future, and I ask our elected representatives to prioritize the protection of our aquifer and drinking water over this high-risk industrial proposal.

930

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not support Sio Silica. I have lived here for a decade and am concerned about what they will do to our water systems

931

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Cotamination of aquafir and loss of healthy water for consumption

932

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project has always been inflammatory and riddled with questionable commentary from the project . As a homeowner in the affected area, we do not appreciate their position, when you start removing soft materials under the homes and lands owned by others you risk ground shifting and failure of the ground above. Leave everything as is and keep them out of our homes.

933

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Do not want this in our area

934

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No leave everything naturally

935

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: NO to Silo sand.... this will destroy our water

936

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The mining/wellsp puts PUBLIC FRESH WATER AT RISK.

There is no proper 3rd party hydrological research for confirmation or proof anywhere in the world to validate their guess work.

I am against giving them ANY DRILLING RIGHTS

937

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please reconsider to not only save our quality of life/land but also for our future generations; and to lead by example! The future is in our hands, land and water!

938

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a Resident of Springfield Im appalled by this coming back to an Application. I feel this is not the right way to go with any or all environmentally tests. I currently use a Well for the past 36 years and want to continue using a well with no Environmental issues. I definitely would vote NO to this. Thank You.

939

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing to formally express my strong opposition to the proposed drilling and silica extraction by Sio Silica in the Sunnyside, Manitoba area. This proposal presents unacceptable and irreversible risks to the integrity of our aquifer and to the long-term health and safety of our community.

1. Risk of Aquifer Contamination

The drilling method required for silica extraction involves penetrating multiple geological layers, including critical protective formations that separate distinct groundwater systems. Disturbing, weakening, or breaching these layers creates a significant risk of mixing water from different aquifers a process that is scientifically recognized as both irreversible and impossible to remediate with current technologies. Once an aquifer is compromised, generations of Manitobans could lose safe, potable water.

2. Structural and Long-Term Integrity Concerns

The project envisions drilling numerous wells across a large geographic area. Each well represents a potential point of failure. Over time, well casings can degrade, seals can fail, and induced fractures can propagate. Even a small rate of failure across thousands of wells could lead to widespread and permanent impacts to groundwater quality. The cumulative risk is far too high for a resource as essential and irreplaceable as our drinking water supply.

3. Chemical and Processing Hazards

Silica extraction and water clarification processes may involve polymers and other chemical agents that carry known environmental risks. Any leak, spill, containment failure, or subsurface migration could introduce contaminants into our water system. The consequences of such contamination would extend not only to residents, but also to local agriculture, ecosystems, and infrastructure that depend on clean groundwater.

4. Insufficient Scientific Evidence and Unproven Methods

Regulators, hydrogeologists, and independent experts have already raised concerns about the lack of comprehensive long-term studies validating the safety of this extraction technique. The method proposed is unproven at the scale envisioned, and there is no credible evidence demonstrating that these risks can be fully mitigated. When the health of our water system is at stake, the absence of reliable scientific certainty must be treated as a clear warning not as an acceptable gamble.

5. Alignment With Manitobas Public Interest

Clean water is a foundational public resource. Earlier reviews of related proposals have already demonstrated how seriously the province must treat threats to aquifer integrity. Manitoba has a clear responsibility to apply the precautionary principle: when a project carries the possibility of severe or irreversible harm, it should not proceed unless its safety can be conclusively demonstrated. In this case, it cannot.

For these reasons, I strongly urge the Province of Manitoba and all relevant regulatory bodies to prohibit Sio Silica from drilling or conducting extraction activities in Sunnyside and the surrounding area.

Our aquifer is not replaceable. The risks are too high, the science too uncertain, and the potential consequences far too severe for this project to move forward.

940

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We have already voted no for environmental concerns. The concerns havent changed. Its bad for the water and wildlife and we do not want them destroying our home.

941

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Very concerned about our water quality

942

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not want Sio Silica mining in Springfield Municipality. I do not want Sia Silica sucking the land out from under my land.

943

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have concerns about the water supply to Springfield. Sia Silica caused cancer, my mother lives in that area. DO NOT ALLOW THIS.

944

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Stop the Sio-Silica Sand Extraction Project because it will create irreversible harm to the water source needed by citizens.

945

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Stop the project before it begins. I have real concerns about their mining methods, the lack of transparency and their ability to try and manipulate the process. There is a real concern that if this project goes through, and they foul the aquifer, who will be responsible for cleaning up and fixing any problems that occur. Again please do not let this project go through.

946

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our drinking water is going to be contaminated. I am totally against Silo Silica Simba Sand extraction project.

947

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please remember the "precautionary principle" .... it would be madness to risk the underlying aquifers of south - east Manitoba! And I also offer the Seven Generations Principle of Indigenous cultures, a philosophy that emphasizes long-term responsibility, urging consideration of the impact of decisions on seven generations into the future. Finally, I concur with the many other comments speaking out against this dangerous proposal ....

[redacted]

948

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project if it goes through which i hope it does not cannot be run through self regulation and monitoring. The water must be continuously monitored for pollutants and contaminates by a third party agency(s) that have no conflicting interest in this project. These

agency must be fully qualified to all the environmental acts. Bringing in indigenous people to monitor can be beneficial but Sio is financially incentivising them so it does not bring in true impartial monitoring and regulation.

949

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My husband and I rely on our well for our personal water consumption, to feed our animals and water our gardens as do all our neighbours. The idea of drilling into our aquifers scares the hell out of us. Sio Silica has never tested their new process, why should we become their Guinea pigs. Our water is the purest water and we want it to remain that way. Just for the sake of them making money, we risk loosing our drinking water. They can talk speak all around us however, there is NO guarantee that they wont cause irreparable damage. Then what happens to the residents of Springfield that rely on this water? Sio Silica will just walk away saying oops. Nothing, absolutely nothing, is worth polluting our drinking water.

I hope our present Government listens to the people that this will effect.

950

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not want sio silica to operate and contaminate our water quality. Our aquafar is at risk and once contaminated can not be restored. I am a resident of Springfield and do not want my water to be put into jeopardy. I am against sio silca operating in Springfield.

951

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We are against The Sio Silica Project. Springfield and Eastman have the best aguafir that supplies residents with drinking water. We CANOT risk losing it . If something happens this Company would just file bankruptcy and we would be left with no water or compensation. Drinking Water is the most important resource we have.

952

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We are against this Sio Silica project!!

We do not want to put our drinking water at Risk!!!

953

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There is no way on Gods green earth that we residents are going to allow this. Government wants to fight, and I will give it to them.

Stay out of my backyard!!!

954

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Very concerned about what this will do to our water quality, and how the meetings for it are from from the site for it.

955

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We already voted against this project last year with a 98 percent against result from the R.M of Springfield residents. You are going against our charter of rights and freedoms when you are not honoring the voting results from last year. Honor your oath to the people of the communities you work for who voted you in to represent us. If this project gets pushed through by the government it just shows the corruption of people taking bribes under the table and should be investigated.

956

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am against this project, it will ruin our water and leave the area in a mess. Why is this happening again. When will this end.

957

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My wife and I have concerns with the aquifer being compromised because of the Sio Silica - Samba Sand Extraction Project. We are against this project. It could destroy the drinking water for generations.

958

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water is the most important thing in life. Please leave our water alone. The government takes advantage of society every way they can. The southeast of Manitoba will be in shambles if they go through with this.

959

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am highly concerned about the water quality and potential contamination as well as over use that local residents are depending on. I am also concerned with the dust and carcinogenic crystalline silica that is a byproduct during transport and processing. Please consider our environment over economy. Without protecting it there is no future economy.

960

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed silica sand extraction project by Sio Silica (also referred to as Project SiMBA), which is currently reapplying for environmental licensing. [redacted] I moved to this particular spot 3 years ago because of its forests, little to no industrial agriculture and the undeveloped quiet of the area. To have a mining extraction and processing facility that will be running 24/7 (for 24 years) is unacceptable to me. I don't want Sio Silica as my neighbour.

My primary concerns revolve around the potential for irreversible environmental damage and the significant risks posed to our community's essential resources. The core issues that compel my opposition are:

1. Risk to Drinking Water: The proposed extraction method, which involves drilling hundreds of wells into the sensitive Sandilands Aquifer, presents a severe risk of contamination and water drawdown. This aquifer is the sole source of drinking water for over 100,000 residents in southeastern Manitoba, including the communities of Taché, Springfield, Ste. Anne, Steinbach. There is no room for error when it comes to safeguarding our water supply for current and future generations.

2. Unproven Technology: Sio Silica plans to use a novel, unproven method of extraction from groundwater. As noted by the provincial government's initial decision to deny the license, this unproven approach cannot guarantee the safety of our drinking water, making the environmental risks unacceptable.

3. Lack of Economic Benefit vs. Environmental Risk: The potential short-term economic gains and jobs do not outweigh the potential long-term, permanent destruction of a vital natural resource. Once an aquifer is contaminated or depleted, it cannot be replaced.

4. Inadequate Consultation and Transparency: Concerns have been consistently raised about the lack of meaningful public participation and incomplete environmental assessments throughout the process. Meaningful consultation with affected First Nations communities has also been a contentious issue.

5. Inadequate and flawed evidence: The initial Clean Environment Commission report found the "commission does not have sufficient confidence that the level of risk posed to an essential source of drinking water for the region has been adequately defined"

6. SioSilica has stated they are in the develop and sell business and have engaged with the company Pyrophyte Acquisition Corporation whose chairman was previously the lead for Weatherford oilfield company which was convicted, and fined $250 M for bribery, falsifying records and illegal deals. Given this fact, we cannot trust their interests.

This project cannot be allowed to move forward. For the sake of the earth and the children inheriting the already damaged planet we are leaving them.

Sincerely

[redacted]

961

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: NO, NO, NO WAY SHOULD ANYONE BE ALLOWED TO MUCK AROUND IN AN AQUIFER. THIS IS PUBLIC DRINKING WATER - LET ME SAY IT AGAIN LOUDER -

THIS IS PUBLIC DRINKING WATER!!

THERE ARE NO SAFEGUARDS ADEQUATE TO OVERRIDE THE RISKS THIS PROPOSAL PRESENTS.

A PILLAR APPROACH TO MINING SAND? WHAT? PLEASE PROVIDE ALL PROVEN MINING OPERATIONS THAT DEMONSTRATE THIS IS SUCCESSFUL IN MAINTAINING THE INTEGRITY OF THE CARBONATE AND SHALE AQUITARD LAYERS FROM COLLAPSE.

PUMPING EXTRACTED WATER BACK INTO THE AQUIFER? CONTAMINATED OXYGENATED WATER RETURNED TO AN PRISTINE ANEROBIC ENVIRONMENT IS JUST EXTREMELY BIZZARE.

10,000 CAPPED WELLS ARE 10,000 SURFACE CONDUITS DIRECTLY INTO AGAIN A PRISTINE ENVIRONMENT. CASINGS AND CAPPINGS WILL ERODE AND COLLAPSE OVER YEARS - ASK ANYONE WITH A 40 YEAR OLD WELL CASING.

PLEASE REJECT THIS PROPOSAL IN VIEW OF ALL THE POLITICAL PRESSURE, CONFLICT OF INTEREST, LACK OF ETHICS AND MILLIONS UPON MILLIONS OF INVESTMENT DOLLARS AT STAKE.

THERE IS NO AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT CAN REPLACE CLEAN DRINKING WATER. FLUSH THIS PROPOSAL INTO A WASTE TREATMENT PLANT WHERE IT BELONGS.

[redacted]

BORN AND RAISED AND RESIDENT OF SPRINGFIELD FOR 70 YEARS.

962

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not think that mining silica is safe for the water system and for the landscape.

963

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Huge concerns for our clean water.

964

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sand is a natural filter for ground water. Removing the sand is basically removing the natural filter we have for sustainable drinking water for generations to come. This process will have a negative impact on our precious aquifer!!

965

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Absolutely NO to SIO Silica. We must protect our aquifer.

966

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing to express my concerns about the Sio Silica project in the RM of Springfield. This untested method could pose major risks to our valuable and clean drinking water as well as other environmental threats to wildlife and the land. Please consider the publics concerns.

967

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do NOT want Sio mining in our aquifer for the betterment of our environment, sio silica will destroy our planet!

968

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The biggest problem here is the promise that it will not harm aqueducts or water supply to areas that will be affected by the drilling. Promises made but No one can predict 100% that 1-5-

10 years down the road it will be .. oops did not see this happening and that will be on everyone involved in the decision .

969

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No to sio cilica project

Do not take the potable water protection away from our drinking water!

Horrible idea to remove the aquifer

I did not know i could post a video on here or i would post the real study of before and after what happens once project over and done years after!

Theres documentation everywhere on this and not 1 is good long term!

It will completely contaminate the water table and potable water will have to be trucked in for farmers livestock etc.

100% against this carazy idea of a project

Leave livelihoods alone!

970

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: FORMAL COMMENT ON ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS AND INFORMATION GAPS SIO PROJECT

This submission identifies significant scientific, economic, cross-border, and governance gaps in the Sio/SIMBA/CET silica extraction proposal. The potential long-term implications for Manitoba's aquifer system, air shed, and community health require complete and independently verified information. At present, the public has not been shown evidence in a manner that provides clarity, reassurance, or the ability to evaluate risk with confidence.

The information available to the public has not demonstrated clearly, independently, or convincingly that repeated slurry mining inside a confined, water-bearing aquifer formation can be conducted safely. A resident at a previous public meeting summarized the concern in plain terms: Nowhere on earth is there an island floating on water. The point is simple and accurate. You cannot repeatedly remove material from inside a water-bearing aquifer and assume the overlying land remains naturally supported. The long-term stability implications of creating multiple collapsing cavities within an active aquifer have not been examined in a way that gives the public confidence.

From the public record, it is not evident that a peer-reviewed independent hydro-geological model addresses how repeated slurry extraction affects pressure changes, pathway formation, or inter-aquifer communication. The purpose, design, and performance of any long-term monitoring well network have not been described in a way that reassures the public that changes within the aquifer especially under repeated slurry cycles would be detected early and reliably. No compelling real-world demonstration has been provided under operating conditions that collapse behavior, pressure effects, or shortcut pathways associated with slurry extraction inside an aquifer are fully understood or controlled. The public has not been shown evidence to their satisfaction that repeated slurry mining inside the aquifer formation can occur without long-term compromise. Requesting full, independently verified information is responsible governance, not fear-mongering.

The aquifer system extends into the United States, yet there is no evidence of any notification or consultation with the U.S. Geological Survey, the Environmental Protection Agency, Minnesota or North Dakota water authorities, or the International Joint Commission. Groundwater does not respect borders. Any activity with potential trans-boundary impacts requires clear, transparent cross-border engagement, which is not present in the public record.

Corporate disclosures raise additional concerns. The proponents shifting identities Sio Silica, Clean Energy Technologies (CET), and SIMBA linked entities combined with differing messages between U.S. investor materials and Manitoba public filings, create uncertainty about long-term intentions, corporate stability, and whether future refining or industrial phases are being withheld from Manitoba's public environmental review.

The public record focuses primarily on raw silica extraction valued at approximately US$80-120 per ton. However, the real economic value in the silica industry arises in downstream processing: refined silica often valued at US$700-800 per ton, and high-purity or semiconductor-grade products reaching US$3,000-4,000 or more per ton. None of these higher-value stages are proposed for Manitoba, despite Manitoba being asked to assume the environmental risk. This raises the question of why Manitoba is not being offered the stages where meaningful economic benefit is created.

These higher-value stages also involve industrial exposures not addressed in Manitoba's environmental documentation. Globally, high-value silica upgrading requires high-temperature furnace, coking and carbon reduction, chemical purification, production of metallurgical slag, airborne particulate emissions, and potential exposure to carcinogenic byproducts. Manitoban's have not been provided any emissions profiles, air-shed modelling, or health impact assessments relating to these processes. A community cannot consent to risks that have not been disclosed, especially when global refining processes carry far more significant emission profiles than raw extraction alone.

The proposal presented to Manitobans appears to be a reduced lesser package, emphasizing only extraction, while investor-facing and external communications reference broader ambitions. This raises legitimate questions about whether the extraction phase is intended as a foothold for a larger, undisclosed industrial footprint. Regulators cannot evaluate a proposal if the public-facing description is narrower than the projects true potential scope.

Within the RM of Springfield, council responses to this proposal have been inconsistent. Two councilors have proactively sought clarity, while senior municipal leadership has remained largely

neutral or silent. A project of this magnitude requires active, informed, and accountable leadership. Neutrality may appear politically safe, but for residents it represents a failure to provide guidance, a refusal to take responsibility, and an absence of preparation. It is no longer sufficient for municipal leadership to remain neutral; the community deserves a clear and informed stance from those elected to represent it. In the absence of such leadership, residents have been forced to examine the evidence themselves. This submission reflects that responsibility.

Major issues remain unresolved: the unverified safety of repeated slurry mining inside the aquifer, incomplete hydro-geological modelling, lack of cross-border engagement, opaque corporate structure, missing value-chain disclosure, unaddressed emissions and carcinogenic risks, perception-management concerns, and inconsistent municipal leadership. Until full, independently verified information is available including hydro-geology, emissions, corporate clarity, cross-border implications, and complete economic modelling the proposal should not be approved.

Manitoban's deserve transparent, informed decision-making and complete information before decisions of this magnitude are made. This submission is offered in that spirit, and it is my opinion that the fiduciary duty owed to the residents of the RM of Springfield to provide clear information, proactive oversight, and responsible stewardship has not been fully met in this process. Long-standing community advocate concerned with stewardship.

971

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water is life!! My family moved out of the city of Winnipeg to be in the RM of Springfield and we want to continue to live here with clean drinkable water from our aquifer!!!

972

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned re. effect the mining may have on water quality.

973

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not want sio silica project in spring field.... saver are water.... NO ... to sio silca

974

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: What happens to our water aquifer when they return water to the ground. How long before we have boil water advisories. How many wells will fry up as they expand in coming years

975

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My concerns begin with the following;

- Technically, When, how and who will monitor the short term and the long term well conditions (5 year, 25 years 50 years)? Well abandonment is a well known serious problem across this country. What reports, who will monitor and audit these technical reports to determine that the wells are not polluting, contaminating the water aquifer.? Are the laws or regulations sufficient to provide the due diligence to protect the aquifer regarding the management of each well, today, 10 years from now 50 years from now?

- What bond, financial capacity does the company have to resolve any future contamination event. Do they have the technical expertise, who will they hire to provide the expertise during mining? Who in the geotechnical field, which company will supervise the activities of the mining.? How will they advise, will they update and notify municipalities, the provincial government regarding their activities? What technical parameters will be used to determine activities are not creating geological changes which could sometime in the future create an aquifer contamination problem?

- If a event occurs, from past world wide events, how challenging is it to remediate, manage, control, an aquifer contamination? In the mining area, how many households could be impacted? What would be the remediation plan. Has this been technically designed, investigated and prepared for a worst case event? Again, based on the risk assessment, financially and technically does the company have capacity in all aspects to manage a local or widespread event?

- Based on the current test wells to date, what monitoring has occurred and what has been reported to the province and or communities?

Finally, given this is a very novel and new mining activity with a lot of unknowns, does the company, does the province have the financial resources, knowledge, expertise and emergency management plan in place if mining begins and a major event occurs where households or entire communities loose drinkable water? May I remind the province of all the PFSA contamination which has ben identified and is now a disaster for many communities across canada. This is not something I don't want to see occur for our family farm in the RM of Springfield nor for the water we drink in our home here in Oakbank , MB.

976

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project has potential to cause harm to human and environmental health and should not be permitted to move forward.

977

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Why are we revisiting this harmful proposal again. It was shut down once before for concerns with the water table! Attempted to put thru by corrupt leaving politicians who were fined not enough. No amount of drilling is safe. We need to put the communities well being before revenue and jobs. Deny once again!!

978

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My concern is that my water from the well will be deemed unacceptable for consumption without having additional water treatment appliances/ chemicals added.

Costs associated with all the additional equipment of this would be a concern but the major concern is all our animals and forestry suffering from a change in H_2O balances. Years have passed with our water coming from the aquifer and our environment does not want to risk any changes for sand extraction. STOP THE EXTRACTION NOW.

979

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Leave our drinking water alone!

980

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It was proven in the clean environment commission that this silica project would have serious impacts on local aquifers which supply clean fresh water to multiple communities in the province. The provincial government has already rejected it, the town of Vivian doesn't want it, the First Nations do not want it. Nobody wants this, so why do they keep coming back? There was also major misconduct between this company and the previous government in power. The whole thing stinks. Please look elsewhere for silica and leave our province alone.

981

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Pepole before profit. If tax payers can't live safely then it makes no sense to push project. No to silica project. Keep our land safe for next generations

982

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Save our water and land!!!

983

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am totally against this project where they put money over environment and water safety.

984

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Why has this issue been raised again after previously being voted down?

When will the province start placing more value on the rights and health of its citizens than a potential revenue stream?

What are the chances this silica mining contaminates the aquifer? They're not sure? Then shut it down.

The fact this issue is being raised again is socially, ethically and morally unacceptable.

985

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Paid $23,000 for a well 3 years ago,I dont want it poisoned

986

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not want this project to proceed. I moved to my current place because I value clean well drinking water. STOP selling our right to clean well water. Once gone we can never get it back. I voted for the NDP because of their stance at election time on this issue. It is not proper for them to back this and slow it to go through. Whos

987

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am opposed to the untried way of the proposed silica sand mining project in Springfield RM.

Our water is of utmost importance to our community. If the mining does damage our aquifer they will figure out a way to not be responsible .

988

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Do not trade clean water safety for this project - you cannot get clean water back and peoples lives

989

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a resident of the RM of Springfield, I am vehemently opposed to any mining projects that may directly or indirectly affect the water aquifer.

990

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have large concern about how this project will affect the groundwater aquifers in mine and other neighboring Rural Municipalities. This should not be continue based solely on the risks to the water that fuels these areas. The company looking to start this work has proven to be untrustworthy, into bribery, and has admitted their processes can cause contamination in groundwater.

DO NOT LET THIS AFFECT A VITAL RESOURCE (WATER) IN MANITOBA. STOP THIS FROM HAPPENING NOW.

991

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am against the Sio Silica project. Cannot believe that there can be any question about the risk that it presents. They are putting financial gain ahead of the people who relies on the water.we need to clean up the other environmental messes before creating a new one

992

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project would compromise a critical aquifer for drinking water. We have a responsibility to protect and show proper stewardship over the water, to sustain our bodies and the health of our land. Concerns are corruption of a pure water source, exacerbation of existing drought conditions, and compromised land surfaces. The water source and land around it demand our protection and I am therefore opposed to this project.

993

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project threatens our water table among multiple other concerns and our wells are vital to our survival here - it's kinda that simple. The people who live in the affected area must come first before profit for a company.

994

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have worked as a biologist and physical scientist in Manitoba for several decades. This project needs appropriate review, proper scientific assessment and 3D modeling to determine potential adverse effects to the aquifer, groundwater quality, and other terrestrial and aquatic environmental effects. This Project should not be pushed through for the sake of quick money for its investors, it is more important to protect the flora, fauna and water resources of Manitoba for the long-term use and growth of all the people of Manitoba

995

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Im strongly against this project, even a small potential to contaminate an aquifer is good reason not to. Im concerned that this project, which has previously been defeated with overwhelming opposition within the municipality, has been brought back to life. The appearance is that someone thinks that money can overcome votes. It is wrong that this is being considered again.

996

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I vote no to sio silica for the protection of our water supply and the health of the land and habitats of our wildlife not to mention the disturbance to the quiet rural life we all treasure with increased truck traffic and machinery littering the area

Thank you

997

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water sources should be protected because life depends on it. This silica project will pollute, disturb, and destroy this water source. Our water sources are already threatened enough. Stop putting resources into this project! Stop it!

998

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I believe this UNTESTED mining proposal poses a serious risk of contaminating the aquifer that thousands rely on for clean, safe drinking water. Although the proposal has been "amended" since it was first presented, it is essentially the same and does not ensure that its environmental impacts will not be disasterous over the longer term. The monetary benefits, including employment, it may provide will not offset the damage it may cause. Please do not allow this project to go forward unless an in-depth analysis is performed that proves it will not cause irreparable damage. Thank you.

999

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We are against this project and want it stopped.

1000

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Concerned for my family and for the waste of what the alternative would be if there is no clean water.

1001

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We want this organization GONE ![redacted]

1002

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed silica sand extraction project from the aqueduct that serves as a critical water source for thousands of people. This plan poses significant environmental and public health risks, including:

Threat to Water Security: The aqueduct is a vital lifeline for communities. Any disruption or contamination could jeopardize clean water access for thousands.

Ecological Impact: Removing silica sand can destabilize the aqueducts structure and surrounding ecosystems, leading to long-term damage.

Public Trust and Safety: Projects that compromise essential resources undermine community confidence and could have irreversible consequences.

I urge you to reconsider this proposal and prioritize sustainable alternatives that protect both our water supply and the environment. The potential short-term economic benefits cannot outweigh the long-term harm to public health and ecological stability.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

1003

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It is not a good idea to put something like this in place when the results are ineffective- use common sense to stop this before it gets out of control

1004

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I live in the very small community of Vivian. Our property borders, where this would start the effects on our water table, and our house are very concerning to me and those who live around me we have voiced this before at meetings and we have the science to back it up, which has also been discussed at the meetings. This will endanger our community as a whole, not to mention bring down property value.

1005

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Stop project I feel that our water wells and creeks would be at risk for contamination

1006

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We are against silo silica

1007

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Im worried this project can contaminate wells and rivers.

Im opposed to it.

1008

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please reject this project. It is too risky to potentially affect the drinking water of so many Manitobans.

1009

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Im concerned that this company has a side deal with our mayor. There is no transparency on how our drinking water will be affected as well. Please take a hard look into this.

1010

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My family and I live [redacted] and we are extremely concerned that if the SIO Silica project is allowed to continue it could seriously have a negative effect on the water quality, and aquifer in this area.

I believe that property values would also be negatively affected as prior to granting a mortgage on a property financial institutions require confirmation of a satisfactory potable water source.

If the aquifer is compromised due to this drilling the rural home owners in the entire area would be negatively affected and may not be able to sell their homes. Many potential buyers even if they could obtain a mortgage may decide not to purchase in this area as they obviously would be concerned their water could be contaminated in the future!

I definitely say NO to allowing SIO Silica to proceed with this project!

1011

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Risking our aquifer for this mine makes no sense for the long term trade-off. Manitoba should be open to business but not at the expense of our water systems or with severe enviromental impact

1012

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The aquifer system beneath Springfield is one of the most valuable natural resources in our province. Once compromised, it cannot be restored. Many experts, local residents, and environmental advocates have raised serious concerns about potential impacts on groundwater quality, ecosystem health, and the sustainability of the regions drinking water supply. These concerns have not been adequately addressed.

The long-term well-being of Manitobans must come before short-term industrial gain. The precautionary principle should guide all decisions involving critical and irreplaceable natural resources.

I respectfully urge the Government of Manitoba to say no to the Sio Silica project and to prioritize the safety, health, and interests of the people who call Springfield and Manitoba home.

1013

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please protect our aquifer and not executives pockets!

1014

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I understand these people are trying again, but this time saying they are taking extra precautions to protect our aquifer water. If that was possible, why didn't they offer that the first time? Says something about trying to save money the first time. Also, they have not offered any compensation or repair when there is an aquifer problem. They can guarantee NOTHING, and risk the water, thus land value for over 100,000 people. I vote another resounding NO no matter how many times they reapply to risk our water.

1015

Date: 11-27-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: NO to sio silica!!!! Period!

1016

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There are far too many risks associated with this project (which is why it was rejected last year). Too many people rely on this drinking water, the risks are not worth it.

1017

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Very concerned about risks to drinking water.

1018

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: NO TO SIO SILLICA !!!! Our water is too precious !!! Were already struggling so much with wild fires and polluted bodies of water. This needs to stop !!!!!

1019

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: What happens if our water does become contaminated from this project?

We lose fresh drinking water

We lose property value

We lose communities

Would experimental mining be allowed next or filtered into Shoal lake?

Silo can pack up and leave with no consequences if the projects environment safeguards fail while many people who live in the area will be changed forever.

Even if Silo is fined it would never be enough,after theyve changed their name,offshored the profits and claim bankruptcy the people of Manitoba lose.

The project was turned down once because of environmental issues and I do not see any reason to trust the company changing practices.

1020

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The land, the water and all its people are too important to risk for such a silly money scheme

1021

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our water is the most valued resource! We are fortunate to have drinkable water unlike other areas in the province and the world. We can not have Sio company endanger our water. I have studied geology in university and have seen how water can be destroyed and lost if we do not protect it. Please do not let them drill for silica sand in the Springfield municipality and the surrounding municipalities.

1022

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My concerns are water quality, run off of extraction, wildlife endangerment and Lake Winnipeg and how it will be it impact our dying Lake. The potential for the Brokenhead River and impacts on our river which flows to Lake Winnipeg.

The dangers that exists and the political corruption that is associated with Sio Silica.

I have no faith in the proposal as the CEC has proven by first application.

I believe the Gov of MB should not grant this application.

1023

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We, as citizens of Manitoba, need to protect our drinking water from any such projects. It is not a safe extraction of silica.

1024

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I dont think they should be able to do anything to the ground. I think its not safe

1025

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: In 2023 over 95% voted NO on mining the Winnipeg Sandstone aquafer risking one of manitoba's largest aquafers. Being almost sure that there won't be any contamination to the water supply that services so many people in the that large area is not enough. If Sio Silica botches their operation, life will never be the same. In my opinion, it's not worth the cost to tamper with such a vital resourse.

1026

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Bad idea

1027

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project needs to be permanently disallowed. If this should go through who will pay to have our water trucked into our homes. What will happen to our property values.

1028

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I say no. It seems far too risky.

1029

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am against this. You approve this and you loose my vote.

1030

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Looking at the cost benefit this project doesn't meet the threshold

1031

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I don't want my water being contaminated by shady practices

1032

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We are opposed to the sio silica project. We use well water in land immediately adjacent to the RM of Springfield and are concerned about ground water contamination and irreparable contamination to the area aquifer/ground water.

1033

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Underground water protection is my main concern

1034

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not want this done because it is too risky environmentally and will harm many daily lives in Manitoba

1035

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As an avid water drinker I think this project is unsafe and possess a far greater risk to my community than any potential benefit.

1036

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have lived in the area for the past 17 years. There is no guarantee that the water quality of the aquifers in the region will not be compromised by this project. Water is life. There is no substitute for clean water. Risking contamination of the our water source is not worth any amount of money. We need to downsize development and learn to live with less energy and material resources. I am willing to reduce my energy use on a personal level and to make the necessary lifestyle changes in order to create a more sustainable future for generations to come. I would hope that the government would look at ways to live within our means from an environmental perspective rather than looking at development at the express of environmental health. Our health and wellness as a community and as human beings depends on the health of our land and water. This project is of particular concern to me because it would directly affect the aquifer that my drinking water comes from. The Clean Environment Commission's recommendation of the cumulative effects assessment has not been completed. Furthermore, this issue was already studied in detail and hearings held back in 2023. These findings should be taken seriously.

1037

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I dont think this project should be approved until there is more research on the environmental impacts that it could have.

1038

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No

1039

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: What is the remedy if it was to go wrong? Don't you think you've messed enough stuff already?

1040

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: People all over the world are fighting for clean water. We are lucky enough to have the freshest water aquifers under our feet. Underneath that, a temptation to profit. If things go wrong our livelihood is destroyed. Our land, worthless. All for the mighty dollar. We as humans, have raped our resources for greed beyond what we need. If this were to proceed, we won't know till its too late and the people that started and once worked here, will be gone. We will be left behind without so much as an apology. People will call us idiot for tampering with the most valuable resource of earth. Our water. I do not feel a science experiment, an untested method of extraction, should proceed. For the future of us all.

1041

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am deeply concerned about how an out of province company will use money to jeopardize the safety of Manitoban citizens. No amount of environmental studies will make this a project that is worth risking our province and the long term effects it can have on our resources.

1042

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I believe this project would be harmful to people and the environment. I do not believe that this project would better water quality in Manitoba, but rather lower its quality. I would feel much safer drinking water if this company was not involved in the process.

1043

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I oppose Sio Silicas proposed silica-sand mining project in Manitoba. Our drinking water and environment should be fully protected, and I urge the project not be approved unless it is proven safe, independently reviewed, publicly transparent, and supported by affected communities. Our safety is not negotiable. Our future is worth protecting.

1044

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My concern is long term aquifer impacts such ad feasability,shale collapse,water quality change,actual well interference,climate sensetivity, incomplete geochemical dataset, lack of robust recharge and water balance measurements. Conditions which will cause dissolution of selenium, arsenic and uranium contained in materal that collapses into the mined sand cavity.

1045

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I don't think we should risk our groundwater with untested mining techniques.

1046

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The lack of concern regarding health risks

No transparency or consultation on the effects of our environment which is already fragile

contamination to our drinking water, our province cannot provide drinking water systems to our northern communities so why are we even risking it in the first place?!

1047

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: What is the back up plan if an incident occurs and water is contaminated. Who will cover costs for repairs, and compensate home owners.

1048

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing this to support the project. I and my family live [redacted] from the project site and we draw our well water from an upper aquifer that extends to the entirety of the drill and extraction project. Reviewing the documentation and attending multiple open houses, I believe the issues related to the CEC have been addressed and the company has gone above and beyond to ensure operations, monitoring and decommissioning are managed properly. I spent a career in oil and gas activities including environmental protection. This method of drilling and extraction relative to the thousands of drilling from water wells, oil and gas wells, geothermal well to well, - is the most benign method comparatively. The water impacts are manageable. Motivating more than anything is the fear mongering I hear in my own community- the misinformation is ignorant and misguided, hijacked by special interests groups taking advantage of vulnerable uneducated who are emotionally charged. Let the scientists and engineers do their job in this review process. We cant say because this project impacts water and drinking water that its too risky - on that basis nearly all mining projects will be too risky, including the approved CPS. If we are for critical mineral mining, which we are officially as government policy, then the question is simply has the company through its engineers and scientists shown they can manage and protect the water just like any orher responsible mining interest. We use the silica mineral, even just to provide this portal, every single day in our modern tech society. All modern tech is built on silica and silicon. Most don't see the irony in commenting here negatively on the project, while using Silicon Valley technology here and every day of their lives. Review the project fairly as scientists, engineers and environmental practitioners. If done so fairly, I personally believe in my own research to inform myself this project is a good one for our area and in keeping with the Provinces critical minerals development strategy.

1049

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our well is 230 ft down in a limestone pocket. If this should become clogged with sand with this extraction process who will provide water so that we can or our children can continue living here .who will pay the thousands of dollars in trying to find alternative water sources? Our aquifers viability is very very important to us and we hope this new application is rejected.

Yours

[redacted]

1050

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No, we don't need the SIO SILICA.

1051

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am strongly opposed to this project. Nothing should put drinking water at risk for anyone in Manitoba, especially for the profit of a private company. The East Saint Paul representative for Manitoba should have no business being on the board for the company as well.

1052

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please dont risk our water.

1053

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: While I understand the value of natural resources to our economy I know the value of potable drinking water. Has this process been used in other locations and what is the success rate. How has this impacted the surrounding community in a negative way. What safeguards are in place to ensure this process will not impact our drinking water. If this is a failure will Sio be held responsible to provide water systems to all communities affected. I attended a presentation by Dr. Eva Pip many years ago where she discussed companies and failed projects where water resources had been negatively affected. The companies failed to uphold their contracts, claimed bankruptcy and walked away with no repercussions. What securities are in place to protect ratepayers. Have the environmental studies provided enough information to ensure that potable water throughout the R.M. of Springfield and other communities north of us are guaranteed what is now safe drinking water. I am opposed to this going forward at this time because I feel that not enough has been done to protect our water supply.

1054

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This operation could result in contamination to many peoples water sources

1055

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: After attending public forums hosted by the RM of Springfield councillors and Sio Silica, the potential to compromise the drinking water through the proposed extraction of the silica sand in the Vivian area of Manitoba which is within the RM of Springfield is very concerning. Without the quality water we currently have access to, the residents of Springfield will be left with extremely undervalued properties.

It would be a great hardship to all the families who would have their water compromised to effectively sell their properties or have alternative methods of clean drinking water delivered.

It is not probable that the RM of Springfield would be able to support a water treatment facility that would provide treated drinking water to every residence. The RM is just too large.

The cost to support all the properties with compromised water would come from where? Who would provide a solution to the families?

The other concern is over the regulations that Sio would be required to abide when mining the sand. The Province of Manitoba is the regulating body, but without sufficient resources to perform the oversight, errors on the part of Sio can be made with stark consequences before the errors are uncovered and penalties assigned. By that time, it may be a little too late for the residents of Springfield.

In all my readings and research on this organization (Sio), I do not have confidence that they have the interest of protecting the quality of the aquifers for which they will be drilling.

I do understand that as a province, we need investment and growth, however, I do not believe that the untried mining method presented by Sio is the correct format, nor do I believe that Sio operates with integrity. This is evident through their dealings with the previous provincial government whereby the past premier (Heather Stefanson), the former deputy premier (Cliff Cullen) and former cabinet minister (Jeff Wharton) were fined for their unethical behaviour. If Sio is willing to work with those who present in an unethical manner, what is to stop them from continuing to operate in an unethical manner? Trust has been broken and Sio has not amended this mistrust.

There is also no ruling in the Province of Manitoba whereby a person has to sign in or provide personal information such as a phone number or email address to attend a public forum. At the recent "public forum" presented by Sio Silica at the Canad Inns Regent Avenue, I was physically stopped by the CEO of Sio, Carla Devlin. When I objected to signing in with personal information, she with 2 large men standing behind her blocked my path into the forum unless I signed in. Again red flags of unethical behaviour.

Further, this "public forum" had the location wrong in the Winnipeg Free Press and the Clipper paper. It was posted as the Club Regent Event Centre. More red flags.

1056

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please do not risk our drinking water for companoes to mine with untested methods. We should not be putting profits before our population and disrupting our eco systems.

1057

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We must protect our water . Water is sacred and we all depend on it . This mining will most certainly put the water in the aquifer at risk .

1058

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Dear Madams and Sirs,

I am [redacted]. The RCT group is globally active in the field of green industrial transformation. We are producing batteries and inverters, setting up worldwide solar manufacturing and green hydrogen production facilities.

High purity quartz is the major critical material for our solar industry. It serves as key raw component to produce the base material for the solar industry: Silicon. It is needed during manufacturing process for example Silicon melting crucibles for crystal growth (same as used in semiconductor wafer industry) and for quartz tubes to produce solar cells (same tubes are used in semiconductor device industry as well). Futhermore, a large amount of quartz sand is used for solar glass needed to make solar modules. The solar sector is expected to double in next ten years.

Energy storage is a key critical element of future energy supply system, enhancing electromobiliy, electrify industrial sectors such as glass, steel, advanced automation and the large scale increase of datacenter for the global launch of artificial intelligence. Advanced battery cell designs include silicon material in their electrode structure to increase battery cell efficiency and lifetime. Additionally, advanced power electronics necessitated for the integration of above energy storage uses Silicon carbide power devices which need high purity silicon. The energy storage sectors based on battery systems is expected to grow by 5 times in the next ten years.

Currently most quartz used in our transformation sector are harvested from open pit mines in a non sustainable way.

As a conclusive statement, the Simba Sand Extraction project could be one of world wide leading mining operations to support the global sustainable transformation sector with the needed critical mineral of high purity quartz sand. The way of mining shown by Sio is far more sustainable as compared to the current open pit quartz mining operations. Simba Sand Extraction project can serve the world reducing its carbon footprint by supporting solar energy and energy storage industry as one leading player with a positive impact on Manitoba province and its economy.

Greetings [redacted]

1059

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our drinking water is not worth corporate gains. Say no to sio silica! our peoples health, and our communities future is at risk if this is passed. Me and my fellow neighbours will fight this at every level in the RM of Tache! No NO NOOOO

1060

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Can't support any project that will compromise our aquaphors in any way!

1061

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have concerns for our drinking water. Why is Alberta conflicting with Manitoban resources?

1062

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Stop this project!!

1063

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am against this project

1064

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Working in power electronics and advanced battery materials, including silicon-carbide devices and silicon-rich anodes, I look at Sio Silica from both a local and global perspective.

1. Local environmental focus

The key local issue is the behaviour of the aquifer over decades. Any approval should require a dense network of production and observation wells, continuous recording of water levels and quality, and predefined limits that automatically trigger investigation or shutdown. Where drilling fluids, fuels or other hazardous substances are used, they should fall under strict handling and emergency-planning rules to minimise spill risk.

2. Global technology context

High-purity silica is a precursor for SiC wafers and silicon-based anodes, which enable very efficient PV inverters and grid equipment, high-efficiency EV drivetrains and batteries with higher energy density. These technologies directly reduce energy losses and emissions.

If the groundwater safeguards described above are in place and enforced, approving Sio Silica would, in my view, create more environmental benefit than harm: local water is protected, and globally important clean-energy technologies gain a secure, responsibly regulated raw-material source.

1065

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This could endanger water quality and sio (or any corporation) will do all they can to avoid responsibility and/or repair to the environment /water.

No means no.

1066

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We need to consider the long term risks mining will pose to the water in the area. We can't reverse this once its done and many families will lose access to drinking water. We can not drink money. We only have one environment and we need to show it proper care so our children and grandchildren can thrive.

1067

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Brings the international PV manufacturing perspective, saying SiMbA can relieve raw-material bottlenecks while still protecting water and communities.

1068

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: concerning for populations that depend on that water supply

1069

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Re: Opposition to Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project File #6275:

*Once again, Sio Silicas assessment of their revised project does not allow for an evidence-based decision. This conflicts with best practice standards for Impact Assessment.

*Mining for minerals must not be fast tracked. A sound assessment is critical.

*97.2% of this planet's water is in the oceans, 2.15% in glaciers and polar ice caps, less than 1% is in surface and groundwater of which groundwater is 0.31%. Much of that groundwater is not usable because it has been ruined by fracking, mining, or irremediable spills. Water is too precious and the risk too great, this project must NOT receive an Environment Act License.

*Given the need to protect local and regional groundwater sources, it is distressing that this project is being considered again.

*The further reduction of the mining area for environmental assessment and only a 5 year period out of a multi-generational mine life, prevents full assessment of all environmental, economic, and social risks and impacts from the project. This conflicts with best practice standards for Impact Assessment.

*It is unacceptable that Sio Silica failed to undertake the cumulative impact assessment as recommended by the CEC. In order for environmental assessments to be done well, they must include an assessment of cumulative effects. (CEC 2014, 2018)

*The Sio Silica extraction project is experimental and remains unproven. If this experiment is licensed, the previously approved sand processing facility will be built for the experiment. This must not be allowed. It is unreasonable to hand an Environment Act License to an experiment. Sios proposal perverts the assessment and licensing process.

*Mining, processing, and transport operations will occur 24/7/365, up to 100 meters from homes. The potential for air quality impacts have not been adequately assessed. The assessment of noise and artificial light pollution have been ignored.

*Operations will have direct impacts on the land. Trees/brush will be cleared and loss of habitat will impact known species at risk. Many properties contain old growth, these are irreplaceable.

*Access roads will be required for the heavy machinery and truck traffic, impacting farm land and livestock and wildlife. Operations will create continual distress and worry, negatively impact our livelihoods and communities and will impinge on the enjoyment of our property.

*The disinfection method for the return of mined water back to the aquifer remains unproven. This is a major component of the project that should have been thoroughly proven prior to the licensing process. This gives 100,000 Manitobans no assurance that the Water will remain safe and dependable nor that their best interests are being protected.

*Sio now admits their return of mined, oxygenated water, to the aquifer results in oxidizing conditions that will cause dissolution of selenium, arsenic, and uranium contained in material that collapses into the mined sand cavity. Figure 4-10, shows selenium above drinking water guideline levels for 7 years until it slowly disperses.

*The X1t model is 1Dimensional and did not consider how the contaminate plume interacts with other mined cavities or how ongoing mining that increases gradients and flow, impacts movement. With collapse of the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard, the oxygen and contaminants can potentially move into the overlying Carbonate Aquifer.

*A thorough assessment of all potential oxygen sources introduced into the aquifer system by operations (i.e. from airlift method, type (entrained) have not been undertaken. Until this is addressed the modelling grossly underestimates oxidation potential.

*Reducing the number of industrial sized boreholes for assessment, underestimates project effects and misleads the public.

*Borehole mining causes the irreversible collapse of the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard which separates the two aquifers - Carbonate and Sandstone Aquifers. Fractured limestone in the Carbonate aquifer also collapses. Collapse of this geological material prevents proper sealing/abandonment of the boreholes. This increases the aquifers vulnerability to contamination from surface sources.

*Over the life-time of the mine, thousands of industrial sized boreholes, monitoring and vertical boreholes will be drilled all up to 100 meters of homes. These boreholes will be perpetual sources for contamination from surface sources. It takes ONE failed or soiled well to cause damage. Certain land uses will be prohibited to prevent contamination to the groundwater i.e. chemical agriculture, livestock, manure spreading, housing, septic systems,

*To grant this project a license would be an agreement to the destruction of two irreplaceable aquifers. This is not stewardship. We do not get a second chance.

*We all rely on our environment and must care for it. We need to know the truth about impacts from development to avoid mistakes that will be costly to our children. Particularly when it comes to Water, there is no room for error.

*We cannot have healthy communities and a strong economy if we are not committed to evidence-based decision making, an accountable public service, and transparent public process.

*With its potential to cause significant and irreversible harm to Manitobas drinking water, the Sio Silica project must be rejected now. If it should be allowed to continue, it must be designated a Class 3 development and the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission be convened to hold a public hearing to review the project with full participant funding.

*The Sio Silica project illustrates the need to strengthen Manitobas dangerously flawed assessment and licensing process under The Environment Act and The Mines and Minerals Act.

*The entire Sio Silica project must be subject to a thorough, independent public inquiry under The Evidence Act to ensure that our democratic institutions and process are sound.

1070

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The Sio Sillica's Project has provided zero research about potential ground water contamination, which is an inevitable consequence of drilling. Ground water needs to be protected!

1071

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I oppose this project. It's not acceptable to mine in a aquifer where a mass population rely on the drinking water. Sio Silica is not for the people of Manitoba! They are twisting the facts on radio airways. At the CEC hearing the potential threats from Sio extraction is real. Something is wrong when a company trys various tactics to advance there agenda. No is no. Pubic officials work for the people and have said no. Where's the accountability this is not a neutral matter. There is no replacing high grade ground water for high grade failure at the cost of southern Manitoba. Water is a precious resource that needs protecting not profiteering in a unethical manner. Lots of talk about future generations, we need to act as Stewart's of the land and make sure they are protected resources for are children. Please do not grant this company and environmental license. Thank you [redacted]

1072

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Do not let people that arent even from here touch our drinking water

1073

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Extracting silica sands in South Manitoba is a very dangerous endeavor. It's already been rejected, so please keep it rejected!! The environmental impact is crazy! The risk of contaminating drinking water is huge! With more wild fires happening every summer and droughts, how are we going to support our province by risking ground water that 100 000 communities in Manitoba use on a daily basis. Please just don't! As safe as they will make it sound, one mistake is all it takes to ruin thousands of lives.

1074

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Very concerned with the risk to our water aquifer. Please say no to the Sio Silica

1075

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This matter was already rejected by the premier so why is it again being evaluated. Enough with destroying the land, drinking water and hurting the wildlife in the name of a profit. I oppose it.

There is no Plan B planet!!!!

1076

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I believe this project will cause more damage to water quality, air quality and wildlife much more than any economic benefits it could provide. This project should not happen, this company should definitely not be allowed to do it and they should not be able to reapply for permission.

1077

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Can you guarantee 100% that this project will not affect the water and air quality at all? If not, why would anyone support such a project? There's only a few things humans need to survive and water and air are two of those things absolutely required. Even any small difference is too steep a price for this.

1078

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I live in North Kildonan and have friends and go to East St Paul often. I do not want the Sio Scilica project to be approved. Our drinking water is too important to risk. They have not proven that this is safe.

1079

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Firstly, I am against Sio Silica pursuing a silica sand extraction project in the province of Manitoba.

The Aquifer is the only freshwater source available for SE MB. Water is life. With no water there will be no life! I am very concerned for the people and the environment being affected by this unsubstantiated method of extracting silica sand. There are so many bodies of water that are all connected and can be affected and potentially be contaminated by this drilling operation such as Lake Winnipeg, the Red River, Brokenhead River, Whitemouth River, the Brokenhead Wetlands, etc.

Sio Silica would be drilling wells/holes into our precious aquifer and they say that this drilling will not affect the stability and contamination of the aquifer which so many communities rely on for their water supply. They say they will fill the wells once they finish with it, with a mixture of benzonite and cement. How can they 100% assure us that the aquifer will not de-stabilize or become contaminated with this unsubstantiated method of drilling?

Well drillers do not send aerated mined water back into the aquifer which can mobilize toxic heavy metals. Well drillers do not pass aerated mine water through a UV treatment system that may be ineffective because it has never been proven.

Because this method of extracting has never been proven, why would we allow Sio Silica to use the only aquifer in SE Manitoba as an experiment and risk the chance that our water be

contaminated?? Not only contaminating the aquifer but because many bodies of water are connected could potentially contaminate all.

I am also concerned for the people living close to the plant dealing with dust from the sand, light and noise pollution that they did not have before.

I know I moved into the country for the peace and quiet, to enjoy the nature around me and for the beautiful views of the night sky. The people of Vivian and outskirts won't have that anymore if this extraction plant is approved by CEC.

I am also concerned that Sio Silica nor the government have no plans in place should the water become contaminated. This contamination is irreversible so again why would we allow Sio Silica to be approved for this extraction process??

So I am requesting that the Clean Environment Commission deny Sio Silica to move forward as I feel this will be the only way we can be assured that our water and the environment will be protected.

I request an acknowledgement from the CEC that you have received my email. Thank-you.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

1080

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Signing to protect the drinking water, and wildlife.

1081

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This will have negative effects on the environment. Please DO NOT APPROVE.

1082

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: More post mining analysis of environmental and health factors is needed before considering a project like this.

1083

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio-Silica has submitted to the Manitoba Department of the Environment and Climate Change to establish a silica sand mining operation on a triangular shaped parcel of land at the intersection of PR 302 and PTH 15 in the Rural Municipality of Springfield, Manitoba. The drilling site is bounded on the north and the south by CN rail lines. The proposal includes a pipeline to transport the silica sand to a cleaning plant to the north of Highway 15 which appears that it would require the pipeline to cross the north bounding railway either over or under it. I was not able to determine if CN Rail has approved the crossing of the rail line by Sio-Silicas pipeline. I am also concerned with the proximity of the rail lines to the drill hole locations. Land under and on the sides of rail lines are commonly contaminated with various compounds due to rail operations. Has testing been completed around these locations up to the drill hole locations to ensure that there are no contaminants that could coat the outer shell of the drills that are intended to go into the ground, contaminating the aquifers and through the shale layer into the silica sand supply.

In addition there is a substantial peat marsh vein running into the drill site from the east which would send water flowing west to the North Red River Watershed. According to the Canada Soil Survey Bulletin for the RM of Reynold which is largely peat marsh and forest peat bounding on the RM of Springfield approximately 5-7 miles to the east of the proposed Sio-Silica drill site, contaminants spread much quicker through peat because of the water content and flow, than through solid soil. In addition to possible contaminants if any exist from the rail line, Sio Silica/Simba now admits their return of mined, oxygenated water, to the aquifer results in oxidizing conditions.

New X1t modelling show induced oxidizing conditions will cause dissolution of selenium, arsenic, and uranium contained in material that collapses into the mined sand cavity.

If there any of these contaminants they will travel quickly through the peat vein and the water table veins. If there is arsenic present normal filtration and UV filters will not be sufficient to neutralize arsenic already in our water supply from the outer skin of the bore pipes when water is pumped in and sucked back out again.

The Province should require that the test bore holes and the surrounding soil up to the rail lines undergo independent environmental impact testing for contaminants and ensure that the method of drilling isnt contaminating the peat and the water veins through the aquifer.

In addition an independent geologist report should be commissioned to confirm that the shale layer will not give out during drilling through it or in carrying the weight from open rooms of removed silica sand.

Based on Sio-Silicas equipment illustrations, it looks like the drying unit that carries the sand from the bore hole pipe to the pipeline carrying the sand to the cleaning plant, is not sealed to the air around the unit. I would hope that a thorough inspection of that equipment be carried out to ensure that it is all air tight to keep that dust from entering our air space.

As a resident[redacted] of the Rural Municipality of Reynolds I am concerned there is not much difference between the application Sio-Silica was rejected for in 2024 and this application. This is too close to home to feel any confidence in this company and the application now before Manitoba Environment and Climate Change. We are very recently seeing the devastating problem Virden, Manitoba is experiencing with arsenic contaminated water supply and our corner of Manitoba consists of a very large region of very sensitive peat lands that serve an important environmental habitat to many species of animals, birds and plant life and our water supply. This is too easily a recipe for disaster if something goes wrong.

1084

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The waters my ancestors have watched over for millennia

1085

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Are drinking water is so important we dont even realize.

What is in our water will end up in our body

1086

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Dont "Americanize" our water and ruin it!!!!! We are better than that!!!! PROTECT OUR PRECIOUS DRINKING WATER!!!!

1087

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: A resounding "NO" to Sio Silica and the company's proposals. It's interesting that Sio Silica chose to hold its public meeting outside the municipality that will be directly affected by Sio Silica's plans; does that not convey the appearance of manipulation, followed by mendacity and greed? And we are encouraged to believe what they say?

In 2023 Dr. Eva Pip wrote a well-reasoned submission opposing Sio Silica's project, (formerly CanWhite Sands). I graduated from Geology and have an appreciation of the potential adverse affects Sio Silica's proposal could wreak if allowed to go through with their proposed action plan. I hope that decision-makers will exercise their cumulative knowledge and follow the dictates of their conscience to reject unequivocally Sio Silica's proposal.

I am reminded by a wise saying that is in many cultures' thinking. Loosely paraphrased, "Treat the earth well. It was not given to you by your parents but was lent to you by your children." We would do well to remember that.

To reiterate, a resounding "NO" to Sio Silica.

1088

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Based upon the information provided by the applicant I feel the process would be safe and the opportunity for our province would be extremely beneficial.

The need for economic development, jobs and opportunities can not be discredited.

Science and facts need to be the priority decision making engine and not the what ifs. Individuals who like to hear themselves whine and complain have to be stopped from damaging Manitoba's reputation and its time Manitoba finally steps up and does it's share for Canada.

1089

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: NOTICE OF OPPOSITION

TO SIO SILICA PROJECT

My environmental concern related to the Sio Silica Simba Sand Extraction Project is the reduced quality of water within the vicinity and surrounding area.

1090

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our water is too precious. There are too many risks involved. NO TO SIO SILICA!!!!

1091

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very concerned about potential impacts this project could have on local drinking water. Proposed method of mining has not been appropriately tested for long-term effects, and a reduced timeframe of the project makes me even more concerned. Please help to protect the health of local people and wildlife by extending timeframe to provide for more thorough testing and safety measures to be put in place.

1092

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This would pose a Risk to drinking water aquifers,

hydrogeological uncertainty, the extraction method has no long term research or data, potential contamination and geochemical risks and would pose an unacceptable long-term risk to water security which is fundamentally important, especially for communities relying on private wells.

1093

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: its crazy that the mayor of east saint paul is allowed to sit on the board of the company that wants to mine the sad wild conflict of interest

1094

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a professional engineer (retired) I have read the application and declare my full support for the approval of the project going forward. The studies , analysis , and reports have dealt with and provided mitigation plans for the environmental concerns including those expressed by members of the public. Furthermore , the application deals effectively with potential concerns that may arise as the project proceeds to the operating phase.

While environmental issues must receive the highest priority there must be a balance with the much needed benefit of economical development. Satifying every minor concern emanating from any and all sources is fundamentally impossible. I urge the approval by CEC for this application.

1095

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: To whom it may concern

We currently live in the town of Oakbank. We are opposed to the Sio Silica drilling operation in Vivian Mb. Our drinking water comes from the aquifer in Vivian.

We have attended numerous meetings, and scheduled events to educated ourselves on this proposed drilling project.

We are very concerned about our drinking water quality should Sio be allowed to proceed. Fresh water sources all over the world have been compromised by mining, fracking, and toxic spills or contamination. The Vivian aquifer provides more than 100,000 residents in the province their drinking water.

The promise of jobs and money means nothing if we lose our quality drinking water.

We cannot afford to gamble with our water supply.

Our lives , our future and the generations to come depend on quality water. Please stop Sio Silica from drilling in Springfield!

Sincerely,

[redacted]

1096

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Contaminating our water source and creating sink holes will make this area possible swamp, Land unworkable and our properties worthless.

We must do what ever it takes to protect our water.

WHAT CAN WE DO?

1097

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My concern as the extraction of sand for this project is untested. If the water aquifer is contaminated it cannot be reversed. Fresh water is the basis for life and we MUST protect it. My understanding is that Silica sand is more carcinogenic than asbestos. How will residents in the area of this project be affected with the volume of sand being removed. Please do not approve this project. The risks are too high!!

1098

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project was already once rejected and deemed too risky. That statement alone should stand with value itself as corporate greed and profits are being put over long term effects for generations to come. This will affect our sustainability as a province with access to water. I also believe many indigenous communities should be surveyed and sourced before any decisions are made on this land, I highly oppose this project as it can directly affect the environment and many Manitobans drinkable water sources. It was deemed too risky in the past and rejected.

There is no new information proving otherwise. It is a liability to think that in one years time all the risk has disappeared to the point of it being a sustainable, safe and beneficial long term.

This project is a disaster waiting to happen and should be rejected, denied and cancelled all together.

The water quality will be affected by tapping this source reducing what we as Manitobans already have. As a metis person I do not agree with this. I am also concerned about the air quality and pollution that will absolutely inhabit this province, this in turn will displace wildlife, their food source as well as the natural eco systems surrounding the area. Our water belongs to the land and to the inhabitants of this land. Not to corporate greed. Wab Kinew please save our province and our water. Reject this proposal.

1099

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No to SIO SILICA project

1100

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project is too big of a risk, water is a precious resource that cannot be wasted. Contamination of our water supply would be called an accident but it is totally preventable

1101

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our drinking water is too precious to risk , I say no to sio sillica

1102

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I strongly oppose the dangerous and irresponsible silica mining project.

1103

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Approving this project is destroying the aquifers, providing water to our lakes which are drying up. It is forcing more coyotes into our urban areas, putting more citizens at risk of injuries. It is the significant increase of carbon dioxide we would be releasing into the atmosphere from the mining process. No one wants this for our communities.

1104

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Mining the sands is a huge risk to our drinking water, especially since this technique has not been used before. There is a reason why this was rejected. Our drinking water should not be risked!

1105

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Alberta doesn't want this in their province due to the environmental concerns Our province has been going through drought conditions. The cattle industry has rebounded after years of low prices. Man and beast were not designed to breath dust. The smoke from fires we cant control and now we are supposed to breath dust for some companies bottom line. Its just not worth our health and environment to welcome this project. I do not want it. We said no once already. Quit negotiating an assault to the municipality No means No!

1106

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our drinking water is too precious a commodity to take ANY risks with! Especially from Alberta companies that are used to putting profits over people. I hope Manitoba will continue to lead with integrity, putting the well being of Manitobans first, and not be influenced by corporate corruption!

1107

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: "These comments are in response to the Environment Act Proposal (EAP) for the Sio Silica Corporations proposed Simba Sand Extraction Project (formerly known as the Vivian Sand Extraction Project). Based on the information provided by Sio Silica in the EAP and their behaviour over the past few years, I think the Simba silica sand extraction project should be rejected now and not be allowed to move forward in the assessment and licensing process.

The ongoing concerns about the potential impacts of silica sand extraction on environment and human health have not been alleviated by the information in the EAP for the proposed Simba Project. Sio Silicas failure to address the main concerns and recommendations of the Clean Environment Commission (CEC) and produce credible data to support their novel extraction process is a major red flag and an indication that this project is not being developed with the best interests of Manitobans in mind.

As noted by our Premier Wab Kinew when Sio Silicas extraction project was rejected for the first time: In order for Manitobans to be healthy now and for generations into the future, we have to protect a clean, safe and healthy environment. This will require a high standard of impact assessment and meaningful public participation, including participant funding, to ensure the full scope of concerns and potential impacts are properly understood before irreversible harm occurs to the Winnipeg Sandstone and Red River Carbonate aquifers.

I agree with Premier Wab Kinew that Manitobas resources should be developed with higher labour standards, higher environmental standards and greater respect for human rights compared to any other jurisdiction in the world. So, I think that if this project is allowed to continue through the impact assessment and licensing process under The Environment Act, the Minister/Director should take the following actions:

1) Designate the Simba Silica Sand Project as a Class 3 development due to the potential significant and irreversible harm to the drinking water source of 100,000 Manitobans. A Class 3 designation will also ensure the Minister is the decision-maker for the impact assessment and licensing process.

2) Require Sio Silica to produce and publicly publish a cumulative effects assessment report before proceeding any further in the licensing process.

3) Require Sio Silica to produce and publicly publish their plans for post-approval practices (monitoring, follow-up and adaptive management) and emergencies in the public registry so they can be independently reviewed prior to the licensing decision.

4) Request the CEC to hold a public hearing to review Project Simba, with full participant funding.

Thank-you for considering my comments on Sio Silicas proposed Simba extraction

1108

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There is zero mention of aroundwater contamination as a risk for this project. Once groundwater becomes contaminated (be this heavv metals, PCBs, volatile orqanics, acidification, or otherwise) it will flow awav from the point source and is nearlv, if not 100%, impossible to remediate. For more information, please see (1). Furthermore, this proposal is in direct contravention of The Manitoba' Groundwater and Water Well Act. C.C.S.M. c. G110 Requlation 215/2015 section 3(1): "a person must not construct or seal a well or test hole in a manner that

allows the interconnection or mixing of groundwater between the Winnipeg Formation and any overlying aquifer." (2) And if test pits have alreadv been drilled into the shale, sandstone, and sands of the Ordovician Winnipeg Formation, there must be legal, financial ramifications per section 3(2). References:

(1 https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate -change/services /water-overview/pollution - causes-effects/ qroundwater-contaminatior .html

(2) https://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/regs/current/215-2015.php?srchlite="winnipeg formation "#3

1109

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Going forward with this project would sacrifice the precious drinking water in the area as well as cause harm to the environment as a whole. Residents are overwhelmingly against this project. Most of us are rural and rely on well water. We must protect our water.

1110

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The Manitoba Minister of Environment and Climate Change in charge of environmental projects is Mike Moyes, as he was sworn into office in January 2025. However, the Sio Silica project was already denied an environmental license by the province in February 2024, a decision announced by Premier Wab Kinew and then-minister Tracy Schmidt.

Current Minister: Mike Moyes is the current Minister of Environment and Climate Change.

Project Status: The contentious Sio Silica project was denied an environmental license by the province in February 2024.

Previous Minister: Tracy Schmidt was the Minister of Environment and Climate Change at the time of the project's denial.

Decision: The decision to deny the Sio Silica project was based on environmental and health concerns, including risks to the aquifers that provide drinking water.

Please ensure this is not overturned by political pressure

1111

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I agree with the comments in the information video and strongly fear the environmental concerns and therby oppose the silica project. Nothing good can come of this environmentally soeaking and leave the land alone. Why is the government even considering dealing with people like this-criminals? You cant put money first.

1112

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a resident of Springfield I have serious concerns about the aquifer being molested by Sio Silica. I do not support their project, and dont appreciate our aquifer being the Guinea pig for this extraction method.

I believe the majority of residents oppose this project, please listen to the residents, not big business.

Thankyou

1113

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The sio silica project is too high of a risk for our environment and I am against pursuing this in Manitoba.

1114

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No to this project. I love clean drinking water

1115

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Dont disrupt the water quality

1116

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: If this project is so important MB should create a crown similar to how Sask did with Potash. It would allow it to be responsibly mined and keep value in MB. No private license should be offered as they have no financial benefit in attempting to be responsible.

1117

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There is zero mention of groundwater contamination as a risk for this project. Once groundwater becomes contaminated (be this heavy metals, PCBs, volatile organics, acidification, or otherwise) it will flow away from the point source and is nearly, if not 100%, impossible to remediate. For more information, please see (1). Furthermore, this proposal is in direct contravention of The _Manitoba_ Groundwater and Water Well Act, C.C.S.M. c. G110 Regulation 215/2015 section 3(1): "a person must not construct or seal a well or test hole in a manner that allows the interconnection or mixing of groundwater between the Winnipeg Formation and any overlying aquifer." (2) And if test pits have already been drilled into the shale, sandstone, and sands of the Ordovician Winnipeg Formation, there must be legal, financial ramifications per section 3(2).

References:

(1) https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/water-overview/pollution-causes-effects/groundwater-contamination.html

(2) https://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/regs/current/215-2015.php?srchlite="winnipeg formation"#3

1118

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I oppose Sio Silicas proposed silica-sand mining project in Manitoba.

I call for the full protection of our drinking water, environment, and community rights.

I demand that no project be approved unless it is proven safe, independently reviewed, publicly transparent, and supported by affected communities.

Our water is not for sale. Our safety is not negotiable. Our future is worth protecting.

1119

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Extremely concerned about our water aquifer in this area. Do not was Sio Silica in Manitoba! Very disappointed in some of our local governments way of handling this situation once again!

1120

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am against allowing Sio Silica to mine in Municipality of Springfield. I am concerned that our water/ aquafers may become contaminated during the mining procedures the company, Sio Silica, plans to use. They cannot guarantee this would not happen. Our precious water supply would be lost. It cannot be replaced. Every area that requires pure water would be affected e.g. drinking, agriculture. This project should not be allowed.

1121

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We oppose Sio Silicas proposed silica-sand mining project in Manitoba. We call for the full protection of our drinking water, environment, community rights, and our future. We demand that no project be approved unless it is proven safe, independently reviewed, publicly transparent, and supported by affected communities. Our water is not for sale. Our safety is not negotiable. Momentarily 'benefits' of this project is not worth risking affected communities and environmental degradation. Our future is worth protecting.

1122

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I believe that when it concerns resources on which our lives depend, like water, the Precautionary Principle should be met. This is not the case in this situation. Hence, I am against the approval of this project.

1123

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I believe this opportunity has mitigated environmental concerns to the best of anyone's ability. What project or action in life is risk-free? Breathing? Hardly. Let's get this project, which ticks a number of environmental boxes and which will be mined environmentally, ethically and inclusively to benefit Manitobans, Canadians and citizens of the world, with economic growth and end products that enhance the environment, globally. Jobs are created, taxes paid to subsidize services to those in need and we move Canada forward; this is a better path than the stagnation that has occurred, in Canada, for 10 years.

1124

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Leave Manitoba's water alone.

1125

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We have concerns over the environmental impact this will have not only on the wildlife but most importantly to the fresh water aquifer that is in the region. The constituents in the RM of Springfield have made it very clear that they do not want this project to move forward. We are very disappointed in the mayor and some council members of our municipality for not voicing the concerns of the constituents in opposition to this project.

1126

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There is a reason this was denied in the first place, please investigate

1127

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: im not willing to risk our drinking water on an untested technique. no to sia silica

1128

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We oppose Sio Silicas proposed silica-sand mining project in Manitoba.

We call for the full protection of our drinking water, environment, and community rights.

We demand that no project be approved unless it is proven safe, independently reviewed, publicly transparent, and supported by affected communities.

Our water is not for sale. Our safety is not negotiable. Our future is worth protecting

Lastly, board members in the position of a conflict of interest should be removed if they do not recuse themselves.

1129

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: our drinking water, especially, is way too important to risk for any corporate interest. do not approve this

1130

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Drilling in the aquifer disturbers the fine Silica creating toxic drinking water. Unlike Winnipeg all Springfield residents rely on the aquifer for consumable water. We can not afford to lose our drinking water.

1131

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: To whomever this may concern,

I am voicing my concern on the sio silica project. This wont only affect me, but everyone in my community into having unsafe access to water.

Access to clean water is a human right, and there are many farmers who rely on this water for their live stock. Mining for sio silica can threaten both the quality and long-term availability of local groundwater. So, I am voicing my concern and saying NO to protect not only myself, but my community and all the animals as well.

1132

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yes. This project if its going to happen should be through a crown corporation that will stay a crown corp forever or 200 year term to ensure the profits will go back into the province and communitys being mined

1133

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We oppose Sio Silicas proposed silica-sand mining project in Manitoba. We call for the full protection of our drinking water, environment, community rights, and our future. We demand that no project be approved unless it is proven safe, independently reviewed, publicly transparent, and supported by affected communities. Our water is not for sale. Our safety is not negotiable. Momentarily 'benefits' of this project is not worth risking affected communities and environmental degradation. Our future is worth protecting.

1134

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Hi. I am a homeowner in the RM of Springfield . Crystalline sillica is a human carcinogen. In the air or in the groundwater. There are so many reports of the environmental impact on the soil, groundwater, plants. This is my home and we use the well water for drinking , showering, watering our trees, grass, animals. Ect. The loss would be immeasurable. You cannot go back to clean water once its lost. Is the government planning on linking to the shoal lake water resources for our municipality. How else would we get water once its been destroyed. Buy bottled water that has its own issues with environmental impact. Plastics ect. I am not a nimby. I like progress and we need to be more reliant on our own province and not the federal government money. But destroying life is not the way to go about it. Water is very precious. We have destroyed so much as humans on this planet why when we have a chance to not and do the right thing we choose to destroy this world we live in. Future generations will ask. Why would you do this when you know its wrong. These companies do not care about living here, being a part of the community. They just want to come in and rape the land (not their province) or home. And take as much money as possible. Who is going to pay for my home (my retirement investment) once our water is destroyed. No one. And then the government can take care of me cause I suddenly have no money from our home investment. I know I am concerned about my home value and how to get water that is clean. But it would be a huge shame on us as a society if we let this go through just so people can line their pockets with more money. I am just trying to live, pay bills. And be a productive citizen. I hope that whatever you decide you can live with and the future generations can still live here or elsewhere without having to worry about clean drinking water. Thanks for listening.

1135

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I strongly oppose Sio Silicas proposed silica-sand mining project in Manitoba.

I ask for the full protection of our drinking water, environment, and community rights.

I demand that no project be approved unless it is proven safe, independently reviewed, publicly transparent, and supported by affected communities.

Our water is not for sale. Our safety is not negotiable. Our future is worth protecting

EXPERTS have deemed this too risky, unsafe for humans and wildlife. This is not worth the reward vs risk. Its disappointing to see this being pushed yet again

1136

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about Manitoba being a testing ground for unproven technology that will put drinking water for Manitobans at risk. With the proposal already being rejected last year by the Clean Water Commission due to hisk risks, I do not feel the company's Silica Harvesting technology has adequately advanced enough to negate the same risks being a massive concern.

There seems to be a conflict of interest with the East St. Paul mayor residing on the board. Which needs to be looked into. Thank you

1137

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not have any concerns for our environment dont feel will effect wildlife at all . I understand what the project is all about and I myself am for it 100%

1138

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I live in Eastern Manitoba. I do not want to have our drinking water contaminated by any industry in the region. I believe the government's rejection of the first proposal is correct and should be sustained.

[redacted]

1139

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Stop this process in Springfield . Go extract elsewhere that is remote with no possible repercussions to people.

1140

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I refuse to allow a corrupt company to push into our communities and threaten our future

1141

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Regarding this project, below is a lot of concerns:

- permanent aquifer damages leading to water contamination.

- quality of water leading to holding tanks that would effect more than 1000 homes.

- company making their money and leaving damage to aquifer and surrounding area.

- irreversible affects meaning that once the company is done the ground water will not be able to go back to what it was.

- boreholes are made that could cause a void and collapse the aquifer

- larger traffic volume causing road safety concerns with larger vehicles.

- disturbance to the land and habitats around the area.

-air quality with silica dust as this is a major health risk if you breath it in.

- noise and disturbance to surround residents.

- this project is all about making money and not focusing or understanding the sever impacts noted above. This has been pushed for many years by the company and over the years it shows how much negative this project will do than good.

This area is what I grew up on and where I am now raising my kids. If this project goes through I will not be able to say this as it is proven how much damage this kind of project does to an area. This is my home, my living and mental state will not be able to cope if we lose our water. The extra stress and cost that brings not only to the residents but surrounding communities will likely put many people in a mental and financial negative state. This then leads to people leaving the community, crime rates etc. please do what you can to save this community from this project.

1142

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I strongly object to the mining of aquifer in question and support the opinions of experts strongly opposed to this project. The extraction of mineral and the quantities described will surely cause significant voids followed by sinkholes. The contamination of water that supports many communities in the region would create a catastrophic nightmare. Time to adopt and FOLLOW the Precautionary Principle.

1143

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No to Sio Silica

1144

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: These comments are focused on southeastern Manitoba, particularly the Brokenhead, Sandilands, and Whiteshell areas east of Winnipeg, where shallow sand deposits often sit directly within the Sandilands/Winnipeg Sandstone aquifer system, a major drinking-water source.

Economic implications (SE Manitoba)

Could bring short-term jobs and municipal revenue to rural areas such as Tache, Ste. Anne, Reynolds, and Brokenhead.

Risk of long-term economic loss if mining affects high-value agriculture, which depends on reliable groundwater for livestock and irrigation.

Municipalities may face increased costs for monitoring wells, hydrogeological studies, or developing new water supplies if aquifer impacts occur.

Environmental implications (SE Manitoba)

The regions aquifers are shallow, porous, and hydraulically connected, meaning sand removal can alter groundwater flow and reduce natural filtration.

Exposing silica sand layers may mobilize trace elements naturally present in local sediments (e.g., arsenic, selenium, uranium), increasing contamination risk.

Potential drawdown of water tables affecting wetlands such as those in the Brokenhead Wetland Ecological Reserve and the Sandilands forest region.

Increased dust, noise, and habitat fragmentation in areas supporting boreal species, migratory birds, and sensitive peatland ecosystems.

Social implications (SE Manitoba)

Communities such as Ste. Anne, Lorette, Anola, Richer, and Brokenhead Ojibway Nation rely heavily on groundwaterany risk to aquifer quality or quantity can trigger strong public concern.

Increased truck traffic on rural roads (e.g., PR 302, 12, 15, and Trans-Canada) may raise safety, noise, and maintenance issues.

Potential conflicts between mining companies and residents prioritizing long-term water security, recreation, and conservation values.

I advise the province to not permit this project to proceed.

1145

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please do not allow any silca sand drilling in our precious municipality. It would be hazardous to our wildlife, community and it is dangerous to peoples lives and causes health problems for those working with the sand.

1146

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Tell Alberta and E St. Paul mayor to stay away from MBs water aquifer please

1147

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Idk much about this but what I do know is farming silica is bad for the environment and I [redacted]

1148

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please do not do this. Environmental protection over capitalism. We need to protect our life sustaining resources eg water, air, soil quality

1149

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It concerns me that a company is proposing to drill in a clean drinking water supply for Manitoban's, using a method that has not been done before, and was previously declared as unsafe.

It also seems a conflict of interest that the mayor of East St. Paul, Manitoba, has joined the Board of this project.

1150

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about this project and its impact on our drinking water. Voting no.

1151

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Hello,

I feel the Sio Silica Simba Extraction Project is a threat to our water in Manitoba. I feel this project should not be allowed to move forward.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

1152

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water aquifers should not be messed with, or near; risking a drinking water supply should not even be a consideration. This project had already been denied once and now they are trying to push it through on a shorter timeline with less drills. No matter the timeline any amount of time is too much time and once again drinking water is too important to take such a risk. And the amount of drills and sand taken is NOT the problem. Not to mention the other environmental factors that come with silica mining. No to Sia Silica!

1153

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We are concerned that disturbing the sand deep down near the water line is not good for the environment and may negatively impact homes and private water wells in the neighboring areas

1154

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Im against this project because water is the most valuable resource without it all is lost.

Company can promise nothing will go wrong but when it does all they do is wipe there hands clean by closing up shop.

I am against this for this reason.

1155

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Dont allow this project to risk the water supply of over 100000 people! This isnt right!

1156

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do believe this project will harm our water quality and way of life in our community.

1157

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am submitting this comment to express my strong opposition to the proposed silica mining project in Manitoba. This project poses unacceptable risks to public health, Indigenous rights, and the long-term environmental integrity of our province. Evidence from peer-reviewed research and authoritative health agencies demonstrates the seriousness of these risks.

Respirable crystalline silica dust (RCS), which is inevitably generated during silica mining and processing, is a well-documented cause of severe and irreversible disease. According to the CDC and NIOSH, exposure to RCS leads to silicosis, lung cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, kidney disease, and autoimmune disorders. A study published in BMC Public Health further confirms the strong association between silica exposure and progressive lung disease, even at levels that can affect communities living near mining operations. Additional analyses in JMIR Public Health and Surveillance have shown long-term silicosis rates approaching 50 percent in populations exposed to ongoing non-coal mining dust over decades. These findings make it clear that the health risk is not limited to workers but extends to residents, including children, elders, and people with pre-existing health conditions. Allowing this project to proceed would place entire communities at risk of inhaling a known carcinogen and long-term respiratory hazard.

Environmental impacts associated with silica mining are also well documented in environmental science literature. Silica extraction and processing require large quantities of water, produce wastewater, and increase the likelihood of sediment and contaminant runoff into rivers, wetlands, and other ecosystems. Research shows that these operations disrupt natural hydrology, degrade water quality, destroy vegetation, and contribute to habitat loss and long-term ecosystem decline. In southeastern Manitoba, many communities rely on interconnected aquifers for drinking water. Any risk of aquifer contamination, groundwater disturbance, acid-rock drainage, or metal leaching is unacceptable because groundwater systems cannot be restored once damaged. The proposed projects use of retention ponds, stockpiles, and land-clearing activities only increases the potential for long-term environmental harm.

The project also raises serious concerns about Indigenous rights and environmental justice. Indigenous communities in Manitoba depend on clean water, healthy land, and functioning ecosystems for cultural practices, food systems, and community well-being. Public reports show that significant changes to the mining plan were made without meaningful consultation or free, prior, and informed consent from affected Indigenous communities. This violates both the spirit

and the practical obligations of treaty relationships. Extractive projects that threaten water sources, wildlife, and culturally important lands disproportionately harm Indigenous peoples and have long-lasting intergenerational consequences.

When considering the cumulative risk to public health, environmental integrity, water security, and Indigenous rights, it becomes clear that the harms of this project far outweigh any proposed economic benefit. Evidence from similar mining operations globally shows that the long-term costs of environmental degradation and public health impacts often fall on communities and governments, not on the companies that profit. Once aquifers are polluted, once ecosystems are disrupted, and once communities experience increased respiratory illness, the damage cannot be undone.

For these reasons, I urge the Government of Manitoba to reject the proposed silica mining project. At minimum, no approval should be granted unless a fully independent and transparent public health and environmental impact assessment is completed, affected Indigenous communities are genuinely consulted under the principles of free prior informed consent, and binding safeguards for air quality, dust control, groundwater protection, and land reclamation are established and independently enforced.

The health and safety of Manitobans, the rights of Indigenous peoples, and the protection of our environment must take precedence over short-term industrial interests.

1158

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Why risk the fresh water of a lot of Manitoban communities? This makes no sense, never put profit before our water

1159

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No! Our water is too precious to allow these RISKS. Do your own research and youll see why it shouldnt even be brought forward as an option.

1160

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This does not seem safe. Our water is our lost precious resource!

1161

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There is not any proof that this project will not contaminate the water supply for Springfield municipality. As a resident of Springfield I do not believe Sio Silica should have approval to dig in an aquifer that provides clean drinking water for thousands of people.

1162

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Protecting our water will always be more important than corporate profit. I cant think of a more idiotic risk to take

1163

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I believe that mining Silica into our ground is far too risky for our water. I just dont see the need for it

1164

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My wife and I are greatly concerned by the risks of this project to the water quality and structural integrity of the water aquifers in our area. Removal of large quantities of sand is likely to cause sinkholes of unknown proportions. Introducing oxygen into the aquifer will likely change the biological environment. Our water purity needs to be protected far into the future. This project has too many unknown risks.

1165

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Drinking water is more important. Prioritize your people not business.

1166

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about the risks the project has to the existing water aquifer and to the health and safety of drinking water.

The proposed methods of fracturing and removing sediment from the aquifer could destabilize it and has the potential to lead to aquifer collapse as well as changes in groundwater flow, long-term degradation of water quality, and overall disruption of the water supply.

It is my understanding that this extraction method is unproven to be safe when used at this proposed large scale - especially when applied to aquifers used for drinking water.

Even with water-treatment plans, I have concerns over the cumulative impacts that may compound over decades. I anm not confident that the proposed safeguards are sufficient (particularly since the earlier CEC review found that the mitigation measures were not robust enough to meet approval).

The project introduces unnecessary risks to human health and safety while also proposing unsubstantiated environmental mitigation measures and remediation plans.

1167

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There is zero mention of groundwater contamination as a risk for this project. Once groundwater becomes contaminated (be this heavy metals, PCBs, volatile organics, acidification, or otherwise) it will flow away from the point source and is nearly, if not 100%, impossible to remediate. For more information, please see (1). Furthermore, this proposal is in direct contravention of The _Manitobal Groundwater and Water Well Act, C.C.S.M. c. G110 Regulation 215/2015 section 3(1): "a person must not construct or seal a well or test hole in a manner that allows the interconnection or mixing of groundwater between the Winnipeg Formation and any overlying aquifer." (2) And if test pits have already been drilled into the shale, sandstone, and sands of the Ordovician Winnipeg Formation, there must be legal, financial ramifications per section 3(2).

References:

(1) https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/water-overview/pollution-causes-effects/groundwater-contamination.html

(2) https://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/regs/current/ 215-2015.php?srchlite="winnipeg formation"#3

1168

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There are to many risks. Respect our resources, our people and not money. Completely disagree with this project.

1169

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yes. I am concerned the project will negatively effect Manitobans drinking water

1170

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Re: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project File #6275:

*Once again, Sio Silicas assessment of their revised project does not allow for an evidence-based decision. This conflicts with best practice standards for Impact Assessment.

*Mining for minerals must not be fast tracked. A sound assessment is critical.

*97.2% of this planet's water is in the oceans, 2.15% in glaciers and polar ice caps, less than 1% is in surface and groundwater of which groundwater is 0.31%. Much of that groundwater is not usable because it has been ruined by fracking, mining, or irremediable spills. Water is too precious and the risk too great, this project must NOT receive an Environment Act License.

*Given the need to protect local and regional groundwater sources, it is distressing that this project is being considered again.

*The further reduction of the mining area for environmental assessment and only a 5 year period out of a multi-generational mine life, prevents full assessment of all environmental, economic, and

social risks and impacts from the project. This conflicts with best practice standards for Impact Assessment.

*It is unacceptable that Sio Silica failed to undertake the cumulative impact assessment as recommended by the CEC. In order for environmental assessments to be done well, they must include an assessment of cumulative effects. (CEC 2014, 2018)

*The Sio Silica extraction project is experimental and remains unproven. If this experiment is licensed, the previously approved sand processing facility will be built for the experiment. This must not be allowed. It is unreasonable to hand an Environment Act License to an experiment. Sios proposal perverts the assessment and licensing process.

*Mining, processing, and transport operations will occur 24/7/365, up to 100 meters from homes. The potential for air quality impacts have not been adequately assessed. The assessment of noise and artificial light pollution have been ignored.

*Operations will have direct impacts on the land. Trees/brush will be cleared and loss of habitat will impact known species at risk. Many properties contain old growth, these are irreplaceable.

*Access roads will be required for the heavy machinery and truck traffic, impacting farm land and livestock and wildlife. Operations will create continual distress and worry, negatively impact our livelihoods and communities and will impinge on the enjoyment of our property.

*The disinfection method for the return of mined water back to the aquifer remains unproven. This is a major component of the project that should have been thoroughly proven prior to the licensing process. This gives 100,000 Manitobans no assurance that the Water will remain safe and dependable nor that their best interests are being protected.

*Sio now admits their return of mined, oxygenated water, to the aquifer results in oxidizing conditions that will cause dissolution of selenium, arsenic, and uranium contained in material that collapses into the mined sand cavity. Figure 4-10, shows selenium above drinking water guideline levels for 7 years until it slowly disperses.

*The X1t model is 1Dimensional and did not consider how the contaminate plume interacts with other mined cavities or how ongoing mining that increases gradients and flow, impacts movement. With collapse of the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard, the oxygen and contaminants can potentially move into the overlying Carbonate Aquifer.

*A thorough assessment of all potential oxygen sources introduced into the aquifer system by operations (i.e. from airlift method, type (entrained) have not been undertaken. Until this is addressed the modelling grossly underestimates oxidation potential.

*Reducing the number of industrial sized boreholes for assessment, underestimates project effects and misleads the public.

*Borehole mining causes the irreversible collapse of the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard which separates the two aquifers - Carbonate and Sandstone Aquifers. Fractured limestone in the Carbonate aquifer also collapses. Collapse of this geological material prevents proper sealing/abandonment of the boreholes. This increases the aquifers vulnerability to contamination from surface sources.

*Over the life-time of the mine, thousands of industrial sized boreholes, monitoring and vertical boreholes will be drilled all up to 100 meters of homes. These boreholes will be perpetual sources for contamination from surface sources. It takes ONE failed or soiled well to cause damage. Certain land uses will be prohibited to prevent contamination to the groundwater i.e. chemical agriculture, livestock, manure spreading, housing, septic systems,

*To grant this project a license would be an agreement to the destruction of two irreplaceable aquifers. This is not stewardship. We do not get a second chance.

*We all rely on our environment and must care for it. We need to know the truth about impacts from development to avoid mistakes that will be costly to our children. Particularly when it comes to Water, there is no room for error.

*We cannot have healthy communities and a strong economy if we are not committed to evidence-based decision making, an accountable public service, and transparent public process.

*With its potential to cause significant and irreversible harm to Manitobas drinking water, the Sio Silica project must be rejected now. If it should be allowed to continue, it must be designated a Class 3 development and the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission be convened to hold a public hearing to review the project with full participant funding.

*The Sio Silica project illustrates the need to strengthen Manitobas dangerously flawed assessment and licensing process under The Environment Act and The Mines and Minerals Act.

*The entire Sio Silica project must be subject to a thorough, independent public inquiry under The Evidence Act to ensure that our democratic institutions and process are sound.

1171

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My family and animals rely on our water for drinking. Our well, that we pay for, can become contaminated. Whos to pay to upgrade our water system in our house when the water is no longer safe. Wildlife will be affected by the destruction of forests. I moved to the country for the peace and quiet and to enjoy nature. I dont want to hear constant truck traffic and equipment use. The highways cannot handle the traffic needed for the project.

I vote NO a million times over

1172

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

November 30, 2025

Environmental Approvals Branch

Manitoba Environment and Climate Change

14 Fultz Boulevard

Winnipeg, Manitoba,

Re: Sio Silica Sand Extraction Project/ Simba Extraction Project

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing to register my strong objection to the Sio Silica Sands extraction Project (Simba Sand Extraction Project) in Springfield. It is the job of our governments to protect our aquifers for our children. Fresh water, in our new evolving climate will be priceless. Please deny approval of the Sio Silica Extraction Project.

Value of our water

What is the economic value of the two aquifers to the economy of southeastern Manitoba? Water from the aquafers is used for potable water, irrigation, livestock and numerous other industries. What is the dollar value of all these operations that could be affected by contamination or degradation of the aquafers?

What is the value of a silica mine in comparison. Should we risk the economy of southeastern Manitoba for one mining operation using unproven extraction methods on a commercial scale?

If the aquifers become contaminated from the mining operation, what is the cost to the Manitoba government and Manitoba people for lost business and drinking water sources?

Once an aquifer is contaminated can it even be remediated and at what cost? Expensive reverse osmosis water treatment plants with extremely high operational costs?

Perhaps an even bigger question is where would a replacement source of water be found if remediation of aquifers is not possible and at what cost?

Groundwater Contamination

(Government of Canada.ca, Water pollution: causes and effects, Groundwater Contamination)

Groundwater moves so slowly that problems take a long time to appear. Because of this, and because it is so expensive to clean up a contaminated aquifer (if it can be done at all), it is preferable by far to prevent contamination from happening in the first place

Once an aquifer is contaminated, it may be unusable for decades. The residence time, as noted earlier, can be anywhere from two weeks or 10 000 years.

Contamination may not be apparent in initial testing by Sio Silica of aquifers in the test phase.

Project splitting.

Allowing Sio Silica to apply for approval for only the first few years of operation thereby not letting the commission consider the entire life of the mine and its impact. The full scope of the projected 24-year life of the project must be considered for approval. Cumulative effects should be given the importance it deserves in evaluating this project.

Unproven mining technologies.

Please do not run an experiment with our aquifers. The proposed extraction methods have not been tested at large scale mining operations. Also, reinjection of removed water after treatment may leave an opportunity for contamination of aquifers if treatment process fails. In addition, oxidation of the reinjected water could increase levels of arsenic and other harmful minerals.

Land Subsidence

Land subsidence, will the mining operation cause collapse of the aquifers? Sio Silica submitted scans to the CEC in 2023 that showed permanent collapse of fractured limestone from the carbonate aquifer. This after only a few test holes. Sio Silica intends to drill thousands more industrial size boreholes over the 24-year project than the few original test holes.

Operating Concerns

There are questions regarding the handling of the original test well and sand pile by Sio Silica. Does this demonstrate a lack of commitment to safety? Workplace Safety and Health had to issue an order to have the sand pile covered. What will be their commitment to following standards in the future?

Decommissioning

Maintaining wells and proper decommissioning of wells, as well as provisions for maintenance of decommissioned wells in perpetuity. Well decommissioning materials have been subject to degradation over time as seen in Ontario. The original application stated 7200 wells over 24 years, the new application says fewer wells, but no number submitted. Regardless, the Manitoba government and its people should not bear the burden of monitoring and resealing these wells should the project be approved, which in my opinion it should not be.

Participant Assistance

I am concerned with the lack of Participant Assistance Program funding for groups opposed to the Sio Silica Project. The lack of funding makes it hard for grassroots groups in opposition to hire lawyers and experts in the field. This was made abundantly clear at the hearings where Sio Silica had 3 rows of multiple tables each for their lawyers and experts. I believe the opposition had 1 lawyer and a few experts.

Formal Environmental Review

The Manitoba government needs to review their environmental and minerals Legislation to better protect the people of Manitoba. Legislation should include a provision that prevents denied projects from being continuously resubmitted for approval and to put the onus on the submitter to provide evidence of significant technological changes to the project to reduce the environmental risk. Scope of project should not be allowed as reason for resubmitting. It is my concern that Sio Silica will continue to resubmit this project.

I agree with the 2023 report from the Clean Environment Commission that there are serious concerns that the groundwater and aquifers will be protected. It is my strong opinion that the reduced scale of the new proposed mining operation does not diminish the concerns brought up in the original CEC report.

Please deny the approval of the Sio Silica Extraction project to protect our aquifers for our children and their children. The future value of this far exceeds the short-term value of the Sio Silica Project.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

1173

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Significantly concerned about the impact the project could have on the drinking water, air quality, and properties of many Manitobans, especially in the Rural Municipality of Springfield. We are no where near being hooked up to municipal water, and so if one of the many risks are realized, the impact could be devastating for many families.

Where the health, safety, and investments (e.g. property value) of so many Manitobans is at risk, the necessity of allowing a project of this nature to proceed so close to Manitobas capital should be seriously considered.

This project should not be allowed to proceed in any form in such close proximity to densely populated areas, but if it does proceed it is absolutely critical that there be regular (at least semi annually) testing of the water and the overall environmental impact of the project by an independent third party, with public reports on the impact of the project being published by such independent third party on an annual basis.

Clean drinking water is already a scarce resource for many Manitobans, and the economic interests of certain companies should not outweigh the most fundamental interests of the locals wishing to protect the safety of their environment, the potability of the water from their own well, and the most significant investment the majority of Manitobans will make in their life time (i.e. their home).

I strongly object to this project being allowed to proceed.

1174

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very opposed to this project. The VP has been investigated and found guilty of multiple infractions by the Ombudsman (including election cheating, conflict of interests, and has been proven to be a liar. Siosilica can simply not be trusted. This only compounds the enormous, and completely unknown environmental risks associated with the project. It is unprecedented for the level of corruption that has already been associated with this controversial project.

I have the following concerns:

Based on the projects own technical documentation, the proposal has major unresolved uncertainties related to:

Groundwater modeling reliability

Long-term aquifer impacts

Reinjection feasibility

Shale collapse consequences

Water quality changes

Actual well interference risk

Climate sensitivity

Incomplete geochemical dataset

Lack of robust recharge and water balance measurements

Major unethical political intereference

The project should not proceed until these fundamental issues are addressed with real-world testing, expanded data collection, and validated modeling.

1175

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: How will this affect our water quality?

1176

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Concern about long term affect on current water supply

1177

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Do not do this. New name, same horrible dangerous proposal. We hold you accountable.

1178

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Drilling in the aquifer disturbers the fine Silica creating toxic drinking water.

Unlike Winnipeg all Springfield residents rely on the aquifer for consumable water. We can not afford to lose our drinking water.

1179

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Sio Silica mining project in southeastern Manitoba. After reviewing the concerns raised by environmental experts, local communities, and Indigenous groups, I believe this project poses significant and irreversible risks to our provinces water systems, ecosystems, and long-term sustainability.

First and foremost, the safety of Manitobas drinking water should be non-negotiable. The projects extraction methodremoving sand directly from the sandstone aquiferposes unacceptable risks to the structural integrity of the aquifer itself. Once compromised, an aquifer cannot be repaired. Any contamination or collapse would endanger the drinking water supply for tens of thousands of Manitobans. No economic benefits can outweigh the possibility of long-term water insecurity.

Additionally, there remains a lack of independent, peer-reviewed scientific consensus confirming that the extraction method is safe. While industry-funded reports have attempted to downplay risks, multiple hydrologists, environmental engineers, and regulatory reviewers have highlighted

large gaps in the projects data, modeling, and risk assessments. Proceeding without conclusive, impartial science would be irresponsible and inconsistent with Manitobas duty to protect its people and environment.

Furthermore, the project raises serious concerns regarding cumulative environmental impacts, including land disruption, habitat loss, long-term ecosystem degradation, and uncertain impacts on surface water and groundwater interactions. Manitoba should be prioritizing renewable, sustainable industriesnot projects that jeopardize the provinces natural assets for short-term gain.

It is also important to acknowledge the rights and voices of Indigenous communities, many of whom have publicly opposed the project due to its environmental risks and the lack of meaningful consultation. Any decision that affects land, water, and ecological health must respect Indigenous rights, traditional knowledge, and the principles of reconciliation.

Given the substantial unanswered questions, the lack of demonstrated long-term safety, and the widespread public concern, I urge the Government of Manitoba to reject the Sio Silica mining project and instead prioritize the protection of Manitobas water resources, ecosystems, and public health.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I trust that the government will act in the best interests of current and future generations of Manitobans.

1180

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There is zero mention of aroundwater contamination as a risk for this project. Once groundwater becomes contaminated (be this heavv metals, PCBs, volatile orqanics, acidification, or otherwise) it will flow awav from the point source and is nearlv, if not 100%, impossible to remediate. For more information, please see (1). Furthermore, this proposal is in direct contravention of The Manitoba' Groundwater and Water Well Act. C.C.S.M. c. G110 Requlation 215/2015 section 3(1): "a person must not construct or seal a well or test hole in a manner that allows the interconnection or mixing of groundwater between the Winnipeg Formation and any overlying aquifer." (2) And if test pits have alreadv been drilled into the shale, sandstone, and sands of the Ordovician Winnipeg Formation, there must be legal, financial ramifications per section 3(2). References:

(1 https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate -change/services /water-overview/pollution -causes-effects/ qroundwater-contaminatior .html

(2)https://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/regs/current/215 -2015.php?srchlite="winnipeg formation "#3

1181

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Re: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project File #6275:

*Once again, Sio Silicas assessment of their revised project does not allow for an evidence-based decision. This conflicts with best practice standards for Impact Assessment.

*Mining for minerals must not be fast tracked. A sound assessment is critical.

*97.2% of this planet's water is in the oceans, 2.15% in glaciers and polar ice caps, less than 1% is in surface and groundwater of which groundwater is 0.31%. Much of that groundwater is not usable because it has been ruined by fracking, mining, or irremediable spills. Water is too precious and the risk too great, this project must NOT receive an Environment Act License.

*Given the need to protect local and regional groundwater sources, it is distressing that this project is being considered again.

*The further reduction of the mining area for environmental assessment and only a 5 year period out of a multi-generational mine life, prevents full assessment of all environmental, economic, and social risks and impacts from the project. This conflicts with best practice standards for Impact Assessment.

*It is unacceptable that Sio Silica failed to undertake the cumulative impact assessment as recommended by the CEC. In order for environmental assessments to be done well, they must include an assessment of cumulative effects. (CEC 2014, 2018)

*The Sio Silica extraction project is experimental and remains unproven. If this experiment is licensed, the previously approved sand processing facility will be built for the experiment. This must not be allowed. It is unreasonable to hand an Environment Act License to an experiment. Sios proposal perverts the assessment and licensing process.

*Mining, processing, and transport operations will occur 24/7/365, up to 100 meters from homes. The potential for air quality impacts have not been adequately assessed. The assessment of noise and artificial light pollution have been ignored.

*Operations will have direct impacts on the land. Trees/brush will be cleared and loss of habitat will impact known species at risk. Many properties contain old growth, these are irreplaceable.

*Access roads will be required for the heavy machinery and truck traffic, impacting farm land and livestock and wildlife. Operations will create continual distress and worry, negatively impact our livelihoods and communities and will impinge on the enjoyment of our property.

*The disinfection method for the return of mined water back to the aquifer remains unproven. This is a major component of the project that should have been thoroughly proven prior to the licensing process. This gives 100,000 Manitobans no assurance that the Water will remain safe and dependable nor that their best interests are being protected.

*Sio now admits their return of mined, oxygenated water, to the aquifer results in oxidizing conditions that will cause dissolution of selenium, arsenic, and uranium contained in material that collapses into the mined sand cavity. Figure 4-10, shows selenium above drinking water guideline levels for 7 years until it slowly disperses.

*The X1t model is 1Dimensional and did not consider how the contaminate plume interacts with other mined cavities or how ongoing mining that increases gradients and flow, impacts movement. With collapse of the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard, the oxygen and contaminants can potentially move into the overlying Carbonate Aquifer.

*A thorough assessment of all potential oxygen sources introduced into the aquifer system by operations (i.e. from airlift method, type (entrained) have not been undertaken. Until this is addressed the modelling grossly underestimates oxidation potential.

*Reducing the number of industrial sized boreholes for assessment, underestimates project effects and misleads the public.

*Borehole mining causes the irreversible collapse of the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard which separates the two aquifers - Carbonate and Sandstone Aquifers. Fractured limestone in the Carbonate aquifer also collapses. Collapse of this geological material prevents proper sealing/abandonment of the boreholes. This increases the aquifers vulnerability to contamination from surface sources.

*Over the life-time of the mine, thousands of industrial sized boreholes, monitoring and vertical boreholes will be drilled all up to 100 meters of homes. These boreholes will be perpetual sources for contamination from surface sources. It takes ONE failed or soiled well to cause damage. Certain land uses will be prohibited to prevent contamination to the groundwater i.e. chemical agriculture, livestock, manure spreading, housing, septic systems,

*To grant this project a license would be an agreement to the destruction of two irreplaceable aquifers. This is not stewardship. We do not get a second chance.

*We all rely on our environment and must care for it. We need to know the truth about impacts from development to avoid mistakes that will be costly to our children. Particularly when it comes to Water, there is no room for error.

*We cannot have healthy communities and a strong economy if we are not committed to evidence-based decision making, an accountable public service, and transparent public process.

*With its potential to cause significant and irreversible harm to Manitobas drinking water, the Sio Silica project must be rejected now. If it should be allowed to continue, it must be designated a Class 3 development and the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission be convened to hold a public hearing to review the project with full participant funding.

*The Sio Silica project illustrates the need to strengthen Manitobas dangerously flawed assessment and licensing process under The Environment Act and The Mines and Minerals Act.

*The entire Sio Silica project must be subject to a thorough, independent public inquiry under The Evidence Act to ensure that our democratic institutions and process are sound.

Image: Sio well design, well clusters, tiny portion under assessment in relation to the extent of Sio mineral claims (yellow squares); letter to the editor. Your letter need not be lengthy to get your concerns across. It is imperative that all Manitobans, of all ages, act to protect the environment for today and future generations.

1182

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We are a 45 year resident of the R.M of Springfield and our family has enjoyed our well water that is clean, clear and healthy and we do not want it disturbed in any way. My concern about the Sio Silica Project is that this project is going to harm the quality of the water that we rely on daily by distributing and contaminating the aquifer. The company has already stated that they plan on coming in drilling, profiting and then selling leaving us with disaster and our lands worthless. This project is not what we want to leave to the next generations. This is not good for the environment and It is simply irresponsible!!. I want this Sio Silica Project to be STOPPED. Please help protect our land and drinking water for generations to come.

1183

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our area is based off of well water. Continuing with this project will ruin our water systems.

1184

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: What is the back up for the water if it gets contaminated. Who is going to pay for the home owners water, if it does get contaminated?

1185

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No!!! to the project this will destroy our water and lands and kill alot of animals soo a big No

1186

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am opposed to it as I am concerned about our water quality and supply.

1187

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project is not needed nor wanted by Any resident of Manitoba. Sio silica is a danger to our drinking water and our communities

1188

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I believe this project is wanting to move forward responsibly. The economic spin off of this project is really needed in south eastern Manitoba . We need to be moving forward to keep our skilled labour working locally .

1189

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not agree with risking our healthy fresh water. Sio silica does not have my support. There needs to be further research done. As well as an investigation into the mayor of east St. Paul. There is a bias that needs to be investigated.

1190

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Clean drinking water is not replaceable

1191

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very concerned about the potential risks of this project to our drinking water. Fresh water is becoming rarer worldwide as it is, we should not risk our natural resources for profit. Protect Manitobans' health and safety, don't allow this project to go through.

1192

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Risking clean drinking water for some extra money is not something that should be done. Stop risking your citizens health for money.

1193

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We do not support this project. Our water aquifer needs to be protected at all costs

This aquifer provides safe drinking water for a large area in south eastern manitoba.

Do not mess with our aquifer that we all rely on for safe water

1194

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: You shouldn't ruin drinking water. That's terrible! I say no thank you!

1195

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am extremely concerned about safe drinking water for humans and livestock and wildlife. I DO NOT want this project to go ahead.

1196

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The risk to our drinking water is not worth it. This is not the time to be adding strain to our resources.

1197

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Do NOT risk our water aquifer.

This affects our quality of life and home security and health for all residents in these surrounding areas

1198

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a longtime resident of the R.M of Springfield our family relies on our well water for clean, clear and healthy drinking water, I am extremely concerned about the Sio Silica Project. I believe this project is going to harm the quality of the water that we rely on daily by distributing and contaminating the aquifer. I seriously think that not enough research has gone into proving otherwise. I, 100% want this Sio Silica Project to be STOPPED. Please help us protect our water!!!!!

1199

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not believe this project is in the best interests of Manitobans. Particularly those who are not rich.

1200

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: For the reasons below, I am opposed to this project going forward. This second proposal:

Uses a drilling approach (method and number of boreholes) untested anywhere at the scale proposed for either the short or long term phases of the project.

Does so in a fragile geography (two aquifers separated by the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard) where realization of the risks would be life and health altering for potentially thousands of people and the future of the community.

Carries significant risks of short and long term damage to human and animal health, the landscape and livelihoods:

Land instability and changes to surface drainage (eg: damage to shale aquitard integrity, subsidence and sinkholes);

Poor/undrinkable water quality and availability as a result of 1 (eg: aquifer mixing, introduction of oxygen and oxidization via the reinjection process; contamination with metals such as selenium, arsenic and uranium; failure of decommissioned wells exacerbating water oxidization and contamination; adequacy of the untested/unproven UV and filtration methods prior to reinjection of water)

Harmful air quality (eg: aerosolized selenium can harm human and animal health, particularly with the designated 100m buffer zone)

Noise, vibration and light pollution (eg: large vehicles and other activity on well sites at all hours

Given the many unknowns, irreversible risks and the precious nature of what is at stake, this project should not proceed.

However, if this project is allowed to continue:

It must be designated a Class 3 development.

The Manitoba Clean Environment Commission should be convened to hold a public hearing to review the project.

Full participant funding should be made available.

Given the methods suggested in this proposal, five years is not adequate time to understand the risks.

Thorough oversight of the integrity of the drilling, extraction, decommissioning, evaluation and reporting processes is lacking. Given Sio Silica failed to undertake the cumulative impact assessment as recommended by the CEC, third party oversight of all of these project stages is required.

My family just moved to a beautiful property in Springfield. This project could damage our lives, health, economic investment in our home, and more. How would you feel if it was your family?

1201

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water is one of our most valuable and precious resources and our natural aquifers should be protected, especially aquifers that Manitobans rely on for freshwater. This project was already denied once due to its extreme risks to the proposed mining sites aquifer. Once an aquifer is contaminated, depleted or destroyed there is no fixing it, aquifers are non renewable because they cannot regenerate within a human timescale. The companies first concern will always be profits, the Manitoba governments priority should be its citizens. Please do not let this project go through it puts so many people in my community in danger.

1202

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Just like in Quebec house and farms fell into the earth. There is more to life than money. The oil companies all over the west of Canada abandoned wells and the people once they got what they wanted. Dont drill in my neighborhood. The ones who have the interest dont do this in there living space.

1203

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There is zero mention of groundwater contamination as a risk for this project. Once groundwater becomes contaminated (be this heavy metals, PCBs, volatile organics, acidification, or otherwise) it will flow away from the point source and is nearly, if not 100%, impossible to remediate. For more information, please see (1). Furthermore, this proposal is in direct contravention of The _Manitoba_ Groundwater and Water Well Act, C.C.S.M. c. G110 Regulation 215/2015 section 3(1): "a person must not construct or seal a well or test hole in a manner that allows the interconnection or mixing of groundwater between the Winnipeg Formation and any overlying aquifer." (2) And if test pits have already been drilled into the shale, sandstone, and sands of the Ordovician Winnipeg Formation, there must be legal, financial ramifications per section 3(2).

References:

(1) https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/water-overview/pollution-causes-effects/groundwater-contamination.html

(2) https://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/regs/current/215-2015.php?srchlite="winnipeg formation"#3

1204

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our drinking water is far to previous to risk please dont approve this.

1205

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am not against development; however millions of animals and thousands of people completely depend on the water from the aquifer. There is very little benefit to Manitobans, and you can be sure that Sio Silica will evaporate as a company if there is a water quality or quantity problem. If it goes ahead it should be very slowly , in small steps, AND Manitobans should share in the majority of profits.

1206

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about how this project will affect our aquifer. Life in our community can only thrive with access to good, clean drinking water.

1207

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: They want to use an untested and already rejected (due to environmental concerns) process to mine at a drinking water aquifer that an estimated 100 000 Manitobians need for daily life. Manitoba's population as of 2021 was 1.3 million people. 100 000 is just over 7%. We cannot tell 7% of Manitobians that we are putting one company's profits over them and their basic rights.

1208

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project is dangerous. The risk assessment component of the project plan doesnt even plan what happens if the aquifer becomes contaminated. Thats a risk and they are choosing to not plan around it because of their ignorance and their pride. Sio has admitted to failures in their planning before and it continues now. Listen to the public, listen to the experts, do not allow this project to ruin our most precious resource.

1209

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The Sio Silica project should not move forward in Manitoba because it poses too many risks to the land and the people who depend on it. Disturbing deep aquifers could harm our drinking water, and silica dust from the mining process threatens local air quality. The project would also disrupt wildlife habitats, putting added stress on already fragile ecosystems. With so many unanswered questions and potential long-term impacts, its simply not worth the risk.

1210

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am ready to place an objection to the Sio Silica production pro proposed for Manitoba. I do not believe that there have been enough environmental studies, and that there is a danger to our water table.

1211

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Im concerned that not enough research and research trials/analysis have gone into this project. I want to ensure every Manitoban has clean drinking water that isnt affected by risky projects.

1212

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We oppose Sio Silicas proposed silica-sand mining project in Manitoba.

We call for the full protection of our drinking water, environment, and community rights.

We demand that no project be approved unless it is proven safe, independently reviewed, publicly transparent, and supported by affected communities.

Our water is not for sale. Our safety is not negotiable. Our future is worth protecting.

Please do not follow through with this, we are begging.

1213

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Manitobans deserve safe and clean drinking water. Please do right by Manitobans and protect our resources by rejecting this project.

1214

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our drinking water is too precious and not worth the risk.

1215

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am submitting my objection to this project.

The presenters keep referencing that this project is no different than the wells in our yards; however, we only draw our water up, not sand. Our wells do not push air down between the layers, nor do our wells return water, pushing it back to the aquifer.

A word that keeps coming up is "almost no impact". Would we believe 99.99% is almost no impact? For some reference, please note that Manitoba's acceptable lead level in drinking water is 0.005 milligrams per litre (\(mg/L\)). We do not have a 100% guarantee with the Silica Project.

At the most recent information night, one of the boards posted: "Overall, the groundwater quantity will be largely preserved ..." _during the summer_. The quantity effects the entire aquifer. Spingfield has had several years where there has been less than 2 inches of rain in the entire summer; this summer being one of those years. Well water levels are a major concern during the summer droughts.

Manitoba is considered a radon hotspot within Canada due to its geology. I don't believe most individuals know what radon is and how much is in their house. Working in and with Health and Safety Departments over the years, I have a good understanding. Radon makes its way into water too. If there is going to be a disturbance between the ground layers, pulling up and pushing down, this may likely introduce further radon into the aquifer. The responses received at the recent information session used the words: "likely or almost no impact". Again, it seem little study had been done, if any.

It was evident at the most recent information session that residents (attendees) did not know about the "silica slurry lines" that would transport the silica to the processing site, nor did the presenters. It was unclear that these lines would be put in each year and disconnected and/or removed in some areas for the winter, or perhaps not removed at all. They would likely run under roadways, train tracks, and be laid along ditches. Nothing was said about emergency response plans for line breaks. During the summer, ATV's, motorbikes, lawn equipment, and/or any farming equipment could hit and rupture these lines. There are also more than a few vehicles that go off the roadway for a variety of reasons, such as a tire blowout. A break in a line is now an environmental disaster. I saw no knowledge of a plan or understanding of the slurry lines by any of the representatives. If the lines are not being picked up during the winter, but only blown out, then there are snowmobile issues too.

Nothing was presented about future land uses, other than wells capped and land remediation. What happens when there is future residential development? Will future families know where they can build a septic field, pour concrete piles for housing, drill wells, or dig watering hole for their animals? There is no guarantee these capped wells are not comprimised.

15.252 billion tons of silica is a colossal amount of sand, capable of fundamentally altering landscapes and supporting immense human development on a global scale, all at the cost of underground strip mining. The circumference at the earth's equator is approximately 131 479,663 feet; this is enough sand to make a decent walking path equal to that circumference. This is also enough sand to bury the City of Winnipeg. Another visual picture is to stack approximately 3,813,000 Olympic-sized swimming pools on top of each other. Residents need a visual to understand what 15.252 billion tons looks like. This has not been shown.

I know that when I was a child, as we all did, we made a hole in the wet sand at the beach, it eventually closed up and settled. These underground rooms being proposed in this untested, underground strip mining project will eventually close/level within the aquifer and change the landscape and water quality; these voids (rooms) will not remain without any impact. This is not the same as the solid rock caverns they make comparisons to across Canada.

Thank you for allowing this written submission.

1216

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project is designed to extract much of the filter media through which our well water runs. As someone who relies on well water this remains extremely concerning to me.

Until Sio Silica can prove without a doubt that their operation will have no effect on our water supply over the next 20-50 years there should be no approval granted for this project.

The last thing we want next decade is undrinkable well water, and a bankrupt drilling company that is unable to clean up their disaster or compensate residents for the inevitable lawsuits that will follow.

I have absolutely zero confidence in a private company like Sio Silica to do the right thing should their operation have a negative effect on our drinking water.

The licensing for this project needs to be denied.

1217

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I say no to silo sand being mined. Our drinking water is more important than putting more money in your pockets

1218

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: i am not in favour of the silica project going threw as it can impact water quality and traffic on the highway as there is enough traffic and is a single one direction highway .

1219

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Im concerned thos development project will negatively affect our drinking water in Manitoba. I would like to request an independent 3rd party to assess how this project will affect our water supply.

1220

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about the environmental impact project could have on monitors, including the effects on our already limited clean drinking water.

1221

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do NOT want ANYTHING to put our clean water table at risk, especially this ridiculous silica proposal!!!

No no no no do NOT allow this!!!

Shame on you if you do!!!

1222

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There is a reason this proposal was denied originally, and it should be denied again. It poses too great a risk to the environment.

1223

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Working in communications and support for solar-PV manufacturing projects, I often sit between engineers, investors and the public. From that perspective, the most important environmental aspects of Sio Silica are not only the technical measures, but also how clearly and honestly they are communicated.

For the project to earn and keep a social licence, there should be regular, easy-to-understand updates on groundwater monitoring results, clear explanations of what is being done to protect aquifers and what will trigger corrective action, and genuine opportunities for local communities and Indigenous groups to ask questions and get straight answers.

If the project is operated under those principles, and with strong technical safeguards in place, I am in favour of Sio Silica. It can show that critical minerals for the energy transition are not produced out of sight, but under rules and communication standards that respect both the environment and the people living near the project.

1224

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not want the drilling for silo silica sand since studies have shown, there's a great likelihood that it could collapse and contaminate our drinking water.

1225

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I support the approval of Sio Silica because it represents a real opportunity for Manitobas future. Sio Silicas approval in Manitoba could open the door to a stronger future for young people by creating new jobs and encouraging more of us to build our lives here at home. With opportunities in engineering, environmental science, construction, and technology, the project could help keep skilled workers in the province instead of losing them to other places. By supporting responsible development, Manitoba can give its youth a reason to stay, grow their careers, and give back to the communities that raised them.

1226

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not support Sio Silica and the damage it will cause to our fresh water source.

1227

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am a land owner and have been for nearly 30 years. Like thousands of Manitobans, I rely upon the aquifers for my drinking water and to produce my food. Clean water is a vital resource that should not be easily squandered in pursuit of short term profits. Twenty-odd years of profits for

an Alberta company, a small number of jobs for Manitobans, balanced against generations of living with the consequences of contaminated water and subsiding land if things go wrong. The risk is simply too high. The potential for losing either quantity or quality of my water supply is incredibly stressful to contemplate. Equally worrisome is contemplating having to shoulder the tax burden that would be created by a need to suddenly repair homes, infrastructure, and to create a means to replace water supplies for so many homes. SioSilica would simple declare bankruptcy and leave the Manitoba Government and taxpayers to deal with the consequences.

More specifically:

1. In the EAP, SioSIlica repeated refers to extracting a sand deposit which I cannot help but feel is a word choice that is deliberately misleading. The material is sandstone- it may be easily crumbled stone, but it is still bedrock, not loose sand simply being sucked up out of the water. It is the actual bedrock structure that the proponent intends on breaking apart high pressure air and then extracting the sand particles that the rock has been mechanically broken down into. The result will be large numbers of caverns that the proponent admits they do not know the size of and yet they intend to space them with separation of only 18m. Hundreds, eventually thousands over the longer term proposed project, of caverns carved throughout the underlying bedrock upon which our homes, our electrical transmission infrastructure, our transportation infrastructure including the main East-West highway and rail corridors sit.

2. Although there are relatively small and recoverable impacts of the project, like damage to surface vegetation, my opinion is that the primary adverse consequences that need to be considered are: (1) the potential impacts of destroying the integrity of the shale aquitard that lies between the Red River Carbonate and the Winnipeg Sandstone aquifers and promoting mixing of the 2 aquifers; (2) potential impacts to the recharge and flow dynamics of the aquifers, particularly the Red River Carbonate aquifer which is the primary aquifer used by so many Manitoban households; (3) contamination of the Winipeg Sandstone aquifer by microplastics generated during the extraction and return of water; and, (4) the very real potential to trigger land subsidence that could damage homes and critical infrastructure over a wide area if the project continues to full phase. The potential adverse consequences of this project are spatially widespread, they are potentially very damaging, affecting over a hundred thousand households as well as farms and business, and could prove extremely expensive to mitigate. More worrisome is that these consequences cannot be reversed once triggered. Ticking all of those boxes makes this a very high risk proposal.

When the potential consequences of a proposed activity are spatially widespread, long-term, and irreversible once started, these factors fundamentally increase the perceived and actual risk associated with the activity. This forces a more stringent and cautious risk analysis. The Precautionary Principle suggests that if an action or policy has a suspected risk of causing severe harm to the public domain (in this case, the environment across a wide area with long-term effects), protective action should be taken even if there is a lack of full scientific certainty about the potential harm. The burden of proof shifts; the proponent of the activity must prove it is safe, rather than the public needing to prove it is harmful. I do not believe that SioSilica has proven that their proposed activities will be safe or that their ideas about how they might reduce risks will be

effective. This is an experimental mining technique and they have not demonstrated with any certainty that any proposed mitigation or monitoring will be effective at reducing harm.

Because the consequences would be impossible to mitigate once they began to appear, traditional risk management strategies (mitigation, recovery, remediation) are ineffective. To protect the Public Interest, the focus must shift from managing a negative outcome to avoiding it entirely. Land subsidence and the potential to degrade the currently high quality drinking water that a hundred thousand Manitobans rely upon are consequences that would be unimaginably expensive to mitigate. These consequences would continue long after the lifespan of the company that reaped the benefits of the project and there is no way they could post an environmental bond large enough to guarantee against future damages. The extended nature of the consequences (land subsidence can be ongoing for decades and aquifer contamination or collapse is permanent) means that costs and harm cannot be simply amortized over a short period and considered in the context of a trade-off for a quantity of jobs and profits (which in this case would primarily go to a company based in Alberta). The potential consequences represent a permanent liability that future generations of Manitobans would bear.

3. The proponents do not seem to understand that monitoring consequences is not the same as avoiding them. In the case of a proposal that triggers the Precautionary Principle, consequences need to be avoided, not measured after it is too late. The proponent proposes to undertake Confirmation and monitoring of void space using sonar after extraction including long-term monitoring (after 1 year). What good does it do to monitor the size of the voids created after it is too late to change it? You cannot put the sandstone back once it has been destroyed, you cannot rebuild the aquitard nor mend fractures in the overlying limestone. What mitigation or minimization of damage is achieved by monitoring land subsidence? Subsidence cannot be reversed. How long would this subsidence network be maintained and monitored? Do we have any reasonable reason to believe that adverse consequences would occur within the first five years? Do we have any reasonable expectation that adverse consequences would not continue to get worse after 5 years. Why was 5 years chosen for the initial phase of the project and where is the evidence that this would be a sufficient period to allow the trajectory of adverse consequences to be accurately assessed?

4. To quote from EAP:

in the case of subsurface, environmental or geotechnical conditions, may be based on limited testing and on the assumption that such conditions are uniform and not variable either geographically or over time.

i. AECOM shall be entitled to rely upon the accuracy and completeness of information that was provided to it and has no obligation to update such information. AECOM accepts no responsibility for any events or circumstances that may have occurred since the date on which the Report was prepared and, in the case of subsurface, environmental or geotechnical conditions, is not responsible for any variability in such conditions, geographically or over time.

It appears that even the consulting company that generated the Environmental Assessment is not willing to stand behind the predictions. They clearly are aware that the data that was used to

generate predictions was limited both in terms of quantity and spatial coverage and that these limit the reliability of the predictions.

5. Substantial reduction in sand extraction is only over the first 5 years of the project. The company then plans to pursue a return to the previously applied for density of wells and level of extraction if no adverse impacts are detected. This logic relies upon a belief that adverse consequences would be detectable and understood in their entirety within a 5 year timeframe and with the level of effort that they intend on employing to monitor and model. I do not believe that either of these is at all a reliable expectation

1228

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We oppose Sio Silicas proposed silica-sand mining project in Manitoba.

We call for the full protection of our drinking water, environment, and community rights.

We demand that no project be approved unless it is proven safe, independently reviewed, publicly transparent, and supported by affected communities.

Our water is not for sale. Our safety is not negotiable. Our future is worth protecting!

1229

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Don't mess with our water supply....ever!

This project is not worth the possibility of having bad or no water for thousands of homes in the area.

1230

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Any time a hole is created, unless something is put in place to secure the sides, it will eventually cave in; its called gravity. With many wells being drilled through the aquifers, it will affect the drinking water quality for humans, animals, and agriculture (your food supply). Our homes are useless/valueless without water. Regardless of how many jobs are created, taxes paid, and profits made, it is not worth the risk or destruction of the aquifers.

Find a different location where humans are not affected to test their theory.

1231

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I believe this project is far too risky and potentially dangerous to our drinking waters to be allowed. It endangers lives and no matter the amount of money gained we would have more lives lost over it. We cant drink money. And we cant afford to risk damages to our earth and manitobans lives for a project like this. Silica isnt even a renewable resource, why waste these efforts.

1232

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I believe the environmental impact too large and this is not a benefit for Manitobans. We need to protect our drinking water.

1233

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My family and neighbours are very opposed to this project and have concerns about clean drinking water for the present and future generations. We have and will stand against this project.

1234

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My objections to the project centre mainly on the extraction process used which will jeopardize our well water. According to the Narwhal "This process has never been applied to sand mining at a commercial scale."

Drilling multiple wells through shale is not a viable process. Shale doesn't "heal" itself, it will remain perforated. A collapse of the shale barrier would be irreparable.

The limestone in the Carbonate aquifer is also in jeopardy. If, collapsed, proper sealing of abandoned wells cannot be properly done and surface contamination risks increase.

Even if it did not collapse, the return of mined, oxygenated water to the aquifer results in oxidizing conditions that will cause dissolution of metals with would render our water unpotable.

Over twenty years ago, there was a boil water advisory for Anola which resulted in the Anola water treatment plant. How many treatment plants or upgrades would be needed if the aquifer could not supply clean potable water for everyone who uses it now? Who would pay for it? Who would want to move to an area with bad water?

Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns.

1235

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Don't put our drinking water and environment at risk. Too risky the first time they tried this, its still too risky now!

1236

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: dont ruin our drinking water just for fossil fuels, dont accept the propasal

1237

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My family have lived in the Springfield area for over 30 years, and want to continue our way of living without the possible disasters Sio Silica could bring to our community!

I do NOT want what Sio is wanting to do in our community! Our precious water is at risk, our wildlife is at risk our land is at risk, it is not worth economic benefits at all!

STOP Sio from coming to our community and causing a possible disaster!!

1238

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The Sio Silica project is a disaster for the residents of Springfield. The water table that will be affected by the proposed drilling is essential to the southeastern Manitoba and is not something that can be replaced when damaged. The drilling methods touted have not been tested on this type of geological strata. The economic spinoffs are minimal for this area but the potential damage is significant. The fact that the last public meeting was not even held in the municipality and was poorly advertised shows a lack of ethics and transparency by this company. Shameful!!

1239

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We are currently fortunate enough to pull our well water from one of the greatest fresh water aquifers in the world, dont mess with something that could and would have irreversible damage. Sio might think.... just go buy water or tap into the city system. How about no!!

1240

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am opposed to the approval of Sio Silica/Simba's application to mine silica sand from our aquifer. The procedure proposed is an untested process, and should not be tested within our large aquifer area. Removing water and sand, and then returning the water to the aquifer will most certainly contaminate our excellent water source. The underground effects down the road are also completely unknown. Sio Silica cannot guarantee a safe or good outcome of their untested planned process.

We should protect this aquifer and not allow any mining within it whatsoever. Manitoba (Canada in general) has silica in many places that Sio Silica could propose to mine that wouldn't affect a large aquifer.

1241

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am submitting my concerns about this project, within the scope of this part of the process. While I commend the project for reducing its scope and its attempt to address some of the recommendations given, I do not believe all of the recommendations have been fully incorporated, and I believe significant uncertainties remain, which warrant careful scrutiny given the high stakes involved. My comments are intended to invite independent review rather than be overly technical.

Ultimately, from what I could assess, the project seeks to drill vertical pathways through multiple aquifers (Red River Carbonate aquifer above, Winnipeg Sandstone aquifer below), remove sandstone to form underground cavities ("rooms"), anticipate some collapse of the shale in between, and continually reinject treated water back into the lower aquifer. Given the potential risks to long-term drinking water for the public, I believe the government must hold a very high standard to protect this important natural resource during and after the project.

While not limited to below, I will enumerate briefly three concerns that I believe require further review, and independent study beyond the company's present methods (aspects of which, appeal to computer simulation(s), and specific modelling):

(1) In Appendix B of their document (such as on p.101), there is an acceptance of a possibility of the collapse of the shale, "the collapse of a section of the Winnipeg Shale and Red River Carbonate in the cavity formed in the Winnipeg Sandstone following the sand extraction is likely to occur." This may allow for mixing of the groundwaters between aquifers. While they provide their own views on to what extent this will occur in this document, this should be an invitation for more discussion and independent review.

(2) Mixing and Water Quality. On p.96 of Appendix B, it is stated that "the effect of the project on groundwater quality within the Local Project Area is predicted to range from positive to negative during operations and positive to negative during post-closure as shown in Table 8-C." In addition, they state on p.101 of Appendix B, "while arsenic and uranium concentrations will remain below these guidelines in the void as well, selenium concentrations will remain slightly above Manitoba water quality in the void for approximately seven years after the collapse, until they decline below the Manitoba water quality standard. The lateral migration of the water quality temporarily impacted by the collapse in the void is very slow and will have a significant amount of time to stabilize (re-equilibrate) which will minimize the effect on the water quality in adjacent and downstream portions of the aquifer." This should be an invitation to raise more questions about long-term impacts and to what extent these changes could affect areas beyond the Local Project Area.

(3) Water is returned to the target aquifer through their system. It is unclear whether the re-injected water will maintain the same geochemical state or could have long-term effects. I ask that this be further reviewed independently and invitations from subject-area experts be welcomed. Some may have the expectation that the water must not be affected, including by compounding effects related to the concerns above.

I attended Sio Silica's Open House on November 24, 2025. As somebody who cares deeply about scientific integrity and transparency, I was alarmed personally by the appeals to 'trust the science'-styled remarks directed toward members of the public who raised basic concerns without

technical background. I am requesting further opportunity for the public to comment, independent scientific and/or engineering experts to be invited to comment and offer their expertise, and for your body to carefully review their application with the primary responsibility of protecting the water of our region, to ensure there is no unacceptable risk.

The public's expectations are my own: Any risk here for the general public must not be acceptable. By the nature of this project, impacts to the geology will be irreversible/permanent (p.73). Therefore, the risk assessment threshold should be very high given it involves the drinking water of numerous residents in the region.

1242

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It is important for Manitoba in these critical political environments that we work with companies interested in developing products that will also be a benefit to all of Canada due to the past 8 months of extreme industrial changes now trying to become a more independent country. Another country will come to take over the silico sand project. Think of the jobs for Manitoba this development will bring to our province. No project is perfect but we have more knowledge today than when we built the railway across Canada or when we built the Trans Canada highway. You will never please everyone on any project. Like my Grandpas told me people thought the invention of the wheel was crazy. Or the 1st Model T and Model A cars were developed. People said was crazy! But now people do not want to be without cars and trucks. The majority of Canadians really have no idea what this sand project is about. Please stand tall above the nay sayers voicesand get the future projects going.

1243

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Absolutely no. There should never be any type of controversial development or mining of a major water source. Come on already.

1244

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This 'scaled back' version of the project holds the same risks as the original proposal. Though it starts with fewer wells the end result, if approved will be a vast network of wells through

out the south-east. When the project was first considered they were talking about a very large operation. They scaled it back on the last proposal but the investment in the operation clearly showed the intent to pursue the original number of wells.

We have noway of knowing the effect this type of operation will have on our drinking water. Southeast Manitoba is the fastest growing rural area in this province and endangering the drinking water source is short-sighted. I offer that if this type of operation, with the inherent risks to drinking water, was located adjacent to the City of Winnipeg's water source (Shoal Lake) this proposal would never have been considered.

I am concerned specifically about: the cross contamination between the two aquifers, the destabilization of the region with the unprecedented removal of silica sand and the disruption of the public drainage systems with the proposed movement of the slurry along the municipal rights of way.

1245

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water quality will be affected. Shouldnt push this project

1246

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project has the potential to impact drinking water for thousands of manitobans. Due to its new methodology and previous denial for environmental concerns and impacts, it needs to further examine the impacts not only on water quality, but sustainability and if the water quality will continue to be potable without extreme treatment measures. I believe that natural resources do not need to be mined to be valuable, the aquifer is already serving a purpose without being contaminated and mined quickly for the sake of profit.

Furthermore, having the mayor from east St. Paul on the board of this project seems like a conflict of interest and unethical.

Please reject/deny this proposal.

1247

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not beleive that the process used to extract silica from the aquifer is a safe process, and I do beleive the water supply will no longer be safe for consumption if this proposal goes through.

1248

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project will destroy the ground water in the entire municipality by a company with a history of abandoning other mining operations with no regard for the environment or cleanup after.

Once the water is contaminated it cannot be reversed and the people of the district will have no access to drinking water.

1249

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing to express my concern over the Sio Silica project. This project has already been refused, citing uncertainty over the effects on our clean drinking water and experts have weighed in AGAINST this project. Our drinking water is not worth this risk.

1250

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please do not allow this project to move forward. They have not demonstrated competency or a viable way of keeping safe the water supply of our community. I feel it is inappropriate and a conflict of interest that the mayor of East St Paul sits on this companies board. That alone should disqualify them from moving forward. It is impariative that this not move forward. Peoples health and drinking water is far more important than corporate interest and Profit.

1251

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I oppose Sio Silicas proposed silica-sand mining project in Manitoba.

I call for the full protection of our drinking water, environment, and community rights.

I demand that no project be approved unless it is proven safe, independently reviewed, publicly transparent, and supported by affected communities.

Our water is not for sale. Our safety is not negotiable. Our future is worth protecting

1252

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned with how this project will affect water quality in the area.

The company has either refused to provide or to complete the submission of information requested by the CEC, including most importantly the cumulative impact assessment of the 24 year project. This assessment should be included for the approval process of projects in Manitoba.

Projects that risk irreversible cross contamination of aquifers should not be approved.

1253

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: NO TO SIO SILICA

1254

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The risks that this reckless proposal present to our aquifer and the residents of our province FAR outweigh the rewards that anyone here would reap. Please consider this, and the lack of accountability, should the already presented negative outcomes materialize.

1255

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not agree with moving forward with this project. The technique proposed has not been used before and could potentially go wrong. There is no way to guarantee 100% safety on a system not yet put to use. Drinking water is vital and should not be put at risk.

1256

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: TOO MANY RISKS TO OUR DRINKING WATER!!! You can't drink money. Too many projects are based on money and not public interests. Highly agaisnt this.

1257

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: If someone was threatening my drinking water, I'd vote "no" 1 million times just myself...

My drinking water is so pristine you couldn't ask for better. Stop taking things for granted...be thankful we even have water.

1258

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project is too risky! Drinking water is too precious to risk. Also there may be a conflict of interest in this project. This project could impact water quality and it should not go ahead.

1259

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This affects the drinking water of my family and their neighbours. You cant just fix this when the damage is done. Do not mess with drinking water!

1260

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: A HUGE NO to SIO Silica. All levels of government must play a crucial role in safeguarding our drinking water, as it is essential for maintaining the health of our environment and all living things. Policies and regulations must not only be implemented but also adhered to. This helps prevent pollution and protect our watersheds. By prioritizing the full protection of our environment and drinking water, our governments can contribute to the over all well being of the planet and future generations. NO TO SIO IN MANITOBA.

1261

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very concerned about my well being affected in the extraction of the sand as I am not to far away from the perposed area there for I am against the project

1262

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I worry about lasting effects to our Manitoba groundwater.

1263

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No! Manitobans do not want you extracting sio silica!!

1264

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There is no rectifying any mistake made. If the groundwater in Manitoba is compromised it's done. This company will not fix anything, they will take everything they can and pack up and leave. We cannot afford to experiment with our water.

1265

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My husband and I were born and raised in Springfield and have enjoyed residing at our current location for over 40 years. We definitely are against the Silo Sand project. We are convinced our well water would be contaminated beyond recovery should they continue with this project. How many times are we going to be forced to voice our objections? No means no!!

1266

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: cant drink money

1267

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Once our groundwater is compromised, there is no going back. This project jeopardizes one of our most precious resources. No matter what name they give it, it is not worth the risk. The residents of the area have already done the legwork on this project. If their voices mean anything at all to the government they put in place, Sio Silica cannot be allowed to proceed.

1268

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I will not support a corrupt company forcing its way into our communities and jeopardizing our future

1269

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This proposal was rejected last year for a very valid reason. I say no to you guys messing with our drinking water, please do not do this. Just reject this again and let things stay as they are.

1270

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Dont. dont do it if its not safe for manitobans. We are humans who have human rights and deserve to be safe, and protected by our government.

1271

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am a resident living only [redacted] from a test well they drilled last time the Sio Silica was testing in our region.

The environmental impact on our area and other areas around our Province will be too detrimental. I am concerned especially with the Aquafer which we rely on. With just one mistake (drilling too deep for example) during the mining process can quicky contaminate it before it is realized. There will not be enough constant oversight to ensure things will be done correctly without issue.

Those of us living rural use well water is our ONLY source of drinking water. When that becomes contaminated by this drilling...we will have to truck in our water - who will pay for that? Not to mention the environmental impacts on vegetation and the wild animals that also rely on the land and water.

The trucks and extraction processes being done will also create more machinery, more noise, more traffic in an area we do not want it. There is a "Test" hole 1/4 mile from my home and the last thing we need is a mining operation "next door".

Land value will also go down - just the mining noise/pollution alone is a big negative, and if our only source of water is no longer drinkable who would want to be living out here?

Their proposal mentions drilling less holes now - well just two yrs ago they drilled holes already so promising to drill less does not make sense. They already have holes all over -- so if they start up again does that mean they will continue to drill more and not take into account the ones already in the ground? Stop this now.

Jobs can be found elsewhere but our environment and especially our WATER cannot!

We value our homes and the land we are living on. Please protect Manitoba's environment Now and for FUTURE Generations.

It just takes one slip up or mistake to destroy the only water source we have in our area.

In addition - Why did the company hold an informational meeting and not seemingly advertise it to the communities effected?

I would have attended and I am sure more would have if we had known! This company was underhanded in their last bid to push approval for this mining two yrs ago and seems they are still operating this way. HOW do we trust anything they are saying and promising now???

1272

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our drinking water is too important to risk in this proposed endeavour. It was previously rejected for good reason.

1273

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project is too dangerous to risk our most precious resource on. Other places wish they had the safe drinking supply we have, do not risk ours for this project

1274

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: NO TO SIO SILICA

1275

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a resident of the municipality where Sio Silica intends to mine, I am strongly opposed to this project. Downsizing it makes no difference, based upon the possibility to contaminate our drinking water. Public health is more important than a mine from an out of province company,

1276

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have significant environmental related concerns due to this project. Protect Manitoba water reserves for our drinking water.

1277

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our people deserve clean water without the chance of risks of contamination in our drinking water. It has unproven new extraction techniques that will potentially create sinkholes. Protect the people that pay taxes! We deserve clean water. Everyone does.

1278

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is untested excavation for the silica. Maybe, maybe a proven method. But the cost to people's water and health is too great. Money is not everything. Leave the earth alone. Let us live with the clean water we have already.

1279

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water quality and long term environmental effects.

1280

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Concerned about water quality of aquifers

1281

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yes. I think you should reject the Sio Silica project. There are far too many risks to our water.

1282

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not support this project in my community. It poses too many risks. The company cant be trusted. The community doesnt want this to happen. We have already showed that in a vote.

1283

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: To: The Director of Environmental Approvals Branch

EABDirector@gov.mb.ca

Box 35 - 14 Fultz Boulevard, Winnipeg, MB R3Y 0L6

Tel: 204-945-8321

Subject: Opposition to Proposed Mining Project Sio Silica Simba Sand Extraction Project

Dear Director,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Sio Silica Simba Sand Extraction Project. As a resident of this area, I am deeply concerned about the potential impact this project will have on our environment, health, and quality of life.

Contrary to Sio Silicas claim, their revised proposal does NOT address the concerns raised regarding the previous proposal. The only proposed difference seems to be a smaller footprint and reduced extraction volumes for the initial period (years 0-4). Regardless of these changes, all of the same risks remain including a collapsed aquifer, contaminated water, damaged land and polluted air.

Sio Silicas process is unproven and largely untested and poses a significant risk to residents health and the environment. Part of the process is new and patent pending, so it is only theoretical and without any concrete data on the actual impact - short or long term. For the proven components of the process, what are the long-term impact data from other sites? Even if the proven component of the process works elsewhere, there is no guarantee that it will work in Springfield.

The project operation poses a serious risk to the local ecosystems. It threatens to disrupt wildlife habitats, contaminate water sources, and degrade air quality. These environmental consequences would not only harm biodiversity but also jeopardize the natural resources that our community depends on.

The results of Sio Silicas environmental and socioeconomic assessment of impacts on things such as geology/topology, soils, groundwater, air quality, noise, vegetation, and wildlife, range from negligible to minor, but these assessments are at best only theoretical. What if they are wrong and there is damage that cannot be fixed, such as the aquifer collapsing and/or their process of treating the water before it is re-injected into the ground doesnt work and our water is contaminated?

The health and safety of residents must be prioritized. The proximity of this project to homes, schools, and public spaces makes these risks especially alarming. Moreover, the social and economic fabric of our community is at stake. The presence of a large-scale mining operation will diminish property values, discourage sustainable development, and undermine the peaceful character of our neighborhood. Our community deserves investment in projects that promote long-term prosperity without sacrificing our well-being.

I understand the importance of economic development, but the Government of Manitobas obligation should first be to protect its tax-paying residents' well-being and not expose them to unnecessary risk. Development cannot come at the expense of, and risk to Manitoba residents well-being. How can it outweigh the well-being of the tax-paying residents who live here, and the environmental risks and threats to their safety? The need for development and jobs is important, but at what cost? Any related jobs would be relatively short-term. The risk of irreparable damage to the water and environment is high given Sio Silicas unproven methods. And any financial benefit from allowing the project is not likely to cover the costs for the municipality and residents to repair any damage done. This project would lower property values and ability to sell property in Springfield now and long into the future is the short-term gain worth the long-term pain? Is it worth jeopardizing Springfields attractiveness as a place to live? Is it worth the risk of residents moving out of the municipality and taking their tax dollars with them? Is it worth the threat to the long-term viability of the region? What do people from Alberta care if a Manitoba municipality is damaged/negatively impacted? They are going back home to their nice houses and neighbourhoods and collecting huge profits from their exploitation of land two provinces away. Their lives are not being negatively impacted

There are other sources of sand that could be obtained at lower to no risk, but Sio Silica wants this sand because of its purity and thus a lower cost to process, and a higher profit margin for them. However, this is their cost of business they can afford to pay more, but Springfield residents cannot afford the risk to our water, environment, quality of life, and property value, all of which cannot be fixed with any amount of compensation after-the fact.

I understand that other sites denied Sio Silicas project but that Springfields former Mayer (Tiffany Fell) encouraged them to come to Springfield. Obviously, there are other sites of interest to Sio Silica, so Springfield is not the only source of the sand they want. With all this opposition, why not move the project to another more appropriate, unpopulated area that is more suited to mining, rather than residential municipalities?

I urge the government to reconsider approval of this mining project and instead explore alternatives that align with sustainable development goals. Protecting our environment and safeguarding public health must remain the highest priority.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I trust that you will take the concerns of local residents seriously and act in the best interest of our community.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

[redacted]

1284

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: None

1285

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio Silica appears to be blithely unconcerned about ensuring there will be no degradation of the drinking water in this aquifer. Even though their extraction methods are largely untested they act as though drilling fewer wells will somehow be safer. How do they know even one well won't cause serious issues?

Potable drinking water is becoming an extremely scarce and valuable resource and therefore is above value. Do not allow this, or any other, business access to any of the mineral deposits under this aquifer and find a permanent way to prevent any future attempts at exploitation.

Thank you.

1286

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am a Manitoba Metis land and water guardian.

I deem this projet unnecessary and highly contentious of Treaty rights, and other indigenous peoples, including Metis. Lets focus on cleaning up our current messes like the Red River and the illegal dams in Northern Manitoba that have cost Indeginous Peoples their livelihood and their culture for 4 generations.

How does this provincial government want to remembered? The one that sold its resources to the lowest bidders or the one that stood up for our land and waters and the people that still respect it.

1287

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not support the mining of sand. I have concerns that drilling into the aquifer to extract sand will cause a fundamental change to the aquifer that interferes with its structural integrity over time, which will impact its functionality. Once done, this cannot be undone. I do not believe that due process has been done, and even if it is, I cannot support mining that impacts drinking water.

Sio Silica/Simba now admits their return of mined, oxygenated water, to the aquifer results in oxidizing conditions.

New X1t modelling show induced oxidizing conditions will cause dissolution of selenium, arsenic, and uranium contained in material that collapses into the mined sand cavity. The model showed 4 mg/L of oxygen in the cavity was sufficient to start dissolution.

The model used 3 m of shale and 2 m of limestone for the collapsed material and a 50 m radius by 25 m(ht.) cavity. A 50 m radius would result in 9,816 cubic meters of collapsed material. For shale density and limestone density of 2500 kg per cubic meter the mass of the collapsed shale and limestone would be 14.7 million kilograms or 14.7 thousand tonnes and 9.8 million kilograms or 9.8 thousand tonnes.

Table 4-3 provides borehole 121-1 sample for selenium in the shale at 13.1ppm and 0.533ppm in the carbonate. Therefore the total mass of selenium in the cavity is 198 kg.

However, only 0.25 kg out of the 198 kg of selenium was allowed to dissolve in their model. Thus the model only considered 0.126% of the available selenium was assumed to have dissolved in the cavity. The model did not analyze if the 99.87% of selenium would continue to dissolve.

Fig 4-10, shows selenium above guideline levels for 7 years until it slowly disperses. Further dissolution in the cavity was not modelled. Just like the selenium, the oxygen will move downstream and will continue to oxidize material it comes in contact with, including interbedded shale in the sandstone, which was not included in the total mass of material available. Why is further dissolution not modelled?

The model is 1 Dimensional and does not consider how the contaminate plume interacts with other mined cavities or how ongoing mining that increases gradients and flow, impacts movement. With collapse of the Shale Aquitard, the oxygen and contaminates can potentially move into the overlying Carbonate Aquifer.

Shake Flask Evidence(SFE) for selenium showed that 42.6 % of available selenium dissolved in 24hrs with a concentration of 1.64 mg/L. This exceeds the 0.01 mg/L allowable limits by a factor of more than a hundred. This is extremely concerning since dissolution of 42.6% of all available selenium dissolved in the shake flask, whereas in the model, only 0.126% was allowed to dissolve. With the percentage of dissolution that occurred in the shake flask test, model guidelines would be greatly exceeded by a factor of approximately 333.0.

The model ignored the potential for entrained or gaseous air occurring from air lift mining where air and water mix in the production tube. It only considers the oxygen dissolved in the water at a range of 4 to 12 mg/L but entrained or gaseous air can result in many times the amount of oxygen entering the aquifer system than by dissolved air.

Additional oxygen leakage from the airlift mining method could add to oxidation levels. Sio ignored this in their assessment. However, based on Sio patent information, the airlift flow averaged 450 cubic feet per minute. Four boreholes simultaneously extracting sand for three days, would on average, produce 4 mg/L of oxygen at 1% leakage. Additional oxygen leakage from the air lift mining method and extending the air tube into the aquifer per patent instructions, cannot be ignored.

With potentially higher levels of contamination expected than in the model by a factor of over 300, we need to know the truth about the potential contamination that could occur from the project as proposed. Is contamination just restricted to the cavities in the sand? Will it enter both aquifers throughout the entire mined area? Over time, will the contamination spread downstream toward the Red River? The model duration was set at 10 years only.

1288

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project is highly unsafe and environmentally damaging to the residents of Manitoba. I strongly disagree with any claim to move forward with this project for the safety and future of manitobans.

1289

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water is too precious to be gambled with. Sio's unproven methods of remediation hold no weight. They are crooks on the books... they can not be trusted to have Manitoba's peoples best interests. Let their management team and families come live in South Eastern Manitoba and see how comfortable they would be with this proposal.

1290

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is a risky project that would surely have untold consequences to the environment with no telling how long the rammifications could affect water quality and the people in the community relying upon it. We should be protecting our resources, not mining underneath them. We should be using science based approaches for safety, not untested extraction methods. This is irresponsible to Manitobans. Reject this project proposal and do right for the people of this province.

1291

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have environmental concerns and the unknown effects on our drinking water

1292

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not want this project to happen. I am against this.

1293

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My biggest fear is about the water quality and the safety for our future with our land, animals, quality of life. Our municipality and Sio have been doing a lot of back door business. Please consider OUR interest and future.

1294

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have read that this project poses a great threat to the ground water around the area of operation. I am concerned that remediation after and during the projects operation will be too complicated and thus ignored entirely and would like to see that the project is not permitted. In the case that it is granted permission I demand that a full cumulative assessment is conducted for the full 25 years of development, operation and any decomissioning. The risk to water is too great to not hold the highest standards. Additionally, there should be plans of their post-project follow-up and monitoring to understand all impacts that may result from the project before it comences any operation or construction. There needs to be fully thought out plans on the aftermath of projects with such high risk. There should also be fully funded publuc hearings to allow for the fair communication of all proponents, especially those who are the most local.

1295

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please consider these important points regarding the Sio Silica proposal:

- Ground source heat pumps (geothermal systems) do not mix 2 aquifers even though they call it well to well as they take from the same aquifer

- The interconnectivity (mixing) of aquifers is not permitted under Manitoba legislation

- Sio and AECON are using simulations, there is no on site evidence

- What are the real life after affects with the removal of sand - only computer modelling simulations are examined

- Water quality is not the key issue, its the mixing of the aquifers that is illegal

- The EA appears to have AECON doing analysis after the fact. No on-site examination. Was AECON hired after the field work was done? This is very important as their examination is then only text book knowledge, not actual evidence based.

- Nothing in the EA examines what was done on site at the time

- AECON does not have any other experience in this type of project

- Did AECON do any visibility, water sampling, noise monitoring on-site

- Did AECON do any neighbouring (residential) water sampling after test sites drilled?

- What was the response in domestic wells after test sites drilled - where is the data from these? Likely isn't any.

hydrogeological they say will seal the intrusion, but this is hypothetical, text book, simulation.

The Manitoba Government should hire a hydrogeological expert to analyze the EA in extensive detail.

1296

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The long-term consequences of silica extraction are unknown. What is known is that over a hundred years ago, the Beausejour Glass Works silica extraction permanently altered groundwater systems.

Also, the repeated attempts of SIO to push this project multiple times despite community disapproval does not encourage me to believe in their character as a corporation. They seem to think of themselves as too good to take no for an answer. No means no.

1297

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio Silica will destroy the wells and water supply in our area. This was company was turned down once before, and now they are trying again. There is evidence and proven results that this type of business WILL destroy our water supply.

Clearly there is more going on here than meets the eye. As a resident/taxpayer of Springfield, I do not want my water supply damaged and DO NOT want Sio to open up business in the RM!

Thank-you.

1298

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project should not be approved, it will damage the drinking water.

1299

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yes, considering it was a rejected proposal already due to environmental concerns and it would impact clean drinking water, it isn't a good idea to go through with the project. If anything the focus should be to get clean drinking water into any communities that don't have drinking water up north first.

1300

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: DO NOT DO THIS.

1301

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Drilling in the aquifer disturbers the fine Silica creating toxic drinking water. Unlike Winnipeg all Springfield residents rely on the aquifer for consumable water. We can not afford to lose our drinking water.

1302

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have huge concerns about this projects effects on the local aquifer. I think that this proposed project was denied for good reason and should not be allowed to proceed.

1303

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Dont

1304

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No no no. Good god. Leave our drinking water alone!!

1305

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Environmental concerns. Should not be allowed

1306

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I need information emailed to me please.

1307

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We have to protect the quality of our aquifer at all costs.The risk is too great of destroying our water supply.

1308

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We absolutely CANNOT risk our aquifer . How could we possibly survive without clean water.

1309

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is absurd. The fact that this is even up for debate with having huge environmental impacts especially to the water manitobans drink should be immediately voted against. Please keep us manitobans safe and our environment untouched to a company that only sees profits not the the serious consequences this will cause .

1310

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have serious concerns that this could have a serious impact of drinking water for the area and the methods that are proposed have not been attempted previously to my knowledge. As a member of the Winnipeg and Manitoba community I am opposed to this project moving forward in it's current state.

1311

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I support silica sand extraction in Manitoba because it has strong potential to boost our provincial economy. Projects like this create well-paid jobs in rural and northern communities, support local businesses, and generate tax revenue that funds essential public services. Silica sand is also a key material for growing industries such as solar energy, high-tech manufacturing, and advanced glass production. Developing this resource could attract new investment, improve infrastructure, and help Manitoba participate in expanding clean-energy and technology supply chains. Overall, responsible silica sand extraction can diversify our economy, strengthen local communities, and position Manitoba as a competitive player in global markets.

1312

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have concerns for watershed safety and this will pollute the local environment. We own many acres of crops and don't want this to happen. My family does not want this brought to the area. This has already been voted down once, it is shocking to me that this is being considered

again. Our environment and our drinking water is more important. Go watch the Hollywood version of this Erin Brockovich.

1313

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water quality concerns. The project was previously denied over the many risks. Nothing has changed, it still should not happen.

1314

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This could ruin our drinking water and be detrimental to the surrounding wildlife

1315

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am a supporter of safe environmental processes where the result is in-country innovation and ownership of the tech and talent required. I fully understand environmental risks and dangers associated but Sio especially has done incredible due diligence and background work to ensure a safe process with checks and measures all along the way. The alternative here is to keep foreign dominance of critical resources and allow the rest of the world to dictate this process often without any consideration to the environment or people. We as a country are NOT being proactive in this regard so far but could improve the environment globally by leading the way with a safe and mitigated environmental process. Not acting on this, and similar projects, means allowing unsafe and un-environmental processes to remain the norm while we sit in our little shelter and allow the world to degrade around us. Our sheltered bubble isnt big enough to save us when the rest of the world crumbles. This is our opportunity to lead the way through example, inspire technical innovation and promote our economy all at the same time. It would be a serious mistake to let this project fall by the wayside.

1316

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This silica mining will directly impact the aquifer we draw from for water we drink and rely on. Please dont risk my familys health and our homes value with this mining.

1317

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The risks outweigh the reward for the public. This project only aims to make the wealthy wealthier with little regard for the risks involved. If something were to go wrong, it would be affect hundreds of thousands of people and the company isnt even from here, theyre from Alberta, so it would be no great loss for them. Please, now more than ever we need to put people over profit. Do not allow this project to happen.

1318

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water is more valuable than this proposal. The company responsible has repeatedly proven itself dishonest and untrustworthy.

1319

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The Sio Silica Simba Sand Extraction Project should not be allowed to proceed based upon the value of the drinking water supply to Southeastern Manitoba and the inability of the proponent to protect the aquifers from contamination and intermixing during the mining process.

I believe that drinking water aquifers for Springfield Municipality and a large portion of Southeastern Manitoba are so important that they should be given special consideration in an environmental review. The water is an irreplaceable drinking water source for many thousands of people and animals in Southeastern Manitoba. Damage to our drinking water source should be considered unacceptable. There is no alternative source. The value of the water source vastly exceeds the potential value of the sand to be extracted.

The extraction method proposed by Sio Silica by design significantly contaminates and intermixes the aquifers at each extraction well. The extraction method has not been changed from the previous environmental review - only the initial number of proposed wells has been reduced. The most significant failure mode of the proposed extraction method is collapse of the aquitard due to the mining process, allowing intermixing of the aquifers. The failure is hidden, especially if the failure

occurs after mining of the hole is complete. The control to prevent aquitard failure proposed by the proponent is soft, proposing process controls only, which rely on non-comprehensive testing of the aquitard thickness which cannot completely address variability of the aquitard composition. This is evidenced by the failure of the aquitard at one test hole as discussed at the previous hearings, with the probability of failure and subsequent contamination and intermixing linearly increasing based upon the number of holes drilled. The mining process as proposed cannot prevent these failures. The proponent provides no means to mitigate these failures or to restore the barrier between the aquifers after failure.

Contamination of the aquifers, whether from process chemicals (especially acrylamide), waste streams (chitosan), released heavy metals, oxygenation, acidification, or increased turbidity, were demonstrated at the previous hearings on the proposed extraction method. Contamination is not an acceptable failure effect for drinking water sources.

Based on the irreplicable value of the drinking water supply and the inability of the proponent to prevent contamination and intermixing of the aquifers with the extraction method, the Sio Silica Simba Sand Extraction project should not be given any licence to begin operations or to continue testing.

If the application is not rejected outright, a full public environmental review of the project with paid intervenors should be carried out. The review in all cases should include the comprehensive effects of the full project (all wells in the entire area of the mine, present and future).

1320

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Im concerned about the proposed silica mining within the RM of Taché and surrounding municipalities, and the impact to our drinking water and aquifer. I do not want any silica mining within our municipality.

1321

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No sio silica

1322

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This company already got declined once. One of greatest resources in Manitoba is our abundance of fresh water. We have over 100,000 lakes. Despite that, there are townships without any access to fresh water (Virden).

Also.

1) Their proposed extraction method has never been tested at scale, let's not be their guinea pigs

2) This is undoubtedly going to lead to ground water contamination

3) It may even cause airborne contamination with aerosolized silica particle, which isn't great

4) This is going to cause voids in the sandstone structure which could lead to sinking/sing hole. Just look up what's happening to the City of Tehran in Iran is sinking due to them draining out their auqifers (Not the exact same as cavities being formed by silica extract but will lead to the same ends)

Ban this company from our province already. They aren't welcome here.

Signed: Tax paying Manitoba Resident

1323

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: A potential project planned for the RM of Springfield would use a new technique that would very likely affect the region's drinking water. It is right within the aquifer area. The CEC previously brought up those very concerns.

Beyond that, the mayor of East St. Paul was appointed President of Sio Silica, which would be a conflict of interest.

1324

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have environmental concerns regarding the wildlife and water quality since it will affect many individuals drinking water. I do not consent or agree with this proposal what so ever.

1325

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: WATER is our most basic human need and local water is under threat from this project. And for what? Profit. Any scientist looking into this question in the Springfield area has said as much. We don't need average citizens to do more science. Watch the trailer on this page: https://stopsio.com/

1326

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The Clean Environment Commission (CEC) asked for more information regarding the physical structure of the underground sand area, but the company has not done this work yet.

CEC asked for 10 separate and detailed plans regarding things like erosion, water and revegetation be finalized and available for comment, but Sio Silica has not completed them.

CEC asked for a worst-case scenario plan and the company has not provided it.

CEC asked for a cumulative impacts assessment of the 24-year life of the project, but the company said no.

If the company says no to the CEC then we will say no to the company.

The lack of cumulative assessment for projects in Manitoba is an indication that we should modernize our Environment Act and approvals process.

For nearly four decades the precautionary principle has been recognized around the world as the standard for environmental care. Projects which can result in serious environmental harm should not go forward.

1327

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I'm writing to share my concerns about the proposed silica mining project in Manitoba. From everything Ive read, this project has the potential to cause serious and long-lasting harm to people, the environment, and nearby Indigenous communities. I don't feel confident that the risks have been properly addressed or that the public fully understands whats at stake.

One of the biggest issues for me is the health impact of silica dust. Silica mining releases very fine particles that can get deep into peoples lungs, and health agencies like the CDC and NIOSH have been warning for years that this dust can cause silicosis, lung cancer, and other permanent health problems. There are also studies showing that people living near mining operations are at risk, not just the workers. I don't think it makes sense to allow something like this so close to homes and communities when the health risks are so well known.

Im also worried about the environmental side of this project, especially the impact on water. Silica mining uses a lot of water and creates wastewater that can carry sediment and other contaminants. Research shows that these kinds of projects can damage wetlands, rivers, and groundwater systems. In Manitoba, where so many communities rely on aquifers for drinking water, even a small chance of contamination should be taken very seriously. Once groundwater is polluted, its basically impossible to fix.

Another concern is how this project affects Indigenous rights. The land and water in this area have huge cultural and practical importance to the Indigenous communities who live there. Based on what has been shared publicly, it doesn't sound like these communities were properly consulted, especially when the project plans changed. That's not right, and it doesn't line up with the commitments Manitoba has made about respecting treaty rights and Indigenous sovereignty.

When you add everything together - health risks, environmental damage, threats to water, impacts on Indigenous rights - it's hard to see how this project is worth it. The long-term costs could easily outweigh any short-term economic benefit. Once the damage is done, it cant be undone.

For these reasons, I'm asking the Manitoba government to reject the silica mining proposal. At the very least, there needs to be a truly independent health and environmental review, proper consultation with Indigenous communities, and strict protections in place before anything moves forward. Manitoba deserves development that doesnt put people or the environment at risk.

1328

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not approve of sio silica- simba sand extraction project. It will affect our drinking water and cause non-reversible damage to the aquafer. It was rejected last year and should remain that way. No money is worth the effects that it will cause to so many Manitobans.

1329

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As 34 year residents of the RM of Springfield, my wife and I moved to the Cooks Creek area in 1991 largely because of the exceptional well water available to residents in this area. We have been blessed to have this. But now Sio Silica wants to disturb our aquifer and I will never be convinced that they have our best interests in mind. If they are allowed to complete this project and once they have reaped the profits we will be left with substandard well water and worthless properties. Please do not allow Sio Silica in our area or any other area where they will clearly destroy the quality of ground water of residents in that area. They do not have our best interests in mind. Profit is everything. People are not.

1330

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I would like to know how the province can ensure that our water aquifers in and around East St. Paul can be guaranteed to remain clean and safe for drinking if this project is permitted?

1331

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Concerns for the water and the wellbeing of our people.

1332

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is a dangerous slope. We need to protect our water.

1333

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: *Once again, Sio Silicas assessment of their revised project does not allow for an evidence-based decision. This conflicts with best practice standards for Impact Assessment.

*Mining for minerals must not be fast tracked. A sound assessment is critical.

*97.2% of this planet's water is in the oceans, 2.15% in glaciers and polar ice caps, less than 1% is in surface and groundwater of which groundwater is 0.31%. Much of that groundwater is not usable because it has been ruined by fracking, mining, or irremediable spills. Water is too precious and the risk too great, this project must NOT receive an Environment Act License.

*Given the need to protect local and regional groundwater sources, it is distressing that this project is being considered again.

*The further reduction of the mining area for environmental assessment and only a 5 year period out of a multi-generational mine life, prevents full assessment of all environmental, economic, and

social risks and impacts from the project. This conflicts with best practice standards for Impact Assessment.

*It is unacceptable that Sio Silica failed to undertake the cumulative impact assessment as recommended by the CEC. In order for environmental assessments to be done well, they must include an assessment of cumulative effects. (CEC 2014, 2018)

*The Sio Silica extraction project is experimental and remains unproven. If this experiment is licensed, the previously approved sand processing facility will be built for the experiment. This must not be allowed. It is unreasonable to hand an Environment Act License to an experiment. Sios proposal perverts the assessment and licensing process.

*Mining, processing, and transport operations will occur 24/7/365, up to 100 meters from homes. The potential for air quality impacts have not been adequately assessed. The assessment of noise and artificial light pollution have been ignored.

*Operations will have direct impacts on the land. Trees/brush will be cleared and loss of habitat will impact known species at risk. Many properties contain old growth, these are irreplaceable.

*Access roads will be required for the heavy machinery and truck traffic, impacting farm land and livestock and wildlife. Operations will create continual distress and worry, negatively impact our livelihoods and communities and will impinge on the enjoyment of our property.

*The disinfection method for the return of mined water back to the aquifer remains unproven. This is a major component of the project that should have been thoroughly proven prior to the licensing process. This gives 100,000 Manitobans no assurance that the Water will remain safe and dependable nor that their best interests are being protected.

*Sio now admits their return of mined, oxygenated water, to the aquifer results in oxidizing conditions that will cause dissolution of selenium, arsenic, and uranium contained in material that collapses into the mined sand cavity. Figure 4-10, shows selenium above drinking water guideline levels for 7 years until it slowly disperses.

*The X1t model is 1Dimensional and did not consider how the contaminate plume interacts with other mined cavities or how ongoing mining that increases gradients and flow, impacts movement. With collapse of the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard, the oxygen and contaminants can potentially move into the overlying Carbonate Aquifer.

*A thorough assessment of all potential oxygen sources introduced into the aquifer system by operations (i.e. from airlift method, type (entrained) have not been undertaken. Until this is addressed the modelling grossly underestimates oxidation potential.

*Reducing the number of industrial sized boreholes for assessment, underestimates project effects and misleads the public.

*Borehole mining causes the irreversible collapse of the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard which separates the two aquifers - Carbonate and Sandstone Aquifers. Fractured limestone in the Carbonate aquifer also collapses. Collapse of this geological material prevents proper sealing/abandonment of the boreholes. This increases the aquifers vulnerability to contamination from surface sources.

*Over the life-time of the mine, thousands of industrial sized boreholes, monitoring and vertical boreholes will be drilled all up to 100 meters of homes. These boreholes will be perpetual sources for contamination from surface sources. It takes ONE failed or soiled well to cause damage. Certain land uses will be prohibited to prevent contamination to the groundwater i.e. chemical agriculture, livestock, manure spreading, housing, septic systems,

*To grant this project a license would be an agreement to the destruction of two irreplaceable aquifers. This is not stewardship. We do not get a second chance.

*We all rely on our environment and must care for it. We need to know the truth about impacts from development to avoid mistakes that will be costly to our children. Particularly when it comes to Water, there is no room for error.

*We cannot have healthy communities and a strong economy if we are not committed to evidence-based decision making, an accountable public service, and transparent public process.

*With its potential to cause significant and irreversible harm to Manitobas drinking water, the Sio Silica project must be rejected now. If it should be allowed to continue, it must be designated a Class 3 development and the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission be convened to hold a public hearing to review the project with full participant funding.

*The Sio Silica project illustrates the need to strengthen Manitobas dangerously flawed assessment and licensing process under The Environment Act and The Mines and Minerals Act.

*The entire Sio Silica project must be subject to a thorough, independent public inquiry under The Evidence Act to ensure that our democratic institutions and process are sound.

Image: Sio well design, well clusters, tiny portion under assessment in relation to the extent of Sio mineral claims (yellow squares); letter to the editor. Your letter need not be lengthy to get your concerns across. It is imperative that all Manitobans, of all ages, act to protect the environment for today and future generations.

1334

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio Silica needs to be stopped, again. We've already said no. They are willing to try again to put our drinking water and environment at risks for their own financial gain. We must stop them, again, from leaving our water source devastated.

1335

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It is my understanding that Sio Silica will not stop trying to make this project happen, and are willing to wait years, if not generations to make this happen. It would be in our (the Province's) best interest to establish a Crown Corp with exclusive rights to the desired resource. This would allow the government to establish appropriate environmental protections during extraction, if that extraction ever comes to pass. This would also mean that the public/government benefits from the revenue rather than a private company, while creating the jobs Sio projects to create. I would highly recommend that this project never becomes a reality to begin with, as the First Nation's have clearly stated that they are vehemently against this, though if this is inevitable regardless of their decision, we should ensure that we as a province have total control over how it proceeds rather than a private corporation who prioritizes profit and greed over public and environmental interests. Thank you.

1336

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: "These comments are in response to the Environment Act Proposal (EAP) for the Sio Silica Corporations proposed Simba Sand Extraction Project (formerly known as the Vivian Sand Extraction Project). Based on the information provided by Sio Silica in the EAP and their behaviour over the past few years, I think the Simba silica sand extraction project should be rejected now and not be allowed to move forward in the assessment and licensing process.

The ongoing concerns about the potential impacts of silica sand extraction on environment and human health have not been alleviated by the information in the EAP for the proposed Simba Project. Sio Silicas failure to address the main concerns and recommendations of the Clean Environment Commission (CEC) and produce credible data to support their novel extraction process is a major red flag and an indication that this project is not being developed with the best interests of Manitobans in mind.

As noted by our Premier Wab Kinew when Sio Silicas extraction project was rejected for the first time: In order for Manitobans to be healthy now and for generations into the future, we have to protect a clean, safe and healthy environment. This will require a high standard of impact assessment and meaningful public participation, including participant funding, to ensure the full scope of concerns and potential impacts are properly understood before irreversible harm occurs to the Winnipeg Sandstone and Red River Carbonate aquifers.

I agree with Premier Wab Kinew that Manitobas resources should be developed with higher labour standards, higher environmental standards and greater respect for human rights compared to any other jurisdiction in the world. So, I think that if this project is allowed to continue through the impact assessment and licensing process under The Environment Act, the Minister/Director should take the following actions:

1) Designate the Simba Silica Sand Project as a Class 3 development due to the potential significant and irreversible harm to the drinking water source of 100,000 Manitobans. A Class 3 designation will also ensure the Minister is the decision-maker for the impact assessment and licensing process.

2) Require Sio Silica to produce and publicly publish a cumulative effects assessment report before proceeding any further in the licensing process.

3) Require Sio Silica to produce and publicly publish their plans for post-approval practices (monitoring, follow-up and adaptive management) and emergencies in the public registry so they can be independently reviewed prior to the licensing decision.

4) Request the CEC to hold a public hearing to review Project Simba, with full participant funding.

Thank-you for considering my comments on Sio Silicas proposed Simba extraction project."

1337

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am against the environmental degradation that the sand extraction process would cause. So many Manitobans rely on the water supply from that area. No Manitoban wants sio silica sands to come into our province and destroy land thats not theirs. Now more than ever we MUST stand up against compagnies who want to profit off the destruction of our land, who want to drill baby drill. I strongly oppose with the proposal and stand with all the scientists who have provided their expertise to suggest this project would destroy the land. The proposal was rejected in 2024 FOR GOOD REASON. lets keep it that way!

1338

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I don't want drinking water to be infected for me or any of my fellow Manitobans.[redacted]

1339

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We oppose sio silica. Its not safe until proved.

1340

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project should not continue forward, there was a reason the initial proposal was rejected for a reason and all of those reasons still stand.

Water pollution, air pollution, community disruption you name it. Stop this project.

1341

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Aquifer contamination poses a significant risk to this freshwater supply. When precipitation carries contaminants into underground aquifers, it can render them deficient or unfit for human use, and placing our community at risk.

It would be unwise for Sio Silica to do any work on our aquifer.

1342

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I believe there are a LOT of people trying to stop progress while there is also a LOT of "stuff"/processes in place to ensure that projects like this are done correctly, without devastating effect on the surroundings. Unfortunately, there will always be some forms of opposition to people attempting to create progress, turn natural provincial assets into positive opportunities for Manitobans and this would appear to be a huge opportunity! Leadership in the true sense makes some of those tough stands and ensures that a "vocal" minority doesn't stop progress . . especially when this "have not province" direly needs projects like this to happen in order to create jobs and wealth. Precious few such opportunities - lets NOT see them wasted - lets see the provinces true leaders step up and make it happen!

1343

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Dont support this project

1344

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very concerned about how this will affect so many Manitobans, we need to truly stop and think about how this will negatively impact all of us. We must do everything that we can to protect drinking water since the amount of water on this earth that is actually drinkable is less than 0.007%

1345

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project is too dangerous and only exists to line the pockets of people who will never be impacted by it if the water supply is compromised. There are already too many communities in Canada without access to reliable drinking water. Why are we even considering tainting another one? To my understanding, the proposal was already rejected once. Alberta trying to ram it through a second time doesn't make it less risky or less selfish.

And why is someone from East St. Paul on the board for a project from Alberta? How is that not a conflict of interest? This stinks from top to bottom.

1346

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our freshwater aquifer is too precious to contaminate, we cant drink money and its not worth risking for a few people to make a lot of money

1347

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is a threat to our drinking water. The project was shut down before as it posed the same risk. A shorter timeline does nothing if the danger is still the same.

1348

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: With how precious our water is, in a world that is destroying ecosystems to put money in the hands of the ultra rich. I say this needs to be stopped, we need to take care of earth and put the environment first.

1349

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yes, water quality and long term land impact is untested technology.

1350

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Too many risks involved with a newly proposed way to extract. This company was rejected last year for environmental reasons. Also a conflict of interest seeing as the mayor is on the Board of Directors, which is honestly ridiculous and if that needs more explanation, I honestly don't know what to say.

1351

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio Silica has filed another Environmental License application to mine silica sand from underneath our aquifer. Residents believe this UNTESTED mining proposal poses a serious risk of contaminating the aquifer that thousands rely on for clean, safe drinking water

1352

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Groundwater and Aquifer Protection

Risk of aquifer cross-contamination:

The proposal lacks independent, peer-reviewed evidence showing that mining cavities will not compromise the natural confining layers between aquifers.

Long-term changes to groundwater flow:

No modeling is provided for the full 24-year project, meaning long-term changes to recharge, flow direction, and pressure are unknown.

Unproven safety of reinjecting treated water:

The proposal provides no independent assessment confirming UV/filtration treatment will prevent bacterial, chemical, or mineralogical contamination underground.

Absence of cumulative effects assessment:

Only the first five years are modeled; long-term cumulative impacts remain unexamined.

No emergency response strategy:

There is no clear or actionable plan to address aquifer contamination or structural failure if it occurs.

Ground Stability and Sinkhole Risk

Uncertainty about formation integrity:

Removing sand creates large underground voids. Independent geotechnical analysis of long-term subsidence and sinkhole risk is missing.

Lack of a real monitoring program:

Ground movement monitoring is described vaguely, with no continuous, instrument-based plan.

Surface Water Impacts

Insufficient modeling of surface-water connectivity:

The proposal does not examine how changes in groundwater could affect local creeks, wetlands, and riparian areas.

No contaminant pathway assessment:

Potential migration of contaminants from groundwater to surface water is not addressed.

Water Quantity and Drinking Water Security

Community water supply impacts unaddressed:

There is no analysis of potential impacts on municipal, rural, or private wells relying on the same aquifer systems.

No drought-scenario modelling:

Climate-driven low-recharge conditions are not considered.

Air Quality

Silica dust underestimated:

Air-quality modeling is incomplete and does not include independent analysis of particulate silica emissions.

Lack of monitoring commitments:

No plan for real-time, publicly accessible air monitoring is included.

Wildlife and Habitat

Groundwater-dependent ecosystems not assessed:

Many species rely on stable groundwater levels; this relationship is not studied.

Insufficient species-at-risk analysis:

Surveys and monitoring commitments for sensitive species are lacking.

No assessment of habitat fragmentation:

Road access and well clusters could fragment wildlife corridors; this is not evaluated.

Project Scale and Novel Technology

No commercial precedent:

The proposed extraction method has never been deployed at this scale within a drinking-water aquifer. The proposal does not address this fundamental uncertainty.

Unknown long-term interactions between thousands of cavities:

Only early-phase modeling is provided; long-term subsurface interactions are not studied.

Climate and Energy Impacts

No greenhouse-gas inventory:

The project lacks a full accounting of emissions.

No low-carbon strategy:

There is no commitment to using renewable energy or electric equipment.

Transportation and Noise

Truck traffic impacts underdeveloped:

Dust, noise, and road-wear impacts from increased heavy truck use are not quantified.

No nighttime noise model:

Potential disruption to residents and wildlife is not evaluated.

Transparency and Data Gaps

Reliance on proponent-funded studies:

Most reports are prepared by consultants hired by Sio Silica and lack independent peer review.

Missing raw data and sensitivity analysis:

Key hydrogeological and geotechnical data are summarized rather than fully disclosed.

No commitment to independent or Indigenous-led monitoring:

Oversight remains vague and unenforceable.

Closure and Post-Mining

Incomplete reclamation plan:

Closure plans lack specific measures for long-term groundwater monitoring and land stability.

No financial assurance details:

The proposal does not specify bonding or guarantees to ensure funds exist for long-term remediation, monitoring, or potential damages.

Conclusion

Given these significant gaps, uncertainties, and unaddressed risks particularly concerning long-term aquifer health and drinking-water safety I strongly recommend that no licence be issued until independent, peer-reviewed, long-term studies demonstrate that the project will not harm groundwater, land stability, wildlife, or community health.

1353

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: NO TO SIO SILICA, CLEAN WATER FOREVER, FRESH WATER FOREVER, PURE WATER FOREVER, NO TO SIO SILICA, CANNOT DRINK MONEY

1354

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I strongly object to the proposal put forth by sio to bring in a huge amount of heavy equipment and plunge and rape the soil and water that is

clean and pristine, safe for drinking. The claims of so called science are unproven. I do not agree with a plan that is only about the huge profits and has nothing to do with the quality of the water and land. We need to keep the water that is the livelihood for so many people, their children and grandchildren safe.

1355

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Have some very serious concerns about the safety of our aquifer. We cannot endanger such a vital water source. Too many peoples lives and businesses rely on the aquifer. Sio cannot be trusted to regulate the safety, and our government does not have the power and resources to ensure the perpetual safety of the aquifer. The jobs and money that may be created from this project cannot and should not take priority over the safety of the environment and our drinking water source.

1356

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: DONT LET THOSE PEOPLE TOUCH OUR WATER!!! NO!!

1357

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The water quality will drop if this project pushes through

1358

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have deep concerns like other residents about the extraction of these sands effecting our water, its supply and overall the environment. It can not be corrected once broken.

1359

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: After reviewing the technical documentation available in the public registryincluding the Hydrogeology and Geochemistry Assessment prepared by AECOM and the Draft Closure Plan supported by StantecI am supportive of the Sio Silica SiMbA Project moving forward, provided that the monitoring and regulatory conditions outlined in the reports are implemented and enforced.

The hydrogeological data shows that the extraction targets a deep, isolated silica sand zone located well below the carbonate aquifer used for drinking water. The reports outline extensive groundwater modeling, multi-layer well monitoring, pressure testing, and chemical stability evaluations. According to the assessment, the extraction method does not breach the carbonate aquitard, maintains protective separation distances, and includes long-term groundwater monitoring requirements. The geochemical analysis also shows the silica material is non-acid-generating, reducing environmental risk during and after extraction.

In addition, the Draft Closure Plan demonstrates a structured and regulated approach to site rehabilitation, environmental monitoring, and long-term stability, with clearly defined responsibilities and financial assurance. This provides confidence that the project has planned for safe operations as well as responsible closure.

Beyond the technical evidence, this project represents a significant economic opportunity for Manitoba at a time when new high-skilled industries are needed. The demand for high-purity silica is growing globally because it is essential for solar, semiconductor, glass, battery, and advanced manufacturing industries. Manitoba has the potential to position itself as a leader in clean-tech materials, bringing jobs, training, and long-term investment to the province. This is especially important given the current financial climate, where diversification of our industrial base is crucial.

Innovation-focused resource developmentwhen backed by science-based regulationis an advantage for Manitoba, not a risk. The environmental assessment process exists so that decisions are based on professional evidence, not assumptions. The reports submitted for this project show a high degree of technical work, multi-year data collection, and independent review by qualified hydrogeologists and engineers.

For these reasons, and with continued regulatory oversight, I believe this project can proceed safely while delivering substantial economic and technological benefits to Manitoba.

1360

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yes, there was already a proposal on this project and it was DENIED.

There is no reason for us to waste taxpayers time and money on something that had already been decided.

The watersheds are a crucial components of our Manitoban landscape, and this project would be considered contaminating them. This does have a direct impact to the local ecosystem. In turn, harming the environment.

1361

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Hello, my name is [redacted] and I am a resident of the RM of East St Paul [redacted]

I have many concerns with the proposed silica mining project, mainly the lack of evidence and research that shows that the proposed mining methods will have no adverse affects. The project has the potential to cause permanent damage to the aquifers we use for our drinking water, as well as release hazardous chemicals and dust into the air . The data from the mining company is incomplete and inconclusive in my opinion, and the health of my family and community is not something I am willing to risk on a project like this, regardless of the economic benefit.

Thank you,

1362

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: NO SIO SILICA

NO MORE EXTRACTS

1363

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am not in favor of this project as it has a high potential of negatively affecting the water quality and source for the municipality.

1364

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No to sio

1365

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Awful idea. We have enough projects going on. We need fresh water more than some corporation needs our handouts. Tell them to get lost.

1366

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The project must reflect the Precautionary Principle as adopted by United Nations at the Rio Earth Summit.

To risk any unproven technology into the aquifer is both unwise and ignorant of the potential uncertainties, unintended accidents and climate events that may impact the wells sites or processing of silica sand regarding the Vivian silica sand extraction project led by Sio Silica, an Alberta based enterprise.

Sio Silica had intentions or potential to sell their project and/or company to a Cayman Island registered entity bringing into question the ability of the Manitoba Government to litigate or hold responsible anyone or any enterprise with the protection of international reigns.

Please do not put the lives, livelihood, assets of residents who maybe affected in the event of any minor or larger contamination, accident or unknown yet introduction of new bacteria or other new elements (synthetic or pathogenic) into the aquifer. Mixing waters between aquifers is a highly undesirable approach which is also governed by Manitoba Legislation.

1367

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a geologist, I believe this project threatens the aquifer and contamination of our drinking water.

1368

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am opposed to silica sand harvesting because of potential negative effects on good underground water systems

1369

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The Sio Silica project should be stopped! This method is untested and poses a serious risk to our water supply.

1370

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have read some of the explanations/comments from Sio Silica on their new, revised proposal and am unable to detect exactly what they have changed that would make this new, revised proposal safe. My take-away is they are stating they did not do a good enough job explaining their first proposal, and they are now going to do a better job explaining it. Not making it safe, but just explaining it better. I do not support or agree with their new proposal. Our water must be protected and safe.

1371

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned with the Sio Silica sand extraction project in the works by the province. Specifically, I worry about the impacts on the water table in the area. I am confused as to why this proposal has resurfaced when it has already been rejected previously by the community. Please take the Indigenous teaching of seven generations into consideration as you decide on this project. Momentary economic benefits and profit for a few should not outweigh the future generations and their rights to water and environment. Please vote no to this project, as I would expect from the normal alignment of the NDP party.

1372

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I strongly disagree with Sio Silica, we need our water to survive risking its quality is scary.

1373

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This company already got declined once. One of greatest resources in Manitoba is our abundance of fresh water. We have over 100,000 lakes. Despite that, there are townships without any access to fresh water (Virden).

Also.

1) Their proposed extraction method has never been tested at scale, let's not be their guinea pigs

2) This is undoubtedly going to lead to ground water contamination

3) It may even cause airborne contamination with aerosolized silica particle, which isn't great

4) This is going to cause voids in the sandstone structure which could lead to sinking/sing hole. Just look up what's happening to the City of Tehran in Iran is sinking due to them draining out their auqifers (Not the exact same as cavities being formed by silica extract but will lead to the same ends)

Ban this company from our province already. They aren't welcome here.

Signed: Tax paying Manitoba Resident

1374

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Tell Alberta and that crook of an E St. Paul mayor to stay away from MB water aquifer please

1375

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This should not go through, it directly affects drinking water which is resource we should hold as the highest form of currency. Anything that directly affects our drinking water should be banned, no amount of money is worth it. Also the mayor of East St. Paul being on the board for this company is a direct conflict of interest. Please do not let this go through.

1376

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I'm concerned how this will affect the drinking water of those who live nearby

1377

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This company cannot be trusted. They need to be stopped. This will not be good for Manitoba in the long run especially for our fresh water supply!

1378

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I will keep it simple. Humans health and safety over money. How do with reconcile with this kind of treatment?

1379

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Very concerned about water quality when it comes to this project.

1380

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Across Canada there has been a very dangerous push to bypass critical environmental regulations that have lead to destruction of ecosystems and an unprecedented reduction in water quality. Not only is this project not a real benefit to Manitobans while we take on all the risk, but we should not be setting the precident of being willing to risk any of our aquifers to industry. Once that precident has been set, it will not stop with Sio Silica. We've seen the impact of ignoring environmental regulations in Ontario and Alberta that have lead to diminished water quality, lost agricultural land, and risks to indigenous comunities and local wildlife. This plan was already rightly rejected in 2024. The fact that they would be drilling fewer wells doesn't take away the risk and would, once again, be setting a very dangerous precedent for companies to disregard environmental regulations. Please reject this project, or at least force it through rigorous environmental impact studies. Until they can definitively prove that their method poses no risk to the aquifer or any of Manitoba's drinking water, then they should not be permitted to drill. Profit should not be more important than the welfare of our environment. If environmental "red tape" is stopping an industrial project from moving forward, then that means that project is inherently flawed, not the regulations that many Manitobans spent years fighting for. Please reject this project once again. Manitoba has the chance to think about our real future which cannot exist without protecting our land and water.

1381

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio Sand has a proven track record of damaging environments the work in. I do not want heavy metals dissolving into our pristine aquifer. Protecting the water for generations to come is our responsibility.

1382

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My number one concern is water quality. What measures will be taken if the aquifer is compromised and we no longer have safe, clean drinking water? This is something that every human being has the right to. There are many farms and hobby farms in the area and this could potentially terminate these families means to livelihood without a way to care for their livestock and crops.

1383

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please do not drill in Springfield. Drilling in the aquifer disturbs the fine silica creating toxic drinking water. Unlike Winnipeg all Springfield residents rely on the aquifer for consumable water. We can not afford to lose our drinking water.

1384

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing as a concerned Manitoba resident to express my strong opposition to the proposal to add SiO silica to our drinking water. The Clean Environment Commission has already rejected this proposal due to significant risks and unanswered questions, and their decision should be taken seriously.

What is especially concerning is that the specific technique being proposed has never been used before. Introducing an untested method into our drinking water system puts Manitobans at unnecessary risk. Our communities should not be part of an experimental treatmentespecially when the long-term health and environmental impacts of adding SiO silica in this manner are not fully understood.

Safe, clean, and trustworthy drinking water is a basic right. When an independent expert body rejects a proposal on safety grounds, it is a clear warning. Moving forward despite these concerns would undermine public confidence and could endanger public health.

I urge the Province of Manitoba to fully reject this proposal and to prioritize evidence-based, proven, and transparent water treatment practices.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

1385

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I STRONGLY appose this project, due to human lives it puts at risk. Over 100,000 Manitobans rely on this site as a water supply. Water is a human right, and putting it at risk simply so an out of province company can make a quick buck is completely unethical and not in the best interest of Manitoba and its people. As Manitobans, we have a right have a say over what happens to our province, and with high level of opposition for this project it simply cannot move forward. I

am highly concerned with the impacts it would have on this province, its environment, and its people. I CANNOT support this.

1386

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please do not do anything that will impact the environment negatively. We are already in uncertain times for many, why risk drinking for so many manitobans who are already struggling. Basic needs are already barely met for many. Please consider those at the bottom without a voice and how it will impact them.

1387

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yes, water quality for us and the impact for the future. How is the company going to ensure 0 environmental impact and to those who live in these areas? This project should not be allowed. If it does, it'll show how uncaring people are.

1388

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project would negatively affect the environment as well as what remains of manitoba's clean water. As we are currently experiencing blue-green algae blooms in many waterways, it seems unwise to pollute what remains.

1389

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yes my concerns are the effects that this type of drilling will have on the communities aquifers and how the province will be ensuring that safe drinking water is not ruined for a number of communities. I am also concerned on how the communities voted no to having this company do work and yet they are back attempting to do the same thing that was voted against almost unanimously.

1390

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am opposed to the province permitting this silica mining project to proceed

Mining silica sand within a groundwater aquifer can create several risks and trade-offs across economic, environmental, and social dimensions:

Economic implications

Can generate local employment, investment, and tax revenue.

May increase long-term costs if groundwater contamination or depletion requires water treatment, alternative water sourcing, or infrastructure upgrades.

Potential for reduced agricultural productivity if water supplies diminish or degrade.

Environmental implications

Disturbance of the aquifer can alter groundwater flow, lower water tables, or cause well interference.

Increased turbidity and exposure of sand to oxygen can mobilize trace contaminants (e.g., arsenic, selenium, uranium) into groundwater.

Habitat disruption, landscape alteration, and dust/particulate emissions from extraction and transport.

Social implications

Risk to drinking-water quality for nearby communities and Indigenous nations.

Increased noise, truck traffic, and land-use conflicts.

Community opposition due to perceived threats to long-term water security and environmental integrity.

1391

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Stop Sio Silica!!! We dont want it and have voted no once already. Enough is enough!

1392

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We oppose Sio Silicas proposed silica-sand mining project in Manitoba.

We call for the full protection of our drinking water, environment, and community rights.

We demand that no project be approved unless it is proven safe, independently reviewed, publicly transparent, and supported by affected communities.

Our water is not for sale. Our safety is not negotiable. Our future is worth protecting.

1393

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am in complete agreement and would vote in favour of allowing this project to proceed on a gradually scaled up basis as they have proposed.

I believe that they will "mine" this sand in a very responsible manner.

I have had a. very in depth conversation with their technical people at the recent Manitoba Mining Association Conference and have come away assured that this project is being approached in a very responsible manner both environmentally,ethically,and a non disruptive manner.

I would vote to approve permitting for this project.

1394

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Terrible for our water. Our drinking water needs to be protected! NO to Sio Silica.

1395

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I would like to voice my concerns regarding the proposed silo silica project. I attended Sio Silicas open house on November 24th, 2025 and was immediately struck by their video presentation that stated that residential houses are built with a factor of safety of 1. This was in

direct comparison of them stating that the factor of safety for their project is 2 to demonstrate to the public how safe it is. The problem is I dont know anyone who would design a building with a factor of safety of 1. As Im sure you know, this is essentially no factor of safety. This raised alarm bells for me as it looks as though they are trying to skew the facts in order to gain public support. The main concern Ive heard from residents has been over potential negative impacts on our drinking water. Namely contamination through bacteria, viruses, heavy metals, or other contaminants. Silo Silica has downplayed the long term impact of introducing contaminants into the ground water as well as by disturbing the existing geological/ground conditions. What will happen when oxygenated water is put into the aquifer? How much arsenic, uranium and other contaminates will dissolve into the aquifer as a result of Sio Silicas mining methods? I did not see this issue addressed in the project documents. There is also concern that the water will mix between the Red River Carbonate aquifer and Winnipeg Sandstone aquifer. Mining would go through the Winnipeg shale aquitard which separates the underlying Winnipeg aquifer (sandstone) from the overlying Red River Formation aquifer (carbonate). This shale layer, from my understanding, is crucial for maintaining the quality and separation of these two distinct groundwater resources. By acting as a barrier, it helps to keep the fresher water of the carbonate aquifer separate from the saline water that can be found in the sandstone aquifer in some areas. In Appendix C Geotechnical Analysis Report it states that the two aquifers will be isolated from drilling and extraction by casing and grouting each borehole. Has this method been used in a similar situation before? What are the 5, 10, 20 and 50 year outcomes? It appears that Sio Silica will be self monitoring water quality. How can we be sure they will inform the public of adverse outcomes? Third party monitoring should be required. And locations of monitoring should be at the discretion of the 3rd party testers. All results should be made public.

Another big concern is introduction of silica into the air as a result of processing. I know that silica dust is a carcinogen acting similarly to asbestos and would be created in the processing stage. I dont know to what extent the silica would be processed in Manitoba vs just shipped out. If the products wont be made in Manitoba, then why are they essentially promoting jobs that wont be in Manitoba?

Sio Silica has kept the residents of the RM of Brokenhead in the dark. Hosting their most recent open house about an hour away from those who would be most impacted. Many in this region are completely unaware of this project and as a result are being denied the opportunity to voice their concerns.

Comparing the previous application to the current I do not agree with the statement This new Project is substantially revised from Sios previous EAP for the Vivian Sand Extraction Project (Manitoba Public Registry file #6119.00) for which an Environment Act Licence was not issued. Reducing the size of a project does not equate to it being substantially revised. The concerns raised and which ultimately resulted in a license not being issued still remain. Reading through the submitted documents, this looks like the same project just with a slower start. The water and surrounding environment Silo Silica is proposing to impact is the water I use to bath my babies and make infant formula. This is the water I used throughout all my pregnancies, and that I feed my small children and animals. It is the air their tiny lungs have taken their first breath. I personally would never gamble the health of an entire community and the surrounding environment for private profit. The choice is between money for a few and health for many. Sio Silica needs to do more work

to prove that this project is in the best interest of all Manitobans. Ultimately if things go wrong Manitobans will be paying for decades or longer.

1396

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: At this point in time, I feel that the Sio Silica Project is a step towards helping Canada's economic independence in the world market. Also it will demonstrate Sio Silica's understanding of Manitoba's environmental concerns for protecting it's people and their lands. It will also create jobs for Manitobans and First Nations people giving Manitoba an economic boost of their own.

1397

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: save manitobans drinking water. not all manitoba residents even have clean drinking water and youre risking the resources we DO have? why.

1398

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am against this project. Clean drinking water is mankinds most valuable resource, and source should not be touched.

At the very least a referendum should be held, but it wont the mb government has already made up its mind.

Those affected should get there well water tested to have a baseline result which may be used in a class action suit against the

Mb government, Sio Sillica, and Long Plains, etc. Sio Sillica may declare bankruptcy once the wells are polluted and they will be get off the hook.

1399

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am absolutely against drilling for silica sand in the RM of Springfield. I am not interested in any discussion about minimizing risk to our water supply. Only zero risk is acceptable and the only way this will happen is if this project is rejected. Every single resident of the RM gets its drinking water from this aquafer. Sio must not be allowed to drill a single extraction location.

You would think that the voice of the clear majority of RM taxpayers and voters apposed to this project outweighs that of an out of province limited liability corporation.

1400

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I ask you to please, please, reject this project.

Sio Silica is still planning on using the same novel and untested extraction method that was shown in the CEC hearings to risk destroying important barriers between separate aquifers, potentially creating sinkholes at the surface, and increasing the risk of contaminants entering the ground water.

Although Sio Silicas updated application indicates they will be proceeding with a step-wise phased approach that involves drilling less wells and extracting less sand in the first-five years, ultimately the risks to ground water still remain, and longer term the company still plans to develop the original project in its entirety over the anticipated 24 year life span of the project. CEC asked for a cumulative impacts assessment of the 24-year life of the project, but the company said no.

If the company says no to the CEC then we will say no to the company.

This is our drinking water at risk here, our source of life. Mining this sand will cause irreversible cross contamination of water between two different aquifers. How is that a risk worth taking?

The Clean Environment Commission (CEC) asked for more information regarding the physical structure of the underground sand area, but the company has not done this work yet.

CEC asked for 10 separate and detailed plans regarding things like erosion, water and revegetation be finalized and available for comment, but Sio Silica has not completed them.

CEC asked for a worst-case scenario plan and the company has not provided it.

This is just a short list of things that the company has NOT done. They are hiding information and hoping, just hoping, that we let it slide. They have already been rejected once before, and they will not give up until their project is approved. but we manitobans will not give up until this project is rejected again and again . We can not lose our water.

For nearly four decades the precautionary principle has been recognized around the world as the standard for environmental care. Projects which can result in serious environmental harm should not go forward.

1401

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: N/A

1402

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: this will greatly affect so many peoples drinking water.

1403

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project should not happen. It poses too many environmental risks as it did before and the fact that the mayor of East Saint Paul is on the board is a huge conflict of interest

1404

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: With all the worries my generation (I am 27 years of age) and the generation after us, have regarding climate change and our future, I strongly disagree with the idea to have SioSilica mining within our water sources.

1405

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We are against sio silica, we are very concerned about our water.

1406

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please do not do any water testing in Manitoba. Do not accept sio silica treatment.

1407

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: If these projects have any negative impacts no matter how big or small these projects should not go forward. Negative effects on our ecosystem, including water, air, vegetation, or wildlife should always be a priority concern as theyre

1408

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This could really jepordize the drinking water, the eco system and the environment. We should be trying to do things to help the environment not hurt it.

1409

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I oppose Sio Silicas proposed silica-sand mining project in Manitoba.

I call for the full protection of our drinking water, environment, and community rights.

I demand that no project be approved unless it is proven safe, independently reviewed, publicly transparent, and supported by affected communities.

Our water is not for sale. Our safety is not negotiable. Our future is worth protecting

1410

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio Silica's plans entail short term dubious benefits for the company's shifting owners being preferred over the very likely permanent damage caused by their operations, this company's previous record certainly brings the lingering damage of orphaned oil wells more to mind than it does responsible resource management practices.

It has been my understanding that the RM of Springfield, and Manitoba generally, discouraged well to well geothermal installations due to the very real likelihood of the return well spreading contamination into the aquifer. This concern was well-founded and supported by the science as well as common sense. Sio Silica's plan means up-ending all this to the extreme. Widely-spaced wells are going to be extracting masses of water and sand and then re-injecting tons of a concoction that will ostensibly include filtered water back into the aquifer. Our own well in Springfield began to experience powdery silica silt intrusion when heavy earth-moving equipment began operating on the floodway about 3/4 of a mile away to raise the top level. That project made no apparent direct contact with the aquifer yet has had the enduring effect of our well beginning to silt up if we draw any significant volume of water over the course of a day. Our experience, and basic common sense, demonstrate that Sio Silica's plan to remove large masses of material, separate out the silica sand, then attempting to directly re-inject a similar mass of what now is necessarily a mix of different materials including water with an undertaking to filter it to some level, is very likely to do permanent damage to what is clearly the fragile equilibrium of the hydrogeology of this aquifer, a resource all of us here depend on daily for basic needs. So, again, NO.

1411

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing to firmly oppose Sio Silicas proposal to drill into Manitobas clean water aquifer. This project has already been rejected once due to serious environmental and safety concerns, and none of those concerns have been adequately addressed. Our aquifer is one of Manitobas most critical and irreplaceable resources, and risking its integrity for an extraction project that offers no meaningful benefit to Manitobans is unacceptable.

The proposed operation carries the possibility of long-term and irreversible impacts on our drinking water. Any contamination or structural damage to the aquifer would affect Manitobans for generations every community, every household, all of us. The potential risks far outweigh any short-term corporate gain, especially when the public bears the consequences while receiving none of the benefit.

I am also concerned about the clear conflict of interest created by the Mayor of East St. Paul serving on Sio Silicas board. Decisions of this magnitude must be free from any perception of bias to maintain public trust.

Given the lack of benefit to Manitobans, the generational risks to our water supply, the unresolved environmental concerns, and the conflict of interest issues, I strongly urge the Government of Manitoba to deny this proposal in full.

1412

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We oppose Sio Silicas proposed silica-sand mining project in Manitoba.

We call for the full protection of our drinking water, environment, and community rights.

We demand that no project be approved unless it is proven safe, independently reviewed, publicly transparent, and supported by affected communities.

Our water is not for sale. Our safety is not negotiable. Our future is worth protecting

1413

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: If it was brought up and rejected in previous years, why bother trying again. Its too risky, not worth it and would be losing too much

1414

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Im saying NO TO THE SIO SILICA MOVEMENT

1415

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The land of Canada is for the people and not for the corporations. If there is any risk to our precious drinking water, this project must stop. I vote no to this project

1416

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I object to sio silica sand extraction. Our water table is a far more valuable asset. Will sio silica provide potable water for decades if not century's to come if the water is compromised likely not. So the answer to them drilling into the water table should be an outstanding no.

1417

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Money isn't everything. Let's move away from that mentality and leave the earth alone. It's selfish to do this knowing the risk to the people who pay way too much to live here anyway.

1418

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The process for extraction of silica sand proposed does not have a long enough history to properly examine the full extent of impact to the surrounding environment and communities. Immediate monetary gain should never be considered to trump long term negative irreversible effects on the natural environment.

Near the top of the untested possibilities is the irreversible contamination of essential drinking water aquifers.

The immediate processing of the extracted silica slurry as well as the transportation of the silica will have unquestionable negative effects on the surrounding land and population of people and animals.

1419

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project threatens the quality of groundwater in southeastern Manitoba. This is clean water for Manitobans, animals, and the ecosystem.

The project was previously rejected due to these environmental concerns, but under a different project name Sio silica has resubmitted. This does not change the harm that will be done if this

project happens. I would be ashamed of those in charge of these decisions in our province, I would hold them to account, and I would be so hopeless for the future.

1420

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There are too many risks to our water and I do not agree with a project that has been questioned/rejected before.

1421

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yes

This project will disrupt the water supply system for our small town

And the safety or future generations.

1422

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have serious concerns about this project going forward. It is not in the best interests of the communities, nor is it a sustainable, environmentally-conscious project. I strongly vote no.

1423

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The earth is dying and fresh drinking water, sooner rather than later, is going to become the most sought after resource around the world. Here in Canada we are lucky to have access to the fresh water that we do, but completing projects like this with private companies that only care about making money and not about the environment is a bad call. The fact that this is even potentially being considered, as if something goes wrong it'll affect drinking water for so many people, is horrible. We have the opportunity to make jobs in sustainable sectors that helps our planet, not hurts it for a quick dollar. I've heard the ads on the radio, and I know the narrative is that

this will bring jobs to people here, but what happens when all those people don't have clean water to drink.

1424

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am not okay with this project going forward and potentially contaminating drinking water for my community.

1425

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We are against sio silica, we are very concerned about our water.

1426

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We need to protect our aquifer. I live on a second generation family farm in the RM of Springfield. We need to take care of our planet so it can be a healthy place for generations to come. Risking the contamination of a large pristine aquifer is a selfish irresponsible decision. Please stop the Sio Silica mining project.

1427

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water is to precious to take a chance on loosing by a company that has no concern for the environment

1428

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project could not satisfy the governing body's on the first go round . I am not satisfied that their proposal to drill fewer wells(initially) will not affect the aquifer ,possibly at a slower rate ?.Its unfortunate the company proposing this project has no track record to give the people in opposition a bit of confidence, but more so peace of mind that they unequivocally know what they are doing . Water today and in the future is undoubtedly the most valuable asset to sustain life . Why would we possibly allow this project to move forward when there are other proposals in the works to extract silica without affecting any potable aquifers. Thank you

1429

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our water source is too precious to risk using this process- please do not do this.

1430

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have a big concern for our water quality if this project moves forward, so I'd like you too make sure it gets rejected. There's just much greater risk for our clean water for them to try out a new way to mine there.

1431

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There is zero mention of groundwater contamination as a risk for this project. Once groundwater becomes contaminated (be this heavy metals, PCBs, volatile organics, acidification, or otherwise) it will flow away from the point source and is nearly, if not 100%, impossible to remediate. For more information, please see (1).

Furthermore, this proposal is in direct contravention of The _Manitoba_ Groundwater and Water Well Act, C.C.S.M. c. G110 Regulation 215/2015 section 3(1): a person must not construct or seal a well or test hole in a manner that allows the interconnection or mixing of groundwater between the Winnipeg Formation and any overlying aquifer. (2)

And if test pits have already been drilled into the shale, sandstone, and sands of the Ordovician Winnipeg Formation, there must be legal, financial ramifications per section 3(2).

References:

(1) https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/water-overview/pollution-causes-effects/groundwater-contamination.html

(2) https://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/regs/current/215-2015.php?srchlite="winnipeg formation"#3

1432

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I'm concerned that this project is unwilling to recognize the harm it could bring to thousands of manitobans.

1433

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Why are we worried about groundwater when raw sewage is going into the river from Winnipeg and mega dairies are proposed in North Dakota that possibly will end up polluting lake Winnipeg. Lets get this project going

1434

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project is really good for Manitoba Economy and overall growth of our people.

1435

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I oppose Sio Silicas proposed silica-sand mining project in Manitoba.

I call for the full protection of our drinking water, environment, and community rights.

I demand that no project be approved unless it is proven safe, independently reviewed, publicly transparent, and supported by affected communities.

Our water is not for sale. Our safety is not negotiable. Our future is worth protecting.

1436

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not support any extraction of critical ground water filtration material.

I am opposed to this project.

1437

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please do not approve this project. This application should not be considered since a previous one was declined, its the same environmental risk no matter how different the second application is written. This area has the highest quality drinking water available. Provincial law prohibits mixing the 2 different aquifers. Ground water contamination is guaranteed to happen because of oxidized iron recirculated below ground. Is the company willing to pay for damages if there is a mass contamination to drinking water wells? Once the aquifer is damaged can it be restored to its original quality? We cannot dig a utility trench 8 feet deep without shoring, there is a risk for collapse. The voids left underground will collapse. Side scan sonar shows the test holes have already collapsed. The area connected to this aquifer is very large, reaching North West to the inlet of Lake Winnipeg. It is not remote, there is a large population. This will reduce property values because of industrial activity, collapsing ground, and no potable water. The boost to economy will not pay for all this damage. The idea there isn't anything money cant fix is wrong. Once damaged the water quality cannot be restored to the same quality, no matter how much money someone will spend on it. Please do not approve this license.

1438

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It is important to ensure proper environmental extraction practices, however it is prudent to move as quickly as possible in order to create economic stimulation into the Manitoba economy.

1439

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please protect the most precious thing on earth OUR WATER

So many of us rely on this quality of water we have and a business with never tested before can ruin all for soooo many. Is this right when so many reports have been done and not truly acknowledged.

1440

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Successive provincial government have neutered out institutional capacity to successfully manage this project. Industry in Manitoba has proven they cannot be trusted to self govern.

1441

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Dont mess with the drinking water of 100,000 Manitobans. Plus the wildlife who use the water thats going to be effected

1442

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our water must be protected and untested practices with the amount of wells and methods being used by Sio will put us and future generations in danger. The aquifer covers much of southern Manitoba, and the potential for contaminated water will be devastating for us and furniture generations.

1443

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am absolutely not okay with a project that could risk the health or safety of drinking water in this province. Its not worth it, and this has already been rejected before. The safety of our communities and environment are more important that a company increasing revenue. Let's be serious.

1444

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very concerned about Manitoba's drinking water. Public interest is more important than private profit.

1445

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Concerned this will have a negative impact on the quality and quantity of the water as this could have devastating consequences for ourself and our community. Definitely not worth the risk to our water supply for present and future generations.

1446

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I strongly oppose the Sio Silica mining project for the following, but not exhaustive reasons outlined by experts on ecological issues:

A drinking water table is simply too important to experiment with.

Mining this sand will cause irreversible cross contamination of water between two different aquifers.

The Clean Environment Commission (CEC) asked for more information regarding the physical structure of the underground sand area, but the company has not done this work yet.

CEC asked for 10 separate and detailed plans regarding things like erosion, water and revegetation be finalized and available for comment, but Sio Silica has not completed them.

CEC asked for a worst-case scenario plan and the company has not provided it.

CEC asked for a cumulative impacts assessment of the 24-year life of the project, but the company said no.

Mining, processing, and transport operations will occur 24/7/365, up to 100 meters from homes. The potential for air quality impacts have not been adequately assessed. The assessment of noise and artificial light pollution have been ignored.

Operations will have direct impacts on the land. Trees/brush will be cleared and loss of habitat will impact known species at risk. Many properties contain old growth, these are irreplaceable.

Access roads will be required for the heavy machinery and truck traffic, impacting farm land and livestock and wildlife. Operations will create continual distress and worry, negatively impact our livelihoods and communities and will impinge on the enjoyment of our property.

The Sio Silica extraction project is experimental. It is unreasonable to hand an Environment Act License to an experiment. We need to know the truth about impacts from development to avoid mistakes that will be costly to generations ahead. Particularly when it comes to water, there is no room for error.

1447

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I strongly oppose Sio Silicas proposed silica-sand mining project in Manitoba. We cant afford the risk.

I call for the full protection of our drinking water, environment, and community rights.

I demand that no project be approved unless it is proven safe, independently reviewed, publicly transparent, and supported by affected communities.

Our water is not for sale. Our safety is not negotiable. Our future is worth protecting. This is a disaster waiting to happen.

1448

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our water is much too precious to risk. We need to keep our water clean and safe so that future generations are still able to use it.

1449

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project poses a huge risk to drinking water that 100,000 Manitobans rely on. Water quality is too precious to risk on this, and this project has been rejected once before already.

1450

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I know that we live in a capitalist economy which prizes profit above all else, and natural resources are viewed as a commodity from which to increase profits so that the wealthy can get more wealthy, and, according to the think speak, it will benefit the local economy, provide jobs, etc., etc. I cant blame them, this is the world and economy we live in. And companies that get their millions from the natural resources will keep on coming back with proof of this or proof of that, to legitimate their request to extract natural resources for profit. But there has to be a point, even in a capitalist economy, that the rights of the environment, especially as it relates to water, in this case an amazing aquifer, takes precedence over profit. All the studies and assurances in the world can never account for an Oops, we didnt see that coming, and then its too late. First Nations traditional (pre-contact) teachings, say that one should act with seven generations in mind. This is not the philosophy of a capitalist economy and that is why this appeal by Sio Silica is even being considered.

1451

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The sand slurry will be moved to the processing site through HDPE pipes. Since the slurry will be abrasive, what is the plan to remove the resulting microplastics (sizes as small as 0.001mm/1 micrometer) from the water before it is pumped back into the aquifer? The remediation program indicates that the air pumped into the aquifer will be filtered , but does not detail the process for filtration of the return water, or particle sizes that can be captured in the filtration. Is there a plan to monitor the HDPE pipes for abrasion related weakness? Is there a plan to recycle the pipes at end of life, or will they be landfilled?

How do the cavities created it the aquifer constrain future development in the area, including domestic wells?

Is there a bond posted in the event that significant land subsidence occurs in the future?

How do the capped wellheads constrain future development in the area?

Biological monitoring seems to be limited to noting any incidental observations. There is no structured plan to assess biological impacts.

1452

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yes I am concerned about our drinking water. Also concerned how it would affect our wildlife and environment.

1453

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio Silica's plan to develop a high-purity quartz deposit using advanced hydronic and compressed air extraction technology represents a significant opportunity for Manitoba and Canada. High-purity silica is essential for advanced semiconductors, solar cells, solar glass, and quartz crucibles materials critical to the global clean energy transition. While quartz is common, high-purity quartz is very rare and strategically important.

The proposed extraction method offers environmental advantages over open-pit mining. Nevertheless, robust monitoring under Manitobas Environment Act is essential to protect local aquifers.

Economically, this project can deliver far more than raw material exports. By supporting value-added manufacturing such as solar glass and quartz crucibles Manitoba could establish a domestic supply chain for solar and semiconductor industries, reducing North Americas dependence on China. Several thousand of high tech jobs can be generated.

High-purity silica underpins technologies for solar, wind, battery storage, EVs, and advanced power electronics. Manitoba and Canada have a unique opportunity to lead in sustainable resource development and clean-tech manufacturing.

With appropriate environmental oversight, I strongly support Sio Silica's application.

1454

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project could be detrimental to drinking water and wildlife. We need to preserve all the natural resources and wildlife we have as it is slowly diminishing with all this industrial projects. QUIT IT.

1455

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water quality-The technique they are proposing has never been done before. Too many risks associated with project , natural aquaphors is a commodity and will be rarer and rarer due to climate change. Our water should be protected as fresh water should never be compromised. There are too many risks involved. This should be done at a smaller scale and be studied before going to a bigger scale. The quality of our water should never be jeopardized for big companies that simply do not care what happens after the project is done.

1456

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio Silica argues "the resource will eventually come out of the ground" as an argument for extracting the sand resource now, which is fallacious. Their own words tell us that the resource will be waiting in the ground indefinitely until we can guarantee safety of the watershed; there is no rush to extract the sand except by those driven by profit-before-safety. If there is only a 1% danger of contaminating our shared watershed for all future generations, the extraction can be put off indefinitely until it is a 0.000000001% chance.

Their argument that *this specific sand* is special for the purpose of making solar panels and other silicon-based electronics because of its purity is specious. The sand in question would still require a high degree of industrial processing for that use. For semiconductor manufacturing, ultra-high monocrystalline silicon purity often exceeds 99.999999999%. The sand Sio Silica wants to extract is nowhere near that purity by many orders of magnitude. However, the sand Sio Silica wants is still extrememely useful for the environmental-damaging fracking process. The watershed in danger should not be risked for these petty human needs: we don't need to use this specific sand at all, and its environment should remain intact.

Sio Silica's current proposal to extract the sand is not fundamentally different from their earlier, soundly rejected, proposal. Their goal is still to extract the sand regardless that there is significant risk to the watershed. This proposal should be rejected for the same reason.

I have doubt that Sio Silica would be willing to put up a cash bond of the billions of dollars that would be required to "repair" an ecosystem. If one of the predicted negative outcomes happens, the watershed is contaminated forever, and Sio Silica will leave Manitobans with the ongoing costs of the damage for generations of Manitobans who didn't agree to this. We owe the future to the generations to follow, we should not sell that feature for a few quick bucks now.

1457

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No means no. What is their problem.

And, who is the big money behind this? Transparency?

1458

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I m very concerned about the risks Sio Silicas project poses to Manitobas drinking water. During the Clean Environment Commission hearings, multiple hydrogeologists warned that the companys plan requires drilling through the protective shale barrier between aquifers. Damaging this layer could allow deeper, potentially contaminated water to mix with the upper aquifer that many Manitobans rely on.

Reviewers also noted that Sio Silica has not proven their extraction method is safe, especially given the thousands of wells proposed and the risk of geological instability or aquifer collapse. These unresolved risks were among the reasons a similar project was denied an environmental licence.

Aquifers take thousands of years to form and cannot be repaired once compromised. With communities like Brokenhead already opposing the project, I urge the province to prioritize long-term water security and reject any mining activity that cannot guarantee full protection of our groundwater

1459

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project is not valuable to Springfield and eastern Manitoba. Strong action immediately to cancel project.

1460

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: SIO Silica's project has a significant environmental impact on our aquifer. Water supplies, animal habitats and recreational activities all rely on healthy watersheds. It is essentlal that all levels of government and our communities work together to protect our drinking water.

A BIG NO TO SIO YOU GOTTA GO

1461

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I wish to not have this project go through, Im afraid of the risks it will cause the water to become contaminated , there is no certainty our water will remain the same and a good chance it wont be. Also the light and noise pollution to the immediate areas. To many disturbances!

1462

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: NO TO SIO SILICA, FRESH WATER FOREVER, CLEAN WATER FOREVER, CLEAN WATER FOREVER, SAFE WATER FOREVER, NO TO SIO SILICA, CANNOT DRINK MONEY

1463

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned with the environmental impact this mine and corporation will have on the wildlife. 24/7 light pollution has already caused a mass exodus in local birds and other animals. I am also concerned with the risk this operation will bring to my family home as we rely on our well for clean drinking water. Please say no to sio silica .

1464

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I value our water supply quality and feel that this can only harm our and our neighbor's water quality and or amount.

1465

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please do not allow this project to move forward. The risks to our water are too high. I also believe there is a conflict of interest with Cara Devlins position that should be addressed.

1466

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I wish to state my strong opposition to this project. The extreme amount of environmental risks to our drinking water and surrounding areas are far too high for this to be pushed through. And how is it ethical for the mayor of st Paul to be on the board? This is corruption and greed, coming for our precious water. Please stop this project!

1467

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I oppose Sio Silicas proposed silica-sand mining project in Manitoba.

We call for the full protection of our drinking water, environment, and community rights.

We demand that no project be approved unless it is proven safe, independently reviewed, publicly transparent, and supported by affected communities.

Our water is not for sale. Our safety is not negotiable. Our future is worth protecting.

1468

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Huge concern for the environmental impact the Sio Silica project will have for a large section of the province, especially for Springfield. ANY effect to the water quality is unacceptable and no company, including Sio Silica, can guarantee 100% that it wont be affected. NO to the Sio Silica project !!

1469

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My family and I have been Springfield residents for over 30 years, and want to continue living at our homestead for many more without any threat on our precious water source.

Sio Silica is an extremely big business and is only interested in the financial outcome not taking into consideration of the dangers they could put our communities, farmers, the land and wildlife into. The risk of contaminating our water is NOT worth ANY economic benefits. I attended the Sio meet and greet on Nov 24 at the Regent Casino and found some of what being said very disturbing and information unclear and when I asked confirmation to questions didnt get clear answers, just a lot of run around, couldnt even give a simple yes or no. I have many examples and would discuss if needed. My daughter works as an environmental scientist and when we talked about this situation, she said, a good example are the Environmental Canada commercials, when putting gas into your boat engine, any drops of gas, oil can contaminate hundred of thousands of gallons of water and from what Sio wants to do is a very risky untested extraction that can potentially become a disaster and millions of gallons of water will be destroyed which will leave the people, wildlife of Springfield with contaminated water and worthless land.

This is about precious drinking water, not just for humans but also our wildlife, it is not worth the destruction to our environment and ecosystem. NO money is worth it!!

1470

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My husband and I are concerned for the safety of the water quality of our well. This untested procedure has far too many potential risks that will be irreversible to our vital water system. Please do not risk our water supply for economic gain.

1471

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There are too many risks involved for myself or anyone to feel safe with our families drinking water that is being tampered with from this project. Manitobans deserve to have clean, safe and protected water.

1472

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There are numerous concerns to address to ensure any silica extraction does not jeopardize Manitobas pristine aquifer and the local environment.

This is what was ascertained when posing questions at the Open House about company activities and potential risk:

- A large poster board at the Open House indicated Sio Silica to be a sustainable company with a green vision. However, they have no actual track record. Claims of sustainable practices therefore are theoretical at best. They are not a proven company which ought to concern Manitobans.

-The risk to the environment is viewed as negligible by the company, and even when pressed they could not cogently discuss their risk assessment activities for either small or catastrophic failures (and resultant contamination of the aquifer or ecosystem).

- They maintain the proposed closed loop system is virtually foolproof. Even if it is as stated, i.e. a small likelihood, the resultant harm is enormous if it alters the aquifer. The Province must clearly recognize the risk of this unproven technology.

-When asked directly, Sio Silica denied having estimates/projections for how much money would be required to address any contamination or other harm. Nor has money been put aside for mitigation. The public was told to contact our MLA to address this issue as the company stated that the Province should tell the company about the nature of the risk and how much money the company needs to put aside, if any. It is not responsible for a company to largely shift responsibility to the Province to assess risks and how to mitigate them.

- The only Emergency Response action they proposed when asked about a contamination (or other potential harm) is to shut down the single offending well. This is simplistic and inadequate for such a complex undertaking.

-Monitoring was frequently mentioned but it was not clear the extent of monitoring proposed, and over what aspects. The Province should play a major role in oversight given the risk and lack of experience of the company.

-One technical consultant acknowledged that the less wells drilled then the less likelihood/opportunities for contamination, so it is essential that the landscape not be littered with extraction holes. There must be strict limits on any drilling into the foreseeable future.

-Of great concern, there is likelihood of some oxygen being introduced into the aquifer through the activities proposed (confirmed in some recent testing by Sio Silica) and to date the company has not been able to offer sufficient data to confirm that this will not result in chemical reactions with minerals that will significantly harm drinking water quality. The company must undertake robust assessment regarding the impacts of oxidation given the current conditions of the aquifer and environment. It is incumbent on the Province to confirm the form such contamination may take and the potential subsequent deterioration in water quality, and how this would be addressed (or if it

can be). Historically, contaminated aquifers have not been able to be restored to original condition which is alarming.

-The Province should require clarity and facts related to risk assessment, mitigation and emergency response for all aspects of this project before serious consideration is given to allowing it to proceed.

In sum, it appears that Sio Silica cannot adequately discuss the risks, how they would mitigate them, nor do they have financial resources estimated and put aside to manage risk. They will only respond to the Provinces demands for accountability, making it essential that the Province assume much of the responsibility, and the Province must engage expertise for all aspects of the endeavour at taxpayers expense. All due diligence should be required of the Province and the company.

- There ought to be financial compensation for landowners impacted as is done in the oil industry. They should be viewed as partners.

1473

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We oppose Sio Silicas proposed silica-sand mining project in Manitoba.

We call for the full protection of our drinking water, environment, and community rights.

We demand that no project be approved unless it is proven safe, independently reviewed, publicly transparent, and supported by affected communities.

Our water is not for sale. Our safety is not negotiable. Our future is worth protecting

1474

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Rejected for too many risks by the Clean Environment Commission and now the legislation is being pushed through? It raises a few questions on the ethics of the allowing policies and company practices and the procedures required for such a precarious endeavour. Or are those Manitobans not deserving of clean and stable drinking water so the threat is justifiable? Is there a plan to continue to provide clean and accessible drinking water for the Canadians this project will effect? (I have learned that all are equal under the law really means equal for those under the law.)

Signed,

An Albertan who also appreciates clean drinking water in this proud country we call home.

1475

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Project is a risk to our drinking water.

1476

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have major concerns regarding water quality being affected by these plans, which were already previously rejected without adequate changes to ensure complete safety of water quality. Long term environmental impacts are far more important than short term profit.

1477

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please decline this project on the grounds that it is unsafe for the water and has too many unaddressed points of failure.

1478

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is unacceptable and we will not stand for this. This is completely just for profit and disregarding the health, livelihood, and state of the environment and people of Manitoba. Do not do this; no one here supports this as we just want to live in peace. This would be extremely harmful.

1479

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Do not let this project pass as it will have a threat to our drinking water. Shorter timeline mean nothing if there is still a threat

1480

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We oppose Sio Silicas proposed silica-sand mining project in Manitoba.

We call for the full protection of our drinking water, environment, and community rights.

We demand that no project be approved unless it is proven safe, independently reviewed, publicly transparent, and supported by affected communities.

Our water is not for sale. Our safety is not negotiable. Our future is worth protecting.

1481

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Very concerning about the effect this could have on our drinking water. Scary for the community.

1482

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Hi,

My name is [redacted] . [redacted] I'm a senior geotechnical engineer with 20 years of experience.

I have concerns about groundwater quality and quantity associated with this project. I understand hydrogeological and groundwater flow analysis was completed and showed risk to those is usually temporary and localized and any permanent changes are small; however, I think there's good reason to be skeptical about these favorable conclusions. I'm concerned because the contractual order of things could bias the conclusions that suggests more favorable outcomes. Because the integrity of a vastly important aquifer is at stake I think a third party engineering and environmental consultant should be retained to complete their own subsurface investigation and detailed hydrogeological, groundwater flow, and geotechnical analysis.

I also have concerns about the geotechnical analysis completed. It's certainly detailed but most of the subsurface reference information used for the analysis is missing. Only 6 test hole logs are provided in Appendix B. Of those 6 test hole logs only one provides detailed geological logging

information of the bedrock core. The other five test holes are devoid of any detail, likely because they were drilled using methods that pulverize and circulate the cuttings in a slurry up the casing. Which also means the 'grab' samples collected during drilling aren't very reliable for logging the strata. All of the test holes used to support the analysis should be provided in the active public registry file. By the looks of things 5 test holes (Page 9) were used for the subject analysis (4 test hole logs not provided). Given the importance of the aquifer and the consequences of failure I think this is substantially inadequate. The overall assessment report defers determination of the actual extraction void dimensions to after production drilling. I think this is potentially dangerous as it puts all the decision making power in the hands of Sio employees and/ or their contracted consultants. Instead of deferring such important decision making until after a license is issued I believe a more detailed drilling program be completed complete with detailed bedrock core extraction and logging, and a more specific and detailed extraction well and drilling plan be provided for TAC and public review.

A detailed plan describing how Sio will verify size and dimensions of the void from each exaction well should also be provided. Putting on paper that the maximum void diameter should not be larger than 'X' is simple enough. Proving using verifiable and repeatable methods and demonstrating those dimensions were not exceeded is what's actually needed to ensure the work done is adhering to the engineering analysis and recommendations.

Regards,

[redacted]

1483

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a resident of Springfield for over 50 yrs, we value the quality of our water. We believe this unproven technology threatens our water quality and therefore has negative consequences for our health and our economy. PLEASE DO NOT APPROVE THIS PROJECT.

1484

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We live here. Our drinking water will be contaminated , the wildlife will be affected as well over time and our land will be worthless again we live here! If we the communities say no then No means No!

1485

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please stop Silica sand mining from ruining our environment and disrupting natural lands structure and causing disturbance to natural drainage systems in our communities.

1486

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very concerned that this company wants to drill through our aquafer to get to the Silica sand. This puts the drinking water of all those that obtain their water from this aquafer at great risk. No one from this company can guarantee that our water system will be safe, nor does anyone have a contingency plan for our drinking water should their planned (but untested) mining operation fail. I am pleading with our government not to approve this company's proposal.

1487

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our water comes from deep wells which will be polluted by the extraction of silica.

Our area in concern of extraction, what will fill the void you create with the mining of silica?

Our health concerns, silica is fatal to all human and animal life. How will it be contained, what cancers will about once it becomes present in our drinking water?

1488

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I'm concerned that this project will affect the drinking water of a significant portion of the provinces population. If there is even a small risk that people's drinking water can be put at risk it isn't worth it. Especially not for an out of province corporation with no stake in the environmental consequences of the project.

1489

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Vivian, where they want to extract silica sand, [redacted] I OPPOSE that mining operation for the simple reason that it is detrimental to the environment and our drinking water.

1490

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Groundwater/aquifer contamination, environmental damage are my major concerns that this project should not be allowed.

1491

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: 100% opposed to this proposed / project.

Will be like every other greedy corporation. Showcase all the precautions just to win over certain decision makers meanwhile they know their process is dirty. We cant have this in an aquifer that services so many current and future generations.

1492

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We oppose Sio Silicas proposed silica-sand mining project in Manitoba.

We call for the full protection of our drinking water, environment, and community rights.

We demand that no project be approved unless it is proven safe, independently reviewed, publicly transparent, and supported by affected communities.

Our water is not for sale. Our safety is not negotiable. Our future is worth protecting.

1493

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project already has been rejected and should be rejected again. It's a certain endangering of water supply for many people and might be even not for one generation. Me and my family are strongly opposing this project.

1494

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We can not surrender our precious water sources for money, point blank period. Over 100,000 Manitobans rely on this water sources.

1495

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Allowing them to do this with a dangerous technique that has never been tried before is outrageous and risks drinking water for thousands and thousands of people. Do not let this happen.

1496

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It messes with DRINKING WATER. Lifeblood, mana, security.

We shouldn't be messing with drinking water unless there are foolproof plans in place.

[redacted]

1497

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a resident of Springfield I do not want Sio Silica as a neighbour. They are not concerned about our supply of water or the quality of water after their mining is finished . It is a new method of mining, try it somewhere else. It is up to us to protect our water and not be concerned after the damage is done. What kind of legacy is that for our future generations? My property value will de- escalate also. The land will collapse where the mining takes place. I ned a government that will look after me, my family, my community. Where are you? No means no.

1498

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Putting the safety of our drinking water to mine for Silica is irresponsible and shortsighted. Please listen to the concerns experts who care about the environment are voicing and protect our planet and its resources

1499

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have concerns that their unproven method of sand extraction will do harm to Manitoba's water supply. It's not worth putting people's access to fresh water at jeopardy to line the pockets of a company.

1500

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I object to the proposed Simba sands extraction 100%. No project should be allowed that would put our aquafor in jeopardy.

1501

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio silica is trying to ram through a project that was already rejected because it will damage our drinking water, our environment and ecosystem. Now they decided if they didnt get the answer they want the first time, lets be sneaky and underhanded and get the mayor of east St. Paul

on our side, on the council and then get it approved that way. By the way that is such a MASSIVE conflict of interest she needs to be removed.

They were told no, its going to damage the water supply and environment and basically they went, I dont care its going to make us a lot of money. DENY THIS PROJECT. Unless you want to ruin the nature of our province, and the best drinking water in Canada.

1502

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We oppose Sio Silicas proposed silica-sand mining project in Manitoba. We call for the full protection of our drinking water, environment, and community rights. We demand that no project be approved unless it is proven safe, independently reviewed, publicly transparent, and supported by affected communities.

Our water is not for sale. Our safety is not negotiable. Our future is worth protecting

1503

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: For the second and hopefully the last time I say NO to Sio Silica extracting sand from anywhere in Manitoba.

1504

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a property owner in the nearby area, I still have concerns. The idea of pumping out silica and using unfiltered water to replace the sand taken is not a good idea. Most residents out there use well water to drink. I believe that it may cause undrinkable water for the future generations

1505

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I think there are too many risks with this proposal and it would do more harm than good.

1506

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Silica sand is extracted through two primary methods: open-pit mining or dredging for surface deposits, and in-situ extraction for deep, buried deposits using well-drilling technology. Open-pit mining involves digging large holes to scoop sand from the surface, while in-situ extraction uses water to pump sand from below ground, often used for high-purity sand found in aquifers. When you think of both extractions to the Earth and what it does to the surrounding flora and fauna, interfering with seasons thats sustain the animals we do not know the long-term effects of this impact both with water and land. It is not hard to understand that it will be detrimental in a long-term effect and possibly creating negative impacts also to humans.

1507

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I'm all for this project

1508

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: With so little actual clean drinking water, it is irresponsible to risk the clean drinking water for so many people.

1509

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The environmental safety of this project is unproven, and the risks of sever damage to parts of Manitoba's aquifer are unacceptable - damage that is not reversible. And Carla Devlin's involvement is an inexcusable conflict of interest.

1510

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am a resident of the Rural Municipality of Springfield and currently have a well on rural land to supply drinking water to my family's home. I am very concerned about the Sio Silica SIMBA Extraction Project's impact to my family's health and wellbeing and respectfully request that you deny this application.

Sio Silica (SIMBA)s mining method is high risk mining. The mining is proposed to occur through 2 aquifers (the Carbonate and Sandstone Aquifers) and the shale aquitard (which separates these aquifers and must not be breached). On June 24, 2023 the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission ruled "after this lengthy review, members of the panel are unable to state with confidence that all potential environmental effects of this project have been fully considered and that adequate detailed plans have been prepared for preventing or mitigating these effects". This 2nd application from Sio Silica reduces the scope of the mining in the first 5 years however, their extraction method is virtually unchanged. They are using the same high risk and novel method that causes irreparable damage to our aquifers.

This is thousands of southeastern Manitobans' drinking water! This is my family's drinking water.

As a resident of Manitoba, I should be assured as to the safety and health of my drinking water. We rely on government officials to ensure the safety of our drinking water. However, the MB government allowed splitting the project into multiple files. The extraction and processing components should have been scrutinized as one project, but the EAP allowed Sio Silica to divide them into separate environmental approvals. This reduced transparency and prevented the public from understanding the full environmental impact. It also lowered the regulatory threshold by avoiding a Class 3 designation. The extraction and processing facilities should be considered as one project.

Sio Silica has shown that they are irresponsible when it comes to capping test wells. And these are only test wells! Wells have been found to be uncovered, risking water contamination. Silica sand piles have also been found inadequately covered, risking health concerns of nearby residents. Since the number of proposed wells are 10,000 or more over the projects lifetime, how can you assure Manitobans that the company will cap their abandoned wells properly and cover their sand piles adequately?

The fact that former Premier Heather Stefanson, former Economic Development Minister Jeff Wharton and former Deputy Premier and Finance Minister Cliff Cullen were found in breach of Manitoba's Conflict of Interest Act for their actions during the transition of power to the new NDP government, further diminishes confidence in the approval process of this project. The fact that Manitobans do not know WHY these three politicians acted in this manner, calls for a Public Inquiry of the Sio Silica file. Manitobans deserve to know the truth, especially when the safety of their drinking water, and the drinking water of future generations, is on the line.

There is currently a global water shortage, we are experiencing greater environmental threats from the effects of climate change. Clean, healthy drinking water should be protected and not be put at risk due to an experimental mining method. There are too many untested components to this project.

When drinking water is contaminated, what assurances do Springfield residents (and other southeastern Manitoba residents) have with regards to where our drinking water will come from? Who is going to pay for my new drinking water? Where will it come from? Are the costs going to be borne by the taxpayers of Manitoba? Previously it has been revealed that Sio Silica was only required to have a $10M insurance policy with an ability to give a six-week cancellation notice of the insurance. This is highly insufficient and irresponsible. An audit by an independent insurance broker must be allowed to determine the appropriate value of liability insurance that Sio Silica would be mandated to carry.

Southeastern Manitoba has some of the most pristine water in the world. Our community's health is being put as risk with this project.

I respectfully ask that:

- you DENY this new Sio Silica (SIMBA) environmental application (#6275)

- the project must be reclassified as a Class 3 development

- the project must undergo a Public Hearing

- the project must undergo a Clean Environment Commission Hearing

- the CEC hearing must allow full public participation and participant funding

- a Public Inquiry must be called to review any Manitoba government political interference with regards to Sio Silica

Sincerely,

[redacted]

[redacted]

1511

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Honestly mining through an aquifer is gonna affect the drinking water of so many people and the fact that this parent method that theyre gonna use for mining has never been done before and was in fact rejected last year is definitely not a good sign to go through with this project and I also feel like it definitely will not be any good to the environment and as bad as climate change, majority is it definitely could make it worse it just doesnt help

1512

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am a longtime resident of the Oakbank area with a private well directly connected to the aquifer that Sio wants to exploit and destroy.

I do not understand how this project is even still being discussed. They have been told "No" by absolutely everyone, at every turn; every resident, local counsel, environmental study, government agency, even the indigenous leaders they have attempted to bribe have told them "No", unequivocally, countless times. No means No! Still, they keep coming back, year after year, to try new approaches, new schemes, new bribes, new loopholes, new trickery. They are like a drunken frat boy who claims to not understand consent and won't take "No" for an answer.

When someone shows you exactly who they are, boldly, blatantly, constantly, BELIEVE THEM! They have proven time and time again that they are a ruthless, shady, underhanded, and greedy company that will stop at nothing to get what they want, consequences be damned. They claim to be scaling back their operation and proposals, meanwhile they are applying for licensing in surrounding RMs. Every word out of them is an outright lie. They know that the damage they will undoubtedly cause, will not affect them. They will not be held accountable or face any repercussions. They will take what they want, destroy and collapse a precious aquifer that sustains countless lives, reap their massive profits, then they will cut and run without a second thought for the harm they have done. They will simply declare bankruptcy, dissolve their company, and start a new one, taking zero responsibility for their previous damages. It has been done so many times before that it is an honored tradition in capitalism and a beloved chapter in the mega-corporation playbook. Just like how they have *magically* now become a "Canadian Company" since their previous attempt to pillage our precious natural resources. They should not have even been allowed to touch our aquifer in the first place, for "testing" or otherwise.

These same people, this same company, has been pushing this same project, since before the pandemic. This is still the exact same CanWhite Sands Corp. project that was proposed, studied, failed all environmental studies, and rejected. How is this allowed to continue? They simply rebrand under a new company name, make minor, immaterial changes to their proposal, and try again. Year after year. Why are you allowing this? Why are you abdicating your responsibility to oversee these proposals and processes? Each time they come back and try again there is less oversight, less government involvement, more shady business, more bribery, more underhanded dealings, more manipulation. Why is this being allowed to continue? It has been over 5 years of this same attack, from these same people. How is this legal?

Even the briefest bit of research into the people behind Sio showcases exactly what we are in for if this insane project is ever approved. They have similar projects all over the world with horrific implications. Each project is conducted under a completely separate "company" so that they can claim they have nothing to do with eachother, despite all being operated by the same people. This allows them to keep finances and crimes separate. This also enables them to simply dissolve the

companies when they have finished pillaging the resources and causing massive environmental damage. They simply declare bankruptcy and/or dissolve that company, then move on to the next environmental disaster they intend to cause. There are even mentions and implications of ties to organized crime, cartels, slavery, and human trafficking. The deeper you look, the more likely these implications seem. These go hand in hand with their very blatant track record of causing significant environmental damage with zero regard for the promises, claims, and commitments they made to NOT do those things. As previously mentioned, they simply dissolve the relevant company and take off with their profits, leaving nothing but devastation in their wake. These people are CRIMINALS. They cannot be trusted. No matter how many bribes they hand out or promises they make, they will absolutely, unequivocally, screw us over.

Numerous scientific professionals and studies have showcased the nearly endless list of issues with this project. Numerous species of flora and fauna will be in danger, including species that are listed as threatened and endangered. The extraction of water and sand from the aquifer will allow the encroachment of the surrounding saline water. They have already opened and exposed the aquifer to outside contamination. Their processes will cause the water in the aquifer to become acidic and release dangerous amounts of heavy metals, chromium, arsenic, and neurotoxins into the drinking water. Their operations will spread these same contaminants to the Brokenhead River, which drains directly into Lake Winnipeg. If you need a visual of the fate of our aquifer and waterways, you need only to visit the silica mining operation abandoned in the 1980s at the South side of Black Island, immediately across from Hollow Water First Nation. It is even visible on Google Earth. There you can see the toxic blood red and purple sludge left behind by the silica extraction there. That is what we have to look forward to. The list of "cons" goes on for miles and miles, while the "pros" are miniscule. Their 2025 plan mentions these issues in the most brief way possible, but does not actually address any of them, nor put forth any plans to prevent or mitigate any of these significant dangers. They do not care. They are relying on their ability to grease the right palms and the presumed ignorance of the general public.

Not once have they approached the actual individual residents whose lives, health, and homes they plan to destroy. At no point have they made any contact with us, or others who depend on the aquifer they are after. They have not offered to buy us out, compensate us, profit-share, or anything of the sort. They are, however, approaching and bribing all kinds of other people who are NOT directly affected, but may be able to further their push for approval. They have even gone so far as to attempt to bribe indigenous tribes with tens of millions of dollars in "profit-sharing" in an attempt to exploit the current social and political climate. They know that having indigenous leaders on their side would greatly enhance their push for this project. Despite the fact that this project would cause dangerous contamination to Brokenhead First Nation territory and the lands and waters that they hunt and fish. Even those tribes told them "No"! Yet Sio absolutely WILL. NOT. STOP.

They have even bribed the mayor of the neighboring RM into advocating for them. Of course she's going to accept that "job" and that juicy bribe money "paycheck" when this project will not affect her in any way. Once again Sio is slithering their way through any legal loophole they can find to conduct their slimy, underhanded, manipulation. Sure, it's not TECHNICALLY a conflict of interest, because she's the mayor of the neighboring RM and has zero responsibility or accountability to us, the people actually effected by this insane project. What exactly is it that a small-town rural mayor has to offer to a massive silica mining company? Absolutely nothing, aside from bolstering their

pandering and manipulation and harassing our residents and local counsel into supporting this absurdity. She claims full transparency, but we've seen nothing of the sort. Perhaps she would like to move her personal residence directly to their drill site, so she and her family can enjoy sipping on their contaminated slurry, since she's such a fan of this project?

They have even been attempting to sew dissent among the local communities online, through thinly veiled, anonymous posts. There are periodically bursts of these anonymous posts in all of the local online communities, Facebook groups, Reddit, etc. A lot of them read as if they are AI-generated and the comment responses are always generic and aggressively in support of Sio, yet they are always anonymous. There have also been a rash of very angry posts from people berating anyone who doesn't support Sio, claiming that the company had made them all kinds of outlandish promises if the project was approved. Some are claiming promises of high paying jobs for themselves and/or family members, some are claiming straight bribes, all are angry and threatening to anyone opposing the project. Most of these posts end up with their comments turned off, then they are deleted. I don't know if these are bots, AI-generated, or just people who work for Sio, but they certainly do not seem legitimate.

Sio has been conducting performative little townhall meetings, pretending to invite public comments and questions. Yet these meetings are most often held behind locked doors, with security that is refusing entry to the actual residents effected by this project and the counselors who represent us. These meetings have almost all been held significant distances outside of the affected area of this project, in locations with heavy security and locked doors. They ban entry to, or remove anyone who speaks out against them too much. This alone should showcase exactly what kind of a company and people that they are. They have been asking people as they enter these meetings to declare whether they oppose or support the project. Those that support it get stickers identifying them as such and priority to speak. It makes zero sense for anyone who is not directly connected to this aquifer and effected by this project to even get to have an opinion or a say on this project. It is not their drinking water that will be poisoned, their homes made worthless and uninhabitable, their families made sick, etc. Why do random, uninvolved people and businesses get to weigh in on the matter? It has absolutely nothing to do with them. Most people voicing support are painfully uninformed and are just echoing the Sio propaganda of "More jobs, economic growth, hooray!" When they have no concept of the actual proposal, consequences and reality of the project. Yet here we are with Sio going "But look how many people support us!" As if that matters without context.

They have lied, back-pedaled, changed their story, manipulated, pandered, and schemed every step of the way for over 5 years now. You and we cannot trust a single word or promise that they make. Even their radio ads are pandering and manipulation 101. They have a small child begging us to consider his/our future because Sio is going to come and magically fix everything by creating so many jobs and economic growth. But..... their original plan was to bring most of their workforce in from outside the province. Any jobs they do create here would only be temporary until they destroy

our aquifer and scrape out every last bit of silica. Then they will disappear, leaving us and the government to clean up the devastation left in their wake. You can be sure that whatever "economic boost" they create will be absolutely miniscule in comparison to the devastation they will cause and the astronomical costs to attempt to clean it up. There is no way to un-destroy and un-collapse a massive aquifer. It's not possible.

Everything else aside, let's consider the math. How much will it cost our Healthcare system to treat all of the people that will be poisoned by their own drinking water? How much will it cost to treat all of the children born with birth defects, a known risk of several of the chemicals that will be released into the water by their process? How much will it cost in social assistance programs to support all of those sick people unable to work? How much will it cost to ATTEMPT to clean up the devastation left behind? How much will it cost to ATTEMPT to repair the environmental damage they will cause? How much will it cost to run water lines to, or install cisterns at, all of the properties that will no longer be able to use the aquifer that supplied their water? How much will it cost when all of the properties effected will become worthless and unsellable because they no longer have access to clean water? How much will it cost when all of the farms and businesses that access that water go under? When livestock and crops are poisoned by contaminated water? When families become homeless because their homes are now worthless and uninhabitable? When the next generation of kids has countless chronic health problems from being raised on contaminated water? What damage have they already done with all of their "testing" and "test wells" since they very blatantly do not care about the damage they cause? How much will that cost to fix? Even just the stress from this multi-year fight against Sio is making us ill and costing the Healthcare system money already! Whatever meager pittance they may actually give to Manitoba will be absolute pocket change in comparison to the damage, harm, and costs that will result from this project. In no world is this even remotely worth it.

We must also consider how valuable this silica deposit must be for this company to be coming after it so voraciously. If that is the case, why on Earth would we willingly hand it over to some foreign company for their own astronomical profits? Why would we allow them to use UNTESTED and DANGEROUS extraction methods because they are in such a hurry to beat anyone else to this valuable resource? Why would we let them exploit us, destroy this precious aquifer that provides clean water to countless homes and businesses, and leave us with the destruction and colossal costs of the aftermath, while they get to wallow in their mountains of money? Why would we, the effected residents and the government, foot the bill for this greed? Why would we not at least develop our own SAFE extraction method and retrieve this valuable resource within the province? Why would we not want to create genuine economic growth and lasting jobs, for our own people? What exactly is the logic in handing it off to this exploitative, greedy, shady foreign company? And yes, despite their sneaky nonsense, they are absolutely still a foreign company. Even if it takes a long time to do this within the province, what's the rush? The silica isn't going anywhere. But Sio absolutely SHOULD be going somewhere, and that's anywhere but here.

I genuinely do not understand how this despicable company is even being allowed to continue this absurdity. The government is responsible for protecting its residents, our health, our wellbeing, our resources, and our environment. You have done the environmental studies, you have asked the residents, you have told them "No". This should not still be a discussion. "No." Is a full sentence. It does not matter that they keep changing minor, irrelevant details in order to claim this is a new project and a new application. It is the same project, the same untested, dangerous extraction method, within the same aquifer, by the same foreign company. Simply changing the drill site is absolutely meaningless. Using fewer drill sites, extracting slower, extracting less, IT DOESN'T MATTER. The aquifer is one big, interconnected system. It doesn't matter where you access it from, it is a single unit. That's like saying it's okay for someone to dump tanker trucks full of toxic waste into the river, as long as they do it from their own private riverfront property. Or to toss zebra mussels into a pristine lake, as long as it's done from their own private dock. It's the same concept. It's all one big, connected system and whatever you do at one point, effects the entire system. This is not a difficult concept, but Sio seems to think we're all too stupid to grasp how this works. Beyond that, Sio very publicly stated, multiple times, on their first attempt, that their initial proposal was only the beginning. Their intention was always to push for more. As soon as their first proposal was approved they intended to push for further approvals; more drill sites, more extraction volume, more years on their contract, etc. Why would that be any different now? They will do and say anything to get that initial approval and then proceed to do whatever they want anyway! They have consistently proven that their word means nothing, so why would anyone trust that they'll be content with sticking to their scaled back proposal? Approved, or not, you can be sure that they will absolutely proceed with their initial plan of more, more, MORE.

They are very obviously counting on wearing us down. Us the residents, you the government, our local counsel, everyone. They know how exhausting and stressful it is for all of us to keep fighting them. They know how much time and energy it takes for us to keep following this project and trying to stay informed and involved. They know we are all busy, stressed, and exhausted. They know we cannot all keep up with what they're doing and continue fighting it forever. They know we cannot all go to every one of their performative little meetings and events. They know we are all overwhelmed with our own daily lives and can only remain so involved and opposed to their project. This is a tactic. A very obvious and old one. They are simply going to keep pushing, and pushing, and pushing, until someone high enough up signs off on their project. They are waiting us out. This is not just a business tactic, but a combat tactic. This is an attack. It's not subtle and it's not sneaky. If you keep your opponent under enough duress, for long enough, you only have to wait them out. If you create enough distractions, overwhelm them, bombard them with information, events, new promises, new plans, more, more, more, you can speed up the process. Just like water carved out the Grand Canyon, all it takes is enough time and consistency to wear down anyone and anything. THAT is their plan. They will not stop. They have made that abundantly clear. If this proposal is denied, they'll just make some more minor changes and come right back to continue harassing us, until they eventually get their way.

This absolutely cannot be allowed to continue. This company, these people, need to be kicked out of the province, or even the country, banned from even attempting to do any kind of business here, and fined/charged for what they have already done. Allowing this ongoing disrespect and abuse of your residents is setting a dangerous precedent. You are showing every other greedy company that this behavior and these tactics are okay and will be tolerated. You are inviting more of this. You are showing the world that our natural resources are up for grabs with zero regard for our own residents, safety, environment, and economy. It has already begun, other companies are already putting in their proposals for similar projects. You've shown them that it's okay to operate this way and it will be allowed. You need to set the right precedent and make an example of them. Enough is enough. They continue to showcase their refusal to take "No" for an answer. They only thing these kinds of companies and people understand is money. Maybe the law, but they can often simply buy their way out of any legal trouble, in one way or another. So there need to be SIGNIFICANT financial and legal repercussions for their ongoing attack. With even more significant repercussions in place, should they choose to continue, in any fashion.

The fact that this has even been allowed to go on as long and as far as it has is absurd. We are done. They must be stopped, because they will never willingly stop. YOU need to stop them.

NO. MEANS. NO!

1513

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project will affect drinking water and make it unsafe for consumers, I am absolutely against this mining of silica sands here.

1514

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I think the risks are greater than the reward. Im 25 and see climate change happening very fast its the end of November and we dont have snow. We need to take care of Manitoba and our climate crisis

1515

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It appears profits over ride drinking water safety, water is the essence of life Silo doesn't care if the water supply is polluted when the soil collapse into the aquifer and destroy the drinking water, please do not let this happen, I am opposed to this activity

1516

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have great concern that a project already rejected on the basis of environmental concern is even being considered again with no material change in the project. The project puts the drinking water of thousands of Manitobans at risk, and its a risk we should not be taking.

1517

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am extremely concerned anout compromising our water supply. There is not enough proof or confidence it is safe and we don't need to be on the losing end.

1518

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: STOP SIO SILICA

WE DO NOT want Sio mining in our aquifer.

I am an East St.Paul resident

1519

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please dont let this go through. The risks are too high and I would like all Manitobans to have access to clean water.

1520

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is a public comment on SIO SILICA CORPORATION - SIMBA SAND EXTRACTION PROJECT - FILE: 6275.00

*Once again, Sio Silicas assessment of their revised project does not allow for an evidence-based decision. This conflicts with best practice standards for Impact Assessment.

*Mining for minerals must not be fast tracked. A sound assessment is critical.

*97.2% of this planet's water is in the oceans, 2.15% in glaciers and polar ice caps, less than 1% is in surface and groundwater of which groundwater is 0.31%. Much of that groundwater is not usable because it has been ruined by fracking, mining, or irremediable spills. Water is too precious and the risk too great, this project must NOT receive an Environment Act License.

*Given the need to protect local and regional groundwater sources, it is distressing that this project is being considered again.

*The further reduction of the mining area for environmental assessment and only a 5 year period out of a multi-generational mine life, prevents full assessment of all environmental, economic, and social risks and impacts from the project. This conflicts with best practice standards for Impact Assessment.

*It is unacceptable that Sio Silica failed to undertake the cumulative impact assessment as recommended by the CEC. In order for environmental assessments to be done well, they must include an assessment of cumulative effects. (CEC 2014, 2018)

*The Sio Silica extraction project is experimental and remains unproven. If this experiment is licensed, the previously approved sand processing facility will be built for the experiment. This must not be allowed. It is unreasonable to hand an Environment Act License to an experiment. Sios proposal perverts the assessment and licensing process.

*Mining, processing, and transport operations will occur 24/7/365, up to 100 meters from homes. The potential for air quality impacts have not been adequately assessed. The assessment of noise and artificial light pollution have been ignored.

*Operations will have direct impacts on the land. Trees/brush will be cleared and loss of habitat will impact known species at risk. Many properties contain old growth, these are irreplaceable.

*Access roads will be required for the heavy machinery and truck traffic, impacting farm land and livestock and wildlife. Operations will create continual distress and worry, negatively impact our livelihoods and communities and will impinge on the enjoyment of our property.

*The disinfection method for the return of mined water back to the aquifer remains unproven. This is a major component of the project that should have been thoroughly proven prior to the licensing process. This gives 100,000 Manitobans no assurance that the Water will remain safe and dependable nor that their best interests are being protected.

*Sio now admits their return of mined, oxygenated water, to the aquifer results in oxidizing conditions that will cause dissolution of selenium, arsenic, and uranium contained in material that collapses into the mined sand cavity. Figure 4-10, shows selenium above drinking water guideline levels for 7 years until it slowly disperses.

*The X1t model is 1Dimensional and did not consider how the contaminate plume interacts with other mined cavities or how ongoing mining that increases gradients and flow, impacts movement. With collapse of the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard, the oxygen and contaminants can potentially move into the overlying Carbonate Aquifer.

*A thorough assessment of all potential oxygen sources introduced into the aquifer system by operations (i.e. from airlift method, type (entrained) have not been undertaken. Until this is addressed the modelling grossly underestimates oxidation potential.

*Reducing the number of industrial sized boreholes for assessment, underestimates project effects and misleads the public.

*Borehole mining causes the irreversible collapse of the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard which separates the two aquifers - Carbonate and Sandstone Aquifers. Fractured limestone in the Carbonate aquifer also collapses. Collapse of this geological material prevents proper sealing/abandonment of the boreholes. This increases the aquifers vulnerability to contamination from surface sources.

*Over the life-time of the mine, thousands of industrial sized boreholes, monitoring and vertical boreholes will be drilled all up to 100 meters of homes. These boreholes will be perpetual sources for contamination from surface sources. It takes ONE failed or soiled well to cause damage. Certain land uses will be prohibited to prevent contamination to the groundwater i.e. chemical agriculture, livestock, manure spreading, housing, septic systems,

*To grant this project a license would be an agreement to the destruction of two irreplaceable aquifers. This is not stewardship. We do not get a second chance.

*We all rely on our environment and must care for it. We need to know the truth about impacts from development to avoid mistakes that will be costly to our children. Particularly when it comes to Water, there is no room for error.

*We cannot have healthy communities and a strong economy if we are not committed to evidence-based decision making, an accountable public service, and transparent public process.

*With its potential to cause significant and irreversible harm to Manitobas drinking water, the Sio Silica project must be rejected now. If it should be allowed to continue, it must be designated a Class 3 development and the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission be convened to hold a public hearing to review the project with full participant funding.

*The Sio Silica project illustrates the need to strengthen Manitobas dangerously flawed assessment and licensing process under The Environment Act and The Mines and Minerals Act.

*The entire Sio Silica project must be subject to a thorough, independent public inquiry under The Evidence Act to ensure that our democratic institutions and process are sound.

1521

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Concerned about how this will affect our water.

1522

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please do not approve this project. This project threatens our most precious resource, water!

1523

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our water is to precious to gamble with. No to silica in my drinking water

1524

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No comments or concerns. However just want to express who excited and hopeful I am for this project. I have full faith in the integrity of Sio and look forward to seeing what this new industry does to boost manitobas economy. I have my eyes peeled for job postings with this project.

1525

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Speaks from the glass industry side, supporting SiMbA as a responsible silica source that helps deliver energy-saving glass if environmental rules are strong.

1526

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My may concern is that our Aquifer is the only freshwater source available to us. What would happen to the Springfield community if our water source was contaminated.

I am very concerned for the people of Springfield and the environment being affected

by this unsubstantiated method of extracting silica sand.

1527

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: A thorough examination of the safety and sustainability to the long-lasting nature of Manitoban drinking water needs to be done. Safe drinking water will continue to be a finite resource as our climate changes, and must be protected.

1528

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our recreational home is within the boundaries and range of the water table - and the risk to our neighbors, farmers and community for unproven technology and potentially irreversible harm - it is absolutely critical that this project not proceed.

There is advertising on the radio that is misleading and directly implying that it is a good and economical benefit - after researching and comparing g what is presented as fact on - this misinformation and skewed perspective is proving debate.

1529

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am opposed to their development.

It has not been researched throughly. The environmental impact of drilling a multitude of wells is destructive above ground but also has the real potential to corrupt the aquifer. The MB GOVT. needs to stand up to protect our water above all else!

1530

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Thank you for this opportunity to comment on Sio Silica's second application for a license. The company is proposing to mine through the main aquifers which supply much of

Southeastern Manitoba with high quality fresh water. Please accept these comments as an addendum to the letter I am submitting in hard copy on December 1, 2025.

I would like to be on record: I object to the proposal.

I was very disappointed to learn from the Environmental Approvals Branch (EAB) that Sio Silica is applying for a license once again. Many citizens expended personal time, effort and costs to appear and present at the Clean Environment Commission (CEC) hearing during the first application. The decision was clear: the risks were too great to approve the project. This is not a trivial matter. Risk to the aquifers is unquantifiable. The proponent cannot know with surety how much risk may ultimately come into play. The CEC hearing demonstrated that the public did not trust Sio Silica as the steward of the aquifers.

Sio Silica claims they have made sufficient change to their application and therefore are entitled to apply for a license once again. The public had 35 days to read the adapted proposal. I found the adapted proposal to be voluminous but insubstantial. Despite the limited preparation time, I have the following observations, comments and "citizen" proposals:

1) I reviewed the "stepwise" altered plan for this project. It begins with a list of disclaimers from the company hired by Sio Silica: AECOM. As soon as I read the disclaimers, I thought "There is no case. Even the people hired to speak on their behalf do not have confidence in the case Sio Silica is trying to make." Television's Columbo used to say it perfectly in days of yore: "Case closed."

2) Truly, it seems odd to me that the new application has been accepted because the changes are not substantive. However, the application has been accepted. Citizen advocates and citizen scientists in opposition during the previous Clean Environment Commission (CEC) hearings have already made unalterable points. The method proposed by Sio Silica remains the same. It is experimental; it pierces anaerobic, pristine bio-conditions; despite copious modeling, there is no way of knowing how serious the risks are, until they create the risk; there is no way of determining if there would be a remedy or remedies should calamity ensue; the process ignores the natural effects of water upon altered sand structures - the Sio Silica process tampers with the work of art which is the aquifer structure. The development should, therefore, be deemed Class Three.

3) Those in opposition, having once undergone the burden of defending the sanctity of the water, must be provided with participant funding in this second go around. Independent and evidence-based information must be presented to the ultimate decision-makers. We cannot live without fresh water. The decision is not on whether the venture is profitable; the decision is one of trust, for the protection of the population. Walkerton was the example of incompetence and mismanagement which cost lives twenty-five years ago. There is no excuse for another Walkerton today.

4) The drilling of wells: Sio Silica has been attempting to establish this project since 2016. Over this time, they have demonstrated disinterested, faulty stewardship of the test wells they have drilled. See the evidence brought before the CEC in the first application. North America is littered with abandoned wells. They are called orphans. Sad, indeed. They could as well be called desecrations to the landscape. They are hazards. The companies who drilled them, whether for oil or water or whatever, sold the goods to people who were often desperate to believe in pipe dreams.

But across North America, the salesmen shamelessly scooped the profits, somehow declared bankruptcy, and walked away. People who bought the goods are the desecrated. Promises, empty promises have left a trail of ruin. Sio Silica's proposal offers no proof that the same or worse could result in Springfield.

5) In Manitoba, the government (read "you and I") are supposedly cleaning up abandoned wells and polluted water systems after companies have pocketed profits and walked away. None of this is an exaggeration. It is business. Whatever the number of wells Sio Silica now wants to drill, that is neither here nor there. The people who are currently at the helm of the company have already informed their potential investors that they plan to sell. My question is this: no matter how many or how few wells there are to begin with, why on earth would we believe that someone will safely, unerringly look after the spent wells? Sio Silica is implying the capping of the wells will be fail proof. Why on earth would we assume they will keep their promises, hundreds, thousands of wells down the road?

6) The Clean Environment Commission (CEC) made recommendations in its 2023 report. One recommendation was specifically to the Province. The Province is the level of government which is committed to protecting our water. It has the responsibility to uphold two laws which are pertinent to the Sio situation. The first governs stewardship of the water; the second governs mining and minerals. As far as I know, the current government has not followed up on the specific task the CEC set in its report. The Province must seek a legal opinion on mining in aquifers: and this is where the two laws intersect. It is to be determined how the laws rule together to protect the population. How can this license application proceed without clarification of the effects of mining - all forms of mining, including experimental and unproven methods - upon water which supplies the population?

7) Sitting within the provincial legislature, the RM of Springfield has an elected representative. As far as I know, this representative has not shown interest in acting on our behalf to protect the water. Along a similar parallel, the Municipal Council of Springfield held nothing stronger than a neutral position during the Clean Environment Commission. The Mayor chose to define the project as a provincial matter. The elected representative who sits in the Manitoba Legislature defined the matter as local. He stated that he does not interfere in local matters. The citizens who own the land and own the sand which Sio Silica covets must prove the risks of the case themselves, once again, during this second application. Minister Moyes, in your wisdom, please provide participant funding to ensure independent and science-based evidence to inform the decision and to safeguard the population.

There are so many concerns which Sio's commercials and bus ads and billboards do not address. The story-telling is beautiful. It focuses on the positive. I admire that. I would love to believe that we simply need to collect eggs from the golden goose. Just walk up to the nest and pluck the eggs.

But I was just reminded of the reliance Sio Silica puts upon models. There is one factor which cannot simply be painted into the picture by confident model designers. There are two examples which come to mind which readily defy the reliability of models. In the first example, models were used to determine what size of catch the salmon harvest could bear. Darned if the behaviour of the salmon did not comply with the models. The change in behaviour resulted in overfishing of the stock. Disaster. Disaster despite "sound" modeling.

Similarly, in the second example, one little Monarch butterfly defied the models. Now recognized as "endangered", the Monarchs of southern Ontario are tagged to trace their migration to their wintering location in Mexico. Weighing the equivalent of two paper clips, the fourth generation Monarch in each season can cross continental US to Mexico. At least one tagged Monarch, however, flew beyond the wintering grounds. It chose a completely different wintering spot. Why? Because of climate change, because of habitat destruction, because of a muddle in the instincts which guide its flight chart? The Monarch gave no explanation (of course!) and the scientists had no clue.

We like to think our big brain will solve whatever we need to solve. Surprise, surprise, we do not know with surety why a salmon stock depletes or why a butterfly chooses a brand new wintering location. Sio Silica relies upon modeling to analyze the intricacies of Nature. In so doing, they are gambling: they are playing the odds. Like the scientists who modeled the salmon behaviour and the lepidopterist who dabbed a tracker with eyelash glue to stick on the back of a Monarch, they are overlooking a crucial factor. The "WILDNESS of NATURE" is a thing. It is the wild card in the game. We have figured out many things sort of well, but occasionally we miss an essential detail. Mother Nature does not miss the details. The "Web of Life" factors EVERYthing. Things we may not yet understand, Mother Nature understands very well. Do we really want to let Sio Silica tamper with our water, putting us at risk while they attempt to draw profit via an experiment of this magnitude? Goodness!!

It is arrogance on the part of Sio Silica to assume they can play with risks which others may come to bear, which WE in Southeastern Manitoba may come to bear. It is my appeal to the Province to err on the side of caution in this major decision. A Clean Environment Commission must again be established to allow independent, science-based, informed decision-making; participant funding must be supported in order to permit independent assessment of the risks and benefits of the proposal; the Province must ensure a complete environmental impact assessment is prepared, including calamity insurance and full mitigation. Lastly the Province must obtain legal opinion into the effects of mining into aquifers.

Thank you!!

[redacted]

1531

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This has been rejected already, what changed? It still poses too many risks. Please do not allow this to pass.

1532

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing to you to express my deep concern for this mining project. As a resident of Springfield RM with a well, I do not feel safe if this project proceeds. I am a new mom, we absolutely cannot not risk having our water contaminated. Not only our water, but the environmental damage could be catastrophic. Please I am begging you to listen to all of us and tell SIO Silica the answer is no. Do not approve this project, my daughters future needs a healthy safe place to thrive in. Thank you for this opportunity to share my concern,

1533

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Pushing foward the same project rejected last year with a shorter timeline seems irresponsible at best, and corrupt the more you look at it. Our water aquifers are too important to risk for corporations.

1534

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Hi,

I live in Cooks Creek with my family. While we are not in the closest drilling zone, we rely on the same regional aquifer system as thousands of Manitobans, and the safety of our groundwater is extremely important for our home and community.

After reviewing the information available to the public, I have several concerns:

The revised proposal still does not provide the full, evidence-based assessment needed for a project of this scale. Important information is missing, and many key components remain untested.

Mining for minerals, especially in a drinking-water aquifer, must not be fast-tracked. A complete and transparent assessment is essential for public protection.

Groundwater makes up a tiny portion of Earths total water, and once damaged, it is extremely difficult or impossible to restore. Given this, the risk of harm is too great to justify licensing an experimental project.

It is concerning that the project is once again being considered when independent experts have previously raised serious issues.

Reducing the assessment to a five-year slice of a multi-generational mine prevents a full understanding of long-term environmental, economic, and social impacts.

Sio Silica did not provide a cumulative effects assessment, even though this was recommended by the Clean Environment Commission. Cumulative effects are essential to understanding real-world impacts.

The extraction process remains experimental and unproven at full scale. Licensing an experiment, and then building infrastructure to support that experiment, reverses the proper order of impact assessment.

Operations are expected to run 24/7/365, close to homes, with potential impacts on air quality, noise, and light. These issues have not been fully assessed.

The project will require land clearing, removal of old-growth habitat, and disturbance to wildlife and species at risk.

Heavy machinery and trucking will affect local roads, farmland, livestock, and the enjoyment and comfort of residents near operations.

The method for disinfecting and treating the water returned to the aquifer remains unverified and untested at the scale required. This provides no assurance that the aquifer will remain safe.

Sios own modelling shows that oxidized return water can dissolve selenium, arsenic, and uranium from collapsed material. Selenium is shown above drinking-water limits for several years.

The model used (X1t) is one-dimensional and does not account for interactions with other mined cavities or long-term gradients created by continuous extraction.

Borehole mining has been shown to cause irreversible collapse of the protective shale aquitard that separates the two aquifers. This collapse increases the vulnerability of the entire system to contamination.

Thousands of industrial-sized boreholes over the life of the project create permanent pathways for surface contaminants. Even one failed well can cause serious, long-lasting harm.

Approving this project would risk damaging two irreplaceable aquifers that supply drinking water to more than 100,000 Manitobans. This cannot be undone.

Healthy communities and a stable economy depend on evidence-based decision-making, transparency, and proper oversight. This proposal does not meet those standards.

The overall project highlights serious weaknesses in Manitobas assessment and licensing process, which need reform before considering developments of this magnitude.

For all of these reasons, I request that:

1. The Sio Silica Simba project not be licensed at this time; and

2. The Province convene a Clean Environment Commission public hearing with participant funding, so independent experts can fully evaluate the long-term risks to groundwater, land, wildlife, and nearby communities.

Protecting the aquifer is essential for all Manitobans today and for future generations.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

1535

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am 100% against this project as it will affect the drinking water of Manitobans not only that but how it may impact our infrastructure.

1536

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is an important project for Manitoba and should absolutely be approved. Its proven to be safe and science driven, with exceptional detail included in the application. The benefits to

Manitoba are incredible, not only through financial support, but also through job creation and secondary industry support.

Manitobans like myself want to see a province that is no longer a 'have not' province. Please do the right thing and approve!

1537

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Re: Sio Silica Simba Sand Extraction Project File #6275

I live in Cooks Creek with my family. While we are not in the closest drilling zone, we rely on the same regional aquifer system as thousands of Manitobans, and the safety of our groundwater is extremely important for our home and community.

After reviewing the information available to the public, I have several concerns:

The revised proposal still does not provide the full, evidence-based assessment needed for a project of this scale. Important information is missing, and many key components remain untested.

Mining for minerals, especially in a drinking-water aquifer, must not be fast-tracked. A complete and transparent assessment is essential for public protection.

Groundwater makes up a tiny portion of Earths total water, and once damaged, it is extremely difficult or impossible to restore. Given this, the risk of harm is too great to justify licensing an experimental project.

It is concerning that the project is once again being considered when independent experts have previously raised serious issues.

Reducing the assessment to a five-year slice of a multi-generational mine prevents a full understanding of long-term environmental, economic, and social impacts.

Sio Silica did not provide a cumulative effects assessment, even though this was recommended by the Clean Environment Commission. Cumulative effects are essential to understanding real-world impacts.

The extraction process remains experimental and unproven at full scale. Licensing an experiment, and then building infrastructure to support that experiment, reverses the proper order of impact assessment.

Operations are expected to run 24/7/365, close to homes, with potential impacts on air quality, noise, and light. These issues have not been fully assessed.

The project will require land clearing, removal of old-growth habitat, and disturbance to wildlife and species at risk.

Heavy machinery and trucking will affect local roads, farmland, livestock, and the enjoyment and comfort of residents near operations.

The method for disinfecting and treating the water returned to the aquifer remains unverified and untested at the scale required. This provides no assurance that the aquifer will remain safe.

Sios own modelling shows that oxidized return water can dissolve selenium, arsenic, and uranium from collapsed material. Selenium is shown above drinking-water limits for several years.

The model used (X1t) is one-dimensional and does not account for interactions with other mined cavities or long-term gradients created by continuous extraction.

Borehole mining has been shown to cause irreversible collapse of the protective shale aquitard that separates the two aquifers. This collapse increases the vulnerability of the entire system to contamination.

Thousands of industrial-sized boreholes over the life of the project create permanent pathways for surface contaminants. Even one failed well can cause serious, long-lasting harm.

Approving this project would risk damaging two irreplaceable aquifers that supply drinking water to more than 100,000 Manitobans. This cannot be undone.

Healthy communities and a stable economy depend on evidence-based decision-making, transparency, and proper oversight. This proposal does not meet those standards.

The overall project highlights serious weaknesses in Manitobas assessment and licensing process, which need reform before considering developments of this magnitude.

For all of these reasons, I request that:

The Sio Silica Simba project not be licensed at this time; and

The Province convene a Clean Environment Commission public hearing with participant funding, so independent experts can fully evaluate the long-term risks to groundwater, land, wildlife, and nearby communities.

Protecting the aquifer is essential for all Manitobans today and for future generations.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

1538

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am extremely concerned about the safety and the quality of our water table if the proposed Sio Silica sand project goes through. I am not anti-development, or anti-change, but I am pro-environmental and pro-clean water. This project is not looking seven generations forward, it is

not looking to protect the life sustaining resource that is fresh water for even the next generation. This project was found by the environmental commission to have major red flags, and they have not changed their plan, they have simply modified it in order to push it through and then we will see things return to their original due to circumstances. This is reminiscent of colonialism. I did not have a say in my ancestors and their coming to this land to exploit resources, but I have a say now. I value the Indigenous ways of knowing and being, of honouring the land, of protecting the water. Allowing Sio Silica to develop and mine the highly toxic silica sand from and through our ground water is highly dangerous. I have seen photos of devastated land elsewhere that has been mined for similar and the same minerals. This cannot be our home, this cannot be our legacy! Please, do not set us back in time, and put the fresh water of the RM of Springfield at risk. We should be moving forward with ensuring fresh water for all Manitobans and Canadians, not backwards by jeopardizing the water here.

1539

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We oppose Sio Silicas proposed silica-sand mining project in Manitoba.

We call for the full protection of our drinking water, environment, and community rights.

We demand that no project be approved unless it is proven safe, independently reviewed, publicly transparent, and supported by affected communities.

Our water is not for sale. Our safety is not negotiable. Our future is worth protecting!

1540

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Do not ruin our drinking water. NO TO sio silica! There are to many risks and now you're pushing the time line up further and its approved, but wasn't approved the first time ? BIG NO!

1541

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a Manitoba resident, Im strongly opposed to any kind of mining through our water systems. In 2024, the provincial government rejected the Sio Silica project after the Clean Environment Commission found it could not guarantee the safety of our drinking-water aquifers.

The proposed mining method posed risks to groundwater relied on by roughly 100,000 Manitobans, making it clear that these types of projects simply aren't safe.

We already struggle to provide clean, reliable water to many northern communities adding new threats to our aquifers only makes that situation worse. On top of that, Manitoba is home to vast marshlands and wetland ecosystems that would be greatly affected by any mining activity in or near our water systems. These areas are environmentally sensitive, biodiversity-rich, and essential to flood control, filtration, and wildlife habitat. Endangering them puts both our environment and our communities at risk.

As a 25-year-old, I fully understand that this is a project that simply isn't worth the risk. I might not be seen as a full adult in the eyes of many people in power, but I can still recognize the long-term consequences of damaging our water sources and destroying more of Canadas ecosystem. Our environment is already fragile gambling with something as essential as clean water and healthy wetlands is a mistake we cant afford to make.

1542

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Based on current information, I have significant concerns that the proposed Sio Silica project presents unacceptable risks to the regional drinking water supply. The extraction method involves removing sand from within the carbonate aquifer system that provides potable water to approximately 100,000 residents. Independent technical reviews have raised serious questions regarding the potential for aquifer depressurization, hydraulic connectivity between aquifers, and long-term contamination pathways that are not adequately addressed in the proposal.

Given the scale of reliance on this aquifer for safe drinking water, any activity that could compromise water quality represents a substantial and irreversible public health and environmental risk. At this time, the mitigation measures described in the project submission do not provide sufficient assurance that groundwater integrity and long-term water security will be protected.

1543

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: just no, don't ruin our water

1544

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The province cannot trust a private corporation to adhere long term to any regulations set out. Especially when a change in party would open up the door for those regulations to be clawed back.

We are seeing widespread abuse and corruption everywhere in the world. Flat out, this project must not be done in partnership with a private entity.

No amount of jobs created will offset the environmental impact and lost prosperity by allowing a private entity to exploit our natural resources. Those are for us as a province, and us alone.

1545

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: To whom it may concern

We currently live in the town of Oakbank. We are opposed to the Sio Silica drilling operation in Vivian Mb. Our drinking water comes from the aquifer in Vivian.

We have attended numerous meetings, and scheduled events to educated ourselves on this proposed drilling project.

We are very concerned about our drinking water quality should Sio be allowed to proceed. Fresh water sources all over the world have been compromised by mining, fracking, and toxic spills or contamination. The Vivian aquifer provides more than 100,000 residents in the province their drinking water.

The promise of jobs and money means nothing if we lose our quality drinking water.

We cannot afford to gamble with our water supply.

Our lives , our future and the generations to come depend on quality water. Please stop Sio Silica from drilling in Springfield!

Sincerely,

[redacted]

1546

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We do not approve of this project.

You will affect the aqua fire for our well water.

We do not want bad water for our well water.

1547

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There is zero mention of groundwater contamination as a risk for this project. Once groundwater becomes contaminated (be this heavy metals, PCBs, volatile organics, acidification, or otherwise) it will flow away from the point source and is nearly, if not 100%, impossible to remediate. For more information, please see (1). Furthermore, this proposal is in direct contravention of The _Manitoba_ Groundwater and Water Well Act, C.C.S.M. c. G110 Regulation 215/2015 section 3(1): "a person must not construct or seal a well or test hole in a manner that allows the interconnection or mixing of groundwater between the Winnipeg Formation and any overlying aquifer." (2) And if test pits have already been drilled into the shale, sandstone, and sands of the Ordovician Winnipeg Formation, there must be legal, financial ramifications per section 3(2).

1548

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio has proven themselves to be a disgraceful company that does not respect Manitobans.

Whether we allow mining or not, Sio is not an option.

1549

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I strongly disagree for Sio Silica to come to Manitoba and affect the water supply here, we already have issues with many other concerns of wildfires, lack of water access to many other smaller communities. We do not need another company to damage our drinking supply.

1550

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is beyond outrageous. Despite repeated attempts to deny this company permission and clearly expressing it, they are keeping on pushing. Attempts like this to put Manitobans health, safety and well being over profits should entail civil and criminal consequences.

1551

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Whatever process Sio Silica is trying to do, it will affect drinking water quality..

1552

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I highly oppose this project, as it was previously rejected due to concerns of high risk of affecting Manitobans' drinking water.

1553

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our aquifer is too precious to risk on a project that was rejected before for too much risks.

1554

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am disappointed to see this come up again so soon, didn't we already recent vote against this based on the enviromental risks?

1555

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am incredibly concerned about the environmental consequences of this project. I am very concerned about our freshwater.

1556

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I'm concerned what this plant would environmentally do to the land surrounding it, which inudes my neighborhood. I do not want a sio silica plant here.

1557

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: To whom it may concern

We currently live in the town of Oakbank. We are opposed to the Sio Silica drilling operation in Vivian Mb. Our drinking water comes from the aquifer in Vivian.

We have attended numerous meetings, and scheduled events to educated ourselves on this proposed drilling project.

We are very concerned about our drinking water quality should Sio be allowed to proceed. Fresh water sources all over the world have been compromised by mining, fracking, and toxic spills or contamination. The Vivian aquifer provides more than 100,000 residents in the province their drinking water.

The promise of jobs and money means nothing if we lose our quality drinking water.

We cannot afford to gamble with our water supply.

Our lives , our future and the generations to come depend on quality water. Please stop Sio Silica from drilling in Springfield!

Sincerely,

[redacted]

1558

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There is zero mention of groundwater contamination as a risk for this project. Once groundwater becomes contaminated (be this heavy metals, PCBs, volatile organics, acidification, or otherwise) it will flow away from the point source and is nearly, if not 100%, impossible to remediate. For more information, please see (1).

Furthermore, this proposal is in direct contravention of The _Manitoba_ Groundwater and Water Well Act, C.C.S.M. c. G110 Regulation 215/2015 section 3(1): a person must not construct or seal a well or test hole in a manner that allows the interconnection or mixing of groundwater between the Winnipeg Formation and any overlying aquifer. (2)

And if test pits have already been drilled into the shale, sandstone, and sands of the Ordovician Winnipeg Formation, there must be legal, financial ramifications per section 3(2).

References:

(1) https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/water-overview/pollution-causes-effects/groundwater-contamination.html

(2) Https://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/regs/current/215-2015.php?srchlite="winnipeg formation"#3

1559

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I'm writing with regard to the new application by Sio Silica for its Simba Sand Extraction project. This project is in most ways very similar to the previous submission by Sio Silica, which was rejected by the provincial government because concerns around potentially irreversible harms to the drinking water of thousands of Manitobans, and impacts on the environment were not adequately addressed by Sio. The current application fails to meet the standards demanded by the province when the original application was rejected.

On this basis, the Simba Sand Extraction project should be immediately halted.

However, if the decision is made to move the project into the assessment stage, it must be classified as a Class 3 development to ensure that the final decision maker is the Minister of Environment and Climate Change. The Class 3 designation is also essential due to the high level of risk to the aquifer of the novel extraction technology being proposed.

Further, if an assessment proceeds, adequate funding must be made available for interested members of the public to effectively intervene and engage independent expertise; Sio Silica should be directed to carry out a cumulative effects assessment, and must provide detailed information on

its post extraction operations, including monitoring, remediation, and emergency response. All of the above information must be posted on the public registry for full transparency and to allow public review.

Thank you for considering my comments.

1560

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No amount of money is worth risking our clean supply of drinking water. This proposal is too risky and has not been studied enough.

1561

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I would like to say no to this project as its risky and was turned down before. Why are we risking our drinking water? Remember our water is life sustaining and we need it to survive.

1562

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Mining for silica sand is not something I can support, largely because the environmental risks are both significant and irreversible. Silica sand extraction often requires clearing land, stripping away vegetation, and disrupting the natural topography. This level of disturbance can destroy habitat, alter surface drainage patterns, and release fine particulate matter into the air. Once an ecosystem is destabilized in this way, it can take decades if it recovers at all for the landscape to return to anything resembling its original state. Manitobas environment is one of our greatest shared assets, and risking it for short-term industrial gain is a step I cannot endorse.

Equally concerning are the risks to our waterways. Silica sand mining can intersect with aquifers and underground water flows, increasing the possibility of contamination, subsidence, or long-term depletion of groundwater reserves. Manitobas drinking water, wetlands, and river systems are essential to both human and ecological health, and any project that could compromise water quality or quantity poses a threat to all Manitobans. Once groundwater pathways are disturbed or contaminated, remediation is extremely costly and often only partially effective. Protecting our water must be non-negotiable.

This is not just a localized issue - it affects the entire province. Manitobas rivers and aquifers are interconnected, and any disruption in one region can have cascading effects across communities, agriculture, and ecosystems. Decisions about projects with province-wide consequences cannot be left solely to private companies whose primary obligation is to their shareholders. Manitobans deserve transparency, long-term planning, and safeguards that prioritize public interest over profit.

For these reasons, the only scenario I would even remotely consider is one where the Government of Manitoba itself leads and oversees the project as a crown corporation. Public ownership offers the possibility of stronger accountability, clearer environmental standards, and decision-making driven by long-term provincial wellbeing rather than short-term private gain. Even then, any proposal would still need to demonstrate with rigorous, independent evidence that it poses no unacceptable risk to our land or water. Without that level of public oversight and precaution, silica sand mining is simply not a path I can support.

1563

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I oppose the silica sands project

1564

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Saying no to this project.

1565

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My daughter has an 83 acre property [redacted] Therefore, I am reluctant to provide any support for a project that could potentially jeopardize the groundwater supply in southeastern Manitoba. My main concern is if there are truly billions of tonnes of high-quality silica sand in this region, as was reported in Sio Silica promotional material, then if this project is approved there is no reason to doubt that others would also be approved and the whole area of South East Manitoba would be subject to environmental damage. Allowing a small scale five-year pilot project sounds appealing, but should not be supported

1566

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I believe that the techniques used in the proposed process would pose too many detrimental risks to our water and natural landscape for the sake of economic growth.

1567

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project carries substantial, unmeasured environmental risks to Manitobans and would provide essentially no public benefit if it were approved. Approval would line the pockets of wealthy out-of-province investors at public expense.

If this resource is so valuable, safe methods should be studied and a Crown corporation established to benefit the public instead of lining the pockets of the few.

1568

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The water basin is located underneath the grounds of eastern Manitoba, which will affect 100,000 people or more for drinking water, laundry,etc.

I dont want to see us having no freshwater to drink.

1569

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I oppose this project as water is life. The way of life as we know it will be destroyed. [redacted] Not one single individual had contacted us with regards to this project until after I expressed my concerns at a CEC hearing. My husband and I have raised 8 kids here. We also have our first granddaughter. We want her to grow up here also and enjoy the beauty, peace and quiet of untouched natural lands. I understand the importance of the sands but at what cost??? If something goes wrong where will we get our water from? How would I garden or feed our farm animals? If that can't be figured out. Who would buy our land? What would it be worth? We would we go? These are all troubling questions. We need scientific evidence that all

will go well. There has to be a guarantee we will still have an abundance of water and it will be safe for us to consume. One of our favorite pastimes is sitting around a bonfire and enjoying each other's company. A slow down of life from the previous week. We enjoy counting satellites and falling stars. How magical is it to be able to walk out your back yard and see the northern lights at their finest! If this processing facility goes ahead all this will be lost. We will be looking at a building towering over the trees, light pollution, noise pollution, and extra trains rumbling through. Please do not give Sio the environmental license! Sincerely Yours[redacted]

1570

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: If there is any chance of contamination to our water source I vote no. Find another option because clean water is precious and essential to life. Please stop putting us at risk for rhe almighty dollar.

1571

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am incredibly concerned with the potential impacts of this Sio Silica project. As far as I know, this project has already been proposed and rejected before. I don't understand how this project that was already rejected can be proposed again, especially since it was rejected on grounds of water impact.

1572

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Just NO! We do not want this in our area. Our water is of utmost importance and we do not want the aquifer negatively affected.

1573

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned the proposal is too risky to be using on our source of drinking water

1574

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water quality , air quality, wildlife , people's homes and land

1575

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Why would anyone let anyone mine for anything anywhere near our DRINKING WATER? That is a the dumbest most ridiculously bad idea I've ever heard. No matter how safe they try to be there WILL be problems with our water after that. No! Do not allow this to happen! I want to keep our drinking water safe!!

1576

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I Strongly oppose the Sio Silica project! This is why I voted for NDP to put a stop to this. Protect the people and their best interests. Unproven technology at the cost of our water. Please say No once again and send them packing once and for all! Thank You [redacted]

1577

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I believe that this project is definitely not in the best interest of for our wild life, environment and personal health. All it is good for , once again, is for profits for big corporations and greedy people.

1578

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This company is not wanted at all. They are destructive and do not care about the people's lives they'll destroy with their greed. They've already stated in a video their intend is to come in, set up and then sell. They have no regard for human life. Except their own.

If Wab Kinew and his government allow this company or any other like it into Manitoba they'll be first handedly responsible for the ruin of thousands of lives, property and future generations. They'll be known as liars and hypocrites and will be involved in the largest class action lawsuit this province will have ever seen. Please STOP this company and all others like it from being allowed here. My family and thousands of others future will be destroyed if theyre allowed here.

1579

Date: 11-28-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have no comments or concerns.

1580

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: These comments are in response to the Environment Act Proposal (EAP) for the Sio Silica Corporations proposed Simba Sand Extraction Project (formerly known as the Vivian Sand Extraction Project). Based on the information provided by Sio Silica in the EAP and their behaviour over the past few years, I think the Simba silica sand extraction project should be rejected now and not be allowed to move forward in the assessment and licensing process.

The ongoing concerns about the potential impacts of silica sand extraction on environment and human health have not been alleviated by the information in the EAP for the proposed Simba Project. Sio Silicas failure to address the main concerns and recommendations of the Clean Environment Commission (CEC) and produce credible data to support their novel extraction process is a major red flag and an indication that this project is not being developed with the best interests of Manitobans in mind.

As noted by our Premier Wab Kinew when Sio Silicas extraction project was rejected for the first time: In order for Manitobans to be healthy now and for generations into the future, we have to protect a clean, safe and healthy environment. This will require a high standard of impact assessment and meaningful public participation, including participant funding, to ensure the full scope of concerns and potential impacts are properly understood before irreversible harm occurs to the Winnipeg Sandstone and Red River Carbonate aquifers.

I agree with Premier Wab Kinew that Manitobas resources should be developed with higher labour standards, higher environmental standards and greater respect for human rights compared to any other jurisdiction in the world. So, I think that if this project is allowed to continue through the

impact assessment and licensing process under The Environment Act, for I know many people who live in the surrounding area which would be effected by the possibility of cross contamination of the two aquifers, which would put financial strain on many manitobans this would require updates to their water filtration systems and rerunning tests of the groundwater for many communities South of Vivian, plus this does not seem to truly bring any profits towards Manitoba, for it would be more beneficial if the company who if it came down to it had to gain access to the rights was local not run by consecutives from a distant province, who do not share many of the same environmental values as Manitoba does in their resource extractions. With this being said, the Minister/Director should take the following actions:

1) Designate the Simba Silica Sand Project as a Class 3 development due to the potential significant and irreversible harm to the drinking water source of 100,000 Manitobans. A Class 3 designation will also ensure the Minister is the decision-maker for the impact assessment and licensing process.

2) Require Sio Silica to produce and publicly publish a cumulative effects assessment report before proceeding any further in the licensing process.

3) Require Sio Silica to produce and publicly publish their plans for post-approval practices (monitoring, follow-up and adaptive management) and emergencies in the public registry so they can be independently reviewed prior to the licensing decision.

4) Request the CEC to hold a public hearing to review Project Simba, with full participant funding.

5) look into making sure that if all prior recommendations are met, that Manitoba and the effected residents will benefit the most out of all earnings from the extraction, as in that they will be properly reimbursed for all environmental, physical and legal losses and or damages caused by the opening of Sio Silica.

For we has to make sure that the future generations will not be the ones that have to pay for damages caused by extraction today, and that any harms done will be accounted for not by taxpayer dollar but by the ones who caused the damage in the first place.

Thank-you for considering my comments on Sio Silicas proposed Simba extraction project."

1581

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I say no!!!

1582

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: [redacted] filming and documenting this project for over 3 years. The original dangers still exist:

- acidification of the water due to an extraction method usuing oxygen pumped into an anaerobic environment that includes sulfides and heavy metals

- collapse of the shale aquitard after sand extraction causing the mixing of the waters between the carbonate and the Sandstone aquifers (against the Manitoba Water act)

- drilling into the both aquifers prohibited by the Manitoba Water Act

- contamination of the aquifer when re-insertion of the water into the sandstone aquifer

- 10-story pile of sand at the processing facility in Vivian, uncovered, and therefore wind can blow the sand into the neighbourhood, with the potential of causing silicosis for residents

- inadequate insurance or compensation if the water is damaged to farms and residents

- permanent irreversible damage to the aquifer

- by 2030, UN estimates place water shortage at 40% - water too precious to sacrifice

- potential number of jobs when you go through the history: 40 -> 400 -> 4000 -> 8000 -> now 18,000 - these numbers may increase depending upon resistance to the project, (so highly suspect)

Attached is a trailer of the documentary [redacted]
https://vimeo.com/1103352662?fl=ipandfe=ec

This project is too dangerous for Manitoba. Should not be approved.

[redacted]

1583

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This is absolutely unacceptable. There is no reason to be adding anything to our water. Fluoride as well should never be used. The government has no right as a corporation to be altering anything that is natural.

1584

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We oppose Sio Silicas proposed silica-sand mining project in Manitoba.

We call for the full protection of our drinking water, environment, and community rights.

We demand that no project be approved unless it is proven safe, independently reviewed, publicly transparent, and supported by affected communities.

Our water is not for sale. Our safety is not negotiable. Our future is worth protecting

1585

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Major concern for the aquifer that supplies a large section of the province, especially Springfield. The Sio Silica proposal can say the water quality will not be affected but no company can guarantee that 100%. Once damage has occurred it is too late. We have said NO to Sio Silica once already and no revision of wording in their proposal changes the fact that all of these things could be negatively impacted by this project - water quality, people, livelihoods, wildlife and the environment as a whole. NO again to this project.

1586

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: [redacted] The farm has been in the family for many generations. Our orchard provide fresh, organically-grown produce to people throughout Manitoba and our nursery provides locals and others in Manitoba with the plants to grow their own food at home.

We are concerned with many parts of this project for the larger environment such as air quality, increased traffic density, reduction of wildlife habitat, but our primary concern is with potential impacts to the aquifer. We are not only personally dependent on the aquifer for drinking water, but without access to clean, untainted water, both our orchard and nursery business could not exist.

I have read through a lot of the proposals and criticisms and I cannot see how the project is justified with the potential risks to the aquifer. I acknowledge that it is important for Canada and Manitoba specifically to access natural resources for economic prosperity, but this project does not seem to be beneficial for the province and is definitely not a win for the region, especially in the long term.

The project was attempted to be pushed through once before while being overwhelmingly opposed by the community and I would like to see this project rejected once again.

1587

Date: 11-30-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Manitoba really needs this to get approved. This will bring in good paying jobs, investment and sovereignty as this critical minerals needed to built strong independent Canada

1588

Date: 11-29-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Much more research needs to be done before approving this. This is drinking water we are talking about. When a lot of places around dont even have clean drinking water, why are we risking what good drinking water we do have!!

1589

Date:

Project Name:

Comment:

1590

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Comments submitted by Council of the RM of Springfield

Access to sufficient, safe, and appropriate water for personal and household use is a fundamental right of all citizens.

Protecting the wellbeing of Springfield residents and safeguarding the integrity of our vital water resources remains a foremost priority for Council.

The Rural Municipality of Springfields position is unequivocal: every question and concern related to Sio Silicas mining processes and activities must be fully, transparently, and satisfactorily addressed.

The Municipality maintains that the new application is still fundamentally similar to the original submission refused by the NDP government in February 2024 and fails to resolve the outstanding concerns that have been repeatedly raised. Uncertainty remains around critical issues regarding the proposed mining methods, their long-term impacts, and the necessary protections for groundwater.

Until all outstanding issues are conclusively resolved, the Municipality will not support any unproven operation that presents potential risks to the environment, particularly to the groundwater resources of southern Manitoba and their long-term protection.

1591

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have grave concerns about the use of an untested method of mining in a residential / agricultural area. The impact of ground water contamination will have devastating effects on all the people of Manitoba. There is no empirical data to support the safety of this type of mining. As an academic medical professional I know this type of experiment would never be allowed.

[redacted]

1592

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The disinfection method for the return of mined water back to the aquifer remains unproven. This is a major component of the project that should have been thoroughly proven prior to the licensing process. This gives 100,000 Manitobans no assurance that the water will remain safe and dependable NOR that their best interests are being protected.

Over the life-time of the mine, thousands of industrial sized boreholes, monitoring and vertical boreholes will be drilled all up to 100 meters of homes. These boreholes will be perpetual sources for contamination from surface sources. It only takes ONE FAILED or soiled well to cause damage. Certain land uses will be prohibited to prevent contamination to the groundwater ie. chemical agriculture, livestock, manure spreading, housing, septic systems.

To grant this project a license would be an agreement to the DESTRUCTION of two irreplaceable aquifers. This is NOT stewardship. We DO NOT get a second chance.

With its potential to cause significant and IRREVERSIBLE harm to Manitobas drinking water, the Sio Silica project MUST BE REJECTED NOW. It must be designated a Class 3 development and the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission be convened to hold a public hearing to review the project with full participant funding.

The Sio Silica project illustrates the need to strengthen Manitobas dangerously flawed assessment and licensing process under the Environment Act and the Mines and Minerals Act. The entire Sio Silica project must be subject to a thorough, INDEPENDENT public inquiry under the Evidence Act to ensure that our democratic institutions and process are sound.

STOP SIO PROJECT FROM POLLUTING OUR WATER.

1593

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Stop Sio Silica

1594

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a resident of the RM of Springfield for almost 40 years and with children living in the RM as well, I'd like it noted that myself and my family as well as extended family in the RM are 100% against any plan for Sio Silica drilling in our municipality. Our concern is the water as well as the land. Water isn't something that can be gambled on.

1595

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am submitting this comment because I am concerned that the current Sio Silica / SiMbA groundwater modeling does not fully reflect the potential risks to the aquifers used for drinking water in southeastern Manitoba.

Key issues:

1. Oxygenated water changes aquifer chemistry.

Sio acknowledges that returning oxygen-rich water to the deep aquifer will create oxidizing conditions. This is known to mobilize contaminants like selenium, arsenic, and uranium that are naturally present in the shale and limestone.

2. The model assumes an unrealistically small amount of contamination.

Calculations show the collapsed rock around each mined cavity contains roughly 198 kg of selenium.

The model only allows 0.25 kg (0.126%) to dissolve.

Even with that tiny percentage, selenium still exceeds guideline limits for about 7 years.

3. Lab tests contradict the model.

Shake Flask Evidence shows 42.6% of selenium dissolved in 24 hours, producing levels more than 100 above drinking-water limits.

If real-world dissolution is closer to the lab results, contamination could be hundreds of times worse than the current model predicts.

4. Important real-world factors are not modeled.

Oxygen from the air-lift mining process

Multiple cavities operating in clusters

Interactions between plumes

Long-term movement toward the carbonate aquifer

Time frames beyond 10 years

These omissions mean the model likely underestimates contamination and does not capture cumulative effects across the entire mining zone.

Request:

I strongly urge the Province to require a Clean Environment Commission (CEC) public hearing with participant funding to ensure an independent, scientifically rigorous assessment. Our drinking water and aquifer integrity deserve the highest level of scrutiny.

1596

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project should be reclassified as a Class 3 project. SIO mining into the aquifer requires public consultation, and should be reviewed by the CEC (again). The fact that this project is being submitted for a second review after being declared too risky for a license should give pause - our Drinking Water Act and our Mining Act should be revised to never allow drinking water to be at risk for profit. Given the pristine water in the aquifer in question, I do not think we should do anything to put this source of drinking water at risk, and this project is too big a risk. I am incredibly disappointed in SIOs latest arguments that the residents who spoke out against this project, who voted against it in the phone in poll, and who were happy when it was first rejected by the Province 'misunderstood' the project. The residents of eastern Manitoba did not misunderstand the project - they saw it as a huge risk, and the minor changes SIO has incorporated into the second version do nothing to mitigate the risk property owners feel. Property owners called on experts and learned

that the project had too many risks. The risks many homeowners and well owners point to are related to the details SIO provides themselves - where they will mine (their locations in the aquifer), the risk of collapse in the aquifer and potential for sinkholes (SIOs own sonar data), and the pushing of oxygen into the aquifer that will result in higher than normal levels of things in the aquifer (SIO's own reports), including selenium. SIO has had to push so hard to have this project go forward, yet they continue to avoid answering what happens if the aquifer is contaminated, or if there are sinkholes, or if many drinking water wells cannot be used for drinking water. If the water is contaminated, it will be too late to do much when we find out - the ability to filter water in the aquifer itself is virtually impossible, and the water would be contaminated for a very long time afterwards. Adding oxygen to the aquifer at the same time as damaging the aquifer should not be allowed to happen. The potential cost of this project failing could leave a huge cost for the province as tens of thousands of people need cisterns and bulk water transported en masse. After attending a recent public open house (not in the location where the wells will be dug, but in the city), I was not any more confident. In fact, the presentation of a number of pretty story boards missed answering the question of whether the drinking water will be at risk. SIOs method is experimental at best, but dangerous to the aquifer. There will never be enough money to fix the consequences of the aquifer being permanently unavailable for drinking water, but SIO's group will just move on to their next thing. Images SIO has shown on their materials of 'reclaimed' spaces are at odds with the mess they left in Vivian, where they have had to be reminded about what is needed for their wells and sitting silica sand. The residents have a lack of trust that the land will be reclaimed, and that the area will be safe for humans and animals. The residents should not be in the position of needing to fight this project - the mining in the aquifer should have already stopped the project.

1597

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not support this project as it is an inadequate plan with enormous environmental risks to drinking water in a large portion of Manitoba.

1598

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am strongly opposed to the proposed Sio Silica processing plant and all related activities. Myself and my partner live approximately [redacted] from the proposed site in Vivian. The project jeopardizes the safety of our aquifer. Increased traffic on hwy 15. Increased noise pollution. Increased train volume. All inevitable and negative impacts to the area. The risks outweigh the rewards. Sio Silica does not care about the community. The residents of the communities who stand to be impacted by this operation have made it abundantly clear that they do not support this project. Sio Silica is here to extract profits, and damage control as needed. Their sketchy ethics

track record and political meddling does not inspire an ounce confidence. Rebranding and PR schemes to make themselves appear more palatable to the public are almost comical given their past. I cherish the lifestyle that our property allows us to enjoy. The negative effects of this bad idea would have me leaving the province. Please consider the wellbeing of our aquifer carefully, for the sake of current and future generations.

1599

Date: 12-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I'm concerned about the water quality and think it should not go forward.

1600

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I was the first [redacted] for the municipality and my families history in the area is over 126 years, everyone I know or speak to is very afraid of this project contaminating our gold stand water aquifer (won an award), two great councillors held a public vote with over 95% voted against this project.

The CEO of SILO was guilty of several charges of bribery and falsified reports and cannot be trusted, he publicly stated all they want to do is sell it off for a quick profit, you can't trust him of this company based on their past experience. Three Conservative politicians (the former Premier and Minister of the Environment and another MLA) were all found guilty of political interference to illegally push this project through, this project stinks and is corrupt and cannot be trusted at all especially for the most important resource for all life, water.

Drilling 10,000 wells will breach and contaminate the two aquifers together which is illegal and the air used to drill will introduce oxygen which has been proven to contaminate the water as stated by experts and by one of Manitoba's best Premiers (Ed Schreyer) and Canadas best Governor General a very trusted politician in Canada and especially Manitoba. The former well respected head of the Liberal party is openly opposed to this project, in fact all honest respected politicians are against this SILO project for their well know proven dishonesty and corruption. Springfields two best known and respected Councillors are against this project and have provided vast amounts of honest information to all residents. Even Broken Head first Nation voted against this project even though SILO enticed the council with many call and $20,000,000 bribe.

IT IS COMMON SENSE TO STOP THS DANGEROUS PROJECT, AND PROVEN CORRUPTION OF IT'S PROPONETS .

PLEASEE DON"T ALLOW THIS PROJECT TO GO THROUGH.

PLEASE PROTECT OUR WATER.

PLEASE DON'T ALLOW FOREIGH CORPORATIONS AND CEO'S TO JUST DESTROY OUR WATER ENVIRONMENT AND LIVES.

PLEASE STOP CORRUPT COMPANIES AND POLITICIONS FROM DESTROYING OUR PRECIOUS WATER.

PLEASE LISTEN TO WELL RESECTED POLITICIONS AND GOVERNONR GENERAL AND PREMIERS AND HEADS OF POLITICAL PARTIES WHO ARE STANDING UP FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS AND ALL OF MANITOBA TO STOP THIS PROJECT.

PLEASE HELP ALL RESIDENTS OF SPRINGFIELD AND OUR GREAT ENVIRONMENT (ANIMALS, RESIDENST AND NATURE). THE RISK IS MUCH TO GREAT, THERE IS NO BENEFIT FOR RESIDENTS JUST DIRE CONSQUENCIES.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

1601

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Silica mining will contaminate the ground water. Water is sacred. Water is the single most important resource in the world. It cannot be replaced when despoiled. It cannot be replaced in human survival. Projects that threaten our water supply MUST not be allowed to go forward!

1602

Date: 12-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have serious concerns about this project and the ground water being compromised. I do not believe that the company is being transparent or honest in the extent of the environmental damage that will be done.

1603

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I live [redacted] this project would be running. It would be contaminating the water source of my well and the wells of my family and friends. My family has lived here since they first came over from Europe many generations ago now. I'd like my future generations to have the

option to live in this beautiful area and be able to source their own water from a well - none of that chlorinated city water but good natural water. I don't see anything in their proposals thay would reduce the risk to me - all I see is risk. I shouldn't have to scramble to go get my water tested so when they ruin it I have a court case. How long will that take? Would we even win or they'd dissolve their company and bail like they have in other places. A court case doesn't do jack when my water is wrecked and my grandkids can't safely drink from the sprinkler hoses in summer. Can I water my garden with that? I shouldn't have water issues in this year in this country, especially when I never did before. Stop letting scummy companies come and bully their way in because manitoba is historically poor. We don't need them we are doing just fine without them. Please say no and let us keep this amazing resource as is for generations to come. Protect our kids and our wildlife.

1604

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio Silica is asking to run the project on "credit," i.e., they want to go ahead without establishing beyond a reasonable doubt that they will not cause damage. They should be required to post a damage deposit, say 1 Billion dollars, to be held in escrow, until such time as the project is deemed to have been harmless. Or they should be required to provide better evidence.

I am also concerned that merely filtering water and returning it will not prevent the damage caused by drilling through one aquifer to get to the lower.

1605

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project puts the water supply for the 120,000 or so residents of southeastern Manitoba at risk and should be prevented. The health concerns are serious and unpredictable. DO NOT APPROVE THIS PROJECT.

1606

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: After spending time reading and getting information about this project, I am deeply concerned about the potential contamination of valuable groundwater, that would affect the fundamental right of clean water access, as well as the whole ecosystem health.

1607

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am submitting this comment because I am concerned that the current Sio Silica / SiMbA groundwater modeling does not fully reflect the potential risks to the aquifers used for drinking water in southeastern Manitoba.

Key issues:

1. Oxygenated water changes aquifer chemistry.

Sio acknowledges that returning oxygen-rich water to the deep aquifer will create oxidizing conditions. This is known to mobilize contaminants like selenium, arsenic, and uranium that are naturally present in the shale and limestone.

2. The model assumes an unrealistically small amount of contamination.

Calculations show the collapsed rock around each mined cavity contains roughly 198 kg of selenium.

The model only allows 0.25 kg (0.126%) to dissolve.

Even with that tiny percentage, selenium still exceeds guideline limits for about 7 years.

3. Lab tests contradict the model.

Shake Flask Evidence shows 42.6% of selenium dissolved in 24 hours, producing levels more than 100 above drinking-water limits.

If real-world dissolution is closer to the lab results, contamination could be hundreds of times worse than the current model predicts.

4. Important real-world factors are not modeled.

Oxygen from the air-lift mining process

Multiple cavities operating in clusters

Interactions between plumes

Long-term movement toward the carbonate aquifer

Time frames beyond 10 years

These omissions mean the model likely underestimates contamination and does not capture cumulative effects across the entire mining zone.

Request:

I strongly urge the Province to require a Clean Environment Commission (CEC) public hearing with participant funding to ensure an independent, scientifically rigorous assessment. Our drinking water and aquifer integrity deserve the highest level of scrutiny.

1608

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Drinking water is precious, any risk needs to be taken very seriously. We cannot go forward with this if the risk is there.

1609

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am submitting this comment because I am concerned that the current Sio Silica / SiMbA groundwater modeling does not fully reflect the potential risks to the aquifers used for drinking water in southeastern Manitoba.

Key issues:

1. Oxygenated water changes aquifer chemistry.

Sio acknowledges that returning oxygen-rich water to the deep aquifer will create oxidizing conditions. This is known to mobilize contaminants like selenium, arsenic, and uranium that are naturally present in the shale and limestone.

2. The model assumes an unrealistically small amount of contamination.

Calculations show the collapsed rock around each mined cavity contains roughly 198 kg of selenium.

The model only allows 0.25 kg (0.126%) to dissolve.

Even with that tiny percentage, selenium still exceeds guideline limits for about 7 years.

3. Lab tests contradict the model.

Shake Flask Evidence shows 42.6% of selenium dissolved in 24 hours, producing levels more than 100 above drinking-water limits.

If real-world dissolution is closer to the lab results, contamination could be hundreds of times worse than the current model predicts.

4. Important real-world factors are not modeled.

Oxygen from the air-lift mining process

Multiple cavities operating in clusters

Interactions between plumes

Long-term movement toward the carbonate aquifer

Time frames beyond 10 years

These omissions mean the model likely underestimates contamination and does not capture cumulative effects across the entire mining zone.

Request:

I strongly urge the Province to require a Clean Environment Commission (CEC) public hearing with participant funding to ensure an independent, scientifically rigorous assessment. Our drinking water and aquifer integrity deserve the highest level of scrutiny.

1610

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Concerns over our most important resource of water in the aquifers that provide clean drinking water to alot of people in the area.

1611

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I oppose this project! There has not been enough time allowed for the public to be able to respond to the Extraction Project! We need to protect our groundwater as there is a shortage of fresh water. Many Manitobans do not have access to safe drinking water! Mining is a high risk operation, accidents, spills, miscalculations and to put high purity water at risk is unconscionable! It is unacceptable that SiloSilica failed to undertake the cumulative impact assessment as recommended by the CEC! In order for environmental assessments to be done well they must include the assessment of cumulative effects! The disinfection method for the return of mined water back to the aquifer remains unproven! This gives 100,000 plus Manitobans no assurance that the water will remain will remain safe and dependable! We cannot afford to have significant and irreversible harm toManitobas drinking water! Sio Silica admitted that their return of mined oxygenated water to the aquifer results in oxidizing conditions that will cause dissolution of selenium, arsenic and uranium contained material that collapses into the mined sand cavity! There are no room for errors when it comes to our most precious resource such as our water! This project must be rejected!

1612

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project is a DISASTER!!! SIO SILICA needs to GO AWAY! This project needs a CEC public hearing with participant funding to ensure an independent assessment of the project occur AGAIN. I am sorry SIO bamboozled investors and created overly-inflated expectations - good plan - "over promise, under deliver". However, so far, MANITOBA RESIDENTS have clearly expressed their desire to PROTECT THE WATER that supplies the needs of approximately 120,000 residents, their animals and livestock, not to mention all the business requirements for all the business entities in this area. Just because there is big money pressuring a return on its investment (from who? do we know that yet?) does not mean MANITOBA needs to carry the costs of SIOs MISTAKES. EVERYONE investing in new ventures like this knows that there is a risk to ALL THE CAPITAL INVESTED, with NO GUARANTEE of RETURN. This one is not working out, so SIO SILICA needs to go back to their investors and tell the TRUTH - MANITOBA will NOT allow a project that puts the main water supply for 120,000 residents at risk because we KNOW what will happen, as has happened with innumerable mining and other projects in the past, where the companies create a disaster, and leave the clean up to the public purse. The taxpayers are ALWAYS paying for environmental irresponsibility, and in this case.... we will not because this PROJECT should NOT go ahead.

In addition, this "backdoor" attempt of the conservatives to slide an approval under the carpet shows exactly what the problems are. If this was such a good, low-risk project, then open and transparent approval would have been pursued, instead of underhandedly trying to go forward without anyone knowing. A quote from a quick AI search discloses the following:

Political Scandal: The "disaster" aspect intensified with the revelation that, after losing the October 2023 provincial election, the outgoing PC government had attempted to push the project's approval through during the "caretaker" period before the new government was sworn in.

Ethics Ruling: In May 2025, the Manitoba ethics commissioner ruled that former Premier Heather Stefanson and two of her cabinet ministers violated the province's conflict of interest law by acting improperly in trying to get the project approved after voters had ousted them from power

https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-dandq=sio silica approval disasterandudm=50andfbs=AIIjpHxU7SXXniUZfeShr2fp4giZ1Y6MJ25_tmWITc7uy4KIeioyp3OhN11EY0n5qfq-zEMNIp8LUgCyfMBh3p2QSOggsatznFh8KsGHOpPLfsyNlNDyzTt_AEe046g50_mnAj58ShPRdIcX1B5p8XQebe6rqZpqjiicpFvFE21ARa42pbmnNuqagUn5QI2Eg8EJheIbVT4FN33UTFTOqWZ-cCvlGEQrMQandved=2ahUKEwjb58zz5J2RAxX1DzQIHWm8J1IQ0NsOegQIAxABandaep=10andntc=1andmstk=AUtExfDdftPrVsNUKExhH2uD6x0uDIXpqQQbep0Pv8-qfkn9ek7XBZ3-tbyomCZC64V2NqA4Zwki4AsmbAoRyDW6Nrv33P_Z1jy9tT8KOXeSP_itRIoSMPAsYym0t7fOaTKgeLyPbBHE6z8qMh3bNvZSk9cUKDe2ba0mBS0andcsuir=1

Do we need to go on about the actual RISKS to water and contravention of existing legislation? I guess we do since they (SIO) keep coming back to the table every few years.

As a quick summary as there is not enough space in this forum to go into detail from Our Line in the Sand:

"Sio Silica/Simba now admits their return of mined, oxygenated water, to the aquifer results in oxidizing conditions.

New X1t modelling show induced oxidizing conditions will cause dissolution of selenium, arsenic, and uranium contained in material that collapses into the mined sand cavity."

The risk of introducing oxygen and any other above ground contaminants into the water puts ANY USERS OF THE WATER AT RISK. WHY WOULD MANITOBANS AGREE to this? Does OUR GOVERNMENT believe that a slowly increasing concentration of selenium, arsenic and other dangerous minerals would be good for us? Why would anyone using this water want to take this chance? There is NO RETURN that would make it worthwhile. the health costs will boomerang back to the taxpayers, and SIO SILICA runs off with its profits, leaving Manitoba with a disaster to clean up, if it even can be. How do you replace the ONLY WATER SUPPLY for the approximately 120,000 residents of south eastern Manitoba?

What is proposed for insurance by SIO in regard to their project in Article 10 of the (inaccessible) development agreement - was a JOKE. But it didnt make me laugh. What it did make me do is think about the extent of corporate greed and the depths to which some business will sink, as the directors, management and employees abandon all sense of responsibility, ethics and obligation, and concern about the wellbeing of their fellow citizens, the environment, and all its residents.

But first, the ERIN BROCKOVICH movie.

A few excerpts from an article about this situation in Hinkley, California, but before I get to that, the most important point is that the settlement by PGandE - Pacific Gas and Electric - to the affected citizens was $333 million dollars in 1996. In todays dollars, that is $638,494,072.66. $638,494.072.66. SIX HUNDRED THIRTY EIGHT MILLION DOLLARS with almost 5 HUNDRED thousand in change. That is a lot of money and a far cry from the $5 and $20 million proposed in the development agreement by SIO.

Article excerpts: ERIN Brockovich: The real story of the town three decades later ABC NEWS https://abcnews.go.com/US/erin-brockovich-real-story-town-decades/story?id=78180219accessed Oct 24, 2023 11:02 a.m.

SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS:

Hinkley is a small southern California town in the Mojave Desert. Since the 1950s, the utility company PGandE operated a natural gas pumping station. Until 1966, the company used a chemical called chromium 6 to prevent rust. Seems innocuous, right? The toxic chemical eventually seeped into Hinkleys water supply. It is a carcinogenic chemical, and a poison.

In 1993, Erin Brockovich became an activist for clean water after she spoke out against PGandE. Everywhere I went in this community, somebody had asthma, chronic cough, recurring

bronchitis, recurring rashes, unusual joint aches, nosebleeds and other health issues, sometimes DEVASTATING.

In 1996, the case against PGandE was settled for $333 million the largest ever paid in a direct-action lawsuit at the time.

For the residents of Hinkley the story continues. Almost THREE DECADES LATER Brockovich revisited the neighborhood and met with residents WHO ARE STILL SUFFERING THE EFFECTS OF THE CONTAMINATION like in ROCKWOOD, MANITOBA by the way.

Hinkley resident, Roberta Walker, still suffers the effects of the contamination. Her daughters had severe nosebleeds at an early age. Health concerns only GREW from there.

After years of exposure to chromium 6, she has had five stomach surgeries and three breast surgeries. Both of her daughters have had hysterectomies and fibromyalgia, and her husband was diagnosed with prostate cancer. And they all have asthma.

Walker said After we received our results back, we all had chromium 6 IN OUR DNA. THAT WAS PRETTY DEVASTATING. The process of getting checked was EXCRUCIATING. They had to scrape our gums, and of course, we were known to have nosebleed my daughters gums wouldnt stop bleeding FOR DAYS.

In 1993, Walkers home was bought by PGandE and bulldozed. Her family relocated. Then they find out the plume (of TCE) was GROWING.

Walkers second home was purchased by PGandE too. The family left Hinkley for good.

Brockovich said Its a ghost town. Everythings boarded. Thats a good way to end a community, POISON IT and ITS PEOPLE.

One residents best guess is her dogs tumor came from the well water too.

PGandE has been working to CONTAIN and clean up the tainted groundwater, converting it into less toxic chromium 3 water.

Independent consultant RAUDEL SANCHEZ is in charge of monitoring the clean up efforts. PGandE funds Sanchez and his group as part of the settlement.

Cleaning up contaminated water is a long process, he said. It ranges between maybe something like 30 TO 40, 50 YEARS. So groundwater, cleanups, they take a really long time to do.

PGandE has made significant progress in cleaning up. The remedy has removed more than 70% of the contamination.

70%???? Who CARES? THIRTY YEARS LATER

1613

Date:

Project Name:

Comment:

1614

Date:

Project Name:

Comment:

1615

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have read over technical information regarding the process Sio Silica has put forth for the public to read. After reading this information and also from hearing nearby residents concerns about their water supply, I am in strong opposition to Sio Silicas mining project. The risk to the aquifers is too great and a mining project that has even a slight chance to damage the aquifers should not even be on the table to consider. Thank you for allowing me to voice my opposition.

1616

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: *Once again, Sio Silicas assessment of their revised project does not allow for an evidence-based decision. This conflicts with best practice standards for Impact Assessment.

*Mining for minerals must not be fast tracked. A sound assessment is critical.

*97.2% of this planet's water is in the oceans, 2.15% in glaciers and polar ice caps, less than 1% is in surface and groundwater of which groundwater is 0.31%. Much of that groundwater is not usable because it has been ruined by fracking, mining, or irremediable spills. Water is too precious and the risk too great, this project must NOT receive an Environment Act License.

*Given the need to protect local and regional groundwater sources, it is distressing that this project is being considered again.

*The further reduction of the mining area for environmental assessment and only a 5 year period out of a multi-generational mine life, prevents full assessment of all environmental, economic, and social risks and impacts from the project. This conflicts with best practice standards for Impact Assessment.

*It is unacceptable that Sio Silica failed to undertake the cumulative impact assessment as recommended by the CEC. In order for environmental assessments to be done well, they must include an assessment of cumulative effects. (CEC 2014, 2018)

*The Sio Silica extraction project is experimental and remains unproven. If this experiment is licensed, the previously approved sand processing facility will be built for the experiment. This must not be allowed. It is unreasonable to hand an Environment Act License to an experiment. Sios proposal perverts the assessment and licensing process.

*Mining, processing, and transport operations will occur 24/7/365, up to 100 meters from homes. The potential for air quality impacts have not been adequately assessed. The assessment of noise and artificial light pollution have been ignored.

*Operations will have direct impacts on the land. Trees/brush will be cleared and loss of habitat will impact known species at risk. Many properties contain old growth, these are irreplaceable.

*Access roads will be required for the heavy machinery and truck traffic, impacting farm land and livestock and wildlife. Operations will create continual distress and worry, negatively impact our livelihoods and communities and will impinge on the enjoyment of our property.

*The disinfection method for the return of mined water back to the aquifer remains unproven. This is a major component of the project that should have been thoroughly proven prior to the licensing process. This gives 100,000 Manitobans no assurance that the Water will remain safe and dependable nor that their best interests are being protected.

*Sio now admits their return of mined, oxygenated water, to the aquifer results in oxidizing conditions that will cause dissolution of selenium, arsenic, and uranium contained in material that collapses into the mined sand cavity. Figure 4-10, shows selenium above drinking water guideline levels for 7 years until it slowly disperses.

*The X1t model is 1Dimensional and did not consider how the contaminate plume interacts with other mined cavities or how ongoing mining that increases gradients and flow, impacts movement. With collapse of the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard, the oxygen and contaminants can potentially move into the overlying Carbonate Aquifer.

*A thorough assessment of all potential oxygen sources introduced into the aquifer system by operations (i.e. from airlift method, type (entrained) have not been undertaken. Until this is addressed the modelling grossly underestimates oxidation potential.

*Reducing the number of industrial sized boreholes for assessment, underestimates project effects and misleads the public.

*Borehole mining causes the irreversible collapse of the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard which separates the two aquifers - Carbonate and Sandstone Aquifers. Fractured limestone in the Carbonate aquifer also collapses. Collapse of this geological material prevents proper sealing/abandonment of the boreholes. This increases the aquifers vulnerability to contamination from surface sources.

*Over the life-time of the mine, thousands of industrial sized boreholes, monitoring and vertical boreholes will be drilled all up to 100 meters of homes. These boreholes will be perpetual sources for contamination from surface sources. It takes ONE failed or soiled well to cause damage. Certain land uses will be prohibited to prevent contamination to the groundwater i.e. chemical agriculture, livestock, manure spreading, housing, septic systems,

*To grant this project a license would be an agreement to the destruction of two irreplaceable aquifers. This is not stewardship. We do not get a second chance.

*We all rely on our environment and must care for it. We need to know the truth about impacts from development to avoid mistakes that will be costly to our children. Particularly when it comes to Water, there is no room for error.

*We cannot have healthy communities and a strong economy if we are not committed to evidence-based decision making, an accountable public service, and transparent public process.

*With its potential to cause significant and irreversible harm to Manitobas drinking water, the Sio Silica project must be rejected now. If it should be allowed to continue, it must be designated a Class 3 development and the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission be convened to hold a public hearing to review the project with full participant funding.

*The Sio Silica project illustrates the need to strengthen Manitobas dangerously flawed assessment and licensing process under The Environment Act and The Mines and Minerals Act.

*The entire Sio Silica project must be subject to a thorough, independent public inquiry under The Evidence Act to ensure that our democratic institutions and process are sound.

1617

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water quality and quality of life

1618

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Absolutely against this project. It is no benefit to water resources or the environment.

This will harm our resources and environment. We cannot afford to take risks with our health and well being.

1619

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not wish for this proposal to move forward, there are too many unknown consequences and too much at stake where the aquafer is concerned.

1620

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Protect our water no drilling allowed!

1621

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am submitting this comment because I am concerned that the current Sio Silica / SiMbA groundwater modeling does not fully reflect the potential risks to the aquifers used for drinking water in southeastern Manitoba.

Key issues:

1. Oxygenated water changes aquifer chemistry.

Sio acknowledges that returning oxygen-rich water to the deep aquifer will create oxidizing conditions. This is known to mobilize contaminants like selenium, arsenic, and uranium that are naturally present in the shale and limestone.

2. The model assumes an unrealistically small amount of contamination.

Calculations show the collapsed rock around each mined cavity contains roughly 198 kg of selenium.

The model only allows 0.25 kg (0.126%) to dissolve.

Even with that tiny percentage, selenium still exceeds guideline limits for about 7 years.

3. Lab tests contradict the model.

Shake Flask Evidence shows 42.6% of selenium dissolved in 24 hours, producing levels more than 100 above drinking-water limits.

If real-world dissolution is closer to the lab results, contamination could be hundreds of times worse than the current model predicts.

4. Important real-world factors are not modeled.

Oxygen from the air-lift mining process

Multiple cavities operating in clusters

Interactions between plumes

Long-term movement toward the carbonate aquifer

Time frames beyond 10 years

These omissions mean the model likely underestimates contamination and does not capture cumulative effects across the entire mining zone.

Request:

I strongly urge the Province to require a Clean Environment Commission (CEC) public hearing with participant funding to ensure an independent, scientifically rigorous assessment. Our drinking water and aquifer integrity deserve the highest level of scrutiny.

1622

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am submitting this comment because I am concerned that the current Sio Silica / SiMbA groundwater modeling does not fully reflect the potential risks to the aquifers used for drinking water in southeastern Manitoba.

Key issues:

1. Oxygenated water changes aquifer chemistry.

Sio acknowledges that returning oxygen-rich water to the deep aquifer will create oxidizing conditions. This is known to mobilize contaminants like selenium, arsenic, and uranium that are naturally present in the shale and limestone.

2. The model assumes an unrealistically small amount of contamination.

Calculations show the collapsed rock around each mined cavity contains roughly 198 kg of selenium.

The model only allows 0.25 kg (0.126%) to dissolve.

Even with that tiny percentage, selenium still exceeds guideline limits for about 7 years.

3. Lab tests contradict the model.

Shake Flask Evidence shows 42.6% of selenium dissolved in 24 hours, producing levels more than 100 above drinking-water limits.

If real-world dissolution is closer to the lab results, contamination could be hundreds of times worse than the current model predicts.

4. Important real-world factors are not modeled.

Oxygen from the air-lift mining process

Multiple cavities operating in clusters

Interactions between plumes

Long-term movement toward the carbonate aquifer

Time frames beyond 10 years

These omissions mean the model likely underestimates contamination and does not capture cumulative effects across the entire mining zone.

Request:

I strongly urge the Province to require a Clean Environment Commission (CEC) public hearing with participant funding to ensure an independent, scientifically rigorous assessment. Our drinking water and aquifer integrity deserve the highest level of scrutiny.

1623

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My family and I are against the Sio Silica mining project. The environmental impacts are not worth the risk.

1624

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I strongly oppose the Sio Silica mine in Springfield. There are enormous environmental risks with this project. Our water supply in much of Eastern Manitoba depends on a clean dependable aquifer. This project is not worth risking the drinking water for a large population. The longterm economic value to Springfield and Manitoba is minimal. There will be no true permanent

jobs as the mine will be depleted in a few decades. Unless there are legal agreements in place, any talk of spin-off industries (like a solar panel factories) is meaningless. Clean water is everything to my family and me. Thank you.

1625

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I live [redacted] this project would be running. It would be contaminating the water source of my well and the wells of my family and friends. My family has lived here since they first came over from Europe many generations ago now. I'd like my future generations to have the option to live in this beautiful area and be able to source their own water from a well - none of that chlorinated city water but good natural water. I don't see anything in their proposals thay would reduce the risk to me - all I see is risk. I shouldn't have to scramble to go get my water tested so when they ruin it I have a court case. How long will that take? Would we even win or they'd dissolve their company and bail like they have in other places. A court case doesn't do jack when my water is wrecked and my grandkids can't safely drink from the sprinkler hoses in summer. Can I water my garden with that? I shouldn't have water issues in this year in this country, especially when I never did before. Stop letting scummy companies come and bully their way in because manitoba is historically poor. We don't need them we are doing just fine without them. Please say no and let us keep this amazing resource as is for generations to come. Protect our kids and our wildlife.

1626

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I think the business has spent considerable time and effort determining how they can minimize their environmental impact. The project itself seems to have limited environmental impact with the small percentage of sand being removed from the land and mitigation practices in place. The project will allow us to build the Manitoba economy and Sio will allow us to recover our resources in a sustainable manner for the land and water.

1627

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing to express my extreme opposition to the Sia Silica proposal. This company should not be allowed to access our resources.

I have followed all news articles related to the Sio Silica proposal for the last few years. I also made a valiant attempt to read the 100 page engineers report about the geophysical aspects of the project. I appreciate the efforts of those responsible for the Facebook page A Line in the Sand for their efforts in making detailed background information available, and have scanned this information as well as referenced sources.

I reside in Winnipeg and would not personally be affected in the way that the Vivian area residents would be. My background is working primarily in the private sector for major corporations. My interest is the same as all Manitoban citizens, I have a vested interest in the potential financial impacts on taxpayers of adverse consequences, as well as the loss of our beautiful natural landscape.

My reaction when I first heard of the proposal is that it further cements our role as Canadians to be hewers of wood and drawers of water. To me that means allowing our natural resources to be exploited with small compensation to enable much greater benefits for other countries and private investors. After spending many hours over the last few days reviewing all publicly available material my impression has not changed.

It is timely that recently reputable news sources reported a risk that the city of Tehran in Iran might have to be evacuated because the water supply would not support the population. In Manitoba most of us take fresh water for granted, although we are also well aware of constant threats to this supply imposed by industry, mining, farming and other sources.

It is clear from my reading of the Sio Silica Simba proposal and related commentary from experts that this project does pose substantial risk to Manitobans, not just in the areas where the sand will be extracted but in many parts of the province that depend on below ground water sources.

It comes down to whether the company that would be carrying out the work can be trusted to create and carry out all necessary actions to ensure that there are no unanticipated impacts.

It does not inspire confidence when I read about the background of the principals involved in the company, and their admitted plan to take development to a certain stage and then sell it off to another entity.

It does not inspire confidence that the mayor of East St. Paul, a neighbouring community, is now involved in the leadership of Sio Silica Simba. Is this not a conflict of interest? And that the mayor of East St. Paul is meeting with North Dakotans to discuss opportunities for processing facilities to be located in their state.

It does not inspire confidence that the proposed extraction method has never been used successfully and only had one small test that uncovered issues that are being glossed over.

I believe that our political leaders need to put aside all consideration of the amount of time and money that has been spent by Sio Silica in pushing this project and consider only the weighing of costs and benefits to Manitobans. Costs like environmental damage, loss of personal water supply, nuisance impacts of industrial activity in otherwise quiet rural setting are all difficult to quantify with a lot of unknowns. Very little information seems to have been provided to Manitobans about what the benefits will be, and who will benefit. And possibly the most import aspect is the

opportunity cost of the benefits that could be achieved if in the future this resource could be developed in a way that returns more benefits to the citizens of Manitoba.

1628

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Glad to see this is taking off. Not only will this create new jobs but also creates new economic growth. With the new expansion of the Port of Churchill, there's no better way to ship critical minerals through Arctic Gateway a Manitoba based company.

1629

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project is playing fast and loose with the enviroment. Risking the drinking water and wildlife of the area for the profit of a few people is wreckless.

1630

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It is unacceptable that Sio Silica failed to undertake the cumulative impact assessment as recommended by the CEC. In order for environmental assessments to be done well, they must include an assessment of cumulative effects. CEC 2014, 2018.

The Sio Silica extraction project is experimental and remains unproven. If this experiment is licensed, the previously approved sand processing facility will be built for the experiment. This MUST NOT be allowed. It is unreasonable to hand an Environment Act License to an experiment. Sios proposal perverts the assessment and licensing process.

STOP SIO from polluting our water.

1631

Date: 12-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: These public comments are in response to the SiMbA Project's Environmental Act Proposal (60730241), put forth by Sio Silica Corporation, and produced by AECOM.

I am a property owner who lives on 80 acres [redacted] I am very concerned about the re-emergence of Sio Silica and their continued persistence to extract quartz sand from our precious aquifer. My concerns center around: 1) The irreversible dangers these mining activities, if approved, will pose to our aquifer's structural integrity and water quality; 2) The local and regional impacts to the wildlife stemming from habitat degradation, disturbance, and fragmentation; 3) The local and regional impacts to our quality of life as residents of this area, with increased rail and highway traffic, noise pollution, and the shadow of uncertainty always hanging over us on where the next well will be drilled; and finally 4) Sio Silica's over-inflated confidence in their unproven, novel technique of sand extraction, their recurring habits of diminishing community concerns to the point of being condescending, their untrustworthy history of back-door political deals, and their tendency to check boxes by doing the bare minimum required. In this letter, I will outline some details supporting each concern I have listed.

When reading the Executive Summary of the Environment Act Proposal, immediate red flags emerged. Sio Silica is planning on "using a stepwise phased approach that substantially reduces the sand volumes extracted from the sandstone aquifer for the initial years of Project operation." One barely needs to read between the lines to see their obvious approach - they are attempting to make the SiMbA project more palatable to public perception and regulatory approval by minimizing the project's impact... only initially. This is a two-fold benefit to Sio Silica - not only does it make the project appear less foreboding to the general public eye, but it also allows them to submit an EAP (Environment Act Proposal) only focusing on a small project footprint, with less environmental disturbance and risk, and less intrusion into the Winnipeg Sandstone Aquifer. This approach only makes the project APPEAR to be smaller and less risky, as the key words in that sentence in the executive summary are 'initial years'. Should this project be approved, there is no doubt it will quickly balloon into a large-scale, high production operation. Once infrastructure is in place, partnerships and financial agreements are secured, and market demand is growing, this 'substantially reduced volume of sand' will be nothing but a faint memory used as a toe in the door for approval. I have worked in the environmental field for over a decade; in the government, with NGO's and within academia, and this poorly veiled approach has been used time and time again to snag that initial license. And once the license is granted... watch out, the real project is coming.

This approach is also cause for concern because it demonstrates that Sio Silica is content to do the bare minimum to gain approval, as I stated in my initial list of concerns. In 2023, the Clean Environment Commission's final report on the previously proposed Vivian Sand Extraction Project explicitly recommended a Cumulative Effects review. This review is absolutely critical for this Project's integrity - an EAP only looking at 4 years of seriously deflated sand extraction over a small geographic footprint is comically irrelevant when considering how vast the effects of this project could be if they impact the Winnipeg Sandstone Aquifer in any way. However, Sio Silica has decided that a Cumulative Effects review is not something they need to do - even though the CEC strongly recommended it. I was at the hearings when the Chair announced this, and it was a highly encouraged recommendation. The fact that Sio Silica is disregarding this speaks volumes to their intent as a corporation, and their complacency in doing the bare minimum to check the necessary boxes, and nothing more. Additionally, Sio Silica has recently reached a MoU (memorandum of

understanding) with Long Plain First Nation to conduct an environmental assessment of the project. While it is necessary for project proponents to have Indigenous engagement in projects impacting the environment, to fulfill regulatory requirements, it feels like an awfully big stretch that support from a First Nation residing near Portage la Prairie is sufficient. Meanwhile, Brokenhead Ojibway Nation - the First Nation closest to the project footprint, who drink the water from the potentially impacted aquifer, voted a staunch NO in a referendum regarding supporting Sio Silica in August 2025.

The following is more concerns I have, shared with Our Line in the Sand group.

"Once again, Sio Silicas assessment of their revised project does not allow for an evidence-based decision. This conflicts with best practice standards for Impact Assessment.

*Mining for minerals must not be fast tracked. A sound assessment is critical.

*97.2% of this planet's water is in the oceans, 2.15% in glaciers and polar ice caps, less than 1% is in surface and groundwater of which groundwater is 0.31%. Much of that groundwater is not usable because it has been ruined by fracking, mining, or irremediable spills. Water is too precious and the risk too great, this project must NOT receive an Environment Act License.

*Given the need to protect local and regional groundwater sources, it is distressing that this project is being considered again.

*The further reduction of the mining area for environmental assessment and only a 5 year period out of a multi-generational mine life, prevents full assessment of all environmental, economic, and social risks and impacts from the project. This conflicts with best practice standards for Impact Assessment.

*It is unacceptable that Sio Silica failed to undertake the cumulative impact assessment as recommended by the CEC. In order for environmental assessments to be done well, they must include an assessment of cumulative effects. (CEC 2014, 2018)

*The Sio Silica extraction project is experimental and remains unproven. If this experiment is licensed, the previously approved sand processing facility will be built for the experiment. This must not be allowed. It is unreasonable to hand an Environment Act License to an experiment. Sios proposal perverts the assessment and licensing process.

*Mining, processing, and transport operations will occur 24/7/365, up to 100 meters from homes. The potential for air quality impacts have not been adequately assessed. The assessment of noise and artificial light pollution have been ignored.

*Operations will have direct impacts on the land. Trees/brush will be cleared and loss of habitat will impact known species at risk. Many properties contain old growth, these are irreplaceable.

*Access roads will be required for the heavy machinery and truck traffic, impacting farm land and livestock and wildlife. Operations will create continual distress and worry, negatively impact our livelihoods and communities and will impinge on the enjoyment of our property.

*The disinfection method for the return of mined water back to the aquifer remains unproven. This is a major component of the project that should have been thoroughly proven prior to the licensing process. This gives 100,000 Manitobans no assurance that the Water will remain safe and dependable nor that their best interests are being protected.

*Sio now admits their return of mined, oxygenated water, to the aquifer results in oxidizing conditions that will cause dissolution of selenium, arsenic, and uranium contained in material that collapses into the mined sand cavity. Figure 4-10, shows selenium above drinking water guideline levels for 7 years until it slowly disperses.

*The X1t model is 1Dimensional and did not consider how the contaminate plume interacts with other mined cavities or how ongoing mining that increases gradients and flow, impacts movement. With collapse of the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard, the oxygen and contaminants can potentially move into the overlying Carbonate Aquifer.

*A thorough assessment of all potential oxygen sources introduced into the aquifer system by operations (i.e. from airlift method, type (entrained) have not been undertaken. Until this is addressed the modelling grossly underestimates oxidation potential.

*Reducing the number of industrial sized boreholes for assessment, underestimates project effects and misleads the public.

*Borehole mining causes the irreversible collapse of the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard which separates the two aquifers - Carbonate and Sandstone Aquifers. Fractured limestone in the Carbonate aquifer also collapses. Collapse of this geological material prevents proper sealing/abandonment of the boreholes. This increases the aquifers vulnerability to contamination from surface sources.

*Over the life-time of the mine, thousands of industrial sized boreholes, monitoring and vertical boreholes will be drilled all up to 100 meters of homes. These boreholes will be perpetual sources for contamination from surface sources. It takes ONE failed or soiled well to cause damage. Certain land uses will be prohibited to prevent contamination to the groundwater i.e. chemical agriculture, livestock, manure spreading, housing, septic systems,

*To grant this project a license would be an agreement to the destruction of two irreplaceable aquifers. This is not stewardship. We do not get a second chance.

*We all rely on our environment and must care for it. We need to know the truth about impacts from development to avoid mistakes that will be costly to our children. Particularly when it comes to Water, there is no room for error.

*We cannot have healthy communities and a strong economy if we are not committed to evidence-based decision making, an accountable public service, and transparent public process.

*With its potential to cause significant and irreversible harm to Manitobas drinking water, the Sio Silica project must be rejected now. If it should be allowed to continue, it must be designated a

Class 3 development and the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission be convened to hold a public hearing to review the project with full participant funding.

*The Sio Silica project illustrates the need to strengthen Manitobas dangerously flawed assessment and licensing process under The Environment Act and The Mines and Minerals Act.

*The entire Sio Silica project must be subject to a thorough, independent public inquiry under The Evidence Act to ensure that our democratic institutions and process are sound."

Thank you for considering my concerns. I truly hope this project is rejected again.

[redacted]

1632

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Concerns regarding threat to water supply and threat to the environment for both residents and wildlife over the long term.

1633

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Agnes Wittmann, Director

Environmental Approvals Branch

Manitoba Environment and Climate Change

Box 35, 14 Fultz Boulevard

Winnipeg, MB R3Y 0L6

RE: Sio Silica Simba Sand Extraction Project

Sio Silica's previous application for a license to drill for silica sand in a vast area of southeast Manitoba ultimately ended in review by the Clean Environment Commission (CEC) in 2023. The CEC raised many concerns. In the current application there is no significant change to Sio's

proposal in terms of their extraction method. The threat to our aquifers is the same as in their earlier application for a license.

I request that you deny the license application by Sio Silica to drill through our pristine aquifers in southeast Manitoba. At minimum there needs to be further investigation into all the questionable issues raised previously that were never addressed. Remember what occurred in the RM of Rockwood more than 30 years ago. This pristine aquifer was contaminated by industrial uses, and it has been impossible to remediate the contamination to restore the aquifer to its former pristine state.

(1) Despite the Sio proposal being split into two components, the project is fully integrated as the processing plant is of little value without the silica sand extraction. The proposed development agreement does not adequately address the extraction side of the project where most of the damage will occur.

(2) Numerous professional technical reports were submitted to the CEC during their hearings in March 2023 that cast doubt on Sio's claims that their drilling methods were completely safe. Many additional reports were also provided to the CEC to document the potential disastrous effects resulting from the worst case scenario surrounding their extraction method.

(3) Sio Silica has never provided geo technical backup studies to substantiate their claims that their untested drilling technique is safe. In fact, this extraction method has never been tested on an industrial scale.

(4) A report was completed by C. Neville, M.Sc., P.Eng., of S.S. Papadopulos and Associates, Inc. of Waterloo, Ontario for the RM of Springfield (January 12, 2023). He cast considerable doubt on many of Sio's assumptions and raised serious concerns about the number of wells that would be abandoned annually. He also raised the question whether any geotechnical analyses have been undertaken to determine the potential for widespread collapse of the shale layer as a result.

(5) SIO Silica claims that their extraction process is no different than regular well drilling and they suggest that there are no issues with that. The vast amount of water that will be extracted and reinjected will entail unavoidable chemical and biotic contamination, which will not be addressed by disinfection alone. Furthermore, no viable disinfection system has even yet been designed. The Groundwater and Well Act strictly forbids the mixing of two aquifers.

(6) Collapse of the carbonate aquifer and the overlying overburden into the extraction cavities could occur if the sand pillars between the cavities begin to slump. This would provide a pathway for potentially contaminated surface water into the now exposed aquifers destroying both aquifers in this region. The well casings would fall into the sinkholes resulting in the deterioration of the casings and casing seals, and surface water would enter the sinkhole. This would produce permanent liability issues with unpredictable risks of injury, death, and property damage.

(7) Drilling will take place on private lands where property owners do not own the mineral rights to their properties. The property owners effectively relinquish their rights to control their land under The Surface Rights Act. Property owners will have no control over the number of wells and where they are located.

(8) Sio Silica has made no commitment to mitigate any consequences that may occur through their activities. Ultimately all Manitobans will be paying to clean up the mess left behind. Springfield residents are aware from a long history with gravel pit operators, who remove our wealth and do not live here, tend to have little interest in the impact they leave behind. It is all short-term gain, but not for us. We already have water sources that have been identified as at risk in the municipality resulting from gravel pit operations digging well beyond maximum allowable depth limits, creating large lakes of standing water. It will be many years before all impact is revealed.

(9) Insufficient consideration has been given to our massive agriculture economy. Farm data from the 2021 Census identified 3,966 farms, or 27.5% of total Manitoba farms, in three census regions that could be impacted in southeast Manitoba, directly or indirectly by silica sand operations. The economic contribution of the agricultural sector reported by Statistics Canada in 2022 from livestock and crop production was $13.9 billion and created 45,200 related jobs for all of Manitoba. Considering that over a quarter of Manitoba farms are in this region the total impact of the sand extraction operations on livestock and crop production could be staggering.

(10) Consider the number of humans and livestock that depend on clean water. Consider the sinkholes that may eventually emerge, potentially exposing and deteriorating well casings. This would create issues for large farm machinery maneuvering the fields, and for pastured livestock. Landscapes marked by well clusters could reduce potential site use options and eventually remove large tracts of farmland from production.

(11) Both residential and farm property owners would likely suffer loss of use and a reduction of property values based on the knowledge that these wells will exist into perpetuity with unknown consequences in the future. Concerns over drinking water contamination and capped wells, real or perceived, would not be a selling feature, resulting in the devaluation of properties and the erosion of the municipal tax base as declining property values lead to decreased tax revenues to the municipalities.

(12) Speaking about accountability, why won't Sio Silica provide an iron clad insurance policy to address all potential damage if they really believe that their extraction method is flawless? Where would property owners apply for compensation? Or could they? These are not insurable perils. How many years would it take to resolve individual claims for all the negative effects? Canada's history in this regard is troubling. How expeditiously are claims from flood and fire victims across the country currently being settled? And of course, it is typically up to the property owners to prove their case of damage and loss of use and property value. Again, not everyone has the resources to do so. Who would advocate for them?

(13) Environmental laws in Canada and Manitoba are currently not designed to provide individual property owners with sufficient environmental protection. Our laws are outdated and do not even address this type of mining through mining laws. There are numerous worldwide examples where large corporations have appropriated the natural resources of countries without consideration for the people or the environment and have left devastation behind.

(14) If the aquifers are contaminated, how will farmers generate clean drinking water for their families and livestock? It would not be feasible to run miles of pipes all over the municipality from a central water treatment facility. What would be the effect on food prices, which would have to

increase to generate sufficient farm income to cover these costs? The impact on water table levels in years of drought from excessive amounts of water required in silica sand extraction could create further issues such as well drawdown.

(15) Apart from the obvious personal and environmental impacts I do not believe that this project would ever be effectively monitored. Past governments have already cut budgets to manage our environment so this suggests that it will mostly be left to Sio. Consider that Sio did not effectively clean up their test holes outside of Vivian as they left huge mounds of open sand and did not cap their test wells until complaints were lodged to the municipality. So why would we ever believe that they would be responsible stewards in the future? They have no vested interest except to make money. They do not live here.

(16) What will be the financial contribution to the Manitoba economy, to the affected municipalities, and to the indigenous communities? That must be weighed against the potential for catastrophic damage to our environment and our people. An important issue identified by CEC was that of cumulative effects. The negative consequences arising from silica sand operations on ground water and aquifer contamination, water drainage issues, health issues, excessive noise, traffic, dust, light pollution, damage to property and property values, the loss of carbon capture from the levelling old growth forests, effects on wildlife habitat and migration and food sources, shelter, destruction of lands with ecological importance, and long term impacts on the environment are real and must not be ignored.

In summary, there is a strong likelihood that when the impact of future costs is considered, the net benefit to Manitobans economy over the long term would be far less than anticipated, in both tangible and intangible terms. Much of the financial benefit to the province could be cancelled out by the cost to mitigate ongoing future environmental impacts from this project.

The lives of 120,000 people in southeast Manitoba could be permanently damaged to accommodate a fleeting industry. There is a lot of inconsistent dialogue. The one thing that all parties on both sides of the debate agree on is that no one knows for sure what the long-term consequences will be for our environment. However, the evidence against the project is damning and overwhelming. Is it ethical to destroy the lives of people so that large corporations can make hundreds of millions of dollars at their expense? All Manitobans who are just going about their own business and trying to provide for their families will eventually suffer the consequences. The monetary cost and the long-term environmental consequences will likely include irreversible damage to our aquifers and our ecosystems.

Our rights to be involved in the decision-making process are eroding and democracy is fading if this project is allowed to proceed without respect to these concerns. Approval of this project must not go ahead as there are so many unsubstantiated claims and unaddressed concerns.

[redacted]

R.M. of Springfield

1634

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We are writing to provide feedback on behalf of the City of Steinbach for File #: 6275.00 Sio Silica Corporation Simba Sand Extraction Project. The application is of concern to the City as it appears that the proposed project will affect the underground limestone and sandstone aquifers that serve as the City's sole source of drinking water. The City will provide further comments in an email to follow to The Director of Environmental Approvals Branch at EABDirector@gov.mb.ca.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments respecting this proposal.

Yours truly,

[redacted]

1635

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Risk of future expansion, risks may be downplayed, Winnipeg taxpayers may get stuck with any environmental cleanups or monitoring

costs. Limited local benefit.

1636

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Like the idea, but not convinced that we should enter the unknown in a large population of people relying on this body of water for survival, its not worth the risk for a small quantity of sand that going to be extracted, the world could live with out it.

1637

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please we do not want sio silica we have already voted strongly against this. I don't understand why this is still happening.

We do not want this.

1638

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The issues raised in the initial application seem to be adequately addressed. This large investment in the Manitoba economy is much needed and will help increase productivity and move us toward being a have Province. I urge the Environmental approvals branch to support the license based on science in an unbiased manner.

1639

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am profoundly concerned about this proposed project as the residents of Springfield Municipality, of which I am one, and the Province of Manitoba will assume the entire environmental risk for the project while the prospective financial gain for the project is for an out-of-province mining company intent on selling the mine as soon as it is established.

First, Canadian mining companies have an abysmal environmental protection record both internationally and domestically (see attached Mining Watch Canadas Mining Dominance and Failure to Protect Environmental and Human Rights Abroad: Brief Accompanying Testimony provided by Catherine Coumans of MiningWatch Canada on February 6, before The House of Commons Standing Committee on International Trade (CIIT). Canadian mining companies can generally not be trusted to fulfill what very limited environmental protections to which they agree to that they are not able to first negotiate away. This is especially true if the company seeking to start the mine is planning to immediately sell it once it is established.

Second, and closely related to the unethical operational culture and history of the broader Canadian mining industry is the unethical practice of past politicians supporting this particular mining project. Recall that former the Manitoba Premier Heather Stefanson and two of her cabinet minsters were found by the provincial ethics commissioner to have violated the Conflict of Interest Act and the "caretaker convention" for attempting to previously push through approval of the Sio Silica mine project after her government lost the October 2023 election. Stefanson was subsequently fined $18,000, a penalty that was unanimously approved by the Manitoba Legislature in October 2025. The fact that the previous attempt to push through approval of the mine was considered unethical by the provincial ethics commissioner raises profound concern for the environmental safety of such a project as, if it truly benefited the people of the province of Manitoba, why did it need to be forced through unethically? Does the current government want to be seen as unethical as the previous one?

Third, the environmental studies outline there is a risk of polluting the ground water of the region surrounding the proposed mine. That region supports the agricultural base of the municipality which relies of drinkable water to support the people and livestock farming in the area. Local farms, and businesses that support them, and their employees , cycle their profits back into the Manitoba economy. An Alberta-owned mining company will extract any profits it makes from the mine, either by running it or selling it, outside of the province. It is only of limited final benefit to the small number of workers who are hired to work at the mine and many of those jobs will end once the mine is established. What citizens of Springfield will be left with instead is the risk to their use of their land which is dependant for most on clean drinking water which the proposed mining project will put at risk.

In summary, the proposed mining project risks the safety of the ground water for the residents of Springfield for the profits of an Alberta mining company. Even contemplating the project is ridiculous but approving it would be disastrous on both an environmental and local economic level. Only the Manitobans who have been paid by the mining company to promote it have anything to gain from its approval.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

1640

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: NO

ITS PROVEN DETRIMENTAL TO ENVIRONMENT AT ALL LEVELS

1641

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: *Once again, Sio Silicas assessment of their revised project does not allow for an evidence-based decision. This conflicts with best practice standards for Impact Assessment.

*Mining for minerals must not be fast tracked. A sound assessment is critical.

*97.2% of this planet's water is in the oceans, 2.15% in glaciers and polar ice caps, less than 1% is in surface and groundwater of which groundwater is 0.31%. Much of that groundwater is not usable because it has been ruined by fracking, mining, or irremediable spills. Water is too precious and the risk too great, this project must NOT receive an Environment Act License.

*Given the need to protect local and regional groundwater sources, it is distressing that this project is being considered again.

*The further reduction of the mining area for environmental assessment and only a 5 year period out of a multi-generational mine life, prevents full assessment of all environmental, economic, and social risks and impacts from the project. This conflicts with best practice standards for Impact Assessment.

*It is unacceptable that Sio Silica failed to undertake the cumulative impact assessment as recommended by the CEC. In order for environmental assessments to be done well, they must include an assessment of cumulative effects. (CEC 2014, 2018)

*The Sio Silica extraction project is experimental and remains unproven. If this experiment is licensed, the previously approved sand processing facility will be built for the experiment. This must not be allowed. It is unreasonable to hand an Environment Act License to an experiment. Sios proposal perverts the assessment and licensing process.

*Mining, processing, and transport operations will occur 24/7/365, up to 100 meters from homes. The potential for air quality impacts have not been adequately assessed. The assessment of noise and artificial light pollution have been ignored.

*Operations will have direct impacts on the land. Trees/brush will be cleared and loss of habitat will impact known species at risk. Many properties contain old growth, these are irreplaceable.

*Access roads will be required for the heavy machinery and truck traffic, impacting farm land and livestock and wildlife. Operations will create continual distress and worry, negatively impact our livelihoods and communities and will impinge on the enjoyment of our property.

*The disinfection method for the return of mined water back to the aquifer remains unproven. This is a major component of the project that should have been thoroughly proven prior to the licensing process. This gives 100,000 Manitobans no assurance that the Water will remain safe and dependable nor that their best interests are being protected.

*Sio now admits their return of mined, oxygenated water, to the aquifer results in oxidizing conditions that will cause dissolution of selenium, arsenic, and uranium contained in material that

collapses into the mined sand cavity. Figure 4-10, shows selenium above drinking water guideline levels for 7 years until it slowly disperses.

*The X1t model is 1Dimensional and did not consider how the contaminate plume interacts with other mined cavities or how ongoing mining that increases gradients and flow, impacts movement. With collapse of the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard, the oxygen and contaminants can potentially move into the overlying Carbonate Aquifer.

*A thorough assessment of all potential oxygen sources introduced into the aquifer system by operations (i.e. from airlift method, type (entrained) have not been undertaken. Until this is addressed the modelling grossly underestimates oxidation potential.

*Reducing the number of industrial sized boreholes for assessment, underestimates project effects and misleads the public.

*Borehole mining causes the irreversible collapse of the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard which separates the two aquifers - Carbonate and Sandstone Aquifers. Fractured limestone in the Carbonate aquifer also collapses. Collapse of this geological material prevents proper sealing/abandonment of the boreholes. This increases the aquifers vulnerability to contamination from surface sources.

*Over the life-time of the mine, thousands of industrial sized boreholes, monitoring and vertical boreholes will be drilled all up to 100 meters of homes. These boreholes will be perpetual sources for contamination from surface sources. It takes ONE failed or soiled well to cause damage. Certain land uses will be prohibited to prevent contamination to the groundwater i.e. chemical agriculture, livestock, manure spreading, housing, septic systems,

*To grant this project a license would be an agreement to the destruction of two irreplaceable aquifers. This is not stewardship. We do not get a second chance.

*We all rely on our environment and must care for it. We need to know the truth about impacts from development to avoid mistakes that will be costly to our children. Particularly when it comes to Water, there is no room for error.

*We cannot have healthy communities and a strong economy if we are not committed to evidence-based decision making, an accountable public service, and transparent public process.

*With its potential to cause significant and irreversible harm to Manitobas drinking water, the Sio Silica project must be rejected now. If it should be allowed to continue, it must be designated a Class 3 development and the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission be convened to hold a public hearing to review the project with full participant funding.

*The Sio Silica project illustrates the need to strengthen Manitobas dangerously flawed assessment and licensing process under The Environment Act and The Mines and Minerals Act.

*The entire Sio Silica project must be subject to a thorough, independent public inquiry under The Evidence Act to ensure that our democratic institutions and process are sound.

1642

Date: 12-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about water quality. This has implications for the groundwater and there is no consideration of how it relates to the entirety of the watershed. The temporary profit is not worth the risk of disrupting a water system that has existed for 1000s of years.

1643

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: My husband [redacted] and I are both extremely concerned about this project for several reasons. The unproven drilling technology proposed to be used and the extreme size of the area to be affected being topmost on the list. We are very concerned that this will be detrimental on the quality of our water table with the real possibility of leaching of dangerous minerals into our pristine water supply, or the creation of multiple sinkholes from the never-before-done drilling technique and extraction process. I do not buy that this proposal is totally different from Sio's first application. The fact that Faisal has stated publicly on video that he plans to sell this whole operation and has a partner chosen already chills me. Water is vital for all life. Many homeowners in the stated drilling area over the next many years that Sio proposes to operate, much livestock and many farmers would be negatively impacted. As farming is a huge part of our provincial economy that would again impact us all. PLEASE DO NOT APPROVE THIS PROJECT. Making sure that Manitobans have clean, drinkable water is more important than whatever royalties the province could make from this project.

1644

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We need to protect our water.

1645

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: There was a typo in my letter - confirmation number 2393385 - please replace with the following corrected copy.

I was one of the volunteers that went door to door with a form letter that asserts the Sio Silica Simba sand extraction project should be rejected now and not be allowed to move forward in the assessment and licensing process. If allowed to continue, Sio must produce numerous plans, information, and a cumulative effects assessment and the minister/director must designate the project a Class 3 development and convene the CEC to hold a public hearing with full participant funding.

We collected 484 signed letters. These represent families from 3 to 12. Not all family members were home when canvassed. According to Canadas 2021 census, the average Manitoba family consists of 3 persons. These letters would represent 1,452 Manitobans. The letters were hand delivered to Environment and Climate Change, public registry, the only contact name provided to the public.

At one of the homes canvassed, a gentleman answered the door. When I explained that Sio Silica had returned he yelled, NO. Is this company full of rapists. No means NO. He proceeded to sign the letter.

This gentleman sums up the situation. Why can an unsafe, unethical, and irredeemable project keep coming back?

From day one, the Sio Silica project has clearly illustrated that our assessment and licensing process under the environment act is ineffective. That our current regulations do not address this borehole mining method. Our antiquated legislation exposes municipalities, the public and landowners to ongoing distress and liabilities.

For decades, organizations and independent tribunals have provided clear and thoughtful recommendations to strengthen Manitoba environment law and policy to ensure a safe, clean, and healthy environment for future generations.(1)

Its time we did so.

(1) Premier Kinew, Feb 16, 2024, at the first Sio Silica license denial.

1646

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I grew up in the R.M. of Tache, and I have friends and family that live in the R.M. of Springfield where I played hockey, went camping, and enjoyed dozens of other activities. Nothing is more important to human, plant, and animal life that clean drinking water, and Sio Silica will destroy the drinking water for not only an entire R.M. but for all of those who live near it. And for what? So that a company can make a few extra dollars while Manitobans suffer the consequences, both financially and healthwise, for years??? No one is good conscious should support this plan. It is amoral, a bad business decision, and a terrible choice for Manitoba's future.

1647

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: *Once again, Sio Silicas assessment of their revised project does not allow for an evidence-based decision. This conflicts with best practice standards for Impact Assessment.

*Mining for minerals must not be fast tracked. A sound assessment is critical.

*97.2% of this planet's water is in the oceans, 2.15% in glaciers and polar ice caps, less than 1% is in surface and groundwater of which groundwater is 0.31%. Much of that groundwater is not usable because it has been ruined by fracking, mining, or irremediable spills. Water is too precious and the risk too great, this project must NOT receive an Environment Act License.

*Given the need to protect local and regional groundwater sources, it is distressing that this project is being considered again.

*The further reduction of the mining area for environmental assessment and only a 5 year period out of a multi-generational mine life, prevents full assessment of all environmental, economic, and social risks and impacts from the project. This conflicts with best practice standards for Impact Assessment.

*It is unacceptable that Sio Silica failed to undertake the cumulative impact assessment as recommended by the CEC. In order for environmental assessments to be done well, they must include an assessment of cumulative effects. (CEC 2014, 2018)

*The Sio Silica extraction project is experimental and remains unproven. If this experiment is licensed, the previously approved sand processing facility will be built for the experiment. This must not be allowed. It is unreasonable to hand an Environment Act License to an experiment. Sios proposal perverts the assessment and licensing process.

*Mining, processing, and transport operations will occur 24/7/365, up to 100 meters from homes. The potential for air quality impacts have not been adequately assessed. The assessment of noise and artificial light pollution have been ignored.

*Operations will have direct impacts on the land. Trees/brush will be cleared and loss of habitat will impact known species at risk. Many properties contain old growth, these are irreplaceable.

*Access roads will be required for the heavy machinery and truck traffic, impacting farm land and livestock and wildlife. Operations will create continual distress and worry, negatively impact our livelihoods and communities and will impinge on the enjoyment of our property.

*The disinfection method for the return of mined water back to the aquifer remains unproven. This is a major component of the project that should have been thoroughly proven prior to the licensing process. This gives 100,000 Manitobans no assurance that the Water will remain safe and dependable nor that their best interests are being protected.

*Sio now admits their return of mined, oxygenated water, to the aquifer results in oxidizing conditions that will cause dissolution of selenium, arsenic, and uranium contained in material that

collapses into the mined sand cavity. Figure 4-10, shows selenium above drinking water guideline levels for 7 years until it slowly disperses.

*The X1t model is 1Dimensional and did not consider how the contaminate plume interacts with other mined cavities or how ongoing mining that increases gradients and flow, impacts movement. With collapse of the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard, the oxygen and contaminants can potentially move into the overlying Carbonate Aquifer.

*A thorough assessment of all potential oxygen sources introduced into the aquifer system by operations (i.e. from airlift method, type (entrained) have not been undertaken. Until this is addressed the modelling grossly underestimates oxidation potential.

*Reducing the number of industrial sized boreholes for assessment, underestimates project effects and misleads the public.

*Borehole mining causes the irreversible collapse of the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard which separates the two aquifers - Carbonate and Sandstone Aquifers. Fractured limestone in the Carbonate aquifer also collapses. Collapse of this geological material prevents proper sealing/abandonment of the boreholes. This increases the aquifers vulnerability to contamination from surface sources.

*Over the life-time of the mine, thousands of industrial sized boreholes, monitoring and vertical boreholes will be drilled all up to 100 meters of homes. These boreholes will be perpetual sources for contamination from surface sources. It takes ONE failed or soiled well to cause damage. Certain land uses will be prohibited to prevent contamination to the groundwater i.e. chemical agriculture, livestock, manure spreading, housing, septic systems,

*To grant this project a license would be an agreement to the destruction of two irreplaceable aquifers. This is not stewardship. We do not get a second chance.

*We all rely on our environment and must care for it. We need to know the truth about impacts from development to avoid mistakes that will be costly to our children. Particularly when it comes to Water, there is no room for error.

*We cannot have healthy communities and a strong economy if we are not committed to evidence-based decision making, an accountable public service, and transparent public process.

*With its potential to cause significant and irreversible harm to Manitobas drinking water, the Sio Silica project must be rejected now. If it should be allowed to continue, it must be designated a Class 3 development and the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission be convened to hold a public hearing to review the project with full participant funding.

*The Sio Silica project illustrates the need to strengthen Manitobas dangerously flawed assessment and licensing process under The Environment Act and The Mines and Minerals Act.

*The entire Sio Silica project must be subject to a thorough, independent public inquiry under The Evidence Act to ensure that our democratic institutions and process are sound.

1648

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yes, I have significant concerns that I do not see adequately addressed in the project proposal, particularly regarding long-term groundwater safety and the use of a so-called "novel", but unproven extraction method for silica sand in a critical drinking water aquifer that serves thousands of Manitobans, myself included.

The proposal appears to focus more on water quantity than on the full range of water quality risks, including the potential for mobilization of heavy metals or other contaminants if protective geological layers are disturbed.

Given Manitoba's legal commitment to protect ground water, and the fact that a previous silica sand proposal in this same region was rejected because of the risks to drinking water were deemed "too great", it is deeply concerning that the core questions about long-tern water quality impacts and monitoring remain unresolved.

In addition to water quality concerns, there are many outstanding issues related to air quality, wildlife disturbances, and cumulative regional impacts when this project is considered alongside other existing and proposed silica operations in Manitoba. This extraction method is still experimental, and until a comprehensive, transparent, peer-reviewed study and long-term testing can clearly demonstrate that this extraction method can be carried out with enough certainty that it will not impact or degrade groundwater, or harm surrounding ecosystems, this project should not proceed.

As a young Manitoban, the prospect of a project like this scares me and worries me about the future, my future, and what that might look like if we lose access to the clean water we so often take for granted today.

This aquifer is not just a resource on a map, there for private companies to profit from and then walk away once the sand is gone, leaving the community to deal with the consequences. Once the aquifer is damaged, it is damaged for our children and grandchildren. Until there is clear, independent, long-term evidence that this project can be done without risking our aquifer in the short, or long-term, then the only responsible choice is to reject it, and ensure that no other projects can come along later and attempt the same thing.

1649

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: It is very distressing that this is once again being considered. This could have profound and irreversible environmental consequences and impact the water quality for an entire community. What will it take for us to learn from past mistakes.

1650

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am submitting this comment because I am concerned that the current Sio Silica / SiMbA groundwater modeling does not fully reflect the potential risks to the aquifers used for drinking water in southeastern Manitoba.

Key issues:

1. Oxygenated water changes aquifer chemistry.

Sio acknowledges that returning oxygen-rich water to the deep aquifer will create oxidizing conditions. This is known to mobilize contaminants like selenium, arsenic, and uranium that are naturally present in the shale and limestone.

2. The model assumes an unrealistically small amount of contamination.

Calculations show the collapsed rock around each mined cavity contains roughly 198 kg of selenium.

The model only allows 0.25 kg (0.126%) to dissolve.

Even with that tiny percentage, selenium still exceeds guideline limits for about 7 years.

3. Lab tests contradict the model.

Shake Flask Evidence shows 42.6% of selenium dissolved in 24 hours, producing levels more than 100 above drinking-water limits.

If real-world dissolution is closer to the lab results, contamination could be hundreds of times worse than the current model predicts.

4. Important real-world factors are not modeled.

Oxygen from the air-lift mining process

Multiple cavities operating in clusters

Interactions between plumes

Long-term movement toward the carbonate aquifer

Time frames beyond 10 years

These omissions mean the model likely underestimates contamination and does not capture cumulative effects across the entire mining zone.

Request:

I strongly urge the Province to require a Clean Environment Commission (CEC) public hearing with participant funding to ensure an independent, scientifically rigorous assessment. Our drinking water and aquifer integrity deserve the highest level of scrutiny.

1651

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: The technology to extract minerals from the ground isn't new. There must be past projects that have succeeded with little ecological impact, despite being questioned about their environmental impact, particularly regarding contamination of drinking water. Can we not leverage those lessons learned and apply them to this project?

I am in favour of this project, but we have to hold Sio Silica responsible for providing continual testing and assurances that precautions are being taken.

Now is the time to push forward with projects like this. Again, leaning on past projects and experiences to ensure this is done as safely as possible is a must. Manitoba is suffering in too many ways to list; action needs to be taken, now.

1652

Date: 12-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: RE: File No. 6275.00 Sio Silica, Simba Sand Extraction Project

The comments submitted are in response to the Environment Act Proposal (EAP) for the Sio Silica Corporations proposed Simba Sand Extraction Project (formerly known as the Vivian Sand Extraction Project).

I/we have read the information that has been provided by Sio Silica in their first and now second application and continue to uphold the strong conviction that the Sio Silica, Simba sand extraction project should be REJECTED and not be allowed to move forward in the assessment and licensing process.

Thirty (30) days were provided for the public to read and understand such a technical proposal that is in excess of 400 pages. Additional information was also noted and posted on November 21, 2025, giving an even smaller window of time for members of the public to understand and provide comment. THIS IS NOT SUFFICIENT FOR MEANINGFUL PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT!

My family members and I are residents of the Rural Municipality of Springfield and our private well would be impacted by the activities of Sio Silica. I/we have reviewed the licensing history of Sio

Silica and its predecessor (CanWhite Sands) over several years. Significant knowledge gaps remain and these gaps have not been addressed within this second (current) application.

Our concerns relate to the following:

The significance and scale of this project A project with a land disturbance area of 166,890 acres (67,537 ha) is the largest claim footprint ever granted to a single company (from Alberta) in the province of Manitoba. Due to the potential significant and irreversible harm to the drinking water source of 100,000 Manitobans, that in itself should have warranted Class 3 classification. The Class 2 classification weakened the oversight process, undermined the principles of cumulative effects assessment under Manitobas environmental legislation and limited public hearing requirements.

The experimental nature of its extraction method and cumulative environmental risks At the Clean Environmental Commission hearing of 2023, expert submissions independent of Sio Silica showed the potential threats from Sios extraction process to the aquifer that is southeastern Manitobas vital drinking water source. The risks associated with Sios proposed extraction method are serious. The ongoing concerns relating to the potential impacts of silica sand extraction on environment and human health have not been alleviated by the information in the EAP for the proposed Simba Project.

Procedural inconsistencies and missing regulatory safeguards - Sio Silicas failure to address the main concerns and recommendations of the CEC and provide credible data to support their novel extraction process is not only concerning, but shows a lack of transparency that this project is not being developed with the best interests of Manitobans.

The potential to adversely affect a vital and irreplaceable drinking water resource for our family, residents of the RM of Springfield and many additional RMs in this province who also obtain their water from the Red River Carbonate Aquifer. Drilling increases the risk of interconnecting the aquifers (Red River Carbonate with the Winnipeg Sandstone Aquifer) introducing the possibility of contamination pathways, alterations in water chemistry, irreversible mixing of aquifers with distinct hydrogeologic characteristics, and a reduction in water quality for private and municipal well sources.

Water must remain the top priority. Above all else we must safeguard this resource. That is the future of Manitoba. The consequences of losing this water supply would be significant.

I/we request that this revised project be referred to the Clean Environment Commission (CEC) to hold a public hearing with participant funding.

Respectfully submitted,

[redacted]

[redacted]

1653

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not support this initiative.

1654

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I live in Springfield and am surprised and saddened that this is being revisited. The untried process Sio is PUSHING will no doubt pollute our aquifer and they will just leave after they have reaped the profits leaving the residents of southern Manitoba and the provincial government with nothing but the cost of trying to repair the damage.

You were strong enough to essentially say no the first time, please set aside the allure of (minimal) cash and protect our - and your - water, and say no again!

The underhanded tactics used by the unscrupulous people behind this do not deserve anymore attention. Please just say no and tell them to leave our province.

[redacted]

1655

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: These comments are in response to the Environment Act Proposal (EAP) for the Sio Silica Corporations proposed Simba Sand Extraction Project (formerly known as the Vivian Sand Extraction Project). Based on the information provided by Sio Silica in the EAP and their behaviour over the past few years, I think the Simba silica sand extraction project should be rejected now and not be allowed to move forward in the assessment and licensing process.

The ongoing concerns about the potential impacts of silica sand extraction on environment and human health have not been alleviated by the information in the EAP for the proposed Simba Project. Sio Silica's failure to address the main concerns and recommendations of the Clean Environment Commission (CEC) and produce credible data to support their novel extraction process is a major red flag and an indication that this project is not being developed with the best interests of Manitobans in mind.

As noted by our Premier Wab Kinew when Sio Silicas extraction project was rejected for the first time: In order for Manitoban's to be healthy now and for generations into the future, we have to protect a clean, safe and healthy environment. This will require a high standard of impact assessment and meaningful public participation, including participant funding, to ensure the full scope of concerns and potential impacts are properly understood before irreversible harm occurs to the Winnipeg Sandstone and Red River Carbonate aquifers.

I agree with Premier Wab Kinew that Manitoba's resources should be developed with higher labour standards, higher environmental standards and greater respect for human rights compared to any other jurisdiction in the world. So, I think that if this project is allowed to continue through the impact assessment and licensing process under The Environment Act, the Minister/Director should take the following actions:

1) Designate the Simba Silica Sand Project as a Class 3 development due to the potential significant and irreversible harm to the drinking water source of 100,000 Manitobans. A Class 3 designation will also ensure the Minister is the decision-maker for the impact assessment and licensing process.

2) Require Sio Silica to produce and publicly publish a cumulative effects assessment report before proceeding any further in the licensing process.

3) Require Sio Silica to produce and publicly publish their plans for post-approval practices (monitoring, follow-up and adaptive management) and emergencies in the public registry so they can be independently reviewed prior to the licensing decision.

4) Request the CEC to hold a public hearing to review Project Simba, with full participant funding.

Thank-you for considering my comments on Sio Silica's proposed Simba extraction project.

1656

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We rely on this Aquaphor and it is detrimental to us that it is untouched!!

1657

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Water quality over greed. Please choose wisely. We cannot drink money.

Also, please respect the native land rights.

1658

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: "These comments are in response to the Environment Act Proposal (EAP) for the Sio Silica Corporations proposed Simba Sand Extraction Project (formerly known as the Vivian Sand Extraction Project). Based on the information provided by Sio Silica in the EAP and their behaviour over the past few years, I think the Simba silica sand extraction project should be rejected now and not be allowed to move forward in the assessment and licensing process.

The ongoing concerns about the potential impacts of silica sand extraction on environment and human health have not been alleviated by the information in the EAP for the proposed Simba Project. Sio Silicas failure to address the main concerns and recommendations of the Clean Environment Commission (CEC) and produce credible data to support their novel extraction process is a major red flag and an indication that this project is not being developed with the best interests of Manitobans in mind.

As noted by our Premier Wab Kinew when Sio Silicas extraction project was rejected for the first time: In order for Manitobans to be healthy now and for generations into the future, we have to protect a clean, safe and healthy environment. This will require a high standard of impact assessment and meaningful public participation, including participant funding, to ensure the full scope of concerns and potential impacts are properly understood before irreversible harm occurs to the Winnipeg Sandstone and Red River Carbonate aquifers.

I agree with Premier Wab Kinew that Manitobas resources should be developed with higher labour standards, higher environmental standards and greater respect for human rights compared to any other jurisdiction in the world. So, I think that if this project is allowed to continue through the impact assessment and licensing process under The Environment Act, the Minister/Director should take the following actions:

1) Designate the Simba Silica Sand Project as a Class 3 development due to the potential significant and irreversible harm to the drinking water source of 100,000 Manitobans. A Class 3 designation will also ensure the Minister is the decision-maker for the impact assessment and licensing process.

2) Require Sio Silica to produce and publicly publish a cumulative effects assessment report before proceeding any further in the licensing process.

3) Require Sio Silica to produce and publicly publish their plans for post-approval practices (monitoring, follow-up and adaptive management) and emergencies in the public registry so they can be independently reviewed prior to the licensing decision.

4) Request the CEC to hold a public hearing to review Project Simba, with full participant funding.

Thank-you for considering my comments on Sio Silicas proposed Simba extraction project."

1659

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Please dont take our water away, water is life. Water isnt money!

1660

Date: 12-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Yall stop messing around with the environment. We are all going to suffer for some short term profit.

1661

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I absolutely DO NOT support the Sio Silica application to disturb a natural aquifer using experimental applications. This is my water source - I live with a well as do more than 70% of the residents in this municipality. We do not want our water compromised.

1662

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project File #6275:

*Sio Silicas assessment of their revised project does not allow for an evidence-based decision. This conflicts with best practice standards for Impact Assessment.

*Mining for minerals must not be fast tracked. A sound assessment is critical.

*97.2% of this planet's water is in the oceans, 2.15% in glaciers and polar ice caps, less than 1% is in surface and groundwater of which groundwater is 0.31%. Much of that groundwater is not usable because it has been ruined by fracking, mining, or irremediable spills. Water is too precious and the risk too great, this project must NOT receive an Environment Act License.

*Given the need to protect local and regional groundwater sources, it is distressing that this project is being considered again.

*The further reduction of the mining area for environmental assessment and only a 5 year period out of a multi-generational mine life, prevents full assessment of all environmental, economic, and social risks and impacts from the project. This conflicts with best practice standards for Impact Assessment.

*It is unacceptable that Sio Silica failed to undertake the cumulative impact assessment as recommended by the CEC. In order for environmental assessments to be done well, they must include an assessment of cumulative effects. (CEC 2014, 2018)

*The Sio Silica extraction project is experimental and remains unproven. If this experiment is licensed, the previously approved sand processing facility will be built for the experiment. This must not be allowed. It is unreasonable to hand an Environment Act License to an experiment. Sios proposal perverts the assessment and licensing process.

*Mining, processing, and transport operations will occur 24/7/365, up to 100 meters from homes. The potential for air quality impacts have not been adequately assessed. The assessment of noise and artificial light pollution have been ignored.

*Operations will have direct impacts on the land. Trees/brush will be cleared and loss of habitat will impact known species at risk. Many properties contain old growth, these are irreplaceable.

*Access roads will be required for the heavy machinery and truck traffic, impacting farm land and livestock and wildlife. Operations will create continual distress and worry, negatively impact our livelihoods and communities and will impinge on the enjoyment of our property.

*The disinfection method for the return of mined water back to the aquifer remains unproven. This is a major component of the project that should have been thoroughly proven prior to the licensing process. This gives 100,000 Manitobans no assurance that the Water will remain safe and dependable nor that their best interests are being protected.

*Sio now admits their return of mined, oxygenated water, to the aquifer results in oxidizing conditions that will cause dissolution of selenium, arsenic, and uranium contained in material that collapses into the mined sand cavity. Figure 4-10, shows selenium above drinking water guideline levels for 7 years until it slowly disperses.

*The X1t model is 1Dimensional and did not consider how the contaminate plume interacts with other mined cavities or how ongoing mining that increases gradients and flow, impacts movement. With collapse of the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard, the oxygen and contaminants can potentially move into the overlying Carbonate Aquifer.

*A thorough assessment of all potential oxygen sources introduced into the aquifer system by operations (i.e. from airlift method, type (entrained) have not been undertaken. Until this is addressed the modelling grossly underestimates oxidation potential.

*Reducing the number of industrial sized boreholes for assessment, underestimates project effects and misleads the public.

*Borehole mining causes the irreversible collapse of the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard which separates the two aquifers - Carbonate and Sandstone Aquifers. Fractured limestone in the Carbonate

aquifer also collapses. Collapse of this geological material prevents proper sealing/abandonment of the boreholes. This increases the aquifers vulnerability to contamination from surface sources.

*Over the life-time of the mine, thousands of industrial sized boreholes, monitoring and vertical boreholes will be drilled all up to 100 meters of homes. These boreholes will be perpetual sources for contamination from surface sources. It takes ONE failed or soiled well to cause damage. Certain land uses will be prohibited to prevent contamination to the groundwater i.e. chemical agriculture, livestock, manure spreading, housing, septic systems,

*To grant this project a license would be an agreement to the destruction of two irreplaceable aquifers. This is not stewardship. We do not get a second chance.

*We all rely on our environment and must care for it. We need to know the truth about impacts from development to avoid mistakes that will be costly to our children. Particularly when it comes to Water, there is no room for error.

*We cannot have healthy communities and a strong economy if we are not committed to evidence-based decision making, an accountable public service, and transparent public process.

*With its potential to cause significant and irreversible harm to Manitobas drinking water, the Sio Silica project must be rejected now. If it should be allowed to continue, it must be designated a Class 3 development and the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission be convened to hold a public hearing to review the project with full participant funding.

*The Sio Silica project illustrates the need to strengthen Manitobas dangerously flawed assessment and licensing process under The Environment Act and The Mines and Minerals Act.

*The entire Sio Silica project must be subject to a thorough, independent public inquiry under The Evidence Act to ensure that our democratic institutions and process are sound.

Image: Sio well design, well clusters, tiny portion under assessment in relation to the extent of Sio mineral claims (yellow squares); letter to the editor. Your letter need not be lengthy to get your concerns across. It is imperative that all Manitobans, of all ages, act to protect the environment for today and future generations.

1663

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: RE: Opposition to Sio Silica Corporation's Simba Sand Extraction Project

I urge immediate rejection of Sio Silica's proposed Simba Sand Extraction Project. The information they have provided fails to address critical environmental and public health concerns, and the proponent's track record demonstrates a disregard for meaningful accountability.

Why This Project Must Be Rejected:

My family has lived in Springfield for decades, relying on these aquifers for drinking water we consume unfiltered and untreated - water from our region has won international awards as the best tasting in the world. But this is not just about my family, or about 100,000 Manitobans today; it's about protecting an irreplaceable resource for generations to come.

I have worked with Indigenous people who once drank directly from lakes in their traditional territories. Short-sighted governments prioritized corporate profits over protection, approved industrial development, and now those same Indigenous people must bring bottled water with them because the lakes are polluted. Water is life. Indigenous Elders teach that water will become more precious than gold.

Sio Silica has failed to address the Clean Environment Commission's core recommendations or provide credible data supporting their novel extraction process. We cannot allow this precedent. The risk of irreversible harm to the Winnipeg Sandstone and Red River Carbonate aquifers is unacceptable.

As Premier Wab Kinew stated when this project was first rejected: "In order for Manitobans to be healthy now and for generations into the future, we have to protect a clean, safe and healthy environment." As a citizen who consumes clean, safe, great-tasting water from these aquifers everyday, I agree with the Premier that Manitoba's resources must be developed "with higher labour standards, higher environmental standards and greater respect for human rights compared to any other jurisdiction in the world."

If This Project Proceeds, I Demand:

1. Class 3 designation to ensure Ministerial oversight given the magnitude of potential harm to our water supply

2. Public cumulative effects assessment before any further licensing steps

3. Public disclosure of monitoring, adaptive management, and emergency response plans for independent review before licensing

4. Clean Environment Commission public hearing with full participant funding to ensure meaningful public participation

The information provided by Sio Silica does not meet the standard required to protect Manitoba's water, environment, and future generations. I urge the Clean Environment Commission and the Government of Manitoba to uphold their responsibilities to protect our water and honor the trust we have placed in them to do so.

Thank you for considering this submission.

1664

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: We dont want a mine. No one does. Please not allow permissions.

Thanks

1665

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No to Sio Silica. Protect our water and aquafier. Too much at risk and would destroy the area and not to mention property values and the biggest of all putting peoples health at stake.

1666

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: How will Manitoba build public trust in mining operations? What is the strategy to create this trust while the OAM program has five priority sites across the province that are yet to be rehabilitated?

1667

Date: 12-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I oppose Sio Silicas proposed silica-sand mining project in Manitoba. We are for the full protection of our drinking water, environment and community rights. We demand that no project be approved unless it is proven safe, independently reviewed, publicly transparent, and supported by affected communities.

Our water is not for sale. Our safety is not negotiable. Our future is worth protecting

1668

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have concerns related to the potential for impacts on the water quality of Manitoba. I don't believe that the reduced number of wells that the project has proposed reasonably addresses the issue of aquifer contamination.

1669

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: [redacted] with a form letter that asserts the Sio Silica Simba sand extraction project should be rejected now and not be allowed to move forward in the assessment and licensing process. If allowed to continue, Sio must produce numerous plans, information, and a cumulative effects assessment and the minister/director must designate the project a Class 3 development and convene the CEC to hold a public hearing with full participant funding.

We collected 484 signed letters. These represent families from 3 to 12. Not all family members were home when canvassed. According to Canadas 2021 census, the average Manitoba family consists of 3 persons. These letters would represent 1,452 Manitobans. The letters were hand delivered to Environment and Climate Change, pubic registry, the only contact name provided to the public.

At one of the homes canvassed, a gentleman answered the door. When I explained that Sio Silica had returned he yelled, NO. Is this company full of rapists. No means NO. He proceeded to sign the letter.

This gentleman sums up the situation. Why can an unsafe, unethical, and irredeemable project keep coming back?

From day one, the Sio Silica project has clearly illustrated that our assessment and licensing process under the environment act is ineffective. That our current regulations do not address this borehole mining method. Our antiquated legislation exposes municipalities, the public and landowners to ongoing distress and liabilities.

For decades, organizations and independent tribunals have provided clear and thoughtful recommendations to strengthen Manitoba environment law and policy to ensure a safe, clean, and healthy environment for future generations.(1)

Its time we did so.

(1) Premier Kinew, Feb 16, 2024, at the first Sio Silica license denial.

1670

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Our drinking water should not be put at risk. There is no concrete proof that our water will remain safe if this company is allowed to proceed with their mining plans.

1671

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: As a concerned citizen of Anola and the Province of Manitoba I do not support this project.

My concerns first and foremost are for the damage this will cause to the aquifer and the quality of the water after disturbance.

It's no surprise that big industry would want it's value but we are the ones who live here.

The argument for land to sink is a real concern too.

I'm also concerned that Sio has collected so much mining rights to what would be under us. This makes me wonder if it really matters that we are on top.

We truly are at the mercy of the government no matter what we do or say. If the government isn't willing to fight for our precious resources then money talks.

I'm pleading for our Manitoba Government to stand firm and protect our water. The world will need it more than sand one day. Sand we can make...good drinking water will be worth billions more.

Thank you for considering my request.

1672

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio Silica project will be the end for eastern Manitoba.

1673

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: December 1, 2025

[redacted]

[redacted] [redacted]

Environment Approvals Branch

Dept. Environment and Climate Change

Re: Objection to SIO SILICA SAND / SIMBA EXTRACTION PROJECT

Sio Silica Corporation File #6275, and

Request for an independent review and require the proponent to provide financial assistance to any person or group participating in the assessment process.

This revamped sand mining proposal is quite similar to the earlier proposal File # 6119 that resulted in a denial by the Minister after a lengthy CEC hearing in 2023. In this application, SIO Silica Corp. (the Applicant) purports to have addressed the questions and concerns raised by the public and various government departments and other professional bodies, but after review of the application, I am still concerned about a number of aspects of this application. We (the public) cannot be expected to simply take the Applicants word that all our concerns have been answered, apparently some have, but not all. I would respectively ask that at the very least another independent review (CEC Hearing) be held and if the Applicant is so confident of its proposed project, it should also be prepared to provide participant funding for a full public review and critique the proposal.

Not in any specific order of importance the following are most of my concerns:

Subsidence Concern.

In the first 5 years of the projected sand extraction, this application has reduced the number of wells to just under 500 and the clusters to 1 to 5 wells, and limit extraction to areas with competent limestone thicker than 15 metres. It proposes to locate extraction group wells with at least 60 metres on edge to edge distance between their expected long-term cavity disturbance zone. This may appear as addressing the concern about layer collapse and the intermixing of the aquifers but the Applicant admits in Appendix B that Collapse of a section of the Winnipeg shale and Red River Carbonate in the cavity formed in the Winnipeg Sandstone following the sand extraction is likely to occur. Assessment and modeling show: Water quality within the void may temporarily exhibit elevated concentrations of selenium and manganese caused by dissolution of minerals and following the collapse of the overlying Winnipeg Shale and a small portion of the Red River Carbonate.

During the CEC Hearings in 2023, multiple experts stated that the extraction method would create rooms and pillars underground and that the sandstone would lose its integrity and not be able to support the protective shale aquitard barrier that separates the two aquifers.

The Applicant has yet to complete a full scale extraction test to confirm conditions with the necessary pre-extraction measurement and monitoring. Computer modeling is based on the data it is provided and may reflect the geology in some locations but not all 100 or so well clusters proposed for the first 5 years. Depending of the size of the collapse and frequency, this would not only change the water chemistry but also the potential surface use of the land.

Geological Impact Concern

It has been acknowledged by the Applicant that there will be some collapse of the aquitard which in turn would result in surface downfall. In other mining operations where this has occurred, multiple collapses have seriously impacted the topography and any future use of the land. Should this happen here, the biophysical environment for wildlife, forestry, surface water resources, drainage, etc. will be negatively affected, not to mention the socioeconomic environment for humans, in particular, indigenous use of resources for cultural and traditional activities on the land.

Ground Water Concern

The risk to the ground water that serves thousands of citizens and businesses that this mining project poses should be seen as totally unacceptable. Recently there was an article in the Winnipeg Free Press (November 27, 2025 by Eric Reder) that read: the revival of this (SIO Silicas proposal) ridiculous drinking water risk from a rejected sand mine shines a light on our current regulatory failings in Manitoba, and the need for rejuvenation. A 50-year arc of increasing care for nature is in a steep descent as we are forced to consider proposals to contaminate aquifers for private profiteers. He goes on to cite the precautionary principle, first adopted worldwide in the 1990s. If an activity raises threats of serious harm to the environment, precautionary measures should be taken even if it has not been fully established scientifically that the activity is harmful.

The proposal to drill thousands of wells through multiple geologic layers into the Winnipeg Sandstone Aquifer for extraction of silica sand poses an obvious and legitimate threat to the pristine drinking water for south eastern Manitoba. The drilling alone will increase the risk of interconnecting the aquifers. Mixing of the waters from the two aquifers would contravene Provincial rules as set out in the Well Standards Regulations and Groundwater and Water Well Act. Mixing of the water could irrevocably and negatively change the existing water chemistry and possibly make it unusable for humans, livestock or irrigation. We just dont know.

Also of major concern is the risk of contamination from the proposed re-injection of the groundwater back into the sandstone aquifer. The Applicant proposes that treating the water first with an ultra-violet process would be sufficient treatment so as to not affect groundwater in either aquifer. Engineers at the last CEC Hearing on Sios first application strongly questioned this aspect of the process. It was their concern that once the pristine water was exposed to the air, that there would be a geochemical change to it and any mineral composition in it. Re-introducing that water back into the aquifer would then lead to further changes in the entire aquifer. Also, it was stated that ultra violet treatment would address possible contamination. I have been told that UV would have effect on suspended particles but not if they were under turbulence. It is not clear when and how the water would receive UV treatment and depending on that, how effective it will be. The Applicant seems more focused about describing the quantity of water, than the protection of the quality of water. Removing any risk to the drinking water should be paramount.

Separation of Environment Licensing for Applications for Processing Plant and Mining Silca Concern

The Applicant is on record as stating that these two projects are stand-alone projects and as such, it was appropriate to obtain environmental licenses for each separately. The Department of Environment has agreed to license the two projects separately, however it is clear that the projects are inter-twined and one will not proceed without the other.

1. The construction and development of the silica sand processing facility that received an environmental license in December of 2021 (File No.: 6057.00; License No. 3367). It is understandable that the processing plant would have nothing to process until the mining of the silica sand begins, so it hasnt even started to be built. It is noted upon review of License No. 3367, that if the licensee has not commenced construction of the Development within three years of the date of the License, the License is revoked. The License was issued on December 16, 2021, almost 4 years ago. Some site preparation was done in 2020-2021 with the clearing of some trees and an application for a temporary access approach to the east was granted by the RM of Springfield in 2023, but the approach has not been built. These minor efforts do not constitute construction in my opinion and License No. 3367 should be revoked and become part of this current application as an Alteration to it. It is after all, at least in my opinion one project with two parts to it.

2. Reference is made in the current application that the procedure for sand processing and water treatment at the future Processing Facility and associated infrastructure components was a separate Environment Act Proposal. This proposal identifies that the annual sand extraction activities will occur sequentially within blocks of mineral leased land parcel areas south, and west of the sand Processing Facility. Extraction activities will gradually progress further from the processing facility each year, over the anticipated 25-year life of the Project. Even though the Processing Facility was not assessed or part of this proposal, it seems to be lacking information tying the two projects together. For example: there is a lack of information about the slurry lines that carry the sand from the wells to the processing plant. These are the connectors between the two projects. There are a number of questions about them, particularly as time progresses and the wells move further from the plant and the pipe lines age, etc.

Environmental Classification of developments as Class 2, not Class 3

The Environment Act was written in 1987-1988 and at the time, the type of mining being proposed by the Applicant was not a consideration. To properly classify a proposed development is very difficult because of the limited legislation but it would be hoped that the criteria would error on the side of caution and classify the development based on the criteria of most significance.

Definitions from the Environment Act

"class 2 development" means any development that is consistent with the examples or the criteria or both set out in the regulations for class 2 developments and the effects of which are primarily unrelated to pollution or are in addition to pollution;

"class 3 development" means any development that is consistent with the examples or the criteria or both set out in the regulations for class 3 developments and the effects of which are of such a magnitude or which generate such a number of environment issues that it is as an exceptional project;

"pollutant" means any solid, liquid, gas, smoke, waste, odour, heat, sound, vibration, radiation, or a combination of any of them that is foreign to or in excess of the natural constituents of the environment, and

(a) affects the natural, physical, chemical, or biological quality of the environment, or

(b) is or is likely to be injurious to the health or safety of persons, or injurious or damaging to property or to plant or animal life, or

(c) interferes with or is likely to interfere with the comfort, well-being, livelihood or enjoyment of life by a person;

Sio Silica Sand/Simba Extraction Project has been classified as a Class 2 development even though a very similar application (File. No. 6119) proved that the development was very much identified as a possible pollutant: pollution of not only the aquifer, but of the air, the eco system, etc. Under definition for Class 3, the project seems more applicable due to the criteria it sets out: the effects of which are of such a magnitude or which generate such a number of environment issues that it is as an exceptional project. I would suggest that this development best meets the criteria of an exceptional project.

Public Engagement Concerns

It is a requirement of an EPA to conduct public engagement prior to the closing of comments regarding an application. It is important to note that the Applicant states that they have heard the questions and concerns raised by the public and the TAC on the review of the original EAP. They may have heard them then, but since they have avoided conducting public engagement in the municipality where this project is to start or in the ones that will be most affected. The Applicants promotions and list of meetings seem more about engaging with businesses and indigenous groups, than with the local stakeholders. Other than Steinbach, the public engagement did not hold sessions in: Springfield, Ste. Anne, Town of Ste. Anne, Tache, Reynolds, la Brouquerie, Hanover, or Whitemouth. This may be because they hope to sway the majority of the general public because they have failed to satisfy the concerns of the local residents. In 2022/2023 Springfield residents conducted an open survey for the previous EAP and 96.4% of responses were No to SIO, because of the concern about their water: water is life to the residents and the businesses in these communities.

Monitoring and Enforcement Concerns

Before the previous CEC hearings, a former Sio employee was quoted in the Carillon newspaper (November 16, 2021) alleged well contamination, lax site safety, and stated that Sio must not be allowed to self-monitor. He gave examples of situations that were not honestly reported because of a risk of negative ramifications for the company. It is essential that any monitoring be done by either the Province or an independent, reputable entity and that results are made public as soon as possible. This would also apply to by who and how complaints will be managed.

In summary, I would like to end by asking that before any license is granted for this project, that this Environmental License Application be required to have CEC Hearing with participant funding provided by the proponent. It has not been scientifically proven that the project will not be harmful to the environment, especially the water. The mining methods are unproven, the re-injection of possible contaminated water into pristine aquifers is suspect, collapse of the limestone aquitard and multiple wells may cause a mixing of the aquifers, which is unlawful. These and other concerns must still to be satisfied. Springfield and area is also not the only site for silica sand in Manitoba. Another company is looking into silica sand in MacDonald RM; another one east of Powerview/ Pine Falls. The urgency for this location is not just the purity of the silica in Springfield which by the way has yet to be disclosed, it is more likely the landholdings and mining leases. The proposed use for the silica has also fluctuated, perhaps because of the unknown quality of the sand or perhaps what is most advantageous for public acceptance. First the use was fracking, then it was solar panels, then medical equipment, then military use, and most recently it is fibre optics and semiconductors, and other goods.

Keeping in mind the precautionary principle, if an activity raises threats of serious harm to the environment, precautionary measures should be taken. This after all is an Environment License application not an Economic one.

Respectfully submitted,

[redacted]

1674

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not want my drinking water being messed with. I am not in favor of this project and support every effort possible to halt this permanently

1675

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have concerns about the effects of silica mining on the aquafier that I use as a water source.

The impact of this sort of project has not been fully explored or researched, and Sio Silica has not provided the Clean Environment Commission, nor the residents of the mining and surrounding areas, with adequate clarity regarding the risks imposed by this type of mining.

I have no issues with mining for silica, I do have concerns and serious reservations about the possibility of this activity contaminating a large, clean and safe ground water supply.

Until this risk is fully explored (by a qualified third party specializing in ground water preservation), I think we should halt this type of development, at the very least those proposed over or near an actively used aquafier.

1676

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This needs to be stopped. It will ruin our province, the homes and land of many, our water supply and so much more. There is no guarantee that this it safe and will not cause harm. In fact we believe the opposite is true. I vote against this. Please protect our land and our rights.

1677

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have concerns with every single facet of this project. There is no actual means of mitigation of risk. Our province and fresh water is not a science fair project by a company that has a longstanding reputation of trashing the environment and when things go to absolite shite, they tuck tail and dissolve that company (still part of the larger parent corporation). I grew up on that aquifer and fortunate enough living in Winnipeg that when it gets ruined beyond any hope my water will still be secure. But none of my family nor many of the Manitoba's I care for at work. Manitoba northern and remove communities already have water insecurity - why make things worse when it doesn't need to be? Keep putting the proposals on over and over trying to wear us down, different names over many years, different governments. No means no. Go experiment somewhere else. The jobs they would bring for Manitobans is negligeable at the end of the day. The minerals can be extracted a safe way or not at all. And Manitoba sure as heck won't be getting rich anytime soon. Please protect our water. It is one of our greatest resources.

1678

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project undermines so much trust and effort put into the province in regards to Indigenous sovereignty issues, water quality, and wildlife. Shutting it down is the ONLY option.

1679

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I do not want this as it will affect our water supply. We are on well water and I dont want any chance of something affecting our drinking water. We have been on well for over 30 years with excellent water and all the digging etc could affect it I say no

1680

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: No to Sio Silica. I am not convinced their current proposal has done enough to guarantee the water table will not be affected.

1681

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I DO NOT CONDONE POISONING MY DRINKING WATER AND AM PREPARED TO SUE THE PROVINCE SHOULD I DEVELOP CANCER.

1682

Date: 12-02-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: this project is in many ways re-mapping the whole area for hundreds of square miles.

disruption of people and their lives to what they intended to live for in as little noise and commercial traffic. This project will destroy for many years to come.

other serious issues are ground water with the massive water table polluted and undrinkable for hundreds of households. All benefiting the project investors only. No one asked them to come to the area.

air pollution from none stop large trucks spuing exhaust from diesel engines.

noise pollution from the trucks hauling sand and dirt.

wild life leaving the area due to the noise and natural setting disruption.

in closing

thousands of households will hate this project which will not benefit anyone but the developers.

1683

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am concerned about the aquifer that supplies our drinking water for East St. Paul. I fear that our water will not be safe for us to drink if the sand extraction process with sio silica is approved.

1684

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have many concerns regarding this project, namely the potential impacts it could have on our water and air quality. Fresh water is one of the most precious resources and should not be risked so that people who dont even live here can reap the benefits. Airborne silica is also a carcinogen, and the people of manitoba should not be subjected to that risk. This company should be obligated to do more to prove the long term safety of their project.

1685

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am very concerned with that this project is very detrimental to our water supply. I know that when ground water is introduced to air bad bacteria is formed. By forcing air into the water supply that manitobians use will have a very deadly effect. All I see is that they want to make a fortune leave a few scraps for Manitobians and our children will be left with the consequences. I believe this will ruin the water supply for not just the area but far reaching areas as well.

1686

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: This project needs to be stopped until the disinfection/purification of the mined water being returned to the aquifer is proven efficacious.

1687

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I have concerns about the contamination of the drinking water should this project go ahead!

1688

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am totally against Sio Silica sand extraction as this impacts so many municipalities homes and businesses.

The aquifer is the main source of water and they pretend there won't be any damage, but there is no way that will be the case.

I really hope our government and municipality won't put money ahead of the health of the residents who depend on a clean, undisturbed water supply!!

Protect the people that live here and pay your salary!!

1689

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I am writing to you today to let you know that I oppose and say NO to Sio Silica to drill and risk our aquifer. Manitobans are fortunate to have clean and safe water. This type of destruction will impact water safety for us now and for generations to come and in my opinion is an experiment on our aquifer in Manitoba. Why would you risk this precious water resource because of profit. Mining this sand will cause irreversible cross contamination of water between two different aquifers and our water table is simply too important to experiment with this risk.

Why would the government move forward with this project when all groundwork has not been met by Sio Silica such as:

CEC has asked Sio Silica for more information regarding the physical structure of the underground sand area, but the company has not done this work yet.

CEC asked for 10 separate and detailed plans regarding things like erosion, water and revegetation be finalized and available for comment, but Sio Silica has not completed them.

CEC asked for a cumulative impacts assessment of the 24-year life of the project, but the company said no.

CEC asked for a worst-case scenario plan and the company has not provided it.

The lack of open transparency indicates that Sio Silica is not looking out for our health now and in the future.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

[redacted]

1690

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: I feel that further hydrogeological assessment needs to be done in order to fully understand the impacts to both the upper and lower aquifers in the short and long term.

1691

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns. My hope in doing so that it will have some kind of impact, reaching a reader who has the power to do something to stop this Simba Sand Extraction Project. My hope is that this personal plea will heap on a pile of other statements of objection from people who foresee a real risk to the health, wellbeing and livelihoods of not only the people such as me who live near to the project but to everyone who relies on clean groundwater.

I have lived here for about 14 years now and have had water from an artesian well. No filter, no treatment, delicious water right from the aquifer. My wife and I love our life here with our two 10 year old boys, our water is near pristine and we are fearful. I am worried that there is a risk to our water supply. It might not show up right away but later, years maybe down the road. The effects would be irreversible once the damage is done. There are too many unknowns for this technology and the risk is too great.

I work in and around the environmental assessment process and I understand that there are immense pressures from government to make it work and this decision comes down to a few ministers accepting the CEC recommendations or not. There is value in that sand and that is a dangerous thing, money can blaze a trail right through common sense. Please dont let the personal greed of our own government and the greed of an out of province company write history for Manitoba.

Please weigh the risks and remember the precautionary principle. Please emphasize an abundance of caution, pause before we leap into these new innovations that may prove to have disastrous effects. Silo Silica and other mining companies have a rich history of making their money and if it goes bad will not honor the people left behind. Pack up and go leaving tragedy and a damaged environment behind

Please hold this company accountable, information asked by the CEC should be provided. In the absence of adequate information, no decision can be made. With the information that has been made publicly available and the information I have gathered through open houses and town halls It evident to me, the rationale is thin, and the risk is too high. If you have made it this far, thank you, I will leave you with this famous Cree Proverb:

"Only when the last tree has been cut down, the last fish been caught, and the last stream poisoned, will we realize we cannot eat money."

1692

Date: 12-01-2025

Project Name: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project

Comment: Sio Silica - Simba Sand Extraction Project File #6275:

*Once again, Sio Silicas assessment of their revised project does not allow for an evidence-based decision. This conflicts with best practice standards for Impact Assessment.

*Mining for minerals must not be fast tracked. A sound assessment is critical.

*97.2% of this planet's water is in the oceans, 2.15% in glaciers and polar ice caps, less than 1% is in surface and groundwater of which groundwater is 0.31%. Much of that groundwater is not usable because it has been ruined by fracking, mining, or irremediable spills. Water is too precious and the risk too great, this project must NOT receive an Environment Act License.

*Given the need to protect local and regional groundwater sources, it is distressing that this project is being considered again.

*The further reduction of the mining area for environmental assessment and only a 5 year period out of a multi-generational mine life, prevents full assessment of all environmental, economic, and social risks and impacts from the project. This conflicts with best practice standards for Impact Assessment.

*It is unacceptable that Sio Silica failed to undertake the cumulative impact assessment as recommended by the CEC. In order for environmental assessments to be done well, they must include an assessment of cumulative effects. (CEC 2014, 2018)

*The Sio Silica extraction project is experimental and remains unproven. If this experiment is licensed, the previously approved sand processing facility will be built for the experiment. This must not be allowed. It is unreasonable to hand an Environment Act License to an experiment. Sios proposal perverts the assessment and licensing process.

*Mining, processing, and transport operations will occur 24/7/365, up to 100 meters from homes. The potential for air quality impacts have not been adequately assessed. The assessment of noise and artificial light pollution have been ignored.

*Operations will have direct impacts on the land. Trees/brush will be cleared and loss of habitat will impact known species at risk. Many properties contain old growth, these are irreplaceable.

*Access roads will be required for the heavy machinery and truck traffic, impacting farm land and livestock and wildlife. Operations will create continual distress and worry, negatively impact our livelihoods and communities and will impinge on the enjoyment of our property.

*The disinfection method for the return of mined water back to the aquifer remains unproven. This is a major component of the project that should have been thoroughly proven prior to the licensing process. This gives 100,000 Manitobans no assurance that the Water will remain safe and dependable nor that their best interests are being protected.

*Sio now admits their return of mined, oxygenated water, to the aquifer results in oxidizing conditions that will cause dissolution of selenium, arsenic, and uranium contained in material that collapses into the mined sand cavity. Figure 4-10, shows selenium above drinking water guideline levels for 7 years until it slowly disperses.

*The X1t model is 1Dimensional and did not consider how the contaminate plume interacts with other mined cavities or how ongoing mining that increases gradients and flow, impacts movement. With collapse of the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard, the oxygen and contaminants can potentially move into the overlying Carbonate Aquifer.

*A thorough assessment of all potential oxygen sources introduced into the aquifer system by operations (i.e. from airlift method, type (entrained) have not been undertaken. Until this is addressed the modelling grossly underestimates oxidation potential.

*Reducing the number of industrial sized boreholes for assessment, underestimates project effects and misleads the public.

*Borehole mining causes the irreversible collapse of the Winnipeg Shale Aquitard which separates the two aquifers - Carbonate and Sandstone Aquifers. Fractured limestone in the Carbonate aquifer also collapses. Collapse of this geological material prevents proper sealing/abandonment of the boreholes. This increases the aquifers vulnerability to contamination from surface sources.

*Over the life-time of the mine, thousands of industrial sized boreholes, monitoring and vertical boreholes will be drilled all up to 100 meters of homes. These boreholes will be perpetual sources for contamination from surface sources. It takes ONE failed or soiled well to cause damage. Certain land uses will be prohibited to prevent contamination to the groundwater i.e. chemical agriculture, livestock, manure spreading, housing, septic systems,

*To grant this project a license would be an agreement to the destruction of two irreplaceable aquifers. This is not stewardship. We do not get a second chance.

*We all rely on our environment and must care for it. We need to know the truth about impacts from development to avoid mistakes that will be costly to our children. Particularly when it comes to Water, there is no room for error.

*We cannot have healthy communities and a strong economy if we are not committed to evidence-based decision making, an accountable public service, and transparent public process.

*With its potential to cause significant and irreversible harm to Manitobas drinking water, the Sio Silica project must be rejected now. If it should be allowed to continue, it must be designated a Class 3 development and the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission be convened to hold a public hearing to review the project with full participant funding.

*The Sio Silica project illustrates the need to strengthen Manitobas dangerously flawed assessment and licensing process under The Environment Act and The Mines and Minerals Act.

*The entire Sio Silica project must be subject to a thorough, independent public inquiry under The Evidence Act to ensure that our democratic institutions and process are sound.

Image: Sio well design, well clusters, tiny portion under assessment in relation to the extent of Sio mineral claims (yellow squares); letter to the editor. Your letter need not be lengthy to get your concerns across. It is imperative that all Manitobans, of all ages, act to protect the environment for today and future generations.