

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPONENT: Rural Municipality of Franklin
NAME OF DEVELOPMENT: Dominion City Wastewater Treatment Lagoon
CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: Two
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: Wastewater Treatment Lagoon
CLIENT FILE NO.: 156.10

OVERVIEW:

The Proposal was received on March 30, 2009. It was dated March 20, 2009. The advertisement of the proposal was as follows:

“A Proposal has been filed by AECOM on behalf of the Rural Municipality of Franklin for the continued operation of the Dominion City wastewater treatment lagoon in NE 19-2-3E, located approximately one km west of Dominion City. The facility has been in operation since approximately 1967, and would continue to operate without changes to the size of the facility. Minor upgrades are planned to provide all weather road access to the facility and a truck dumping station, and to undertake minor dyke leveling. The facility would continue to treat wastewater from the community of Dominion City and would now be able to accommodate truck hauled wastewater from other locations in the rural municipality. Treated effluent from the facility would continue to be discharged to the Roseau River, with discharges during the period June 15 to October 31.”

The Proposal was advertised in the Emerson Southeast Journal on Saturday, April 25, 2009. It was placed in the Main, Millennium Public Library (Winnipeg), Eco-Network, and Jake Epp Public Library (Steinbach) public registries, as well as in the office of the R. M. of Franklin as a registry location. The Proposal was distributed to TAC members on April 25, 2009. The closing date for comments from members of the public and TAC members was May 25, 2009.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No public comments were received.

COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Manitoba Conservation – Sustainable Resource and Policy Management No concerns.

Manitoba Conservation – Parks and Natural Areas Branch No comments.

Manitoba Water Stewardship

Fisheries Branch has reviewed this request to licence an existing wastewater treatment lagoon in the RM of Franklin (NW 9-2-3 E). Effluent discharge will remain the same (800 m ditch to 200 m creek to the Roseau River). They indicated currently discharging between May 15th and October 31st. The discharge date needs to reflect the current timing window of June 16th to October 31st. As the proponent's indicate there are a number of fish species that utilize the Roseau River. Aside from the discharge dates our main interest would be water quality and the effluent meeting or exceeding the MWQSOG. For this we defer to the review and recommendations of our colleagues in Water Quality Section.

Disposition:

The revision in permissible discharge dates can be addressed as a licence condition, and was anticipated in the environmental assessment process. The hydraulic capacity of the facility was determined and found to be sufficient to accommodate one additional month of inflow.

Historic Resources Branch No concerns. If at any time however, significant heritage resources are recorded in association with these lands during development, the Historic Resources Branch may require that an acceptable heritage resource management strategy be implemented by the developer to mitigate the affects of development on the heritage resources.

Disposition:

As no significant construction is required for the upgrading of the facility (road construction will occur along the edge of a cultivated field), heritage resources are very unlikely to be encountered.

Mines Branch No concerns.

Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation – Highway Planning Branch

The proposed development is located adjacent to PR 200. The details of the proposed all weather access roads are not indicated in the project document. Should the proposed access road be connected to PR 200, the proponent should be informed that any new, modified or relocated access connections onto PR 200 will require a permit from Department of Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation (MIT), including change in access. A permit will also be required for any construction (above or below ground level) within 38.1 m (125 ft) or for any plantings within 15.2 m (50 ft) from the edge of the right-of-way of PR 200.

Disposition:

The proposed access road would not be connected to PR 200 and is outside of the zone of interest for MIT.

Manitoba Intergovernmental Affairs – Community Planning Services Branch

UMA was retained by the RM of Franklin to undertake a study in preparation for licensing the current Dominion City lagoon facility. The land within the study area falls within the Rural Municipality of Franklin, approximately 600 metres west of the village boundary of Dominion City. The wastewater lagoon is in the NE ¼ 19-2-3 EPM. It is approximately one half mile west of Provincial Road 200 and one half mile north of Provincial Road 201. Existing surrounding land uses are primarily agricultural in nature. The nearest residential dwellings appear to be in Dominion City.

Currently, access to the facility is via a dirt road. The proposal indicates that the dirt road will be upgraded to an all weather access road and additional dyke maintenance will be performed to make the dyke tops and sides uniform. No changes are planned to alter the capacity of the existing facility as the facility currently has sufficient organic and hydraulic capacity to accommodate storage when discharge of the lagoon cannot occur. The study concluded that this wastewater treatment facility is negligible source of impact to Manitoba waterways and the proposed changes will not increase the current impact.

The RM of Franklin has yet to adopt a Development Plan and Zoning By-law. As such, Provincial Land Use Policies (PLUPs) are used to evaluate environmental licensing applications. Policy #1 A. 4. states that wherever possible, development is to be compatible and in harmony with other land uses. As this proposal will bring the system into compliance with current regulations, the development is deemed to be compatible with other land uses. This office has no concerns with the proposal.

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency I have completed a survey of federal departments with respect to determining interest in the project noted above. I can confirm that the project information that was provided has been reviewed by all federal departments with a potential interest. Based on the responses to the survey, application of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (the Act) will not be required for this project. Responses from the departments surveyed are enclosed. Please also note the following: Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) has indicated that they would like to participate in the provincial review of this project. In order for DFO to provide a Letter of Advice additional information is required regarding construction plans for the road development. Health Canada (HC): HC notes that they have specialist advice that may be relevant to the project, if specifically requested.

Disposition:

The proponent's consultant was asked to contact DFO directly to provide information on the proposed access road.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

No additional information was necessary to address public or TAC comments.

PUBLIC HEARING:

As no requests for a public hearing were made, a public hearing is not recommended.

RECOMMENDATION:

All comments received on the Proposal can be addressed through licence requirements. Therefore, it is recommended that the Development be licensed under The Environment Act subject to the limits, terms and conditions as described on the attached Draft Environment Act Licence.

It is further recommended that enforcement of the Licence be assigned to the Eastern Region.

Prepared by:

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