

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPONENT: Rural Municipality of Morris
NAME OF DEVELOPMENT: Sperling Wastewater Treatment Lagoon
CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: Two
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: Wastewater Treatment Lagoon
CLIENT FILE NO.: 4754.00

OVERVIEW:

The Proposal was received on February 11, 2002. It was dated February 7, 2002. The advertisement of the proposal was as follows:

“A Proposal has been filed by KGS Group on behalf of the Rural Municipality of Morris for the construction and operation of a water distribution and wastewater collection system and a wastewater treatment lagoon for the community of Sperling. The lagoon would be located in SE 29-6-2W, approximately 1.5 km east of the community. It would provide wastewater treatment and storage capability, and would be discharged after June 15 and before November 1 each year. The proposed discharge route is via a municipal drain south to the Forrester Drain (north side of PR 205) and east to the Morris River. Wastewater would be collected in the community using a low pressure sewer system which would utilize existing septic tanks. The water distribution system would use treated water from the R. M. of Dufferin system. Construction of the project is proposed in the summer of 2002, with operation starting in the fall of 2002.”

The Proposal was advertised in the Carman Valley Leader on Monday, March 18, 2002. It was placed in the Main, Centennial, and South Central Regional Library (Morden) public registries, and in the office of the Rural Municipality of Morris. The Proposal was distributed to TAC members on March 11, 2002. The closing date for comments from members of the public and TAC members was April 12, 2002.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No public comments were received.

COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Manitoba Conservation - Red River Region -The service area and septage load design should be expanded to include loading from residences outside the hamlet of Sperling. The R.M. of Morris has no wastewater treatment facility available to handle septage waste from these additional residences, number unknown. A certificate to construct and operate the water system must be obtained through the Office of Drinking Water.

Disposition:

Additional information was requested concerning septage. The Proponent's

consultant indicated that septage had been included in the design only for the community due to the limited funding available for the project. It was suggested that rural residences will have to continue to use existing alternative facilities for the disposal of septage, such as the Town of Carman lagoon.

Manitoba Conservation - Sustainable Resource Management - Consideration should be given to expanding the service area and septage load design to include loading from residences outside of Sperling. The RM of Morris presently has no wastewater treatment facility available to handle the septage from these additional residences.

The proponent needs to obtain a certificate to construct and operate the water system. The Office of Drinking Water should be contacted in this regard.

To alleviate possible problems related to ammonia toxicity on aquatic life in the Forrester Drain and Morris River, discharge from the lagoon should not occur until June 15.

The proponent should actively participate in any future watershed based management study, plan/or nutrient reduction program, approved by the Director, for the Morris River, Red River and associated waterways and watersheds.

Disposition:

The first two comments were addressed in connection with comments from the Red River Region. The third and fourth comments can be addressed through licence conditions.

Petroleum Branch - No concerns or comments.

Historic Resources Branch - No concerns.

Highway Planning and Design Branch - An agreement with the Department to place a sewerline adjacent to and/or across PR 659 (Sperling Access Road) and PTH 3 right-of-way is required. All affected ditches, slopes and disturbed areas within our right-of-way must be restored to an acceptable condition. It is assumed that the additional flow into the Forrester Drain that parallels PR No. 205 will not impact the hydraulic capacity of the existing culverts. However, it should be noted that any increased capacity that may be required as a result of this proposal is the responsibility of the applicant.

Disposition:

These comments were forwarded to the Proponent's consultant for information.

Community Planning Services - Under the R.M. of Morris Planning Scheme, the affected area is zoned A40, Rural District. Sewage Disposal Sites are listed as a conditional use in this zone. There is currently a subdivision application in process that will create a 4.2 ha parcel for the proposed sewage lagoon. Aerial photography and assessment data indicates that there are 3 farmyards located in a downwind direction of the proposal, each within a 2 km radius. However, overall, with the exception of Sperling, there are very few residences in the immediate area and Sperling sits upwind of the proposed site. Community Planning Services has no concerns with the proposed sewage lagoon site.

Soils and Crops Branch - No concerns.

Medical Officer of Health - Central Region - Health concerns with this proposal are the minimization of odors and adequate fencing for safety reasons.

Disposition:

Odor is discussed in the Proposal. The lagoon was sited to comply with setback requirements for odor. Fencing is included in the design of the lagoon.

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency - An environmental assessment under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act will be required. Environment Canada has offered to provide specialist advice. (No federal agencies indicated a desire to participate in the provincial review of the project.)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Additional information addressing the comment respecting the proposed lagoon's capability to accept rural septage was requested from the Proponent's consultants on April 16. The response of April 24 was discussed above - the Proponent has chosen not to provide additional capacity for septage from outside the community, and septage will have to continue to be disposed of elsewhere.

PUBLIC HEARING:

As no public concerns were identified, a public hearing is not recommended.

RECOMMENDATION:

All comments received on the Proposal have been addressed in the additional information or can be addressed as licence conditions. 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 Red River Region.

PREPARED BY:

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April 29, 2002

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