

## SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

<b>PROPONENT:</b>	<b>Town of Winnipeg Beach</b>
<b>PROPOSAL NAME:</b>	<b>Town of Winnipeg Beach Lagoon Upgrade</b>
<b>CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT:</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT:</b>	<b>Wastewater Treatment Lagoons</b>
<b>CLIENT FILE NO.:</b>	<b>74.30</b>

### OVERVIEW:

On December 29, 2014 Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship (CWS) received a Proposal, dated December 23, 2014, to upgrade and operate the Town of Winnipeg Beach wastewater treatment lagoon. The Proposal was filed by Dillon Consulting Limited on behalf of the Town of Winnipeg Beach, pursuant to *The Environment Act* to upgrade the town's five cell sewage lagoon system located at NE 27-17-04 EPM in the Town of Winnipeg Beach and SE 34-17-04 EPM in the Rural Municipality of St. Andrews, Manitoba. The proposed upgrade to the lagoon system includes the following: addition of an aeration system; construction of a building to house blowers and a separate building to house chemicals, dosing equipment and effluent pumps; installation of a phosphorus removal filter tank; and installation of a UV disinfection system. The proposal states effluent will be continuously discharged through the existing discharge route into Lake Winnipeg between April 1 and October 31. There will be no effluent discharge between November 1 and March 31 of the following year.

On February 11, 2015 CWS placed copies of the Proposal in the Public Registries located at the Legislative Library, the Millennium Public Library, and Online Registry at <http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/eal/registries/index.html>. On the same day CWS distributed the Proposal to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members for review and submitted public notifications of the Proposal to the Winnipeg Free Press for publication on February 14, 2015 and to the Gimli Interlake Spectator for publication on February 19, 2015. The newspapers and TAC notifications invited responses until March 19, 2015.

On March 30 2015, Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship forwarded requests for additional information from the TAC to the proponent's consultant. On April 7, 2015 the consultant submitted responses to the comments and requests from the TAC. On May 13, 2015 Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship sent further information request to the proponent's consultant. The consultant provided the requested information on May 21, 2015. The additional information necessary for the review was placed in the Public Registries.

### COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No comments were received from the public.

**COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC):**

**Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development (MAFRD)**

- *No response*

**Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship - Lands Branch (March 18, 2015)**

- *Lands branch – Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship has reviewed the EA proposal for the Town of Winnipeg Beach and notes the following:*
  - *Be advised that the location of the lagoon proposal borders the Winnipeg Beach Provincial Park (SE34-017-04E). It is recommended that Parks comments/concerns related to appropriate setbacks to property boundaries, be incorporated into the final submission.*

**Disposition:**

- The comment was forwarded to the proponent for information and brought to the attention of Parks and Protected Areas Branch for comment. No concern was expressed by Parks and Protected Areas Branch as the setbacks to the property boundaries remain unchanged.

**Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Compliance and Enforcement Branch**

- *No response*

**Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship - Air Quality–Environmental Programs & Strategies Branch**

- *No response*

**Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Climate Change Branch**

- *No response*

**Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Wildlife Branch**

- *No response*

**Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Strategic Policy and Coordination Branch**

- *No response*

**Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Parks and Protected Spaces Branch (February 20, 2015)**

- *Moving towards continuous discharge has the potential to adversely affect Park users. The report comments that “the implementation of a UV disinfection to inactivate harmful pathogens such as fecal coliform and regular effluent quality monitoring is expected to effectively mitigate this risk”. The report does not describe what measures will be taken to inform park users in the event monitoring indicates that water being discharged poses a risk to human health and safety.*
- *No comment is made in the report on what the proposed upgrades will mean in terms of odours from the lagoons. The Park campground is near the lagoons; please identify if it is anticipated that unpleasant odours will increase, decrease or stay the same, as a result of this work.*

**Proponent’s Consultant Response (February 20, 2015)**

- Results of the proposed monitoring program will be reported to CWS through regular reporting. The proposed monitoring program is robust and sufficiently frequent to preclude discharges that could pose a risk to the public health. Should the monitoring results indicate that effluent quality levels do not meet the licensed effluent quality discharge limits, the system effluent can be recycled back into the lagoon cells. Effluent discharge will commence again once effluent quality meets the licensed discharge limits.
- Unpleasant odours are associated with gasses formed as a resulting by-product of anaerobic conditions. These odours from the lagoon are expected to decrease as a result of the continuous aeration of the primary cell.

Disposition:

- The additional information from the proponent’s consultant was forwarded to Parks and Protected Spaces Branch. No further comment was received from Parks and Protected Spaces Branch.

**Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Forestry and Peatlands Management Branch**

- *No response*

**Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Aboriginal Relations Branch**

- *No response*

**Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Water Science and Management Branch**

- *No response*

**Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship, Water Use Licensing Branch**

- *No response*

**Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship, Water Control Works and Drainage Licensing Section (February 12, 2015)**

- *Any water control works (drains, culverts, dykes, dams, etc.) associated with this project will require licensing under the Water Rights Act – an application is attached for the proponent’s convenience. Any inquiries in this regard may be directed to the local Water Resource Officer. Their contact information may be found at: [http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/waterstewardship/licensing/pdf/areas\\_of\\_focus\\_jan\\_23\\_12.pdf](http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/waterstewardship/licensing/pdf/areas_of_focus_jan_23_12.pdf)*

**Disposition:**

- The information was forwarded to the proponent. In addition to the draft Licence requirements, the proponent will be responsible to comply with all other applicable federal, provincial and municipal regulations and by-laws.

**Manitoba Health, Healthy Living and Seniors – Public Health Branch**

- *No response*

**Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation– Highway Planning and Design Branch, Environmental Services Section (February 13, 2015)**

- *No concerns*

**Manitoba Mineral Resources – Geological Survey Branch**

- *No response*

**Manitoba Municipal Government – Planning Policy & Programs Branch**

- *No response*

**Manitoba Labour and Immigration – Office of Fire Commissioner (March 31, 2015)**

- *The Office of the Fire Commissioner recommends that a building and occupancy permit be obtained for the new blower building and the new chemical storage & pumping building. The Authority Having Jurisdiction for building and occupancy permits is the Eastern Interlake Planning District.*

**Disposition:**

- The information was forwarded to the proponent. In addition to the draft Licence requirements, the proponent will be responsible to comply with all other applicable federal, provincial and municipal regulations and by-laws.

**Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship – Office of Drinking Water (March 18, 2015)**

- *No concerns*

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

- A public hearing is not recommended because no comments were received from the public.
- The proponent's consultant held a public information session on March 19, 2015 and a filed a report:

On March 19th, 2015, Dillon hosted a public information session for the Town of Winnipeg Beach community at the Winnipeg Beach Community Centre (32 Hamilton Street). The session, which ran from 7PM to 9PM, was organized in a drop-in format, where attendees were free to browse the display boards at their leisure. It also included a formal presentation by Francesco Zurzolo of the project team, who outlined the lagoon upgrades and led a question and answer session. Members of the project team (from Dillon and the Municipality) were on hand to answer questions and receive feedback. Display boards were set up around the room, outlining the project context and purpose, as well as high level technical details and project timelines. Attendees were encouraged to fill out exit surveys, which solicited feedback in regards to the lagoon upgrades.

The open house was well attended. A total of 32 people signed in over the session – however, attendance was likely higher (upwards of 35 to 40), as not all attendees chose to sign in. Fifteen attendees completed the exit survey, thirteen of which were year-round residents of Winnipeg Beach (two self-identified as

seasonal residents of the Town). The comments were very supportive of the project, and can be summarized as follows:

- Supportive of project; meets future needs. Long overdue (most frequent comment)
- Good presentation; very informative
- Pleased that effluent will be cleaner
- Lake health is important; this project addresses that
- Ensure an open tender – competition will reduce costs; and help to ensure that costs don't balloon
- Old lagoons (cells 1 and 2) would make for a good hotel/resort site if decommissioned
- Monitoring will be important
- What happened to the local improvement district revenue? Did it go into general revenue?
- Concern over increased occurrences of heavy rainfall events, and the impact they may have on the system
- Wondered if seasonal residents were informed, and how potential opposition might affect the decision to move forward
- Future homes should have composting toilets and water reclamation

### **CROWN-ABORIGINAL CONSULTATION:**

The Government of Manitoba recognizes it has a duty to consult in a meaningful way with First Nations, Métis communities and other Aboriginal communities when any proposed provincial law, regulation, decision or action may infringe upon or adversely affect the exercise of a treaty or Aboriginal right of that First Nation, Métis community or other Aboriginal community.

This facility will be upgraded within the limits of the existing footprint and there would be no infringement of aboriginal or treaty rights under Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982. Therefore, it is concluded that Crown-Aboriginal consultation is not required for the project.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Proponent should be issued a Licence for the upgrade and operation of the wastewater treatment lagoon in accordance with the specifications, limits, terms and conditions of the attached draft Licence. Enforcement of the Licence should be retained by the Environmental Approvals Branch until construction of the wastewater treatment lagoon expansion is completed. Enforcement of the licence should then be assigned to the Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch.

A draft Environment Act Licence is attached for the Director's consideration

PREPARED BY:

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**Note:** Manitoba Sustainable Development was provided with a copy of an amended Status of Title on June 6, 2016.