

## **SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROPONENT:** Rural Municipality of Blanshard  
**PROPOSAL NAME:** Rural Municipality of Blanshard -  
Rural Water Pipelines  
**CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT:** Two  
**TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT:** Transportation/Transmission - Pipelines  
**CLIENT FILE NO.:** 4791.00

### **OVERVIEW:**

The Proposal was received on May 6, 2002. It was dated May 1, 2002. The advertisement of the proposal was as follows:

“A Proposal has been filed by the Manitoba Water Services Board on behalf of the Rural Municipality of Blanshard to construct water supply pipelines throughout the municipality. Approximately 27 km of pipeline would be installed initially on provincial and municipal road allowances or on easements. Pipeline sizes would be 75 mm and 50 mm. Additional pipeline to service other portions of the municipality may be installed in future years. Water for the system would be supplied from the Oak River water treatment plant. Annual water use for the system is estimated to be 3.5 cubic decametres or 3 acre-feet. Construction of the project is proposed to begin in the summer of 2002, with operation expected in the fall of 2002.”

The Proposal was advertised in the Crossroads This Week and the Rivers Banner, both on Saturday, May 18, 2002. It was placed in the Main, Centennial and Western Manitoba Regional Library (Brandon) public registries, as well as in the office of the R.M. of Blanshard. The Proposal was distributed to TAC members on May 13, 2002. The closing date for comments from members of the public and TAC members was June 3, 2002.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

No public comments were received.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:**

**Sustainable Resource Management** - No work at water crossings should be conducted prior to June 15 of any year.

It is preferable that drain and creek crossings be pushed, directionally bored or augered. If this is not possible and open trench crossings are required then mitigative procedures must be used to minimize damage to fish habitat during construction and to restore habitat after construction. Procedures to be followed are described in Canadian Pipeline Water Crossings Committee, 1999 Water Crossings Second Edition. If open trench crossings are required regional Fisheries Branch personnel should be contacted in advance.

Any work done on or near stream/drain banks should include measures to minimize potential for deleterious substances such as silt, oil, and gas entering water. If banks must be disturbed, erosion control and rehabilitation measures such as use of straw mulch and seeding of replacement vegetation should be employed. In this regard the “Manitoba Stream Crossing Guidelines for the Protection of Fish and Fish Habitat” should be consulted.

It is indicated that the route of the pipeline will follow along the edge of the Oak River for a short distance and will eventually cross it. There is no record of what the riparian habitat is like at these locations. If the riparian habitat is at present undisturbed, it should not be disturbed and the pipeline should be placed as far as possible from the riparian zone. Where applicable, sedimentation barriers should be used to contain sediments from entering the river and the disturbed area should be seeded down as soon as possible to provide permanent erosion control. This should also apply to rights of way along municipal roadways.

The proponent has indicated that topsoil will not be removed and replaced after backfilling of trenches. Where larger areas are to be excavated such as at bored crossings then removal of topsoil prior to construction and replacement after construction is likely to provide a better seed bed when reseeded takes place.

Disposition:

These comments can be addressed through licence conditions.

**Historic Resources Branch** - No concerns.

**Mines Branch** - No concerns.

**Petroleum Branch** - The application shows the mineral rights to be Crown. This is accurate of all pipelines are on rights-of-way. There is one that crosses a field parallel to the Oak River about three miles north of Oak River that, according to our records, is not Crown owned mineral rights. Other than that, no comments or concerns.

Disposition:

This comment has been forwarded to the Proponent’s representative for information.

**Highway Planning and Design Branch** - This proposal makes extensive use of highway right-of-way. A formal Underground Waterline Agreement between the Department and the Rural Municipality of Blanshard will be required. The Agreement would contain provisions regarding location of lines (and valves, cleanouts, etc.) within highway right-of-way, depth of burial, encasement, rehabilitation and future maintenance, marking of locations, applicant obligations, construction safety, etc. Additional comments cannot be made until design drawings and construction details of the project are received. The application information can be forwarded to the Brandon office for the attention of the Regional Utilities Coordinator.

Disposition:

These comments have been forwarded to the Proponent's representative for information.

**Soils and Crops Branch** - No concerns, provided that any impacts that the installation of the proposed pipelines may have on agricultural land are minimized.

**Medical Officer of Health - Marquette, Brandon and South Westman RHAs** - Please ensure appropriate waste disposal as per existing environmental regulations. Dust, noise, gaseous and particulate emissions during construction may be a concern as may be the handling of gasoline products.

**Disposition:**

These comments can be addressed as licence conditions.

**Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency** - An environmental assessment under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act will be required. The contact will be with PFRA. Environment Canada and Health Canada have offered to provide specialist advice. (Western Economic Diversification indicated an interest in participating in the provincial review of the project.)

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

No additional information is required to address the comments received.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

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

**RECOMMENDATION:**

All comments received on the Proposal 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 Western Region.

**PREPARED BY:**

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June 14, 2002  
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