

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPONENT: Ridgeville Holding Co. Ltd.
PROPOSAL NAME: Ridgeville Colony Wastewater Treatment Lagoon
CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: 2
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: Wastewater Treatment Lagoon
CLIENT FILE NO.: 3685.10

OVERVIEW:

On August 3, 2001, the Department received an Environment Act Proposal (EAP) on behalf of the Ridgeville Holding Co. Ltd. requesting an alteration to their existing Environment Act Licence No. 1812. On August 30, 2001, the Department requested that additional supporting information be provided prior to commencement of the proposal review. A response to the requests was received on August 22, 2002.

Discharge of treated wastewater (effluent) from the existing wastewater treatment lagoon located in SE 5-2-4 EPM in the Rural Municipality of Franklin currently occurs between May 15th and October 1st of any year via irrigation onto land owned by the proponent. It is proposed that operation of the lagoon will be altered such that effluent will be discharged to a surface water drainage route. The surface water drainage route includes; approximately 1.0 km of existing farm drain that flows west across Section 5-2-4 EPM from the existing wastewater treatment lagoon and approximately 1.4 km of municipal drain that flows north to Harlow Drain. Harlow Drain flows in a northwest direction into the Roseau River. Effluent discharge is proposed to occur twice each year between May 15th and October 31st of any year.

The Department, on October 7, 2002, placed copies of the EAP report in the Public Registries located at 123 Main St. (Union Station); the Centennial Public Library; Manitoba Eco-Network; and the Jake Epp Public Library in Steinbach and provided copies of the EAP report to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency, the Clean Environment Commission, and TAC members. As well, the Department placed public notifications of the EAP in the Altona Red River Valley Echo and in the Steinbach Carillon, both during the week of October 13, 2002. The newspapers and TAC notifications invited responses until November 8, 2002.

On January 30, 2003, Manitoba Conservation submitted responses from the public and TAC members to the appropriate Public Registries.

Four TAC responses were received while two letters from the public were also received. There were no requests for additional information.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Concerned Citizens of Ridgeville and Surrounding Area – October 23, 2002

- We really enjoyed reading about this proposal right along side an advertisement from Manitoba Pork. What this advertisement states is that hog producers support regulations that protect the environment and their communities. What the Ridgeville Holding Co. Ltd. is doing is outrageous. They are trying to get a proposal passed that is exactly opposite of what the hog producers are saying they support. Don't let them get away with polluting our water supply, and destroying our environment for our future generations.

Disposition:

- The revised Environment Act Licence includes enforceable limits, terms and conditions for the operation of a standard wastewater treatment lagoon.

Mary Friesen – October 23, 2002

- I would like to voice my concern over the discharge proposal that the Ridgeville Holding Co. Ltd. has requested. I feel that this is clear and complete pollution of our water supply. If we permit this for one barn the rest of the barns out here will be seeking a way to do it to. With all of the environmental issues surrounding manure and the effects it has on our water systems ie. contamination of well water, it is outrageous that you would even entertain such a proposal. If they are telling us this water is in no way contaminated why are they not reusing it in the barns for their own benefit? They complain about their lack of water they should find a way of using it like other barns are. If it isn't going to hurt our environment it should not hurt their pigs. We here in this community strongly urge you to reconsider this proposal and tell the Ridgeville Holding Co. Ltd. NO!!!! Thank you for your time.

Disposition:

- The revised Environment Act Licence includes enforceable limits, terms and conditions for the operation of a standard wastewater treatment lagoon.

COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Historic Resources - *No concerns.*

Agriculture and Food - *No concerns.*

Sustainable Resource Management Branch

- *Fish habitat is present in the Harlow Drain in the area near the Roseau River and it is likely that fish from the river enter this drain during the spring freshet. Therefore, effluent should not be discharged until after June 15 of any year;*

- *The proponent should be required to actively participate in any future watershed based management study, plan or nutrient reduction program, approved by the Director, for the Roseau River, and associated waterways and watersheds.*

Disposition:

- The revised Environment Act Licence requires that no discharge of effluent from the wastewater treatment lagoon occur between the 31st day of October of any year and the 15th day of June of the following year.
- The revised Environment Act Licence requires that the proponent actively participate in any future watershed-based management study, plan and/or nutrient reduction program, approved by the Director, for the Roseau River and/or associated waterways and watersheds.

In addition, the revised Environment Act Licence includes a Clause requires the Licencee to take necessary steps, approved by the Director, to reduce the Sodium Adsorption Ratio or concentrations of other constituents of effluent from the wastewater treatment lagoon to acceptable limits if the Director determines that effluent discharge is causing or contributing to deleterious impacts on the discharge watercourses

Transportation and Government Services - *No concerns.*

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency

- *Responses received by the Canadian Environment Act Agency have indicated that application of The Canadian Environmental Assessment Act with respect to this proposal will not be required.*

PUBLIC HEARING:

A public hearing has not been requested.

RECOMMENDATION:

An Environment Act Licence may be issued in accordance with the attached draft.

PREPARED BY:

Ridgeville Holding Co. Ltd. – Ridgeville Colony
Wastewater Treatment Lagoon
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July 24, 2003

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