

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPOSER: Milltown Hutterian Mutual Corporation
PROPOSAL NAME: Milltown Colony Wastewater Treatment Lagoon
CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: 2
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: Waste/Scrap Wastewater Treatment Lagoons
CLIENT FILE NO.: 4968.00

OVERVIEW:

On August 1, 2003, the Department received a Proposal from Cochrane Engineering on behalf of the Milltown Hutterian Mutual Corporation for a Development to construct and operate a new wastewater treatment lagoon to replace the existing Milltown Colony wastewater treatment lagoon. The new lagoon facility will be located on the southwest quarter of Section 17-11-3 WPM. The treated wastewater will be discharged to a series of municipal drainage ditches that lead to the Elm River Relief Channel. The Elm River Relief Channel discharges into the La Salle River. The existing wastewater treatment lagoon will be decommissioned.

The Department, on August 20, 2003 placed copies of the Proposal in the Public Registries located at 123 Main St. (Union Station), the Centennial Public Library, the Manitoba Eco-Network and the Portage la Prairie City Library. Copies of the Proposal were also provided to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members. The Department placed a public notification of the Proposal in the Headingly Headliner on Monday, August 25, 2003. The newspaper and TAC notification invited responses until September 22, 2003.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No responses were received from the public notification.

COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Agriculture and Food

- *No concerns.*

Conservation - Sustainable Resource Management

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

Additionally, Sustainable Resource Management had the following comments with respect to the proposal. However, after receiving additional information from the proponent, these comments were satisfied and are no longer of concern:

- *It would be desirable to have this facility land apply the effluent.*
- *If this facility is licensed as requested, a decision regarding any changes to the license could wait until a watershed management strategy has been developed for the La Salle River watershed.*
- *Regular monitoring of the water quality in the La Salle River should be carried out to determine the accumulated potential impact of the proposed development to the water quality for downstream users.*
- *Water quality in the Elm River should also be monitored for the presence of Cryptosporidium and Giardia above background level.*

Disposition:

- The attached draft Licence requires the proponent to actively participate in any future watershed management plan or nutrient reduction program, approved by the Director, for the La Salle River and associated waterways and watersheds.

Culture, Heritage and Tourism - Historic Resources

- *No concerns.*

Health

- *The need for fencing, gates and warning signs should be included in the licence to ensure public safety, in case of unsupervised public access to the development.*
- *Minimizing odors through procedures and siting to decrease nuisance complaints*
- *Minimizing impacts on any ground water/wells either close to the lagoon or on the discharge route.*

Disposition:

- The attached draft Licence includes clauses requiring the installation and maintenance of fencing, gates and warning signs.
- The draft Licence includes a clause that requires the wastewater treatment lagoon to be operated and maintained in such a manner that the release of offensive odours is minimized.
- The draft Licence includes specifications for the construction and maintenance of the clay liner. As well, the draft Licence includes effluent quality discharge criteria in accordance with the draft Manitoba Water Quality Standards, Objectives and Guidelines.

Transportation and Government Services

- *No concerns.*

Intergovernmental Affairs

- *According to the R.M. of Cartier zoning by-law, the minimum mutual separation distance between a dwelling and a sewage treatment or waste disposal site shall be 1500 feet (Part IV – General Provisions For All Zones 9(1) p.IV-5).*
- *If the proposed distance between the two uses is indeed less than 1500 feet, the Colony will be required to seek a variation order from the R.M. Council.*

Disposition:

- The proponent has indicated that the wastewater treatment lagoon will be relocated to ensure a minimum mutual separation distance of 1500ft.

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency

- *Following a review by all federal departments with a potential interest in the proposed development, the application of the CEAA will not be required.*
- *Environment Canada would be able to offer specialist information with respect to the project review.*

PUBLIC HEARING:

A public hearing is not recommended.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Proponent should be issued a Licence for the construction and operation of the wastewater treatment lagoon and the decommissioning of the existing wastewater treatment lagoon in accordance with the specifications, terms and conditions of the attached draft Licence. Enforcement of the Licence should be assigned to the Approvals Branch until the soil testing has been completed.

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May 5, 2004

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