



**Conservation and Climate**

Environmental Stewardship Division  
Environmental Approvals Branch  
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**File No. 1069.10**

March 15, 2021

Chris Carroll  
Manager of Wastewater Services Division  
City of Winnipeg  
110-1199 Pacific Avenue  
Winnipeg MB RE3 3S8

Dear Chris Carroll:

**Re: South End Water Pollution Control Centre - Notice of Alteration Response - Environment Act Licence No. 2716 RR**

Thank you for the Notice of Alteration request dated December 18, 2020, submitted by Mr. Colin Javra, Project Director, City of Winnipeg, on December 23, 2020 for the South End Water Pollution Control Centre (plant) operating under Environment Act Licence No. 2716 RR (Licence). The December 18, 2020 submission is considered a Notice of Alteration pursuant to Section 14 of The Environment Act.

The intent of the alteration is to request a one-year extension to December 31, 2021 to meet the total phosphorus limit of 1.0 mg/L in the effluent and to extend the deadline to construct and commission the upgraded wastewater treatment plant to an as yet unspecified time. The City proposes to advise the Department of a new construction completion date in late September 2021.

The Licence requires the City to meet a total phosphorus limit of 1.0 mg/L in the effluent by December 31, 2020 and to complete upgrades to the plant by December 31, 2021 such that the effluent limits specified in the Licence will be met. As of January 1, 2021 the City is out of compliance with their Licence in regards to meeting the total phosphorus limit in the effluent.

Since 2012, the Department has issued several extensions to facilitate completing upgrades to the plant. It is also understood that some of the more recent delays in construction are due to complications resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. However, given the significant delays that have now set this project back some eight years, and a lack of a clear plan on when the upgrades will be completed, the notice of alteration has been denied.

It is requested that the City return by September 30, 2021 with a revised Notice of Alteration. It is our expectation that the necessary steps will be taken to accelerate

the construction schedule in order to bring the plant into compliance with the Licence as soon as possible. The Notice of Alternation should include the following:

- a) a list of tasks and proposed completion dates such that the construction and commissioning of the upgraded wastewater treatment plant shall be completed as soon as possible in order to meet the effluent limits as specified in Clause 28 of the Licence; and
- b) measures that the City will take such that the requirement to meet the total phosphorus limit of 1.0 mg/L in the effluent can be met as soon as possible without any further delay.

In addition, the City is required to:

- 1) submit the existing list of tasks and proposed completion dates for items a) and b) above; and outline which tasks are delayed and the reason within one month of receiving this letter.
- 2) submit short monthly email update reports outlining the milestones achieved and setbacks experienced referencing the task list specified in items a) and b) above, the current status, and the proposed activities for the next month until the commissioning of the completed facility. The first monthly progress report is due within one week from issuance of this letter and shall be submitted in the first week of each month thereafter. They can be submitted via email to the Director of Environmental Compliance and Enforcement, at [ECEBranch@gov.mb.ca](mailto:ECEBranch@gov.mb.ca) and to the Director of Environmental Approvals Branch, at [EABDirector@gov.mb.ca](mailto:EABDirector@gov.mb.ca) and copied to Yvonne Hawryliuk, Provincial Manager, and Siobhan Burland Ross, Manager of Municipal and Industrial Section;
- 3) notify the province immediately if any further delays are to be expected or there is indication that delays may occur and then develop a plan so that any anticipated delays can be averted.
- 4) file quarterly progress reports to the undersigned until the commissioning of the completed facility. The next report is due March 31, 2021. The quarterly progress reports shall summarize the monthly reports for the previous three months and will be posted to the public registry;
- 5) upon request from the province, meet with department representatives to ensure that the progress of the Development is on schedule.

The City remains out of compliance regarding the effluent discharge limit for phosphorus as outlined in Environment Act Licence No. 2716 RR and is subject to enforcement action at any time. However, provided the City exercises due diligence and in good faith moves forward with the required plant upgrades in an expedited manner and in conformance with the above Compliance Plan, enforcement action will be held in abeyance. The environmental health of Manitoba's watercourses including in particular the Red River and Lake Winnipeg is a top priority for Manitoba and it is therefore vital

that the City of Winnipeg comes into compliance on this critical infrastructure on an expedited basis.

Should you have any technical questions concerning the foregoing please contact Asit Dey, Environmental Engineer, at 204-794-3389 or at [Asit.Dey@gov.mb.ca](mailto:Asit.Dey@gov.mb.ca). Should you have any questions about the stipulated compliance schedule, please contact me directly at 204-794-9074 or [Shannon.Kohler@gov.mb.ca](mailto:Shannon.Kohler@gov.mb.ca).

Yours sincerely,



Shannon Kohler, Director  
The Environment Act

cc: Colin Javra, Project Director - City of Winnipeg  
Maira Geer, Director - City of Winnipeg  
Yvonne Hawryliuk - Environmental Compliance and Enforcement  
Siobhan Burland Ross, Asit Dey - Environmental Approvals Branch  
Public Registry