

## SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

**PROPONENT:** Town of Neepawa  
**PROPOSAL NAME:** Wastewater Treatment Lagoon Biosolids to Farmland  
**CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT:** 2  
**TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT:** Waste/Scrap  
**CLIENT FILE NO.:** 5123.00

### OVERVIEW:

On June 30, 2005, the Department received a Proposal from the Town of Neepawa for the removal of biosolids from the primary cell of its wastewater treatment lagoon located in 34-14-15WPM. The biosolids will be removed from the primary cell of the lagoon, transported to farmlands, and injected into the soils. The parcels of land on which the biosolids will be applied by injection are NW and SW 34-14-16WPM owned by Jim Beaumont and SW 31-14-15WPM owned by the Town of Neepawa.

Upon preliminary review of the EAP report, it was determined that some information, necessary for the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) review, had not been provided. The EAP report did not provide detailed and specific characteristics for the sludge and the land to which it would be injected. Analyses of the sludge and land were required such that the information could be reviewed during the EAP review and used to develop an Environment Act Licence should one be generated for this EAP.

On August 4, 2005 the Department received the requested supporting information.

The Department, on August 9, 2005, placed copies of the Proposal in the Public Registries located at 123 Main St. (Union Station), the St. James-Assiniboia Public Library, the Western Manitoba Regional Library, Manitoba Eco-Network, and the Town of Neepawa Office. As well, copies of the Proposal were provided to the Interdepartmental Planning Board and TAC members. The Department placed a public notification of the Proposal in the Neepawa Banner on Monday, August 15, 2005. The newspaper and TAC notification invited responses until September 15, 2005.

### COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No comments were received from the Public.

### COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

#### Transportation and Government Services

- *No concerns.*

### **Health**

- *Please ensure:*
  - *Prevention of pollutants or contaminated wastewaters from entering sewage disposal and municipal ditch systems;*
  - *Odor control and monitoring; and*
  - *Gasoline and diesel regulations if applicable.*

#### Disposition:

- The terms of the draft Environment Act Licence require; injection of the biosolid into the soil, biosolids must remain in the furrow opening, and the surface expression of the injected biosolids is acceptable to an Environment Officer;
- The terms of the draft Environment Act Licence will cause the Licencee to eliminate or to mitigate odour nuisances as the Director may require; and
- The terms of the draft Environment Act Licence require that the Licencee comply with applicable regulations for the storage and handling of gasoline and associated products and the reporting of environmental accidents.

### **Intergovernmental Affairs**

- *We have no concerns regarding this project no. 5123.00, removal of biosolids from the Neepawa lagoon. The report does not indicate if there are people living in the house located on the W1/2 of Section 34-14-16W. If there are people living in this house we would recommend that the necessary precautions be taken in order to safeguard their health. Finally, we again would recommend that the spreading in Section 31-14-15W be kept at a safe distance from the airport and Prairie Forest Industries and the rural residential development located south of PTH No. 16.*

#### Disposition:

- The draft Environment Act Licence contains clauses which;
  - cause the Licencee to apply the biosolids to areas within the designated area which are not subject to flooding;
  - require that the biosolids remain the furrow opening; and
  - require that the surface expression of the injected biosolids is acceptable to an Environment Officer.
- Minimum setbacks from any occupied residence, residential area, waterways and groundwater wells are designated in the draft Environment Act Licence.

### **Historic Resources**

- *No concerns.*

### **Water Stewardship**

- *No concerns.*

### **Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency**

- *The application of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act with respect to this project will not be required. Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Environment Canada indicated that they would be able to offer specialist advice with regard to the project.*

### **Fisheries and Oceans Canada**

- *The report entitled "Environment Act Proposal for the Town of Neepawa – Lagoon Dredging, Transportation, and Land Injection of BioSolids" produced by AXYS Environmental Consulting Ltd. (June 2005), states that biosolid will be injected into the soil at W 34-15-16WPM. Both Stony Creek and its tributary in this location contain indicator fish species (e.g. Northern pike, White Sucker). As a result, the following best practices are recommended:*
  - *The existing riparian habitat of both waterbodies should not be disturbed as a result of the biosolid injection.*
  - *No material (biosolid) enters the Stony Creek or its tributaries.*
  - *There is no infilling of Stony Creek or its tributaries.*
  - *There are no new watercrossings developed as part of the biosolid injection. Access will be limited to existing crossings while distributing biosolid.*

### **Disposition:**

- The draft Environment Act Licence contains clauses which;
  - cause the Licencee to apply the biosolids to areas within the designated area which are not subject to flooding;
  - require that the biosolids remain the furrow opening; and
  - require that the surface expression of the injected biosolids is acceptable to an Environment Officer.
- Minimum setbacks from any occupied residence, residential area, waterways and groundwater wells are designated in the draft Environment Act Licence.
- The draft Environment Act Licence contains Clauses that require the Licencee to remove, transport, and inject the biosolids into the soils in such a manner as to prevent the disruption of natural wildlife and fish habitats.

### **PUBLIC HEARING:**

A public hearing is not recommended.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Proponent should be issued a Licence to remove biosolids from its wastewater lagoon for sub-surface injection on the described land location subject to the specifications, limits, terms and conditions of the Licence. The Licence should be assigned to the Western Region.

PREPARED BY:

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September 29, 2005

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