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April 15, 2014

Tracey Braun, M.Sc.
Director Environment Act
Manitoba Conservation and Water stewardship
Environmental Stewardship Division
Environmental approval Branch
123 Main Street, Suite 160
Winnipeg, MB R3C 1A5

Dear Ms. Braun

RE: Notice of Alteration – City of Selkirk Wastewater Treatment Facility

I am responding to your February 18, 2014 letter regarding the Notice of Alteration for the City of Selkirk Wastewater Treatment Facility in that you determined that the proposed alterations proposed by AECOM to remove phosphorus may be carried out in accordance with a revised Environment Act license to be issued in the near future.

In August 2013, Selkirk signed an Agreement with the Manitoba Water Services Board (MWSB) to cost share in preparing a Functional Design Report and file an Environmental Act Proposal to source a licence to upgrade the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

On January 6, 2014 the Manitoba Water Services Board signed an agreement with AECOM Canada Ltd. to prepare a Functional Design Report and file an Environmental Act Proposal (EAP) to secure a licence to upgrade the City of Selkirk Wastewater Treatment Plant.

AECOM, the Manitoba Water Services Board, and the City of Selkirk have been working on this Functional Design.

Through this process the City has come up with a number of concerns, i.e. the potential huge annual operating costs, the large capital cost, and the possible change of plant operator requirements from a Level 2, to a Level 3, or 4.

Based on your correspondence of February 18, 2014 we have the following inquiries to your statements:

"The revised Environment Act license will require effluent to meet 1mg/L phosphorus by December 31, 2015."

Can the City of Selkirk get an extension to June 30, 2017 if it has a plan to address the 15 mg/l total nitrogen limit along with the phosphorus limit?

"A 15 mg/L total nitrogen limit will be included in the revised Environmental Act license for phase two of the upgrade. The revised Environment Act licence will require the City of Selkirk to implement a second stage of nutrient removal by June 30, 2017 that:

- removes nutrients primarily by biological methods through application of the best available technologies;*

- minimizes the use of chemical methods to remove nutrients;"*

Is the Johannesburg (BNR) 2 Process without preliminary clarifiers or fermenters for phosphorus and nitrogen removal acceptable?

- "recovers and recycles nutrients to the maximum extent possible through application of the best available technologies; and*
- reuses wastewater sludge remaining after the treatment process."*

Does this mean no landfilling?

How long could the City bypass the treatment process and discharge directly to the Red River if the City was to retro fit the existing Wastewater Treatment Facility to meet the Manitoba Water Quality Standards for total phosphorus and nitrogen?

Also, what is the amount of testing required for the new phosphorus and nitrogen limits? Is there Daily/ weekly testing?

If you require any clarification of this letter or have any questions, please contact me at (204) 785-0567.

Sincerely,



Randy Borsa
Coordinator of Special Projects
City of Selkirk

cc: Jim Fenske, Dan McDermid, Dale Scott, Eric Hutchison, P. Eng., AECOM, Travis Parson, P. Eng., MWSB