

## **SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROPONENT:** Wapella Pipelines Manitoba Inc.  
**PROPOSAL NAME:** Wapella (Manitoba) Pipeline System  
**CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT:** 2  
**TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT:** Transmission  
**CLIENT FILE NO.:** 4353.00

### **OVERVIEW:**

The Proposal was dated June 30, 1998 and received on July 9, 1998. The advertisement of the Proposal read as follows:

“A Proposal has been filed by Wapella Pipelines Manitoba Inc. to construct a crude oil pipeline consisting of approximately 35 km of 219.1 mm pipeline from the Neutrino Resources Battery in 5-18-12-29 WPM to a tie-in with the Waskada Pipeline at 14-16-9-28 WPM at the Interprovincial Pipeline Cromer Terminal. The proposed project is located in the Rural Municipalities of Wallace and Pipestone. Construction is scheduled to begin in the late summer or early fall, 1998. An Environmental Protection Plan (EPP) has been submitted as part of the Proposal.”

The Proposal was distributed to the "Transportation" TAC for review and was advertised in the Virden Empire Advance and the Reston Recorder on Tuesday, July 21, 1998. It was placed in the Main Registry, the Manitoba Eco-Network, the Centennial Public Library, and the Border Regional Library in Virden. Comments were requested by August 14, 1998.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

No comments were received in response to the Environment Act advertisement of the Proposal.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:**

**Manitoba Natural Resources** Recommend that no instream construction activity occur between March 15 and June 15. Water crossings should be completed under “dry” conditions where some standing water may be present, however, there should be no detectable flow. If possible water crossings should be completed prior to December 1 to facilitate the effectiveness of bank stability prior to the spring run-off period. Stream banks are to be stabilized as necessary and disturbed areas should be seeded with locally grown native species or cultivars. Streambeds should be contoured to their original slope using spoil removed by trenching. Request that disturbance through riparian areas by construction equipment be kept to a minimum. A work permit is required from the DNR

office in Virden prior to constructing any water crossings. Request that the Regional Wildlife Manager be kept informed of the construction progress.

Disposition: Comments can be accommodated as licencing conditions.

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**Manitoba Environment - Water Quality** Recommend that the boring under streams would be preferred if the streams are flowing at the time of construction, particularly in the case of Gopher and Bosshill Creeks. Should boring not be feasible the open cut method should be done between the late August and freeze-up. Note that many southern Manitoba streams are unusually high this year which may result in some problems with the open cut method. Recommend that the Regional Fisheries Biologist in Brandon be consulted with respect to stream crossings. Stream banks should be restored and stabilized immediately after construction. Water used for hydrostatic tests should not be released directly into water courses.

Disposition: These comments can be accommodated as conditions in the Licence which will also address similar comments expressed by DNR and DFO.

**Mines Branch** No concerns

**Urban Affairs** No comments

**Rural Development** Suggest that the pipeline route maximize the use of road allowances to avoid disturbance to agriculture land, farm dwellings and urban centers.

Disposition: The Proposal describes the route selection process for the pipeline. The route selected has attempted to minimize the length of the pipeline while minimizing impacts to sensitive areas, farmsites and residences and to accommodate landowner requests to extent feasible. Technical comments on the Proposal indicate that the selected route is practical without creating significant adverse impacts.

**Health** Note that inclusion in the Environment Act Licence of the proposed environmental management practices as per section 5 of the Proposal are expected to prevent or mitigate potential health hazards from the project.

Disposition: The comments can be accommodated by including a general reference in the licence to the proposed mitigation and management practices documented in the Proposal.

**Historic Resources Branch** Report that a heritage resource impact assessment has been conducted by the proponent. The Historic Resources Branch concurs with the study recommendation that no further study is required as no intact or significant heritage resources were discovered. Request that work be suspended and the Historic Branch be contacted should heritage resources be found during construction.

Disposition: Request to suspend work should heritage resources be discovered during construction can be accommodated as a condition of licencing.

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**Highway & Transportation** MHT has no objection to the Proposal. Note that permission will be required from MHT for Provincial Road crossings. MHT will have to review project specific details as a normal part of their approval process for PR crossings. MHT requires that the proponent meet standards when working adjacent to a provincial road or highway. For example:

- Highway traffic control standards
- All pipeline crossings of PTH's and PR's must be sleeved; and
- All right-of-way must returned to original condition

Disposition: The requirement to return the all right-of-way to original condition can be accommodated as a condition of licencing.

The Licencee will be informed of Highway's requirements regarding traffic control and sleeves Licence letter of transmittal.

**Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CCEA)** Based on responses from federal departments, application of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* with respect to the project will not be required.

**Fisheries and Oceans Canada** Conclude that the project is not likely to result in the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat after taking into account the implementation of the mitigation measures outlined in the Proposal, provincial work permits and the following procedures:

- Open trenching of Bosshill and Gopher Creeks should only be done in the late summer and fall. If this schedule cannot be adhered to and/or the creeks are actively flowing at that time, site specific details of construction methods including design drawings and mitigation strategies proposed for the crossings must be provided to DFO prior to construction. In addition, a site specific

fisheries evaluation must be completed and submitted to DFO for review and approval well in advance of construction. Recommend that the Licencee follow the “Fisheries Habitat Environmental Screening Procedure” provided in the **Watercourse Crossing Guidelines for Pipeline Systems (Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers, 1993)**.

- Temporary stream crossings by pipeline construction equipment and erosion control should be carried out in accordance with the **Manitoba Stream Crossing Guidelines for the Protection of Fish and Fish Habitat (DFO & MNR, 1996)**.
- Site specific and an evaluation of impacts to fish and fish habitat should be provided to DFO where hydrostatic test withdrawal exceed 10% of the flow or volume or when dewatering will occur during sensitive periods. Details should include information on the expected natural water levels or flows, the method, timing, duration and volume of withdrawals, plans for discharge of hydrostatic test water and an evaluation of possible impacts to fish and fish habitat. Where there are potential impacts the Licencee should develop site-specific mitigation and/or compensation measures to ensure no net loss of fish habitat.
- Test water intakes should be screened according to the **Freshwater Intake End-of-Pipe Fish Screen Guideline (DFO, 1995)**.

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- Appropriate precautions should be undertaken to ensure that deleterious substances do not enter watercourses during equipment operation, refueling and servicing and during the discharge of hydrostatic test water.

Disposition: Comments can be accommodated under the same conditions of licencing which address similar comments expressed by DNR and the Department of Environment Water Quality Section.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

A public hearing is not recommended for this project as no public concerns were filed in response to the Environment Act advertisement of the Proposal.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The TAC comments can be accommodated as conditions of licencing for the project. Therefore, it is recommended that the Development be licenced under The Environment Act subject to the limits terms and conditions as described in the attached

Draft Environment Act Licence. It is further recommended that enforcement of the Licence be assigned to the Manitoba Environment Park-West Region.