



Sustainable Development

Environmental Stewardship Division
Environmental Approvals Branch
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File No.: 4814.00

March 18, 2019

Joann Murphy, Chief Administrative Officer
Rural Municipality of Gimli
Box 1246
Gimli, MB R0C 1B0
Email: jking@rmgimli.com

Dear Joann Murphy:

RE: Rural Municipality of Gimli – Gimli Wastewater Treatment Plant – Minor Notice of Alteration Approval – Environment Act Licence No. 2587

I am responding to the March 6, 2019 Notice of Alteration request, submitted by Bonnie McIntosh, P.Eng., of the Birchtree Consulting Ltd., relative to a request for alteration to Environment Act Licence No. 2587 (Licence), originally issued for the construction and operation of the Development being a wastewater collection system and a wastewater treatment plant located on the west half of 18-19-4 EPM in the Rural Municipality of Gimli. The submission is considered a Notice of Alteration (NoA) pursuant to Section 14 of The Environment Act.

The intent of the NoA is to temporarily suspend Clause 16(c) (i.e., the fecal coliform limit) of the Licence in order to discharge partially treated effluent from the Gimli Wastewater Treatment Facility to Lake Winnipeg for the purpose of upgrading the equalization basin and effluent lift station. These upgrades are required as part of the Phase II development of the wastewater treatment facility.

The March 6, 2019 NoA submission identified seven mitigation options and the option proposed includes the combination of the following:

- By-passing the UV disinfection process for a maximum two-week period beginning April 1, 2019;
- Diverting municipal wastewater from the town of Gimli to the town lagoon for storage and ultimate full treatment at the plant when the disinfection system is back on-line; and
- Diverting septage and holding tank hauling to nearby communities during the by-pass period.

Upon review of the NoA and pursuant to Section 14(2) of the Environment Act, I hereby approve the implementation of the March 6, 2019 Notice of Alteration request with the following conditions:

1. The suspension of Clause 16 (c) of the Licence shall be valid from April 1, 2019 to April 13, 2019 inclusive for this stage of the Phase II upgrades. The Licencee shall make every effort to complete upgrades to the plant such that the by-pass event duration is minimized.
2. The Licencee shall provide notification in writing, one week in advance of the discharge event, to all remaining Indigenous ice fishermen and commercial fishermen in the area surrounding the outflow pipe. Notification must include potential risks to human health, must be waterproof, and must be attached to the ice-huts in a reasonable location. Alternatively, the ice road access point may be restricted with proper notification.
3. The Licencee shall collect effluent samples daily for all of the effluent quality parameters listed in Clause 16 of the Licence. The Licencee shall analyze the collected samples in accordance with the Licence.
4. The Licencee shall submit a summary report by April 19, 2019 to Asit Dey, Environmental Engineer, outlining the volumes of partially treated wastewater discharged into Lake Winnipeg during the authorized by-pass event, the impact of planned discharge into Lake Winnipeg, and data collected during the authorized by-pass event.
5. The Licencee shall maintain the operating depth in the overflow detention pond in accordance with the Emergency Pond Operations Management Plan submitted to the Department on November 16, 2018.

All other clauses of Environment Act Licence 2587 remain in effect.

Should you have any questions concerning this approval, please contact Asit Dey, Environmental Engineer at (204) 945-2614 or at asit.dey@gov.mb.ca.

Yours sincerely,



Tracey Braun, M.Sc.,
Director

- c: Public Registry
Bonnie McIntosh, P.Eng., Birchtree Consulting
Don Labossiere/Yvonne Hawryliuk/Tyler Kneeshaw/Katie Martin, Environmental Compliance and Enforcement
Siobhan Burland Ross/Asit Dey, Environmental Approvals