

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPONENT: Rural Municipality of Macdonald
PROPOSAL NAME: Rural Water Pipeline Extension
CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT: Two
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT: Transportation and Transmission
CLIENT FILE NO.: 4185.00

OVERVIEW:

The Proposal was received on June 17, 1996. It was dated June 14, 1996. The advertisement of the proposal was as follows:

“A Proposal has been filed by the Manitoba Water Services Board on behalf of the Rural Municipality of Macdonald for the construction and operation of several rural water supply pipeline extensions. The project involves a total of approximately 100 km of pipelines and 17 km of service lines. The extensions would be located south and west of Brunkild, south and west of Starbuck, north of Sanford, around Oak Bluff, east of La Salle and near Domain and Osborne. All pipeline would be located in provincial and municipal road allowances. Water would be supplied from the regional water treatment plant in Sanford. Construction would occur in the late summer and fall of 1996.”

The Proposal was advertised in the Carman Valley Leader on the week of July 1, 1996. It was placed in the Main, Centennial and Eco-Network public registries. It was also distributed to TAC members on June 24, 1996. The closing date for comments from members of the public and TAC members was July 24, 1996.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

No public responses were received.

COMMENTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Manitoba Environment - Water Quality Management No long term detrimental impacts to water quality. Tunnelling across creeks and streams will be done where possible and this is the preferred choice. If trenching is required, it is preferred that disruption be avoided during May and June. During construction and testing, super-chlorinated water should not be released until the chlorine has become inert. Provisions should be made for the operator to report and clean up any fuel spills during construction.

Disposition:

These comments can be addressed as licence conditions.

Historic Resources Branch No concerns.

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Mines Branch No concerns.

Highway Planning and Design A water line agreement is required prior to placing any water supply lines within the Department's right-of-way. The contact is: W. Burdz, A/Technical Services Engineer. The proponent is expected to meet or exceed certain standards when working adjacent to a provincial road or highway. Project specific details will have to be reviewed in due course as part of the normal Highway Crossing Approvals process.

Disposition:

These comments will be forwarded to the proponent's representative for information.

Rural Development - Community Economic Development The subject properties are designated Agricultural in the Macdonald-Ritchot Development Plan, and are zoned "AR" Agricultural in the R. M. of Macdonald Zoning By-law. No concerns.

Medical Officer of Health The Department supports the reliable delivery of safe water to rural areas. No concerns.

Natural Resources Where possible, construction planned through riparian and native habitats should be avoided during April to August which is the critical breeding and rearing period for wildlife. The planting of native species or their native cultivars should be used where required on disturbed sites that have not regenerated in the following year. The preferred crossing method on the La Salle River near Starbuck is by tunnelling. If this cannot occur and trenching becomes an option, it is recommended that the regional fisheries manager in Gimli be advised prior to the start of construction. Manitoba's Stream Crossing Guidelines are to be adhered to. The proponent should contact the regional office of MNR and advise of the timing and progress of construction activity. There is enough excess pumping capacity in the Assiniboine - La Salle Diversion project to accommodate this proposal. An application for licensing under The Water Rights Act has been made and it is being processed. The pipelines cross provincial waterways at six locations and authorization permits will be required for the crossings.

Disposition:

These comments can be addressed as licence conditions.

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency An environmental assessment under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act may be conducted by PFRA. DFO would like to participate in the provincial review process.

Fisheries and Oceans The project is not likely to cause significant adverse effects on fish and fish habitat after taking into account the implementation of appropriate mitigation techniques. DFO recommends that creek and drain crossings be tunnelled as proposed wherever possible. In the event that an open cut crossing is required, the DNR

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regional biologist and DFO should be contacted with details of the crossing. If open cut crossings are required, the following techniques should be used: no instream activities should take place between April 15 and June 30 in any year. Crossings should be constructed in late summer or fall when flows are lowest. The proponent should apply appropriate crossing techniques and erosion control measures as detailed in "Watercourse Crossing Guidelines for Pipeline Systems" published by CAPP in 1993. All stream banks and rights-of-way should be stabilized immediately after construction to prevent erosion and sedimentation.

Disposition:

As it is not anticipated that open cut stream crossings will be needed, a licence condition should specify that only non-disruptive crossing techniques may be used. If an open cut crossing is required, separate approval should be obtained, and the techniques discussed in these comments should be incorporated into a mitigation plan for the crossing.

PUBLIC HEARING:

As no public concerns were identified, a public hearing is not recommended.

RECOMMENDATION:

All comments received on the Proposal can be addressed as licence conditions. Therefore, it is recommended that the Development be licensed under The Environment Act subject to the limits, terms and conditions as described on the attached Draft Environment Act Licence. It is further recommended that enforcement of the Licence be assigned to the Winnipeg Region.

PREPARED BY:

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August 6, 1996

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