

## PUBLIC COMMENTS - DELTA II ELSKAMP – R.M. OF WOODLANDS

(1)

Wayne Oliver and Russell Oliver are NOT in fair of this operation We DO NOT want this hog barn in our area, water is already a problem we do not want manure to come down with it now and we know it will we have already have a hog barn by us.

Sent July 26,2016

Please confirm that us received this email

Sent from my iPad

(2)

- Hi I'm Don MacMillan I live 4 miles South East of the location for the proposed pig barn.
- Being opposed to the situation that is now being presented to our community would be an **understatement!**
- My biggest concern the smell would be unbearable with the prevailing **N/NW winds**.
  - I enjoy sitting in my backyard in the summer do you??
- 4 miles is not even close enough to being far enough away from pig shit with prevailing winds!
- The proposed spread sites will affect a lot more people than the 3KLM radius that letters were mailed out to.
- My other concern is water contamination as we use our well for drinking water. (The proposed site is at substantial higher elevation than our property).
- I take pride in my yard and spend a lot time out there and yes someday would like to sell!
  - Sure as hell not going to take cut in property values because of some stinking pig barn.
- On side note we already have pig barn located 3.5 miles S/SE of us already. The smell of that barn can be horrible at times and that's not even with prevailing wind.
- The other factor is the Town of Marquette is located 6 miles S/SE of this location. The prevailing winds will effect everybody in town!

**It is ridiculous that only people located in 3KLM radius from this barn got the letter. Believe me when I say there is a lot of people that will do whatever it takes to see that this operation gets shut down!**

**Don MacMillan, NW 18-13-2W**

**(3)**

July 27, 2016

Technical Review Co-ordination Unit  
Manitoba Indigenous and Municipal Relations  
604 - 800 Portage Avenue  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3G 0N4

I would like to share my concerns regarding the proposal from Topigs Norsvin Canada Inc. to establish a 2,746 animal (450 Animal Unit) operation known as Delta II Elskamp at North ½ SE 3-14-3 WPM in the R.M. of Woodlands.

I have lived in the community since 1988 after my husband and I built our forever home in the community that he and his family have lived in their whole lives. Since that time I have seen a pig barn operation built 3.5 miles to the South East of our home, another 4.5 miles South West of our home and now another is proposed 4 miles to the North West of our home. I cannot tell you how hideous the odor can be when trying to be outdoors as it is now – especially with a South East wind. But if this new proposal is accepted, based on the building site and the potential spreading sites, it would be impossible to be outdoors at any point of the day due to the prevailing North West winds that we experience on our property! Furthermore, odour control measures of manure storage covers are not going to be used.

I believe that with all the hog operations surrounding our property, property values will definitely drop off. It's not a very attractive selling feature that's for sure!

I operated a Manitoba Licence Home Day Care Facility in my home and I cannot imagine trying to operate under the conditions with the polluted air quality that will be experienced if this proposal is approved. I am obligated to provide daily outdoor activities for the children in my care to be compliant – how can I achieve this if we cannot bare to breathe in the stench! As I mentioned before, the winds are prevailing out of the North West! Planning an interview with a prospective new day care family would be very difficult if I had to base it on the direction of the wind – who would want their child subject to those conditions on a daily basis – I think no one would!

I have genuine concerns with water contamination as well. This barn's location is at a higher elevation on a ridge and any drainage will run to the south east. Given the high volume of water usage I feel it is a very valid concern.

I appreciate having this opportunity to voice my concerns.

Yours truly

Bev MacMillan  
NW 18-13-2W

**(4)**

This email is to notify you that I am in opposition to the establishment of a hog operation known as Delta II Elskamp at North ½ of SE 3-14-3 WPM. I am opposed to it for the following reasons:

- Decrease in residential property values
- Odour
- The property owner does not reside in the R.M. of Woodlands therefore there is not effect on his residential property
- Increased traffic
- The affect it will have on the area as a recreation site for walking, hunting, atving, and snowmobiling. This area is used heavily by R.M of Woodlands residents as well as a number of people from outside the area. There is a recreation cabin nearby that is going to be negatively affected.

I also have a few questions in regards to the assessment that was submitted.

- Why did the applicants opt to create an environmental plan
- Why have the applicants decided not to use a cover for odor control
- The applicants have indicated that there will be a shelterbelt. What type of trees, what size, and how many?

Jody Yeo

Marquette, MB

**(5)**

To whom it may concern:

Please accept this email as our formal letter of complaint for the proposed Hog Barn (known as Delta II Elskamp at North 1/2 SE- 3-14-3 WPM).

As long time members of the Woodlands farming community, we are deeply disturbed that we were not made aware of these plans until just this week when an article was run in the Stonewall Tribune. We were shocked to find out that the application for the proposed hog operation has already made it to step 5 of the application process (detailed on the Manitoba Pork website for establishing new hog operations) without us actually knowing anything about it. Especially considering, step 1 listed in the Manitoba Pork document states that notifying neighbours should be the FIRST thing to happen.

We spent the last few days pouring over the TRC assessment/application that has been made public online for the Delta II Hog operation, and are even more upset to find that the proposed spread sites literally surround all of our farm land. Even more disconcerting is that the application states that the aforementioned proposed operation does NOT have an environmental plan or anything put in place for odour control. This is VERY upsetting to learn as the area is a highly built up farming community, with many home sites located directly beside

the proposed spread sites. For our family alone, we have three homes (Ray and Tammy Blowers, Marge Blowers, and Shawn and Derek Blowers) directly located bordering these spread sites. As well, my wife and I are planning to subdivide a section of our family land to build a new home in the area so that we can grow our family farming business and make it into our full time means of income. Of course this news is upsetting, because if it ends up being approved it will completely tank the value of all the homes in the area and would make it impossible for us to build on our own land, as we would be building directly beside a manure spread site that doesn't have an odour control or environmental plan put into place - so we have no idea how bad the smell and/or damage to the soil and water supply in the area will be/get.

It is hard to have faith in the process that Manitoba Pork has listed on their website of how these types of applications/proposals move through the legal channels because already from the get-go we feel as if we have had the wool pulled over our eyes. The fact that we weren't made aware of this proposal until AFTER it has already made it to step 5 of the process, left us with virtually no options to communicate with the Delta II applicants about having an environmental plan put in place and making sure that they had an excellent odour control plan. As well, it left us without the ability to discuss the reasons behind why a hog barn operation is even necessary in this area. There are already several other hog operations in the area - and we fail to see why we need another one, especially one of this size that would directly effect dozens of other families in a negative way (both financially and physically).

We are extremely disappointed in how this application has been handled thus far, especially the fact that we have contacted the TRC already and asked why neighbouring residents (who are bordering the proposed spread sites) were not notified of the plan directly - and were told, and I quote "that it would be too much work". The fact that the TRC found it to be too much work to contact all of the families in the community that would be effected negatively by this proposed hog operation just goes to show that it is NOT an ideal location for this type of operation. The Manitoba Pork application guide even states that you must "plan to locate the new barn and manure storage facility as far away from neighbouring residents and communities as you can...", and this has most certainly not been the case. The site map provided in their public application details that all of the manure spread sites are located DIRECTLY beside a built up farming neighbourhood - basically located in the heart of the community.

In conclusion, if it hasn't been made vehemently clear already, we are absolutely in opposition to this hog barn proposal, and will be exhausting every avenue of approach available to us to help ensure that this proposed hog operation does NOT get approved. We believe that if it does, it will completely destroy our farming community. While it will make a giant profit for one family, it will most certainly tank the futures of all the rest of the community members. This is something we cannot stand behind.

Sincerely,  
Michael & Lacey Blowers

**(6)**

Good Afternoon,

I have just been informed about a large scale hog barn proposal that includes manure dumping on land that is North and West of my property.

Two major concerns:

- 1) The most obvious would be the potential smell that will ensue upon dumping of the manure – injection or not – there will be a nasty odor which will lower the monetary value of my property as well as be unbearable.
- 2) The proposed barn site is on a gravel ridge – has there been an environmental impact study completed? Will we be guaranteed in writing that there are no health risks?

I am strongly opposed to this proposal and am wondering when/if there will be a public meeting on this before it is approved?

Sincerely,

Ramona Dorsch

NE 25-13-2W

Warren, MB.

ROC 3E0

**(7)**

I'm writing you today with my concerns with a proposed Hog barn that is 3 miles down wind to me . I have several concerns first is that the applicat has decided not to do a environmental plan and has no plan for odor control other than planting tree. There is a highly populated area to the south and south east and as you may know most of our wind come from the north or north west . Also I'm worry about the water . There are several dairy operations in the are and many many residents that use the same aquifer and being build on a ridge there is high possibly of leaching. There spread areas are also poor with most being near very populated areas. If this barn is such a good idea why doesn't the farmer put the barn near his farm where the population is low ? Oh that's right they don't want to smell it thats why they live 5 miles to the north of it . There are several family's that have recently and are planning on building in the area just like me I'm worried. do i build my dream home and have to put up with the smell or find out our well water is ruined cause of this barn which is way to big 2700 hogs at one time up to 5 times a year and what about our property value . How do I sell a home when the air stinks like pig manure. I just don't want this one barn and one farmer to wreck our community that we have all contributed to.

Sincerely Neal Smith

**(8)**

Honorable James Bezan,

I am reaching out to you today as a concerned citizen because we need help dealing with a life-altering situation we are up against in the RM of Woodlands. My wife and I have already contacted our local municipality, our local MLA and the Technical Review Committee with our concerns (we have attached a copy of our original letter of opposition for your information), but feel as though we are caught behind the eight ball, so to speak, and need to voice our concerns at a higher level of government so that we can rest easy knowing that we did all within our power to protect our family and our community.

Myself, my family and all concerned residents of the RM of Woodlands are desperately trying to stop the creation of a proposed 2700 head new operation hog barn known as the Delta II Elskamp. The spread zones and barn are located in the heart of the RM's farming community. The hog barn applicant which is more like a corporation, engaged in corporate farming practices, that currently farm over 13000 acres of grain land and also have a large scale dairy operation and beef feedlot operation in the Interlake, has just notified the public this past week their intention to open this enormous hog operation with spread sites that literally surround our entire community.

They did not follow the steps and procedures outlined by Manitoba Pork which states that neighbors must be notified FIRST, and somehow this application has made it to step 4 (waiting on a public meeting with the RM where the RM will vote either in favor or not of the operation), without ANY of those directly effected by the hog operation being notified by anyone: not the Elskamp family, the international corporation backing them, or the TRC that completed their assessment of their hog barn proposal. We only found out about the proposed hog operation when a small article was printed in our local newspaper AFTER everything was already approved by the TRC.

We are deeply upset because their proposal, which is now publicly available online, states that the Delta II Elskamp hog operation has no environmental plan in place, as well as zero odor control plans put in place for their proposed spread sites. If this hog barns gets approved, this means that our farm land, our home sites, and our water systems will be polluted - and the entire community will stand to lose thousands of dollars in decrease in property values as well as the inability to continue our way of life and means of income, which is farming (due to polluted soil and water).

Our understanding is that Bill 17, passed in 2008, banned the new construction of Hog barns in 35 different municipalities, including the Interlake. In addition, in 2011 the province adopted The Save Lake Winnipeg Act, which is supposed to effectively prevent new hog operations from being built throughout the province. This act was unanimously supported and passed by ALL members of the Manitoba legislature.

When we look at this legislation, we are confused as to how the Delta II Elskamp proposed operation has even made it to the stage of approval as it has, because according to the

information in their application (which is now available to the public online), they have NO environmental plan (or odor control plan) put in place which directly means that their proposed hog operation is at odds with the current legislation, and therefore should NOT be approved.

In the Delta II application, Manitoba Pork has stated that “the hog operation proposal was filed in compliance with ‘pig production special pilot project –evaluation protocol’ in June 2015”, but after looking over their application ourselves we fail to see how their hog operation meets the requirements of being a special pilot project when their application lists them as a “Hog finishers & Boars” (when the MB pork documentation states that to achieve the special project status you have to be a feeder operation and a research facility), and their conditional permit signed in 2015 by Tom Elskamp and Mike Shaw (Topigs Norsvin Canada) states that the Delta II Elskamp operation is listed as a “finishing hog operation with a capacity of 2,746 places with the development of a research facility as an accessory use.” So, when is this research facility going to be developed, if ever? Since the protocol outlined by Manitoba Pork and the TRC was not followed properly, and none of the residents that will be directly effected by this proposed hog operation were contacted by the Elskamp family or the TRC, we have to be honest when we say that we feel as if we have actively been abused and taken advantaged of. We feel very strongly that now is the time to stand up for ourselves and our community and fight for what is better for the community as a whole, rather than what is best for one corporate farming agency, and Manitoba Pork.

In short, this hog barn directly means the end of our way of life, for not just one family but dozens, and we implore you to please help us put a stop to this.

Sincerely,

Michael& Lacey Blowers

**(9)**

To whom it may concern:

Please accept this email as my formal letter of complaint for the proposed Hog Barn (known as Delta II Elskamp at North 1/2 SE- 3-14-3 WPM).

My family and I own farming property which is located directly next to the proposed spread site for the Hog Barn.

As a long-time member of the Woodland farming community I was deeply upset that I was not made aware of these plans until just this last week when an article was run in the Stonewall Tribune. I was even more horrified to discover that the application for the proposed hog operation has already made it to step five of the application process (as detailed on the Manitoba Pork website for establishing new hog operations) without myself being notified. Especially considering, step 1 listed in the Manitoba Pork documentation states that notifying neighbours should be the FIRST thing to happen.

The proposed hog operation does not only affect myself, but my entire family. According to the TRC assessment/application that has been made public online for the Delta II Hog operation the proposed spread sites literally surround all of our family farm land. In addition, the application stated that the proposed hog operation does not have an environmental plan or anything in place for odour control. This is incredibly upsetting, as myself (Shawn Blowers), as well as, my parents, grandmother and brother (Ray and Tammy Blowers, Marge Blowers and Derek Blowers) all have permanent homes built upon our land which will be located directly around the spread sites. We reside in a highly built up farming community and should the hog farm be approved it will have a drastic impact on the value of all of homes within the area, and would make it impossible for us to build and expand on our own land. In addition to affecting the property value of my home, without an environmental plan put into place there is a possibility that the hog operation could damage the soil and water supply in the area. The Manitoba Pork application guide states that any person considering implementing a hog operation must "plan to locate the new barn and manure storage facility as far away from neighbouring residents and communities as you can...", and this guideline has not been followed. The implementation of this hog operation could have detrimental effects on my family's health and safety, and the financial security of our farms.

I am very disappointed in how this application has been handled thus far I feel very blindsided by this process, especially since I was not made aware of the proposal until after it already made it to step 5 of the process. In addition, my brother (Mike Blowers), contacted the TRC and asked why neighbouring residents (who are bordering the proposed spread sites) were not notified of the plan directly - and he was told, and I quote "that it would be too much work". The fact that the TRC found it to be 'too much work' to contact all of the families in the community that may be affected by this proposed hog operation just goes to show a complete lack of respect for the other families in the community. As a result, I now have no faith that this proposal was created with the community in mind, or will benefit the residents.

Due to TRC's laziness, my family and I have been left with virtually no options to communicate with the Delta II applicants about having an environmental plan put in place and making sure that they had an excellent odour control plan. As well, it left us without the ability to discuss the reasons behind why a hog barn operation is even necessary in this area. There are already several other hog operations in the area (which follow the Manitoba Pork guidelines) - and we fail to see why we need another one, especially one of this size that would directly affect dozens of other families in a negative way (both financially and physically).

In conclusion, I would like it made vehemently clear that I am absolutely in opposition to the hog barn proposal. I believe that if this proposal is approved it will completely destroy the Woodland farming community. While I do recognize that the hog barn operation may produce a giant profit for one family, it will certainly harm the community as a whole and drastically impact the health, safety and financial security of the other residents. I cannot stand behind a project that is not in the best interest of my community, especially one that has been handled in such an unprofessional manner.

Sincerely,  
Shawn Blowers



**(10)**

August 3, 2016

My name is Damien Dudeck and I live on the property at Lot A Plan 45946 SE ¼ 31-13-2 WPM in the R.M. of Woodlands.

I am writing to you my formal letter of opposition to the proposed research facility and hog barn operation known as Delta II Elskamp at North ½ of SE 3-14-3 WPM.

We received no notice by mail or phone of the proposed operation and had to hear about it from concerned neighbours. Since we were not informed with a notice, we were also unaware of the August 19<sup>th</sup> deadline for opposition letters. We have since been told that we were not informed because we are not within a 3 km distance of the barn location. However, the spreading grounds are within a mile in any direction from our property. We feel this entitled us to be made aware of the proposal.

There are many concerns being expressed about the construction of this research facility and hog barn operation. The main concerns being:

- water replenishing rates
- well water contamination
- health risks associated with local spreading grounds
- contamination of watersheds, creeks and rivers during flooding
- foul odours
- decreased residential property values
- increased traffic

The applicant shows no concerns for the possibility of contamination or the abuse of the aquifer to be used by Topigs Norsvin Canada Inc. at their new facility.

The proposed facility will use upwards of 9,000 gallons of water per day. There has been no reassurance to the surrounding community that the aquifer's replenishing rate can sustain both the new facility and the current community including homeowners and farmers who depend on that water supply for home use and caring for livestock. Unless there can be assurance that the replenishing rate can continue to sustain the existing community, there should be no consideration of adding a facility of this size to the community.

Topigs Norsvin Canada Inc. claims to be building a research facility with new and state of the art technology. So much focus has been put on the research aspect that Topigs is neglecting to discuss with the community their decision to build a pig barn. This is the main topic of concern considering with the construction and implementation of a hog barn comes strong foul odours, increased traffic on already taxed roads, decreased residential property values, and of course, manure spreading.

Much of the community owns properties directly surrounding the areas specified for spreading manure generated by the pigs on the facility. My current residence is one of these properties as

well. Spreading liquid manure is a known risk for contamination of water supplies. Water that we depend on every day. The odour alone is enough to cause nausea (the least of the health problems caused by toxic fumes from manure).

In September 2015, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services released a statement about the health risks associated with contamination of residential wells. Currently, Woodlands residents use their wells for drinking, showering, washing dishes, yard needs, watering livestock, cleaning and maintaining barns and structures. If the water becomes contaminated, who will pay to cover the costs required to haul in water for residents? Who will recover lost costs for animals who became ill from drinking contaminated water? What about people who become ill from drinking the contaminated water? It is difficult to trust an entire community's healthy water supply in the hands of an operation who must be responsible for testing and treating water and informing the public quickly and responsibly if there are any changes.

The proposed earthen manure storage lagoon will not be covered making it susceptible to overflow and flooding which will then connect to other watersheds, streams, and rivers. Many of these watersheds flow next to resident properties. The odour and damage left by overflow and flooding will create expensive situations for residents and greatly decrease residential property values.

Our West and North winds will carry the distinct odour of the barn and the spreading grounds to our property which will affect our quality of life. It will greatly decrease the amount of time spent outdoors, most of which is necessary to maintain a large land lot but social functions will be decreased as well. It will also greatly decrease our residential property value should we choose to sell our current home in the future.

Finally, there is the concern of increased traffic and the effect the proposed operation will have on the community's social interaction. We already have roads that are struggling to be maintained for local traffic and farming equipment. The increase in traffic including large trucks and equipment will only do more to tax the already stressed road conditions. Along with increased traffic comes increased noise. We are a quiet community who enjoy the freedom of living in such a beautiful, scenic, and open space. We frequently walk, bike ride, snowmobile, and ATV in the surrounding area, including where the proposed hog barn and research facility is to be built. This lifestyle will be greatly affected by the changes that the proposed hog barn operation will bring.

We moved to this property four years ago deciding to build our new life as a young couple in a very supportive and kind farming community. We were excited at the prospect of living on such a beautiful country property. However, had we known that there would be a large scale hog barn being built in our close community intending on spreading manure directly beside our backyard, we would have never even considered moving to this area or community.

The applicant does not live in this R.M and is therefore not affected by the implementation of this large research facility, hog barn, and vast manure spread zones, as well as any of the negative effects that could occur in the future. But we do live here and I hope that our council

members choose to understand and accept our concerns as valid and choose to refuse Topigs Norsvin Canada Inc.'s application.

Thank you for your time and I expect a dated receipt assuring that this letter has been received and read.

Damien Dudeck

**(11)**

August 3, 2016

TRC (Technical Review Committee)

Government of Manitoba

My name is Nicole Griffiths and I live on the property at Lot A Plan 45946 SE ¼ 31-13-2 WPM in the R.M. of Woodlands.

I am writing to you my formal letter of opposition to the proposed research facility and hog barn operation known as Delta II Elskamp at North ½ of SE 3-14-3 WPM.

We received no notice by mail or phone of the proposed operation and had to hear about it from concerned neighbours. Since we were not informed with a notice, we were also unaware of the August 19<sup>th</sup> deadline for opposition letters. We have since been told that we were not informed because we are not within a 3 km distance of the barn location. However, the spreading grounds are within a mile in any direction from our property. We feel this entitled us to be made aware of the proposal.

There are many concerns being expressed about the construction of this research facility and hog barn operation. The main concerns being:

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The applicant shows no concerns for the possibility of contamination or the abuse of the aquifer to be used by Topigs Norsvin Canada Inc. at their new facility.

The proposed facility will use upwards of 9,000 gallons of water per day. There has been no reassurance to the surrounding community that the aquifer's replenishing rate can sustain both the new facility and the current community including homeowners and farmers who depend on that water supply for home

use and caring for livestock. Unless there can be assurance that the replenishing rate can continue to sustain the existing community, there should be no consideration of adding a facility of this size to the community.

Topigs Norsvin Canada Inc. claims to be building a research facility with new and state of the art technology. So much focus has been put on the research aspect that Topigs is neglecting to discuss with the community their decision to build a pig barn. This is the main topic of concern considering with the construction and implementation of a hog barn comes strong foul odours, increased traffic on already taxed roads, decreased residential property values, and of course, manure spreading.

Much of the community owns properties directly surrounding the areas specified for spreading manure generated by the pigs on the facility. My current residence is one of these properties as well. Spreading liquid manure is a known risk for contamination of water supplies. Water that we depend on every day. The odour alone is enough to cause nausea (the least of the health problems caused by toxic fumes from manure).

In September 2015, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services released a statement about the health risks associated with contamination of residential wells. Currently, Woodlands residents use their wells for drinking, showering, washing dishes, yard needs, watering livestock, cleaning and maintaining barns and structures. If the water becomes contaminated, who will pay to cover the costs required to haul in water for residents? Who will recover lost costs for animals who became ill from drinking contaminated water? What about people who become ill from drinking the contaminated water? It is difficult to trust an entire community's healthy water supply in the hands of an operation who must be responsible for testing and treating water and informing the public quickly and responsibly if there are any changes.

The proposed earthen manure storage lagoon will not be covered making it susceptible to overflow and flooding which will then connect to other watersheds, streams, and rivers. Many of these watersheds flow next to resident properties. The odour and damage left by overflow and flooding will create expensive situations for residents and greatly decrease residential property values.

Our West and North winds will carry the distinct odour of the barn and the spreading grounds to our property which will affect our quality of life. It will greatly decrease the amount of time spent outdoors, most of which is necessary to maintain a large land lot but social functions will be decreased as well. It will also greatly decrease our residential property value should we choose to sell our current home in the future.

Finally, there is the concern of increased traffic and the effect the proposed operation will have on the community's social interaction. We already have roads that are struggling to be maintained for local traffic and farming equipment. The increase in traffic including large trucks and equipment will only do more to tax the already stressed road conditions. Along with increased traffic comes increased noise. We are a quiet community who enjoy the freedom of living in such a beautiful, scenic, and open space. We frequently walk, bike ride, snowmobile, and ATV in the surrounding area, including where the

proposed hog barn and research facility is to be built. This lifestyle will be greatly affected by the changes that the proposed hog barn operation will bring.

We moved to this property four years ago deciding to build our new life as a young couple in a very supportive and kind farming community. We were excited at the prospect of living on such a beautiful country property. However, had we known that there would be a large scale hog barn being built in our close community intending on spreading manure directly beside our backyard, we would have never even considered moving to this area or community.

The applicant does not live in this R.M and is therefore not affected by the implementation of this large research facility, hog barn, and vast manure spread zones, as well as any of the negative effects that could occur in the future. But we do live here and I hope that our council members and the TRC choose to understand and accept our concerns as valid and choose to refuse Topigs Norsvin Canada Inc.'s application.

Thank you for your time and I expect a dated receipt assuring that this letter has been received and read.

Nicole Griffiths

**(12)**

Box 201

Warren, MB

ROC 3E0

Council of the R. M. of Woodlands

Box 10

Woodlands, MB

ROC 3H0

**Regarding :**

RM of Woodlands Residents/Landowners against proposed hog barn construction

as seen on Facebook,

said facility to be constructed at North ½ of se3-14-3 WPM

I would like to go on record as being opposed to the proposed hog barn at North ½ of se3-14-3 WPM, and to the proposed manure spreading areas.

First, the proposed barn site seems pretty close to the aquifer. Did we not have this discussion a number of years ago?

Second, one of the proposed spread sites is just north of my property -- literally, a few feet north. In this century it has been rare that we have had two dry years back-to-back; there is usually a lot of flooding from that proposed-spreading portion of se34-13-2W onto my property, and it can last for the whole summer. If hog slurry is dumped there I may be wading in it for a whole season or more.

Third, if you look at an aerial view of the quarter in question, you will see that there is a low area that stretches right across it. It has been suggested that this is an underground stream, and that our wells originate there.

Most of the ratepayers that live along the southern border of se34-13-2W, myself included, have invested heavily in their homes and grounds, and are regularly improving them. Having pig manure spread literally at our doorstep is going to negatively impact our quality of life, and also our ability to sell our properties if and when we wish to do this, any caveat of "agricultural odors" notwithstanding. This hog barn, with proposed spreading over so many hundreds of acres, is of a scope that could be more accurately termed industrial – rather than agricultural – development.

Yours truly,

Bonnie Boon and Edward Boon

**(13)**

August 5, 2016

Technical Review Co-ordination Unit

Manitoba Indigenous and Municipal Relations

604-800 Portage Avenue

Winnipeg, Manitoba

R3G 0N4

To Whom It May Concern,

My wife and I are writing to you to voice our concerns about the proposed Delta II Elscamp hog barn operation ¾ mile north of us.

We moved to our current location (SE 34-13-3W) in 1992 with the idea of building our retirement home here for the future. We have spent the last 24 years and a lot of money to do just that. It consists of 25 acres of natural bush with about 3 acres developed into a park-like setting complete with a small lake stocked with rainbow trout. Now that we both have retired,

we are enjoying our hideaway very much and would like to continue to enjoy it for many years to come.

Just before we retired we had our home appraised to see what it would be worth and were very happy with the appraised value. So our decision to move to the RM of Woodlands and build a home turned out to be a good investment. Now that there is the possibility of a hog barn operation being considered so close to our property, we fear that the value of our residence will be greatly diminished. We are in the process of investigating the actual impact on residential home values in other municipalities where hog operations have been built.

Another concern we have is the odor that will come from the open pit lagoon. A member of my wife's family is a hog barn inspector for Maple Leaf. We spoke to her about where the barn is proposed to be situated and the distance between the barn and our property and her only comment was, "it is going to stink real bad on your yard". We feel this will seriously affect our quality of life where, when the wind direction is not in our favour (N, NW); we will not be able to sit outside, or have guests over for a BBQ, let alone be able to have our windows open.

Our third concern we have is the possible contamination of our water supply. When we built our home we had our well dug by Stonewall Drillers. They told us that our land was on top of a very large aquifer (underground lake) which covers the top of the gravel ridge and runs for a few miles west and down the ridge a few miles east. They recommended that we drill over 200 feet deep to tap into this aquifer because the quality of the water was excellent. We had the water tested at the University of Manitoba and the results came back as very, very good. We do not have a filter or a water softener in our home to treat the water, it is just that clean and clear. This water source is not only ours but also for many residences in the municipality. If this aquifer were to get contaminated, which is a very real possibility since the barn will draw water from this source also; it would be a serious environmental disaster, not only for us but also for others in the municipality as well.

In closing, I would like to point out that we are not anti-farming, far from it. My wife was born and raised in the farming community of Altona and I was born and raised on a farm just south of Altona, so we get it. Could the proposed hog barn not be put in another location where it would not affect anyone, like the community pasture? I understand that they would have to haul their manure a few extra miles to their spread sites but we think that would be a small price to pay for everyone to have peace of mind and peace in the community.

Thanking you in advance for your time,

John & Frances Sawatzky

SE 34-13-3W

(14)

Dear Manitoba Government:

Re: Proposed Topigs Norsvin Canada Inc. hog operation, Rural Municipality of Woodlands, Manitoba.

I am writing to urge you to refer the proposed Topig Norsvin hog operation to an independent Joint Review panel. This request is based on the considerations outlined below.

The Topig Norsvin Canada Inc operation (the "Operation") would be a 2,746 animal operation which is proposed to be located at North 1/2 of SE 3-14-3 WPM, would operate 7 days a week and 365 days a year. The Operation is currently in the early stages of the proposal and I am convinced that the Topig Operation will not fully address the potentially significant environmental and health effects of the Operation.

My concerns include the following:

\* **The destruction of agricultural and farming lands** that include sensitive native grasslands and wildlife, and the subsequent impact on the livelihood of the farmers.

\* **Air quality issues.** The rural of Woodlands and surrounding farmlands would be located directly in down and cross winds of the proposed operation.

The area that would be affected by the operation also has the local waste disposal site which affects air quality already.

The prevailing winds will blow contaminated air directly over residences and farming land.

\* **Noise pollution.** The trucks on the highways will cause a considerable increase in noise pollution since the operation is a 24 hour, 365 days per year operation.

\* **The probability of toxic waste drainage** into the water source. Farmers depend on well water for their survival.

Pollutants from the operations could also affect the province's rivers and nearby lakes.

\* **Decreased property values.** My home is my biggest asset.

Yours truly,

Rick and Kim Timchuk



(15)

Janet and Norman  
Hildebrand  
  
Box 2 Grp 15  
  
Marquette, Mb R0H 0V0  
  
August 10, 2016

Technical Review Co-ordination Unit  
  
Manitoba Indigenous and Municipal Relation  
  
604 – 800 Portage Ave.  
  
Winnipeg, MB R3G 0N4

Livestock Technical Review Committee

Re: Topigs Norsvin Canada Inc. proposal to establish a 2,746 (450 Animal Unit) operation known as Delta II Elskamp at North ½ of SE3-14-3 WPM

We Janet and Norman Hildebrand live within 3 Km of the proposed site on NE36 13 3W and are opposed to this development. We have lived at this site for over 35 years and have the following concerns

- 1) We understand that the method of dealing with production waste will be an open lagoon and are worried about water contamination both surface and ground water. We obtain our water from a well and have an excellent source of water. We feel this may be compromised by waste water seeping through the ground water system.

The operation will use large amounts of fresh water and will be drawing from the same ground water source as residents in the area. There is the possibility of running out of water or having to drill additional wells.

Our property is located directly across from the proposed field for waste spreading. The north ditch floods the field in the spring and after heavy rains. This water flow to highway 248 along the highway drainage ditch and directly into the Assiniboine River. Water coming off of this field would definitely contaminate the river and remaining water shed of the Red River and eventually Lake Winnipeg.

Manure sprayed on this field would reduce air quality and increase the number of pathogens in the atmosphere

An open lagoon will attract wild birds and animals and the spread of diseases is a real threat.

- 2) We are concerned our quality of life would be reduced due to the proximity of the operation. We have learned the residential property values are diminished and time in the real estate market is increased. We are planning on the value of our property to keep our standard of living at the same level when our needs change.
- 3) Changes in air quality will bring added costs of installing air conditioning and increased hydro bills. We will need to run the dryer all summer as hanging laundry outside will no longer be an option I look forward to each spring.
- 4) We chose to live in a rural area featuring family dairy farms and mixed grains crops and feel that high density factory farms are not a good fit for the community.

Sincerely

Janet Hildebrand

Norman Hildebrand

Cc: Trevor King, Lorna Broadfoot, Orval Proctor, Wayne Yule, Gavin Jones, Carl Fleury,  
Ila Buchanan,

**(16)**

I am writing to object to the planned Topigs Norsvin research facility.

Seven years ago my wife and I decided return to the country after almost ten years of living in Winnipeg. Being both raised in the RM of Woodlands we realized how great a place it is for raising a family. One of the major reasons we decided to come back was knowing how great the rural environment is for raising kids, more specifically the lack of pollution, very little noise, besides the frogs in early spring and the coyotes at night, and very little traffic. It wasn't until we came back to the country that we really noticed how special this place is, the prairie landscape is amazing in the evening when the sky and fields meet, and the way the month of June smells in the early morning is so sweet and fresh. I don't want to lose that, I don't want my kids to miss out on that. I fear that this proposed hog facility with forever change what we have here. The fact that this facility is going to be a five minute drive from our property concerns me, especially the fact we are downhill from it. After reading about how environmental hazardous sewage lagoons are, specifically hog manure lagoons it causes me concern for my children's health and well being. I read a report by the CDC here's the link: [https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/docs/understanding\\_cafos\\_nalboh.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/docs/understanding_cafos_nalboh.pdf)

Please take the time to read this before making a decision.

Sincerely,

Derek Walsh Sent from my Ipad

**(17)**

I Bruce MacMillan live 4 miles SE of the location for the proposed pig barn.

Being opposed to the situation that is now being presented to our community is an Understatement!!!

My biggest concern would be the smell with the prevailing N/NW winds.

We already have a pig barn located 3.5 miles S/SE of us and the smell can be horrible at times without any prevailing winds...

We enjoy our community and the outdoor functions that take place. It would be a disgrace/embarrassment of the offensive odor that is produced.

My other concern is water contamination as we use our well for drinking water. (the proposed site is at substantial higher elevation than our property).

Why is the proposed site not located near the Elskamp farm??? This will affect a lot of people as the pig shit will be spreaded on the owners property which are located All over the Woodlands RM...

The town of Marquette will also be affected with the prevailing winds as well....

Bruce MacMillan

Box 4

Marquette, Manitoba

ROHOVO

1-204-375-6601

**(18)**

We (Craig Lawrence & Bonnie Lawrence) are strongly opposed to the proposed hog barn operation known as Delta 11 Elskamp at North 1/2 of SE 3-14-3 WPM.

We are opposed for the following reason's.

- decrease in residential property values.
- odor
- increased potential to ground-water contamination
- lack of odor control
- increased traffic.

- the negative affect it will have on the area as a recreational site for walking, hunting, ATVing, and snowmobiling.

In researching the effect's of a hog barn operation in the community, we feel there are nothing but negative's. The quality of life is extremely effected by the odor alone.

Country living is largely based on cherished values of family, friends, homes & faith. Backyard barbecues, visits by friends & family, bicycling, gardening just playing

outdoors should be everyone's right. What I have read in several reports is that large-scale hog operations are especially susceptible to air quality problems. A mixture

of gases in animal waste creates these odor's. One article reads... The sources of odor are the barns, manure storage units, effluent application and carcass disposal.

The four main gases produced by the large scale hog industry are hydrogen sulphide, carbon dioxide, ammonia and methane. Hog operations reduce air quality with odor and gaseous emissions.

The effect of these emissions range from health impairment among workers and NEARBY RESIDENTS to cumulative environmental pollutions. This alone is very alarming, not to mention the potential of ground-water contamination. We feel very strongly that our community should not be compromised.

**(19)**

To the MB government,

I have concerns with the proposed Delta II Eskamp hog operation.

Odour control during storage and spreading of manure is a significant concern. The application notes an open earthen lagoon with no storage cover; just shelterbelt planting. It also notes anaerobic digestion meeting "special pilot project requirements" which are not described. There is no environmental farm plan. I am also concerned for my water supply (quantity and potential contamination) which is from a well.

I am concerned that I did not receive any kind of notice directly to me, when I live this close to the proposed site. (I live 2 miles south and 2 miles west of it, and the prevailing wind is from the north.)

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Respectfully,

Tim Lock Marquette MB ROH OV0 NE 20-13-3W

(20)

August 12, 2016

Technical Review Co-ordination Unit  
604-800 Portage Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB R3G 0N4  
[TRC@gov.mb.ca](mailto:TRC@gov.mb.ca)

Atten: Technical Review Co-ordination Unit

RE: Delta II Elskamp/ Topigs Norsvin Canada Inc. Proposed Hog Operation

Below I have listed major concerns related to the proposed hog facility:

1) Environmental Concerns

a) Air Pollution

The incorporation of animal waste from large animal lots pollutes the environment with high and dangerous levels of Nitrogen, Phosphorous, Zinc, and Copper, Hydrogen Sulphide, Carbon Dioxide, Methane and Ammonia. The air purification systems still allow between 10-40% of harmful dusts and stench. Because air pollution is not constrained to a certain area, there are no conventional methods to reduce it, and can only be managed but never stopped

b) Soil Pollution

A pig at 200lbs produces 13lbs per day of waste. (2746 pigs x 13= 35698lbs per day). Due to their adverse effects on the soils pH balance and mineral balance the soil can be categorized as soil pollution and organo-chlorines and too many salts. Soils in the Netherlands have become saturated with a phosphate compound, meaning that the soil can no longer take in more Phosphate and leeching occurs, leading to phosphate entering the water system

c) Water Pollution

In times of high rain and water levels, the water runoff from the areas where the animal waste is being spread becomes saturated with levels of these pollutants (listed above) contaminating the entire water way and water reserve, well water systems and causing massive fish losses. The leaking of liquid manure runs into the water eco-system or heavy rainfalls might lead to the handling system overflowing uncontrollably, leaking manure into a water system leading to cause diseases in humans, water eco-system damage, algae bloom (which uses up most of the oxygen in the water, and the death of other living organisms). Ammonia can travel up to 300 miles in the air and reenter the water system.

2) Animal Ethics

Hogs are confined to limited spacing, they have very weak immune systems promoting disease and poor living conditions. With these medicines that are used on the livestock there are no long-term studies available considering the effects of these chemicals on humans, The World Health Organization has stated "dietary factors account for at least 30 percent of all cancers in the Western countries."

3) Human Health Concerns

The stress caused by the unnatural conditions in which they are kept makes the animals extra prone to diseases, to deal with this issue antibiotics. More than 50% of pig communities have already been infected by the resistant "hospital bacteria" Meticilline-Resistente Staphylococcus Aureus, a bacteria dangerous to elderly, children and people with reduced resistance, cause serious damage to vital organs through the bloodstream.

In 1998 the Health Council warned of the serious consequences of large scale antibiotic use in livestock farming.

Homesteads and people near the site, will be exposed to the above listed pollutants for long extended periods and will lead to long term health conditions. Hydrogen Sulphide, which is toxic to humans, leads to lung irritations, asthma.

I am requesting that you respond to my concerns that I have addressed and know that I am fully not in support of the proposed hog operation. I am aware that many members of the community and surrounding area are as well not in support of this hog operation. This plan, if approved is also a concern when dealing with the Surgeon Creek water shed.

I look forward to hearing from you with response to my concerns outlined.

Thank you,



Bryan Myskiw

\*\*\* Please acknowledge receipt of this letter by return e-mail

(21)

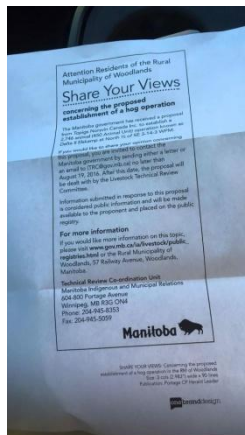
<http://www.peta.org/issues/animals-used-for-food/health-risks-meat-industry/#.V50X9XVEJSc.email>

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/ia/livestock/pubs/trc-12-021/assessment.pdf%20-%20adobe%20acrobat%20pro.pdf>

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/wont-back-down-from-hog-farm-fight-65967607.html>



Timis Hog Farms.pdf



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To whom it may concern,

My name is Kathy Sawatzky from Marquette Manitoba. I am a c 6-7 quadriplegic and I live in a small farming community. We have just been notified at the end of July that there is a proposal for a large livestock operation for hogs less than 1/3 (1640 feet) of a mile from my home. There are many neighbours affected by this but we are the closest. One of the requirements for the protocol is contact and discuss the proposal with neighbours and this was step 1 for the Elskamp Delta 11 project. He is on step 4. Elskamp has broken step 1 already. If the proposal passes I will be forced out of my home and our property will be worthless and my home is totally accessible for my

wheelchair with a kitchen that I can cook in, a lift to my basement, wheel in shower, wheelchair ramp and I will never be able to afford to adapt another home. I will be forced to move because of health concerns (please open the link and attachments pertaining to health concerns) and I will still have my property taxes and mortgage to pay therefore I will be homeless. If I wanted to live beside an unhealthy environment beside a large hog operation I would have purchased beside one far less expensive rather than residential property. I cannot remain here if this was to pass through as I am home all the time unable to get away from harmful fumes and pathogens and the reason we moved here was because I could live in a clean environment where I can enjoy my life in a healthy way physically and mentally. My brother is my caregiver and he lives upstairs and I am on the main floor that has been adapted for me. This was our intention when we moved that I could live on acreage safely rather than a city with the pollution. We only have until August 19th to respond to this proposal. The link they put in the letter is [www.gov.mb.ca/ia/livestock/pubs/trc-12-021/assessment.pdf%20-adobe%20acrobat%20pro.pdf](http://www.gov.mb.ca/ia/livestock/pubs/trc-12-021/assessment.pdf%20-adobe%20acrobat%20pro.pdf) and our home is NW 35-13-3 W Woodlands Municipality and is listed in the proposal and we were never approached and have I been home on bed rest and there has been no knock on my door from Elskamp or a phone call. This is outrageous. The company is from the Netherlands that is Canadian registered but not Canadian. I have a Dr. letter to follow explaining my health issues due to my disability. Thank you for your time and looking forward to hearing from you.

<http://www.peta.org/issues/animals-used-for-food/health-risks-meat-industry/#.V50X9XVEJSc.email>

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/ia/livestock/pubs/trc-12-021/assessment.pdf%20-%20adobe%20acrobat%20pro.pdf>

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/wont-back-down-from-hog-farm-fight-65967607.html>

<http://uniter.ca/view/hog-industry-continues-to-damage-manitobas-environment-experts-say>

<http://www.onegreenplanet.org/environment/health-and-environmental-impact-of-factory-farm-waste/>

[http://www.hsi.org/assets/pdfs/hsi-fa-white-papers/an\\_hsi\\_factsheet\\_the.pdf](http://www.hsi.org/assets/pdfs/hsi-fa-white-papers/an_hsi_factsheet_the.pdf)

## Woodlands Municipality Mission Statement.

### ***A Place to Put Down Roots***

The Rural Municipality of Woodlands is a rural community composed of a population diverse in cultural heritage who share a common desire for the quality of life found in a rural agricultural



setting. Residents enjoy the wide-open spaces, clean air, water and a safe, friendly atmosphere in which family life thrives.

The rural lifestyle is afforded in both a rural residential setting and in several small villages. Through a cooperative effort, all residents are provided with the social and cultural opportunities of a progressive, modern community.

Building on the strength of its people and a prosperous agricultural background, its residents will develop a diversified economy to provide the opportunity for future generations to remain and prosper in their home community.

To whom it may concern,

My name is Kathy Sawatzky from Woodlands Manitoba. I am a C 6-7 quadriplegic and I live in a small farming community with my brother, who is my caregiver and his family. We were recently notified at the end of July of a proposal for a large factory livestock operation for hogs known as Elskamp Delta 11, which will be situated less than 1/3 (1640 feet) of a mile from my home. Many of our neighbours will be affected by this, but we are the closest. Step 1 as per the Manitoba Pork Guide to Starting a Pig Farm in Manitoba is discussions about the proposal with the local residents. Mike Shaw (204 954-3822) of Topigs Norsvin and land owner Tom Elskamp (204 981-2579) have already proceeded with step 4 and neglected step 1. To this date Tom Elskamp (as of today revised letter August 19 2016) has never contacted brother (Garry Sawatzky) his wife (Christina Barry) myself and my neighbours to my knowledge.

If the proposal for Delta II passes I will be forced out of my home because of the devastating effects that the facility will have on our ecosystem, land, water system and air quality (refer to the five internet links provided at the top). We live above a natural aquifer which will destroy our drinking water, there will be waste/manure run off. As of now we are one of the few areas that do have clean water, which will be destroyed by run off from antibiotics, growth hormones, manure, urine (toxic waste). My air quality will be damaged by ammonia, hydrogen sulfite, endotoxins, methane, carbon dioxide, and bacteria. Swine Flu can be transferred from animals to humans through air.

We purchased our house in Woodlands because of the values of living in a rural setting with clean air, water and quality of life, inherent in the Woodlands Municipality Mission Statement referred to above. Since I am a quadriplegic my home is totally accessible for my wheelchair with a kitchen that I can cook in, a lift to my basement, a wheel-in shower and wheelchair ramp and I will never be able to afford to renovate and adapt another home. If this operation goes through I will be forced to move because of significant health concerns (please open the five internet links above pertaining to health concerns). My home would be worthless because nobody would want to live around a facility like that. We would still have our property taxes and mortgage to pay rendering me and my

brother's family both homeless. I cannot remain here if this proposal is to pass since I am at home all the time, would be unable to get away from dangerous emissions and pathogens and because of my weakened immune my health would be at great risk. The reason that we moved here in the first place was so that I could live in a clean environment and enjoy my life in a healthy way both physically and mentally.

We were given until August 19th to respond to this proposal. The letter I added from Topigs Norsvin only arrived to my brother and I Monday August 15th.

The link they put in the letter is [www.gov.mb.ca/ia/livestock/pubs/trc-12-021/assessment.pdf%20adobe%20acrobat%20pro.pdf](http://www.gov.mb.ca/ia/livestock/pubs/trc-12-021/assessment.pdf%20adobe%20acrobat%20pro.pdf). Our address is NW 35-13-3 W Woodlands Municipality and is listed in the proposal which we were never approached about. This is outrageous. The company (Topig Norsvan) is from the Netherlands that is Canadian registered but not Canadian. I have a Dr. letter that will follow up this letter explaining my health issues due to my disability (I did not have enough notice for for my Dr. as he was on holidays to get his letter on time). Also my realtor has advised me the hog factory would depreciate the value of our home by at least 50% of it's value therefore my mortgage lender would then take legal action to recover their loss, also he mentioned we likely would never sell the property.

Please consider this letter of protest with the highest regard, my life and that of my brother's and his family's is at risk if this proposal were to go through Thank you for your time and I looking forward to hearing from you. Please email me upon receipt of this letter.

-Sincerely,

Kathy Sawatzky

Box 10

Marquette, MB.

**(22)**

Technical Review Co-ordination Unit

604-800 Portage Avenue

Winnipeg, MB R3G 0N4

Attn: Technical Review Co-ordination Unit

Re: Delta II Elskamp proposed hog operation

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed hog operation known as Delta II Elskamp at North ½ of of SE 3-14-3 WPM.

As a resident and 5<sup>th</sup> generation landowner in the R.M. of Woodlands I have a number of concerns with the proposal.

### **Water Quality**

Our family, along with our neighbors, are fortunate enough to draw quality drinking water from our wells. Delta II Elskamp is planning on drawing over 9000 imperial gallons of water per day from the same water resource. What happens to residents if our wells run dry? How do we know that the water source is capable of meeting the needs of the operation?

Liquid hog manure spills, overflows, and leaks do occur. Manure stored on gravelly soil can pollute groundwater and this operation is located directly on a gravel ridge. How is our surface and ground water going to be protected? Who will be monitoring our water quality?

### **Residential Property Values**

Proximity to a hog operation decreases neighboring residential property values up to 50%. How are residents going to be compensated for this? Are we going to see a decrease in our taxes? What happens when we decide to sell our homes and they sit on the market because no one wants to live near a hog operation?

### **Odor**

Having grown up next to a small hog operation I know firsthand how bad the stench of hog manure can be and a large scale hog operation will only be worse. We enjoy the outdoors but the noxious odor from the hog operation and manure spreading will spoil many outdoor activities and force us inside on otherwise beautiful days. Without a manure storage cover how is the odor going to be controlled? The assessment states that there will be a shelterbelt for odor control. How many trees, what size of trees, and what type of trees will be planted?

For those that claim the smell of a hog operation is not offensive or is minimal I encourage you to take a summer drive, with the windows down, past the Maple Leaf hog operation near Marquette, MB (in the R.M. of Woodlands).

### **Recreation Area**

For years we have used the area adjacent to the proposed hog operation for numerous activities and many memories have been made here.

As kids we would walk with our grandfather and aunt looking at wildflowers and catching minnows and frogs in the ditches. During my teenage years countless hunting trips were made here with family and friends. As an avid snowmobiler and atv rider I currently use the area for the great trails that it provides for these activities. We've always enjoyed a peaceful evening beside a fire or woodstove at the nearby recreation cabin. These are memories and activities that I want to share with my children but the noise, traffic, and odor from the proposed hog operation will put a damper on these activities and destroy the peacefulness of the area.

## **Roads**

The proposed hog operation will bring increased traffic to the surrounding roads. How is this increase in traffic going to be dealt with? Are the roads going to be graveled and graded more often? What dust control measures are going to be taken?

## **Community**

Residents near the proposed hog barn location are very community minded. They are always there to lend a helping hand and support their neighbors. A foreign company doesn't volunteer at the local community club or curling rink. A foreign company doesn't pull a neighbor out of the ditch. A foreign company doesn't help a sick neighbor bale his hay.

Ask any resident what the company that owns the hog barn near Marquette, MB has done for the community and you will be hard pressed to find one example.

Residents within the 3 km barn radius and those near spread sites will see no direct benefit from a hog operation. We will only see a sharp decrease in our property values, pollution of our water source, increased traffic on our roads, and having to live every day with the nauseating stench from a large hog operation.

No foreign company or land owner that does not live in the R.M. of Woodlands should decide the fate of our community.

Jody Yeo

**(23)**

Marquette, MB

Valerie and Ronald Stelck  
NE34-13-2W

**Technical Review Co-ordination Unit  
604-800 Portage Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB R3G 0N4**

Attn: Technical Review Co-ordination Unit

RE: Delta II Elskamp / Topigs Norsvin Canada Inc. Proposed Hog Operation

The purpose of this letter is to raise concerns regarding a proposed 2,746 animal hog operation known as Delta II Elskamp at North ½ of SE3-14-3WPM in the RM of Woodlands. As a concerned

residential homeowner located at NE34-13-2W we would be directly impacted by the actions of this proposed operation. The following is a list of concerns in no particular order:

#### **Concern #1**

In 2006, the Manitoba Provincial Government implemented a moratorium on any new hog barns in the province. The moratorium was retained in 2008 for certain sensitive areas which include the Interlake region of Manitoba. The moratorium became *THE SAVE LAKE WINNIPEG ACT* in June 2011.

The Sturgeon Creek Watershed is located between Lake Manitoba and the City of Winnipeg. The watershed begins in the R M of Woodlands and flows south east through the R M of Rosser where it crosses the West Perimeter Highway. It then flows into the city of Winnipeg via the Assiniboine River which merges into the Red River which drains into Lake Winnipeg.

The proposed hog operation could be a potential nitrogen and phosphorous pollution hazard to Lake Winnipeg. In Topigs Norswin Canada Inc.'s Site Assessment for proposed operation, West Shoal Lake and adjacent area are listed as *THE ONLY* water shed involved where the livestock operation and fields identified for manure application are located. The proposed operation lies directly within the Sturgeon Creek watershed and the Interlake region of Manitoba. We are DEEPLY concerned the Sturgeon Creek Watershed was not mentioned. Why would the livestock operator and the land manager neglect to mention the Sturgeon Creek Watershed?

#### **CONCERN #2:**

The proposed operation is located on an elevated, ancient Lake Agassiz beach shoreline. This watershed recharge area consists of sand and gravel aquifers with near-surface and out-cropping sand and gravel pits. The proposed operation would need a lagoon to store liquid manure. A liner would be required to prevent loss of liquid manure into the underlying sand and gravel. Leakage of the liner could contaminate the aquifers and outcrops. The Sturgeon Creek Watershed is located down slope from the proposed barn and lagoon and is the discharge area of the local watershed. At our own rural residence, we experience odorous, cloudy water when there is excess rain and a strong westerly wind. This is due to the local RM of Woodlands dump which is adjacent to the proposed Hog barn and lagoon location. So the potable water supply is already being affected. How would the livestock operator and the land manager guarantee that the supply of potable water is not further affected?

#### **CONCERN #3:**

Water-borne disease can occur if organisms from the manure migrate into surface or groundwater sources that are used as a supply of drinking water. The Clean Environment

Commission (CEC) stated in their 2007 report “Environmental Sustainability and Hog Production in Manitoba”, elevated levels of nitrogen in water sources have been associated with miscarriages and stomach cancer. Manitoba Agriculture and Food also reported in June 2001, methemoglobinemia (blue baby syndrome) is widely accepted as being directly related to drinking water which is high in nitrates. What will the livestock operator and land manager do to guarantee that the drinking water will not be contaminated with nitrogen and nitrates from the proposed operation?

**CONCERN#4:**

The proposed operation would use up to 9,062 imperial gallons of water a day. There is concern about the potential of rural residential wells going dry due to excessive water demand by the proposed operation. Have an aquifer drawdown study and a flow net study been performed to address this possibility?

**CONCERN#5:**

Injection of manure can result in watershed contamination. The land manager owns approximately 12 quarters of land on which they propose to inject liquid manure. The land lies within the Sturgeon Creek Watershed. The injection sites lie within the Sturgeon Creek Watershed. The Sturgeon Creek Watershed has experienced overland flooding in the past during the 30 years we have lived at our rural residence. Non-absorbed nitrogen and phosphorus can be carried overland into the Sturgeon Creek Watershed. The applicant’s proposal state they will inject liquid manure spring, summer and fall. Would the land manager take measures to limit the amount of nitrogen and phosphorus being carried overland into the Sturgeon Creek Watershed?

**CONCERN#6:**

Odours associated with the proposed barn, lagoon and injection sites are a concern. Along with the odours from the barn, lagoon and injected fields there could be dust particles exhausted from the barns which could carry zoonotic diseases such as salmonella. How will the livestock operator guarantee airborne diseases aren’t released into the atmosphere?

**CONCERN#7:**

The proposed operation would directly affect rural residential property values. Odours associated with the injection of liquid manure on the land managers proposed sites surround or abut rural residences in the Sturgeon Creek Watershed. How will the livestock operator and land manager guarantee that the rural residential property value won’t decline even though property tax assessment will remain the same or increase in the future?

**CONCERN#8:**

Step 1 of Evaluation Protocol, from Manitoba Pork Producers guide, was not met. "Talking to your neighbors in advance" and "Getting neighbors acceptance is vital." The majority of the RM of Woodlands residents did not know about the proposed hog operation until a small ad was noticed in the Stonewall Tribune. Why were the neighbors "Not informed" by the applicant?

**CONCERN#9:**

The social fabric of the community has been disturbed. Rural communities cannot operate without cooperation, friendship and an all-round 'community' culture. There are residents at both ends of the anger spectrum in regards to the proposed operation and the applicant's unwillingness to make contact well in advance of application. If the proposed operation is allowed to proceed, will the livestock operator and land manager contribute to the local community in such a way as to forge a positive relationship between the parties involved?

**CONCERN#10:**

The gravel roads in the RM of Woodlands are barely passable, at times of the year, with passenger vehicles. This was especially noticeable this year due to excessive rain in the spring. The gravel roads were built over fifty years ago for single and double axle grain trucks and smaller agricultural machinery. The land manager currently operates semi-trucks with SuperBee grain trailers and some of the largest agricultural equipment manufactured today. The introduction of more and heavier traffic for shipping and receiving animals, feed and supplies, spreading manure would be a huge burden to our roads and will require greater attention to the heavily used roads by the operation and more destruction of the aged road system in the RM of Woodlands. How will the land manager help the RM of Woodlands preserve the integrity of our already aged road system of the RM of Woodlands?

**CONCERN#11:**

Employees of the land manager frequently disregard the stop sign at the corner of 78North and 8West while operating farm equipment and semi-tractor trailers. This has been brought to their attention in the past. This is a very busy road with lots of traffic because it is the main route to the RM of Woodlands dump facility and is also a school bus route. Will there be an employee training program to respect and observe the rules of the road?

**CONCERN #12**

Due to the location of the proposed liquid manure injection sites, lying with the Sturgeon Creek Watershed, we are concerned about the possibility of watershed contamination from

**applicator inexperience. Will the land manager's liquid manure applicators be formally trained, certified and licensed?**

**On the Ag Canada Website there was an article about the hog barn moratorium that stated "Conditions to relaxing restrictions: location should preferably be in Western Manitoba and have a connection with a processing plant in some way. In our opinion this RM is the wrong location for the proposed operation because it's not in western Manitoba. It lies within the environmentally sensitive Sturgeon Creek**

**We are hoping that the TRC appreciates that we have tried to be responsible but objective in presenting the very real concerns we have and that you make the best recommendations possible.**

**Thank You,**

**Valerie and Ronald Stelck**



I am definitely opposed to the building of a pig barn on  
Here are my main reasons.

As my water comes from a well I am deeply concerned about the quality of the water as the water flows from the north and there is danger of seepage of the contaminated water that contains the pig waste.

I understood there was a moratorium on hog barns in our municipality. What happened to that?

I question why have it in such a heavily populated area of the province as it affects so many people.

It would definitely lower the value of our property in a large area.

Our roads are not in good shape so could not stand the extra traffic and weight needed to service such a large operation. Who will pay for all this added expense. The municipality won't gain as the profit goes overseas.

I don't approve of all this being financed from out of our country. It doesn't give our local young folk a fair chance to farm as they can't compete with outrageous prices foreign countries supply to their agents here.

I hope you will think long and hard before making a decision on something that will be detrimental to a lot of tax paying citizens.

Dorothy Myskiw

(25)

Technical Review Co-ordination Unit  
604-800 Portage Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB R3G 0N4

Attn: Technical Review Co-ordination Unit

Re: Delta II Elskamp proposed hog operation

As a resident and landowner in the R.M. of Woodlands I'm writing this letter to voice my concerns and opposition to the proposed hog operation known as Delta II Elskamp at North ½ of SE 3-14-3 WPM.

The following is a list of concerns in no set order.

**1. Water**

The assessment states that there will be 1018 boars and 1728 growers/finishers (51-249 lbs) yet the water requirement calculation table lists all the animals (2746) under feeders. If the animals were split into dry sow/boar and feeder categories it changes the water requirement significantly (from 9062 IG/day to 10182 IG/day). Why were the number of animals lumped together in one category?

Livestock	Number	IG/day per animal in winter	IG/day per animal in summer	IG/day (imperial gallons per day)
Dry sow/boar	1018		4	4072
Feeder	1728		3	5184
			<b>TOTAL (IG/day)</b>	<b>9256</b>
			<b>TOTAL with 10% wash water</b>	<b>10182</b>

With the proposed operation drawing over 9000 imperial gallons of water a day there is concern that nearby residential wells will run dry. Have any studies been done on the aquifer replenishment rate? If wells were to run dry how would neighboring residents be compensated?

The hog operation and manure application sites are located in the Sturgeon Creek watershed but the West Shoal Lake and adjacent area are listed as the only watershed on the application. Why was the Sturgeon Creek watershed not listed?

One of the proposed manure application methods is broadcast and incorporation within 48 hours. If manure was spread but not incorporated and we received a significant amount of rain that caused the manure to run off the fields and into our water drainage system how would this potential water contamination problem be handled? Who would be responsible for monitoring water quality?

Water is one of our most precious natural resources. How can we be assured that the establishment of this operation will protect our water sources and leave them usable for generations to come?

**2. Manure application sites**

W5-14-2W is listed as a manure application field on the assessment. We received a letter from Topigs Norsvin stating that there was an error in earlier data and they no longer show W5-14-2W as an application field. If this field was listed in error why was the soil test report included for this field, why was it shown as a site on all the maps, and why was the field list in various areas of the assessment?

According to the R.M. of Woodlands map W5-14-2W (listed as an application field in the assessment) is owned by Barry, Wayne, and Carol Yule. Wayne Yule is a councilor in the R.M. of Woodlands. How can residents be assured that there is no conflict of interest?

**3. R.M. of Woodlands**

The R.M. of Woodlands would be responsible for ensuring the operators do not exceed their animal unit allotment but history has shown that other hog operations in the R.M. of Woodlands have far exceeded their allowed animal units and have failed to follow the Planning Act. The R.M. has also denied residents requests to do ongoing animal unit counts at hog operations where the violations have occurred. What guarantee do residents have that this operation will adhere to the number of allowable animal units and follow the Planning Act? If there is a violation of the number of allowed animal units how will the operator be penalized?

**4. Residential Property Values**

Residential properties in the vicinity of the hog operation will see a sharp decline in value and homeowners will face difficulty in selling their properties. How will the applicants ensure nearby properties retain their value and marketability?

**5. Odor**

The nauseating stench produced by a hog operation is a major concern. Prevailing winds are sure to push the odor from the operation site and application fields directly towards my home. I do not want to give up enjoyment of my property because of the odor produced by a large hog operation.

There is an existing hog barn near Marquette that stated they would plant a shelterbelt for odor control but the trees have grown very little and no one is forcing them to plant additional trees. This operation also lists a shelterbelt as an odor control method. Is more information available on the type of trees, number of trees, and size of trees? What happens if they trees are planted but don't grow well? Will the applicant be required to replant?

The applicants have opted not to use a manure storage cover for odor control. What are the reasons for this?

#### **6. Roads and Traffic**

The gravel roads identified as truck haul routes for the operation are barely operational during certain times of the year. The increase in traffic will only further deteriorate the road conditions. What actions will the applicants take to ensure R.M. of Woodlands taxpayers are not going to be responsible for the added cost of the road maintenance? The increase in traffic also brings an increase in dust during the summer and fall months. Is the applicant going to be responsible for dust control?

#### **7. Topigs Norsvin**

In a letter we received from Topigs Norsvin it stated that they are planning to build a research facility but on the conditional use application it says "To establish a finishing hog operation" "with the development of a research facility as an accessory use". Conveniently this proposal is being marketed as a research facility when in reality it is a hog operation. Why was the "hog operation" part of the application left out of the letter and why are the applicants try to market this as a only a research facility?

The letter mentions a website where you can view one of their existing facilities in Norway. Why would they not give an example of a site in North America? How many hog operations do Topigs Norsvin have in Canada?

Topigs Norsvin states that they are "committed to animal welfare" and they list the following: additional space per pig and extra staff per pig. Nowhere on their letter do they mention any assurances to consider neighboring residents or the community. Neighboring residents and the surrounding community should be their first consideration.

#### **8. Recreation Area**

For many years I have used the area surrounding the proposed site for various recreation activities including snowmobiling, hunting, and atving. There is a nearby recreation cabin that I frequently visit and I enjoy sitting around the camp fire but the construction of this operation will destroy the tranquility of this area with the noise from the operation, increase in traffic, and the odor. What steps are they applicants taking to ensure the calm and tranquil nature of this area is not disrupted?

Travis Yeo  
Marquette, MB

(26)

We are opposed to the idea of a hog barn being built in the RM of Woodlands and especially this proposed site due to the following reasons:

- 1) Our well water aquifer is replenished from the area of the proposed barn. If there were any spills it would enter our water aquifer.
- 2) The proposed sites to incorporate manure is drained directly into the Sturgeon Creek which goes past our residence on SE 27-13-2W. The annual overflow of the dike runs onto our property, thus allowing toxic material from the manure and other water borne diseases to remain on our property which will later carry phosphate and nitrogen into the streams of Winnipeg and further to Lake Winnipeg.
- 3) There will be no value to our Municipality with minimal taxes to repair the roads that will be pounded out by heavy trucks needed to service this barn that will hold 2746 hogs or more. At present, the RM of Woodlands cannot adequately maintain the roads. What will happen to the roads with the additional heavy equipment that will be required to maintain this hog operation?
- 4) To water 2746 hogs, it is well known, that at least 9062 imperial gallons a day will come out of the water aquifer. This concerns us especially on a dry year when well levels fluctuate, causing lower level table for our home, as well as, for surrounding neighbours.
- 5) The Elskamp Family Farm has hid the proposal of the barn from the community, which raises concerns with us. There already has been corrections as to which are the proposed sites that will be affected.
- 6) If there are so many advantages of having this hog operation in this municipality, then why are the investors from the Netherlands and Tom Elskamp not residing near/on the proposed sites? Also, if this is a foreign investment involving the Netherlands people, why is this proposal not taking place in the Netherlands? Statistics show that the soils in the Netherlands have become so saturated with a phosphate compound, meaning that the soil can no longer take any more phosphate which allows leeching to occur, causing phosphate to enter our water system.
- 7) This is not a farm business. This is a foreign corporation that really does not care about our community. When there will be environmental issues occurring, who will be monitoring and hold this corporation responsible for the damage? Will they be monitored on a daily, weekly, monthly or yearly basis?
- 8) Due to the elevation difference between the proposed barn and our home (SE-27-13-2W), environmental washdown will occur with the heavy rains/leakage, which will then in turn wash into our homes.
- 9) The smell from the manure distribution on the fields up wind from us will be unpleasant for us. Also, the value of our residence will drop drastically due to the smell and the possible risk of water contamination. Compensation will not be sufficient to put high risks to our health and the environment. There has not been sufficient studies done on this type of hog barn to indicate the

positive impact on human health. There are studies that show a negative impact to human health.

10) This barn is not necessary to support a family farm. It is only to capitalize on an investment for wealth for Tom Elskamp and his investors (from the Netherlands), which will be at the expense of the neighbors and the municipality which will be affected by the by products of the pollution to the ground and surface water, as well as, the air pollution. This hog born has divided the community and businesses, which brings a negative impact as a whole to the RM of Woodlands.

Please confirm your acknowledgement of receipt with an email.

Thanks,

Blaine and Donna Myskiw

**(27)**

To whomever it may concern,

I am writing to express my concern for the proposed hog operation known as Delta II Elskamp at North ½ of SE 3-14-3 WPM.

As a resident in the RM of Woodlands, and as someone who would be directly affected by this proposed hog facility; I would like to oppose any further operations.

My first concern is the lack of effort put in by all involved parties to notify directly anyone who would be affected by the hog barn and/or the spread sites. As outlined in the Manitoba Pork guidelines one of the FIRST steps is to notify anyone who could potentially be affected; and yet this has STILL not been done. We should not find out about this hog operation as a result of job postings in the local newspaper. The Elskamp Corporation, Topigs (the INTERNATIONAL company backing the operation), and the TRC that did the assessment of the hog barn proposal made no effort to contact any residents in the area as 'it would be too much work.' This is extremely concerning. It is unfair to us, the residents in the area, that these guidelines have been completely disregarded at our expense. How can we now trust this corporation to ever contact us in the future when it's just too much work for them and maybe we need to know that they've polluted our water supply? And how is it that somehow this has already made it to step 4 of the process while we await a public meeting with the RM while many landowners didn't even know about the proposed hog operation? This reflects quite poorly on our fellow farmers, and our government.

My next concern is the environmental impact this will have. It seems this corporation is trying to cut costs by choosing to opt out of the environmental farm plan, again at the expense of OUR living environment. Of course this has no effect on the overseas corporation, or the land owner who resides in the municipality of Macdonald. This lack of an environmental farm plan will affect our water systems,

our ecosystems, recreation sites and our sense of livelihood in the community.

The proposed barn site is supposedly going to be built on a ridge, made up of a gravel and sandy soil. This type of soil will so easily allow for the manure to seep through and into the ground water. Therefore a pit, lagoon or earthen storage for manure on that ridge is completely unacceptable. The only option that should be considered is an outdoor tank for liquid manure storage. This would prevent any runoff and contamination of our wells and water systems, as well it would help contain odor. Continuing on, how is it that both the applying company and the RM seem to have overlooked that the spread zone is clearly going to be draining into the Sturgeon Creek water shed? Any manure run-off from these spread sites will eventually be draining into Lake Winnipeg causing a potential pollution hazard. Who is going to be monitoring this?

My next concern is the actual amount of water that they will be using. Delta II Elskamp requires approximately 9000+ imperial gallons of water per day, coming from the same water resources that many other farmers and residents in the area are already relying on. Not to mention that we are relying on these water resources for our own human consumption. How is it that a barn full of hogs is going to take precedence over human beings? How are we supposed to know that this well will support everyone's needs? And what are we supposed to do when that well inevitably runs dry? Will the municipality be covering the costs to relocate our water resources?

Considering Marquette already has pig barns in the area, I am quite aware of the awful stench that they produce. I am concerned about the choice in potential odor control. A shelter belt seems again, like cutting costs. How many trees will be planted? Are we going to be waiting 15-20 years for these trees to grow and take effect at decreasing the odor? This operation has done the bare minimum to protect the surrounding neighbors from the obnoxious smell and I find this to be unacceptable. This will completely ruin any outdoor activities in the area like quading, hunting, bike riding and snowmobiling. I feel that I wouldn't even be able to keep my windows open on a nice day. This smell will have a very negative impact on my own quality of life, and many others in this area.

My next concern is the awful state of the municipal roads about 75% of the year. If you can't even keep them maintained as it is, how are you proposing to handle the increase in traffic on the travel routes suggested with all the big trucks hauling pigs, manure and feed now? Majority of the time these roads are impassible to small vehicles as a result of frost boils and washboard from many dump trucks travelling the same route. What is going to be done to maintain these roads so that our local traffic can still get by?

Finally, the residential property values in this area will of course decrease by a substantial amount, while I'm sure our property taxes will only continue to rise. What type of compensation can we expect to see from our municipal government for this? And what are you going to do when our houses continue to sit on the market because we don't want to live near this filthy hog barn and neither does anybody else?

In conclusion I think that there is absolutely no way that this hog facility should be built in a community

where so many people are negatively impacted by its presence. I feel that the corporate farm, the overseas investors, and of course the land owner who does not even live in this municipality; will feel none of these awful side effects that we the residents will have to live with. Nor do I think they will care. I feel that the municipality has done a very poor job thus far in representing the community's right to safe drinking water and clean odor free air. Our rights as residents have been monopolized by the idea of a few tax dollars from a foreign operation and I in no way support this.

Please acknowledge the receipt of this opposition letter and please respond to my concerns.

Sincerely,  
Tanya Whittleton  
SE 27-13-3W  
Marquette, Manitoba

**(28)**

I'm sending this letter to address my opposition to the proposed Delta II hog barn in the RM of woodlands. I have concerns about this barn proposal.

My first concern is the fact that Delta II did not follow the steps and procedures as outlined by Manitoba Pork which states that in Step #1 "talking to your neighbours in advance" and "getting neighbours acceptance is vital." Not a single neighbour was notified.

The Sturgeon Creek Watershed is located between Lake Manitoba and the city of Winnipeg. It begins in the RM of Woodlands and continues south east through the RM of Rosser to the Assiniboine River which flows into the city of Winnipeg. In the site assessment, West Shoal Lake is listed as the only watershed involved where the proposed facility and spread sites are located. The proposed building site is in the west shoal lake watershed but the spread areas are located directly within the Sturgeon Creek watershed and the Interlake region.

The barn site is located on a sandy gravel ridge with minimal top soil. My concern with this is the possibility of leaching and contaminating the ground water. The applicant has put an earthen lagoon as the manure storage, I feel as upright manure storage would be better suited for this site. Also the applicant opted out of the environment farm plan and this concerns me because there won't be anyone to police there spread sites and barn sites.

The applicant has put a minimal odour control for this site and this concerns me because this area is a large wildlife and outdoor activity area and I feel that this minimal odour control will disrupt the way of our local activities in the surrounding area.

The residential properties around spread sites and barn sites, values are going to decrease due to the hog operation while the taxes continue to climb.



The municipal roads where this proposed operation is going to be are not in the best of shape and I feel with increased traffic it will only make things worse.

I feel as this applicant did not follow all the steps as one was to ask neighbours about the proposed hog barn and that never got done. The only thing that notified the neighbours was a small article in only one of the local newspapers and I feel as this wasn't sufficient notice.

I feel there would be a better location for this hog barn. But this site and size of the proposed barn would only be a burden to our community and the life style we have come to enjoy in this area.

Sincerely

Chris Macmillan

**(29)**

Please accept this email as our formal letter of complaint and opposition to the proposed hog ban operation known as Delta II Elskamp at N 1/2 of SE 3-14-3 wpm.

We own property and farm directly next to the proposed spread sites !

As a long time member of the Woodlands farming community, we were deeply upset that we were not notified of the application made for this hog barn facility. My parents and their parents have been farming in this community for years and years. We are unable to comprehend why a hog barn is necessary in this area, as this is a heavily populated area with residential properties as well as generational farming families.

We find it very upsetting that the proposed spread sites literally surround our farm land and border our home farm site.

We are under the understanding that there appears to be no environmental plan put in place and no meaningful odor control either. What happens to the wildlife in the area ? What happens to the health of our children ? We have children and grand children who live and will be living in this area, and we have no idea of how badly the odor, soil and ground water contamination will be !

We are extremely disappointed that the health and welfare of this farming community has been put at risk, and that our children and grandchildren have not been considered important enough to keep this hog barn operation from going forward.'

We understand that neighbors should have been notified first thing , when the application was being worked on, We have never been contacted in this regard. This hog operation will also affect our residential property values in the area, decreasing them by half. No one wants to live next to a hog barn or the spread sites ! Does this mean the value of our homes decreasing, will have our property taxes decrease in relation ? This hog operation appears to benefit one family with giant monetary gains. The property owner does not even reside in the R.M. of Woodlands and therefore that family is not affected by all the negative aspects of this operation.

We are very much opposed to this hog barn proposal as we believe it will destroy the Woodlands farming community way of life and all the recreation we have in this area.

Please decline the application to build this hog barn facility.

*Thank You*

*Ray and Tammy Blowers*

**(30)**

To whom it may concern,

My name is Christina Barry from Woodlands Manitoba. I mother to a 5 year old boy and I live in a small farming community with my husband and his quadriplegic sister. We were recently notified at the end of July of a proposal for a large factory livestock operation for hogs known as Elskamp Delta 11, which will be situated less than 1/3 (1640 feet) of a mile from my home. Many of our neighbors will be affected by this, but we are the closest. Step 1 as per the Manitoba Pork Guide to Starting a Pig Farm in Manitoba is discussions about the proposal with the local residents. Mike Shaw (204 954-3822) of Topigs Norsvin and land owner Tom Elskamp (204 981-2579) have already proceeded with step 4 and neglected step 1.

If the proposal for Delta II passes we will be forced out of my home because of the devastating effects that the facility will have on our ecosystem, land, water system and air quality (refer to the five internet links provided at the bottom). We live above a natural aquifer which will destroy our drinking water, there will be waste/manure run off. As of now we are one of the few areas that do have clean water, which will be destroyed by run off from antibiotics, growth hormones, manure, urine (toxic waste). The air quality will be damaged by ammonia, hydrogen sulfite, endotoxins, methane, carbine dioxide, and bacteria. Swine Flu can be transferred from animals to humans through air.

We purchased our house in Woodlands because of the values of living in a rural setting with clean air, water and quality of life, inherent in the Woodlands Municipality Mission Statement referred to above. If this operation goes through we will be forced to move because of significant health concerns (please open the five internet links below pertaining to health concerns). Our home would be worthless because nobody would want to live around a facility like that. The reason that we moved here in the first place was to live in a clean environment and enjoy a healthy quality of life.

We were given until August 19th to respond to this proposal. The attached letter from the company Topigs Norsvin (from the Netherlands) only arrived to our house Monday August 15th. The link they put in the letter is [www.gov.mb.ca/ia/livestock/pubs/trc-12-021/assessment](http://www.gov.mb.ca/ia/livestock/pubs/trc-12-021/assessment), which can't be opened. Our address is NW 35-13-3 W Woodlands Municipality and is listed in the proposal, which we were never approached about. This is outrageous.

Please consider this letter of protest with the highest regard, our quality of life is greatly at risk if this proposal were to go through. Thank you for your time and I looking forward to hearing from you. Please email me upon receipt of this letter.

## Health Concerns links pertaining to Hog Farms

<http://www.peta.org/issues/animals-used-for-food/health-risks-meat-industry/#.V50X9XVEJSc.email>

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/ia/livestock/pubs/trc-12-021/assessment.pdf%20-%20adobe%20acrobat%20pro.pdf>

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/wont-back-down-from-hog-farm-fight-65967607.html>

<http://uniter.ca/view/hog-industry-continues-to-damage-manitobas-environment-experts-say>

<http://www.onegreenplanet.org/environment/health-and-environmental-impact-of-factory-farm-waste/>

[http://www.hsi.org/assets/pdfs/hsi-fa-white-papers/an\\_hsi\\_factsheet\\_the.pdf](http://www.hsi.org/assets/pdfs/hsi-fa-white-papers/an_hsi_factsheet_the.pdf)

## Woodlands Municipality Mission Statement.

### ***A Place to Put Down Roots***

The Rural Municipality of Woodlands is a rural community composed of a population diverse in cultural heritage who share a common desire for the quality of life found in a rural agricultural setting. Residents enjoy the wide-open spaces, clean air, water and a safe, friendly atmosphere in which family life thrives.

The rural lifestyle is afforded in both a rural residential setting and in several small villages. Through a cooperative effort, all residents are provided with the social and cultural opportunities of a progressive, modern community.

Building on the strength of its people and a prosperous agricultural background, its residents will develop a diversified economy to provide the opportunity for future generations to remain and prosper in their home community.



Topigs Norsvin Canada  
201-1465 Buffalo Place  
Winnipeg, MB  
Canada R3T 1L8  
Tel: 204-954-3820

Topigs Norsvin Canada Inc, one of the leading swine genetics companies in the world, is planning to build a high density phenotypic research facility in the Rural Municipality of Woodlands, Manitoba.

The land on which this facility will be constructed will be purchased from Tom Elskamp. The facility will be wholly owned and operated by Topigs Norsvin Canada, headquartered in Winnipeg Manitoba.

This innovative and state of the art facility will be called Delta II. It will be a world class research facility containing the most sophisticated and modern equipment available, including a CT scanner and computerized feed intake recording equipment. It will have a fully filtered ventilation system ensuring the highest levels of biosecurity. This facility will deliver top genetics to over 50 countries around the world.

See YouTube with a video of our existing Delta facility in Norway.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vSZrJ3wilow>

This research station will hold approximately 2,600 animals. Half of these will be in the testing phase while the other half will be for global sales. The focus is on research and not production of animals. As a reference a standard commercial operation could run upwards of 6,000 pigs in the finishing stage.

This facility will directly employ over 10 people. Some will be technicians required to be trained and certified to run the specialized equipment like the CT scanners. It will bring considerable revenue to the R.M. of Woodlands through jobs, taxes, supplies/services etc. By comparison, a similar sized commercial operation would only employ about 1½ people.

We intend to hire qualified local residents as employees and to use local trades as this project moves forward. A house and shop will be constructed on the site. 3 phase hydro will be brought in from Meadow Lea coming 2 miles west along highway 227 and then 2½ miles north.

We expect to receive many international visitors to the research facility. To entertain potential customers, the facility will feature a fully enclosed viewing area, again meeting the highest levels of biosecurity.

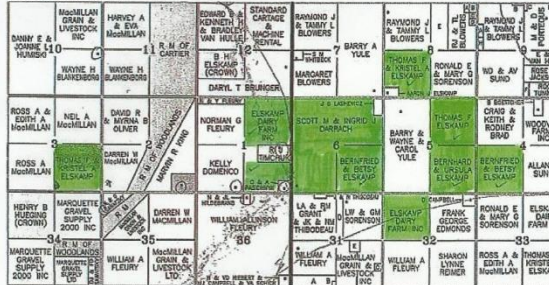
Topigs Norsvin Canada is committed to animal welfare and sustainability and as such this research facility will include;

- additional space per pig
- extra staff per pig
- highest level of cleanliness and hygiene, reducing dust and odours
- air filtration
- secure rural location

We will store manure in an earthen manure storage lagoon which is fully contained until injection into the crop land occurs. This type of storage system is very common and in every municipality for human waste. It is a much better alternative to other livestock manure storage systems. This is due to the fact that the manure is in liquid form so environmentally safe practices such as pumping, drag hoses and injection monitored by GPS are feasible methods to handle the manure minimizing environmental exposure.

Topigs Norsvin Canada will have a provincially approved manure management plan in place, overseen by expert third party consultants. We will inject manure at or below the allowed rates in order to improve soil quality and sustain crop yields. Manure injection will only occur once a year, between spring and fall depending on the weather, land condition and crop requirements. It is done through direct injection into the soil thus eliminating run off and minimizing odours. The manure created by this facility will only require 24 to 36 hours of actual injection time per year. 160 to 200 acres will receive manure annually.

Below is a map of the available injection acres. We would like to point out that there was an error in earlier published data.



If you have any questions on the project, you can address them at the public meeting (date to be determined) or you can call:

Mike Shaw (Topigs Norsvin) 1-204-954-3822

Tom Elskamp (current land owner) 1-204-981-2579

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Starting or Expanding a Pig Farm in Manitoba – A Step-by-Step Guide

Attention Residents of the Rural Municipality of Woodlands

## Share Your Views

concerning the proposed establishment of a hog operation

The Manitoba government has received a proposal from Topigs Norsvin Canada Inc. to establish a 2,746 animal (450 Animal Unit) operation known as Delta II Elkcamp at North 1/2 of SE 3-14-3 WPM.

If you would like to share your opinion concerning this proposal, you are invited to contact the Manitoba government by sending either a letter or an email to (TRC@gov.mb.ca) no later than August 19, 2016. After this date, the proposal will be dealt with by the Livestock Technical Review Committee.

Information submitted in response to this proposal is considered public information and will be made available to the proponent and placed on the public registry.

**For more information**  
If you would like more information on this topic, please visit [www.gov.mb.ca/ia/livestock/public\\_registries.html](http://www.gov.mb.ca/ia/livestock/public_registries.html) or the Rural Municipality of Woodlands, 57 Railway Avenue, Woodlands, Manitoba.

**Technical Review Co-ordination Unit**  
Manitoba Indigenous and Municipal Relations  
604-800 Portage Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB R3G 0N4  
Phone: 204-945-8353  
Fax: 204-945-5059

Regards, Christina Barry

**(31)**

I am sending you this email to express my concerns over this proposed hog operation. I would like to make it quite clear that I am absolutely opposed to this project. I see almost no benefit to our community and nothing but harm and more pollution to our environment and soil conditions. Not to mention the negative effect on our future drinking water and wells. Also nearby farm yards and homesteads would be reduced by up to 50% in resale value. And there would be almost no new homes built nearby this operation which generates thousands of dollars of revenue to our municipality. Municipal roads leading to and from this site are already in bad disrepair so adding more heavy truck traffic is also of no benefit and more expense to the local tax payers. Finally there is the odor issue. I am a farmer and realize that living in this area we are subject to normal and occasional agricultural odor. A 10,000 animal pig barn built in an area that has been normally pasture/hay land/grain and livestock is not normal and occasional odor. We already have two hog operations in the Marquette area and my understanding there is a colony that is now feeding 10,000 pigs west of Warren.

I have been living in this same area for the last 55 years and have the pleasure of seeing and smelling the effects of local hog operations. I plan to retire here and don't need another reminder from prevailing northwest winds of the negative effects of another hog barn built north of me.

Delta II Elskamp is calling this a research facility. I have nothing against research and finding more economical, environmentally friendly and community beneficial ways of doing things. Several grain companies have test plots in our area to try and accomplish such a thing. Their research plots are very small and easily monitored. They don't need to seed a 1000 acres of a new variety of grain to do "research".

Finding new and more economical ways of doing hog operations is fine but I see no need to have more than maybe 100 pigs in total in one small barn to do this research. This seems like this is nothing more than a disguise to set up a full-scale hog operation that will be beneficial to only a certain few people and a large overseas company.

In closing I would also like to express my total disappointment in all the parties that were involved in this project including our local municipal / planning office for not informing local and nearby residents and land owners about this proposed operation.

Alan Stetz  
SW 29 - 13 - 2W  
RM of Woodlands

**(32)**

To Whom it may concern:

I write this letter as I am enjoying a beautiful NW breeze, feels like I'm at the lake. This was the reason we bought this acreage in the first place. I'm a retired CFL football player who stays at home to raise my 5 year old son, as well my wife and I

are planning one more. We commute regularly to the city of Winnipeg where my wife works at Emergent BioSolutions as an associate scientist and we own/run our business Academy64 Self Defense and Fitness in St. James in Winnipeg.

The proposed factory would be 1640 feet from my front door of my house. Approximately eight hundred feet from the corner of my property where we occasionally have Elders come out and do ceremonies with youth.

I also take care of my sister who is confined to a wheelchair and rarely leaves home. My sister has a compromised immune system and gets infections quite easily. The stress of this grievance process is already making her ill where she had to talk to her doctor.

We pay very high property taxes in the excess of \$4000.00 per year. We, in return get very little in return. We are self sufficient and have no sewer or water needs from the municipality. We have clean well water to drink, another reason we moved here 16 years ago. We are located over top of one of the few natural aquifers, which would be compromised from the proposed operation.

We also get flooded every 4 years or so, so this would make the proposed lagoon an ecological disaster to the extended areas.

During one of these flood years a decision approving such an operation to this area would be very reckless to say the least disrupting many families lives also ruining some.

I personally don't eat meat and I am a vegetarian, the idea of living next door to this is disgusting to me.

- it is known that living this close to as hog factory can effect an unborn fetus through any stage of growth.
- Having a five year old son playing eight hundred feet from this operation **would negatively effect his health**
- this is already having a negative effect on my quadriplegic sister's health, poisoning our surroundings would kill her
- we are eight hundred feet from the proposed hog factory where we hold ceremonies to honor Metis burial land
- the contamination of the natural aquifer would occur from having this hog factory

In ending this I would like to say one last thing. Recklessly this hog factory would require the R.M. of Woodlands mission statement from what it is to “we destroy family quality of living, no clean water, no fresh air time to time to accommodate big business.

R.M. Of Woodlands Mission Statement: Why we moved here.

### *A Place to Put Down Roots*

The Rural Municipality of Woodlands is a rural community composed of a population diverse in cultural heritage who share a common desire for the quality of life found in a rural agricultural setting. Residents enjoy the wide-open spaces, clean air, water and a safe, friendly atmosphere in which family life thrives.

The rural lifestyle is afforded in both a rural residential setting and in several small villages. Through a cooperative effort, all residents are provided with the social and cultural opportunities of a progressive, modern community.

Building on the strength of its people and a prosperous agricultural background, its residents will develop a diversified economy to provide the opportunity for future generations to remain and prosper in their home community.

Garry Sawatzky



Technical Review Coordination  
Unit.

Aug 14. 2016.

RECEIVED

AUG 18 2016

Dear Sir or Madam.

I William Fleury in this letter choose to express my objections to a pig barn of any kind as proposed by "Topigs Norsvin" when a municipality generates a development plan or a zoning bylaw one of the most important things that must be considered is the compatibility of the uses. Uses that adversely affect one another should not be approved. The impact on local roads such as Rd 78 East to #6 highway is of serious concern. If this pig barn is constructed, during Spring road restrictions the only option to deliver feed will be #6 highway to Rd 78 to avoid weight restrictions. Unfortunately the Rm of Woodlands is also considering making the Garbage dump on 2-14-3w a transfer site which would also result in Rd 78 being the only way out. This past Spring Elskamps hauled flax chives down Rd 82 for a 1000 plus head cattle feedlot expansion. Given the frost boil condition during Spring restrictions the traffic destroyed Rd 82 West of 248 making it impassable for small cars and vans. When asked

2

By the Rm Public Works foreman to stop hauling and let the road heal, their response was to haul in the middle of the night when no one was watching! Hardly an example of responsible cooperation on their part. If a similar condition occurred on Rd 78 a similar response could be expected, impacting a significant number of people who use that road daily. Provincial regulations and common sense would prevent the development of such a facility in close proximity to a developed, settled area such as the town of Marquette. The population of the town of Marquette is 35 people. Our area has prevailing North West winds, the population down wind that would be impacted by the smell of the barn plus the proposed spread zone is in excess of 150 people. There is a significant drop in elevation off of the gravel ridge West of 248. During heavy rain fall excessive runoff would, because of well manicured drains on the spread fields carry off significant amounts of liquid manure as it is not as stable as solid manure. The sandy gravelly substrate also promotes seepage in wet conditions

preventing the liquid manure even if injected from soaking in. The proposed earthen storage containment is not 100% fool proof, there is no mention of a liner to stop seepage.

This facility proposes to follow Provincially approved manure management plans. This is of no comfort. Ask the people of the Rm's of Hanover and La Broquerie their opinions of the smell and impact on their quality of life.

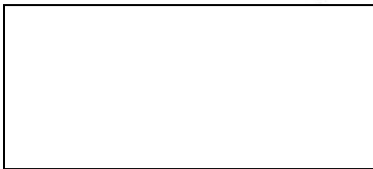
Our sandy soil and gravel substrate allows easy movement of nutrients past the soil root zone and potentially into ground water. Solid waste manure is not as bad. Air quality is of the utmost importance. We don't appreciate Pig smell any time, it is offensive, reduces the quality of life, people can't leave their windows open and will experience an increase in flies. The proposed spread zones and this barn would negatively impact in excess of 150 people. In our yard we can smell Puratone barn 8 miles away when spreading occurs. This will be no different.

4

In the watershed management planning application Topigs stated the barns and spread zones were in the Westshoal lakes watershed Area. This is completely wrong. The barns are in Lake Francis w.s., spread fields are in the Assinaboine and Sturgeon creek watershed areas. Simple mistakes like this do not boost confidence in their ability to do proper manure management. If this barn is built and fails, it will be sold off and become a commercial feeder barn with a lot more manure. Higher levels of Phosphorous in the soil automatically result in higher levels of Phos. run-off. The fact that this is an incompatible use for foreign and corporate benefit is inexcusable. Existing residents' rights to safe water and a "pig odor free" environment which they have become accustomed to should take precedence. Local land owners rights should be more important than foreign and corporate exploitation. Given current circumstances at our municipal council table we are very concerned council will not act in our best interest but chase a measley tax dollar. This barn will potentially curtail other future development

In the area such as houses or a proposed campground on property now owned by Marquette sand and gravel. The chart on page 21 of the site assessment application indicates a minimum separation distance from a rural recreation site of 22457 ft or 4.25 miles. This proposed pig born would eliminate pre existing landowner Marquette Sand and gravel from rehabilitating and developing their pit to anything other than pasture. The value added tax dollars from a rec campground would far exceed taxes from a pig born. Our rights as citizens and Taxpayers must be respected. No Pig Born Please!!!

Sincerely  
WA Sluery  
NE 36-13 3W

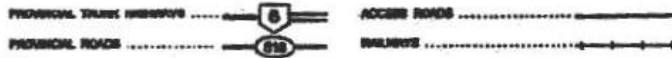


# R.M. OF WOODLANDS

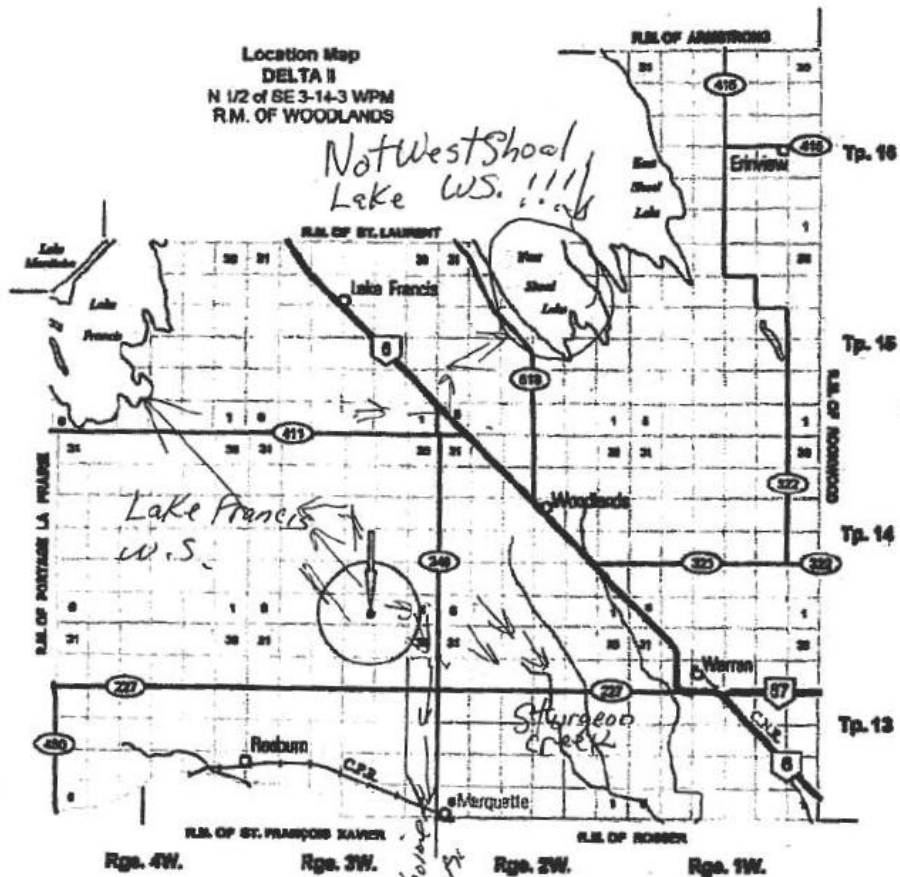


PROVINCE OF MANITOBA  
INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION  
HIGHWAY PLANNING AND DESIGN BRANCH  
GEOGRAPHIC & RECORDS MANAGEMENT SECTION  
MSP/PSD  
JANUARY, 2010

### LEGEND



Location Map  
DELTA II  
N 1/2 of SE 3-14-3 WPM  
R.M. OF WOODLANDS



SHEET 1 OF 1



8/17/2016

Norah Thibodeau  
Box 542  
Warren, MB R0C 3E0

Technical Review Co-ordination Unit &  
Reeve and Council of R.M. of Woodlands

To whom in may concern

Recently it has come to my attention that there is a proposed hog operation, the Topigs Norsvin Delta II Elscamp operation, to be built within a couple of miles of our home and their spread sites directly to the north of our property.

My first thought and concern after reading the proposal for this operation is that of water quality and quantity.

It states in the application that upwards to 10,000 gallons of water per day would be required by this operation. The question arises, can this aquifer support this kind of requirement as well as that of the existing demands on it?

It also states in the application that an earthen lagoon with no cover will be used to store waste. The area of land proposed for this operation is located on a gravel or 'ancient beach' ridge. As per the 'Groundwater Availability in the Municipality of Woodlands inter-departmental memo' dated January 25, 1974 this area is in a groundwater pollution hazard area due to the gravel ridge being close to the aquifer. While the referenced report is dated, the facts and the gravel ridge location remain the same.

Furthermore, due to the formation of the gravel ridge, all properties to the east and south of the proposed location are at a lower elevation. Should there be a wet year and flooding or a breach of the earth lagoon for any reason, their stored waste would flow downhill to the adjacent properties causing more concerns for water quality and health.

Please consider this opposition to the project due to concerns about the quality of water my family and our neighbors consume in our day to day lives.

Thank you

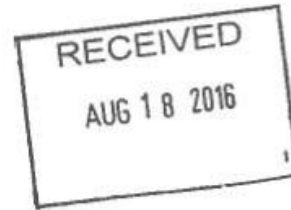
Norah Thibodeau

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Norah Thibodeau".

(35)

August 17, 2016

Technical Review Co-ordination Unit  
604-800 Portage Ave.  
Wpg. Man  
R3G 0N4



The intent of this letter is to voice my concerns regarding the proposed 2,746 hog finishing operation known as Delta II Elskamp on the north ½ of SE3-14-3WPM in the RM of Woodlands.

First, step #1 was not followed. The applicant was to talk to neighbours regarding the proposed operation. There is not a single person surrounding the building site that was approached. No one had a clue that this was happening until a couple of residents who owned land within a 3km zone of the building site were informed by letter.

The applicant has stated that facility will be beneficial to the community by providing jobs and taxes to the RM. The only taxes will be those on the assessed value of the building which according to one councillor would be approximately \$40,000, which is only a drop in the bucket considering the total amount of taxes that the RM collects in one year. As far as job growth, there is no one in the RM who is qualified in constructing such an operation and should the research facility ever be developed, there is no one who is qualified in hog research living in the surrounding area.

Proximity to a hog operation greatly decreases surrounding residential property values. Is the RM going to be reducing the taxes to compensate for the decrease in residential property values? I believe that the development of a cottage area proposed by Marquette Gravel would by far be more beneficial to the community. More jobs would be created with this business venture – landscaping, groundskeeper, lifeguards and maintenance personnel. The cottage owners would contribute more to the economy of the surrounding area by purchasing gas, liquor and convenience items from Woodlands, Warren or Marquette and most importantly, this development is a revitalization of an unsightly gravel pit that would otherwise be left alone. If this hog operation becomes a reality then the revitalization of the gravel pit would not take place.

The only form of odour control is the planting of a shelterbelt as stated in their application. It will take 25 years or more for the trees to grow up enough to provide any kind of barrier. A more effective form of odour control would be spreading straw on the lagoon or a manure storage cover.

Another concern is who is responsible for ensuring that regulations, recommendations and promises are followed. Who will ensure that a storage cover is used or that manure that is spread on the land is cultivated within 48 hours.

Topigs has stated in the application that they will be using 9,000 gallons of water per day. I am very worried that the water source will not be able to meet those needs over an extended length of time and this will have a direct impact on the surrounding residents.

The majority of people that live within close proximity to this proposed facility are very community minded. They volunteer at the local hall, the local curling club or help a neighbour in need. Topigs is a foreign company with absolutely no ties to this community at all. They will not be counted on to help a neighbour or contribute to the community as a whole or even care about our community.

I urge you to consider the welfare and quality of life of our community members and how we believe that this business venture will have a negative impact on the community as a whole.

Edith MacMillan  
Marquette, Man.  
ROH 0V0



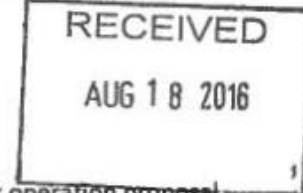
(36)

Attention: Technical Review Co-ordination Unit

Manitoba Indigenous and Municipal Relations

RE: Livestock Operation Proposal Delta II Elskamp at SE 3-14-3W

August 14, 2016



This letter outlines some of the environmental risks associated with the livestock operation proposal that could affect our community and environment. For the reasons listed in this letter we are not in support of the livestock operation proposal Delta II Elskamp located at SE 3-14-3W. The following is our assessment of the livestock operation proposal and of the soil, water and environmental attributes of the proposed site and the manure spread sites outlining potential environmental and community risks that need to be considered by the Technical Review Committee and Municipal Council.

There are multiple discrepancies within the livestock operation proposal that need to be addressed in order to fully understand the manure and water volume, ensure the proposed site is not within the Red River Special Management area, to ensure long term access to a sufficient land base for manure spread sites and to ensure good stewardship from the land manager and livestock operator. At the proposed site, the potential for high water table, the direction of surface runoff and the proximity to class 5 sand and gravel soil (Agassiz series) with well to excessive drainage poses a risk for groundwater contamination. The proposed earthen manure storage facility poses a heightened risk for leakage compared to available alternatives. Potential concerns with the manure spread sites include long term availability, soil nitrate levels, low permeability and surface ponding leading to risk of surface runoff leading to nutrient loading within the Lake Manitoba drainage basin.

*Discrepancies with the livestock operation proposal*

The water requirement calculation on page 7 is not consistent with the animal unit calculation as it considers all animals as feeders and does not consider the 1,018 boars outlined in the animal units calculation table. Feeder hogs consume less water than boars and therefore the water use has been underestimated.

The manure calculation does not take into account the 1,018 boars outlined in the animal units calculation table, therefore underestimating the total manure volume.

The applicant does not currently have an environmental farm plan as indicated on page 5. Although voluntary, an environmental farm plan should be undertaken to identify the environmental strengths and weaknesses of the operation, ensure good environmental stewardship and public trust.

For livestock operations >300 animal units, a manure management plan is required to be filed with Manitoba Conservation and Stewardship and there is a discrepancy within the application regarding this. On page 8, it is indicated that all manure will be applied according to a manure management plan. However, on page 12, it is indicated that an annual manure management plan is not filed.

The Livestock Manure and Mortalities Management Regulation puts restrictions on fall application of manure in the Red River Valley Special Management Area. The boundary for the Red River Valley Special

Management Area are not clearly indicated within the RM of Woodlands. A more detailed map is needed to ensure spread sites are not within this area.

According to Rural Municipality of Woodlands Land Ownership Map (No. 206), fields 1, 6 and 9 listed as manure spread sites within the Manure Application Field Characteristics Table are not currently owned by the land manager. Although not required, this is a consideration that should be taken into account as land leased or agreed upon is subject to change without notice. Consideration of where the manure would be spread if these fields are no longer available should be taken into account. Further, the manure spread agreement on the last page of the application made between the land manager and livestock operation includes the land not currently owned by the land manager. It should be considered that all land owners enter into a manure spread agreement.

It is not indicated that a plan for mass mortalities is in place (page 18).

*Soil, water and landscape assessment of proposed site on SE 3-14-3-W*

According to the Soils and Terrain Information Bulletin 99-12 developed by the Land Resource Unit for the Municipality of Woodlands, major management considerations in this rural municipality are related to fine texture, wetness and seasonal high water tables (at 1 to 2 metres) and saturated soils are common, particularly in the southern portion. Surface water ponding is also relatively common in poorly drained depressional areas.

The soil classification of SE 3-14-3-W according to the Manitoba Land Initiative data base is: Isafold series (40%), Lundar series (30%) and Clarkleigh series (30%) with agricultural capability 4DP and 5W and limitations due to wetness, permeability and stoniness. Soils within the Clarkleigh series are severely affected by wetness due to slow permeability and a high water table. A high water table is an important concern for risk of groundwater contamination from hog manure.

The natural progression of surface water drainage in this area follows the natural slope of the landscape which gradually slopes south and east. Approximately 0.25-mile due east of the proposed site is a large sand and gravel lense which runs SW-NE and is comprised of Agassiz soil series with agricultural capability class 5M. The Agassiz series consists of well to excessively drained soils. Should manure leakage and/or overland flooding occur, surface runoff will run south and east into and across the sand and gravel lense leading to potential groundwater contamination. The majority of Agassiz soils are currently excavated as a source of sand and gravel for road construction; this is evidenced by the Marquette Gravel Supply Co. located 0.5-mile south of the proposed site. It should be noted that the soil survey data for Municipality of Woodlands has been developed at the Reconnaissance scale (1:126,720) and a detailed soil survey of the proposed site should be conducted. There is potential for the Reconnaissance scale to overestimate the agricultural capability of the land at the proposed site and underestimate the potential environmental impact. For example, the gravel pit located 0.5 mile south of the proposed site is rated as ag capability 5 and non-stony, which is likely inaccurate.

Based on the soil series information, attributes of the landscape at the site and within the immediate proximity (0.25 mile) that must be considered for any intended land use are natural drainage patterns (south and east), coarse texture, well to excessively well drained soils (leaching potential) and high water table. Coarse textured soil landscapes with high permeability require special management

practices related to animal wastes in order to protect and sustain longer term soil and water quality. These attributes contribute to the potential for environmental impact, specifically risk to groundwater contamination. The current proposed manure storage facility is earthen manure storage, which poses a high risk of leakage and contamination compared to alternatives.

The proposed site is located near the boundary of the Lake Manitoba and Assiniboine River Drainage Basins. Excess nutrient loading is a common problem in the Lake Manitoba drainage basin and livestock production is one the two most important sources of nutrient contamination.

The major source of groundwater supply in the Interlake area is sand and gravel aquifers. Although few detailed studies have been conducted, Manitoba Water Resources has undertaken aquifer capacity studies of the Winkler and Elie aquifers which have shown water quality deterioration due to over-pumping. This is an important consideration when developing a new livestock operation with such a high water requirement that could potentially impact the community's groundwater source. The supply and replenishment rate of the groundwater should be investigated.

#### *Soil, water and landscape assessment of manure spread sites*

The proposed manure spread sites are located in fine texture and wetness landscapes which face limitations due to low infiltration and internal permeability rates, thus increasing risk of surface ponding and runoff. Runoff of surface water with high nutrient content as a result of surface manure application is a common problem and important concern in the Lake Manitoba drainage basin.

The maximum soil test nitrate level is 140 lbs/ac for class 1, 2 and 3 except 3M, 3MW, and 90 lbs/ac for Class 3M, 3MW and 4. Two fields (5, 8) listed as spread sites that have ag capability 3W currently exceeds 100 lbs/ac soil nitrate and would not be eligible for manure spreading and should be removed. The ag capability listed in the application only includes the predominant soil type and does not fully describe the ag capability.

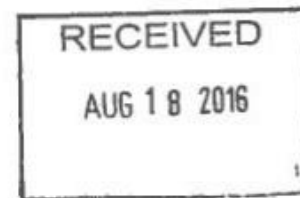
In addition to these environmental concerns, we are also opposed the operation because we live downwind of the proposed operation. We have built a new home and put down roots in this community. We do not want to compromise air and water quality, our ability to enjoy the outdoors without strong odor, discourage future residents and recreational users nor be affected by decreased residential land values.

- Bryce and Kristen MacMillan

#### REFERENCES:

- Land Resource Unit, 1999. Soils and Terrain. An Introduction to the Land Resource. Rural Municipality of Woodlands. Information Bulletin 99-12. Brandon Research Centre, Research Branch, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.
- Summary of Main Manure Regulations in Manitoba, 2015. Manitoba Pork. Online.
- Manitoba Land Initiative. 2001. Land use/land cover map layers. Manitoba Land Initiative, Winnipeg, Manitoba. Online.

Attention:  
Technical Review Co-ordination Unit  
Manitoba Indigenous and Municipal Relations



RE: Livestock Operation Proposal Delta II Elskamp at SE 3-14-3- WPM

August 17, 2016

There is a large population of families living within a few miles of the proposed site; several hundred residents and their extended families "who share a common desire for the quality of life found in a rural agricultural setting" and enjoy the community's "wide-open spaces, clean air, water and a safe, friendly atmosphere" as per the Municipality's commitment to its residents. This letter outlines our opposition to the livestock proposal for breaching this commitment.

There are many people living within this area that suffer from a variety of health issues, including members of our family. Chronic breathing problems such as asthma and COPD are common within the community. There are also residents limited by disabilities and wheel-chair bound. The current concentration and type of livestock operations is generally acceptable, however, the proposal for the addition of a large, concentrated hog operation will severely impact those suffering with health limitations and chronic breathing problems. The air quality and odour of a hog operation is significantly different than those from cattle operations. The pollution is more concentrated, particularly in ammonia. People suffering from health problems are often confined to their homes and yards and rely on good air quality to stay as healthy as they can. The addition of a hog operation in such close proximity to those suffering would take away their right to be in their homes and yards with good air quality and would be an unconscionable decision.

Many young families, including two of our own, have recently invested in staying in our community by building new homes. Their commitment to our community (economic, social, recreational) should be heavily weighed in this decision and not favored by a single economic driver. We want faith and trust that our community will remain a safe, healthy, peaceful environment and we should encourage this for our younger generations as they are the ones who will continue current businesses in our community. There is potential for more residential growth from our young community that will be inhibited by this hog operation. The current residents should have a larger voice on the development of our community than non-residents.

The residents of this community who have supported it for generations and continue to on a daily basis have voiced their opposition to this livestock proposal loudly and clearly at a community meeting. Letters and petitions have been signed stating that we do not agree to the proposed site. In addition to affecting health and quality of life, it is an important area for the community at large for recreational purposes that must be maintained for future generations. People come from across the province to enjoy our community and provide economic support (ATV riding, snowmobiling, hunting, horseback riding, hikers, bird watchers, wildlife enthusiasts etc.). Community spirit, engagement and recreational economic value should be top priorities in this decision.

According to the Manitoba Pork Council, step 1 of the application process is "talking to your community": discussing plans with neighbours well ahead of formally applying. This due diligence was

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not followed and this has led to a breach of community trust by the applicant, land owner and land manager. This shows disregard for the residents of our community. At the community meeting attended by a large group of residents, not a single person was aware of this proposal prior to the letter received in the mail from the Manitoba government. Many livestock operations in Manitoba have been turned down by local councils because of a volume of people raising concerns at the public meeting and we trust that our Municipal Council will listen to its residents.

Our family is one of many in the community and close proximity to the proposed hog operation who have invested heavily into their homes, yards and businesses. We have worked for generations to enjoy this setting (good air and water quality, wildlife and natural habitat, peacefulness) and community and look forward to having that throughout retirement and for our future generations.

- Glen and Michelle MacMillan

(38) PETITION #1 : A list of individuals who signed this petition follows:

Attention:

Technical Review Co-ordination Unit  
Manitoba Indigenous and Municipal Relations



I am opposed to the proposed hog barn operation known as Delta II Elskamp at North 1/2 of SE 3-14-3 WPM. I am opposed for the following reasons:

- Decrease in residential property values
- Odor
- The hog operation property owner does not reside in the R.M. of Woodlands and therefore is not affected by the negative aspects of the operation
- Increased traffic
- Lack of odor control
- Increased potential to ground-water contamination
- The negative affect it will have on the area as a recreation site for walking, hunting, ATVing, and snowmobiling. This area is used heavily by R.M. of Woodlands residents as well as by a significant number of non-residents. There is a recreation cabin nearby that has been used for 4 generations of residents; the proposed hog-barn operation will destroy the quiet, peacefulness of the area.

Name (print): Richard Sawatzky

Name (sign): 

Date: Aug 15/6

Address: Box 675 Warren, MB

**Petition Standard #1**

<b>First</b>	<b>Last</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Last</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Last</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Last</b>
Allan	*Domenco	Blake	Kendall	Wayne	Oliver	Tracy	Unger
Alysha	*Gareau	Amy	Kendall	Jay	Oliver	Ed	Van Hulle
Henry	*Hueging	Bonnie	Lawrence	Russell	Oliver	Don	Walsh
Norah	Thibodeau	Craig	Lawrence	Sara	Oliver	Darlene	Walsh
Jason	Thibodeau	Darlene	Lock	Wayne	Oliver	Tanya	Whittleton
Russell	*Tully	Gordon	Macdonald	Jay	Oliver		
Kyle	*Tully	Annette	Macdonald	Colleen	Olson		
Kimberly	Beil	Audrey	MacMillan	Cortney	Olson		
Richard	Beil	Greg	MacMillan	Rob	Ozfrey		
Ronnie	Bennett	James	MacMillan	Ann	Parishnyk		
Andrea	Bennett	Steffani	MacMillan	Carl	Parishnyk		
Ray & Tammy	Blowers	Bradley	MacMillan	Lisa	Pawluk		
Jesse	Bradfoot	Bryce	MacMillan	Russell	Proctor		
Peter	Bradley	Alvin	MacMillan	Rikki	Proctor		
Joyce	Bradley	Noama	MacMillan	Cathy	Proctor		
Mike	Cavers	Courtney	MacMillan	James	Pull		
Will	Dalumple	Robyn	MacMillan	Sharon	Pull		
Darlene	Dokken	Darren	MacMillan	Richard	Sawatzky		
Gary	Dokkyn	Ross	MacMillan	Garry	Sawatzky		
Elaine	Dreibach	Eva	MacMillan	Frances	Sawatzky		
Damien	Dudeck	Harvey	MacMillan	Kathy	Sawatzky		
Sam	Fisher	Jeff	MacMillan	Kevin	Schick		
Branden	Fisher	Wayne	MacMillan	Ashleigh	Schick		
Alexa	Fleury	Chris	MacMillan	Valerie	Schick		
W. A.	Fleury	Edith	MacMillan	Ray	Sherrin		
Kim	Fleury	Michelle	MacMillan	Diane	Sherrin		
John	Fleury	Bruce	MacMillan	Erin	Simonson		
Cheryl	Fryer	Melissa	MacMillon	Rochelle	Sinclair		
Tammy	Granberg	Tammy	Matthews	Randy	Smith		
Rhoda	Grant	Doug	Matthews	Christy	Smith		
Nicole	Griffiths	Hailey	McDonald	Deidre	Smith		
Katy	Hallock	Donald	McRae	Michelle	Smonson		
Tara	Hearn	Ross	McRae	Ron	Stelck		
Kirby	Hearn	Debra Ann	McRae	Valerie	Stelck		
Dylan	Hildebrandt	Bonny	McRae	Alan	Stetz		
James	Hilderbrand	Murray	McRae	Glen	Tait		
Norman	Hilderbrand	Lindsay	McRae	Clay	Tait		
Sheldon	Hilderbrandt	Cody	Moffat	D.	Tait		
Josh	Hofer	Byran	Myskiw	Shirley	Thevenot		
Rachael	Holod	Michelle	Myskiw	Roger	Thevenot		
Darrell	Hueging	Rusty	Myskiw	Amy	Thiessen		
Stan	Jonasson	Blaine	Myskiw	Terry	Titterton		
Barb	Jonasson	Blaine	Myskiw	Maureen	Tully		

Jared  
Diane

Kalynuik  
Kendall

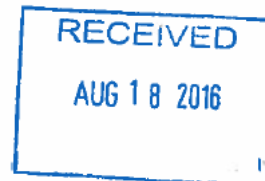
Donna Myskiw  
Dorothy Myskiw  
Mackenzie Oatway  
Myrna Oliver  
Russell Oliver  
Sara Oliver

Irene Tully  
Doug Tully  
Marion Tully  
Wanda Tully  
Ryan Tully  
Howard Tully

**(39) PETITION #2: A list of individuals who signed this petition follows:**

Attention:

Technical Review Co-ordination Unit  
Manitoba Indigenous and Municipal Relations



I am opposed to the proposed hog barn operation known as Delta II Elskamp at North ½ of SE 3-14-3 WPM. I am opposed for the following reasons:

- Decrease in residential property values
- Odor
- The hog operation property owner does not reside in the R.M. of Woodlands and therefore is not affected by the negative aspects of the operation
- Increased traffic
- Lack of odor control
- Increased potential to ground-water contamination
- The negative affect it will have on the area as a recreation site for walking, hunting, ATVing, and snowmobiling. This area is used heavily by R.M. of Woodlands residents as well as by a significant number of non-residents. There is a recreation cabin nearby that has been used for 4 generations of residents; the proposed hog-barn operation will destroy the quiet, peacefulness of the area.

There must be a better location in the R.M. of Woodlands for an operation like this.

Name (print): Joy Smith  
Name (sign): Joy Smith  
Date: Aug 12/16  
Address: NW-23-14-3W



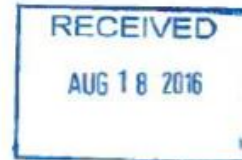
**Petition Standard #2****First****Last**

Lacey	Blowers
Derek	Blowers
Shawn	Blowers
Mike	Blowers
Ray	Blowers
Cassidy	Hamill
Katelyn	Myskiw
Brad	Myskiw
Kristin	Podolsky
John	Sawatzky
Roy	Smith
Judy	Smith
Patricia	Smth

(40) PETITION # 3: Petitions with comments included follow:

Attention:

Technical Review Co-ordination Unit  
Manitoba Indigenous and Municipal Relations



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Name (print): Blair Myskew

Name (sign): Blair Myskew

Date: July 29

Address: Box 8 Marquette MB

*I'm extremely concerned on spreading areas as our municipality has a real drainage problem already, thus risk of runoff is high causing contamination problems. Also concerned on property value will be decreased extremely as my property is within mile of spread areas. Don't see where any advantage to this ~~pro~~ project that will help out this municipality.*

RECEIVED

AUG 18 2016

Attention:

Technical Review Co-ordination Unit  
Manitoba Indigenous and Municipal Relations

I am opposed to the proposed hog barn operation known as Delta II Elskamp at North 1/2 of SE 3-14-3 WPM. I am opposed for the following reasons:

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Name (print): ARMAR PIXOTO

Name (sign): Armar Pixoto

Date: AUG 12/2016

Address: Box 403 WARD

① plus my children have Health Issues.  
as Seasonal Asthma

② won't Benefit us.

③ NO Job creations.

Attention:

Technical Review Co-ordination Unit  
Manitoba Indigenous and Municipal Relations



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Name (print): Brendan Peixoto

Name (sign): Brendan Peixoto

Date: Aug 12

Address: Box 403 Wangan.

need to find  
a different spot.



Attention:  
Technical Review Co-ordination Unit  
Manitoba Indigenous and Municipal Relations

I am opposed to the proposed hog barn operation known as Delta II Elskamp at North 1/2 of SE 3-14-3 WPM. I am opposed for the following reasons:

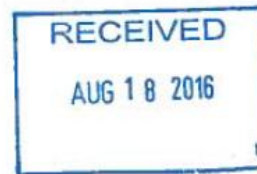
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plus my children have Health issues as Seasonal asthma.

Name (print): Liz Peixoto  
Name (sign): Liz Peixoto  
Date: Aug, 11 2016  
Address: Box 403 Warren

Attention:

Technical Review Co-ordination Unit  
Manitoba Indigenous and Municipal Relations



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- Lack of odor control
- Increased potential to ground-water contamination
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~~There must be a better location in the R.M. of Woodlands for an operation like this~~

*No Bams in R.M. of WOODLANDS*

Name (print): MARK PORTJEUS

Name (sign): *Mark Portjeus*

Date: aug 9/16

Address: Box 203 WOODLANDS

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Attention:

Technical Review Co-ordination Unit  
Manitoba Indigenous and Municipal Relations



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~~There must be a better location in the R.M. of Woodlands for an operation like this.~~

NO BARN IN R.M. OF WOODLANDS

Name (print): Deanna Porteous

Name (sign): Deanna Porteous

Date: Aug 9/16

Address: Box 203 Woodlands

Attention:

Technical Review Co-ordination Unit  
Manitoba Indigenous and Municipal Relations



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~~There must be a better location in the R.M. of Woodlands for an operation like this.~~

*no barn anywhere in the R.M. of Woodlands*

Name (print): M. BLOWERS

Name (sign): Margaret Blowers

Date: Aug 7/2016

Address: W. H. L. O. N. S. M. B. R. 340