



Environment, Climate and Parks
Environmental Approvals Branch
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File No.: 1071.10

April 14, 2022

Michael Jack
Chief Administrative Officer
Susan A. Thompson Building – 2nd Floor
510 Main Street Winnipeg, MB R3B 1B9
mjack@winnipeg.ca

Dear Michael Jack:

Re: North End Water Pollution Control Centre – Environment Act Licence No. 2684 RRR – Upgrade Projects – Interim Phosphorous Reduction and Upgrade Report – Enhanced Interim Phosphorous Report – Response

Thank you for the February 15, 2022, letter and report, *Interim Phosphorous Reduction and North End Water Pollution Control Centre Upgrade Plan Update*. I also acknowledge the submission of additional information from Linda McCusker on March 11, 2022, regarding an assessment of options to enhance interim phosphorous reduction.

The City did not provide the information as requested. The department cannot determine if the City has made appropriate progress to complete upgrades to the facility. The City has failed repeatedly (December 31, 2014, and December 31, 2019) to meet the compliance deadlines set out in its licence. It is particularly concerning that the most recent report did not include a multi-year plan to complete the upgrades by 2030, as directed in the December 23, 2021 letter, and critical activities have not been accomplished on time. The lack of a strategy to achieve compliance and complete upgrades to the facility in a timely fashion is a serious concern.

The City must submit a multi-year plan by June 30, 2022. The plan must include a funding model to complete upgrades to the facility, including the biological nutrient removal facilities, by December 31, 2030. I understand that colleagues in the departments of Municipal Relations and Labour, Consumer Protection and Government Services have provided suggestions on how to maximize the provincial and federal funding committed to the facility in order to successfully finance both the biosolids and the biological nutrient removal phases of the project, and how to procure the work in order to capture maximum value for both rate and taxpayers and ensure completion by 2030. The City will continue to inform the department of its progress by submitting monthly and quarterly reports.

The upgrades are for the benefit of Manitobans and our environment. They are meant to reduce nutrient loading into the Red River and decrease the risk of algal blooms in Manitoba's waterways, including Lake Winnipeg. Accordingly, we expect the City to accelerate progress to meet licence conditions within the time outlined.

I take this opportunity to reiterate that the City has been out of compliance with its North End facility licence since January 1, 2020. The City had originally planned to have this project completed in 2014. The department of Environment, Climate and Parks is not prepared to allow further unnecessary delays to this infrastructure that is critical to the health of the Province's waterways.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me at James.Capotosto@gov.mb.ca or 431-374-7443.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

James Capotosto
Director

- c. Moira Geer, Cynthia Wiebe, Linda McCusker – City of Winnipeg
Kristal Harman, Yvonne Hawryliuk – Environmental Compliance and Enforcement
Siobhan Burland Ross – Environmental Approvals
Public Registry