REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO
LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 29, 2016
COMMITTEE ROOM

MINUTES

Present:

Ian Thorpe	Chair, Director (Nanaimo)	Fred Spears	District of Lantzville
Bob Rogers	Director Electoral Area E	Glenn Gibson	Island Health
Alec McPherson	Director Electoral Area A	Blake Medlar	Business Community (District 68)
Bob Weir	Town of Qualicum Beach	Ted Malyk	Business Community (District 69)
Vaughn Figueira	City of Parksville	Daniel Hooper	Public (District 68)
John Elliot	City of Nanaimo		

Also in Attendance:

Jason Clarke	Director, GreatPacific Engineering and Environment
Brenda Burd	Salish Sea Ambient Monitoring Exchange (SSAMEx) Program , Vancouver Aquarium
Randy Alexander	GM, Regional and Community Utilities, RDN
Sean De Pol	Manager Wastewater Services, RDN
Shelley Norum	Wastewater Program Coordinator, RDN
Ryan Powell	Laboratory Technician, RDN

Regrets:

Doug Muir	Snuneymuxw First Nation	Juanita Rogers	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Marc Lefebvre	City of Parksville		

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson I. Thorpe called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM.

ADOPT AGENDA

MOVED G. Gibson, SECONDED A. McPherson, that the agenda be adopted.

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS

J. Clarke gave a presentation on the draft Greater Nanaimo Pollution Control Centre Receiving Environment Monitoring Program Scoping Report. An outline of the presentation is attached.

A discussion of the presentation followed and the main topics are discussed below:

- The REM program is designed to understand and to track the effects of the disposal of effluent into the marine environment and to give confidence in the treatment levels provided at the plant.
- The operators collect regular effluent quality data. REM is paired with effluent quality monitoring to detect the potential effect on human health and the environment at the IDZ. It also shows long-term trends through sediment sampling and bioaccumulation sampling (e.g. bivalve tissue).
- The proposed program is a 3-year cycle. After one to three cycles, the program can be modified or reduced.
- Year 3 of the water quality sampling is higher ($80,000) than Year 1 and 2 ($65,000 per year) because Year 3 includes metals analysis whereas the other years do not.

- The RDN is considering participating in the SSAMEx program. Participation in the program would involve adopting standard methodology and sharing background results (from stations outside the IDZ) with the participating members in program. Participation would gain us access to background data and could potentially minimize the number sample sites in our program.
- Pharmacological parameters are not recommended for analysis because the tests are very expensive and don't tend to provide meaningful results. Metro Vancouver and CRD are doing some testing and almost all samples come back with non-detect results. It may be possible to include in the future if analysis techniques become more advanced.
- Careful sample site selection can help differentiate between the effects on bivalves from the sanitary outfall versus storm sewer outfalls. For example, rocky islets can be sampled to measure the effect of the sanitary outfall in intertidal areas since they are not affected by stormwater pollutants.
- It may be possible to install a monitoring station so you don't have to go out to collect regular samples. This works for some parameters. Other parameters (e.g. fecals) can't me measured *in situ*. Moorings don't work in all situations and don't last long in high traffic areas.
- D. Hooper commented that expenditures in water quality monitoring of the receiving environment should be minimized relative to those on analyses of sediments and tissue samples. This suggestion was made recognizing that the effluent quality monitoring is more extensive than receiving water sampling and thus provides a more accurate reflection of plant discharge. Obtaining accurate samples on the IDZ boundary is very challenging because receiving environment variables and discharge characteristics dictate movement and location of the effluent plume. At the time of sampling, precise information of this nature will not typically be available to those taking the samples. Costs of receiving water sampling are high and provide little value. Sediment and tissue samples and analyses are more cost effective and meaningful than water samples. Water samples may be used to determine IDZ boundary compliance but they a very course means of doing so. Accurate mass discharges are readily determined from the effluent quality and flow data. Receiving water samples cannot provide comparable accuracy.

DELEGATIONS

MINUTES

MOVED B. Rogers, SECONDED G. Gibson, that the minutes from the Liquid Waste Management Plan Monitoring Committee meeting held on February 3, 2016, be adopted.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REPORTS

GNPCC Outfall Update (S. De Pol)

S. De Pol gave an update on the GNPCC outfall project. Work in the winter fisheries window is complete. The contractor performed an eelgrass transplant and some dredging and blasting. Some of the removed eelgrass will be transplanted back to the outfall site after construction. The outfall

pipe is being assembled locally in Nanoose Bay in cooperation with the Nanoose First Nations. The pipe will be installed in the summer fisheries window (June 1 to September 1).

A Notice to Residents was distributed and reviewed (attached). The Notice gives residents advance notice of the marine pipeline assembly.

GNPCC Secondary Treatment Update (S. De Pol)

S. De Pol provided an update on the secondary treatment upgrade project. Geotechnical investigations, some site preparation works, and 60% engineering design are complete for the GNPCC Secondary Treatment Project. Sean reviewed the revised schedule and cost estimate.

The revised schedule anticipates project completion in 2019. The schedule change is largely a result of the geotechnical investigations that identified liquefiable soils in the secondary treatment project area. As a result, up to six months of ground improvements (pile driving) are necessary.

Our engineers' revised cost estimate is greater than the $62 million estimated in the 2014 LWMP Amendment. The increase is due to several factors including inflation, a decrease in value of the Canadian dollar, costs of the additional ground improvements, and scope refinements.

In February, the RDN wrote a letter (distributed) to the MOE asking if an LWMP amendment would be necessary to address the revised schedule and cost estimate. To date we have not received a formal response to our letter.

Future Meetings of the LWMPMC (S. Norum)

Future LWMPMC meetings are tentatively scheduled for:

- May 10, 2016 [this is now changed to June 21, 2016]
- September 9, 2016 (tentative)
- November/December, 2016.

ADDENDUM

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED B. Rogers, SECONDED B. Medlar that this meeting be adjourned.

TIME: 2:13 PM

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CHAIRPERSON

NOTICE TO RESIDENTS

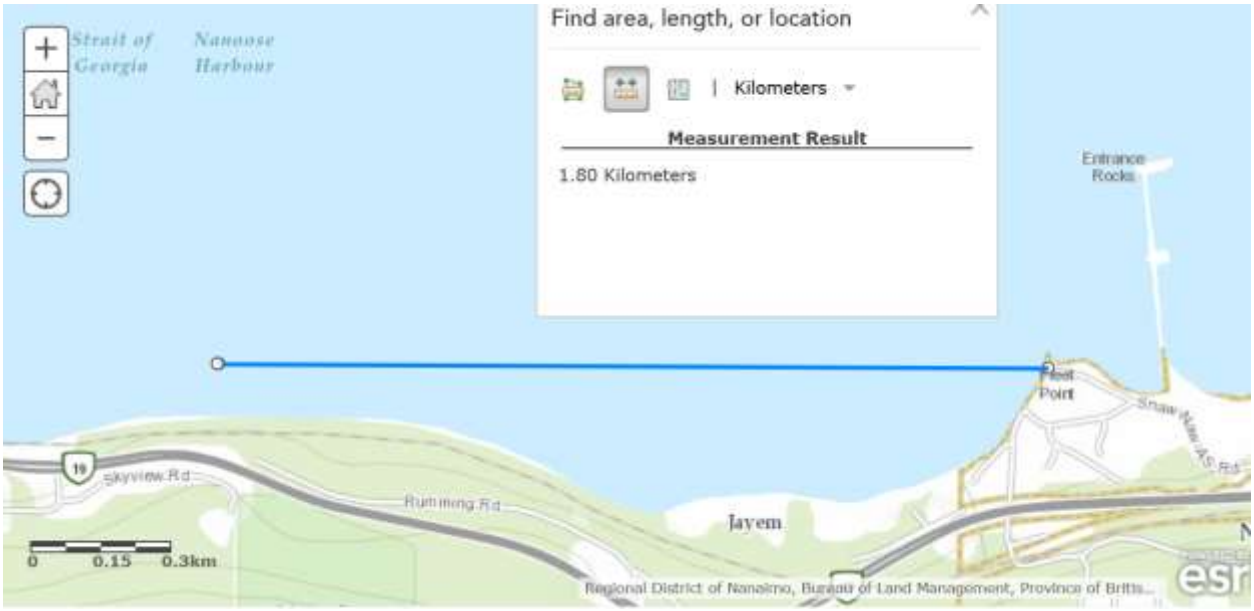
MARINE PIPELINE ASSEMBLY

Between April and July 2016, the McNally/JJM joint venture will be assembling a 54” diameter HDPE(high density polyethylene) pipe in Nanoose Bay with the cooperation of the Nanoose First Nations. Two sections of pipe will be assembled from land at the Nanoose Reserve, eased into the bay, and floated on the water surface in a westerly direction from the assembly area. The pipe will be lined and lit-up with markers to make it easily visible to boaters both day and night. There is one 1800 meter section and one 200 meter section to be assembled. Once the pipes are assembled, the sections will be joined together and towed to Morningside Park in Nanaimo, BC for installation.

During the assembly period the pipelines will be moored to a spread of anchors. The anchors will hold the pipeline in a straight line orientation. The moorings will be well marked with surface buoys and positioning of the floating sections of pipe will be staged to minimize the impacts to recreational boating.

We understand this may be an inconvenience for a short period of time and as such have sequenced our work to minimize the impact. Our crews will be out on the water during the assembly process and are instructed to aid pleasure crafts in maneuvering around our temporary moorings if required.

Diagram for work taking place in Nanoose Bay.



Please see www.rdn.bc.ca for more information on the Marine Outfall Replacement Project.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact:

Steve Deveau – Project Manager, McNally/JJM
Cameron McIntosh – Assistant Project Manager, McNally/JJM
Phone: (250)585-8577