

## Rhonda Miller - MVLWB

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**From:** Kathleen Graham [kgraham@mvlwb.com]  
**Sent:** June-03-11 8:55 AM  
**To:** permits@mvlwb.com  
**Subject:** FW: MV2011L3-0001 - Town of Fort Smith - Proponent's Response to Reviewer Comments

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**From:** Walbourne, Rick [mailto:Rick.Walbourne@DFO-MPO.GC.CA]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 02, 2011 5:29 PM  
**To:** Jean Soucy; Kathleen Graham  
**Cc:** Lanteigne, Michel; Wong, Patrick  
**Subject:** RE: MV2011L3-0001 - Town of Fort Smith - Proponent's Response to Reviewer Comments

Hi Jean,

I apologize if I wasn't clear. I am referring to the fact that the re-contoured slopes are now exposed and a "potential" source of erosion and sedimentation. I realize that erosion was not the cause of the historical problems in the area, but there is a potential risk in the future, for instance during high precipitation events. My recommendation to the Board was that they consider this when drafting the new Water Licence.

Regarding the intake screen, I appreciate your rationale for the screen size used. Guidelines are not applicable to every site-specific situation. DFO has no further comment in this area.

Regards,

Rick

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**From:** Jean Soucy [mailto:jsoucy@fortsmith.ca]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 02, 2011 3:12 PM  
**To:** Walbourne, Rick; Kathleen Graham  
**Cc:** Lanteigne, Michel; Wong, Patrick  
**Subject:** RE: MV2011L3-0001 - Town of Fort Smith - Proponent's Response to Reviewer Comments

Hi Kathleen and Rick,

Not sure if this is the way to address Rick's concerns or should I address questions later during the scheduled hearings or at the review board. Anyway here some answers to Rick's questions.

Regards

Jean Soucy  
A/Director of Municipal Services  
Town of Fort Smith  
867-872-8412  
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**From:** Walbourne, Rick [mailto:[Rick.Walbourne@DFO-MPO.GC.CA](mailto:Rick.Walbourne@DFO-MPO.GC.CA)]  
**Sent:** June-02-11 12:49 PM

**To:** Kathleen Graham  
**Cc:** [jsoucy@fortsmith.ca](mailto:jsoucy@fortsmith.ca)  
**Subject:** RE: MV2011L3-0001 - Town of Fort Smith - Proponent's Response to Reviewer Comments

Hi Kathleen,

At this point, DFO would not be interested in participating in a technical session. I've added a couple of points of clarification regarding our comments:

- Regarding slope rehabilitation, we suggested the Board consider a requirement for additional erosion and sediment control at various sites. While I am unsure of the Town of Fort Smith's response regarding any "new erosion", I believe methods such as those listed would increase the stability of the banks and not only assist in protecting the Slave River, but also municipal infrastructure in the area.

Erosion is not the cause of our landslide issues, but ground water and River water levels are. Our previous discharge line was covered with vegetation (Trees, Shrubs and Grasses) this did nothing to stop the 2006 land slide which again was due to prolonged low water conditions and ground water leaching from the bank as well as severe river bank inclination. All of the many land slide geotechnical studies Fort Smith has had in the past 35 years come to the same conclusion. Reduce the risk by sloping potential landslide areas which provides a way to manage any future sloping, stepping or potential slides. Currently the Intake and Discharge lines areas have a general and consistent slope with erosion barrier on either side of the pipe and roadway. Pictures can be provided to support this.

- Regarding the intake screens, is the smallest screen size between the Slave River and the interior chambers 1/2" (25.4mm)? DFO recommends a screen size of 1/10" (2.54mm) to ensure there is no impingement or entrainment of fish associated with the intake. I am unsure if I am clear in this area so have attached guidelines in this area for the Town's information.

The Intake structure is located into the Slave River's edge and is just above the last set of rapids within a high velocity section, we seldom have issues with any small fish entering the last intake chamber but some do occasionally make their way through. Further, in the late 80's we installed a smaller 3/8" (9 mm) but within weeks of installing this screen we had to remove it as it became totally plugged by debris. The Slave River consist of heavy silt, sand and debris laded on a daily basis. Our Turbidity this week is around 700 NTU but will and has peaked to 5000 + during break up and high water flow due to heavy precipitation or when the Bennett Dam releases large volumes of water. These high flow conditions regularly bring into the intake chambers floating vegetation, small stick, wood particles and is a challenge to maintain the collected sediment within the intake structure using the current 1/2" (12 mm) screen, anything smaller would plug within days and render the intake inoperable.

- Regarding the preliminary screening/initial environmental report, we are not requesting that any additional studies be done regarding this operation. Our comment was a reference to the application question itself.

Feel free to contact me if you have any further questions or comments in this regard.

Regards,

Rick

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**From:** Kathleen Graham [mailto:[kgraham@mvlwb.com](mailto:kgraham@mvlwb.com)]

**Sent:** Thursday, June 02, 2011 10:14 AM

**To:** [screeningofficer@eastarm.com](mailto:screeningofficer@eastarm.com); [scellis@eastarm.com](mailto:scellis@eastarm.com); [sduggan@yellowknife.ca](mailto:sduggan@yellowknife.ca); [rlong@yellowknife.ca](mailto:rlong@yellowknife.ca); [lmadeville@denenation.com](mailto:lmadeville@denenation.com); [Carolc.lands@gmail.com](mailto:Carolc.lands@gmail.com); [imadenegurl@hotmail.com](mailto:imadenegurl@hotmail.com); Walbourne, Rick; [admin@enterprisesnwt.com](mailto:admin@enterprisesnwt.com); [ec.ea.nwt@ec.gc.ca](mailto:ec.ea.nwt@ec.gc.ca); [Frmc53@yahoo.ca](mailto:Frmc53@yahoo.ca); [fortsmithmetiscouncil@northwestel.net](mailto:fortsmithmetiscouncil@northwestel.net);

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**Cc:** [permits@mvlwb.com](mailto:permits@mvlwb.com); 'Lynn Boettger - MVLWB'; [racherk@wlbw.com](mailto:racherk@wlbw.com); 'Angela Plautz - MVLWB'

**Subject:** MV2011L3-0001 - Town of Fort Smith - Proponent's Response to Reviewer Comments

Attached is the Town of Fort Smith's response to reviewer comments. Please review the adequacy of the responses to your recommendations, and advise me by **5:00pm** on Monday, June 6<sup>th</sup> if you are still interested in discussing your recommendations at a potential Technical Session scheduled for June 10, 2011.

Should little interest in a technical session be expressed, a paper exercise to address any outstanding recommendations will be considered. The paper exercise will involve a period where reviewers can request further clarification on the proponent's responses. Should the paper exercise move forward, the "further clarification" comment deadline for reviewers will be 5:00pm on June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011; and the response date for the proponent will be set for June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

Reviewers will be notified on June 7<sup>th</sup> of which method will be used (technical session vs. paper exercise).

Regards,  
Kathleen

**Kathleen Graham**

Regulatory Officer

Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board

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