

Date: April 25, 2007
Received by: [Signature]
(Commission Secretary)①
To: CLEAN ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION

FURTHER TO MY PRESENTATION AT THE ST. CLAUDE REVIEW HEARING OF MARCH 14, 2007 I'M FINALLY FINDING TIME TO RESPOND, AS REQUESTED, WITH A FEW SUGGESTIONS ON IMPROVING THE APPROVAL PROCESS.

1) STANDARD PLANNING APPROVAL OF AN INTENSIVE LIVESTOCK OPERATION SHOULD BE GOVERNED PRIMARILY BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND THE CONDITIONAL USE HEARINGS.

2) TECHNICAL REVIEWS SHOULD BE GIVEN GREATER STATUS IN INFORMING AN APPROVAL BECAUSE IT IS THE MAIN SOURCE OF INFORMATION FOR COUNCILLORS ON ISSUES THEY MAY NOT BE FAMILIAR WITH AND MAY NOT UNDERSTAND. FOR EXAMPLE, OUR COUNCIL IN THE R.M. OF HORNE VIEWS THE TECHNICAL REVIEW AS THE PRIMARY AUTHORITY. UNFORTUNATELY, MOST OFTEN THEY DO NOT FOLLOW THE REVIEW BECAUSE NO LAW MANDATES THEM TO DO SO. AS A RESULT ECONOMIC CONCERNS USUALLY GOVERN COUNCILS FINAL DECISION.

3) THROUGH THE PLANNING ACT GIVE LOCAL COUNCILS MORE POWER TO DENY A PROPOSAL ON ENVIRONMENTAL GROUNDS AND PERCEIVED NEGATIVE EFFECTS ON SURROUNDING NEIGHBOURS QUALITY OF LIFE.

4) MUNICIPAL COUNCILS OUGHT TO BE HELD RESPONSIBLE, THROUGH WATER STEWARDSHIP, FOR WATER QUALITY WITHIN THEIR JURISDICTION. THIS CAN BE DONE

(2)

THROUGH THE PLANNING ACT AS WELL BY ALTERING EXISTING MUNICIPAL BOUNDARIES TO CONFORM TO WATERSHED DISTRICTS SO THAT WATERSHED GOVERNANCE BECOMES THE NEW MUNICIPAL NORM FOR GOVERNANCE.

5.) TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEES SHOULD HAVE AT LEAST TWO NGO MEMBERS WHO ARE NOT INVOLVED IN THE HOG INDUSTRY IN ANY WAY TO GIVE A MORE BALANCED INPUT.

6.) CONFLICT OF INTEREST LAWS MUST BE CREATED TO GOVERN MUNICIPAL COUNCILLORS AND RESERVES. HOGWATCH MANITOBA HAS DOCUMENTED MANY INSTANCES OF INVOLVEMENT IN INTENSIVE LIVESTOCK OPERATIONS BY VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS IN MANITOBA. 'OUTED' COUNCIL MEMBERS HAVE BEEN FORCED TO 'SIT OUT' COUNCIL MEETINGS WHERE I.H.O. APPROVALS ARE BEING DISCUSSED AND VOTED ON. UNFORTUNATELY, MEETINGS ARE HELD OUTSIDE OF COUNCIL OVER LUNCH OR COFFEE WHERE THE OUTCOME OF A PROPOSAL REQUEST IS DECIDED BEFORE THE COUNCIL RETURNS TO CHAMBERS TO VOTE.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST LAWS WITH STIFF FINES INCLUDING EXPULSION (FORCED RESIGNATION) FROM COUNCIL OUGHT TO BE GIVEN A VERY HIGH PRIORITY.

3)

7) LOCAL MUNICIPAL COUNCILS, THROUGH THE PLANNING ACT MUST BE GIVEN THE ABILITY AND AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE MORE STRINGENT ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS ON ANY NEW OR EXPANDING HOGE OPERATION ABOVE AND BEYOND CURRENT PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT STANDARDS. CURRENTLY THIS IS NOT PERMITTED. A RESULT OF THIS CHANGE MAY WELL RESULT IN INCREASED COMMITMENT AND STEWARDSHIP BY OUR COUNCILS.

8) BAN LIQUID MANURE AND GO TO STRAW BEDDING AND MANURE COMPOSTING.

THESE ARE MY ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS UP TO THIS TIME. I WOULD ALSO ENCOURAGE THE COMMITTEE TO VIEW THE VIDEO ILLUSTRATING THE PURE LEAN PORK METHOD OF RAISING HOGS IN LARGE NUMBERS IN DEERS WITH NATURAL LIGHT, STRAW BEDDING, ROOMY STALLS, NO SOW STALLS (GESTATION CAGES), INHOUSE COMPOSTING AND MORE. THIS METHOD LOWERS BOTH WATER CONSUMPTION AND POLLUTION AND GREATLY INCREASES PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE OF THE INDUSTRY; PARTICULARLY BY IMMEDIATE NEIGHBOURS TO THESE TYPES OF I.C.H.O.s. I'LL TRY TO FIND A COPY OF THEIR VIDEO. THEY MAY HAVE A WEBSITE IF YOU CARE TO SEARCH FOR IT.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INDULGENCE WITH MY SCRIBBLINGS. GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS. I HOPE THE GOVERNMENT WILL FOLLOW THROUGH.

Sincerely; W. (Bill) HARRISON
Arlington, MB.

APRIL 24/07

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5.) PRELIMINARY REVIEW COMMITTEES SHOULD HAVE AT LEAST TWO NGO MEMBERS WHO ARE NOT INVOLVED IN THE HOGE INDUSTRY IN ANY WAY TO GIVE A MORE BALANCED INPUT.

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AWTAMONT, MB.