

March 20, 2023

Dear Commissioners,

I have lived in the RM of Springfield since 1991. I attended most of the C.E.C. Hearings over the past few weeks in Steinbach, Anola and Beausejour. I listened to scientists, engineers etc. and most of the presentations were very technical, far beyond my scope of understanding. I do understand, however, that our water is most precious and we need to protect it from harm.

I remember in the closing arguments Mr. Duncanson (legal counsel for SIO) saying SIO should not be financially responsible for any harm that may result from the extraction process and decommissioning of wells, accidental or otherwise. He said SIO would be paying a very large amount in taxes to the R.M. and that would be compensation. This is not right. It is just another example of huge business flexing their muscle.

So many written submissions have stated they are opposed to the SIO Silica extraction project. I am also against this operation.

Mr. Duncanson was driving home the idea that the Commission should only consider the Science and the facts from Professionals (with suitable credentials). I certainly hope the Commission takes into account all the people that are negatively affected by this operation. Our water is at RISK and we are ALL affected. From what I have observed, there are more folks against the project than for the project.

Please put a STOP to this SIO Silica operation. Please DO NOT issue them a licence.

Yours truly,  
Pat Burbank