

CEC HEARING APRIL 10 2007 WHITEMOUTH MB.

MY NAME IS VICTOR WOHLGEMUTH, I  
FARM IN THE RM OF REYNOLDS

I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE A MOMENT AND THANK THE BOARD OF THE  
CLEAN ENVIROMENT COMMISION FOR LISTEING TO WHAT THE FARMERS  
IN SOUTHEASTERN MANITOBA ARE DOING TO CLEAN UP THE  
ENVIROMENT.

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK DAVE YOUNG FOR HIS PRESENTATION AND FOR  
THE HARD WORK HE HAS BEEN DOING GATHERING ALL THE DATA.

I AM HERE ON BEHALF OF MYSELF AND THE FARMERS IN MY AREA. I AM  
HERE TO TELL YOU HOW US FARMERS ARE DOING OUR BEST TO HAVE A  
CLEAN ENVIROMENT ON OUR FARMS

MOST FARMS HAVE TAKEN ENVIROMENTAL FARM PLAN WORK SHOPS  
AND HAVE IDENTIFIED THE RISKS ON THERE FARMS

THERE USED TO BE A LOT OF SMALL FARMS ALONG THE RIVERS WITH  
LIVESTOCK , ROAMING ON THE RIVER BANKS. AND THE MANURE FROM  
THOSE FARMS WAS SPREAD IN AN AREA NOT FAR FROM THE BARNES.

TODAY THOSE FARMS ARE ALMOST ALL GONE ,THE FAMILY'S MOVED TO  
THE CITIES FOR BETTER JOBS

.NOW WE HAVE SOME OF THE PEOPLE MOVING BACK TO THE RURAL  
AREA'S COMPLAINING ABOUT THE ANIMAL WASTE AND THE SMELL OF  
OUR LIVESTOCK,, AND SOME OF THOSE SAME PEOPLE OUR VERY  
PLEASED WITH THE WAY WE MANAGE OUR LIVESTOCK ,OUR MANURE IS  
NOT WAST IT IS FERTILIZER FOR OUR CROPS.

SOME OF THOS PEOPLE HAVE TOLD US HOW THE RIVER WATER USED TO  
SMELL FROM THE FARMS IN THE OLD DAYS. WE KNOW TODAY OUR  
RIVERS AND STREAMS THAT FLOW INTO THE RIVER ARE CLEAN WE HAVE  
THE DATA TO PROVE IT.

I AM A FARMER AND I DO NOT WANT OUR RIVER BEING POLLUTED BY  
OUR WAST, NOR ANYBODY ELSE'S, FOR WE, AND OUR CHILDREN, FISH,  
SWIM, CANOE AND PLAY IN THE RIVER,

MANY PEOPLE GET THIER WATER FROM THE WHITMOUTH RIVER  
WHEN IT COMES TO MANURE AND ODOUR ISSUES WE AS FARMERS  
DON'T LIKE THE SMELL AND IF WE COULD RAISE PIGS WITH NO SMELL  
WE WOULD!

SOME HOG PRODUCERS COVER THERE LOGOONS WITH STRAW COVERS TO  
REDUCE ODOURS. THIS COSTS MONEY AND CREATES PROBLEMS WHEN  
PUMPING THE LAGOON. BUT IS DONE TO BE A BETTER NEIGHBOUR.

WHEN IT COMES TO MANURE FARMERS WITH 300 ANIMAL UNITS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE MANURE MANAGEMENT PLANS BUT MANY SMALLER PRODUCERS ARE FOLLOWING THE GUIDELINES ANYWAY.

IN THE PAST MANURE WAS JUST SPREAD ON THE SURFACE, AND NOW MOST MANURE IS INJECTED INTO THE SOIL. THIS HELPS TO REDUCE ODOURS AND CONSERVES NITROGEN, AND REDUCES RUNOFF OF NUTRIENTS.

MYSELF AND OTHER FARMERS IN MY AREA HAVE HIRED CONSULTANTS SUCH AS AGRI-TREND TO DEVELOP A NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM THIS INCLUDES TESTING MANURE AND SOIL TESTING. THE RESULTS ARE USED TO DETERMINE THE AMOUNT OF NUTRIENTS IN MANURE TO KNOW IF ANY COMMERCIAL FERTILIZER IS NEEDED TO GROW A CROP.

WITH THE PRICE OF FERTILIZER, FARMERS DO NOT WANT TO HAVE TO PURCHASE ANYMORE THAN THEY HAVE TO. WITH NITROGEN AND PHOSPHORUS PRICED AT OVER 500 DOLLARS PER TON IT WILL NOT BE OVER APPLIED IN OUR AREA, MOST OF THE LAND IN OUR AREA IS DEFICIENT IN PHOSPHORUS.

RURAL DEPOPULATION IS AN ISSUE. THE HOG INDUSTRY IS IMPORTANT IN THE AREA FOR PRODUCERS TO HAVE THEIR CHILDREN STAY IN THE AREA. THE HOG AND CATTLE FARMS IN THE AREA ARE FAMILY FARMS.

THE MARGINS IN HOG INDUSTRY ARE VERY TIGHT AND IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE THE POSSIBILITY TO EXPAND TO MAKE A LIVING. WE HAVE SEEN WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE CATTLE BUSINESS, MARGINS ARE SO TIGHT! STATISTICS CANADA REPORTS THAT MANITOBA LOST 750 BEEF FARMERS IN THE LAST TWO YEARS

FARMERS IN MANITOBA ARE BEING UNFAIRLY TARGETED FOR THE PHOSPHORUS AMOUNT THAT HOG FARMERS ARE CONTRIBUTING TO LAKE WINNIPIG SOMETHING THEY HAVE HAD A VERY SMALL IMPACT ON.

I WOULD LIKE TO SEE CHANGES TO THE AMOUNT OF DAYS STORAGE A FARMER CAN HAVE .

I THINK AT THIS TIME WE ARE ONLY ALLOWED 500 DAYS STORAGE, I WOULD LIKE TO SEE CHANGES TO OUR MANURE REGULATIONS ,IF A FARMER WANTS TO HAVE MORE STORAGE THAN WHATS REQUIRED THEN LET HIM.

IN SOUTHEASTERN MANITOBA WE GET VERY WET YEARS WHEN IT IS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO INCORPORATE OUR MANURE.

WE CAN NOT DO LIKE WINNIPEG! AND DUMP OUR MANURE STRAIT INTO THE RIVER WHEN WE HAVE HAD TO METCH RAIN TO EMPTY OUR LAGOONS.

IN CONCLUSION, YOUR HONOR WHEN THE CLEAN ENVIROMENT COMISSION MAKES ITS RULING REMEMBER DAVE YOUNG HAS SUPPLIED ALL THE DATA FROM THE LAST 6 YEARS ON THE WHITMOUTH RIVER AND WE KNOW THE RIVER IS CLEAN AND WE ARE DOING A GOOD JOB IN KEEPING OUR RIVER CLEAN!

IF THERE IS GOING TO BE CARBON CREDITS  
OUR AREA SHOULD BE GETTING EXTRA CREDITS FOR DELUTING THE AMOUNT OF PHOSPHORUS IN LAKE WINNIPEG.

IF THE RULES ARE TO STRINGENT WE WILL SEE A LARGE EXIT FROM THE FARMS THAT STILL EXIST. AND THEN WE WILL SEE MORE CORPORATE FARMS WITH LARGER AMOUNTS OF MANURE STORED IN ONE LOCATION AND THE RISK OF A LARGER SPILL  
.AND WE DO NOT WANT TO SEE FARMERS MOVING TO THE CITIES FOR JOBS, AND TO SEE OUR CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND TOWNS DISAPEARING .

THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO LISTEN TO THE FARMERS WHO WORK IN THE INDUSTRY ON A DAILY BASIS. FARMERS CARE ABOUT THE ENVIROMENT ,WE WANT OUR CHILDREN TO HAVE A CLEAN ENVIROMENT WITH CLEAN WATER. WATER