

News Release

FOR RELEASE
August 28, 2006

GOVERNMENTS INVEST IN EXPANSION OF NEEPAWA'S INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY

Neepawa, Manitoba – An expansion of the industrial wastewater treatment facility that currently serves the Springhill Farms hog processing plant will provide additional wastewater treatment capacity for future processing and manufacturing plant development in Neepawa and surrounding areas. The Canada-Manitoba Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) is contributing \$5.4 million towards the expansion along with \$3 million from the Town of Neepawa.

The announcement was made today by Rosann Wowchuk, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives, on behalf of Greg Selinger, Minister of Finance, and Inky Mark, Member of Parliament for Dauphin - Swan River - Marquette, on behalf of Carol Skelton, Minister of National Revenue and Minister of Western Economic Diversification.

“This new system will produce treated wastewater that will meet strict new standards for nutrient removal,” said Wowchuk. “It will support existing industrial development and lay the foundation for future economic development opportunities that will contribute to Manitoba’s growing rural economy.”

“Canada’s new government is pleased to invest in this important project for Neepawa,” said Mark. “This development of industry-based infrastructure will strengthen the viability and growth of Manitoba’s rural economy.”

Funds will be used to install and integrate a bioreactor and UV disinfection system equipment, construct a building to house the new equipment, and install controls needed to operate the upgraded industrial wastewater treatment facility. Subject to an environmental assessment, construction will begin in the fall of 2007 and scheduled for completion early in 2009. The facility will be managed by the Town of Neepawa in accordance with an Industrial Use Agreement with Springhill Farms.

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“Neepawa is very pleased to have this partnership with the federal and provincial governments to upgrade and expand the industrial wastewater facility for Springhill Farms,” said Bob Durston, Mayor of Neepawa. “The upgrade also provides for future expansion to accommodate both municipal and industrial processing facilities to attract jobs to the local area.”

Under the Canada-Manitoba Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), the governments of Canada and Manitoba are working together and in partnership with community stakeholders to build the economy and strengthen communities. These priorities promote economic growth and diversification in the province. For more information on this and other projects funded under EPA, visit: <http://www.epa.gov.mb.ca>.

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