

June 3, 2021

Residents of Riverview

Re: TransAqua – Odour Issues

Dear Valued Citizen,

TransAqua's \$90.4M WWTF Upgrade and Modernization Project has resulted in the ability to meet the federal effluent regulations for Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD₅). While we have been successful in making this transition from a primary chemically enhanced to a secondary biological treatment process, we are generating much more sludge as a result. The result of a lower TSS is the removal of more solids from the process.

The Project Team recently discovered that the Solids Retention Time was incorrect as adjustments were made to the sludge wasting program. Solids were staying in the process too long leading to an accumulation of sludge at the surface of the bioreactor creating strong odours in the air surrounding the Wastewater Treatment Facility. The Project Team made adjustments and are working to remove the surface sludge.

To deal with additional process odours, TransAqua is currently constructing a closed in Biosolids Load Out Building to replace the open to air Shipping Shed. A Biofilter will be constructed in the next few months that will 'scrub' the air from the Dewatering Building, Sludge Handling Building and Biosolids Load Out Building. The Septage Receiving Building is a closed in building with an air handling unit that filters odours.

With any new process comes issues as the result of a steep learning curve for our maintenance personnel who have not operated a secondary biological treatment process. It generally takes about a 1-year cycle to learn how each season impacts the new process. There is generally a lot of rain in the spring and fall. The wastewater temperature drops significantly in the winter months making the bacteria slow down. The warm summer months present challenges with ensuring there is enough oxygen in the bioreactor for the bacteria to be healthy and hungry.

We are working to ensure that any disruption to your quality of life is kept to a minimum and request that you contact the undersigned with any questions, comments or complaints. I am committed to working with all citizens of Riverview as our neighbours to ensure the successful completion of this Project that maintains public health and safety and the helps to restore the Petitcodiac River.

Respectfully,



R. Kevin Rice, B.Sc., CET
General Manager
TransAqua
387-7977 ext 220

cc: Mayor and Council, Town of Riverview,
cc: Colin Smith, CAO, Town of Riverview