

May 18, 2007

Environmental Appeals Board issues Recommendations and Ministerial Order concerning Siksika-Strathmore appeal

*Edmonton...*The Environmental Appeals Board has released its Report and Recommendations, as well as the Minister of Environment's Order, concerning the Siksika Nation's appeal of Alberta Environment's Amending Approval. The Amending Approval, issued in November 2005, allowed the Town of Strathmore to discharge its treated wastewater into the Bow River.

The Report and Recommendations and the Order are the result of a three-day hearing held in February 2007 in Strathmore, during which the Board heard from representatives of the Siksika Nation, the Siksika Nation Elders Committee, the Town of Strathmore, Alberta Environment, and the Western Irrigation District.

The Minister's Order puts a plan in place to minimize the discharge of treated wastewater from the Town of Strathmore into the Bow River. The Order also requires the Town of Strathmore to examine alternatives to deal with its treated wastewater which will be considered when the town's approval comes up for renewal in March 2008.

The Board's Report and Recommendations, as well as the Minister's Order, are available online at www.eab.gov.ab.ca.

The Environmental Appeals Board is an independent body that provides advice to the Minister of Environment and ensures that Albertans have an opportunity to appeal certain decisions made by Alberta Environment in a fair and impartial process. The Board is composed of environment experts from a variety of disciplines.

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