COUNTY OF WETASKIWIN NO. 10

61.1 SUBDIVISION

Municipal Policy & Procedures Manual

REQUIREMENT FOR SEWER SERVICE AT NAMED LAKES INCLUDING BUCK LAKE AND PIGEON LAKE AND OTHER SENSITIVE AREAS POLICY #61.1.11

POLICY STATEMENT

The Council of the County of Wetaskiwin No. 10 is concerned with possible contamination of named lakes, water supply, and areas of sensitive environment with respect to multi lot subdivisions and domestic sewage near named lakes including within the Buck Lake and Pigeon Lake Watershed areas. In order to provide fair and consistent decisions, Council deemed it necessary to establish this Policy.

PROCEDURES

The County of Wetaskiwin will use its authority over subdivision and development to ensure that domestic sewage does not contaminate Pigeon and Buck Lakes. Effluent from industry and from CFOs is dealt with by provincial regulators. Wherever possible, sewage from small lots in these watersheds will be collected in piped municipal systems, and treated in municipally operated lagoons before it is released.

Where a piped municipal system exists, or can be extended, new lots must connect to the system as a condition of subdivision approval, and new residences must connect as a condition of development approval.

Where a piped municipal system is designed and intended to connect to the subdivision area but not yet constructed at the time of subdivision approval, a new subdivision shall be required to construct a sewer collection dry line compatible with the future piped municipal system and each lot shall be required to have individual holding talks compatible with sewer collection dry line and piped municipal system and/or regional transmission line.

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If there is no sewer line connecting a new subdivision to a lagoon and it is not feasible to build such a line, sewage from the lots shall be piped to one or more central holding tanks within or near the subdivision or shall be required to have individual holding tanks for each lot compatible for hook up with a future subdivision collection line and regional transmission line. Newly subdivided lots or new development shall install a holding tank or other Provincially and Municipally approved systems compatible with an existing or future subdivision collection line and/or regional transmission line.

The tanks will be emptied by a truck under contract to the county or to a condo association, and the effluent will be taken to be treated at municipal and provincial approved lagoons or other municipal and provincial approved facilities. Off-site levy bylaws may be adopted to pay for any necessary expansion of lagoon capacity.

This Policy will apply to clusters or multi-lot subdivisions of small lots, defined as three or more lots, each 4,000 square metres (one acre) in size or less, which are contiguous or separated by a road, lane, park, or watercourse. It will also apply to lots of between 4,000 square metres and 10,000 square metres (one acre to 2.471 acres) unless the lot is at least 40 metres wide and contains an area of at least 1,850 square metres in which the shallow water table is at least two metres below the ground surface.

Ultimately, it is intended that these systems be connected to a larger, more comprehensive municipal system.

The design and construction of sewage gathering systems must be under the supervision of a professional engineer and must be acceptable to the County.

The in-ground part of the system must be installed at the developer's expense as a condition of subdivision approval. The trucking will be billed to the owners of occupied lots on a cost recovery basis.

The requirement for a local gathering system may be waived by council in isolated locations away from water bodies where there is no apparent risk of contaminating water supplies.

Area Structure Plans adopted before March 8, 2005, and which state or assume that lots will be served by individual sewer systems, will be amended to bring them into conformity with this Policy.

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