
Long Lake No. 58 First Nation (Band No. 184)

Date of Visit: March 28, 2001

By Gary Oja (OCWA)

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Tribal Council Affiliation: Matawa First Nations Management Inc.

Operator: Bradley Legarde

Location: The Long Lake No. 58 First Nation community is located 40 km northeast of Geraldton

Population: 475 people in the community (November 2000 – INAC)

No. of Units: 87 houses in the community (CAIS)

1.0 Description of the Community Water Supply

Based on the CAIS report, water to the houses in the Long Lake No. 58 community is treated as follows:

- 475 people use piped water
- 87 houses are serviced by a communal water system.

2.0 Description of the Community Sewage Facilities

Based on the CAIS report, sewage from the houses in the Long Lake No. 58 community is treated as follows:

- 475 people use piped sewage
- 87 houses are serviced by a communal sewage system.

3.0 Overall Assessment for Communal Water Treatment Supply

The questionnaire developed by PWGSC required OCWA to undertake a risk assessment of the Water Source, Design, Operation, Reporting, and Operators. To properly assess these areas, a revisit to the water treatment facilities would be required.

OCWA was requested to undertake the evaluation without a visit to the site. With the available information, OCWA has undertaken the requested assessment of the facilities.

The ranking system used is as follows:

- 0 = Not enough information to assess
- 1-4 = Low Risk
- 5-7 = Medium Risk
- 8-10 = High Risk

For more detailed information on the Risk Assessment used see the Terms of Reference, Appendix B.

SECTION Water	SECTION RANKING Water	RISK Water
A. Water Source		
Biological	0	
Chemical	0	
Physical	0	
Overall Ranking for Water Source	0	No data available
B. Design		
Biological	0	No lab
Chemical	1	No exceedances
Physical	6	Dissolved organic carbon exceedance
Risk to Public Health	1	No boil water advisories
Condition of Laboratory Equipment	0	Not inspected
Overall Ranking for Design	3	
C. Operations		
Reservoir Cleanliness	0	Not inspected
Emergency Plan	0	Unknown
Overall Ranking for Operations	6	No main valve, operation maintenance program, service disruption due to broken main
D. Reporting		
Ranking for Laboratories and Testing	0	No data
Ranking for Boil Water Advisories	1	No boil water advisories
Overall Ranking for Reporting	1	

SECTION Water	SECTION RANKING Water	RISK Water
E. Operators		
Overall Ranking for Operators	2	Trained and confident
F. Statistical Data		
Overall Ranking for Individual Wells	0	No data
Overall Ranking for the System	3	Low Risk

4.0 Overall Assessment for Communal Sewage Treatment Facilities

The questionnaire developed by PWGSC required OCWA to undertake a risk assessment of the Effluent Receiver, Design, Operation, Reporting, and Operators. To properly assess these areas, a revisit to the sewage treatment facility would be required.

OCWA was requested to undertake the evaluation without a visit to the site. With the available information, OCWA has undertaken the requested assessment of the facilities.

The ranking system used is as follows:

- 0 = Not enough information to assess
- 1-4 = Low Risk
- 5-7 = Medium Risk
- 8-10 = High Risk

For more detailed information on the Risk Assessment used see the Terms of Reference, Appendix B.

SECTION Sewage	SECTION RANKING Sewage	RISK Sewage
A. Effluent Receiver		
Overall Ranking for Effluent Receiver	0	No data
B. Design		
Quality of Treated Effluent	0	No data
Ranking of Design of Sewage Plant	8	Pump station bypassing
Ranking of Concerns and Hazards within the Plant	8	No confined space entry equipment
Condition of Laboratory Equipment	0	Not inspected
Overall Ranking for Design	8	No backup power, inadequate safety equipment
C. Operations		
Ranking for Emergency Plan	0	
Overall Ranking for Operations	6	Disruptions due to power outages, no pump maintenance
D. Reporting		
Overall Ranking for Reporting	8	Odour, backups, basement flooding
E. Operators		
Overall Ranking for Operators	6	No backup operator
F. Statistical Data		
Overall Ranking for Individual Septic Tanks	0	
Overall Ranking for the Systems	8	High Risk

5.0 Communal Water Treatment Supply (87 houses)

5.1 Water Source

No information was available regarding the raw water source.

5.2 Design

The Long Lake community is serviced by the Longlac Water Treatment Plant, which is operated by the Ontario Clean Water Agency. The Band is responsible for the distribution system only.

The following table summarizes the treated water data available from Health Canada, which does not meet GCDWQ:

Date	Location	Exceedances	Result	GCDWQ Limit
Apr. 11, 2001	Distribution System	Dissolved Organic Carbon	12.0 mg/L	5.0 mg/L (AO)

AO = aesthetic objective

5.3 Operations

The operations and maintenance manuals for the plant equipment and the as-built drawings are readily available on site. Maintenance tools are kept at the operator's home. Emergency spare parts are not available on-site.


Service disruptions in the last two years were attributed to a broken main that was repaired by a local contractor. The operator had difficulties locating the main valves. There is no annual main valve operating and maintenance program. However, there is an annual hydrant-flushing and maintenance program in place.

5.4 Reporting

There have been no disease or health related outbreaks in the last two years, and no boil water advisories issued. The operator reports that chemical analyses indicate that no chemicals have exceeded GCDWQ.

5.5 Operators

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Bradley Legarde is the operator at both the water distribution and sewage collection facilities. 

There is no one who can cover for Bradley during vacation or illnesses.

6.0 Deficiencies in the Communal Water Supply

1. The operator indicated a need for a workshop area to make repairs and to store parts and tools.
2. No annual main valve operating and maintenance program.

8.0 Deficiencies in the Communal Sewage Treatment Facilities

1. Only lift station # 1 is equipped with a bypass.
2. The operator does not have a gas detector or harness for confined space entry.
3. No backup power. Extended power failures have been experienced.
4. No workshop area with tools available to operator.
5. Pumps are not routinely maintained.
6. At the time of inspection, electrical parts were on order for a local contractor to install. Pump #2 pump at lift station #1 because it was not operating.
7. As lift station #2 is not equipped with a bypass, sewer backups are occasionally experienced during extended power failures.
8. Residents have occasionally complained about the odour from bypasses at lift station #1 during extended power failures and when sewage is bypassed - approximately two events per year.
9. There are occasional sewer backups and basement flooding that are the result of plugged lines that are remedied by snaking the line.
10. The operator has no backup.

9.0 Recommendations

- Prepare detailed standard operating procedures.
- Implement an annual main valve operating and maintenance program.
- Implement a training program that can lead to operator certification.
- Provide a workshop area to complete repairs and to store tools and parts.
- Purchase emergency spare parts.
- Develop a comprehensive operational and maintenance program to address operational problems, breakdowns, vacations and illnesses, main breaks, and boil water advisories.
- Purchase required safety equipment.
- Implement an annual manhole inspection program.
- Provide backup power for the pumping stations.
- Repair pump #2 at lift station #1.
- Address sewage bypassing at lift station #1.
- Investigate potential sewage backups.
- Routinely maintain sewage pumping station pumps.

10.0 Plant Classification

Based upon the Terms of Reference – Appendix I – Plant Classification Guideline developed by Public Works and Government Services Canada and with discussions with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment Classification Group, OCW, classified these plants as follows:

Water Treatment Facility - N/A (Water supplied by Longlac WTP operated by OCWA. Band responsible for distribution system)

Sewage Treatment Facility - N/A (Water supplied by Longlac WTP operated by OCWA. Band responsible for collection system)

11.0 Overall Community Risk Assessment

Water Category – Low Risk

Sewage Category – High Risk

- **High Risk because of the following:**
 - Extended power failure
 - Sewage bypassing at lift station #1 – approximately twice per year.
 - Sewage backups and basement flooding

Note: Information within this report is based on discussions with the plant operator and a quick visual walkthrough of the facilities. No detailed review was undertaken by OCWA.