

16 September 2016

Surface water to be used later this Fall

This morning, the Saskatchewan Water Security Agency (WSA) confirmed the water quality of the North Saskatchewan River to be safe and approved to re-open water intake structures of Water Treatment Plants in North Battleford, Melfort and Prince Albert.

Although the water safety assessment shows the river is safe for treatment, the City of North Battleford is going to take additional precautionary measures and go above and beyond. The City will be using a temporary pre-treatment sand filtration system. This pre-treatment system will source water from the river, pump it through its filtration and then into the treatment system of the F.E. Holliday Water Treatment Plant.

Husky Energy has agreed to reimburse the City of North Battleford for the lease of the system for one year. The system is currently being developed by GE Electric and will be commissioned in late Fall.

“Right now we have sufficient amount of water supplied by the Town of Battleford pipeline and the wells at WTP #1 to meet the water demand in our City”, says Mayor Ian Hamilton. “We want to make sure that we can supply safe drinking water to our residents and that our Water Treatment Plant as well as our distribution system are protected. Once the additional filtration system in place we are confident that we can do that.”

Mayor Hamilton further thanked Husky Energy and the Water Security Agency for their efforts and support in this incident.

The planned dredging of the River by the intake that was scheduled in July, but had to put on hold due to the oil spill, will commence in the next couple of weeks. The dredging will be completed by late Fall as if not done in 2016 it would need to be postponed until July 2017 due to requirements by Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Dredging this fall allows the City to use the intakes in 2017 without any delay.

For more information:

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