

From: Ryan Puhlmann [Ryan.Puhlmann@gov.ab.ca]

Hello Jerry:

Please forward these comments to the appropriate persons with the City of Edmonton and Calgary, and I have no problem speaking with individuals if needed, but am sure you can appreciate the heavy schedule and the difficulty with direct communication at times.

To Whom It May Concern:

Please be advised that Alberta Environment (AENV) is aware of and currently supports the use of Silt Stop, Floc Logs and those products provided by Clear Flow Consulting and Applied Polymer Systems (APS). As with many new products, and with seeking assurance on product performance, AENV has sought to undertake a number of pilot or trial efforts using these products. This is an approach consistent with those taken by our municipal systems with new water quality products and chemicals. While not referenced or allowed within legislative approvals governing industrial development, trial efforts thus far are very promising. At this time, sedimentation removal products (i.e. Floc logs) are being utilized at a nearby Sand and Gravel Development and Processing facility, with great success. In many respects the removal of sedimentation from the system has provided large cost savings (i.e. elimination of pond dredging/maintenance) and it has resulted in water quality improvements at or above background water quality in many instances, and approval conditions surrounding water quality analysis are easily obtained. Another industry in the process of utilizing this product on a trial basis is that of a foothills coalmine, as water management and water quality can be challenging at times.

Beyond obvious benefits related to cost savings for water management features and simply sedimentation (i.e. TSS/Turbidity reduction), water quality has improved significantly and in many cases has offered substantial metals reduction to receiving water bodies, which can present a concern at times. AENV is also aware of other erosion control products such as Silt Stop and other dust suppressants that have also provided numerous benefits and apparent vegetative successes.

Research and information related to aquatic toxicity has been presented and it appears that concerns at this time are not a factor. It is expected that trial efforts will continue but it is expected that before long, these products will find a place amongst the conditions of operating approvals, and alongside best management practices employed at industrial facilities. Because of the customized nature of many of these products, to location specific soils, it is anticipated that many areas of Alberta will be well understood and data base information will be available.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself for additional specifics on product use/performance.

Sincerely,

Ryan Puhlmann

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