

NBASGA QUESTIONS on Dieppe Frack Water Disposal EIA

Radioactivity: One reason why Nova Scotia originally refused the wastewater was due to the level of radioactivity. Dieppe has no standards for radioactivity in its by-laws, and Canadian standards have not been updated for decades. During that time much science has been done on the negative cumulative effects of low-level radiation. US studies have found that treated fracking wastewater often still exceeded US radioactivity standards. What will New Brunswick do in terms of research and testing to address these concerns?

Water Testing: The Nova Scotia Department of Environment is on record stating that they would not approve release of this wastewater to an aquatic environment until tests had been done in the particular environment in question, which in this case is the Bay of Fundy. Has such testing been done by either government or the proponent?

Chemical Composition: In the five years that this water has been sitting open to the elements in Nova Scotia holding ponds, the chemicals have been diluted by water or had time to break down. Is the complete list of fracking chemicals originally in the waste water known? Are they toxic? Did the company test for all of these chemicals before the water was originally released into the Bay of Fundy? What additional tests been completed and when?

Urgency for Disposal: In the EIA application, the rationale for the project hinged on the holding ponds at Debert being full, and AIS being uncertain of the success of an experimental project which saw two million litres diverted for "incineration" at a NS cement plant in NS. As they have completed the test of two million litres, should we assume the urgency to dispose of water in Dieppe means this was unsuccessful? Has the urgency of this request and the amounts of wastewater actually been verified?

Federal Guidelines: More stringent Federal guidelines are coming into effect for municipal treatment plants. Will the water still meet the stipulations of those guidelines? If not, what happens then?