

**Information Request Form  
Crystal Springs Lagoon Project**

**Information Request  
Number:**

Information Request No. 1

**Submitted by:**

The Rural Municipality of Gimli

**Date Submitted:**

February 6, 2026

**Subject Matter:**

Surface Water Management (Quantity)

**Reference document:**

Willow Creek Integrated Watershed Management Plan  
**(Appendix A to Information Request No. 1)**

**Request:** The proposed development requires changes to their external hydraulic setting (i.e., to the drainage network outside the development site in question). These proposed works are beyond their property and/or control. The individuals who would make changes to the drainage within the area are the municipalities – this would fall under their purview, and their budgets. As a consequence, the proponent's ability to implement these proposed changes is outside their control.

Additionally, the municipalities are constrained in what they can do regarding changes to drainage based on the regional watershed management plan. The project resides in Zone 2 of the Willow Creek Integrated Watershed Management Plan. This Plan has identified several future targeted initiatives focussed on improved drainage performance.

Notably, the proponent's proposed drainage changes intended to improve the hydraulic setting for the project are in direct contrast with the Willow Creek Integrated Watershed Management Plan.

The Plan states “*Drainage projects should receive priority in downstream portions of the watershed (Zone 3 and 4), while water retention projects should receive priority in upstream portions of the watershed (Zone 1 and 2). These retention areas can be drawn down when downstream conditions are suitable. Water managers must consider downstream impacts of drainage projects.*”.

The proponent's proposed drainage changes increase drainage within Zone 2. This is inconsistent with the plan's stated goal of increasing retention. Given the foregoing, the Rural Municipality of Gimli seeks the following information:

- 1. Can the proponent provide an opinion on the likely degree of impact that the proposed development and supporting drainage improvements would have on the local and downstream drainage network?*
- 2. Can the proponent demonstrate any commitment from the relevant municipal bodies in relation to the level of operation and maintenance required in order to implement the proponent's proposed drainage changes?*
- 3. Can the proponent confirm that the proposed drainage amendments are permissible under the current draft Willow Creek Integrated Watershed Management Plan and advise what steps they took to investigate this issue?*
- 4. Can the proponent provide commentary on whether the project location would be ‘habitually inundated’ without the above drainage improvements which are reliant upon third party participation?*
- 5. Can the proponent confirm if they are (or are not) in alignment with Section 2. (c) of the Design Objectives for Wastewater Treatment Lagoons (MCC, 2022)? Further to the above question: can the proponent provide rationale as to why they are (or why they are not) in alignment with Section 2. (c) of the Design Objectives for Wastewater Treatment Lagoons?*
- 6. Any changes to drainage in that affect water elevations would trigger an Environmental Impact Assessment under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act. Can the proponent confirm whether there would be any the impact on Dennis Lake if the above amendments to drainage are made and advise as to what steps they took to investigate this issue?*
- 7. Downstream flooding from the project site along Willow Creek has been documented. Can the proponent comment on the impact on downstream residents along Willow Creek during peak runoff periods if the above amendments to drainage are made?*

