



Maple Leaf Foods' Fact Sheet Our Commitment To The Environment In Brandon

- Maple Leaf's pork processing facility in Brandon has an excellent environmental record. In seven years of operation, more than 12,000 water analyses have been performed on the industrial wastewater treatment plant's effluent to the Assiniboine River, and the plant has achieved a compliance rate of 99.9%. Regular monitoring shows the Brandon facility has also had no impact on groundwater.
- The amended license for the Brandon plant sets a limit of one milligram per litre for total phosphorous and 15 milligrams per litre for total nitrogen by December 31, 2007 once construction and commissioning of the wastewater treatment plant is complete. Maple Leaf is committed to achieving these new provincial requirements for environmental performance.
- Once these limits are achieved, Maple Leaf Foods' Brandon plant, in partnership with the City of Brandon, will be among the leaders in environmental performance in the meat processing industry in North America.
- In addition to its commitment to meeting stringent wastewater limits, Maple Leaf Foods will be formalizing its existing environmental management system and supporting other Manitoba initiatives related to water conservation and greenhouse gas management.
- By year end 2007, the phosphorous concentrations entering the Assiniboine River will decline by approximately 90% and nitrogen concentrations would be reduced by more than 85% percent, compared to today.
- Planned improvements to Maple Leaf's wastewater pre-treatment plant and to the City of Brandon's industrial wastewater treatment facility will be completed by mid-2007 and contribute to a cleaner Assiniboine River and Lake Winnipeg.
- The Manitoba standards for phosphorous (1mg per litre) and nitrogen (15mg per litre) of wastewater are among the most stringent in North America and much higher standards than federal U.S. requirements for the pork industry where there are no phosphorus limits and much higher nitrogen limits.

- Maple Leaf's amended license provides for the processing of an additional 25,000 hogs per week and upgraded wastewater treatment processes mean the levels of nitrogen and phosphorus discharged to the City of Brandon's industrial wastewater treatment facility will actually be significantly lower than they are today.
- The increased processing of hogs at Brandon does not mean more hogs need to be raised or new sow barns required in the province. The additional 25,000 hogs per week will be sourced from hogs that currently exist in the Maple Leaf system.
- Extensive public consultations were conducted during the full Clean Environment Commission (CEC) hearings in 2003 and Maple Leaf and the City of Brandon incorporated CEC recommendations into the applications for the amended licenses.
- This project is the first of two phases. Phase Two will combine the City of Brandon's existing municipal and industrial wastewater treatment facilities into a centralized treatment plant that will be constructed to meet the new provincial standards. It is expected Phase Two would be completed in 2009.