

Source Protection Committee

MEETING 10 – September 8, 2008 at Lakefield-Smith Community Centre, Lakefield

Replacement for the Curve Lake First Nation Representative

Committee Chair Jim Hunt introduced Wanita Dokis as the Source Protection Committee representative for the Curve Lake First Nation. Wanita will be replacing Tracey Taylor who is no longer able to sit on the committee due to employment obligations.

Municipal Working Group's role

A discussion took place regarding the structure and role of the Municipal Working Groups. There are five Municipal Working Groups within the Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region. The Municipal Working Groups are intended to be sub-committees of the Source Protection Committee (SPC). Each Municipal Working Group is comprised of council members and municipal staff. The Municipal Working Groups allows for the exchange of information and ideas between the SPC and Municipalities within the Source Protection Region.

Each Municipal Working Group is chaired by a SPC municipal representative. The Municipal Working Group Chair is responsible for relaying information from the SPC to the working group and back to the SPC through minutes and verbal reports. The municipal members are responsible for relaying information back and forth between their Municipality and the working group.

The Clean Water Act requires that concerns raised by individual municipalities be addressed and/or documented. For this reason, formal comments on Source Protection documents (e.g. Terms of Reference, Assessment Report, Source Protection Plan) should be submitted directly to the SPC by the Municipality.

Correspondence reviewed

Seven items of correspondence were reviewed by Glenda Rodgers (Project Manager). Items of discussion that arose from the correspondence included the following:

- A request from Committee members for staff to provide an update on the Stewardship Program, including areas of eligibility and the TCC stewardship initiatives at the next SPC meeting.
- The issue of water takings within the Carden Plains area was discussed. Gerald McGregor, Municipal representative from the City of Kawartha Lakes, informed the Committee that the aggregate proponents within the area are now working together to assess the potential cumulative impacts on water resources from proposed aggregate operations.
- Mary Smith requested that the Project Manager respond on behalf of the SPC to the correspondence received from the Kawartha Community Midwives regarding uranium mining activities. The response is to provide an overview of the Source Protection process.

Trent Severn Waterway presentation

Dave Ness from Parks Canada delivered a presentation regarding the operations and mandate of Parks Canada with respect to the Trent-Severn Waterway. Key items included:

- A description of the major sub-watersheds, features, lakes and major contributors to flood events.
- A description of Parks Canada's water management program priorities on the waterway:
 - Public health and safety;
 - Navigation mandate along the system;
 - Green energy;
 - Environment (wildlife and the fishery); and
 - Appropriate water levels and flows for other uses.
- The major issues with regards to the management of both high and low flow conditions within the system.

Watershed Characterization

Mark Majchrowski from Kawartha Conservation provided an overview of the Gull and Burnt Watersheds within the Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Area. The Committee agreed that the Conservation Authorities should update the components of the Watershed Characterization that are to be included in the Assessment Report. This work will be subject to review by the SPC and made available for public consultation.

Terms of Reference update

Glenda provided a brief update on the Terms of Reference approval process. With the exception of letters of support, no comments had been received to date. The deadline for public comments is September 11, 2008. The Proposed Terms of References will be submitted to the Minister by the Source Protection Authorities by October 20, 2008. The Assessment Reports will be due within 12 months of the approval of the Terms of Reference by the Minister.

Committee Members – Updates on public engagement

- Jim Hunt participated in a conference call with other SPC chairs and Ian Smith (MOE Director, Source Protection Programs Branch) on September 5, 2008. Jim was advised that the technical rules are expected to be finalized by November, 2008.
- Wayne Stiver will be attending the Canadian Wastewater Conference in Quebec in October.
- Mary Jane Conboy informed the Committee that a number of Well Aware workshops are planned for the fall.