

SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE CHAIR'S QUARTERLY REPORT

June 1st, 2011

Submitted to: Crowe Valley Source Protection Authority
Ganaraska Region Source Protection Authority
Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Authority
Lower Trent Source Protection Authority (Lead)
Otonabee-Peterborough Source Protection Authority

Submitted by: Jim Hunt, Chair, Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Committee

1. Assessment Report Status

In the last quarter, the Source Protection Committee has continued to make revisions to the Trent and Ganaraska Amended Proposed Assessment Reports. New and updated technical work which has been finalized since submission of the Proposed Assessments Reports to the Ministry of the Environment in October 2010 has been incorporated into both documents. On May 4th, 2011, both reports were posted on the Source Protection Committee's website www.trentsourceprotection.on.ca for the legislated 30 day consultation period ending on Friday, June 3rd, 2011. Municipalities and First Nations Communities have been invited to review the draft reports during the consultation period. In addition, landowners identified as currently engaging in an activity considered a significant threat as a result of the new or updated technical work have also been advised. Comments received during this time period will be forwarded with the amended reports to the five Source Protection Authorities for a resolution supporting submission to the Province by the end of June 2011.

2. Notification of Plan Preparation

In early May 2011, the Source Protection Committee issued its notification of plan preparation to all municipalities and First Nations communities in the Source Protection Region. This notice advises that the Committee intends to begin the preparation of policies to address the significant threats identified in the Assessment Reports and invites participation in this process. Notice was also given to the approximately 850 landowners in the Source Protection Region who had previously received letters indicating that an activity currently occurring on their property is considered a significant threat.

The Committee has continued to evaluate potential draft policy concepts and draft policies to sufficiently manage or eliminate those activities that have been identified as significant threats in the Assessment Reports. Policy development has been supported by early engagement through the five Municipal Working Groups which meet monthly to discuss and provide feedback on concepts and policies. The feedback is shared with the Source Protection Committee for their consideration.

3. Municipal Forum/Workshop

In addition, the Committee is continuing its preparation for the Municipal Forum scheduled for June 8th. The focus of this workshop is to update municipalities in the Source Protection Region of progress in the development of policies and to seek their input.

4. Early Response Stewardship

The Early Response Phase of the Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program was also launched this quarter. This phase of the provincial stewardship program provides monetary support to landowners participating in activities identified as significant threats. Each notification letter issued to advise of plan preparation contained an advertisement for this program. Funding is available for projects such as runoff and erosion protection, handling/storage of fuel, and maintenance of a septic system. Upgrading or decommissioning an old well as also funded as it decreases the potential for contamination of the groundwater supply. All applications received for funding through this program are reviewed by a small group representing the Source Protection Committee. The funding awarded to the Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region can be used until December 2012. Applications will be reviewed on a first come – first serve basis at set application periods.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Hunt", with a large, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Jim Hunt, Chair