

SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE (SPC) MEETING SUMMARY

MARCH 31, 2020 - TELECONFERENCE

PROGRAM UPDATE

- New Member Orientation – Took place on February 6 in collaboration with the Quinte and Cataraqui Source Protection programs. Provided overview and breakout sessions to engage new members. Program Coordinator K. Taylor thanked those who attended.
- Stirling, Pinewood and Canadiana Shores s.34 amendments
 - K. Taylor noted delay at ministry due to pandemic. Stirling and Pinewood have been submitted and are under review by the ministry. Canadiana Shores public consultation is currently underway.
- Interim Reporting
 - K. Taylor informed the committee that the interim report was submitted to the Ministry at the end of February. It appears that the program cost will be slightly under budget.
- Workplan and Budget for 2020/2021
 - K. Taylor gave update on the Program’s budget and workplan for the next fiscal year. The Source Protection Authority has received comments from MECP on this, SPA boards signed off. Program Coordinator noted some cuts from the budget for next year, including funding for SPC meeting lunches/catering, printing costs, and licensing for GIS.
- New Technical Rules
 - K. Taylor provided an update on a recent teleconference regarding the Clean Water Act Technical Rules and provided some updates including the consideration of above ground fuel tanks as a significant threat, and consideration of changing the methodology for calculating impervious areas related to road salt. MECP is also developing guidelines for incorporating non-municipal wells into drinking source protection.
- **The program update was received as information by the SPC.**

ANNUAL REPORTING

- P. Lancaster of Ganaraska Conservation provided update on the Ganaraska Annual Progress Report for 2019.
 - Staff recommended a “Progressing well / on target” scoring based on their progress. All policies are implemented or progressing well.
 - 100% of septic systems have been inspected in the Ganaraska region. One (1) new Risk Management Plans (RMPs) were established in this reporting period in relation to one agricultural threat. Two (2) inspections were completed. These categories are “progressing well/on target”.
 - Provincial progress – “progressing well/on target”
 - Education/Outreach is also “progressing well/on target”

- F. Langmaid inquired about how road salt vulnerable areas are regulated under municipal zoning/official plans. Staff and SPC members B. Devolin and R. Straka suggested these are regulated under siteplan controls and storm water management planning.
- **The SPC approved the scoring of “Progressing Well / On Target” for the 2019 Ganaraska Annual Progress Report.**

- K. Taylor provided an update on the Trent Annual Progress Report for 2019.
 - Noted policy implementation and OP/Zoning implementation is “progressing well/on target”
 - K. Taylor provided context in regards to the septic reporting, noting some areas are still in the initial 5-year cycle while others have started a new 5-year cycle causing some discrepancy in the reporting percentages.
 - Risk Management category is progressing well/on target.
 - Provincial progress is progressing well/on target.
 - Education and Outreach is progressing well/on target.
 - George Offshack: MMAH is listed as 0% implemented, why is this? – On going, developmental policies likely will never to be fully “completed”. It was suggested that there could also be some confusion causes by how the questions to the implementers are asked and interpreted. The Ministry is looking at ways of improving the questions asked of implementers.
 - **The SPC approved the scoring of “Progressing Well / On Target” for the 2019 Trent Annual Progress Report.**

REVIEW OF POLICY IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES

- Policy G-7 & S-9, S-10 – As a follow up from the previous meeting, K. Taylor recommended removal of S-9 and S-10 from the Plan and removal of S-10 from the G-7 footnote. S-9 and S-10 are Part IV policies for sewage. All sewage threats are covered by a prescribed instrument or building code application.
 - **The SPC approved the staff recommendations for G-7 Prohibition Policies, including removing Policy S 10 from the footnote and removing policies S 9 and S 10 from the Source Protection Plan.**
- Policy R-1 (Road Salt) - Staff looked to MECP Liaison M. Wooding for update on Technical rules regarding road salt. M. Wooding noted she will provide that information when it becomes available.
- Policy OT-2(2) – Transport Pathways - Staff noted problematic nature of this policy and asking for municipalities to establish a by-law. Staff noted revision needed for clarity of this policy regarding monitoring and reporting applications. Suggested amendment notes Earth Energy systems should be prohibited in WHPA-A, with specific requirements for WHPA-B. Staff is considering regulation of all other municipal approvals for the construction of Transport Pathways within WHPA’s and IPZ-1 and 2.
- Policy G-1 – Transition Policies - K. Taylor addressed problem with the 10-Year window for existing agricultural threats.

- Recommendation is to recognize that agricultural operations often have a rotational strategy and a particular parcel of land may be used for more than one purpose in different years. Intent is for an activity not to be recognized as a future activity (subject to prohibition) if it was part of a previous agricultural rotation cycle. Staff noted a need for this intent to be more clear in the policy text.
- R. Straka looked to RMO's for suggestions on how an RMO can verify that a particular agricultural activity has been undertaken. Staff suggested that part of this is a knowledge of a property and a level of trust with that land owner. Staff also suggested that documentation and paperwork for proof of purchases can also be reviewed.
- **SPC approved the staff recommendation for Policy G-1(2) b to read: b) "An agricultural activity that the Risk Management Official has been able to verify has being part of a regular farm rotation and has occurred at least once within the previous 10 years."**
- Aquaculture Policy – Q-2 - K. Taylor suggested it be prudent to add a Specify Action Policy (Q-3) directing the Ministry of Natural Resources not to issue any licenses for future aquaculture activities in the Stirling Issue Contributing Area, and a Monitoring Policy (Q-4). K. Taylor noted it would be problematic to have Ministry approving something our Plan prohibits.
 - **SPC approved the staff recommendation to add policies Q-3 and Q-4 to the Trent Source Protection Plan to direct the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry not to issue future aquaculture licenses in the Stirling Issues Contributing Area and to report annually summarizing any action taken.**
- Pipeline Policies Update: From the new rules - Pipeline through Intake Protection Zones with a vulnerability Score of 9 or higher are significant threats. Our approach in both Ganaraska and Trenton would be to make sure that the pipeline companies are aware of the potential threat to drinking water systems. Staff noted that this policy has been submitted to MECP for comment. Staff will consult again with pipeline companies after receiving MECP's input, then return to SPC with a recommendation.

SECTION 51 AMENDMENTS FOR WATER QUANTITY POLICIES

- K. Taylor addressed two problems that have been identified with the maps regarding Water Quantity policies in the Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report. These amendments are to be S.51 amendments which are for obvious errors and don't require a vigorous consulting and review process.
- J. Hunt noted a problem with modelling when these were developed and these amendments address that.
- **The SPC approved the staff recommendation to correct the mapping and applicable zones for Policy Z-1 as a Section 51 amendment.**

OTHER ITEMS

- Round Table: Keith presented update regarding the upcoming International Plowing Match to be held in Lindsay on October 14-18, 2020. Staff will keep the committee posted on updates regarding this, suggesting it would a good opportunity for the agricultural representatives to participate from an Education and Outreach strategy and partner with Kawartha-Conservation for a Source Protection display.

- G. Offshack inquired about any updates on the expansion of MECP DWSP program into non-municipal wells for vulnerable populations and well-clusters. M. Wooding noted MECP staff is still looking into this and will inform project managers. T. Rees noted CELA completed request for review. MECP denied this request due to the fact that they are already looking at. MECP will look at specific context for this proposal, and they are establishing a working group to deal with this.

NEXT MEETING

- Staff indicated that the next meeting will be in June-July but no certainty at this time.