

SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE (SPC) MEETING SUMMARY
JANUARY 27, 2021 – VIRTUAL MEETING/TELECONFERENCE

RATIFICATION OF DECISION FROM EMAIL POLL RE: COLBORNE WELL

- New information is emerging because of studies done for the new well at Colborne.
- K. Taylor noted that due to a new study received on the wellhead protection area, the vulnerability scores could change significantly.
- Staff addressed that if the new study is approved, new future policies would come into effect for this area.
- Staff recommended holding the DNAPL Exemption decision in abeyance at this time.
- **The committee approved to hold the decision to create a DNAPL prohibition exemption policy for the Colborne Industrial Park in abeyance pending consideration of new information related to the new well at Colborne.**

PROGRAM UPDATE

- Technical Rules Update
 - K. Taylor noted there is no news regarding the status of the technical rules changes.
 - M. Wooding noted MECP received upwards of 350 comments regarding the rule changes, which are being analysed, but the timeline for an Environmental Registry of Ontario posting is still to be determined.
- 2020 Annual Progress Reporting Update
 - K. Taylor provided an overview of the new electronic reporting system and its benefits, noting the results of the Annual Reporting for 2020 will be discussed next meeting.
- **The program update was received as information by the SPC.**

REVIEW OF POLICY IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES

A) ECONOMIC IMPACT OF PROPOSED CHANGES

Policy	Recommended Change	Economic Impact of Change -Staff recommendation
G-7(2)	Added Waste disposal sites to the list of prohibited activities.	No economic impact. This is just correcting an omission from the list of activities that are prohibited.
Comments: None		
S-9 & S-10	Omitted.	No economic impact.
Comments: None		

DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION

ACT FOR CLEAN WATER

TRENT
CONSERVATION
COALITION
SOURCE PROTECTION
REGION

G-11(1)	Merging emergency planning policies from OT-1 into G-11(1).	No economic impact. Some work by Municipality.
Comments: None		
G-1(2)	Correction/clarification of the Agriculture Transition Policy definition.	No economic impact.
Comments: K. Taylor noted there could be positive economic impacts from this amendment.		
Q-3 & Q-4	Addition of two new policies to direct OMNRF not to issue permits where future aquaculture in prohibited (Stirling Issues Contributing Area).	No economic impact.
Comments: None		
OT-2	<p>Expanded Transport Pathways policies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No approvals in WHPA A and IPZ 1 unless a qualified person has determined no impact Wellhead Protection Areas B and C, E (E with a score of 8 or 9) and Intake Protection Zones 2 (with a vulnerability Score of 8 or higher) proponent must demonstrate no impact and best management practices are being used. No Earth Energy Systems in WHPA A In Wellhead Protection Area B or C, require a qualified hydrogeologist oversee the design and installation of new earth energy systems. Keep records of the location, size and design of new earth energy systems within the Wellhead Protection Areas. 	<p>There could be some cost to proponents to ensure that the new transport pathways are not going to negatively impact a drinking water source.</p> <p>This includes having a qualified hydrogeologist to oversee the design and installation and of new earth energy systems.</p>
<p>Comments: K. Taylor clarified that the term Earth Energy Systems is equivalent to geothermal energy systems.</p> <p>L. Burttt requested the definition of “qualified persons”. K. Taylor noted this term is used at the discretion of the municipality in regards to what that qualification is. It is typically a hydrogeologist or an engineer, depending on the type of work required.</p>		
S-6(1)	Adding “pumping stations” to the policy.	No economic impact.
Comments: None		
F-1	Prohibition of new above grade fuel tanks	No significant economic impact.
Comments: None		
F-2	Risk Management Plan for above grade fuel tanks.	This could have some economic impact if some homeowners need to upgrade their existing fuel tanks. This is the right thing to do to prevent spills.
<p>Comments: B. Lake noted that the wording should be updated to “liquid fuel tanks” or “hydrocarbon fuel tanks” rather than just “fuel tanks” as this may be misinterpreted to include propane tanks, which are exempt from this policy.</p>		
F-2(2)	Correction of inspection cycle description.	No economic impact.
Comments: K. Taylor noted just a qualified inspector may do this, it’s not required to be a RMO.		

D. Workman noted fuel tank suppliers are required by industry standards to inspect every new tank installed regularly.		
A-1(1)	This change determines that pathogen risk management plans apply to rural properties.	No economic impact.
Comments: None		
A-4(2)	Uses a bylaw for pathogen threats in urban areas.	Some cost to municipalities to implement bylaw and enforcement. No significant economic impact to landowners.
Comments: None		
D-1 & D-2	Adding “Industrial and Commercial” for DNAPLs	No economic impact.
Comments: None		
R-1 & R-4(4)	New road salt policies	Unknown
Comments: K. Taylor noted the economic impact of these will need to be assessed once these policies are worked out.		
HP	New pipeline policies	Some cost to owners of pipeline companies to modify emergency planning documents and protocols.
Comments: None		

- K. Taylor noted the economic impact is a necessary part of the update to the Explanatory Document for the Source Protection Plan
- **The committee accepted the summary of the economic impact list in the table above for information, pending a complete report in the future to which a staff recommendation will be made.**

B) PROPOSED CHANGES TO PREVIOUS DECISION REGARDING THE RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN COMPLIANCE DATES.

- K. Taylor reviewed that at the July 11, 2019 Committee Meeting, the Committee approved a recommendation that the compliance date be changed from December 31, 2020 to “the discretion of the Risk Management Official”. This decision was influenced by the fact that the looming deadline of completing all risk management plans was not going to be met.
- K. Taylor noted that subsequently an extension has been granted to resolve this issue. All risk management plans for existing threats will be completed by December 31, 2021.
- K. Taylor suggested that now that the December 31, 2020 date has passed the Committee should approve a new compliance date for risk management plans, and this will only apply to new activities that do not require a building code application or a zoning change.
- K. Taylor asserted that after discussion with local Risk Management Officials that a 2-year deadline is sufficient, and that the previous recommendation of it being at the official’s discretion should be amended due to this likely not being approved by the Ministry.
- **The committee approved that the previous decision from July 2019, that the compliance date for Risk Management Plans be at the Risk Management Official’s discretion, be amended to that the Source Protection Committee approve that the compliance date for completing Risk Management Plans be set at 2 years from the date that the Risk Management Official becomes aware of the activity.**

C) PATHOGEN POLICY

- K. Taylor reviewed that at the last Source Protection Committee Meeting, the Committee approved a policy direction for pathogens threat that included:
 - No changes to the current policies for rural properties including hobby farms.
 - Using municipal bylaws to manage pathogen threats from farm animals in urban areas.
- K. Taylor noted staff have drafted a policy and will be discussing this policy the Municipal Working Groups prior to our next meeting.
- K. Taylor presented a draft preview of what the policy will likely look like, noting that the Threat Circumstances column will need to be amended as these numbers are frequently changing.
- **The committee received the draft Pathogen Policy A-5 for information, and will consider amending the policy draft based on the input from the Municipal Working Groups at a future meeting.**

D) ROAD SALT POLICY

- K. Taylor noted staff has begun the technical work to recalculate the impervious percentage for vulnerable areas where salt can be a significant threat. It is anticipated that the approval of the technical rules will increase the number significant road salt threats.
- K. Taylor remarked that source protection staff will be consulting with the Municipal Working Groups regarding amendments to the road salt policies.
- **The committee received Road Salt policy update information, and will consider input from Municipal Working Groups at a future meeting.**

LOOKING AT THE YEAR AHEAD

- Section 34 Amendments
 - K. Taylor noted there will be Section 34 amendments coming for the new well at Colborne and a new well in Port Perry, and possible other new systems of new vulnerability studies. The DNAPL exemption policy may also require plan amendments but the decision to move forward on this exemption is currently on hold.
- Technical Work
 - K. Taylor noted that technical work will be required to address mapping changes, changes to vulnerable zones and impervious land percentages. Other technical work may include threats verification and enumeration.
- Section 36 Amendments
 - K. Taylor noted that staff will initiate preparation of amendment package for a Section 36 amendment, including:
 - Early engagement with Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
 - Pre-consultation with Ministries
 - Consultation with public, anyone affected by the policy amendments, and stakeholders
- Budget Request
 - K. Taylor provided an update on the budget requests, including an increased number of Source Protection Committee Meetings to address the work noted above.
- Meeting schedule
 - K. Taylor suggested at the March Committee meeting for a schedule of meetings for the next fiscal year be determined.
- **The committee received the staff report for information.**

OTHER ITEMS

- K. Taylor provided an update of his meeting with the Curve Lake First Nations on January 25, 2021 regarding source protection. Keith provided information and answered questions at the meeting, suggesting Curve Lake's new drinking water system could join the Trent Source Protection Plan, or that they develop their own source protection plan.
- M. Wooding noted that the Ministry is developing guidance for private systems that aren't included in the provincially approved source protection plans, and incorporating feedback into this guidance. This is to be posted on Ontario.ca, and is noted to be a priority to the Source Protection Branch.

NEXT MEETING

- Staff indicated that the next meeting will be in late March, 2021.