



Source Protection Committee

**Wednesday, August 26th, 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Holmesville Community Centre, Holmesville**

MEMBERS PRESENT

SPC Chair Larry Brown; SPC Members; Rowena Wallace, Matt Pearson, Meredith Schneider, Ian Brebner, Jim Nelemans, Marilyn Miltenburg, Mike McElhone, Bill Rowat, Al Hamilton, Karen Galbraith, John Vander Burgt, Don Jones, Gerry Rupke

LIAISONS PRESENT

Health Liaison Bob Worsell, Source Protection Authority Liaison, Jim Ginn, MOE Liaison, Tu Van Duong, Kettle and Stony Point First Nation Liaison, Bob Bresette

WITH REGRETS

SPC Members; Bill Rowat and Keith Black

DWSP STAFF PRESENT

Cathie Brown, Project Manager; Tim Cumming, Communications Specialist, Jenna Bowen, Project Assistant/Recording Secretary, Derek Matheson, Source Protection Technician, Abigail Gutteridge, Source Protection Technician, Mary Lynn MacDonald, Working Group Facilitator

OTHERS PRESENT

Heather Malcolmson, Manager, Source Protection Planning, MOE; Tim Fletcher, Team Lead, Standards Development Branch, MOE

CALL TO ORDER

Larry Brown, Source Protection Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m. and welcomed Tu Van Duong, the new Ministry of the Environment liaison.

AGENDA

MOTION #SPC: 2009-08-01

Moved by Gerry Rupke
Seconded by Mert Schneider

That the agenda be approved.

Carried by Consensus.

MINUTES FROM JUNE 23rd, 2009

MOTION #SPC: 2009-08-02

Moved by Ian Brebner
Seconded by Jim Nelemans

That the SPC minutes from June 23rd, 2009 be approved.

Carried by Consensus

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None

ASSESSMENT REPORT UPDATE

Project Manager, Cathie Brown updated the Committee on the status of the Assessment Report. SPC members were informed that amendments to the Technical Rules for the Assessment Report (AR) were proposed and have been posted on the EBR. Many of the proposed changes have been anticipated by staff for some time, and therefore will not result in any major changes to the draft Reports. Some of the proposed changes include removing a map showing the locations of species at risk, and removing the requirement to have tier 3 water budgets complete by the AR submission deadline. Other proposed changes pertain to how you calculate the water budget and the definitions/rules around pathogens.

Copies of the draft Assessment Report were handed out to each SPC member. The draft Reports consisted of a written report and a map book for each SPA. Two chapters were missing from the handout but will be mailed out to SPC members within the next two weeks. SPC members should review the draft AR's prior to the next meetings on September 30th and October 2nd where the Committee will review and discuss the drafts as a group. Comment sheets were also included in the handout for Committee members to record administrative errors as they are reviewing the reports. The goal is to have the final drafts completed in December so that they can be posted for public comment sometime in January 2010.

The Committee raised a concern about the complexity and length of the AR's and how this could be difficult for the public to understand. It was explained that an executive summary will be supplied which should hopefully summarize and clarify some of the more technical information. It was also explained that the AR is supposed to be a resource document, the Source Protection Plans will be the documents that the public will actually use, and will therefore be more user friendly than the AR's.

STRATEGY FOR THE DRY RUN

Project Manager, Cathie Brown presented information on the ABMV's strategy for the "dry run" for the Source Protection Plans. The Ministry of the Environment has requested that all SPC's undertake a trial run of the source protection plans by using the discussion paper posted on the EBR as a guide. The SPC has already received plan suggestions submitted by working

group members at the June meeting. Additionally a group of municipal planners will be meeting in early September to review a case study for a specific WHPA and develop plans for threats located in that area. The results from the case study will be presented at the September SPC meeting and will be reviewed by SPC members at that time. The results and feedback from the SPC will be submitted to the Ministry after that meeting. The Chair and Project Manager will be attending the Chair's meeting in mid-September where the results from some of the other regions "dry run" activities will be presented.

SCIENCE BEHIND THE THREATS

Tim Fletcher, from the Ministry of the Environment's Standards Development Branch gave a presentation on the science behind source protection threats assessment. The presentation summarized what threats are, how hazard scoring works, what semi-quantitative risk assessment is, how threats are deemed significant, moderate and low, how to interpret the threats table, and how the catalogue of management techniques will work.

A group discussion followed that covered the following topics; the difference between models used for pathogen and chemical threats, transportation corridors, the capacity to treat drinking water and its impact on threat, and the various risk management strategies that will be available through the risk management catalogue.

EBR PLANNING POSTING

Cathie Brown presented information about the discussion paper on the requirements for the content and preparation of source protection plans. SPC members were divided into groups to collaboratively develop feedback on the paper. This was followed by a group discussion where the following feedback was received:

Group 1 – Policies for AR activities on Significant Threats

- Policies should be geography based for some threats in the 100 m zone (but who decides what threats?)
- Policies should be threat based for larger areas in the 2 year TOT

Group 2 – Policies governing the monitoring of significant threats

- Provincially monitored application should be applied
- Moderate threats should be monitored if they have the potential to become significant. Low threats do not need to be monitored.
- Significant threats should be monitored
- BMP's should be put in place and monitored for effectiveness and altered if need be.
- Monitoring should be the responsibility of the Province, but handled locally by municipalities and local contractors.
- The frequency of monitoring should be based on the threat and the threat standards.
- BMP's can be changed if they are not effective and controlled provincially. Costs should be covered by Province.
- Discussion paper is hard to understand and confusing. Paper content needs to be a lot clearer for the public to understand. It has the potential to be good if feedback is taken seriously. Paper is onerous for general public to digest

Group 3 – Policies must achieve Great Lakes Targets and monitor implementation and Effectiveness

- Interjurisdictional cooperation is required.
- Actual targets and dates are needed
- Threats are both point source and non-point source
- Responsibility and authority for monitoring and enforcement must be clearly defined.

Group 4 – Policies may govern the monitoring of moderate and low threats

- Moderate and low threats can cause concern if they become a problem
- Some moderate and low threats should be discussed for possible policy inclusion, especially sinkholes and possible sources of groundwater. Sinkholes should be identified on the SPP so that they can be monitored with current and future landowners. There should be best management practices associated with sinkholes.

Group 4 – Optional policies for conditions resulting from past activities

- Locations of past conditions should be recorded for now for the possibility of policies to be developed at a later date.
- Incentive plans are much better than regulation with 100% coverage the best solution
- Provide incentive to municipalities to move wells in some situations where there are complex significant risks.
- Funding should come from MOE to the Conservation Authority and/or the SPC for administration.

Group 5 - Optional policies on activities and areas to which prohibition and risk management plans may apply

- Prohibition of an existing activity in a 5 year TOT or IPZ 1 or 2 should only be used as a last resort.
- There could be a possibility to prohibit some activities outside current catchment areas such as incorporating an IPZ-3.
- Risk management plans developed for other authorities or ministries may be acceptable for Source Protection Plans.

A discussion followed the group feedback about the need to enforce current policies that are already in place. The feedback from the Committee will be put into a letter signed by the chair and send it to the ministry prior to the EBR deadline.

CORRESPONDENCE AND DELEGATIONS

Three pieces of correspondence was included in the meeting package materials.

The first piece of correspondence was a letter issued by the Government of Ontario to raise awareness of proposed amendments to its regulations governing the processing and disposal of sewage biosolids.

The second piece of correspondence was an article on geothermal drilling. Manager of Source Protection Planning for MOE, Heather Malcolmson commented that MOE is preparing information pieces around education and outreach for geothermal drilling, and there will possibly be a proposal for new regulations forthcoming. It was also stressed that if geothermal drilling is of special concern to the SPC it can be elevated locally as a threat. MOE should have a fact sheet out soon on the process of how to do this.

The final piece of correspondence was an invitation from the Walkerton Clean Water Centre to attend a seminar titled "Safe Drinking Water: Lessons from Outbreaks" on October 15th in Vaughan, ON. SPC members were informed that the costs of the seminar would be covered for any members interested in attending.

Additionally, a letter from the MVCA SPA was discussed that requested the SPC include a section in each source protection plan to look at the costs of the plans. The letter also requested that the plans provide recommendations on who would be covering the costs of implementation.

MOTION #SPC: 2009-08-03

Moved by Marilyn Miltenburg
Seconded by Karen Galbraith

That the correspondence pieces be noted and filed.

Carried by consensus

Tim Cumming, Communications Specialist informed the Committee about the following upcoming DWSP events:

- Open Well Event in Bayfield on Friday, August 28th beginning at 5 p.m.
- Public meeting for business owners on October 15th at the Harriston arena from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

LIAISON UPDATES AND OTHER BUSINESS

The new Ministry of the Environment liaison, Tu Van Duong announced that all 38 Terms of References have been approved as of earlier this month. The Committee was also reminded that the proposed amendments to the Assessment Report Technical Rules had been posted on the EBR. The MOE liaison also informed the Committee that the ODWSP funding for 2010 has been released, and the concept paper on what changes are being proposed for the program is now available.

Health Liaison, Bob Worsell informed the Committee that he had attended a meeting of all the SPC health liaisons in the Province. The meeting provided an overall look at Source Protection and where health fits into the program.

Kettle and Stoney Point First Nation Liaison, Bob Bresette informed the Committee about the Elders and Youth Assembly he attended in July which had a water theme. Tim Cumming,

Communications Specialist, was thanked for attending the event and representing Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley DWSP with a Source Protection information booth. The Committee was also informed that Kettle and Stoney Point has made a tentative agreement with MOE to include their systems in the ABMV region. Future meetings are planned to sort out the details of how their participation will work without slowing down the project progress.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 30TH, and OCTOBER 2ND

- Assessment report review
- SPP dry run discussion

Future Meeting Schedule

September 30, 2009

October 2, 2009

October 28, 2009

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Brown declared the meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Larry Brown
Chair

Jenna Bowen
Recording Secretary