

**SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE (SPC) MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 30, 2022**  
**IN PERSON and**  
**VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Matt Pearson, Dave Frayne, Paul Heffer, Ian Brebner, Jennette Walker, Bert Dykstra, Mary Ellen Foran, Alyssa Keller, Allan Rothwell

**MEMBERS PRESENT VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE**

Rowland Howe

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

John Graham, Philip Keightley

**LIAISONS PRESENT**

Maitland Valley Source Protection Authority (SPA) Liaison – Phil Beard  
Ausable Bayfield Source Protection Authority (SPA) Liaison – Brian Horner

**LIAISONS PRESENT VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE**

Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) Liaison Officer – Beth Forrest  
Huron Perth Public Health Liaison – Lori Holmes

**DWSP STAFF PRESENT**

Donna Clarkson, Mary Lynn MacDonald, Tim Cumming, Abigail Gutteridge

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Kyle Davis, Risk Management Official, Wellington Source Water Protection  
Gail Heffer

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Matt Pearson called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m., and welcomed members and liaisons to the meeting.

**AGENDA**

**MOTION #SPC: 2022-11-01**

**“That the agenda for the November 30, 2022 meeting be approved as presented.”**

**Carried by Consensus.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION #SPC: 2022-11-02**

**Moved by Dave Frayne  
Seconded by Bert Dykstra**

**“That the SPC minutes from July 27, 2022 be approved as presented.”**

**Carried.**

**BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES**

None

**DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

None

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence was received from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) noting that the Province has reappointed Matt Pearson as Chair of the Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley SPC. This appointment is until August 2025.

**CHAIR'S UPDATE**

Chair Matt Pearson reported that a Joint Management Committee meeting was held in October to reappoint Bert Dykstra (Agriculture), Mary Ellen Foran (Agriculture) and Jennette Walker (Environment) to the SPC. All three members were recommended for reappointment to the Ausable Bayfield Source Protection Authority for a five year term. Chair Pearson participated in a meeting with the reappointed SPC Chairs and the new Director for the Source Protection Program at the MECP. This meeting provided an opportunity to talk about issues faced by other Source Protection Regions. At present, seven Source Protection Regions do not have an SPC Chair. During this meeting there



was discussion about the Best Management Practices initiative and engaging First Nations communities in Ontario. Chair Pearson also noted that public consultation would start soon with respect to the amendments to the Source Protection Plans and Assessment Reports.

### **PROGRAM UPATE**

Mary Lynn MacDonald, Co-DWSP Program Supervisor, highlighted the changes to the SPC, including the reappointment of Matt Pearson to Chair, the reappointment of Bert Dykstra, Mary Ellen Foran and Jennette Walker. She also noted that Ian Brebner is retiring from the SPC, and Myles Murdoch is stepping down due to the fact that he is now on the Maitland Valley Source Protection Authority and cannot sit on both Committees. The SPC also has an interim MECP Liaison, Beth Forrest, as former liaison, Catherine Eby, has left the branch.

There are several updates to wells and wellhead protection areas. Zurich is switching to the Lake Huron Primary Water Supply (LHPWS), and plan to decommission their municipal wells by spring 2023. The Township of Huron-Kinloss has applied for an increase to their permit-to-take-water for Lucknow, which may have an impact on the wellhead protection area. Finally the Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh has initiated a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment regarding the expansion of the Century Heights Drinking Water Supply, to include an additional well for a planned residential development. The environmental assessment for the LHPWS was completed and their preferred option for reservoir and UV Disinfection was approved.

The Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley (ABMV) Source Protection Region again participated in a social media campaign called #WaterWednesdays. The most recent campaign ran from September 21 until November 9. A new campaign directed to snow storage and salt use will begin Nov. 30th. In addition, a new public engagement video, "Have Your Say", was soft launched on August 18 featuring Allan Rothwell, municipal representative on the SPC. The video, to be re-released in January 2023, encourages the public to participate in upcoming public consultation. Staff have been sending out important information via newsletter, and have plans for two more prior to the end of 2022. Finally a subcommittee developed stickers for winter salt boxes found outside of various buildings, to promote wise use of road salt.

### **PROPOSED SALT STORAGE AT GODERICH PORT**

Rowland Howe, Industry Representative on the SPC, and President of the Goderich Port Management Corporation provided an update on the proposed temporary salt storage at Goderich Harbour. Tomlinson Group uses Pier 8 of the port for aggregates during the shipping season. There is a proposal to have Tomlinson store and ship salt on behalf of Compass Minerals during the winter months, estimated that up to 90,000 Tons of salt will be stored. It is proposed that the site be paved with a bermed edge and a ring of sand to prevent erosion and catch any leaching. After the salt is placed on the storage pad it will be covered with a tarpaulin to further prevent run off. The storage area is meant for short-term storage, anything remaining after the season will be removed from the site and the site returned to aggregate handling. Construction is planned for next year, pending approval.

### **PRE-CONSULTATION COMMENTS**

Donna Clarkson, Co-DWSP Program Supervisor, provided a summary of comments received during pre-consultation for the proposed updates to the Source Protection Plans and Assessment Reports. In August 2022, the consultation page of the website was updated and a notice of pre-consultation was emailed to municipalities and implementing bodies. Comments were received from the Municipality of South Huron, Bruce County, the Municipality of Bluewater, Kyle Davis (RMO – Town of Minto and Wellington County), and the Conservation and Source Protection Branch (MECP). In general, there were very few comments, and many of those received simply required clarification. Two that addressed specific issues included the comment from Kyle Davis regarding a preference for a lower threshold for salt application to be consistent with other regions in Wellington, and the comment from the MECP noting their preference for flexibility of policies that manage sewage infrastructure over prohibition.

### **ADDITIONAL CHANGES TO SOURCE PROTECTION POLICIES**

#### **Hazardous Waste**

In March 2022, waste policies were changed to address the changes in the 2021 Technical Rules. As Policies RAC.5.2 and RAC.5.5 stand, very small amounts of hazardous waste at residences and small businesses would be captured and a risk management plan required. Staff suggest that the following text be added to the policies for clarification:

“The incidental storage of hazardous waste at residences and small businesses shall not require a risk management plan.”



**MOTION #SPC: 2022-11-03**

**Moved by Allan Rothwell  
Seconded by Mary Ellen Foran**

**“That waste policies RAC.5.2 and RAC.5.5 be revised as presented and approved for inclusion in the Section 36 amendment to the Source Protection Plans.”**

**Carried.**

**Snow Storage**

In March 2022, the SPC approved revisions to the snow storage policies, which address the lowered threat thresholds in the new Technical Rules. However, staff require clarification on the definition of “snow collection area.” It could refer to either the area within the wellhead protection area, or any area that contributes to the pile of snow. Staff recommend the addition of clarifying text to Policy AC.10.2, either:

Option 1

“For clarity: ‘snow collection area’ refers to plowed area that contributes to the snow storage, and is not limited to the wellhead protection area

OR

Option 2

“For clarity: the snow collection area is limited to land within the wellhead protection area with vulnerability score of 10”

**MOTION #SPC: 2022-11-04**

**Moved by Ian Brebner  
Seconded by Jennette Walker**

**“That Policy AC.10.2 be revised to include clarification regarding “snow collection area” as Option 1 above, included in the Section 36 amendment to the Source Protection Plans.”**

**Carried.**

**Sewage Works**

Sewage policies were reviewed and revised in March 2022 to address changes to the 2021 Technical Rules. Specifically, policies that used Part IV tool (prohibition and risk management) were deleted and sewage work threats would be addressed through prescribed instruments. Additionally, specific circumstances and scores were removed

from the policy text and a table of the sewage works subcategories was added to make the reader aware of the range of activities to which the policies may apply.

The MECP submitted pre-consultation comments related to policy RAC.4.1 – Prescribed Instrument Prohibition of Future Sewage Systems or Sewage Works, which prohibits future sewage works, except sanitary sewers. The specific concern was that prohibiting activities captured under subcategory 2.7 – *Sewage pumping station or lift station wet well, a holding tank or a tunnel*, would be problematic when they are needed to complete sanitary sewers. To address this concern, staff recommend that category subcategory 2.7 also be exempt from future prohibition. The recommendation regarding master environmental servicing plans was added to address the early planning aspect of the Ministry's concerns.

**MOTION #SPC: 2022-11-05**

**Moved by Dave Frayne  
Seconded by Alyssa Keller**

**“Sewage policies RAC.4.1 and RAC.4.3 be further revised as presented, and approved for inclusion in the Section 36 amendment to the Source Protection Plans.”**

**Carried.**

### **Organic Solvents**

Organic solvents are a significant threat in a WHPA-A and B with a vulnerability score of 10, where quantity is more than 25 litres below grade, or 250 litres above grade. In the new Technical Rules, specific organic solvents are no longer identified and no definition is provided to limit organic solvents considered to be a risk, making them subject to SPP policies. Thus, the current prohibition policy may be problematic. Staff suggest that policy RAC.7.1 (Future Prohibition) be removed and Risk Management Plan RAC .7.2 be used to manage both Future and Existing activities. Residential use should also be exempt.

**MOTION #SPC: 2022-11-06**

**Moved by Bert Dykstra  
Seconded by Paul Heffer**

**“That the Organic Solvent policies RAC.7.1 and RAC.7.2 be revised as presented and approved for inclusion in the Section 36 amendment to the Source Protection Plans.”**

**Carried.**



**PUBLIC CONSULTATION PLAN**

Mary Lynn MacDonald provided a timeline to SPC member regarding the Public Consultation Plan for the Section 36 Amendment to the Source Protection Plans. Public Consultation must last a minimum of 35 days, and staff plan to begin on January 3, 2023. A notice of consultation will be posted online and through local and social media avenues. Businesses affected by the amendment will be notified through mail. A webinar is scheduled for January 11, consisting of a PowerPoint presentation with voice over. This will be posted to the website following the webinar. Two in-person open houses are planned for January 18 (Wingham) and January 25 (Clinton), with a snow date of a virtual meeting on January 25. Written comments are due by email or mail on February 10, 2023.

**MOTION #SPC: 2022-11-07**

**Moved by Ian Jennette Walker**

**Seconded by Alyssa Keller**

**“That staff be directed to complete the Source Protection Plan policy revisions and begin public consultation.”**

**Carried.**

**LIAISON UPDATES**

Lori Holmes, Huron Perth Public Health (HPPH) Liaison, provided a written update read by Matt Pearson. HPPH has continued to be busy with their COVID response. At present, masks are recommended for indoor public settings, but not regulated. Staff monitored 22 beaches over the summer in Huron and Perth in 2022. In total, there were 23 beach postings and over 1200 samples collected.

Beth Forrest, MECP Liaison Officer, reiterated that the current appointed Chairs for the SPCs had a good meeting. There are still 7 Chair appointments to come. There have been several staffing changes at the MECP, and the new Manager of the Conservation and Source Protection Branch is Jen McKay. Beth reminded the SPC that Annual Reporting will be coming up in February 2023, and the roll up of the 2022 Annual Reports is almost ready to be shared with SPCs. She noted that there have been a number of Section 34 amendments with new wells or additions to current systems. Finally, Beth reported that Bill 23 will not cause any changes to the Clean Water Act, and

staff are just checking to ensure that there will be no impacts on Source Protection processes.

Phil Beard, Maitland Valley Source Protection Authority (SPA) had no update for the SPC at this time.

Ausable Bayfield SPA Liaison, Brian Horner, commented on Bill 23, noting that despite receiving Royal Assent on November 28, 2022, there are still some postings on the Environmental Registry of Ontario. Parts of Schedule 2 are scheduled to be enacted on January 1, 2023.

**RETIRING MEMBERS**

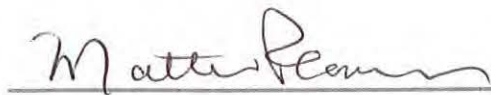
Chair Matt Pearson, recognized two members of the SPC that are stepping down from the Committee. Ian Brebner (Property Owner), is one of the original members of the SPC who formerly represented the South Municipal group, and has chosen, after 15 years, to retire from the SPC at this time. Chair Pearson commented on the amount of work and dedication the original SPC members put in to create the first iteration of the Source Protection Plans. Secondly, Myles Murdoch (Municipal) stepped down from the SPC as he will be sitting on the Maitland Valley Source Protection Authority. Myles also sat on the former SP Working Group. Chair Pearson thanked Ian and Myles for their years of service and valuable input to the SPC.

**NEXT MEETING**

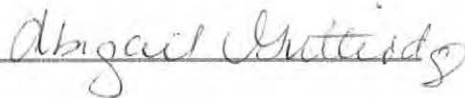
The next meeting will be March 1, 2023. There will also be a virtual meeting on March 29 to approve the Annual Report.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.



Matt Pearson  
Chair



Abigail Gutteridge  
Secretary