



**Sault Ste. Marie Region  
Source Protection Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday March 10, 2009  
Prince Township Community Centre  
12:00 pm**

**Attendance**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Subhash Verma – Chair                     | Rhonda Bateman – SPA Liaison and Source Protection Planning Coordinator |
| Larry Woolley – Resident Member           | Linda Whalen – Alternate SPA Liaison                                    |
| Andrew Hallett – PUC Member               | Loralei Premo – SPC Administrator                                       |
| Roy Bertolo – Aggregates Member           |   |
| Susan Hamilton-Beach – Municipal Member   |   |
| Ralph Yanni – Sault North Resident Member |   |
| Peter McLarty – Environmental Member      |   |
| Peter Tonazzo – Municipal Member          |   |
| Hal McGonigal – Municipal Member          |   |

**Regrets**

Gary Nelson – Algoma Public Health Liaison  
Maeve McHugh – Ministry of the Environment Liaison

**Guests**

Brianna Coughlin – Prince Township CAO

## **1. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

No conflicts were declared.

## **2. Introductions**

Brianna Coughlin, Chief Administrative Officer for the Township of Prince. Brianna is pleased to meet with the SPC and learn more about the Source Protection Planning process.

## **3. Administration**

### **i. Sign in sheet**

### **ii. Adoption of Agenda**

- Change meeting time start to 12:00 pm
- Add Timeline and Budget to Item #5
- Add expense claims to Item #3.iv.

### **iii. Approval of February 3, 2009 meeting minutes**

- Add Susan Hamilton-Beach to Regrets
- Add Jason Hamilton to Guests

Minutes of February 3, 2009 approved by consensus with changes

### **iv. Expense Claims for SPC members**

**Action:** SPC members were reminded to submit any outstanding travel expense claims to the Sault Ste. Marie Region Conservation Authority (SSMRCA) before March 31, 2009.

## **4. Correspondence**

### **i. Lime inquiry response from Rick Talvitie (AECOM) for the municipal landfill**

There is no timeframe for using lime in the Sault Ste. Marie landfill. The proposal of lime use is a component of the current Environmental Assessment process. The use of lime to neutralize soil is common practice through much of Ontario.

### **ii. Science Daily Article on Road Salt impact on Lakes and Rivers**

The City of Sault Ste. Marie has reduced its road salt application from 7000 metric tons to 5000 metric tons. The highway standard for salt application is different than that within the city of Sault Ste. Marie. Road salt will be included in the Assessment Report as it is identified as a potential threat; a common concern across the province. There have been health related advisories for the chloride levels in the drinking water from the east end municipal wells; studies attribute the chloride to road salt. However, the highway road standard used for Prince Township along Second Line could be affecting private wells.

**Action** – Andrew Hallett will provide SPC with a copy of the report concerning chloride levels in east end municipal wells.

## **5. Assessment Report**

### **i. Timeline and Budget**

The Sault Ste. Marie Region (SSMR) Source Protection Area's approved Terms of Reference (ToR) was posted to the Environmental Registry on February 5, 2009. Therefore, the SSMR Source Protection Area timeline for submission of the Proposed Assessment Report to the Director has been set for February 5, 2010 to meet legislative requirements. A copy of the Timeline and Process for Preparation of the Assessment Report was distributed to the SPC members and is available on the SSMRCA website under SPC meeting materials with March 10, 2009 date.

#### **2009**

January 29 - Minister approved ToR

February 5 - Approved ToR posted to Environmental Registry  
*SPC has 1 year to complete Proposed Assessment Report*

March 31 - completion of draft Groundwater Vulnerability

June 30 - completion of draft Threat Identification

July 30 - completion of draft Tier 3 Water Budget

August 31 - completion of draft Surface Water Vulnerability and peer review process

September 30 - completion of draft Risk Assessment

October 30 - draft of Proposed Assessment Report

November 2 – post Proposed Assessment Report on internet, hard copies in public locations; publish notice in newspapers, copy of notice to City Clerks – Sault Ste. Marie and Prince Township, Sault North Planning Board, Chief of Garden River First Nation, Chief of Batchewana First Nation and Great Lakes representatives

November 2 – 30 – copy of the Proposed Assessment Report available for review at the Conservation Authority office from 9 am – 3 pm.

November 23, 24, 25 - SPC to hold Public Open Houses

December 8 – final day for written comments to be received on the Proposed Assessment Report

December 15 - SPC to submit Proposed Assessment Report to the Source Protection Authority (SPA) and to post a notice on the Internet and 30 day public comment period begins

## **2010**

January 15 - Public comment period on the Proposed Assessment Report ends

January 19 – SPA to prepare a summary of comments and concerns

February 5 - SPA to submit the Proposed Assessment Report to the Director

SPC discussed the options for additional public information sessions this spring – committee to determine the timing and topics for sessions.

The open houses should be held at the Sault Ste. Marie Civic Centre, Prince Township Municipal Office and either the SSMRCA or in Aweres Township to encourage the participation of the residents of the Sault North Planning Board.

There is a likelihood that the Intake Protection Zone – 3 (IPZ-3) delineation report will not be completed in time to be included with the first edition of the Proposed Assessment Report. The Ministry of the Environment's legal department is currently investigating the need to develop an IPZ -3 in areas that may not have identified threats. The need for an IPZ -3 was included in the recent MOE regulations but not included in initial planning for this Source Protection Area.

The Assessment Report is a compilation of studies, analyses and reports. The introduction of the SPC to the work that has been done to date in gradual steps has allowed the SPC to have a good understanding of the work, its relevance and the results before it is presented in the Proposed Assessment Report.

**Action** – Proposed Assessment Report chapters will be presented to the SPC as they are completed for review and comment.

**Action** – SPC requested a current threats map for next meeting

**Action** – SPC requested the proposed timeline be posted online with meeting materials

## **6. Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program (ODWSP)**

### **i. ODWSP update to SPC**

The SPC was provided a summary of the ODWSP and details on funding for our source protection area to date. Summary document posted online with meeting materials.

**Comment** – FedNor has an internship program offering funding. Perhaps SSMRCA can look into using this for funding stewardship staff.

### **ii. ODWSP Review – Looking Ahead Consultation Form**

The Minister of the Environment has requested input on the ODWSP from SPC members and provided a template of questions to review. The Chair led the stewardship discussion reviewing the questions presented by the MOE. The following issues were raised:

- there is not enough money available to get all the necessary work done across the province

- education and outreach funding should be a priority until the assessment report is complete
- difficulty determining definitive threats to drinking water before the assessment report is completed - hold some funds until assessment reports are completed
- the Conservation Authorities are the best mechanism for administration of the program
- government (MOE) should identify areas in the IPZ, WHPA, recharge areas and prioritize the activities in each of these areas and fund those specific projects
- use tax incentives for projects - offered to landowners to get the work done
- rural septic and well owners are responsible for their own systems, responsibility of ownership
- abandon the “first come first serve” portion of the current application format – may fund less worthwhile projects
- municipalities should get funding if their operations pose a threat
- “reverse auction” approach should not be considered
- the existing funding categories may be adequate but the focus will vary from watershed to watershed
- other possible funding sources – Indian and Northern Affairs (INAC) and FedNor, consider other funding agencies that are not necessarily “agricultural-centric”

**Action** – Chair to send comments to Paul Heeney, Manager, Source Protection Implementation

## **7. Coffee break 2:10 – 2:30**

## **8. Other Items**

### **i. February 3 Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) Training Feedback**

SPC members requested clarification on dealing with FIPPA requests. SPC members are to present any requests directly to the SSMRCA because they are the custodians of the relevant data. The Conservation Authority designate for FIPPA requests is Linda Whalen and Rhonda Bateman is the alternate contact.

The February 3, 2009 FIPPA videoconference was appreciated by the SPC members. Members would like videoconferencing to be considered for future training or meetings whenever possible.

### **ii. Update from Chairs meeting March 2 – 3**

At the Chairs meeting, MOE presented program updates with discussions focusing on ODWSP as well as the roles and responsibilities of MOE Liaisons. Comment and suggestions for MOE Liaison roles and responsibilities was solicited from the SPC Chairs. Currently, MOE Liaisons attend monthly meetings to provide assistance and information when required. The next SPC agenda will have time allocation for the MOE Liaison to give an update to the SPC. MOE wants to expand on the Liaison role with SPCs. One of the roles that may be designated to the MOE Liaison is purveyor of in-house committee training, rather than the committee travelling for future training sessions

### **iii. Update from Home & Outdoor Show**

The Home & Outdoor Show was Friday March 6 – 8, 2009 at the Essar Centre. The main display included a poster sized photo of the SPC members. Overall the event was well attended. A copy of the new DWSP brochure was shared with members

**Action** – Distribute brochures to each member at the next meeting.

Thank you to the members who were available to assist CA staff in operating our booth.

### **9. Items for next agenda**

- i. MOE Liaison update**
- ii. Groundwater Vulnerability Report**
- iii. Andrew Hallett - east end wells chloride levels**

### **10. Next Meeting**

April 7, 2009  
To be determined  
12:00 – 4:00

### **11. Adjourn: 3:52 PM**