



Sault Ste. Marie Region Source Protection Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 11, 2012
Civic Centre – Thompson Room

Attendance

Andrew Hallett – PUC Member	Roy Bertolo – Aggregates Member
Hal McGonigal – Municipal Member, Prince Township	Catherine Taddo – Municipal Member
Peter Tonazzo – Municipal Member	Christine Ropeter - Communications
Peter McLarty – Environmental Member	Rhonda Bateman – PM and SPA Liaison
Larry Woolley – Resident Member	Wesley Wright – MOE Liaison
Ralph Yanni – Sault North Resident Member	Ken Greenwood – APH Liaison

Also present: Daniel Perri – Engineer, City of Sault Ste. Marie

Regrets:

Linda Whalen – Alternate Source Protection Authority Liaison

Absent:

Subhash Verma – SPC Chair

The meeting commenced at 11:30 pm

1. Welcome

Motion that Larry Woolley chair the meeting.
 - Approved by consensus

Catherine Taddo introduced Daniel Perri the new Junior Engineer for the City.

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No conflicts were declared.

3. Administration

- i. Sign in sheet**
- ii. Adoption of January 11, 2012 draft agenda**
 - Approved by consensus
- iii. Adoption of December 6, 2011 draft minutes**
 Moved by Peter McLarty, seconded by Roy Bertolo – was carried

4. MOE Update

Wesley Wright brought forward topics from the recent Chairs meeting.

The design and approach of provincial highway signs in Source Protection Areas was discussed.

A communications strategy for the last year of Source Protection Planning (SPP) was discussed. It was agreed that it is too late in the process to develop new materials and each Source Protection Area has already been developing their own materials. Consensus of the Chairs was to use the existing plans combined with lessons learned.

In regard to Pre-Consultation Wesley explained that the comments received from MOE were pre-emptive in nature and are being reviewed for compliancy.

The absence of our Chair from the recent Chairs meeting was noted and members concern was raised as to the importance of attendance at these meetings. This was the first meeting that neither the Chair nor the project manager was present.

5. Communications

Rhonda Bateman distributed an updated Source Protection Plan timeline to the committee. An explanation of date revisions and deadlines was provided. The committee was reminded that there will be no extensions beyond the August 20, 2012 date for the submission of the Source Protection Plan. Minor changes were suggested

Action: Rhonda Bateman will send out the revised timeline to the members electronically.

A list of the suggested meeting dates for the next six months was distributed for review and comment.

Action: SPC members to contact Christine Ropeter as to their availability for the proposed meeting dates. Posting of the meeting dates on the website is required under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*.

Christine Ropeter along with the communications sub-committee are reviewing and updating the Plain Language Guide which will be available for public consultation sessions in March 2012.

6. Source Protection Planning

Rhonda reviewed the mandatory and discretionary requirements of the Source Protection Plan.

The consultative portion of the Plan will be on-going until submission of the Plan. With regard to the summary of consultation activities Wesley will confirm whether or not an appendix format will be acceptable.

Pre-consultation Comments:

All pre-consultation correspondence received was distributed to each SPC member prior to the meeting for review and comment.

Pre-consultative comments received from the Ministry of the Environment indicated that extensions to implementation dates may be required. Dependent on the number of policies that the MOE is responsible to implement it may take years to fulfil all of the implementation requirements.

A question was raised as to whether comments related to the creation of new moderate policies during pre-consultation result in new policies that have not been available for pre-consultation? Wesley to confirm

Peter Tonazzo distributed copies of the Sault Ste. Marie Official Plan specifically pertaining to Source Water. Currently there are policies which apply to the current Significant Groundwater Recharge Area. The committee was reassured by the municipal support with regards to protecting this area.

Rhonda reviewed the pre-consultation comments we have received so far from Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH), Ministry of Consumer Services, City of Sault Ste. Marie - Public Works and Engineering Departments, PUC Services Inc.

Andrew Hallett commented on the functional failure of Source Protection Planning with regard to protecting our significant groundwater recharge area. He noted that some activities which are not caught under permitting may be falling through the cracks. The MOE should be made aware of these deficits in the technical rules. It was suggested that the committee consider sending a letter to MOE about this. It was noted that this question had been raised to MOE during the submission of the Assessment Report with a response directed at references to the Technical Rules.

The committee expressed support for the development of a new moderate policy encompassing the significant groundwater recharge area that addresses support for the municipal official plan policies. The development of this policy would be as a result of the comments received during pre-consultation.

Comments from MMAH refer to restricted land uses and request that those uses be listed. Peter Tonazzo has discussed the comment with the representative from MMAH and this has been resolved.

Ministry of Consumer Services had no comment on the policies in reference to fuel handling and storage as they are not an implementing body.

MOE commented that the Source Protection Plan timelines for effective dates should change. The committee discussed the length of time for effective dates, currently they are listed at 2 years. The request is to add more time for the effective dates.

The question was raised as to who specifically would carry out the Education and Outreach component of the draft policies. Rhonda explained that it was envisioned that Education and Outreach could be a partnership of the City and the Sault Ste. Marie Region Conservation Authority (SSMRCA). Ideally, materials could be developed by the SSMRCA with the printing and distribution completed by the City. The costs would then be shared by each partner.

All policies that refer to Certificate of Approval (COA) need to be replaced with the new process for approvals, Environment Compliance Approval (ECA).

The City's Public Works department is concerned with the cost of force main inspections. The members discussed a cost benefit analysis of inspections. Wesley will investigate as to other SPC policies on sewage infrastructure.

General comments received were discussed. The use of the word designation when indicating Part IV tools was discussed again and the context of using the wording is to insure that the legal requirements for these policies will be met.

The question arose about the possibility of contacting Ministry of Transportation (MTO) regarding the provincial road salt policy for the public consultation session in Prince Township.

Action: Contact local MTO representative to discuss current road salt applications for Prince Township.

Future storage of road salt policy – Members were asked to consider the inclusion of a volume or quantity in the reason or appendix. Parameters can be written in the explanatory document or within the general text of the plan with the preface “At the current time, the volume of the parameter that is considered a threat is ----.”

Future Dense Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid (DNAPL) policy – Residential use should be excluded.

Future sewage works policy - If MOE issues COA's, members inquired as to who is responsible for reviews. The review process varies dependent on the subject area, currently any CoA for storm water management are coming from the developers to the Conservation Authority. This issue will not likely be defined within the time frame of the development of the Source Protection Plan. The members discussed deleting the middle 2 paragraphs of the pre-consultative policy.

Future agricultural and non-agricultural source materials policy – Agriculture is not permitted within the WHPA-A under the current zoning

Future de-icing of aircraft policy – need to add “in all areas where it would be a significant threat.”

Future pesticide policy – note to use the institutional/commercial zoning and exempt residential

Action: Policies will be adjusted as per the committee's discussions and distributed prior to the meeting on January 30.

7. Items for the next agenda

- Review of draft policies

8. Adjournment: 4:52 pm

Next meeting: January 30, 2012
12:00 – 4:00 pm
Civic Centre, Thompson Room