

NIAGARA PENINSULA SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

NIAGARA PENINSULA

July 2, 2009

7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: M. Neufeld, (Chair)
B. Antonsen
R. Bator
M. Bellantino Perco
D. Ostryhon
D. Renshaw
T. Rigby
D. Ricker
C. Shrive

MEMBERS ABSENT: E. Schneider

LIAISONS PRESENT: G. Hudgin, Niagara Public Health Representative
M. McHugh, Ministry of the Environment
B. Baty, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority

LIAISONS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: B. Wright, Coordinator Source Protection
J. Kukalis, Director Water Management
M. Stack, Director Communications
D. Gullett, Recording Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: D. Barrow, Niagara Region
S. Bellamy, AquaResource

ROLL CALL

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Mr. Renshaw stated he has been retained by the Town of Fort Erie to complete engineering work on the Fort Erie Pollution Control Plan, and as a result suggested that he might be in a conflict of interest (COI) when dealing with the Rosehill Water Treatment Plant (WTP) in his role as a Source Protection Committee (SPC) member. The Chair responded it may be an advantage to the committee to have this knowledge available and doesn't foresee a problem.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

BUSINESS:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., thanked the members for attending and requested that if anyone else had a conflict of interest to declare it. The following resolution was then presented.

SPCR-32-09

MOVED BY: B. Antonsen
SECONDED BY: M. Bellantino Perco
THAT: The agenda be accepted as presented.

“CARRIED”

(1) MINUTES – JUNE 9, 2009 SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

Ms. Bellantino Perco questioned if the in-camera minutes would be available on the website. The Chair responded they will be posted the same as the members have received them, and if anyone requests the in-camera minutes they would have to go through a Freedom of Information (FOI) request.

Mr. Bator also requested that it state in the minutes that local taxpayers are saving money due to the fact this committee is receiving lower per diems. The following resolution was then presented.

SPCR-33-09

MOVED BY: D. Ricker
SECONDED BY: R. Bator
THAT: The minutes of the Source Protection Committee meeting held June 9, 2009 be received and approved as amended.

“CARRIED”

(2) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Mr. Bator inquired if the tendered consultant's work was the best value for the taxpayers money. He stated that the Ministry of the Environment's results over the past two years of testing at Water Treatment Plants came in under the limits in 99.8% of the time when testing. The Chair responded it is a good investment and a good use of money protecting the source from contamination. Mr. Rigby commented we have good systems that treat the water. Mr. Bator said a recent study suggested Niagaa Falls is one of the worst municipalities for discharging untreated water into the water systems, and felt this may be an area to spend more money on. The Chair responded that some of the data used in the recent study did not match information from the Regional Municipality of Niagara. The Chair requested that Mr. Bator re-address this question after watching the presentation from Walkerton Citizens Coalition.

(3) UPDATE OF GANTT CHART AND WORK BY NIAGARA REGION

Brian Wright stated the schedule for the review of Technical Reports has been revised since the last meeting. The TM2 update report should be ready for the committee's July 14 meeting, if the consultant releases it in time to review. The Watershed

Characterization Report should be completed also.

Deanna Barrow advised the Niagara Falls, Port Colborne and Welland Threats and Issues reports are due July 3 from the consultant. The drafts for Decew, Grimsby & Rosehill Threats and Issues should be ready.

Brian Wright pointed out that the dates for the next meetings are

- Tuesday, July 14, 2009
- Tuesday, August 11, 2009; and
- Tuesday, September 8, 2009.

(4) CONCEPTUAL WATER BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 1

A revised Figure 5.5 was included in the SPC agenda package to replace the one currently in members' copy of the Conceptual Water Budget Report. Mr. Bator also requested that his statement was incorrect and should read: Municipal water demand has decreased and shouldn't be increased based on population increase, according to the latest census of figures. The following resolution was then presented:

SPCR-34-09

MOVED BY: D. Renshaw

SECONDED BY: R. Bator

THAT: Report no. SPC-13-09 be received by the Source Protection Committee for information purposes.

“CARRIED”

(5) TIER 1 WATER BUDGET STUDY

The Chair introduced Mr. Sam Bellamy from AquaResource who along with Brian Wright gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Tier 1 Water Budget Study.

Ms. Bellantino Perco commented the supply for the Water Treatment Plants are Great Lake based, and what was the main purpose of the Tier 1 Water Budget in Niagara. Sam Bellamy said the province will be rolling up this information from all the Source Protection Regions/Areas into a provincial database and they wanted the data to be at least to a Tier 1 W.B. level of detail. Brian Wright stated that delineation of significant groundwater recharge (SGRA) is part of the Tier 1 Water Budget scope of work, but this SGRA task is still being completed and will be reported in a future meeting.

Mr. Bator questioned if the freeze / thaw was taken into account, and Sam responded the Tier 1 doesn't require it. Brian Wright stated the Tier 1 doesn't require that a numeric computer model be used, but since NPCA was already using a HEC-HMS model for floodplain mapping, the province allowed NPCA to use HEC-HMS for the Tier 1 Water Budget.

Brian Wright thanked Mr. Bellamy for helping with the presentation, and AquaResource for their commitment to complete this report on a timely basis.

Ms. Bellantino Perco questioned why some of the data numbers were greater than 100% demand. Mr. Bellamy explained that a some surface water takings are from 'storage'. In this particular area there are quite a few streams that go dry at certain

times of the year. Thus if the water taking is from a storage pond it will show as a high % compared to the very low stream flow, and this can push the watershed planning area to higher stress levels. The Tier 1 Water Budget only requires estimated figures, not actual, and this also has an impact on the calculated results. Actual takings are not incorporated into the process until Tier 2 and Tier 3 Water Budgets.

Mr. Bator commended Mr. Bellamy for admitting that computer models aren't completely accurate.

Sam thanked NPCA for their efforts in working with them and all the work they contributed to this report.

The Chair noted that the third paragraph on page 3 of report SPC-14-09 was duplicated. The following resolution was then presented:

SPCR-35-09

MOVED BY: D. Ostryhon

SECONDED BY: T. Rigby

THAT: Report no. SPC-14-09 be received by the Source Protection Committee for information purposes.

“CARRIED”

(6) ROSEHILL WTP SURFACE WATER VULNERABILITY STUDY

Brian Wright went through the peer review with the committee members and the following observations / comments were made:

- 2.3 The TM2 'report' will show the revised locations of the IPZ-1 for Rosehill intakes.
- 2.6 The TM2 will also show the refinement of IPZ-2 in-water delineation.
- 2.8 Stantec is refining the IPZ-2 upland areas using estimated flow velocities.
- 2.11 IPZ-1 and IPZ-2 vulnerability scores may be revised in the TM2.
- 3.5 Mr. Bator thought that a vulnerability score of 0.7 was extreme. Brian Wright explained that Stantec, the consultant, is currently completing many surface water vulnerability studies for several intakes on the Great Lakes so they would be able to assess the Rosehill vulnerability scores against other intakes to see what is reasonable. With regards to Lake Erie, the intake is fairly close to the shore and the water is shallow compared to most Great Lakes intakes.
- 4.1 Uncertainty analysis for vulnerability zone delineations may or may not be reported in the Assessment Report.

Mr. Renshaw stated the Town of Fort Erie is considering installing storm sewers to drain the upper end of Crescent Park residential area to the Kraft Drain. Crescent Park area basements are prone to flooding, and hopefully with the new storm sewer system being installed this will alleviate the problem. After the updates, the Kraft Drain should be much less of a drinking water threat since it will separate the sanitation from the storm sewer system.

Ms. Bellantino-Perco asked if the Crystal Beach WCPC has ever had overflows, Mr. Renshaw stated that Crystal Beach never has overflowed.

The Chair pointed out a typographical error in the recommendation of the report. It should read to be received not accepted. The following resolution was then presented:

SPCR-36-09

MOVED BY: T. Rigby

SECONDED BY: D. Ricker

THAT: That the report “Regional Municipality of Niagara Source Protection Technical Study, Rosehill Water Treatment Plant”, by Stantec Consulting Ltd. and dated September 2008 (concerning the intake surface water vulnerability) be received by the source protection committee; and

That the Peer Review Summary for this report be received by the source protection committee.

“CARRIED”

(7) GRIMSBY WTP SURFACE WATER VULNERABILITY STUDY

Brian Wright went through the peer review with the committee members and the following observations / comments were made:

- 2.6 The Chair questioned why different modeling was used for the two great lakes. He just wanted to clarify there wouldn't be a problem in the consistency of the models used to comply with the rules. Brian Wright said that it depended on what models were most suitable for the project. The Lake Ontario Collaborative was using the POM model.
- 2.8 Figure E1 is being refined. The IPZ-2 in the TM2 Report will change significantly.

Ms. Bellantino Perco wondered if there's an issue when the intake protection zone extends to another Source Protection Area, and how is this acknowledged by the MOE. Brian Wright stated that this is noted in the Terms of Reference and that the Halton-Hamilton SP Region is aware of the cross boundary IPZ. This is a common problem faced by many SP Regions/Areas across the province.

The Chair pointed out a typographical error in the recommendation of the report. It should read to be received not accepted. The following resolution was then presented:

SPCR-37-09

MOVED BY: D. Renshaw

SECONDED BY: T. Rigby

THAT: That the report “Regional Municipality of Niagara Source Protection Technical Study, Grimsby Water Treatment Plant”, by Stantec Consulting Ltd. and dated September 2008 (concerning the intake surface water vulnerability) be received by the source protection committee; and

That the Peer Review Summary for this report be received by the source protection committee.

“CARRIED”

(8) UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair and Deanna Barrow attended a meeting at the Region to show an overview of the SP work and have been invited to attend the next Source Protection Authority meeting to present this.

The MOE Source Protection Director, Ian Smith, indicated he would like the Source Protection Committees to try completing a dry run exercise for Source Protection Planning. This would consist of looking forward hypothetically at a source protection plan in a certain area and visualizing what we know now and what will the end result be (in terms of policies).

The Chair informed everyone that Bruce Davidson from Walkerton Citizens Group will be making a presentation at the SPC meeting on August 11, 2009. Mary Stack invited committee members to a barbeque at Balls Falls Conservation Area at 6:00 p.m. on August 11, 2009, prior to the meeting, which will be held afterward at the Centre for Conservation at approximately 7:30 p.m.

(9) OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business, the following resolution was presented.

SPCR-38-09

MOVED BY: T. Rigby
SECONDED BY: M. Bellantino Perco
THAT: This meeting does now adjourn.

Received at 9:05 p.m.

“CARRIED”

“D. Gullett, Recording Secretary

M. Neufeld, Chair”