

NIAGARA PENINSULA SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

WELLAND

September 25, 2018

7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: M. Bellantino Perco, (Chair)
R. Bator
C. Bodimeade (by proxy)
D. Fry
P. Grenier,
A. Michaud
D. Semple (by proxy)
C. Vega
A. Willems

MEMBERS ABSENT: T. Dalimonte

LIAISONS PRESENT: P. Jekel, Niagara Public Health Representative
B. Kidwai, Ministry of the Environment & Climate Change

LIAISONS ABSENT: B. Baty, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority

STAFF PRESENT: J. Campbell, Supervisor, Special Projects & SWP
D. Gullett, Recording Secretary
E. Navarro, Communications Specialist

OTHERS PRESENT: J. Crowell, Niagara Region
V. Marchuk, Niagara Region

ROLL CALL

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

BUSINESS:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., welcomed everyone and mentioned there were proxies this evening from Mr. Bodimeade to Ms. Bellantino Perco and Mr. Semple to Mr. Bator, therefore the votes are to be recorded. The Chair introduced Veronica Marchuk employed at Niagara Region. She explained currently her role is looking at the impact that climate change may have on public health, and to look at potential cross-linkages between our different mandates.

The Chair requested that if anyone had a conflict of interest to declare it. Mr. Fry had a conflict with Walker Industries regarding the Renewable Energy connection to the distribution in a natural gas system. Mr. Kidwai also has a conflict with Enbridge, and they will both excuse themselves if a conflict arises. The following resolution was then presented.:

SPCR-16-18

MOVED BY: R. Bator
SECONDED BY: A. Michaud.
THAT: the agenda be accepted as presented.

	Yes	No		Yes	No		Yes	No
R. Bator	√		C. Bodimeade	√		D. Fry	√	
P. Grenier	√		A. Michaud	√		D. Semple	√	
C. Vega	√		A. Willems	√				

“CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY”

(1) MINUTES – JUNE 12, 2018 SPC MEETING

The Chair asked if there were any errors or omissions in the minutes of the June 12, 2018 meeting. There being none, the following resolution was then presented:

SPCR-17-18

MOVED BY: C. Vega
SECONDED BY: A. Willems
THAT: the minutes of the Source Protection meeting held June 12, 2018 be received and approved as presented.

	Yes	No		Yes	No		Yes	No
R. Bator	√		C. Bodimeade	√		D. Fry	√	
P. Grenier	√		A. Michaud	√		D. Semple	√	
C. Vega	√		A. Willems	√				

“CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY”

(2) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Mr. Campbell had the following updates:

- a. Item # 6 – The Source Protection Authority will be updating the Source Protection Committees Rules and Procedures this fall, anticipating they will be available for our next meeting in November 2018;
- b. Item # 4 – Additional information on water quality testing for the Port Colborne Vulnerability Score will be covered under Report SPC-11-18;
- c. Item # 5 –Threats analysis supporting adopting pipeline policies will be shown in Report SPC-13-18;
- d. Item # 8 - Schools selected for the Yellow Fish Road Program. Some were within Port Colborne and Niagara Falls intake protection zones, schools from the past that have participated, and the NPCA may request some schools to participate;
- e. Item # 7 – Ms. Croswell is working with the city and the Seaway regarding stormwater emptying into the canal north downstream.

- f. If anyone wants to be involved with the Climate Change Project, spearheaded by Conservation Ontario, please let Mr. Campbell know. They are developing a science-based handbook to conduct climate change vulnerability assessment regarding water quality.

(3) **UPDATES from the:**

CHAIR

The Chair mentioned there is not a lot to update since our last meeting. At the Source Protection Authority (SPA) meeting held on September 19, 2018:

- Mr. Semple was reappointed as the public-at-large representative for the next five years
- The Director of Watershed Management, Mr. Al-Zabet has been delegated authority to issue notices to Niagara Region on behalf of the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority.

There has been no chair's meeting since the provincial election. A letter was sent to Rod Phillips, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) to continue with the good work.

Lastly, the Chair with mixed emotion, thanked Jayme for all the hard work he has done over the last few years as project manager. He will be leaving the NPCA to pursue other professional endeavours. Fortunately, he will continue in this role for the next three months during transition of this position.

PROJECT MANAGER

Mr. Campbell stated we are still awaiting on our Section 36 order from the province, there were some discussions with MECP in July. The SPA has requested a deadline of March 2022 rather than the previous deadline of 2020. This is largely to accommodate additional time needed for stakeholder and public consultation following preparation of an updated Assessment Report and Source Protection Plan.

The Chair previously mentioned the new watershed director, and he sent his regrets for not being able to attend this evening.

In the past, the Chairs and Project Managers met twice a year. Currently no travel is being allowed, so a webinar is being planned to discuss everything in the fall.

Port Colborne updates will be discussed further in the agenda.

Lastly, to reiterate, the SPA will retain Mr. Campbell for the next 3 months during the cross over process for the new employee.

MECP LIAISON OFFICER

Mr. Kidwai said the Chair and Mr. Campbell have covered most of his comments. The Minister did receive our Section 36, and will be discussing with the Director, and / or Deputy Minister. Our work plan was submitted, and we are funded to do the work just awaiting the order, so continue with the work.

The Ministry will be flooded with the other sixteen Source Protection Areas due to submit their Section 36 this November.

Section 34 is not only an update, it is a process of notice which must to be given before a permit to take water can be approved. Ms. Vega inquired about a timeline for Section 34, and Mr. Kidwai responded they are seeking anything technical be directed to the Minister.

Climate Change is also a subject a lot of Conservation Areas are concerned about. Currently there is no indication of removing climate change, the branch is still working on the priorities they were working on previously.

MEMBER – WALKER’S LUNCH & LEARN

Mr. Fry commented a lunch and learn was held in June at Walker Industries was quite successful. The group was very engaged especially with the game aspect as they were all very competitive. A different way to communicate the education and outreach aspect of where our drinking water comes from.

He received a lot of good feedback about what the SPC does and how we go about the conclusions this committee comes to. Any other groups we think would be interested let him know and he will reach out to them.

(4) PORT COLBORNE VULNERABILITY SCORE – REPORT SPC-11-18

Mr. Campbell stated he would like the committees feedback on the report and the presentation. The following comments, concerns were discussed:

- The Region provided NPCA raw (lake-water) weekly water quality data (2010 to 2017) and the Chair stated e-coli detections on both tables show a downward trend.
- Mr. Semple had concerns regarding what constitutes enough microbial history of water quality concerns?
- The charts on pages 2 and 3 showed e-coli concentrations over time in relation to recreational standards. Does the use of recreational standard imply that the water at the intake is safe for swimming and bathing for all age levels? Mr. Jekel responded the standard is set encompassing the whole population. These are based on not drinking water, but you may swallow some while swimming.
- Were any tests carried out before and after storm events? Mr. Campbell didn't find any evidence of peak concentrations related to storm events.
- Focusing on e-coli are there any other indicators other than e-coli? Ms. Croswell responded there are a number of other parameters sampled by the Region.

Mr. Campbell mentioned the only policy to be implemented is Port Colborne stormwater management due the end of September. The following resolution was presented:

SPCR-18-18

MOVED BY: R. Bator

SECONDED BY: D. Fry

THAT: the source vulnerability factor for the Port Colborne intake not be changed.

	Yes	No		Yes	No		Yes	No
R. Bator	√		C. Bodimeade	√		D. Fry	√	
P. Grenier	√		A. Michaud	√		D. Semple	√	
C. Vega	√		A. Willems	√				

“CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY”

(5) TRANSPORTATION POLICIES – REPORT NO. SPC-12-18

Mr. Campbell said as a refresher, during the Section 36 workplan, stakeholders expressed concern with the existing Source Protection Plan policies were insufficient to address diesel and gasoline threats, as well as the need to address transportation of hazardous materials not currently ranked as significant drinking water threats.

Mr. Campbell advised in the future it is expected to initiate a working group to assist in the development and final writing of the policies.

Mr. Bator questioned how to control if the threat is on a federal highway. Mr. Kidwai explained the Ministry will continue to try and engage CN Rail and Transport Canada.

Mr. Willems asked what would be classified as dangerous material? Mr. Campbell said it is identified by toxicology. Any way to inform that this type of material is travelling over these highways? Mr. Kidwai responded the spills action centre is involved using source water provincially, and he will try to find out if Transport Canada contacts the MTO. The following resolution was presented:

SPCR-19-18

MOVED BY: A. Michaud

SECONDED BY: R. Bator

THAT: the Source Protection Committee receive this report and provide additional recommendations for transportation threat policies.

	Yes	No		Yes	No		Yes	No
R. Bator	√		C. Bodimeade	√		D. Fry	√	
P. Grenier	√		A. Michaud	√		D. Semple	√	
C. Vega	√		A. Willems	√				

“CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY”

(6) OIL PIPELINE POLICIES – REPORT SPC-13-18

Mr. Campbell stated this is the second report with regards to policy directives for future consideration in the development of updated Source Protection Plan for application to the Line 10 Oil Pipeline drinking water threat.

Mr. Grenier inquired about the risk of replacing the pipeline, and the Chair responded the presentation Enbridge did contained a lot of risk management plans and integrity digs.

Mr. Fry commented we are assuming the oil is moving similar to diesel, and the modelling is based on diesel, not bitumen. Mr. Campbell will share with Enbridge the information we have and get their comments, on the knowledge of their product. The following resolution was presented:

SPCR-20-18

MOVED BY: P. Grenier

SECONDED BY: A. Willems

THAT: the Source Protection Committee receive the policy directives outlined in this report for future consideration in an update of the Source Protection Plan and provide comments on modelling provided.

	Yes	No		Yes	No		Yes	No
R. Bator	√		C. Bodimeade	√		D. Fry	√	
P. Grenier	√		A. Michaud	√		D. Semple	√	
C. Vega	√		A. Willems	√				

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(7) MUNICIPAL UPDATE – REPORT SPC-14-18

This report outlines the four municipal water treatment plants planning to have changes made to their intake locations and / or intake protection zones. These changes will require updates to the Assessment Report and in some cases the Source Protection Plan. The timelines are there if a Section 34 is required.

Staff will be seeking approval at the September Full Authority meeting for the Source Protection Authority to be able to directly provide the SPA Notice at a staff level. The following resolution was presented:

SPCR-21-18

MOVED BY: C. Vega

SECONDED BY: A. Willems

THAT: the Source Protection Committee receive this report.

	Yes	No		Yes	No		Yes	No
R. Bator	√		C. Bodimeade	√		D. Fry	√	
P. Grenier	√		A. Michaud	√		D. Semple	√	
C. Vega	√		A. Willems	√				

“CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY”

(8) COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE – REPORT SPC-15-18

Ms. Navarro stated this report provides the committee with a summary of the communication initiatives that have taken place since the last meeting.

The NPCA’s communications team collaborated with the Environmental Management Program at Niagara College to create a communications plan that will increase general awareness of Source Water Protection.

A survey was conducted from June 1st to August 18th “Tell us what you know about your drinking water” and 58 people participated. Mr. Fry commented the survey required each participant to create an account. Ease of use may have had more people complete the survey. Mr. Willems inquired if this was a totally random survey, and Ms. Navarro responded the majority of respondents were from the education sector and female.

Ms. Navarro also mentioned there is a booth available for source water protection if anyone is interested in manning this at the Ball’s Falls Thanksgiving Festival. The following resolution was presented:

SPCR-22-18

MOVED BY: A. Michaud

SECONDED BY: D. Fry

THAT: the Report SPC-15-18 be received for information.

	Yes	No		Yes	No		Yes	No
R. Bator	√		C. Bodimeade	√		D. Fry	√	
P. Grenier	√		A. Michaud	√		D. Semple	√	
C. Vega	√		A. Willems	√				

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(9) OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Grenier mentioned the Insurance Bureau has funded chairs at the University of Waterloo and University of Western Ontario to open a centre focusing on climate change, and suggested we include them in our mailing list to reach out to them.

The next meeting will include education and outreach on the agenda, as there are many different outlets to communicate this.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:06 pm.
 The following resolution was presented:

SPCR-23-18

MOVED BY: P. Grenier

SECONDED BY: A. Willems

THAT: this meeting do now adjourn.

	Yes	No		Yes	No		Yes	No
R. Bator	√		C. Bodimeade	√		D. Fry	√	
P. Grenier	√		A. Michaud	√		D. Semple	√	
C. Vega	√		A. Willems	√				

“CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY”

“D. Gullett, Recording Secretary

M. Bellantino Perco, Chair”