

NIAGARA PENINSULA SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

NIAGARA PENINSULA

February 10, 2009

7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: M. Bellantino Perco

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

LIAISONS ABSENT:

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

OTHERS PRESENT: D. Barrow, Niagara Region

ROLL CALL

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

BUSINESS:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m., thanked the members for attending and requested that if anyone had a conflict of interest to declare it. There being none, the following resolution was then presented.

SPCR-07-09

MOVED BY: D. Renshaw

SECONDED BY: D. Ostryhon

THAT: The agenda be accepted as presented.

“CARRIED”

(1) **MINUTES – JANUARY 6, 2009 SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE MEETING**

Robert Bator commented he would like more detail included in the minutes regarding concerns he had voiced about the Ambient Groundwater Report. The Chair advised this could be discussed further under *Business Arising from the Minutes*. It was also noted that the title should read Ambient Groundwater Quality Report on item # 6. The following resolution was then presented.

SPCR-08-09

MOVED BY: D. Ricker

SECONDED BY: E. Schneider

THAT: The minutes of the Source Protection Committee meeting held January 6, 2009 be received and approved as amended.

“CARRIED”

(2) **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Robert Bator stated he had a list of comments concerning the Ambient Groundwater Quality Report that he would like to provide to the committee. The Chair requested Mr. Bator type out the list of comments and submit them to the Chair in order to be included in the next meeting agenda. Brian Wright requested the consultant who had prepared the report be given time to respond to any comments before they are provided to the committee, otherwise it would not be fair to the consultant.

With regards to the per diem rates, Brian Baty strongly recommended that the SPC's rates do not exceed the amount received by the NPCA.

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

Brian Wright discussed the proposed schedule for the review of technical reports which the committee has to complete. He mentioned the IPZ-3 reports for the April meeting may be delayed. Stantec are currently meeting their deadlines, so the submission of reports to the committee should be on time. The Lake Ontario Collaborative (LOC) is expected to provide a work plan next week for completing the threats / issues, risk assessment, and IPZ-3 tasks for the Grimsby intake.

The Chair and NPCA staff are meeting with the MOE on February 11, 2009 to discuss the work plan and timelines for developing the Assessment Report.

It was proposed that meetings remain the second Tuesday of the month. The Chair mentioned we are on a tight schedule, and if there is no quorum the meeting will be rescheduled for that same month.

(4) **REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) – REPORT NO. SPC-03-09**

The committee received a copy of the letter from the Minister regarding the proposed Terms of Reference. The Chair spoke to the Ministry of Environment (MOE) reviewers

who commented the ToR was straight forward and easy to review. Maeve McHugh also said the MOE was pleased with the ToR submittal. The revised ToR is to be resubmitted by 28 February 2009 amending the Assigned Lead(s) from 'Lake Ontario Collaborative Study (LOCS) Group' to 'Regional Municipality of Niagara and Niagara Peninsula Source Protection Authority'. The following resolution was then presented.

SPCR-09-09

MOVED BY: T. Rigby

SECONDED BY: B. Antonsen

THAT: The Source Protection Committee approve the recommended amendments to the Terms of Reference (ToR) as presented in this report.

“CARRIED”

(5) WELLAND WTP SURFACE WATER VULNERABILITY STUDY – REPORT NO. SPC-4-09

Committee members went through the peer review document and made the following observations / comments in the Peer Review Table:

- 1.1 “Niagara Peninsula Source Protection Region” should read “Niagara ... Area”
- 2.3 MOE stated the modified Welland IPZ-1 (which extends 175 m downstream of the intake) is acceptable under the current rules.
- 2.5 “No recommended action” should be inserted in the *NPCA Recommended Actions* column when there is no action currently provided.
- 2.8 The issue concerning how water might flow from the Welland River to the Welland Recreational Canal was described. This event can only occur if a flood in the river occurs when the Seaway Authority has dropped the water level in the Canal for their winter maintenance. A consultant may be retained to re-examine the probability of this event occurring. Robert Bator commented the Seaway does not lower the water level every year. Glen Hudgin asked if the Seaway Authority notifies the Water Treatment Plant before they lower the canal water level for maintenance. Deanna will check into this.
- 3.5 It was recommended that the vulnerability score remain at 7.0

David Renshaw asked if the City of Welland reviewed this report. Deanna Barrow replied that presentations were made to municipalities and they all should be aware of the report. It was agreed that when the final amendments are complete, the reports should be sent to the municipality.

SPCR-10-09

MOVED BY: R. Bator

SECONDED BY: D. Renshaw

THAT: The report “Regional Municipality of Niagara Source Protection Technical Study, Welland Water Treatment Plant”, by Stantec Consulting Ltd. and dated August 2008 (concerning the intake surface water vulnerability), subject to the actions recommended by the NPCA, be accepted by the source protection committee; and

That the 'Peer Review Record' for this report, be accepted as amended by the source protection committee.

“CARRIED”

(6) NIAGARA FALLS WTP SURFACE WATER VULNERABILITY STUDY – REPORT NO. SPC-5-09

Committee members went through the peer review and made the following observations / comments:

- 1.1 “Niagara Peninsula Source Protection Region” should read “Niagara ... Area”
- 2.1 Robert Bator would like to see the Niagara River classified as a Type A (Great Lakes) intake instead of a Type B (Great Lakes Connecting Channel) intake. Maeve McHugh suggested referring to the definitions in the Assessment Report Technical Rules. The Assessment Report Technical Rules define the Niagara River as a Great Lakes Connecting Channel.
- 2.1 David Renshaw questioned the Assessment Report Rules concerning the Great Lakes and International waters, dealing with risk factors and uncertainty which are not under our control. It was decided, these concerns should be stated in the Executive Summary at the beginning of the report.
- 2.9 “Chippawa Canal” should read Chippawa Channel.
- 2.11 David Renshaw asked why wind velocity impacts were not simulated in the flow model compared to the Welland report. NPCA will ask for clarification from Stantec.
- 3.2 David Renshaw questioned the area vulnerability factor being set at 7. He thought it could be raised based on the number of industrial and storm sewer outfalls around the intake. It was noted that Figure 4.1 should show storm sewer outlets.

Brian Wright suggested that after reports for all six Water Treatment Plant intakes are reviewed, we can then check the consistency of the vulnerability scores.

SPCR-11-09

MOVED BY: D. Renshaw

SECONDED BY: C. Shrive

THAT: The report “Regional Municipality of Niagara Source Protection Technical Study, Niagara Falls Water Treatment Plant”, by Stantec Consulting Ltd. and dated August 2008 (concerning the intake surface water vulnerability), subject to the actions recommended by the NPCA, be accepted by the source protection committee; and

That the 'Peer Review Record' for this report be accepted as amended by the source protection committee.

“CARRIED with one opposed”

(7) UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair passed around literature on a Private Well Seminar for members who may be interested in attending.

The Province has requested Stakeholder Consultation for the Drinking Water Stewardship Program. Various committee members, Niagara Region, and NPCA were asked to collect input from stakeholders on how the Drinking Water Stewardship Program should be restructured. Funding under this program is only available for four years. The Chair indicated he would like to get the responses back by the end of February.

(8) OTHER BUSINESS

The Chair will raise the issue of per diems at the March Source Protection Authority meeting, as he is unable to attend the previous meeting.

Future SPC meetings will be posted on the website.

Brian Wright noted that the Surface Water Vulnerability Reports for Decew and Port Colborne water treatment plant intakes are available for committee members to pick up after the meeting, so they can get a head start reviewing them. Members should bring these two reports with them for the March 10 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

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

SPCR-12-09

MOVED BY: T. Rigby

SECONDED BY: C. Shrive

THAT: This meeting does now adjourn.

Received at 9:16 p.m. "CARRIED"

"D. Gullett, Recording Secretary

M. Neufeld, Chair"