

Ministry of the Environment
and Climate Change

Ministère de l'Environnement et de
l'Action en matière de changement
climatique



Office of the Minister

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Mr. Michael Traynor
Chair, Source Protection Committee
c/o Grey Sauble Conservation
237897 Inglis Falls Road, RR#4,
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Mr. Luke Charbonneau
Chair, Saugeen Valley Source
Protection Authority
c/o Saugeen Valley Conservation
1078 Bruce Rd. 12
P.O. Box 150
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Mr. Milt McIver
Chair, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Authority
c/o Grey Sauble Conservation Authority
237897 Inglis Falls Road, RR#4,
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Mr. Dick Hibma
Chair, Grey Sauble Source Protection Authority
Grey Sauble Conservation
237897 Inglis Falls Road, RR#4,
Owen Sound ON N4K 5N6

Dear Mr. Traynor, Mr. Charbonneau, Mr. McIver and Mr. Hibma:

It is a pleasure to inform you that the review of the source protection plans for the Saugeen Valley, Grey Sauble and Northern Bruce Peninsula source protection areas, developed under the Clean Water Act, 2006, has been completed. Pursuant to section 29 of the Clean Water Act, I approve the source protection plans for the Saugeen Valley, Grey Sauble and Northern Bruce Peninsula source protection areas.

Following today's approval of the plans, in order to allow time to prepare for implementation, the Saugeen Valley, Grey Sauble and Northern Bruce Peninsula source protection plans will take effect on July 1, 2016.

I appreciate the efforts undertaken by the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula source protection committee, the three source protection authorities and all stakeholders to assess and develop a plan to protect drinking water sources in your community. Thank you for all your hard work, leadership and commitment.

Your community is to be commended on reaching this important milestone. This is an example of the local, inclusive, community-based approach envisioned by the Clean Water Act. The province has been pleased to support the assessment and development of these source protection plans for the areas within the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula source protection region with an investment of \$11.1 million since 2004. An additional \$1.7 million was provided within the region under the Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program for voluntary measures taken to protect the municipal drinking water sources. As part of your submission letter you outlined the importance of provincial funding to support the implementation of source protection plan policies. I am pleased to have provided \$1.8 million in implementation funding to municipalities in the source protection region.

Under section 36 of the Clean Water Act, when a source protection plan is approved, an order must also be given that governs the review of the plan. Pursuant to clauses 36 (1) (c) and (d), and as an initial step in the development of detailed requirements to govern the plans' review, the lead source protection authority for the region (Saugeen Valley source protection authority) shall prepare and submit a workplan to the ministry. The workplan shall propose the detailed steps for the review of the plans, including which portions of the plans are to be reviewed, the timeframes for each step of the review, the consultation that would be undertaken as part of the review, and rationale for each step. A summary of how the workplan was developed shall also be included. The workplan shall be developed in consultation with the source protection committee, participating municipalities of the source protection areas, other source protection authorities for the region, and the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change.

The development of the workplan must take into consideration any experience that has been gained from implementing the source protection plans and information from the first annual progress reports on plan implementation (due May 1, 2019). Accordingly, the workplan shall be submitted to the ministry no later than November 30, 2019. Once the workplan is submitted and reviewed by the ministry, and following any further consultation that the ministry considers advisable, a further order can be issued under section 36 that specifies more detailed requirements outlining the content and timeframes that will govern the review of the Saugeen Valley, Grey Sauble and Northern Bruce Peninsula source protection plans.

The committee has included a number of policies in the plans that request the province create or modify programs, or introduce new legislation. The province appreciates the advice of the source protection committee on how it may further protect drinking water sources. The province is analysing how to best achieve these kinds of policy objectives across all source protection plans. The results of this analysis will be communicated to the Saugeen Valley source protection authority when the province reports on its implementation of policies in the plans.

It is my understanding that the committee is currently consulting on new technical work and associated policies for event-based areas that address fuel spills, and expects to submit this new work to the ministry for review in March 2016. I look forward to receiving these amendments and I would like these to align with the July 1, 2016 effective date.

With your commitment, significant progress has been made in source protection and the province looks forward to continuing to work with you and all stakeholders to protect drinking water.

Once again, thank you for your work to protect Ontario's source waters, and please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,



Glen Murray
Minister

- c: Paul Evans, Deputy Minister, Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change
- Sue Lo, Assistant Deputy Minister, DWMD, Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change
- Heather Malcolmson, Director, SPPB, Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change
- Carl Seider, Project Manager, Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Region
- Bill Jones, Chief Administrative Officer, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Authority
- Wayne Brohman, General Manager, Saugeen Conservation
- John Cottrill, Chief Administrative Officer, Grey Sauble Conservation Authority

