

## **SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES – MEETING #34**

**MEETING:** SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

**DATE:** FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 2011

**TIME:** 9:30 A.M.

**LOCATION:** GREY COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, OWEN SOUND

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Mike Traynor called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**In Attendance:** Chair, Mike Traynor  
Lou D'Alessandro, Bruce Davidson, Carolyn Day, Robert Emerson, Ken Furlong, Kathie Hughes, Mark Kraemer, Brent Lanktree, Les MacKinnon, Les Nichols, Carolyn Parker, Dale Thompson, Mitch Twolan

**Others Present:** Teresa McLellan, Ex-officio, Ministry of the Environment (MOE)  
Robert Reid, Ex-officio member, Grey-Bruce Health Unit  
Don Smith, Project Manager, Drinking Water Source Protection (DWSP)  
Nancy Guest, Recording Secretary, DWSP

**Also in Attendance:** Bill Jones, CAO, Northern Bruce Peninsula  
David Ellingwood, Program Supervisor, DWSP  
Brian Luinstra, Hydrogeologist, DWSP  
Thorsten Arnold, Technical Supervisor, DWSP  
Sara Pickard, Water Quality Technician, DWSP  
Stacey den Haan, Communications Specialist, DWSP  
Elly Ward, Outreach Specialist, DWSP  
Emily Vandermeulen, GIS Specialist, DWSP  
John Ritchie, MOE, Owen Sound Office

**Regrets:** David Biesenthal, Bill Twaddle

The Chair introduced and welcomed Arlene Wright, Warden of the County of Grey, Lance Thurston, CAO of Grey County, Bill Jones, CAO of Northern Bruce Peninsula, John Bainbridge, Deputy Mayor of Northern Bruce Peninsula, Betsy Stewart, Councillor of Northern Bruce Peninsula, Audrey Holden, Lands & Resources Consultation Coordinator for the Historic Saugeen Metis and John Ritchie of the Owen Sound Office of the MOE.

Warden Wright extended her greetings to the Committee on behalf of the County of Grey and stressed the importance of clean water as an absolute necessity.

**1. Adoption of Agenda**

**Motion No.  
SPC-11-131**

**Moved by Carolyn Day  
Seconded by Les Nichols**

**THAT the Agenda be adopted as distributed.**

**Carried**

**2. Declaration of Pecuniary or Conflict of Interest**

Committee members were reminded to disclose any pecuniary interest that may arise during the course of the meeting. No disclosures of pecuniary interest were expressed at this time.

**3. Adoption of Minutes**

**Motion No.  
SPC-11-132**

**Moved by Ken Furlong  
Seconded by Mark Kraemer**

**THAT the Minutes of the November 26, 2010 Source Protection Committee meeting be adopted as distributed.**

**Carried**

Kathie Hughes arrived at 9:40 a.m.

**4. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

**Tritiated Deuterium (Tritium) Update**

The Project Manager reviewed the letter recently received from the Director of the Source Protection Programs Branch dated January 26, 2011. The Director's letter indicated that tritium can be designated as a moderate or low threat. The MOE liaison outlined the three methods of measuring threats: the scoring approach; the modeling approach; and the issues approach. The SPC must decide if it wishes to model tritium. If the model shows that tritium could be reaching an intake at a level of concern, it could be considered a significant threat and designated as such. If added as a threat, it would be considered a local threat as it does not exist in every watershed. Staff will investigate this issue and prepare a report for the next SPC meeting in February.

Mitch Twolan and Robert Emerson arrived at 9:45 a.m.

### Nutrient Management Training

The Administrative Assistant advised that approximately twenty people have been registered for an online self-directed course offered by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA). Of the three courses offered, it was determined that the course focusing on the regulations and protocols of the *Nutrient Management Act* (NMA) would be the most appropriate in the development and writing of Source Protection policies. Names, addresses and email addresses have been provided to OMAFRA and when registration is complete, a link will be emailed to each participant and written material will be mailed. A phone number will be provided for assistance during participation.

### Plastic Pellets in Lake Huron:

The MOE liaison advised that all pellet manufacturers on the Canadian side of Lake Huron have been contacted and the spillage compared to their respective products and no match was made. The manufacturer of the spilled pellets has not been identified. The MOE will keep the SPC apprised of any developments.

## **5. Correspondence**

Letter from Ian Smith dated December 20, 2010 respecting the Saugeen Updated Assessment Report Workplan was **noted and filed**.

Letter from Ian Smith dated December 20, 2010 respecting the Grey Sauble Updated Assessment Report Workplan was **noted and filed**.

Letter from Ian Smith dated December 20, 2010 respecting the Northern Bruce Peninsula Updated Assessment Report Workplan was **noted and filed**.

The Project Manager explained that three types of tasks were identified in the above letters: 1) Updated Tasks; 2) Amended Tasks; and, 3) Out-of-Scope Tasks. Out-of-Scope tasks may not be possible to complete by the deadline. Items will be submitted under these categories after existing information has been evaluated.

Letter from Ian Smith dated January 7, 2011 respecting completion of the Assessment Report was **noted and filed**.

The Project Manager advised that this letter is reminding municipalities of the status of the Assessment Reports. Some municipalities extend into different Source Protection Areas and Source Protection Regions. There is a possibility that municipalities could have a part of their jurisdiction within an approved Assessment Report before other parts. Assistance is available from DWSP if municipalities contact any of the municipal representatives on the SPC.

Letter from Ian Smith dated January 26, 2011 respecting tritium was **noted and filed**.

## **6. Reports**

### **Administration Report**

The Project Manager reviewed Report 6a and advised that Saugeen Valley Conservation moved its administration offices on January 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011 to the new Formosa location. Discussions were held at the Chairs and Project Managers meeting respecting pre-consultation with all the parties involved in planning. A pre-consultation plan will be prepared and risk management training available for candidates submitted by municipalities.

### **Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program**

The Outreach Specialist, reviewed Report 6b and advised that the Early Actions program has ended. 109 projects were completed between 2007 and the end of 2010 and applicant files are currently in the process of being completed. The MOE officially announced the Early Response program, which replaces Early Actions. The Early Response Technical Review Committee had its first meeting with two new members. Filling two existing vacancies on the committee will be discussed at the next meeting.

### **Communications**

The Communications Specialist reviewed Report 6c and advised that Farmers' Week at Elmwood was a success with a variety of attendees interested in the program. After attending a meeting in December 2010 as a community representative on the Walkerton District Secondary School Local Community Steering Committee for the Specialist High Skills Major Program, the Communications Specialist advised that approximately 30-35 students are interested in this environment-related program. Municipalities will be including DWSP information in their newsletters distributed with tax or water bills, as they are able. DWSP now has Facebook and Twitter feeds. Links are available on the website: [www.waterprotection.ca](http://www.waterprotection.ca). The Chair met the new Minister of the Environment, John Wilkinson, who was involved in drafting the *Clean Water Act*.

### **Technical Report**

The Technical Supervisor review Report 6d and advised that the tasks outlined in the report were being dealt with.

**The Committee took a break from 10:55 a.m. to 11:17 a.m.**

## **7. New Business**

### **Early Response Procedures Report**

The Program Supervisor reviewed Report 7a and advised that over \$400,000 has been allocated to this Region for the Early Response program. Procedures were set in place for the Early Actions program and some issues will be fine-tuned for Early Response. Not everyone who was

eligible for Early Actions will be eligible for Early Response. Applicants must meet the criteria for a significant drinking water threat. There will be five different deadlines for submitting applications.

#### WHPA-E presentation

The Technical Supervisor gave a powerpoint presentation showing the WHPA-E delineations in the Region. This is part of the outstanding work being included in the Updated Assessment Report.

### **8. Other Business**

#### Municipal Council & Officials Workshop

The Project Manager advised that a workshop is being held on Friday, March 11, 2011 for municipal council members, municipal CAOs, conservation authority boards and the SPC in the Region. This workshop will cover the implementation of the Source Protection Plan, Risk Management Officers and an overall view of Source Protection.

**The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:10 p.m. and reconvened at 1:15 p.m.**

### **7. New Business**

#### Agricultural Source Materials

The Communications Specialist gave a powerpoint presentation respecting the application and storage of agricultural source materials as a drinking water threat.

#### Non-agricultural Source Materials

The Chair deferred this item to the next meeting.

#### Proposed Amendments to Nutrient Management Act

The Project Manager reviewed Report 7b and introduced SPC member, Les Nichols, to inform the meeting of the issue. Les Nichols advised that his motion proposes to have the SPC request that OMAFRA amend the NMA.

**Motion No.  
SPC-11-133**

**Moved by Mitch Twolan  
Seconded by Ken Furlong**

**WHEREAS** the nineteen Source Protection Committees across Ontario are now developing policies to deal with the twenty-one prescribed threats to drinking water as specified in the Provincial Table of Drinking Water Threats;

**AND WHEREAS** six of those twenty-one threats deal with the application, storage or management of Agricultural Source Material (ASM) or Non-Agricultural Source Material (NASM) and/or the use of land as livestock grazing or pasture land;

**AND WHEREAS** the *Nutrient Management Act* (NMA) with its requirements for Nutrient Management Strategies/Plans was created following the Walkerton Water Crisis specifically to deal with minimizing the risk of agricultural contaminants impacting on source water;

**AND WHEREAS** it is an objective of the Source Protection policy development process to utilize existing legislation whenever possible to minimize threats to drinking water in vulnerable areas;

**AND WHEREAS** the present NMA under Reg. 267/03 Part IV limits requirements for approved Nutrient Management Strategies/Plans to operations requiring building permits for livestock facilities or/and operations over 300 nutrient units (NU) therefore minimizing the ability to deal with these agricultural threats in vulnerable areas;

**THEREFORE** the Source Protection Committee for Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula requests that the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) amend the *Nutrient Management Act* to allow for the requirement of an approved Nutrient Management Strategy/Plan for livestock operations with over five NUs in vulnerable areas within Wellhead Protection Areas and Intake Protection Zones;

**AND FURTHER THAT** this resolution to be forwarded to the OMAFRA Nutrient Management Branch, the Ontario Minister of Agriculture and the Ontario Minister of the Environment;

**AND FURTHER THAT** the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Committee endorses this resolution;

**AND FURTHER THAT** the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Committee will circulate this resolution to all Source Protection Committees in Ontario for their support.

**Carried**

Proposed Amendments to Environmental Farm Plan (EFP)

The Project Manager reviewed Report 7c and introduced SPC member, Les Nichols, to inform the meeting of the issue. Les Nichols advised that his motion proposes to have the SPC request that the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA) and EFP staff discuss the amendment of the EFP program with MOE and Source Water Protection staff.

**Motion No.  
SPC-11-134**

**Moved by Ken Furlong  
Seconded by Les Nichols**

**WHEREAS** the nineteen Source Protection Committees across Ontario are now developing policies to deal with the twenty-one prescribed threats to drinking water as specified in the Provincial Table of Drinking Water Threats;

**AND WHEREAS** fourteen of those twenty-one threats involve activities that are carried out on farms across Ontario;

**AND WHEREAS** the Ontario Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) program is an excellent tool to evaluate these threats on Ontario farms;

**AND WHEREAS** the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) presently will not recognize EFP as a usable option because it is voluntary and confidential;

**AND WHEREAS** there will be some farm operations within designated vulnerable areas of Wellhead Protection Areas (WHPA) and Intake Protection Zones (IPZ) pursuant to the *Clean Water Act* that will be required to produce "Risk Assessment Plans";

**AND WHEREAS** the present EFP process could stay technically unchanged with the addition of a "sign-off" system that would allow those operations requiring "Risk Assessment Plans" to utilize their EFP as that "Risk Assessment Tool & Plan";

**AND WHEREAS** this would potentially greatly reduce the cost of creating the Risk Assessment Plan and utilize an existing, recognized, proven program developed specifically for agriculture;

**THEREFORE** the Source Protection Committee for Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula requests that Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA) and EFP staff consult and negotiate with MOE/Source Water Protection staff to make modifications to the EFP program to make it an acceptable "Assessment and Action Plan" for agricultural operations located in vulnerable areas within Wellhead Protection Areas and Intake Protection Zones.

**AND FURTHER THAT** this resolution to be forwarded to OSCIA, the Ontario Minister of Agriculture and the Ontario Minister of the Environment.

**AND FURTHER THAT** the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Committee endorses this resolution.

**AND FURTHER THAT** the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Water Protection Committee will circulate this resolution to all Source Water Protection Committees in Ontario for their support.

**Carried**

#### Source Protection Plan Background Information Binder

The Outreach Specialist gave a powerpoint presentation informing the SPC of the availability of a common source of information and resources for the Source Protection planning process to



assist the SPC in understanding drinking water threats. Background resources and documents, correspondence, MOE materials, background information, slide shows and more related to discussions on policy development are available to members through the website as well as a binder located in the DWSP office. The Project Manager encouraged members to access the information often and review the up-to-date material before each meeting. The Outreach Specialist is available for assistance.

#### PCB Discussion

The Geologist advised that the federal government considers polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) a toxic substance, which would qualify it for virtual elimination. The provincial government regulates the storage, handling and disposal of PCBs. It is unlikely that there are any PCB activities in this Region as storage must be recorded and reported. Goals have been set to eliminate 90% of the use of PCBs and destroy 50%; however, these goals have not been met. Source Water deals solely with disposal and waste material and there are no disposal sites in Ontario. Older transformers may contain PCBs. The new transformers that are replacing the previous transformers do not contain PCBs.

Mitch Twolan excused himself from the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

#### Policy Development Matrix

The Project Manager advised that activities in vulnerable areas can be managed or prohibited and Staff will need direction on which course to take. The Program Supervisor gave a slide presentation outlining the various approaches to policy development. It was decided that Staff will prepare more specific policy tactics for the next SPC meeting.

#### Septic: Identify Goals/Set Criteria

The Chair deferred this item to the next meeting.

#### DNAPLs: Identify Goals/Set Criteria

The Chair deferred this item to the next meeting.

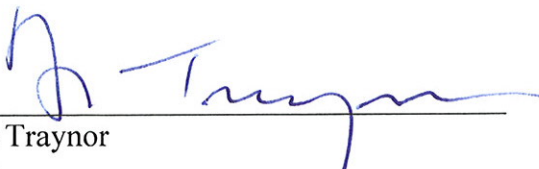
### **9. Other Business**

There was no other business.

### **10. Confirmation of Next Meeting and Adjournment**

The next Committee meeting will be held on Friday, February 25, 2011 at the Grey County Council Chambers, 595 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue East, Owen Sound, Ontario.

There being no further business, Lou D'Alessandro made a motion to adjourn at 3:15 p.m.

  
Mike Traynor  
Chair

  
Nancy Guest  
Recording Secretary