

# SAUGEEN, GREY SAUBLE, NORTHERN BRUCE PENINSULA SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE MEETING #83

## AGENDA

Friday, July 24, 2020 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Teleconference call: #1-833-832-9004 Port Elgin Local 519-832-9004 Participant I.D. #00061

#### CALL TO ORDER

- 1. Adoption of Agenda
- 2. Declaration of Pecuniary or Conflict of Interest
- 3. Adoption of Minutes of March 27, 2020 meeting
- 4. Matters Arising from the Minutes
- 5. Correspondence
  - Letter from Erin Harkins, MECP, dated July 8, 2020 respecting early engagement comments
- 6. Reports
  - Administration Report Report 6a attached
  - Communications Report Report 6b attached
- 7. New Business
  - Proposed Source Protection Plan Amendments, Road Salt Report 7a attached
  - Proposed Source Protection Plan Amendment, East Linton EBA Report 7b attached
- 8. Other Business
- 9. Next Meeting and Adjournment



## SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

**MINUTES - MEETING #82** 

MEETING: SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

DATE: FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2020

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

LOCATION: TELECONFERENCE

**CALL TO ORDER** 

The Chair, Bill Twaddle, called the meeting to order at 1:50 p.m.

In Attendance: Chair, Bill Twaddle

Bruce Davidson, Stan Eby, John Fruin, Angela Newman, Les Nichols, Tara

Saab, Gord Timmerman and Jim Uram

Others Present: Tea Pescheva, Ex-officio, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and

Parks (MECP)

Carl Seider, Project Manager, Drinking Water Source Protection (DWSP)

Nancy Guest, Recording Secretary, DWSP

Also in Attendance: Dick Hibma, Interim General Manager, Saugeen Conservation

Karen Gillan, Program Supervisor/Communications Planner, DWSP

Regrets: Dennis Kefalas, Mitch Twolan, Robert Emerson

Proxy Appointed By: Robert Emerson to Les Nichols

Adoption of Agenda

Motion No. Moved by Bruce Davidson SPC-20-295 Seconded by Les Nichols

THAT the Agenda be adopted as distributed.

Carried

## 1. Disclosure of Pecuniary or Conflict of Interest

Source Protection Committee (SPC) 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.

## 1. Adoption of Minutes

Motion No. SPC-20- 296

Moved by Jim Uram Seconded by Stan Eby

THAT the Minutes of the October 25, 2019 Source Protection Committee meeting be adopted as distributed.

#### Carried

## 2. Matters Arising from the Minutes

No matters arose from the previous minutes.

## 3. Correspondence

Letter from Lake Erie Source Protection Region dated January 17, 2020 respecting winter maintenance chemicals was noted and filed. Discussions followed including the need to review this issue more closely. Winter chemicals versus just road salt is a distinction of note. The workplan for this Source Protection Region mentions salt but not to the same scale as in the Lake Erie Region study. In the future, local salt levels could increase as evidenced by the Lake Erie Region study with increased development.

Letter from Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) dated January 21, 2020 respecting Section 36 Workplan approval was **noted and filed.** 

Letter from MECP dated February 18, 2020 respecting the *Clean Water Act* review was **noted and filed.** 

Further discussions respecting the Lake Erie Region letter resulted in a motion being put forward to share this information with this Region's municipalities.

Motion No. SPC-20-297

Moved by Jim Uram Seconded by John Fruin

THAT the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Drinking Water Source Protection Committee receives the letter from the Lake Erie Source Protection Region dated January 17, 2020 and directs Drinking Water Source Protection Staff to forward this information to all municipalities in this Source Protection Region, including the upper-tier municipalities.

#### Carried

Further discussions of this matter resulted in another motion from the floor.

Motion No. SPC-20-298

Moved by Bruce Davidson Seconded by Jim Uram

THAT the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Committee supports the recommended actions set out in the aforementioned Lake Erie Source

Protection Region letter respecting "Winter Maintenance Chemicals: Challenges and Opportunities".

### Carried

### 4. Reports

## Administration Report 6a

The Project Manager reviewed Report 6a and advised that Keley Katona has recently been appointed Director of the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) Source Protection Programs Branch. Tea Pescheva is the new MECP Liaison Officer for this Region replacing Olga Yudina. Tea Pescheva shared her Source Protection Programs Branch experience and mentioned that she looks forward to working with the committee and more good work in the future for this Region. Chair Twaddle welcomed Tea and mentioned that he looks forward to great relationships continuing with MECP.

The Project Manager continued with the report highlighting the budget section and staffing breakdown for 2020/2021. Budget discussions with MECP have gone well so far and Tea agreed that she was not expecting a delay in approval of budget.

The Project Manager went on to mention the Climate Change Risk Assessment Tool on which he received training, which enables users to quantitatively assess climate change impacts on drinking water systems. The tool can then be used to help decision-makers (i.e. municipalities) to prioritize efforts to address future climate change impacts.

## Communications Report 6b

The Communications Planner reviewed Report 6b and advised that, although she was unable to attend the Politicians Meeting, reports indicated that the meeting was well-attended and the DWSP brief was distributed as part of the proceedings package.

The Grey Bruce Children's Water Festival scheduled for May 12-14, 2020 may be postponed due to the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic and Public Health restrictions. Sponsors are still needed for this worthwhile event that teaches Grade 4 students across Grey-Bruce about water conservation, stewardship and protection.

The Annual Arbor Day Tree Sales at the Grey Sauble and Saugeen Conservation Authorities have been cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions.

The Hibou Free Family Fun Day at the Hibou Conservation Area scheduled for Saturday, June 20, 2020, pending Covid-19 restrictions.

## Section 36 Workplan Report 6c

The Project Manager advised that on January 21, 2020, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) issued a letter, a copy of which is included in "Correspondence", to the three Source Protection Authorities and the Chair of the Source Protection Committee regarding the Section 36 workplan that was submitted November 29, 2019. The letter confirms that implementation of the Source Protection Plan for the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Region is going well. It also outlined the process for making updates

to the assessment reports and plan based on the items noted in the workplan. There has been positive support from MECP throughout this process.

Staff will be conducting updates to the Source Protection Plan based on the amendments identified in the workplan with a target date of March 31, 2021 to complete the work. It is important to note that the requirements to conduct consultations with affected parties (e.g. landowners, municipalities, etc.), as specified under the *Clean Water Act*, will be a key part of this amendment process. Respecting a question as to how consultation would look with the current Covid-19 restrictions, the Project Manager advised that public consultations are paused for the time being. Accordingly, any proposed changes or amendments cannot be formalized, which may result in delays of the proposed submission dates.

Motion No. SPC-20-299

Moved by Tara Saab Seconded by John Fruin

THAT the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Committee receives a copy of Report 6c Section 36 Workplan Update for information purposes.

#### Carried

#### 7. New Business

## Annual Progress Report 7a

The Project Manager reviewed Report 7a and advised that the 2019 Annual Report was much easier to draft after having done an extensive review and report in 2018. The Annual Report for the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Region covers the period of January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019 and must be submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) by May 1, 2020. The Annual Progress Report highlights the progress on Source Protection Plan implementation, results of municipal monitoring programs, and any steps to address gaps in the Plan.

Staff has been meeting with municipalities over the past few months to help complete the draft Report. The SPC can provide comments on page 2 of the report that will be submitted to MECP.

Motion No. SPC-20-300

Moved by John Fruin Seconded by Les Nichols

THAT the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Committee receives a copy of the draft Source Protection Annual Progress Report; and further, THAT the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Committee direct Staff to provide copies of the draft Source Protection Annual Progress Report along with any comments to the Grey Sauble, Saugeen Valley and Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Authorities respectively, and to submit a final version to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks by May 1, 2020.

Carried

## Source Protection Plan Amendments Report 7b

The Project Manager reviewed Report 7b and advised that the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie has opted to proceed with the fragmentation of the Burgoyne Communal Water System in accordance with the procedure specified by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), whereby individual property owners would be responsible for providing their own potable water supply. This option still requires the approval of the MECP Director to permit fragmentation. If this option is permitted by the Ministry, a new WHPA would not be required to be included in the delineation for Burgoyne as part of the Source Protection Plan amendment.

Policies 12-01 and 13-01 of Report 7b were reviewed by the Project Manager who indicated that Staff will be reviewing impervious surface area calculations to determine additional areas where salt application threat policies would apply. There may be possible salt storage changes where a significant risk in a WHPA-A would be: 1) Any quantity for uncovered storage; 2) 100 kilograms for covered storage; 3) 500 tonnes or greater for engineer facility or structure.

With respect to Policy 03-02 Application of Agricultural Source Material is being reviewed for the Ruhl Lake Intake Protection Zone area in response to significant levels of E. coli and total coliforms in raw water samples taken by municipal staff and noted in MECP Drinking Water Inspection reports. On October 11, 2019, DWSP Staff, together with municipal staff, conducted an initial site visit to Ruhl Lake to determine if there were any observed transport pathways to the lake that may not have been noted as part of the initial Assessment Report work. It could be a good sign that there were many waterfowl present that day and municipal staff will continue to note their presence when collecting samples. At the time of the site visit, there were no observed transport pathways from surrounding fields that could impact the lake. DWSP Staff has not been able to return to see any spring melt conditions.

In Policy 15-05 Risk Management Plan for Fuel Near Great Lakes Intakes, a review of the Events-Based Area (EBA) desktop model analysis for the Owen Sound and East Linton intakes was highlighted. As the Ontario Drinking Water Standard was recently changed from 0.005 mg/L to 0.001 mg/L, the modeled impacts to the East Linton intake would now be designated a Significant Drinking Water Threat. A review of five spill scenarios was reviewed with the SPC.

Motion No. SPC-20-301

Moved by Angela Newman Seconded by Bruce Davidson

THAT Drinking Water Source Protection Staff continue to coordinate with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks with respect to proposed updates to the Director's Technical Rules in support of Section 36 Source Protection Plan amendments.

#### Carried

## 8. Other Business

Bruce Davidson advised that this year is the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Walkerton Water Tragedy and a recognition/memorial event is being planned for the tentative date of May 9<sup>,</sup> 2020. Further updates will be provided as to whether this event will proceed.

# 9. Confirmation of Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next Committee meeting will be held at the call of the Chair, tentatively in July 2020.

There being no further business, Gord Timmerman made a motion to adjourn at 3:00 pm.

Bill Twaddle Nancy Guest Chair Recording Secretary

#### Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks

Source Protection Programs Branch

14th Floor, Foster Building 40 St. Clair Avenue W Toronto ON M4V 1M2 Fax.: 416 327-6926

#### Environnement, Protection de la nature et Parcs

Direction des programmes de protection des sources

Édifice Foster, 14° étage 40, avenue St. Clair Ouest Toronto ON M4V 1M2 **Téléc.** : 416 890-1234



July 8, 2020

Dear Carl,

Thank you for providing Source Protection Programs Branch (SPPB) with a portion of the proposed updates to the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula (SGSNBP) Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report. As per the amended section 36 (s.36) Order issued by the Minister on January 21, 2020, submission of all proposed updates to the assessment report and source protection plan is required prior to consulting more broadly with implementing bodies.

We provide the following comments, which reflect my input as well as input from our branch hydrologist.

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The Minister's Order specifies mandatory updates to the assessment report and plan to ensure they comply with the amended Director's Technical Rules, published on the Environmental Registry in March 2017 under posting number 012-8507 and the 2018 amendments to the Rules and General Regulation (O. Reg. 287/07). For your source protection region this includes:

- assessing locations where liquid hydrocarbon pipelines and the abovegrade handling and storage of fuel pose a significant, moderate and low risk in the assessment reports and plan, and ensuring policies apply to all relevant protection zones;
- updating the significant groundwater recharge areas in the assessment reports and plan to align with the amended Rules, including any related policies; and
- updating the assessment reports and source protection plan to revise references to circumstances, chemicals of concern or thresholds that may have changed as a result of changes to the Rules.
- Include technical work for changes to drinking water systems, including the Durham (Municipality of West Grey), Dundalk (Municipality of Southgate) and Burgoyne (Arran-Elderlsie) systems under O. Reg 205/18 of the Safe Drinking Water Act.
  - the source protection committee, authority and affected municipality
     should jointly determine if it would be more appropriate to have the source

protection authority propose amendments under section 34 of the Clean Water Act to deal with the changes to any drinking water systems, as opposed to including these updates as part of the review under section 36.

- Assess lands surrounding Ruhl Lake (Brockton) for previously unidentified surface water transport pathways and revising the protection zone accordingly, where the committee, authority and municipality determine it is necessary.
- Further assess and make revisions to address implementation challenges associated with risk management plan policies for agriculture as well as road salt management.

#### General

- Given the proposed amendments to the Director's Technical Rules have not been finalized, any circumstances or thresholds outlined in draft policies should be reviewed and updated to align with the circumstances once they are approved and made publicly available. Where you are moving forward with draft policies for the purpose of source protection committee discussions, it should be made clear that the thresholds presented in the policies are based on the draft amendments that were presented at the Fall 2019 engagement sessions, and therefore, may change after the amendments to the Director's Technical Rules are approved.
- Also, wherever possible, it is advisable to avoid identifying specific circumstances/vulnerable areas directly in policy text. Using more general terms, such as "where significant," will reduce the likelihood that a given policy will need to be revised due to future Rule changes (e.g., circumstances/thresholds).

#### Application of Road Salt

Policy 12-02 (proposed additional policy)

- It is our understanding that this new policy is *not* meant to replace RMP policy 12-01 but is intended to complement/address concerns with its effectiveness. For example, concerns were identified in the SGSNBP s.36 workplan regarding potential impacts on sources of groundwater from application of road salt, including possible linkages to elevated sodium levels in certain areas/systems.
  - We note that the first and second "policy options" for 12-02 use the specified action policy approach, and direct municipalities to work with "road authorities" to develop a "salt management plan." However, the third policy option uses the s.58 policy tool under Part IV of the CWA, which designates RMPs as a requirement for the application of road salt.
  - O Given a range of tools is still under consideration, it may be helpful to evaluate each option in terms of its potential effectiveness in achieving the desired policy outcome. For example, is there a geographic component that needs to be addressed? I.e., did the review of sodium levels referenced in the s.36 workplan reveal elevated sodium levels in particular areas? And/or, are there known road salt application practices used by specific groups (e.g., private/public operators) that this policy is meant to address? Also, how will requiring "road authorities" to have Winter Maintenance and Salt Management Plans achieve a different outcome

- than the RMPs required under 12-01? Or, would these additional plans be duplicative of the RMPs?
- Questions like these can assist in determining how this new policy can be written to increase the likelihood that it will be implemented by the most appropriate implementing body and address salt application practices where they may be problematic; ultimately, achieving the desired policy outcome(s).

#### Handling and Storage of Road Salt

## Policy 13-01: prohibition (current policy)

• Note, if the Director's Technical Rule amendments are approved, the quantities in this prohibition policy (i.e., 500 tonnes and 5000 tonnes) may also need to change.

## Policy 13-02: RMP (proposed additional policy)

• It is unclear when the proposed RMP policy 13-02 would apply to the handling/storage of road salt. Please revise this policy so the reader is able to determine which specific scenarios or situations would require an RMP for the handling and storage of road salt, and when prohibition policy 13-01 would apply instead. For example, is this RMP policy meant to address significant quantities below the 500-tonne application threshold identified in policy 13-01?

#### East Linton Event Based Area (EBA)

- Given technical staff have yet to see the supporting calculations, SPPB is unable to comment on the volumes indicated in the proposed policy at this time.
- As part of early consultation (i.e., prior to pre-consultation) an updated version of the assessment report showing calculations, delineation and uncertainty analysis for the EBA, as well as the EBA's impact (if any) on altering the existing IPZs, will need to be provided to SPPB for review and comment.

Erin Harkins Program Analyst

MECP Source Protection Programs Branch 416-272-2968 | Erin.Harkins@ontario.ca







## **REPORT #6a**

TO: SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

DATE: **JULY 24, 2020** 

**SUBJECT:** ADMINISTRATION REPORT

## 2020/2021 Transfer Payment Agreement – Approved:

On May 15. 2020, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) signed the approved Source Protection Program Transfer Payment Agreement for the fiscal year 2020/2021. This Agreement includes the detailed workplan items that were scheduled for completion during this period, including proposed amendments to the Source Protection Plan with a target date for submission to the Ministry of March 2021.

The Ministry staff within the Source Protection Programs Branch can be highly commended for working with the Source Protection Committee (SPC) and Staff to complete the discussions supporting this Agreement.

## **New MECP Liaison Officer:**

Welcome Back to Olga Yudina as our MECP Liaison Officer. During her time away from the program, Olga worked with the Water Policy and Program on the Great Lakes and Inland Waters Branch. The skills and knowledge she gained while in that department will be very beneficial to the SPC and Staff as we move forward with proposed Source Protection Plan amendments.

## 20th Anniversary of the Walkerton Tragedy:

It is hard to believe that twenty years have passed since the water supply in Walkerton, Ontario was contaminated with E. coli, resulting in the death of 7 people and severe illness affecting over 2,000 people.

Since May 2000, the Provincial government, Municipalities, Conservation Authorities and Source Protection Committees throughout much of Ontario have done excellent work to improve the quality of municipal drinking water by following the recommendations of the Walkerton Inquiry which was lead by Justice Dennis O'Connor.

A number of news articles and media campaigns were shared with key partners to remind everyone of the progress made over the past twenty years and to remember the ongoing importance of this program.

### **SPC Member Renewals:**

Two-SPC members, one-public/environmental-sector-representative-and-one-agricultural sectorrepresentative, are scheduled for renewal or replacement by the end of December 2020. Staff will

work with the Source Protection Management Committee over the next few months to find replacement representatives for these sector representatives.

## Source Protection Authority Meetings Annual Report Submission:

The following Source Protection Authority (SPA) meetings were held in support of the Annual Progress Report, which was submitted to the MECP on May 1, 2020.

Saugeen Valley SPA	April 2, 2020
Grey Sauble SPA	April 22, 2020
Northern Bruce Peninsula SPA	. April 27, 2020

The Project Manager and Chair also participated in two MECP Drinking Water Source Protection Program meetings:

DWSP Project Managers teleconference call	May 2	20, 2	2020
SPC Chairs teleconference call	May 2	26, 2	2020

Ministry staff highlighted that the provincial average for Source Protection Plan implementation is now at 98%.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl Seider

Project Manager

**Drinking Water Source Protection** 









## **REPORT #6b**

TO: SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

**DATE:** JULY 24, 2020

SUBJECT: COMMUNICATIONS

## Commemorating 20 Years Since the Walkerton Water Tragedy

Scott Dunn, journalist with the Owen Sound Sun Times media group, wrote a series of four articles, including comments from past and present Source Protection Committee (SPC) members and staff:

- 1. <a href="https://www.owensoundsuntimes.com/news/local-news/signs-point-to-walkertons-emergence-from-e-coli-disaster">https://www.owensoundsuntimes.com/news/local-news/signs-point-to-walkertons-emergence-from-e-coli-disaster</a> (May 18, 2020)
- 2. <a href="https://www.owensoundsuntimes.com/news/local-news/oconnor-restored-our-dignity-amid-walkerton-disaster">https://www.owensoundsuntimes.com/news/local-news/oconnor-restored-our-dignity-amid-walkerton-disaster</a> (May 19, 2020)
- 3. <a href="https://www.thepost.on.ca/news/local-news/safer-tap-water-a-legacy-of-walkertons-tragedy">https://www.thepost.on.ca/news/local-news/safer-tap-water-a-legacy-of-walkertons-tragedy</a> (May 29, 2020)
- 4. <a href="https://www.thepost.on.ca/news/local-news/water-experts-call-on-province-to-extend-source-water-protection">https://www.thepost.on.ca/news/local-news/water-experts-call-on-province-to-extend-source-water-protection</a> (June 2, 2020)

There were commemoration articles featured in other news media, as well, including the Ontario Farmer publication:

https://www.ontariofarmer.com/news/farm-news/how-negligence-at-one-well-spurred-on-a-water-bureaucracy

Drinking Water Source Protection (DWSP) placed social media posts on Twitter and Facebook to highlight the progress in water protection and the multi-barrier approach as part of a larger spring social media campaign that included content from Conservation Ontario.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, an event in Walkerton was cancelled that would have included Justice O'Connor.

A new scholarship fund by the Municipality of Brockton to support local students wishing to pursue careers in environmental science or clean water management was featured on the <a href="https://honourthosewho.suffered">honourthosewho.suffered</a> because of the water crisis and support the next generation of students embracing environmental stewardship and the protection of clean water. The fund will be

administered through the Community Foundation Grey Bruce, a charitable organization with over \$1.8 million invested in education funds. The Municipality of Brockton has set aside \$2,500 towards the scholarship fund, which will grow through donations from individuals and organizations.

## Trust the Tap

The staff of Lower Trent Conservation, Quinte Conservation and Conservation Ontario have collaborated on developing the "Trust the Tap" campaign. Since May 2000, the Provincial government, Municipalities, Conservation Authorities and Source Protection Committees throughout much of Ontario have done excellent work to improve the quality of municipal drinking water by following the recommendations of the Walkerton Inquiry which was led by Justice Dennis O'Connor.

The group's posting was shared as a news item on the <u>home.waterprotection.ca</u> website:

# **Trust The Tap**

June 1, 2020

Did You Know that tap water for more than 80% of Ontario's population comes from municipal drinking water systems? We can #TrustTheTap with our municipalities, who employ trained operators and follow a strong quality management system!

The staff of Lower Trent Conservation, Quinte Conservation and Conservation Ontario have collaborated on developing the "Trust the Tap" campaign. Since May 2000, the Provincial government, Municipalities, Conservation Authorities and Source Protection Committees throughout much of Ontario have done excellent work to improve the quality of municipal drinking water by following the recommendations of the Walkerton Inquiry which was lead by Justice Dennis O'Connor.

To learn more visit: Trust The Tap



To learn more about Trust the Tap visit:

http://quintesourcewater.ca/web/commemorating-walkerton-20-years-later/

## Grey Bruce Children's Water Festival Update

- In 2021, the 2020 Grade 4 elementary school classes will be invited to attend as "senior stewards" along with the current Grade 4 classes from 2021, so that no one will miss out on the experience of attending a water festival.
- A contest for a special 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary festival logo was held for Grade 4 classes across the region.
- Another contest for a new 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary activity was held for high school students across the region. The activity will be featured at the next festival.
- The Board is looking for a new volunteer treasurer.
- New members to the organizing committee would be welcomed.
- The Grey Bruce Children's Water Festival appreciates the continued support of Grey Sauble Conservation, Saugeen Conservation and Drinking Water Source Protection.

#### **Postponements**

The Hibou Free Family Fun Day at the Hibou Conservation Area on Saturday, June 20, 2020 has been postponed to June 19, 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Gillan

K. Hillan

Program Supervisor/Communications Planner

**Drinking Water Source Protection** 



### **REPORT #7a**

TO: SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

**DATE:** JULY 24, 2020

SUBJECT: PROPOSED SOURCE PROTECTION PLAN ROAD SALT

**AMENDMENTS** 

In support of the update provided at the March 27, 2020 Source Protection Committee (SPC) meeting regarding proposed Source Protection Plan (SPP) amendments, Staff is seeking SPC direction on the following policies. It should be noted, however, that these proposed policy changes are for the purpose of SPC discussions that the thresholds presented in the policies are based on the draft Director's Technical Rule amendments that are subject to change pending Ministry approval.

## Policy 12-01: The Application of Road Salt.

Phase 2 Technical Rules review identified the potential to change impervious surface area calculations where this activity could be considered a significant drinking water threat (e.g. from 80% to 30% impervious surface area). Currently, the application of road salt is considered a significant threat when the percentage of impervious area is at least 80% for groundwater sources. This percentage threshold was considered too high when compared with existing systems currently impacted by sodium and/or chloride (e.g. Grand River Source Protection Authority).

In 2018, Staff conducted a GIS review of impervious surface area calculations (using 30% impervious surface area) to determine additional areas where salt application threat policies could apply with updated calculations. Based on this review it was determined that with the revised threshold of 30%, a total of fourteen drinking water systems have the potential to be affected by road salt application (WHPA areas in Durham were previously captured). This threat activity is limited to the WHPA-A, WHPA-B, and IPZ-1 areas with a vulnerability score of 10, as well as WHPA-E areas with a score of 9. Below is a table of the systems that may be affected:

Municipal DWS	Well Name	<b>Drinking Water Inspections</b>
Armow	Armow	AWQI
Arran-Elderslie	Tara 2, 3 & 4;	15.9 & 14.1 mg/L
Arran-Elderslie	Chesley 1 & 2	18.1 & 16.8 mg/L
Chepstow	Chepstow	5.5 mg/L
Clifford	Clifford 3	12.3 mg/L
Durham	Durham 2	10 mg/L
Lake Rosalind	Lake Rosalind 1 & 3	33.7 mg/L

Markdale	Isla St. & Eliza St.	33 mg/L
Mildmay	Mildmay 1 & 2	11.5 mg/L
Mount Forest	Mount Forest 5 & 3	61.2 mg/L & 21.3 mg/L
Teeswater	Teeswater 3	3.3 mg/L
Tiverton	Tiverton Dent	40 mg/L
Underwood	Underwood	68 mg/L
Village of Ripley	Ripley 1 & 2	31 mg/L

# **Currently Policy**

Policy 12-01: Salt Application Threat -Risk Management Plan

Activity Status	Existing activity; Future activity	
Policy Tool/ Approach	s.58 Risk Management Plan / Implementing Body- RMO	
Approach Policy Text	Establishment of a Risk Management Plan is required. The application of road salt may only occur in accordance with an approved Risk Management Plan and is therefore designated for the purposes of s.58 of the <i>Clean Water Act</i> , where the following applies:  a) Where the activity is or would be a significant drinking water threat; b) Salt is or could be applied to the property; c) The salt application area is equal to or greater than 200 square metres or 8 parking spots; and d) The property is used for any land uses except residential consisting of four units or fewer.*	
	As a minimum, the Risk Management Plan shall:  a. follow best management practices consistent with those used across Canada  b. employ the latest winter maintenance technologies  c. identify actions to improve practices in the general use of road salts.  The Risk Management Plan shall be renewed every five years or at the discretion of the Risk Management Official.  Notwithstanding the above, a Risk Management Plan will also be required for any municipal properties where the activity is or would be a significant	

<sup>\*</sup>four units is the threshold for a subdivision under the Planning Act

# **Proposed Additional Policies**

Policy 12-02: Salt Management Plan

Activity Status	Existing activity; Future activity
Policy Tool/	Specify Action / Implementing Body- Municipality
Approach	

# Policy Text Municipalities shall encourage road authorities to have Winter Maintenance and Salt Management Plans which include the identification of vulnerable areas and the means of managing the threats in areas where the threat would be significant. OR (Grand River Source Protection Plan) Where a Chloride or Sodium threats would be significant, the municipality shall review and, if necessary, revise or issue new Salt Management Plans for the application of salt on roadways in all Wellhead Protection Areas. The Salt Management Plan shall include, as a minimum, measures to ensure application rate, timing and location to reduce the potential for salt-related surface water runoff and groundwater infiltration and meet the objectives of Environment Canada's Code of Practice for Environmental Management of Road Salts including the salt vulnerable area mapping to include areas where significant threats can occur. OR (CTC Source Protection Plan) Part IV, s.58 For public roads, the application of road salt is designated for the purpose of s.58 under the Clean Water Act, requiring risk management plans, where the threat is, or would be significant. Without limiting other requirements, risk management plans shall include provisions for: a) the reduction of salt usage through best management practices such as alternative deicer materials (with lower sodium and chloride) and/or contemporary technology; and b) the use of trained individuals in the application of road salt (could include technicians and technologists and others responsible for salt management plans, winter maintenance supervisors, patrollers, equipment operators, mechanics, and contract employees).

Policy 12-03: Salt Management Plan – Ministry of Transportation Roads

Activity Status	Existing activity; Future activity
Policy Tool/	Specify Action /Implementing Body - MTO
Approach	
Policy Text	To ensure any existing or new application of road salt, where road salt application
	is or would be a significant drinking water threat, ceases to be or never becomes a
	significant drinking water threat, the Ministry of Transportation should review
	and, if necessary, revise or issue new Salt Management Plans for the application
	of salt on roadways in all Wellhead Protection Areas.
	The Salt Management Plan should include, as a minimum, measures to ensure
	application rate, timing and location reduce the potential for salt-related surface
	water run-off and groundwater infiltration and meet the objectives of
	Environment Canada's Code of Practice for Environmental Management of Road
	Salts including the salt vulnerable area mapping to include areas where significant
	threats can occur.

Policy 13-01: The Handling and Storage of Road Salt. It was determined that there is a potential policy gap in terms of the effectiveness of this policy to address potential sodium threats to groundwater sources. Currently, the Tables of Circumstances states that the storage of road salt needs to be at least 5,000 tonnes for WHPA- score 10 (in a manner that may result in its exposure to precipitation or runoff from precipitation or snow melt) before it is considered a significant threat. Covered storage is not considered a significant risk.

As part of the Phase 2 Technical Rules Review, Ministry staff presented possible changes to road salt storage whereby a significant risk in WHPA- score 10 would be: 1) Any quantity for uncovered storage; 2) 100 kilograms (220 pounds) for covered storage; 3) 500 tonnes or greater for engineer facility or structure.

## **Current Policy**

Policy 13-01: The Handling and Storage of Road Salt (Prohibition)

Activity Status	Existing activity; Future activity
Policy Tool/ Approach	s.57 Prohibition / Implementing Body- RMO
Policy Text	The policy applies in all vulnerable areas where the handling and storage of road salt is or would be a significant drinking water threat (existing activity or future activity).
	The handling and storage of road salt is prohibited. Therefore, the handling and storage of road salt is designated for the purposes of s.57 of the <i>Clean Water Act</i> .
	For clarity, the prohibition applies where: a) the quantity of road salt is at least 500 tonnes, but not more than 5,000 tonnes, and the road salt is stored in a manner that may result in its exposure to precipitation or runoff from precipitation or snow melt; or b) the quantity of road salt is more than 5,000 tonnes, and the road salt is stored in a manner that may result in its exposure to precipitation or runoff from precipitation or snow melt.
	Any road salt stored in a manner as described in clause (a) or (b) above as of the effective date of the Source Protection Plan shall be removed within 180 days of the effective date of the Source Protection Plan.

# **Proposed New Policy**

Policy 13-02: The Handling and Storage of Road Salt (Risk Management Plan)

Activity Status	Existing activity; Future activity
Policy Tool/	s.58 Risk Management Plan / Implementing Body - RMO
Approach	
Policy Text	Establishment of a Risk Management Plan is required. The handling and storage of road salt may only occur in accordance with an approved Risk Management Plan and is therefore designated for the purposes of s.58 of the Clean Water Act.
	For clarity, a Risk Management Plan is required where storage is or would be considered a significant drinking water threat as follows: 1) Any quantity for uncovered storage; 2) 100 kilograms (220 pounds) for covered storage; 3) 500 tonnes or greater for engineer facility or structure.
	OR
	(Lake Simcoe Source Protection Plan)
	The existing handling and storage of road salt is designated for the purposes of Section 58 of the <i>Clean Water Act</i> , and therefore requires a risk management plan where the activity is a significant drinking water threat. The risk management plan, at a minimum, will include terms and conditions that mirror a salt management plan, and comply with contemporary standards to ensure the handling and storage of road salt ceases to be a significant drinking water threat.
	OR
	(Grand River Source Protection Plan) a) Existing- RMP WHPA-A-v.10; WHPA-B-v.10; IPZ-1-v.10 To ensure: a. any existing handling and storage of road salt within WHPA-A and WHPA-B with a vulnerability score of ten (10) or IPZ One (1); or b. any new handling and storage of road salt within a WHPA-B with a vulnerability score equal to ten (10),
	b) Future- RMP WHPA-B-v.10
	ceases to be or never becomes a significant drinking water threat, this activity shall be designated for the purpose of Section 58 of the <i>Clean Water Act</i> , 2006 and a Risk Management Plan shall be required.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT: the Source Protection Committee for the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Region approve the draft policies relating to the proposed amendments noted in Report 7a of the July 24, 2020 Source Protection Committee meeting to the Source Protection Plan pending the implementation of any changes agreed to by the Source Protection Committee during its meeting on July 24, 2020; and further,

THAT Drinking Water Source Protection staff be directed to continue with Source Protection Plan consultation activities as required by O.Reg. 287/07.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl Seider

Project Manager

**Drinking Water Source Protection** 



### REPORT #7b

TO:

SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

**DATE:** 

**JULY 24, 2020** 

**SUBJECT:** 

PROPOSED SOURCE PROTECTION PLAN AMENDMENTS - EAST

LINTON EVENTS BASED AREA

The Source Protection Committee (SPC) requested a review of the Events-Based Area (EBA) desktop model analysis for the Owen Sound and East Linton intakes. As the Ontario Drinking Water Standard was recently changed from 0.005 mg/L to 0.001 mg/L, the modeled impacts to the East Linton intake would now be designated a Significant Drinking Water Threat.

The preliminary results of these modeled spills show a range in minimum volumes that would cause an exceedance at the East Linton intake from approximately 500 to 10,000 litres, depending on the location of the spill.



The modeled results also provide a rough outline for a possible EBA delineation where spill volume thresholds can be identified based on the modeled exceedances. For example, a threshold of 5,000 litres closely matches exceedance levels for spills at the Spill #2 and #4 locations.

Furthermore, the location of Spill #1 is within the Owen Sound EBA, which currently has exceedance threshold of 15,000 litres for the Owen Sound drinking water intake. In discussions with Ministry staff, the SPC can determine whether to maintain separate EBA delineations for East Linton and Owen Sound with different exceedance thresholds or revise values for Owen Sound based on the updated model results.

## **Proposed Change to Policy**

15-05 - Risk Management Plan for Fuel near Great Lakes Intakes

Activity Status	Existing activity; Future activity
Policy Tool/	s.58 Risk Management Plan
Approach	
Policy Text	The policy applies where the storage of fuel is a significant drinking water threat (existing and future activity) within the following areas:
	8. for Events-based Area for the East Linton Drinking Water System (as shown on Map) where fuel is stored in a quantity of 2,000L or more (EBA-2000) 5,000L or more (EBA-5000), and 10,000L or more (EBA-10000)
	Establishment of a Risk Management Plan is required. The storage of fuel may only occur in accordance with an approved Risk Management Plan. Therefore, the storage of fuel is designated for the purposes of s.58 of the <i>Clean Water Act</i> .
	As a minimum, the Risk Management Plan shall address: 1) product handling; 2) product storage; 3) record keeping and documentation, including any inspection reports; 4) disposal methods; 5) spills response plan; and 6) containment measures. The Risk Management Plan shall be renewed every five years or at the discretion of the Risk Management Official.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

THAT: the Source Protection Committee for the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Region approves the draft policies relating to the proposed amendments to the Source Protection Plan noted in this Report pending the implementation of any changes agreed to by the Source Protection Committee during its meeting on July 24, 2020; and further,

# THAT Drinking Water Source Protection staff be directed to continue with Source Protection Plan consultation activities as required by O.Reg. 287/07.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl Seider Project Manager

**Drinking Water Source Protection**