

Source Protection Committee

MEETING 19 – JULY 21, 2009 at the Minden Community Centre, Minden

Welcome to Haliburton County

Dave Burton, SPC member, welcomed everyone to Haliburton County. He highlighted the importance of water to the County with over 700 named lakes. He also stated that the fluctuations in water levels of the reservoir lakes within the Trent-Severn Waterway system certainly pose challenges to the region. He added a heartfelt thanks for holding the meeting in the area and giving the members an opportunity to see this part of the Source Protection Region.

Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas

The identification of significant groundwater recharge areas is one of four types of vulnerable areas that must be included in the Assessment Report. Mike Garraway, Ministry of Natural Resources, provided an overview of the technical rules related to the delineation of significant groundwater recharge areas (SGRAs).

Steve Holysh, Conservation Authorities Moraine Coalition (represents 9 Conservation Authorities with area of jurisdiction within the Oak Ridges Moraine), provided an overview of the Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas report. Information about surficial geology and regional models were used to develop recharge rates across the watershed.

The report was prepared by the Conservation Authorities Moraine Coalition. It was peer reviewed by two external hydrogeologists, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Conservation Authority staff. A presentation was given to the Committee at its March meeting and a copy of the draft report was provided to the members in June. The Committee accepted the report by consensus.

Communications/Consultation Strategy for the Assessment Report

A draft communications/consultation strategy for the Assessment Report was presented to the Committee which includes four components:

- General Communication/Education Activities
- Stakeholder Consultation
- Pre-consultation on Technical Studies
- Assessment Report Consultation

The report along with timelines for specific communications/consultation activities was accepted by the Committee.

Source Protection Planning Discussion

The discussion paper on the requirements for the preparation of source protection plans has been posted on the Environmental Bill of Rights (EBR) website, www.ebr.gov.on.ca (# 010-6726). Deadline for comments is September 23, 2009.

The purpose of the document is to stimulate discussion on source protection plans, their content, and how they will be developed. The Ministry of the Environment will use the feedback for the preparation of draft source protection plan regulations.

Policies within a source protection plan will affect activities and land use planning in vulnerable areas, especially wellhead protection areas (WHPAs) and intake protection zones (IPZs). Policy approaches presented in the discussion paper include:

- Existing Approaches
 - Education & outreach
 - Incentive programs
 - Planning approaches (e.g. official plans, zoning, site plan control)
 - Provincial instruments identified in *Clean Water Act* regulations

- New Approaches
 - Risk management plans & interim risk management plans
 - Prohibition
 - Restricted land uses

At the next meeting, the Committee will look at examples of scenarios with different threats and develop possible policies to address those threats. Working through these scenarios will allow the Committee to develop specific comments on the discussion paper.

Peer Review – Consistent Approach for Region of Durham

As identified in the Terms of Reference for the Ganaraska Region and Kawartha-Haliburton SPAs, staff have conducted the necessary consultation with neighbouring source protection regions to ensure consistent approaches to peer review of vulnerability studies for Durham Region.

Planned Fraserville Well – Leahy Site

The Terms of Reference for the Otonabee-Peterborough Source Protection Area includes two planned drinking water systems for Fraserville. The Township of Cavan Monaghan has determined that the Leahy Site is not suitable for a municipal well. The Township has now fulfilled the requirements under the *Clean Water Act* to remove a Planned System from the Terms of Reference (council motion and newspaper notice).

Next Meeting: August 19 at the Marmora Community Centre, 28 Victoria Street, Marmora.

www.trentsourceprotection.on.ca