

Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee
51st Meeting
April 11, 2013

Held: Room C-11, Tom Davies Square

Commenced at: 1:05 p.m.

Adjourned at: 3:45 p.m.

Present: Nels Conroy, Chair
Richard Bois
Nick Benkovich
Stephen Monet (proxy for Paul Baskcomb)
Lilly Noble
Wendy Wisniewski

Also Present: Marc Rondina, Sudbury & District Health Unit
Richard Auld, Sudbury & District Health Unit
Neil Gervais, Ministry of the Environment Liaison
Lin Gibson, Greater Sudbury Source Protection Authority Liaison
Jessica Brunelle, Risk Management Office, City of Greater Sudbury
Mike Jensen, Risk Management Office, City of Greater Sudbury
Kris Longston, City of Greater Sudbury
Judy Sewell, Drinking Water Source Protection
Paul Sajatovic, Nickel District Conservation Authority
Melanie Venne, Drinking Water Source Protection

Communications: Paul Baskcomb (provided proxy to Stephen Monet)
Luc Bock
Greg Haddad
Cheryl Recollet
Heather Sawdon
Tim Worton

1. Chair Conroy Opened the Meeting

Chair Conroy opened the meeting by congratulating Lin Gibson on being elected vice-chair of the Conservation Ontario board of directors. It will be great to have northern representation on the board.

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

No declarations of conflict were declared.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution 2013 – 04

Noble - Bois

That the agenda for the April 11, 2013, Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried.

4. Water Quantity Policies

Judy Sewell discussed the policy development process that started in September to bring the Committee to the point of this policy discussion. Overall, this is the sixth meeting discussing these policies. The policies have been reviewed by the SPC, City staff, MNR and MOE staff.

The main objective of this SPC meeting is to look at all the policies as a package to see if together they adequately address the significant threats. If the policies are accepted by resolution by the Committee then they can move to pre-consultation with the implementing bodies.

Judy went through each policy individually; highlighting the changes since the last SPC meeting and soliciting comments.

Committee members had questions about what a water efficiency plan would entail. Nick Benkovich explained that generally it would involve a prioritized list of recommendations for water efficiencies.

There were some great suggestions for the permit to take water policy which staff will take back and consider. A follow-up meeting or an email poll will be needed before a resolution to accept this policy can be passed.

There was a discussion regarding policy #5 and the cost implications. This policy is for infrastructure upgrades for a new water storage tower and the leak detection program for major watermains. The leak detection program wording was discussed and some revisions will be made to help clarify that the intent is to include the water quantity threat in the Valley distribution system as an important criterion in prioritizing detection and repair efforts in the City of Greater Sudbury.

Kris Longston and Paul Baskcomb provided some text suggestions to simplify the wording for policy #7, which is the land use policy to update the Tier 3 Water Budget model as part of the Official Plan update to ensure that projected settlement and population numbers do not cause a significant threat in the Valley local area. The Committee agreed to the new text.

The two policies for the “would-be” significant threat of reduced recharge were discussed. The Committee suggested that they be combined with the two parallel policies for the other water taking threat.

Post meeting note: The MOE clarified that policies are indeed necessary for “would be” significant water quantity threats. A note on the Policy Worksheet distributed at the meeting and attached to these minutes indicates that they are only optional.

Nels wrapped up the conversation by suggesting that all policies, except for the permits to take water policy, are ready to move to pre-consultation, after the suggestions from this meeting are incorporated.

Resolution 2013-05

Bois - Noble

That the water quantity policies, except #3, be approved as discussed and move forward to pre-consultation with the implementing body.

Carried.

5. Adoption of Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Resolution 2013 – 06

Benkovich - Noble

That the minutes for the February 12, 2013, Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee meeting, as duplicated and circulated, be approved.

Carried.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

Nels reviewed the minutes from the February meeting. There was no new business arising from the minutes.

7. Communication from Visitors

There has been no communication from the public since the last SPC meeting.

8. Update from Neil Gervais, MOE

Neil Gervais provided an update on MOE activities.

- The MOE has provided preliminary comments on the Greater Sudbury Source Protection Plan. Judy mentioned that these will be discussed at the next SPC meeting.
- A new TSSA director’s order was issued prohibiting new single walled steel tanks. Neil will forward it to staff.

- The Ontario Early Response (stewardship) program has been extended until the end of 2013. Sudbury had some funding remaining that can now be used this year.
- Transfer payments that span from January 1, 2013 until March 31, 2014 have been finalized.
- A successful chair's meeting was held on March 25 and 26, 2013 in Toronto

Nels also commented on the Chair's meeting, noting that there was lots of time for discussion about the role of the Committee through implementation. The Chairs have also repeatedly brought up the issues of clusters of private wells and intakes and municipalities that are not covered by the *Clean Water Act*. However, there are still no clear solutions from the MOE.

9. Public Consultation Schedule and Assessment Report Amendment

Judy showed a schedule for amending the Assessment Report and updating the Source Protection Plan. The Assessment Report is being updated to include the recently completed Tier Three Water Budget Report; and the Source Protection Plan update will include the new water quantity policies. There are also some newly discovered threats that will be added that Judy reviewed these with the Committee (see attachment).

The schedule indicates that the two documents will be released for public consultation at the beginning of summer. Both the MOE and staff are eager to move forward with updating these documents and will try their best to meet the tight schedule.

Judy indicated that it is likely that a May SPC meeting will be needed to review the MOE comments on the Source Protection Plan.

10. New Business

Nels led a round table discussion on new business.

- Wendy Wisniewski reported on her presentation to the Canadian Mining Association in March. The presentation was well received and generated great discussion.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

12. List of Handouts Provided at Meeting and SPC Attachments to Minutes

- Water Quantity Policy Worksheet
- Water Quantity Policy Updates since last SPC meeting
- MOE Comments on Source Protection Plan and Staff response, April 9 Draft
- Public Consultation Schedule
- Assessment Report Updates (slide shown at meeting and attached to minutes)

Next meeting: Thursday, May 9th at 1p.m.