



Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee
50th Meeting
February 12, 2013

Held: Room C-11, Tom Davies Square

Commenced at: 12:35 p.m.

Adjourned at: 3:15 p.m.

Present: Nels Conroy, Chair
Paul Baskcomb
Richard Bois
Nick Benkovich
Luc Bock
Greg Haddad
Stephen Monet
Lilly Noble
Cheryl Recollet
Heather Sawdon
Wendy Wisniewski
Tim Worton

Also Present: Marc Rondina, Sudbury & District Health Unit
Richard Auld, Sudbury & District Health Unit
Burgess Hawkins, 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: All Committee members were present.

1. Chair Conroy Opened the Meeting

Chair Conroy welcomed the Committee. He informed them that we will be having meetings only as needed as we wait for the approval of our Source Protection Plan. Staff are currently working on updating the Assessment Report, writing the risk management measures

evaluation report, and drafting water quantity policies, which is the purpose of the day's meeting.

Chair Conroy spoke to the continued attention to development pressures on Ramsey Lake, as was demonstrated by the front page article in today's Sudbury Star. The Greater Sudbury Source Protection Plan is well positioned on this subject and Nels applauded the City for soliciting comments from the Source Protection Authority in the planning review.

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

No declarations of conflict were declared.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution 2013 – 01

Noble - Wisniewski

That the agenda for the February 12, 2013, Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried.

4. Adoption of Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Resolution 2013 – 02

Noble - Haddad

That the minutes for the October 9, 2012, Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee meeting, as duplicated and circulated, be approved.

Carried.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

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

6. Communication from Visitors

One member of the public was present at the meeting. Staff have not received any other communication from the public since the October meeting. Nels introduced Mike Jensen to committee members. Mike has been trained as a Risk Management Official / Inspector and both he and Jessica Brunelle from the Risk Management Office attended.

7. Update from Neil Gervais, MOE

Neil provided an update on MOE activities.

- There will be another property entry and RMO training course in March.
- Sue Lo has been appointed as the new Chief Drinking Water Inspector. All Assessment Reports in the province have now been approved, and all Source Protection Plans have been submitted.
- The Lakehead Source Protection plan was the first plan to be approved in January 2013.

Nels noted that the new Premier's cabinet retains Jim Bradley as Minister of the Environment, which is good news for the program as it provides some continuity to the program at this stage.

8. Stewardship Program Update

Melanie Venne provided an update on the Stewardship Program. Since 2007, there have been three MOE stewardship programs in our source protection area. The last two programs expired on December 31, 2012. The NDCA has requested that the program be extended into 2013 allowing the Conservation Authority to utilize remaining funds.

Melanie provided a handout that listed the amount of funding received, and the number and types of projects completed. The committee questioned the number of septic systems that were replaced in the IPZ and WHPA's in relation to the Health Unit's mandatory re-inspection program. Richard Auld pointed out that the mandatory inspection program has a more restrictive criteria for system failures and comparisons between the inspection program and the Stewardship program could be misleading. Melanie will create a spreadsheet of these and send it out to anyone who might be interested.

9. Water Quantity Policy Modeling Evaluation

Judy gave a presentation on the process for developing water quantity threat policies. One significant threat was identified based on two significant risks identified during the tier 3 water budget modeling.

The process to develop policies for water quantity threats is more in-depth than the water quality threats policies the SPC has already developed. The new process includes threats ranking and a risk management measures evaluation.

The threats ranking work was not necessary in our local situation, since we only had one threat in one system.

The risk management measures evaluation involved modeling risk management measures to see if the significant risk could be eliminated. The only measure modeled locally was an optimization of the Valley well system. The results of the modeling was a set of procedures that if followed did eliminate the significant risk.

The modeling results showed that by turning off one Valley well during the 10 year drought scenario for the month of February the significant risk could be eliminated. The required pumping would be re-distributed to the other Valley wells.

Another part of the new process is modeling for climate change scenarios. This work is still ongoing and is for information purposes only, not for policy development.

The Sudbury area is part of the pilot project for this work and is the first to complete the draft report.

10. Draft Water Quantity Policies for Discussion

Nels pointed out that the trigger of “significant” threat means that the SPC must develop policies that make the water quantity threat “cease to be significant”. The SPC should have this in mind as we discuss policy options.

Two working group meetings with City staff have already occurred and some of their suggestions were incorporated into the draft policies brought to the SPC.

Melanie went through the distributed policy document with the Committee. The range of policy options provided to the Committee are all up for discussion and can be altered or removed based on Committee discussions.

Melanie went through the eight policy options. The Committee provided great feedback, suggestions and comments.

It was determined that the education and outreach policy would remain, with some flexibility provided to the financial incentives piece.

The water efficiency plan policy did not garner much discussion and will remain as it is.

The permit to take water policy produced much discussion. The policy will be altered to include only future significant threats. The Committee had concerns regarding existing permits to take water and water demands of a growing population. However, the land use planning policy covered much of these concerns and the committee would like to see that policy remain as it is written.

The next three policies related to municipal infrastructure. The committee had a few questions and recommended that the policies remain the same.

The last policy relates to the “would-be” significant threat and is not a new policy but rather a new section to the water efficiency plan that would relate to aquifer recharge. A suggestion from the SPC was to move part of the education and outreach policy that relates to this threat to this section as well.

11. Meeting Dates for 2013

Due to difficulties finding a suitable room on Tuesdays it was suggested that the SPC meetings be moved to another day of the week. The meetings will now be on the second Thursday of the month, in the afternoon. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 11 at 1 p.m.

12. New Business

Nels led a round table discussion on new business.

- Wendy Wisniewski mentioned that she will be presenting a source protection update to the Environment Committee of the Canadian Mining Association in Toronto in March.
- Lilly Noble discussed that the Coalition for a Liveable Sudbury is installing a rain garden at Adamsdale School, and are hosting another rain barrel sale on May 11 (more information at rainbarrel.ca).
- Paul Sajatovic remarked that Judy and Nels will be presenting a source protection update to the NDCA board on March 7th.
- Mike Jensen commented that the Risk Management Office will be presenting to the Development Liaison Advisory Committee on February 22, 2013.

13. Adjournment

Resolution 2013-03

Bois - Noble

That we do now adjourn.

14. List of Handouts Provided at Meeting

- Stewardship Update
- Water Quantity Policy Background Presentation
- Water Quantity Policy Option Table

Next meeting: Thursday, April 11th at 1p.m.