

Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee
52nd Meeting
May 9, 2013

Held: Room C-12, Tom Davies Square

Commenced at: 1:05 p.m.

Adjourned at: 3:45 p.m.

Present: Nels Conroy, Chair
Paul Baskcomb
Richard Bois
Nick Benkovich
Luc Bock
Stephen Monet
Lilly Noble
Wendy Wisniewski
Tim Worton

Also Present: Neil Gervais, Ministry of the Environment Liaison
Jessica Brunelle, 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: Greg Haddad
Cheryl Recollet
Heather Sawdon

1. Chair Conroy Opened the Meeting

Chair Conroy opened the meeting by speaking to the recent requests in the media for watershed studies of Ramsey Lake. While this is beyond the mandate of the Source Protection Committee, staff would be happy to be of assistance if possible. There is a lot of data that has been collected in the past few years through the source protection process that may be helpful.

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

No declarations of conflict were declared.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution 2013 – 07

Baskcomb - Noble

That the agenda for the May 9, 2013, Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee meeting be adopted as amended. The presentation from Tony Cecutti has been moved from #10 on the agenda to the beginning of the meeting.

Carried.

4. Communication from Visitors

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

5. Adoption of Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Resolution 2013 – 08

Wisniewski - Noble

That the minutes for the April 11, 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 April meeting. There was no new business arising from the minutes.

7. Presentation from Tony Cecutti, Manager of Infrastructure Services

Nels introduced the newly appointed City of Greater Sudbury General Manager of Infrastructure Services, Tony Cecutti, to the meeting. Tony requested a few moments to introduce himself to the Committee.

Tony explained that he has had a long career with water, both from an industry standpoint and a personal interest. He complimented the Committee on the progress and work they have accomplished so far.

Tony and his staff have received the pre-consultation letter for the water quantity policies and have been reviewing them with interest. They agree on the need for the policies and the objectives they try to achieve, however, staff have some concerns about the policies.

Nels suggested that a working group meeting in the near future with CGS staff, NDCA staff, committee members and the consultants responsible for the water budget work should be arranged to hear the City's concerns and discuss how they can be addressed. Melanie will inform the committee members once the meeting date is selected.

Post meeting note: A working group meeting date has been scheduled for June 17th from 10:00-11:00 AM . A reminder email with further details will be sent closer to the date.

8. Update from Neil Gervais, MOE

Neil provided an update on MOE activities:

- The official comments on the Greater Sudbury Source Protection Plan from the Director of the Source Protection Programs Branch were sent to the SPC and the SPA on April 16th.
- The project managers had a teleconference on April 29th to finalize the transfer payments, which covers the budget from January 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014.

9. MOE Comments on Proposed Source Protection Plan

Tony Cecutti asked what the timeline for approval and implementation may look like. Neil and Judy responded that while the timeline is unknown, the Greater Sudbury Plan is one of the first to have received review comments from the MOE. Part of the process will be the resubmission of the plan once the MOE comments have been addressed and the water quantity policies have been added and have undergone public consultation. There will also be discussion between the MOE and the SPA about an effective date for plan implementation. The plan could be approved and become effective on different dates; as was done for the Lakehead Source Protection Plan.

Melanie Venne distributed a spreadsheet that highlights all the MOE comments and the proposed policy changes or edits. The comments can be subdivided into two categories; five comments that require SPC discussion and the remaining comments that do not require revising policy content or intent and have already been completed.

The first significant comment yielded much discussion and involves the pesticide policies. After much discussion among MOE Operations pesticides specialists and Source Protection Program staff, a policy gap was identified whereby the plan did not address all circumstances in which the threat of application of pesticide to land could be significant. The SPC discussed this at length and suggested complementing the original education and outreach policy with a risk management plan policy. Melanie will verify with the MOE to ensure that this covers the policy gap and report back to the committee.

Post meeting note: The MOE has reviewed the new proposed policy and is satisfied that it will address the policy gap.

The other comments that required committee input included the prescribed instrument for the hauling of septage, the monitoring policy for education and outreach policies and the education and outreach portion of the transportation signage policy. The committee agreed with staff suggested changes or chose from a list of staff suggested options.

After a discussion of the five changes that needed committee input, Nels suggested a resolution to approve the discussed changes, with the assumption that the pesticides policy changes will be approved by MOE to address the policy gap.

Resolution 2013-09

Bois – Monet

That the policies as discussed at the May 9th Source Protection Committee and based on MOE Comments on the Proposed Source Protection Plan be accepted.

Carried.

After the discussion of the comments that needed SPC discussion and resolution, Melanie went through the remaining eleven line items in the spreadsheet. These include changes such as: minor editorial changes, items requiring extra clarification, discrepancies in lists or definitions and some minor changes to monitoring policies. All of these changes have already been completed by staff and none change any of the intent of the plan.

Once all the new changes have been completed and the text has been reviewed by staff, the committee will have the chance to review it prior to public consultation, which is currently scheduled for June.

10. Public Consultation Schedule and Materials

Judy handed out the proposed timelines for consultation on the Amended Assessment Report and the Updated Source Protection Plan, a table highlighting all those who will be consulted and a sample consultation letter with attachments.

The schedule, as displayed in the handout, is tight in order for the documents to be resubmitted to the MOE and not delay the approval of the Source Protection Plan. Judy noted that the schedule may change depending on the types of comments received from the implementing bodies (CGS and MOE) during pre-consultation. She also pointed out that an extra week could be built in to allow for SPC review of the documents. After some discussion, it was agreed that the Source Protection Plan would be emailed to SPC members when completed and the Assessment Report could be reviewed at the NDCA office or provided on a CD for those who wished to review it.

11. Program Updates

Judy informed the committee that the Risk Management Measures Evaluation Report, which was written to detail the water quantity policy modeling exercise, will be sent to the MOE this week. This technical report will be appended to the Source Protection Plan. If any committee members would like to read it, please email staff.

12. New Business

Nels led a round table discussion on new business.

- Wendy Wisniewski invited the Committee to a public event that Vale is hosting on May 10; there will be a release of walleye into Ramsey Lake at the public boat launch.

13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

14. List of Handouts Provided at Meeting

- Official letter from the Director of the Source Protection Programs Branch on the Greater Sudbury Source Protection Plan
- Spreadsheet highlighting MOE comments on the Source Protection Plan and proposed changes
- Consultation schedule for the Amended Assessment Report and Updated Source Protection Plan and Sample Mailout
- Pre-Consultation letters for Water Quantity Policies from Nels Conroy to the City of Greater Sudbury and the Ministry of the Environment

Next meeting: To be determined based on the outcome of the June 17th water quantity policy working group meeting with City.