



Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee
29th Meeting
August 10, 2010

Held: Tom Davies Square, Room C-10

Commenced at: 1:05 p.m.

Adjourned at: 3:50 p.m.

Present: Nels Conroy, Chair
Richard Bois
Nick Benkovich
Greg Haddad
Tim Worton

Also Present: Neil Gervais, Ministry of the Environment Liaison
Bob Rogers, Greater Sudbury Source Protection Authority Liaison
Burgess Hawkins, Sudbury & District Health Unit Liaison
Judy Sewell, Drinking Water Source Protection
Melanie Venne, Drinking Water Source Protection
Jessica Brunelle, Drinking Water Source Protection
Paul Sajatovic, Nickel District Conservation Authority

Communications: Paul Baskcomb
Luc Bock
Stephen Monet
Vivian Naponse
Lilly Noble
Cheryl Recollet
Wendy Wisniewski

1. Chair Conroy Opened the Meeting

Nels Conroy opened the meeting by thanking the committee members for their presence at this meeting. A number of business items have come up since the May meeting and a meeting in summer was required. More specifically, the MOE issued the Source Protection Plan Regulation in June and wished to introduce it to SPC members; and MOE launched the Early Response Program for which they require completed applications by September 30, along with an SPC decision on which projects to move forward with. Neil Gervais will provide a presentation on the

Source Protection Plan Regulation which was recently released. Melanie Venne will seek Committee input into the new Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program: Early Response.

Nels also briefly mentioned other new developments and updates:

Staff members are currently working on an updated Assessment Report, to be released in June 2011. Changes to the Assessment Report may be more extensive than originally thought. Updates on the new information will be provided at upcoming SPC meetings.

The Risk Management Measures catalogue was recently released. It is an online database that provides a list of risk management measures for each threat. Melanie will send out an email with a link to the database. A word document that lists each risk management measure for our local threats was added to committee members zip drives.

Chairs and project managers from across the province have set up a planning working group that meets via teleconference every two weeks. The goal of the working group is to establish an online forum for the group sharing of policies as they are drafted. Conservation Ontario is coordinating this working group.

A letter was sent to the City of Greater Sudbury's Roads and Transportation Department in April regarding the prioritization of street cleaning in spring to areas around drinking water sources. No response was ever received. Nels recently called to request a response from Bob Falcioni.

Due to summer vacations we did not have quorum for the meeting. Resolutions to adopt the agenda and minutes and a declaration of conflict of interest will be done at the next Committee meeting.

2. Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program – Early Response

Melanie gave a presentation on a new component to the stewardship program – Early Response. The Early Response program replaces the Early Actions program, which has been ongoing since 2007 and has focused on septic upgrades, well decommissioning and agricultural best management projects.

The Early Response program is designed to better align with the release of Assessment Reports across the province. This program will fund projects that address significant threats identified in the Draft Proposed Assessment Report using risk management measures from the provincial catalogue. Threats must be prioritized by the Source Protection Committee. An important part of the application is a report summarizing Committee discussions identifying the most important threats.

Melanie also mentioned that while the Early Response program can only address significant threats identified in our Proposed Assessment Report, the list of threats continues to evolve. Some significant threats were removed from the list as new information became available and additions of new significant threats have been made. Low and moderate threats are in the process of being enumerated. An update on the threats assessment work is planned for the September Committee meeting.

A report was distributed to the Committee briefly explaining the Early Response program and listing significant threats identified in the Proposed Assessment Report. (To view full report, please see attachment to minutes) A table identified significant threats and cost estimates, along with appropriate risk management measures that could serve as examples for Early Action Application submission by the committee.

Threats were discussed individually and the Committee provided pertinent suggestions and insight into potential projects. Staff were asked to take the information provided and undertake additional research for finalization at the September meeting. Nels suggested that one or more ad hoc meetings might be necessary to whittle the suggestions into a viable resolution from the committee. Melanie indicated that direct feedback on threat prioritization for the Early Response program is still welcome. Email Melanie with any comments or ideas. (Detailed notes were taken on discussion points and will be used by staff members to collect more information in time for the next meeting.)

A refinement of the table prioritizing the threats in relation to the proposed application based on committee discussion will be distributed by email.

At the September meeting a resolution will need to be passed to address the committee's preferred approach for the funding application. The Early Response funding application is due no later than September 30, 2010.

3. Source Protection Plan Regulation – Neil Gervais

Neil presented the first part of the Source Protection Plan regulation. The second part is scheduled for the September SPC meeting. All questions asked during the presentations will be addressed by Ministry of the Environment staff and the responses will form the basis of the guidance document.

Neil informed the Committee that it will be released in the fall and a training session for SPC members and conservation authority staff will be held in Sudbury for the Northern Conservation Authorities. The training is currently scheduled for October 26.

The presentation provided an overview of the regulation. Neil also explained in detail the mandatory and optional policies that can be included in the plan. There is also additional permissible content, including policies on spills response for railways and

highways, and policies to address abandoned or improperly constructed wells. Nels applauded the MOE for their inclusion of these additional permissible policies.

The process for policy development was discussed, as well as the range of tools or approaches that can be used. One of the tools is the use of prescribed instruments. Neil is planning to give a presentation on prescribed instruments at a fall SPC meeting.

There was discussion about the potentially serious impact that policies could present. Significant threat policies must be resolved and the authorities responsible for administering the policy will be required to adhere to that policy. Nels reaffirmed the need to be very thorough as we develop policies. Neil reinforced that the required consultation processes will help as a review process for draft policies.

Neil's presentation on the regulation will continue at the September Committee meeting. Nels thanked Neil for giving the committee an opportunity to hear the presentation and ask questions and complimented Neil on the quality of the presentation.

4. Program Updates

i) Source Protection Plan Implementation Responsibility

Bob Rogers informed the committee about a meeting he recently had with City of Greater Sudbury senior staff, Greater Sudbury SPC members and NDCA staff to discuss the implementation of the Source Protection Plan. Chair Conroy had planned to attend but was unable due to unforeseen circumstances. The suggestion from the NDCA to the City was for the Conservation Authority to act on behalf of the municipality for risk management plans and certain other municipal responsibilities with respect to implementation of the Source Protection Plan. The meeting was very positive and engagement with the City is continuing.

ii) Ontario Regional Adaptation Collaborative

The Ontario Regional Adaptation Collaborative recently released a report titled "The Gateway." The report speaks to climate change adaptation and mentions source protection planning. The NDCA was approached by the group to become a Northern representative. Bob Rogers will keep the Committee informed of any further developments.

iii) Planning Working Group

A meeting was held with Chair Conroy, NDCA staff, and Paul Baskcomb and Kris Longston of the City Planning Department to discuss how the planning process for the SPP should move forward. Melanie Venne will lead a working group that will focus on planning. This working group will meet every month and provide planning support and options to the SPC. It is anticipated that the group will include NDCA staff, Chair Conroy, some SPC members, City Planning staff and a planning consultant.

iv) Source Protection Planning Bulletin

Four Source Protection Committees and the support staff from the corresponding four conservation authorities were asked to review and comment on the first piece of guidance for Source Protection Planning. The bulletin provides guidance on issuing notices for when source protection planning begins. Feedback is due by the end of September. A copy of the three-page bulletin was distributed. If anyone has comments please send them to Judy.

v) Correspondence

Judy presented a binder of correspondence that Brienne Carter created. The binder will be brought to every Committee meeting. It contains all of the correspondence that has been received along with the response to the correspondence. The correspondence is in a database that can be searched by client or by issue.

10. New Business

Nels led a roundtable discussion on new business. No new business was raised.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

12. List of Handouts Provided at Meeting

- Report on the Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program – Early Response
- Slides from Neil Gervais’ presentation on the Source Protection Plan Regulation
- Source Protection Planning Bulletin: Notice When Plan Preparation Begins

Zip Drive Updates

- Technical Executive Summary for Proposed Assessment Report
- Quarterly Report to the Source Protection Authority, June 17, 2010
- Proposed Assessment Report, June 8, 2010
- List of Risk Management Measures, as they apply to current threats of the Greater Sudbury Source Protection Area

Next meeting: Tuesday, September 14, 1 to 4 p.m., at Tom Davies Square, Room C-11