



**Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee
34th Meeting
February 8, 2011**

Held: Tom Davies Square, Room C-11

Commenced at: 1:10 p.m.

Adjourned at: 3:45 p.m.

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

Also Present: Neil Gervais, Ministry of the Environment Liaison
Marc Rondina, Sudbury & District Health Unit Liaison Alternate
Kris Longston, City of Greater Sudbury Planning Department
Bob Rogers, Greater Sudbury Source Protection Authority 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
Vivian Naponse
Burgess Hawkins, Sudbury & District Health Unit Liaison

1. Chair Conroy Opened the Meeting

Chair Conroy opened the meeting by welcoming the committee. He noted that an additional chairs meeting will need to be held in Toronto during the month of March to provide more direction on how to write the source protection plan. This meeting will conflict with the regular SPC meeting date, so the March SPC meeting will take place on the morning of March 10.

2. No Declarations of Conflict were declared.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution 2011-04

Worton – Wisniewski

That the agenda for the February 8, 2011, Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee meeting be adopted.

Carried.

4. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meetings

Resolution 2011-05

Noble – Wisniewski

That the minutes for the January 11, 2011, Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee meeting, as duplicated and circulated, be approved.

Carried.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

At the December meeting, an individual with property located near two municipal wells raised their concerns regarding the delineation of wellhead protection areas. Throughout the month of January, staff members maintained contact with this landowner and have arranged a meeting date in February. This meeting to discuss WHPA delineation around the landowner's property will be held February 17 in Hanmer. Nels offered the same type of groundwater modeling information session to committee members should they be interested.

6. SPC In-camera Matter – Legal

Following the in-camera session, the Chair reported that no resolutions would be forthcoming at this time. The Chair noted that as a result of the in-camera discussion, the matter was adequately dealt with based on the Procedural Manual covering Rules of Procedure, Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Policy, as originally approved on November 27, 2007, and subject to amendment on February 10, 2009.

7. Communications Update

Judy explained the process to be used for the two upcoming mail-outs. An undated package of draft letters, based on comments received from committee members, was provided for final review. The package contained various letters for various land owners, depending on whether they had been notified in the past or whether they are being notified for the first time as a result of newly identified threats in the amended assessment report. Letters were prepared for:

- previously notified landowners that the planning process has begun
- landowners in the Ramsey Lake watershed that they may have a threat on their property and that planning has begun
- previously notified land owners with new threats
- First Nations
- Municipalities with land located within the watershed
- The City of Greater Sudbury, and
- Landowners who no longer have threats on their properties, as a result of updated technical work.

The letters are planned to be mailed by the end of February, with the exception of the letters for new threats, which will be sent in April, together with an invitation for a public meeting at the beginning of May.

Nels inquired about information going to council before the letters are sent, and indicated that it is vital that the CAO and council be informed of this mass mail-out before the letters are sent. Richard inquired about what knowledge council currently has regarding source protection policy and planning. Bob suggested that Nels should draft a short notification letter on behalf of the committee to be sent to council before any presentations take place.

7. Planning Working Group Update

Binders were prepared for all committee members to house draft policies and necessary information for policy development for the Source Protection Plan. Judy briefly discussed the background information found in the binders with committee members and shared what Melanie has been working with during Policy Working Group meetings. Once drafts have been created by the working group, they are presented to the SPC for comment before they are posted on the MOE's policy web forum as concepts for policy development. A brief presentation will be made at an upcoming meeting showing the web forum and how it can be used as a tool for local policy development. Judy explained that the policy binders are a starting point for future development. SPC members will continue to receive draft policies for their binders as they are prepared by the Policy Working Group and revised by the Source Protection Committee. SPC members are encouraged to bring their binders to all SPC meetings.

Melanie provided the committee with an overview of the planning working group meeting that was held on January 26. The discussion at that meeting focused on the handling, storage and application of road salt as both a significant and a “would be” threat. She explained that the handling and storage of road salt and the application of road salt must be distinguished as two different threats.

As sodium has now been identified as an issue, anything in the Ramsey Lake watershed contributing to the sodium levels becomes a significant threat. Storage is mainly a problem at the Frobisher Depot site and application rates were determined with a mapping exercise using impervious surfaces. The application of road salt is also considered a “would be” threat in other areas. Melanie reminded the committee that there are currently three Acts pertinent to the application of road salt and seven options available to deal with road salt threats.

There are currently four draft policies to address different categories of the threat, e.g. Municipal Operations. The storage of road salt on residential properties has not been addressed. Policy considerations for the Frobisher Depot include a Risk Management Plan and obtaining updates of the City’s Salt Management Plan. Considerations for commercial and private properties include Education and Outreach, Risk Management Plans and a proposed Research Project that would help identify the major sodium contributors in Ramsey Lake. Greg suggested that a research and monitoring program could be very effective to compare sources and sodium levels now to those same sources and sodium levels in the future once a Risk Management Plan has been implemented.

Lilly suggested that the Frobisher area and Bell Park area be monitored rigorously to determine how much sodium the Frobisher Depot is actually contributing to the lake. Paul indicated that the NDCA currently does monitor these parameters at eight main stormwater discharge sites around Ramsey Lake and hopes to maintain the program into the future.

Melanie asked committee members for input regarding parking lot size that should be considered for application and storage policies. Nels suggested that indoor storage of salt should be mandatory depending on the amount of impervious surface present. Paul suggested that Melanie contact salt spreading contractors to obtain some information on this.

The committee stressed that staff approach commercial salt applicators to learn what is currently being done, and to possibly have a focus group discussion on this. Education is acceptable as a policy option for commercial property owners. A one-time training exercise/workshop has been accepted in other areas.

Melanie suggested that “would be” storage threats be handled with a zoning bylaw and/or site planning and “would be” application threats be addressed with Salt Management Plans and Site Plan Control. The existing application threats could be managed with an Education and Outreach program as well as a Risk

Management/Salt Storage Plan. Examples include a “Yellow Fish” program on storm sewer grates, an incentive program, or a better street sweeping program for the Ramsey Lake watershed.

Nels raised a concern about the planning of new roads near the Wanapitei intake. Melanie informed Nels that MTO’s optional routes only occur in the Wanapitei IPZ-3 and would be less vulnerable than the existing routes in this area. Nels requested that Paul provide feedback on behalf of the NDCA to the MTO when the proposed plan opens for consultation in March.

Nels asked Melanie if she could provide a flow chart showing the policy development process for the committee. It was pointed out that a flowchart had been made available earlier but that based on the experience with the process it could be updated and provided at a future meeting

9. Correspondence/Program Updates

Judy informed the committee that a concerned group on the Vermilion River contacted the NDCA about the proposed small hydro projects by Xeneca Power Development. The concerned citizen said that they will copy the NDCA and Vale on letters they send to the MNR, MOE, etc. regarding their concerns.

Judy provided an update on the progress of the amended Assessment Report and informed the committee that it will be posted for public consultation on April 18, 2011. With a May 31 deadline to submit to the MOE, Judy explained that the Tier 3 water budget work will not be included in the amended Assessment Report. The methodology for this work is still being refined by the province and they have recently asked that additional data and modeling be incorporated into these analyses.

10. New Business

Nels led a roundtable discussion on new business. Judy indicated to committee members that they had been given a copy of the Chair’s quarterly report to the Source Protection Authority.

12. Adjournment

Resolution 2011-06

Bock

That we do now adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Carried.

13. List of Handouts Provided at Meeting

- Road salt policy handout
- Sample mail-out packages
 - Updated draft letter to Ramsey Lake watershed residents
 - Planning notifications/Prescribed Instruments list
 - Source Water Protection flyer
 - Notifications of new threats
- Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee Quarterly Report

14. Flash Drive Updates

- None provided

Next meeting: Thursday, March 10, 2011, 9:00a.m. - 12:00p.m., Room C-12, Tom Davies Square