

Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee
6th Meeting
May 13th, 2008

Held: C-11, Tom Davies Square

Commenced at: 1:00 p.m.

Adjourned at: 4:05 p.m.

Present: Nels Conroy, Chair
Paul Baskcomb
Nick Benkovich
Luc Bock
Greg Haddad
Donald Malette
Lilly Noble
Crystal Osawamick
Wendy Wisniewski
Tim Worton

Also Present: Bob Rogers, Source Protection Authority Liaison
Richard Vantfoort, Ministry of Environment Liaison
Judy Sewell, Drinking Water Source Protection
Melanie Venne, Drinking Water Source Protection
Nathalie Gara-Boivin, Drinking Water Source Protection
Sharon Bennett, Drinking Water Source Protection

Communication: Stephen Monet
Art Petahtegoose
Richard Auld, Sudbury District Health Unit Liaison

1. Chair Conroy opened the meeting

Nels welcomed Richard Vantfoort, who was sitting in for Katie Fairman. Richard is a Water Resources Scientist with the MOE Source Protection Planning group. Donald Malette was also welcomed back after an injury during the winter.

2. No Declarations of Conflict Were Declared.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution 2008-13

Noble - Benkovich

That the agenda for the May 13, 2008 Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried.

4. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Resolution 2008-14

Haddad - Wisniewski

That the minutes of the April 8, 2008 Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee meeting, as duplicated and circulated, be approved.

Carried.

5. Terms of Reference Update

A Terms of Reference handout was distributed. The document that will go public on May 22nd will consist of a 12 page plain language Terms of Reference background document and the longer regulated wizard printout. In addition to the documents that will go public, more detailed information on budget and cost estimates was provided.

Judy Sewell gave the committee the task of reading through the document and providing commentary. Initial comments provided by May 20th will be incorporated into the Terms of Reference that will go public on May 22nd. Any additional comments that are provided by June 4th will be incorporated into a revised draft for further discussion at the June 10th SPC meeting. Public comments are due on the draft proposed terms of reference June 26th. The Source Protection Committee will provide the proposed terms of reference to the Source Protection Authority August 13th.

Once the Terms of Reference goes public on May 22nd then committee members are urged to send it on to other groups or individuals in the sector they represent.

Judy led the committee through a page by page overview of the Terms of Reference summary document, answering question regarding maps, drinking water systems and costs as she went. There was some discussion about costing for some of the technical studies. Creating cost summaries for technical studies that do not have formal regulations in place is difficult. Nels suggested adding a qualifier to the Terms of Reference document indicating that the estimates are apt to change based on the regulations and director's rules.

The committee noted that very little money was budgeted for some items such as identifying issues, inventorying threats and assessing hazards in highly vulnerable aquifers and that more funding would likely be needed for these items and other items where relatively small amounts were budgeted.

Judy noted that there are three envelopes for funding for source protection, and they cannot be mixed.

- Operating and Administration: Source protection committee costs, staff salaries, benefits, administration, support, training, travel, communications and information management; \$555,225 approved for 2008-2009.
- Water Budget: specific fund from MNR for water budget work; terminates when water budget planning requirements are met; \$326,400 approved for 2008 and 2009 in January, 2008.
- Technical Studies: funding from MOE for technical studies to complete the assessment report technical studies and source protection plan; \$585,000 granted in April, 2008.

6. Correspondence and Source Protection Program Update

On Wednesday, May 14th Nick Benkovich will be going to City Council regarding the Stewardship Fund. The Nickel District Conservation Authority received \$41,600 for the Early Action program. The MOE program will fund 50% of the cost of a well or septic upgrade or decommission. The City of Greater Sudbury has \$50,000 set aside for Source Water Protection. The Council presentation will be to see if the City will allow the money to be used to match the 50% allotted by MOE. The landowners within 100 meters of a municipal well or 200 meters from a municipal surface water intake could therefore receive up to 100% of the cost of well or septic work to help protect sources of municipal drinking water.

On June 5th there will be an open house in Hanmer for the 150 landowners who are eligible for this early action stewardship fund. The Early Action is administered by the Nickel District Conservation Authority. The MOE has been very clear that it is a Conservation Authority program although it is closely related to the work of the Source Protection Committee.

Drinking Water Protection Area signs are now being put up in neighbourhoods and parks to mark the area 1km from the Ramsey Lake surface intake. Nathalie Gara-Boivin distributed magnets that were created to duplicate the street signs.

There is a posting on the Environmental Bill of Rights website for the Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program and Property Entry Training under section 88 of the Clean Water Act, 2006. Judy informed the committee that the Nickel District Conservation Authority contributed to Conservation Ontario's corporate response and will also submit a response from the NDCA. Nick Benkovich also mentioned that the City of Greater Sudbury Water and Wastewater department may respond to the posting.

Nathalie Gara-Boivin mentioned that she and Melanie Venne met with Mr. Bob Tait. Mr. Tait is concerned about water conservation and was interested in knowing if the committee could have an impact of water conservation measures. Nathalie said that Mr. Tait's discussion would be recorded on the public consultation record.

Nels discussed a meeting he has scheduled for next week with City of Greater Sudbury Water and Wastewater staff, Consultants and Source Protection staff. The City is searching for new wells in the Valley and this meeting is to discuss implications source water protection and the City's Official Plan may have on this search.

Lastly, Bob Rogers spoke about an Earthcare workshop that was held on May 8th to update their local action plan. One of the objectives of the action plan is protecting drinking water. Bob stressed the importance of retaining contact with this group.

7. Planning for June Open Houses

Nathalie Gara-Boivin gave a PowerPoint presentation to set the stage for the June open houses. She gave a quick overview of key principles of stakeholder engagement and the different levels of public participation.

The first open house on Thursday June 12th will centre on Ramsey Lake and have a presentation and a Cortina boat cruise. On Tuesday, June 17th, a second open house will take place at the Howard Armstrong Centre in Hanmer and will have presentations and well tour. At the open houses the role of the SPC will be to meet and greet the public and answer questions relating to their sector.

After a discussion about questions that may be asked during these open houses, Nels suggested that an ad hoc group of committee members and staff meet to prepare a list of potential questions and answers.

Natalie was questioned about the planned mechanism for soliciting comments from the public and it was suggested that a comment sheet be drafted that would include a number of subject areas in order to direct the public's responses.

8. New Business

Chair Conroy led a round table discussion regarding new business. No new business was brought up.

Nels mentioned that the Soils Study Human Health Risk Assessment results were being released Tuesday May 13th to Thursday May 15th. These results could have implications for source water protection and we may receive questions about this at our open houses. As information becomes available it will be reviewed. The topic will be brought up again at a later SPC meeting.

A July meeting may be needed. Committee members are asked to pencil it in to their schedules for Tuesday July 9th from 1pm to 4pm. As we get closer to the date, the meeting may be cancelled if it is found to be unnecessary.

9. Adjournment

Resolution 2008-15

Malette - Noble

That we now adjourn.

10. List of Handouts Provided at Meeting

- Draft Proposed Terms of Reference
- Terms of Reference Budget Summary
- Business Plan for Drinking Water Source Protection Funding
- NDCA Source Water Protection Library List
- Watershed Characterization Executive Summary
- Tier One Water Budget and Water Quantity Stress Assessment Executive Summary

Next meeting: Tuesday June 10th, 1pm to 4pm at Tom Davies Square, Room C-11