

**Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee  
20<sup>th</sup> Meeting  
October 13, 2009**

**Held:** Tom Davies Square, Room C-12

**Commenced at:** 1:05 p.m.

**Adjourned at:** 4:10 p.m.

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

**Also Present:** Bob Rogers, Greater Sudbury Source Protection Authority Liaison  
Richard Auld, Sudbury & District Health Unit Liaison  
Neil Gervais, Ministry of the Environment Liaison  
Judy Sewell, Drinking Water Source Protection  
Melanie Venne, Drinking Water Source Protection  
Sharon Bennett, Drinking Water Source Protection  
Brianna Carter, Drinking Water Source Protection  
Paul Sajatovic, Nickel District Conservation Authority

**1. No Declarations of Conflict Were Declared.**

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

Resolution 2009-20

Worton - Bois

That the agenda for the October 13, 2009, Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee meeting be adopted, as circulated.

Carried.

### **3. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Resolution 2009-21

Noble - Benkovich

That the minutes of the September 8, 2009, Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee meeting, as amended, be approved.

Carried.

### **4. Business Arising from the Minutes**

As mentioned at the September meeting, Paul Baskcomb attended a meeting in Toronto on September 11 regarding the Source Protection Plan Discussion Paper. Paul indicated that six municipalities were represented at the meeting and it was a general discussion on the types of planning tools that could be used in the creation of the Source Protection Plan.

Judy also updated the committee on First Nation representation on the committee. The Wahnapiatae First Nations have hired a new environmental officer, Cheryl Recollet, and she will attend committee meetings starting in November. Judy has not heard from Whitefish Lake First Nation and will try contacting them again about representation on the committee.

### **5. Update on Surface Water Vulnerability**

Sharon provided an update on the status of the Intake Protection Zone-1 (IPZ-1) for Ramsey Lake. The technical rules state that IPZ-1 should be a 1km radius around the intake. However, staff have been proposing to include the entire adjoining bay. A proposed amendment to the technical rules allow IPZ-1 on an inland lake to be different that a 1 km radius if the hydrodynamic information is available to support such a change. Given this development, Sharon is further investigating a Master's thesis that studied currents and velocity in Ramsey Lake. The student did velocity magnitude modeling on the lake and the results show that the lake is very dynamic. The results of the thesis may provide scientific rationale to expand the IPZ-1. Sharon will keep the committee updated as she and Anoop Naik confirm the results of the study.

Sharon shared details of a proposed amendment to the technical rules that could be helpful. If an issue is a drinking water concern for the committee but is not in the Ontario Drinking Water Standard, we can now deal with it. This new rule will make it possible for the committee to consider phosphorus in the Assessment Report.

Lilly Noble inquired if this would help us look at blue green algae. The new rule does not impact the blue green algae issue since it is a biological issue. A microbial assessment may be able to be done for the Assessment Report to look at blue green

algae. Sharon is still consulting with the North Bay Conservation Authority, since they have a similar issue in their drinking water system for Callander.

## **6. Group Discussion on Representing Threats in the Assessment Report**

Sharon approached the committee on their preference regarding representing threats in the Assessment Report. She presented three options that ranged from the minimum requirement to moderate and higher levels of detail.

The committee thought that the minimum requirement was not sufficient enough and discussed the pros and cons of the remaining two options. At the end of the discussion, there was consensus that option one provided a good level of detail for the main body of text of the report. However, in the view of being as transparent as possible, option two, which is the most detailed option, should be available at the open house, upon request and possibly as an appendix to the Assessment Report.

Stephen Monet emphasized that either option was good, but the list of threats must have the fewest omissions possible. It is important to consider in some way the threats and concerns of committee members and the general public even if they do not fit well with the regulated list of threats. Sharon will consider how to deal with this.

## **7. Amendment to the Official Plan**

Paul Baskcomb and City of Greater Sudbury senior planner, Kris Longston, made a presentation to the committee about the upcoming Official Plan amendment regarding the Wellhead Protection Areas.

In 2006, when the Official Plan was released, the most current information and mapping from the Golder groundwater report was added, with the understanding that Source Protection was forthcoming. In the interim, policies were also put in place for the different WHPA zones.

The mapping has since been updated through the Source Protection Program and Paul is working towards amending the Official Plan to add the most recent maps. The policies are not proposed to change in any major way.

Judy mentioned that the map labels in the Official Plan maps should be consistent with the mapping requirements of the Assessment Report. Sharon remarked that the technical rules threats table should perhaps be looked at to match the current risk categories table in the Official Plan.

Paul mentioned that the new maps have an additional delineation, WHPA-E, which was not in the policies before and will have to figure out a way to deal with that.

Paul also suggested having an open house for the Official Plan amendment in conjunction with the SPC. Nels thought it was a very good idea and would help to keep the Source Protection message clear and streamlined with partners.

Richard Bois inquired about the upcoming zoning by-laws with regards to the wellhead protection zones. Paul explained that the new zoning by-laws are currently being worked on and will be an interim measure until the source protection plan is completed.

There was discussion about including the new mapping for the highly vulnerable areas and significant groundwater recharge areas. However, the area is geographically very large and current Official Plan policies would then apply to the whole area. Staff will have to meet with Paul to further discuss this.

## **8. Assessment Report Timelines**

Judy went over upcoming timelines and responsibilities for the Assessment Report. The draft proposed Assessment Report is currently scheduled to be posted on February 22 and open houses will be held in early March. Prior to these dates, committee members should be both satisfied with the content and comfortable with the material.

Part 1 was put on the flash drives in June and an updated version is available to anyone who wants it added to their drives or a hardcopy is available for those who would prefer it. At the November SPC meeting, a hard copy of the working draft of the report will be distributed, including some maps. It is important to begin the review process as we work towards going public in February. The next few SPC meetings will focus on reviewing the Assessment Report.

There are still a few meetings remaining and if there are topics that you wish to have discussed or explained further, please let staff know. Nels thought it was important to further discuss threats at the next meeting. Sharon will try to bring a complete list for the next meeting and have the listing as part of the Assessment Report November draft.

## **9. Planning for Assessment Report Open Houses**

Brianne distributed a list of potential options for open house dates, times and locations. The Committee felt strongly that a minimum of two open houses needed to be held. The committee also discussed that good advertising needs to occur in order to notify and attract people. A letter must go out to all landowners who are conducting activities that are or would be a significant threat. These landowners in the vulnerable areas will be getting brochures and invitations.

Brianne will look into booking the Science North Cavern and the Howard Armstrong Centre on Dominion Drive in Hanmer for the chosen dates.

Bob and Stephen noted that it will be important to have information available on what individuals can do for source protection, best management practices and shared responsibility.

## **10. Program Updates / Correspondence**

### **i) Source Protection Authority Update**

On Saturday September 26, the Source Protection Authority, Judy and Nels met. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the implementation of the Source Protection Plan and begin thinking of post-2012. Notes about the meeting are attached to these minutes.

### **ii) Water Gathering**

This year's Water Gathering will be held on November 5, at the Science North Cavern. The guest speaker will be Al Douglas from the Ontario Centre for Climate Impacts and Adaptation Resources at Laurentian University.

### **iii) Future SPC Meeting and Training**

Nels suggested inviting Bob Davidson, a supervisor at Walkerton, to come talk to the committee at a meeting early next year. It may also be a good time to invite the neighboring SPCs to join us.

### **iv) Training**

Staff is looking into booking a media training course for committee members and staff in the new year.

There is a two hour webinar on stormwater retrofitting hosted by the Centre for Watershed Protection on October 14 for any committee members that are interested.

*Additional program updates not presented at the meeting because of time constraints:*

### **v) Terms of Reference Amendments**

Three updates will be necessary to the Terms of Reference:

- Remove the Levack system from the terms of reference
- Change the Wickwas well in the Onaping system from "planned" to "existing"
- Change the ownership of the Falconbridge well from Xstrata Nickel to the City of Greater Sudbury

These changes will be made and a letter sent to MOE when the Levack system goes offline and the Wickwas well comes on line at the end of November 2009.

**vi) Assessment Report Notification**

A letter is required to go out to all landowners who are conducting activities that are or would be significant threats. These will go out toward the end of the year or as the Assessment Report is released in early 2010. Copies of the letter will also be sent to relevant City Councilors and senior City staff.

The Timmins SPC will be hosting their Assessment Report open house in November and their report is due in January. It is the first Assessment Report due in the Province and Judy will provide an update after their open house.

**viii) Stewardship Program Update**

The Early Action component of the Stewardship Program still has funds available. This year, six projects have been completed; including four septic inspections, one replacement septic tank, and one replacement septic tank and field bed.

Applications for new Stewardship funds were due September 15. The NDCA applied for funds to deliver next year's Early Action program and funds for an education and outreach project. The education and outreach project would consist of advertisements in newspapers and a brochure to notify and educate the public about the Assessment Report and the SPC.

Provincially there was \$4.8 million to be distributed, and \$11.7 million worth of proposals were received. The MOE will make decisions on successful proposals by November 15.

**ix) Recent Presentations**

Judy has recently given presentations to:

- Ontario Mining Association – Environmental Committee on September 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Water Environment Association of Ontario / Professional Wastewater Operators on September 30<sup>th</sup>

**vii) Chairs & Project Managers Meeting**

The Chairs and Project Managers met with their provincial counterparts on September 21 and 22. The following items were discussed:

The Minister of the Environment met with the Chairs for a very productive meeting.

The risk management catalogue should be released in October. Guidance and training will accompany the catalogue. There are 453 risk management measures in the catalogue so far.

Rick Lindgren, a member of the Canadian Environmental Law Association and the Kingston area SPC, made a presentation. He emphasized the importance of the source protection work, but would like

to see private systems, climate change and watershed planning incorporated more into source protection planning.

There was a discussion on planning and interim control bylaws, which can be used by municipalities to pass a bylaw for one, two or three years. This may potentially be a useful tool to use while waiting for the source protection plan to be approved.

**x) Correspondence**

The following correspondence has been received:

- The September Liaison newsletter from the Ministry of the Environment
  
- The MOE sent out a letter to the Health Unit Liaisons about their role and the process for designating a new liaison.

**11. Addendum / New Business**

Chair Conroy led a round table discussion regarding new business.

Wendy updated the committee on a recent situation of vandalism at the Levack water treatment plant that caused Vale to terminate the supply while the situation was investigated. Richard Auld provided additional details on this. Wendy also mentioned that the plans to deregulate the Levack well are on track for November 30, 2009.

Nick mentioned that the City will be issuing public service announcements and notifications regarding the commissioning of the new system that will provide water to Levack and part of the Valley.

Greg mentioned that the Ministry of the Environment had a Source Water Protection presentation at the provincial dry cleaner's conference at the end of September.

Paul Sajatovic remarked that the Climate Change Consortium, led by the NDCA general board, is continuing to move forward and will be presenting to City Council on November 12.

**12. Adjournment**

Resolution 2009-22

Baskcomb - Haddad

That we now adjourn.

### **13. List of Handouts Provided at Meeting**

- Options for Representing Threats in the Assessment Report
- City of Greater Sudbury Official Plan Excerpt – Drinking Water Resources and Groundwater Resources
- Presentation Slides: Assessment Report Responsibilities
- Assessment Report Open House Options

#### **Flash Drive Updates**

- Latest version of the Assessment Report Part 1
- A hardcopy can be requested. Please contact Melanie if you wish to have one.

**Next meeting:** November 10, 2009, 1 to 4 p.m. at Tom Davies Square, Room C-12

**Attachments:** Notes from the September 26, 2009 Source Protection Authority meeting