



**Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee
14th Meeting
March 10, 2009**

Held: David St. Water Treatment Plant and Room C-12, Tom Davies Square

Commenced at: 1:00 p.m.

Adjourned at: 4:05 p.m.

Present: Nels Conroy, Chair
Paul Baskcomb
Luc Bock
Greg Haddad
Heather Mandamin
Stephen Monet
Lilly Noble
Wendy Wisniewski
Tim Worton

Also Present: Bob Rogers, Greater Sudbury Source Protection Authority Liaison
John Westlake, Ministry of the Environment Liaison
Judy Sewell, Drinking Water Source Protection
Sharon Bennett, Drinking Water Source Protection
Melanie Venne, Drinking Water Source Protection
Paul Sajatovic, Nickel District Conservation Authority

Communication: Nick Benkovich
Crystal Osawamick
Ed Gardner, Sudbury & District Health Unit
Richard Auld, Sudbury & District Health Unit Liaison

1. Tour of David St. Water Treatment Plant

The committee got a tour of the David St. Water Treatment Plant from two of the water operators, Myrna Minduik and Ian Coppo. Before the tour, Chair Conroy briefly spoke about the value of this opportunity to see and understand the capacity of the treatment plant, and the differences in treatment that the other source waters in Sudbury undergo.

The operators explained that the David Street Water treatment plant was built in 1895. The latest upgrade, the microfiltration component, was added in 2004. The treated water is sent to the Ellis Reservoir and is mixed with the treated water from the Wanapitei River.

The committee got to see all the treatment equipment and treatment steps. There was a discussion about the technology of microfiltration, the capacity of the system to remove salt and the contingency plans in case of a spill.

After the tour the committee returned to Tom Davies Square and continued the meeting there.

2. Introduction of the New Ministry of the Environment Liaison

Nels introduced John Westlake, our new permanent Ministry of the Environment Liaison. John has been at this position since December and is also responsible for two other Source Protection committees (Timmins and Hamilton). The committee likewise introduced themselves to John.

3. No Declarations of Conflict Were Declared.

4. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution 2009-06

Wisniewski - Noble

That the agenda for the March 10, 2009 Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee meeting be adopted, as circulated

Carried.

5. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Resolution 2009-07

Haddad - Worton

That the minutes of the February 10, 2009 Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee meeting, as duplicated and circulated, be approved.

Carried.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

Nels quickly reviewed the minutes from the last meeting and updated the committee on the status of the procedural manual. The changes suggested by the committee were made and a letter detailing these was sent to the Greater Sudbury Source Protection Authority.

At the February meeting the committee heard the concerns of a resident regarding the dogs on the Ramsey Lake skating path. Lilly Noble inquired as to what response the committee can have with regards to those concerns. A discussion arose surrounding the applicability of the residents concern to our mandate and what actions the committee could take regarding this issue. Bob Rogers suggested sending a letter to City of Greater Sudbury Park Services about the issue. The committee agreed and staff will draft a letter to both the citizen and to Parks and Leisure Services.

7. Previous Studies and Plans for Ramsey Lake

At the last SPC meeting, Lilly asked if there was a stewardship group on Ramsey Lake. In addition, staff had received a phone call from someone who previously took part in Ramsey Lake studies and was wondering if we were looking at the already existing studies and recommendations. It is for these reasons that staff thought it important to review the work that has been done on the lake.

There have been three major studies on Ramsey Lake:

- The Ramsey Lake and Watershed Community Improvement Plan: A 100 Year Vision, by Moriyama and Teshima Planners Limited, Toronto, May 1991
- Community Improvement Plan, Ramsey Lake, December 1994, jointly prepared by the Regional Planning and Development Department and the Ramsey Lake Technical Committee for the Ramsey Lake Steering Committee
- East End of Ramsey Lake Master Plan, September 2001
- All of them are available online at:
www.greatersudbury.ca/cms/index.cfm?app=div_planning&lang=en&currID=731. A copy has been placed in the Source Protection Committee's library for use by the committee

Melanie Venne explained the basis of the studies and provided a handout. Some of the recommendations of these Ramsey Lake studies are issues that the committee is considering presently and may have an impact on the Assessment Report and subsequent plan.

Bob Rogers was able to speak about the studies as he formerly sat on the committee for one of the studies, and chaired another. He specifically addressed Lilly's question of a stewardship group. The Community Improvement Plan tried to institute a Ramsey Lake Trust. However, when the trust failed to receive charitable status, the group felt they were unable to fulfill its objectives.

8. Assessment Report Regulation and Technical Rules and Threats Update

Judy Sewell distributed a draft list of potential significant threats around the wellhead protection areas. This list was developed by WESA using initial screening based on the Municipal Groundwater Study (2005), windshield surveys completed in the summer of 2007 and by ortho-imagery.

The committee had questions about the vulnerability scores, how the list was produced and the next steps in the process of refining the list.

A table of threats has been produced by the MOE which outlines the circumstances in which a potential threat would be deemed a significant, moderate or low threat. These tables include information regarding the quantity and type of contaminant, amount of contributing area and other screening criteria to assess the level of significance of each activity. The MOE is planning to hold a threats workshop in the near future in order to help the consultants, staff and committee interpret the criteria in the tables. Workshop dates are still to be determined.

This preliminary list of threats within the WHPA's was not produced using these criteria. Rather, it was devised based on existing land uses and the potential for certain activities to occur on these land uses. The exercise was completed in order to scope out the number and location of potential threats in order to plan for ground truthing in the field this summer. An updated list will be produced for the Assessment Report after the summer field season based on the MOE criteria.

The Ministry of the Environment has only asked for a list of the potential significant threats. But in the Sudbury area is it manageable to drive around and refine the list with ground truthing.

WESA is currently working on a list of potential significant threats for the Intake Protection Zones and will report on their findings at the SPC Meeting in April.

Judy also distributed a binder of the Assessment Report Technical Rules and Regulations to all committee members. A separate binder with the threats table is available in the library at the NDCA office for those who wish to examine it. A copy will be provided to any committee member who would like their own copy. MOE is planning to conduct training for staff, consultants and committee members on how to interpret the threats table in the near future.

9. Role of the SPC in the Development of the Assessment Report

This topic was introduced by Judy at the last SPC meeting and was up for further discussion. The Source Protection Committee is responsible for the preparation of the Assessment Report, and different committees across the province are approaching their responsibility in different ways. At the February meeting Judy had provided a one page handout on what MOE has said about the role of the committee. This is just an information item to help the committee determine the level of oversight or the level of detail, preferred during the development of the assessment report. Due to time constraints the committee suggested moving this discussion to an upcoming meeting.

10. Correspondence / Program Updates

i) Water on Film

The second Water on Film Festival will be held on Sunday, March 22nd at Rainbow Cinemas. Melanie offered posters to those who could post them at their workplaces. There will be three films: Le porteur d'eau (French only) at 1:30 p.m., Water under Fire at 2:45 p.m. and One Water at 4 p.m.

ii) Committee Vacancy

The Source Protection Authority received 29 applications for the public member at large vacancy on the committee. Nels, Bob Rogers, Judy and Paul Sajatovic have worked to narrow down the choices and up to 5 people will be invited to an interview on March 16th. At the Greater Sudbury Source Protection Authority meeting on March 19th the new member of the Source Protection Committee will be appointed and that person should be at the April SPC meeting.

iii) New Positions

The posting for the Technical Field position closed on March 6th, and Sharon is currently reviewing the applications. The Communications Officer position will be closing on March 13th. Many applications have been received for both positions.

iv) Friends of McFarlane Lake Presentation to the Priorities Council

The Friends of McFarlane Lake presented to the priorities committee of the City of Greater Sudbury Council on February 18th 2009. The group is very keen on getting municipal support to protect water quality on their lake, and also to be included in the Source Protection Planning process.

The Ministry of the Environment will be providing guidance to municipalities to help them decide if they want to include private systems in the source protection planning process.

v) Kenneth Well and Ontario Municipal Board

The concerns of a resident living near the Kenneth well regarding rezoning on Kenneth Drive to allow the development of a trade school were heard at a previous SPC meeting. Judy updated the committee that this resident is now applying to the Ontario Municipal Board to have the planning decision that allowed rezoning for the construction of the school to be overturned.

vi) Terms of Reference

The latest update on the Terms of Reference indicated that the Ministry of the Environment was still reviewing the package. The delay in approval means that the committee will have the rest of the year to complete the assessment report and the consultation period can occur after Christmas 2009.

11. Addendum / New Business

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

12. Adjournment

Due to a loss of quorum there was no resolution for adjournment and the Chair closed the meeting.

13. List of Handouts Provided at Meeting

- Details of Source Protection Committee Roles and Responsibilities during the Development of the Assessment Report
- Draft List of Potential Significant Threats in the Wellhead Protection Areas
- Binder of Assessment Report Technical Rules and Regulations
- MOE Threats tables is available in the NDCA library (copies for individual committee members available upon request)

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 14th 2009, 1 to 4 p.m., Tour of Frobisher Depot and meeting afterward at Contact North (410 Falconbridge Rd.)