

AGENDA

Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee (MRSPC)

April 3, 2008 at 1:00 pm
Rideau Valley Conservation Authority
3889 Rideau Valley Drive, Manotick

		Pg.	
1:00 p.m.	1.0 Welcome a. Agenda Review b. Notice of Proxies c. Adoption of the Agenda (D) d. Declarations of Interest e. Approval of Minutes – March 6, 2008 (D) f. Status of Action Items (I)	 1 10	 <i>Chair Stavinga</i>
	2.0 Community Events and Presentations (I) a. Update from staff b. Update from members	 14	 <i>Chair Stavinga</i>
	3.0 Preliminary Draft (version 1) Terms of Reference (I) a. Preliminary draft version of Terms of Reference for review and comment	 15	 <i>Brian Stratton</i>
	4.0 Ministry of the Environment Presentation (I) a. An overview of provincial legislation that protects Ontario's drinking water, the "safety net"	 	 <i>Katie Fairman (MOE)</i>
	5.0 Draft Technical Reports (I) a. Overview of preliminary draft <i>Conceptual Water Budget</i> Report	 16	 <i>Manon Lalonde (Delcan Consulting)</i>
	6.0 Other Business		<i>Chair Stavinga</i>
	7.0 Member Inquiries		<i>Chair Stavinga</i>
	8.0 Next Meeting – May 1, 2008, 7pm Almonte Old Town Hall (14 Bridge Street, Almonte) * 6pm "Meet & Greet"		<i>Chair Stavinga</i>
	9.0 Adjournment		<i>Chair Stavinga</i>

(I) = Information (D) = Decision

Delegations wishing to speak to an item on the SPC Agenda will please call Karyn Cornfield at 613-692-3571 ext 1149 or karyn.cornfield@mrsourcewater.ca before the meeting. Thanks.

1.0 e) STATUS OF ACTION ITEMS

Date: March 19, 2008
To: Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee
From: Sommer Casgrain-Robertson, Communications Specialist
Mississippi – Rideau Source Protection Region

Staff and Chair Action Items:

	Issue	Action	Lead	Status
1	We need to identify broad regional threats in Highly Vulnerable Aquifers that threaten private wells and be able to address them in Source Protection Plans	Chair Stavinga to raise this issue with MOE at next Chair’s Meeting	Chair Stavinga	Complete (raised at Chairs Meeting Mar 3)
		Chair Stavinga will continue to raise this issue with MOE as needed	Chair Stavinga	ongoing
2	Source Protection Program “Stewardship Fund”	Staff are critiquing the current program and preparing a list of recommendations for consideration by the MRSPC	Sommer Casgrain-Robertson	In-progress
		Staff will ask MOE to produce a report showing what percentage of the funding was successfully granted to landowners.	Sommer Casgrain-Robertson	In-progress
3	What is the best way for the public to contact the MRSPC	Staff will explore email options for members	Chair Stavinga	In-progress Staff are setting up “ <i>firstname.lastname@mrsourcewater.ca</i> ” email addresses for all members. Will be completed April 3.
4	Would a member’s only page on our web site be useful	Staff will explore a members only page on the source protection web site	Chair Stavinga	Complete Members decided a member’s only page is not required at this time

5	Uranium mining	Send a formal request to MOE asking them to further examine this issue in conjunction with other Ministries and report back to the MRSPC	Brian Stratton	Complete Letter sent March 5, 2008
		Circulate report and motions to other SPC Chairs	Chair Stavinga	Complete Circulated to all SPC Chairs March 5, 2008
		Circulate report and motions to Citizen Inquiry, companies and individuals involved in uranium mining	Karyn Cornfield	In-progress Sent to Citizen Inquiry contact March 17, 2008 and Frontenac Ventures Corporation March 20, 2008. Addresses for all other mining companies with exploration claims are being collected.
		Develop public awareness campaign with local Health Units about naturally occurring uranium in drinking water – request funding from MOE for this initiative	Paul Lehman	In-progress Letter sent to MOE March 5, 2008 requesting funding
		Request that MOE provide ability and funding to identify threats in HVAs & SGRAs and address them	Brian Stratton	Complete Letter sent March 5, 2008. Staff will notify MRSPC of opportunities to comment on draft regulations that pertain to this issue
6	What is the primacy of the <i>Clean Water Act</i> versus other legislation	Staff to seek legal opinion from MOE	Sommer Casgrain-Robertson	In-progress Response received from MOE & circulated to members. Chair Stavinga seeking further clarification from MOE

7	Can the SPC post draft documents on the EBR for public review & comment	Staff to ask MOE	Sommer Casgrain-Robertson	In-progress Only MOE can post documents on the EBR. Chair Stavinga raised this issue at the March 3 Chairs meeting and MOE may be able to post a notice on the EBR directing the public to source protection region websites to view draft documents for consultation
8	Governing Policies	Forward draft Governing Policies to the SPAs for their review in February	Sommer Casgrain-Robertson	Complete Approved by Mississippi Valley SPA February 20, 2008 and Rideau Valley SPA February 28, 2008.
		Forward approved Governing Policies to MOE	Chair Stavinga	Complete Sent March 5, 2008
9	List of member municipalities	Staff provide members with list of municipalities in our region	Sommer Casgrain-Robertson	Complete Given to members March 6, 2008
10	List/map of “other” systems that could be elevated by municipal council resolution	This information is contained in the Watershed Characterization report	Brad Carew	Complete This information is contained in the <i>preliminary draft</i> Watershed Characterization Report sent to members March 25
11	Outreach & Education program	Ensure Well Aware program is included in “grants brochure”	Sommer Casgrain-Robertson	Complete
		Get a copy of stewardship landowner survey done by University of Guelph	Sommer Casgrain-Robertson	In-progress
12	Partnerships with Academia	Approach post-secondary institutions about possible partnerships	Chair Stavinga	In-progress

Member Action Items:

	Issue	Action	Lead	Status
1	MRSPC May to October meetings will be held throughout the region	Members to provide Sommer with potential locations for summer meetings	Sommer Casgrain- Robertson	In-progress
2	There are many events that source protection staff should attend or present at.	Members to notify Sommer of potential events and speaking opportunities	Sommer Casgrain- Robertson	ongoing

2.0 Community Events and Presentations

Date: March 19, 2008
To: Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee
From: Sommer Casgrain-Robertson, Communications Specialist
Mississippi – Rideau Source Protection Region

Background

Staff attend many different meetings and events throughout the year often setting-up display booths and/or giving presentations about source protection. Now that the MRSPC has been formed committee members will be attending various events as well. It is important that staff and members keep each other informed about their attendance at upcoming events so that we can coordinate our participation and prepare appropriate materials in advance. This includes coordinating with our neighbouring regions for meetings and events that cover Eastern Ontario.

Update from Staff

Past Events

- None in March

Upcoming Events

- *MNR Staff Source Water Protection Workshop*, April 1 (Brian & Sommer attending)
- *The Cottage Show* (Ottawa), April 11-13 (Sommer attending)
- *Ottawa Eco-Stewardship Fair*, April 19 (Sommer attending)

Update from Members

Past Events

Members are asked to give a verbal update at the meeting on events they have attended in the past month related to source protection.

Upcoming Events

Members are asked to give a verbal update at the meeting about events they are planning to attend in the coming months related to source protection.

3.0 Preliminary Draft (version 1) Terms of Reference

Date: March 19, 2008
To: Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee
From: Brian Stratton, Project Manager
Mississippi – Rideau Source Protection Region

Background

Each source protection committee is required to produce Terms of Reference (ToR) for the preparation of assessment reports and source protection plans. The MRSPC must produce two ToR, one for the Mississippi watershed and one for the Rideau watershed.

Committee's must submit proposed Terms of Reference to Source Protection Authorities by August 20, 2008 who in turn must submit them to the Ministry of the Environment by October 20, 2008 for approval.

Mississippi-Rideau source protection staff have generated a *first version preliminary draft* ToR for both the Mississippi and Rideau Valley areas. These were produced using the required Ministry of Environment Terms of Reference software ("Terms of Reference Wizard"). These are just *first version preliminary drafts* because there are still some items under discussion and review.

April MRSPC Meeting:

- Staff present *first version preliminary drafts* of:
 - Mississippi Valley Source Protection Area Terms of Reference; and
 - Rideau Valley Source Protection Area Terms of Reference.
- MRSPC review and comment on the documents.

May MRSPC Meeting:

- MRSPC review final *preliminary draft* ToR for Mississippi and Rideau.
- MRSPC consider approving the *preliminary draft* documents for public consultation (documents would become *draft* at this stage).

The ToR are being prepared in accordance with:

- *Clean Water Act, 2007*;
- Ontario Regulation 285/07 "Time Limits"; and
- Ontario Regulation 287/07 "Terms of Reference".

5.0 Draft Technical Reports

Date: March 19, 2008
To: Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee
From: Sommer Casgrain-Robertson, Communications Specialist
Mississippi – Rideau Source Protection Region

Background

Over the past three years staff have been working on background technical work that will feed into the Assessment Report which is due in 2009. Currently staff have completed *preliminary draft* versions of the first two reports: Watershed Characterization Report and Conceptual Water Budget. A schedule has been developed to share these preliminary draft reports with the MRSPC over the next four months

Watershed Characterization Report – *preliminary draft*

This report is a compilation of existing knowledge about the Mississippi-Rideau region. It includes information on natural characteristics, population distribution, land use, water quality conditions and trends, water use, vulnerable areas, issues and threats. Maps have been produced to illustrate many of these regional characteristics and features. The watershed characterization report is the foundation on which the rest of the technical reports build on.

Very recently staff received important updated data which is currently being incorporated into the report. This is why members could not be provided with a hard copy of the report prior to their March 6 meeting. A copy of this report will be provide to members in their April agenda package (or earlier if possible).

Conceptual Water Budget – *preliminary draft*

This report provides an overview of how surface water and ground water interact and move through the hydrologic cycle within the Mississippi-Rideau region. It identifies where water is stored, how it travels through the region, what and where there are stresses on quantity and what trends exist. The goal of this report is to protect the quantity of drinking water sources in our region.

The Conceptual Water Budget was subject to a peer review process. Our *preliminary draft* version has been reviewed and approved by both the peer review team and the Province.

Schedule

March 6 Meeting - Watershed Characterization Report, Chapter 1

- Staff provided an overview of Chapter 1 (watershed description) of the *preliminary draft* Watershed Characterization Report. A hard copy of the presentation slides were given to each member at the start of the meeting.
- Members received a hard copy of the *preliminary draft* Conceptual Water Budget at this meeting

March 27

- **Members will receive a newly revised copy of the *preliminary draft* Watershed Characterization Report with their April agenda package**

April 3 Meeting – Conceptual Water Budget

- **Staff will provide an overview of the *preliminary draft* Conceptual Water Budget**

May 1 Meeting – Watershed Characterization Report, Chapter 3

- Staff will provide an overview of Chapter 3 (Vulnerable Areas) of the *preliminary draft* Watershed Characterization Report

June 5 Meeting – Watershed Characterization Report, Chapter 2 and 4

- Staff will provide an overview of Chapters 2 (Water Quality) and 4 (Threats & Issues) of the *preliminary draft* Watershed Characterization Report