

# MISSISSIPPI-RIDEAU SOURCE PROTECTION REGION

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## FINAL MINUTES

(as amended)

Mississippi-Rideau

Source Protection Committee

October 27, 2020

#2/20

### VIA TELECONFERENCE

**Voting Members:**

Scott Bryce  
Ken Graham  
Drew Lampman  
Claude Lloyd  
Peter McLaren  
Eleanor Renaud  
Wilf Stefan

Carol Dillon  
Michel Kearney  
Patricia Larkin  
Randy Malcolm  
Bev Millar  
Diane Smithson

Tessa Di Iorio (City of Ottawa)

Martha Robinson (Medical Officer of Health Liaison)

Mary Wooding (Ministry of Environment, Conservation and  
Parks Liaison)

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson (Rideau Valley Source Protection  
Authority Liaison)

**Staff:**

Marika Livingston (RVCA)  
Michelle Paton (RVCA)  
Brian Stratton (RVCA)

**Guests:**

Jeff Bogaerts, President, Ontario Landowners Association  
Doreen Donald, Mississippi Lake Association

**Regrets:**

John Hall (Mississippi Valley Source Protection Authority)  
Liaison)

### 1.0 Welcome and Introductions

Ken Graham called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and noted that with the current state of affairs, it was once again necessary to conduct this meeting by conference call. Chair Graham then asked participants to respond to a roll call.

Chair Graham welcomed Marika Livingston back from maternity leave. He acknowledged the contribution of Kestrel Wragget during Marika's absence.

**a) Agenda Review**

Chair Graham reviewed the agenda.

b) **Notice of Proxies**                      None

c) **Adoption of the Agenda**

Chair Graham asked that the Agenda be approved as circulated.

**Motion 1-2/20**                                      **Moved by:**                      Carol Dillon  
**Seconded by:**                      Eleanor Renaud

That the Agenda be approved as circulated.

**Carried**

d) **Declarations of Interest**                      None

e) **Approval of Minutes**

Carol Dillon asked whether there was an update on the guidance tool as per Section 6.0 Member Inquiries of the minutes of April 23, 2020. Marika Livingston responded that Conservation Ontario was still refining the tool and that staff would share information when available.

**Motion 2-2/20**                                      **Moved by:**                      Diane Smithson  
**Seconded by:**                      Eleanor Renaud

That the minutes of the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee meeting of April 23, 2020 be approved as circulated.

**Carried**

f) **Correspondence**                      None

## **2.0 Rules and Procedures Document Update**

Marika Livingston gave an update on the Rules and Procedures Document explaining that staff were seeking an amendment to the Source Protection Committee's Governing Policies to enable electronic meeting participation outside of a declared state of emergency.

In response to a question from a member regarding public participation in virtual meetings, Marika Livingston explained that the Agenda package is circulated electronically to interested parties and is posted on the Mississippi-Rideau Source Water Protection website one week in advance of the meeting.

**Motion 3-2/20**

**Moved by:**

Bev Millar

**Seconded by:**

Michel Kearney

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee approved the revised Governing Policies;

And further that the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee share the Governing Policies with the Source Protection Authorities for their review and approval.

**Carried by a majority vote of the Committee by voice vote  
(no opposed, no abstention)**

*Note: Martha Robinson joined the meeting on behalf of Kathryn Downey*

### **3.0 Phase II Technical Rule Changes**

Marika Livingston provided an update on Phase II Technical Rule changes and responded to questions. Ms. Livingston asked members to follow along on the attached PowerPoint slide deck as the proposed changes were reviewed.

*Note: Mary Wooding joined the meeting*

Ms. Livingston confirmed that Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection staff and Chair Ken Graham participated in a virtual workshop, hosted by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) on October 26, 2020. The workshop addressed preliminary comments received by Source Protection Regions in advance of the Environmental Registry of Ontario's (ERO) comment submission deadline of November 9, 2020. Ms. Livingston confirmed that any comments arising from today's meeting will be submitted for consideration.

Mary Wooding clarified that technical staff had asked Project Managers and staff to submit questions that could be considered at the workshop as this would give technical staff the opportunity to get a step up on questions submitted to the ERO.

Staff learned about the enabling features of the proposed changes. The Source Protection Committee can choose to enable the changes or not or may even accept a blend of the changes. The Ministry has acknowledged the administrative challenges that these enabling features may cause and has promised to provide a guidance document to help with implementation.

Brian Stratton spoke to the Climate Change Risk Assessment Rule. This will give Committees the ability to study climate change in the future.

Brian Stratton advised that new vulnerability areas are being proposed called Issue Contributing Areas. These would be stand-alone vulnerable areas. Mr. Stratton confirmed that there are no ICAs in the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Region at this time.

Brian Stratton spoke to the storage and application of road salt. The Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection area had completed impervious surface maps years ago. There used to be one grid per region but now grids can be created for each vulnerable area. The threshold for the application of road salt has also been reduced to 30 percent from 80 percent, in a Wellhead Protection Area with a score of 10, which will create more significant threats for road salt. A common-sense approach for the storage of salt confirms that road salt should not be stored in close proximity to drinking water systems.

Marika Livingston noted that the storage of snow above a minimum of 200m<sup>2</sup> would now be considered as a threat. This change could result in additional risk management plans for snow storage being required. The current policy refers to snow dumps and not parking lot storage. Brian Stratton noted that these commercial parking lots would have to be close to the intakes which is not normally the case.

In response to a question from Carol Dillon, Ken Graham clarified that paunch manure is partially digested material taken from an animal at time of slaughter.

The handling and storage of fuel will be combined under one risk category.

Marika Livingston noted that a joint letter from the Eastern Source Protection Regions to the Minister is being drafted and will be signed by the Chairs of Trent and Quinte. The letter is to address and consolidate comments relating to the Phase II Technical Rule Changes being submitted to the Ministry by November 9, 2020.

**Motion 4-2/20**

**Moved by:**

Diane Smithson

**Seconded by:**

Carol Dillon

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee receive for information this update on the Phase II Technical Rule changes;

And further that the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee direct staff to proceed with contributing comments and participating in the workshop hosted by MECP in late October.

**Carried**

#### **4.0 Section 34 Amendments**

Marika Livingston provided an update on the Section 34 Amendments to the Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report and responded to questions.

These amendments include the Lemieux Island Intake Improvement Project, the new well in North Grenville, and a fuel oil policy revision. Ms. Livingston noted that nothing will be approved today; staff are just providing an update on upcoming amendments. More information will be brought forward at a later date.

### Lemieux Island

Submission of this Section 34 amendment is anticipated in early Spring 2021.

### New Well in North Grenville

Technical consultations are currently underway. Submission of this Section 34 amendment is anticipated in Fall 2021.

Although the Ministry has asked for bulk submissions of amendments, the timelines for Lemieux Island and North Grenville do not align well and will result in separate submissions.

### Fuel Oil Policy Revision

There are currently 14 Fuel Oil Policy Risk Management plans in place. Risk Management staff have encountered difficulties in implementing FUEL-1-LB-S58 and ensuring compliance. Homeowners are confused by different timelines being suggested by Source Protection staff and insurance companies.

It is anticipated that the number of required risk management plans will drop over time. Most landowners are using natural gas or propane. Brian Stratton noted that Westport does not have access to natural gas.

Brian Stratton that staff have been working with Mary Wooding and other Eastern Source Protection staff on this issue.

In response to a question from Claude Lloyd, Marika Livingston confirmed that there are a few more residential homeowners who require risk management plans. Brian Stratton confirmed that the number of residents with fuel oil policy risk management plans is 14. The low number is due to the availability of more economical natural gas. At this time Mr. Lloyd is opposed to the proposed revision (“focus on developing an education and outreach policy”), pending obtaining further information. Mr. Stratton noted that the residential fuel tanks have to be within a WHPA-10 or IPZ-10 area to require a risk management plan.

Claude Lloyd recognized the challenges regarding inspections / compliance. His concern stems partially from how this revision will be potentially interpreted by someone outside looking in, the optics and the impact. Brian Stratton confirmed that the impacts are substantial and that insurance companies are involved because of the cost of remediation.

Marika Livingston suggested that staff contact other source protection areas to look at the effectiveness of these policies.

Martha Robinson suggested that discussions on climate change could also influence the use of fossil fuels.

**Motion 5-2/20**

**Moved by:** Scott Bryce  
**Seconded by:** Bev Millar

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee receive this update about the upcoming amendments;

And further, that the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection direct staff to proceed with presenting the amendments to the Source Protection Authority.

**Carried by a majority vote of the Committee by voice vote  
(no opposed, no abstentions)**

## **5.0 Annual Reporting Update**

Marika Livingston advised that a copy of Mary Wooding's slide deck (attached) was included in the Agenda package.

Mary Wooding explained the steps involved in the annual reporting process. Reporting to the Source Protection Authorities by municipalities and other agencies is required by February. The Source Protection Authorities are required to report to the Ministry by May 1. The Ministry takes the data and creates a summary roll-up identifying progress in protecting the source of drinking water and identifying any challenges in policy implementation.

Mary Wooding presented the results of legally-binding and non-binding significant, moderate and other non-threat policies by regions over the past few years.

Mary Wooding addressed some of the implementation challenges by implementing bodies. Ms. Wooding noted that the Ministry is willing to help where possible.

Mary Wooding spoke to Part IV Implementation Highlights including risk management plans, inspections (compliance), compliance with the contents of risk management plans.

Ms. Wooding spoke to Provincial Ministry Highlights including Prescribed Instrument Integration/Conformity. Guidance documents have been developed; applications are being screened for prescribed instruments where there is a significant drinking water threats; and tracking prescribed instruments.

Mary Wooding spoke to the municipal and Source Protection Authority highlights which include the incorporation of source protection into land use planning, education and outreach methods, the installation of signage across source protection regions, septic system inspections and results, and environmental

monitoring of drinking water.

Mary Wooding discussed notices about transport pathways and the various actions taken in response.

Ms. Wooding summarized the source protection positive outcomes by some Source Protection Authorities and spoke to the achievement of Source Protection Plan Objectives noting that 91 percent of Source Protection Committees are progressing well or on target to achieving plan objectives.

Patricia Larkin asked about the burden of implementation on the Ministry versus the municipalities. Mary Wooding confirmed that this work was additional workload for the Ministry.

In response to a question from Patricia Larkin, septic inspections can be performed by conservation authorities or health units. Mary Wooding noted that there will be variations due to the five-year timing of septic inspections

Mary Wooding confirmed that the increased concentration/trend associated with environmental monitoring of drinking water issues were from source protection regions in southern Ontario.

## **6.0 Oher Business**

There was no other business.

## **7.0 Member Inquiries**

There were no member inquiries.

## **8.0 Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting is to be determined. Marika Livingston suggested that there may be a need for a winter meeting to address Section 34 amendments.

Marika Livingston asked whether Members would consider participating in a Zoom meeting. Band bandwidth was identified as a potential complication for those in rural areas. Ken Graham noted that he had experienced difficulties with his internet connection when on Zoom but when participating by audio only, and turning off the video feature, his experience improved substantially. Marika Livingston confirmed that the Authority has an enhanced package which the Committee could use. Peter McLaren suggested using a separate phone line for the public.

**9.0 Adjournment**

**Motion 6-2/20**

**Moved by:** Eleanor Renaud

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

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**Ken Graham**  
**Chair**

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**Michelle Paton**  
**Recording Secretary**