

**MISSISSIPPI-RIDEAU SOURCE PROTECTION REGION**  
**Box 599, 3889 Rideau Valley Drive**  
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**613-692-3571, 1-800-267-3504**

**MINUTES**

**Mississippi-Rideau**

**Source Protection Committee**

**February 4, 2010**

**#2/10**

**Present:**

George Braithwaite  
Carol Dillon  
Drew Lampman  
Christine Leadman  
Beverly Millar  
Janet Stavinga (Chair)

Scott Bryce  
Richard Fraser  
Patricia Larkin  
Randy Malcolm  
Eleanor Renaud

Jean-Guy Albert (Medical Officer of Health Liaison)  
Alan Arbuckle (Source Protection Authority Liaison)  
Mary Wooding (Ministry of the Environment Liaison)

**Regrets:**

Paul Knowles  
Mary Trudeau

Peter McLaren

**Staff:**

Charles Billington  
Rosalind Kee  
Brian Stratton

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson  
Jackie Oblak

**SPA Members:**

Mark Burnham (Chair, Mississippi Valley Conservation)

**Guests:**

Jim Beehler, Municipality of North Grenville  
Ryan Polkinghorne, City of Ottawa  
Forbes Symon, Municipality of North Grenville

**1.0 Welcome and Introductions**

Chair Stavinga welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the members for their patience in achieving quorum. Members' continuing cooperation in telling Sommer Casgrain-Robertson if they are unable to attend is much appreciated.

All Committee members, staff and participants were asked to introduce themselves.

**a) Agenda Review**

Chair Stavinga went over the purpose of the meeting and the agenda.

b) **Notice of Proxies**

None

c) **Adoption of the Agenda**

**Motion 1-02/10**

That the Agenda be adopted.

**Carried**

d) **Declarations of Interest**

None

e) **Approval of Minutes**

Members advised staff of two corrections in the January minutes.

**Motion 2-02/10**

That the minutes of the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee meeting of January 7, 2010 be approved as amended.

**Carried**

f) **Status of Action Items**

Mary Wooding gave an update on Action Item #2 (Ontario Drinking Water Standards). The Minister is currently reviewing a recent report by the Advisory Council on Drinking Water Standards for Tritium. Ms. Wooding will give an update at the April meeting about how drinking water standards are reviewed.

Ms. Wooding advised the Committee that a preliminary meeting to begin organizing an inter-jurisdictional committee for the Ottawa River watershed (Action Item #6) is now set for Ottawa City Hall on March 30. Invitees will include municipal representatives from Ontario and Quebec, Ministry of the Environment staff from both provinces and local source protection staff and Chairs.

Jean-Guy Albert reported that Health Canada is currently reviewing the factsheet about uranium and drinking water initially developed by local health units. They are awaiting final approval before it can be released to the public. Mr. Albert will keep in contact and encourage them to finalize the factsheet as quickly as possible.

### **Motion 3-02/10**

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee receive the report for information.

**Carried**

#### **g) Correspondence**

Chair Stavinga thanked Ms. Wooding for her assistance in securing an Assessment Report due date extension for the Ministry. Chair Stavinga also told members that hard copies of the factsheets and report referenced in the PollutionWatch and Ducks Unlimited letters are available from Ms. Casgrain-Robertson.

#### **2.0 Assessment Report Development**

Brian Stratton noted that the Wellhead Protection Area study for the Village of Lanark is now proceeding. The municipal council decided to go ahead with pump tests for the planed system which will allow a wellhead protection area study to be completed. The results of this study will be included in a revised Assessment Report by June, 2011.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson reminded members that they were being asked to review one preliminary draft Assessment Report chapter (Chapter 2 – Watershed Characterization) and provide input on content for a future chapter (Chapter 8 – Topics for Additional Research). She thanked the small edit subcommittee of Beverley Millar, Carol Dillon, George Braithwaite and Patricia Larkin who have been established to provide preliminary feedback within 24 to 48 hours on chapters developed by staff. Staff will integrate as many of the subcommittee's comments as possible into the chapters before including them in the agenda package. Comments received from the full Committee during regular meetings will be incorporated into the chapters that will appear in the preliminary Draft Assessment Report that will be presented to the Committee at their June meeting for approval.

##### **a. Chapter 2 – Watershed Characterization**

Jackie Oblak, who drafted Chapter 2, told members that the chapter fulfilled the provincial Technical Rule requirements, it adhered to the outline being followed by other Eastern Ontario source protection regions and the content was largely drawn from the Watershed Characterization Report which was reviewed by the Committee back in the spring of 2008.

The Committee provided the following comments on the Chapter:

- Section 2.3 *Human Geography* should be renamed as it is about the impact of humans on physical geography. The subsections should also be reordered (2.3.3; 2.3.4; 2.3.5; 2.3.6; 2.3.1 and 2.3.2).
- Ontario Regulation numbers need to be updated (O. Reg. 252/05 has been replaced with O. Reg. 319/08)
- Table 2-11 needs clarification as to whether or not the site results are unique or cumulative. The table should also reference the

corresponding figure to provide further clarification.

- A paragraph should be added about the alvar near Almonte because this is a very unique feature found very few places in the world
- Section 2.5 *Summary* needs a sentence about groundwater. Include sentence from page 34)
- Figures and text need to be consistent with the terms “sandplain” and “North Gower Drumlin Field”.

#### **Motion 4-02/10**

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee approve the following chapter for inclusion in the preliminary draft Assessment Report as amended:

- Chapter 2 – Watershed Characterization

**Carried**

#### **b. Chapter 8 – Topics for Additional Research**

Members discussed the difference between chapter 8 (Topics for Additional Research) and chapter 9 (Data Gaps). Staff indicated they envisioned Chapter 8 housing those items related to source water protection that fall outside the scope of the Clean Water Act that the Committee had become aware of and felt warranted additional investigation by another agency or branch of government. Members discussed how the list would advise the MOE when they are revising rules and regulations for future rounds of source protection planning. The Committee discussed whether or not to prioritize the items. Some members suggested that topics be spilt into those relating to Assessment Reports (improving the science) and all other topics (related to drinking water in general). Based on the feedback from members, staff will rethink the design and use of Chapter 8 before writing it.

Members commented on a potential list of topics to include in Chapter 8:

- concerns about impact of aging or poorly-maintained sewer infrastructure on groundwater supply
- concerns about IPZ-3 methodology in current Technical Rules
- concerns about uranium in drinking water and potential effect of future uranium prospecting and mining
- statement about inclusion of clusters of private wells in source protection planning process – this is “unfinished business”
- importance of providing incentives or compensation to affect property owners
- importance of educating property owners about proper well maintenance, especially properly abandoning unused wells.
- the effect of commercial water bottling on source water

Forbes Symon, Municipality of North Grenville, informed members about case law

in Grey County that classified water bottling as a land use which allowed the municipality to regulate it under the Planning Act. Mr. Symon will provide this information to Ms. Casgrain-Robertson for distribution to members. He also noted that many of the data gaps that will be noted in the Assessment Report will be required to be filled on a case-by-case basis at the property scale.

Members noted that the Assessment Report will need to be “date stamped” because it is based on the best available information at the time the technical studies were completed.

### **Motion 5-02/10**

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee receive the preliminary list of topics for Chapter 8 for information, as amended.

**Carried**

## **3.0 Community Outreach**

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson reported on the Quarterly Chair’s meeting that was held at the end of January as Chair Stavinga was sick and not able to attend. The draft Source Protection Plan regulation was posted on the Environmental Registry the first day of the meeting and comments are due March 26.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson also informed members that Gemma Boag, Oxford student, presented a summary of her survey results from last year which she used to look at how the Committees were learning about source protection and learning from each other. She used the data to write a Masters thesis. Ms. Casgrain-Robertson reported that Ontario’s approach to source protection planning is being watched by many academics around the world as it is unique and a strong example of public involvement. Ms. Casgrain-Robertson will email Gemma’s survey results to members. Another student, Hugh Simpson of the University of Waterloo, is beginning a thesis and is also interested in surveying Committee members. When available, Chair Stavinga will forward members information about his study and how to participate in the survey if they are interested.

Chair Stavinga told members that the MOE was holding a consultation session on the draft Source Protection Plan regulation. The session is in Kingston on February 19 and five members from each Committee were invited to attend. Chair Stavinga asked if Peter McLaren, Beverly Millar, Eleanor Renaud, Carol Dillon and Scott Bryce would attend as they would represent a cross section of the interests around the committee table. Ms. Casgrain-Robertson and Brian Stratton will also attend.

Drew Lampman reported that OMYA is holding their annual public meeting on February 16. Source water staff was invited to present but are not available. Instead Ms. Casgrain-Robertson will provide Drew with a hand out that he can

make available that provides an update on local source protection work.

Patricia Larkin participated in a conference all of Non-Governmental Organization Committee members across Ontario on February 2. She reported that members would like to compare views on the draft regulation, that the Canadian Environmental Law Association is available to give presentations to Committees about what the Toxics Reduction Act means to source protection, and members are uncomfortable relying on provincial instruments as a policy tool because of concerns regarding how well they will be enforced. Ms. Casgrain-Robertson responded that MOE gave an overview of provincial instruments at the Chairs meeting and indicated that it would constitute a large part of the training that will be held for Committee members once the regulation is finalized. This was a common comment MOE received on the Discussion Paper and they confirmed that the training will include how instruments work and how they are enforced.

Eleanor Renaud reported that Cataraqui staff gave an informative source water update to Elizabethtown-Kitley Council. The information was well received and the update was appreciated by council.

The draft Ottawa River Surface Water Study and the Assessment Report deadline extension approval from MOE was presented to the Rideau Valley Source Protection Authority on January 28. The same information will be presented to the Mississippi Valley Source Protection Authority on February 17.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson will be making a presentation on Groundwater at two local high schools as part of the annual Envirothon competition.

There is a youth Water Festival coming at the University of Ottawa. Patricia Larkin will provide further information for members. Chair Stavinga is speaking at the Lower Ottawa Chapter of the Ontario Woodlot Owners Association Annual General Meeting in March.

#### **Motion 6-02/10**

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee receive the following report for information.

**Carried**

#### **4.0 Other Business**

Chair Stavinga gave an overview of the heavy agenda for the Committee's March 4 meeting. It includes the three inland surface water studies (Carleton Place, Perth and Smiths Falls) as well as three preliminary draft Assessment Report chapters and comments on the draft Source Protection Plan regulation to be considered for submission to the Environmental Registry. She asked members if they would consider starting the meeting at 10am given the heavy agenda.

### **Motion 7-02/10**

Moved by: Richard Fraser  
Seconded by: George Braithwaite

That the March 4, 2010 meeting of the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee begin at 10am.

**Carried**

Chair Stavinga thanked the informal edit sub-committee for their work which was a great help to staff in eliminating errors from the text and figures before including the preliminary draft Assessment Report chapter in the agenda package.

### **5.0 Member Inquiries**

Alan Arbuckle asked if progress was being made on filling the vacant industrial/commercial seat on the Committee. Ms. Casgrain-Robertson explained that the application deadline is February 19. In addition to press releases and newspaper ads, she has contacted the golf course association directly to see if they have interested applicants. The press release was also sent to all local Chamber of Commerce.

### **6.0 Next Meeting**

Date: March 4, 2010  
Time: 10:00 am (**NEW START TIME**)  
Location: RVCA, Monterey Boardroom

### **7.0 Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

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**Janet Stavinga**  
**Chair**

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**Charles Billington**  
**Recording Secretary**