

AGENDA

Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee

Date: **March 22, 2012**

Time: **10 am**

Location: **Rideau Valley Conservation Authority – Monterey Boardroom
3889 Rideau Valley Drive, Manotick**

Welcome and Introductions			
1.0	a. Agenda Review b. Notice of Proxies c. Adoption of the Agenda (D) d. Declarations of Interest e. Approval of Minutes – March 1, 2012 (D) ▶ draft minutes attached as a separate document f. Status of Action Items – Staff Report Attached (D) g. Correspondence – none	Pg. 1	<i>Chair Stavinga</i>
Source Protection Plan			
2.0	Draft Proposed Source Protection Plan – Staff Report attached (D) Members will consider approving the draft proposed Source Protection Plan for public consultation (internal draft attached as a separate document for members)	3	<i>Sommer Casgrain- Robertson</i>
3.0	Draft Proposed Explanatory Document – Staff Report attached (D) Members will consider approving the draft proposed Explanatory Document for public consultation (internal draft attached as a separate document for members)	6	<i>Sommer Casgrain- Robertson</i>
Other			
4.0	Community Outreach – Staff Report Attached (D) Members & staff report on past activities and upcoming events and opportunities	7	<i>Chair Stavinga</i>
5.0	Other Business		<i>Chair Stavinga</i>
6.0	Member Inquiries		<i>Chair Stavinga</i>
7.0	Next Meeting – April 5, 2012 (may be cancelled) 1 pm Rideau Valley Conservation Authority 3889 Rideau Valley Drive, Manotick		<i>Chair Stavinga</i>
8.0	Adjournment		<i>Chair Stavinga</i>

(I) = Information (D) = Decision

Delegations: If you wish to speak to an item on the Agenda please contact Sommer Casgrain-Robertson before the meeting (sommer.robertson@mrsourcewater.ca or 613-692-3571 / 1-800-267-3504 x 1147)

1.0f STATUS OF ACTION ITEMS

Date: March 14, 2012
To: Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee
From: Sommer Casgrain-Robertson, Co-Project Manager
Mississippi – Rideau Source Protection Region

Recommendation:

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee receive the Status of Action Items for information.

Staff & Chair Action Items:

Issue		Action	Lead	Status
1	O. Reg 903	A member suggested O. Reg 903 be added as applicable law under Ontario's Building Code	Patricia Larkin and Sommer Casgrain-Robertson	Complete A transport pathway policy was included in the draft proposed Source Protection Plan to encourage the MOE to inspect wells in Wellhead Protection Areas.
2	Ottawa River Watershed Inter-Jurisdictional Committee	Encourage MOE to take the lead role in establishing an Ottawa River watershed inter-jurisdictional committee	Chair Stavinga & Brian Stratton	Ongoing In December, 2011 the Province of Quebec introduced a draft regulation respecting water withdrawals and water protection. This draft regulation introduces new abilities to protect sources of drinking water in Quebec.
3	Uranium	MVC and local Health Units work together to raise public awareness about naturally occurring uranium in drinking water	Sommer Casgrain-Robertson	In Progress Health Canada released a "Uranium and Drinking Water" fact sheet. It is available on their website at http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/pubs/water-eau/uranium-eng.php
4	Compensation Models	Staff to collect other compensation models (e.g. Ottawa wetland policy, Alternate Land Use Services).	Sommer Casgrain-Robertson	Complete The MOE has been encouraged to continue to fund the Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program. If this program is not available when policy implementation begins in 2013 staff will research alternative funding models and incentive programs to help property owners implement projects that will protect source water.

Issue		Action	Lead	Status
5	Vacant City of Ottawa seat on SPC	Fill the vacancy on the MRSPC	City of Ottawa staff	In Progress City of Ottawa staff are in the process of filling this seat

MRSPC Member Action Items:

Issue		Action	Lead	Status
1	Members were concerned that attendance might be low at public open houses and groups who should be involved in the process are not	Members were asked to provide Sommer with contact information for groups they feel should be involved in the process – they will be added to our mailing list.	All Members	Ongoing
2	OFEC Conference Calls & Training Sessions	Richard Fraser will provide the MRSPC with updates on OFEC conference calls & training sessions	Richard Fraser	Ongoing
3	Community Outreach opportunities	Members to notify Sommer of potential events and opportunities to engage the public about source protection	All members	Ongoing

2.0 ***Draft Proposed Source Protection Plan***

Date: March 14, 2011
To: Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee
From: Sommer Casgrain-Robertson, Co-Project Manager
Mississippi – Rideau Source Protection Region

Recommendation:

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee approves the Draft Proposed Source Protection Plan and directs staff to post it for public consultation.

Background

Across Ontario, Source Protection Committees (SPC) are working with municipalities, farmers, property owners, businesses, industries, First Nations, environmental groups, Provincial Ministries and the general public. Together they are developing policies to prevent the contamination and overuse of lakes, rivers and aquifers where they supply drinking water.

2006 to 2010

Source Protection Committees completed **Assessment Reports** that:

- Mapped local sources of drinking water (primarily municipal drinking water);
- Determined how vulnerable these sources are to contamination; and
- Identified types of land use activities that could pose a contamination risk

2011 to 2012

Source Protection Committees have now developed draft **Source Protection Plans**

- Policies will protect sources of drinking water (primarily municipal drinking water)
- Policies will apply in areas where drinking water sources are vulnerable to contamination
- Policies will address land use activities that pose a contamination risk

Where Will Policies Apply?

Land use activities can only be considered drinking water threats if they are taking place in a vulnerable area. Policies in the Mississippi-Rideau region will apply in:

- Wellhead Protection Areas
 - vulnerable area around a municipal well
- Intake Protection Zones
 - vulnerable area upstream of a municipal surface water intake
- Highly Vulnerable Aquifers
 - Areas where groundwater is vulnerable to surface contaminants

Maps of these areas are on the *Assessment Report* page of our website www.mrsourcewater.ca

Source Protection Plans:

- Must contain policies to address significant drinking water threats; and
- May contain policies to address moderate and low drinking water threats.

Activities can only be considered a significant threat close to a municipal well or intake in a

- Wellhead Protection Areas; or
- Intake Protection Zones

What is Considered a Threat?

The province determined that under certain circumstances the following land use activities can be considered drinking water threats if occurring in certain vulnerable areas:

- Waste disposal sites (including the application of untreated septage to land)
- Sewage storage, treatment, transmission or disposal
- Agricultural source material (e.g. manure) storage, management or application
- Non-agricultural source material (e.g. biosolids) storage, handling or application
- Farm animal pasturing, grazing, outdoor confinement areas or farm yards
- Fertilizer storage, handling or application
- Pesticide storage, handling or application
- Fuel storage or handling
- Dense Non-aqueous Phase Liquids (DNAPLSs) storage or handling
- Organic solvents storage or handling
- Road salt storage, handling or application
- Snow storage
- Airplane de-icing

To be a threat most of these activities must involve a minimum amount of material, be occurring on a minimum size area and/or involve a certain type of chemical. These threat criteria or “circumstances” are listed in provincial tables accessible on the “Assessment Report” page of our website (www.mrsourcewater.ca)

What are the Policy Tools?

Policies to address drinking water threats can use one or more of the following tools. Some tools can only be used to address significant drinking water threats.

Policy Tools	Address Significant Threats	Address Moderate & Low Threats
Education & Outreach	√	√
Incentives	√	√
Other*	√	√
Land Use Planning	√ Must conform	√ Have regard for
Prescribed Instruments	√ Must conform	√ Have regard for
Risk Management Plans	√	X
Prohibition (under <i>Clean Water Act</i>)	√	X

How Will Policies Be Developed?

In the Mississippi-Rideau region, source protection plans were developed in four stages:

1. Draft Policies:
 - Municipal staff, SPC members, sector experts and staff developed draft policies
2. Draft Policies
 - Draft policies were circulated to all implementing bodies (municipalities, ministries, health units) for review and comment
 - Draft policies were also shared with potentially affected property owners via letter and the general public at open houses
 - The Committee considered all comments received and revised the policies where possible to address concerns and suggestions
3. Draft Source Protection Plans
 - The draft Plan will be posted for a 35 day public comment period
 - Four open houses will be held to solicit comments
 - All comments will be considered by the Committee and revisions made to the Plan where possible to address concerns and suggestions.
4. Proposed Source Protection Plans
 - The proposed Plan will be posted for a 30 public comment period
 - All comments will be submitted to the MOE for their consideration when reviewing the Plan for approval

Consultation Schedule

If the Committee approves the Draft Source Protection Plan at their March 22, 2012 meeting:

- The draft Plan and draft Explanatory Document would be posted on the web site by March 30, 2012
- Newspaper ads would appear at the same time advertising the 35 day consultation period
- Shortly thereafter, letters would be mailed to all policy implementers and potentially affected property owners inviting their comments.
- Open houses would be held the third week of April
- Comments would be accepted until May 4, 2012

The Committee would then consider all comments received.

- At their June 7 meeting they would approve a proposed Plan and Explanatory Document
- These would be posted mid June for a 30 day comment period ending mid July

The Source Protection Authorities would then approve the documents for submission to the MOE at their joint July 26, 2012 meeting

- The proposed documents would be submitted to the MOE at the end of July

Source Protection Plans were prepared in accordance with:

- *Clean Water Act, 2006*
- Ontario Regulation 287/07 "General"
- Other guidance issued by the MOE

Attached as a separate document for members:

- *Draft Proposed Source Protection Plan*

3.0 *Draft Proposed Explanatory Document*

Date: **March 14, 2012**
To: **Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee**
From: **Sommer Casgrain-Robertson, Co-Project Manager**
 Mississippi – Rideau Source Protection Region

Recommendation:

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee approves the Draft Proposed Explanatory Document and directs staff to post it for public consultation.

Background

Source Protection Plans must be accompanied by a companion “Explanatory Document” which outlines the reasons and rationale for each policy choice. The Committee reviewed a preliminary draft version of the Explanatory Document at their March 1, 2012 meeting. Comments have been incorporated.

Explanatory Document Content

Ontario Regulation 287/07 sets out six items that must be included in Explanatory Documents:

1. Reasons for prohibiting an existing activity
2. How climate change considerations impacted policies
3. Reasons for each policy
4. Statement that non-regulatory measure is sufficient to address a significant threat
5. How financial implications affected policy decisions
6. Summary of comments received

Attached as a separate document for members:

- *Draft Proposed Explanatory Document*

4.0 Community Outreach

Date: March 14, 2012
To: Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee
From: Sommer Casgrain-Robertson, Co-Project Manager
Mississippi – Rideau Source Protection Region

Recommendation:

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee receive the Community Outreach staff report for information

Background

Staff and MRSPC members participate in many different community outreach activities to raise awareness and understanding of the source protection planning process. These activities include information booths at events, presentations at meetings and articles in newsletters and local papers. It is important that staff and members keep each other informed about the activities they are involved in so that we can coordinate our participation and prepare appropriate materials in advance. This includes coordinating with our neighbouring regions for outreach covering Eastern Ontario.

Past Activities

Members & staff are asked to give a verbal update on any other activities that took place in the past month related to source protection.

1. *Ottawa Info Exchange Meeting*
 - March 6, Ottawa (Sommer sent a source water update)
2. *Meeting with City of Ottawa Staff (discuss comments on draft policies)*
 - March 19, Ottawa (Sommer participated)

Upcoming Activities

Members & staff are asked to give a verbal update about any other activities they know about in the coming months related to source protection.

1. *Draft Source Protection Plan Open Houses:*

Joint open house with the Cataraqui Source Protection Committee
(5 pm to 8 pm with a presentation at 7 pm)

- March 29, North Crosby (Community Centre, 875 8th Concession Rd)

4 pm to 8 pm

- April 19, Manotick (RVCA, 3889 Rideau Valley Drive)
- April 24, Carleton Place (Arena, 75 Neelin Street)
- April 26, Smiths Falls (Memorial Centre, 71 Cornelia St)