

MINUTES

**HALTON-HAMILTON SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE
MEETING #6-09
CONFERENCE CALL
OCTOBER 29, 2009: 2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.**

SPC Attendees:			
Peter Ashenhurst	Paul Attack	Dave Braden	Doug Cuthbert
Nick DiGirolamo	Susan Fielding	Turlough Finan	Melanie Horton
Margaret McCarthy	Glenn Powell	Chris Shrive	Gavin Smuk
Jacqueline Weston	Teri Yamada		
Regrets SPC/Other Regrets:			
Bob Edmondson, Director, Watershed Management Services, CH	Adam Kuehnbaum	Barry Lee	Nicole Mathews, Medical Officer of Health Liaison
Katherine Menyes, Director, Watershed Planning & Engineering, HCA			
Other Attendees:			
Diane Bloomfield, Project Manager, HHSPP	Beth Coughlan, Project Assistant, HHSPP	John Westlake, MOE Liaison	

ITEM	TOPIC/DISCUSSON	ACTION REQ'D
1.	Roll Call	
2.	Review of Agenda	
3.	Approval of Source Protection Committee Minutes dated September 29, 2009 Review of action items.	

ITEM	TOPIC/DISCUSSON	ACTION REQ'D
	<p>Majority of action items complete with updates as follows: John Westlake follow-up on regional road show: Moving forward with March 1, 2010 all day session. John Westlake report how the province will collate and respond to comments on Source Protection Plans. Shared the results of the mock planning exercise with committee. Will provide more information as draft regulations progress. Have been put forward to legal services department. MOE expects a late fall posting and John will update at December meeting.</p> <p>HHSPC 6-01 Moved by: Susan Fielding Seconded by: Glenn Powell</p> <p>THAT the Source Protection Committee minutes of September 29, 2009 be accepted. Carried</p>	
4.	<p>Assessment Report Status Report</p> <p>The project status update e-mailed to the committee outlines what tasks we are working on and when we expect things to be completed. Dates were set according to the length of time we expected it would take to complete the various tasks. As noted some of these tasks are dependent on other things occurring.</p> <p>Following the order as listed on the status spreadsheet:</p> <p>Watershed Characterization Reports - work has been completed in draft except for the update on the Hamilton watershed descriptions and geology. This is expected to be finished within 1 ½ weeks.</p> <p>Water Budgets and water quantity risk assessments - we have not yet received the report from Earthfx that supports their modelling, delineation of the wellhead protection areas and the vulnerability assessment for the City of Hamilton. Halton's has been received. Earthfx have indicated they will need another 2 weeks to complete the report. Thus, tasks listed on the status report that require this report will be delayed.</p> <p>These tasks include the writing of the Tier 1-2 water budget report and peer review. The Tier 1-2 report will be complete as far as it can go by the due date of November 6 but will have to wait for Earthfx report to be finalized for review.</p>	<p>Diane Bloomfield – update assessment report status spreadsheet and send to SPC members.</p>

ITEM	TOPIC/DISCUSSION	ACTION REQ'D
	<p>The peer review process has commenced. Jacek has sent the Earthfx report for the Halton modelling and his stress assessment to the peer reviewers so they can begin the process. We have heard that the peer reviewers are very busy right now so it may take some time for all of them to have the time to review the documents in full and be ready to provide feedback to us. Likely the peer review process will go into January and depending on comments received, the report will be finalized possibly in February. At that time it can be released to the SPC and public for comment. Then hopefully we can have it finalized in March.</p> <p>For the Assessment Report, we will bring the highlights of the draft Tier 1-2 report in without the details and refer to the report. If what we say requires changes once the peer reviewers' work is complete then we will make them prior to finalizing the Assessment Report for MOE submission. This isn't an ideal situation because the peer reviewers could require work that could change wellhead protection area delineations. However, it is our best option to try to meet the deadlines imposed.</p> <p>Prepare Threats Databases Review air photos to verify threats is being done on a threat by threat basis. Conduct drive-bys and site visits is being done as required. These tasks will not be complete until the threats assessment is complete and all significant threats have been identified. This will likely take until November 20.</p> <p>Highly Vulnerable Aquifers and Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas Identification of threats and linking with circumstances is being done in each area on a threat by threat basis. No issues will be identified in the highly vulnerable aquifer and significant groundwater recharge areas.</p> <p>Wellhead Protection Areas and Intake Protection Zones We received the updated wellhead protection area and vulnerability scoring mapping from Earthfx the morning of October 29th for the existing Freelton well. So all mapping is now ready in draft form. Peer review process is the same as that for the water budget.</p>	

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	<p>Water Quality Risk Assessment in Wellhead Protection Areas and Intake Protection Zones Issues section is being written. More data analysis required and a couple more topics to discuss (lead in groundwater in Hamilton, manganese at Kelso)</p> <p>Prescribed threats are being worked through one by one for the entire source protection region. Much more work than anticipated to categorize each threat by circumstances. So far, there is 1 significant septic system and two significant fuel handling and storage operations. These are being checked to ensure the circumstances are correct. There are no road salt, no snow storage and no airport significant threats. We are checking on heliports to see if they store deicing chemicals. Handling and storage of non-agricultural source material - there are no significant threats. MOE databases are being screened for possible DNAPL and solvent storage but few are expected in the wellhead protection areas with high vulnerabilities where the threats can be significant. The agricultural threats are being left to the end as they will be the most difficult to assess.</p> <p>As significant threats are identified, research and/or phone calls will be made to verify that the circumstances used to assess the risk of the threat is valid.</p> <p>For all vulnerable areas We met with CA staff to assess the possibility of conditions in the watersheds. We are following-up on items of interest. Two have been identified to date.</p> <p>Finalizing Assessment Report Won't have the assessment report to give out at SPC meeting on December 8th, but will do a presentation at that time. Working towards meeting May 25, 2010 deadline, still have potential to meet deadlines, however possibility that we might need an extension. Have let MOE/MNR know of delays through cover letter sent with in-year financial reporting. Proposed January SPC meeting for discussion after SPC review.</p> <p>Comments: Peter – Concern regarding giving assessment report out to public in draft form. Need to stress that final is still to come and might have changes in it.</p>	

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	<p>Paul – Glad there will be a presentation in December. Away in January.</p> <p>Dave – Looking forward to December meeting.</p> <p>Nick – Concerns regarding Wellhead Protection Areas/peer review – concerns about delays.</p> <p>Diane – Don't expect a lot of changes with the peer review. Threats assessment may change. Will need extension if major changes are needed. Should have a verbal indication of peer reviewers' thoughts for the December 8th SPC meeting.</p> <p>Susan – Confirmation of March 1, 2010 all day meeting and proposal of January meeting (tbd).</p> <p>Turlough – Staff should look at Milton/Oakville hospitals for helicopter landing sites regarding de-icing materials.</p> <p>Glenn – Ford Motor may have helicopter landing site. Question of delay in receiving reports from Consultants and are other regions facing the same problems?</p> <p>Diane – Many studies going on in the Province right now and Consultants are prioritizing assignments.</p> <p>Chris – Can confirm that Consultant for Niagara is delayed as well.</p> <p>Gavin – Progressing as expected. Understands this is a complicated process.</p> <p>Teri – appreciated excel file to understand where we are at and asked for it to be updated with new dates.</p> <p>Staff will contact property owners prior to release of assessment report. Won't identify property owners in report, just counting as a threat.</p> <p>We are in the process of contacting property owners now. Assumed certain things about their properties and are confirming with them.</p> <p>Doug – Sees it as valuable that committee members know how many property owners are contacted – will discuss at December 8th meeting.</p> <p>Melanie – Would like to know upcoming workload expected of committee members.</p> <p>Diane – Committee members will have to review 2 Assessment Reports after December 8th and will have until January 11th. At future meetings, staff will provide SPC with comments from stakeholders/public and inform how we are addressing those comments.</p> <p>Margaret – Inquiring about content of assessment reports. Snapshot of how far we have come and where we are going.</p> <p>Turlough – Question of 2 assessment reports. One for Halton and one for Hamilton. Water Budget combined report.</p>	

5.	<p>Communications Strategy and Plan</p> <p>Update on Rockton World's Fair. Gavin Smuk – spent two days volunteering at the Source Protection booth. The map was a big draw to the booth. Many people didn't know what Source Protection was about. Educating public about program. The public were enthusiastic about what we are doing. People talked to were in low threat areas. Talked to 10-20 people per hour.</p> <p>Very well attended fair. Promoting Stewardship Program as well.</p> <p>Communications Sub-Committee meeting held on October 14th. Rebecca Hull on leave of absence until January. Need a communications plan to educate public. Should we be informing the public now prior to release of assessment report? Talked about getting the Source Protection message/assessment report out through website, public service announcements, direct mailings. Working with Communications staff from Conservation Halton and Hamilton Conservation Authority. Talked about recruiting someone on a part-time basis who knows the area and has a communications background. Diane is trying to identify an individual.</p>	<p>All – forward names of small, independent freelancers to Diane Bloomfield to work part-time on Communications strategy.</p>
6.	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>Tuesday, December 8th at Country Heritage Park. Lunch for committee members 1-2 p.m. and then SPC meeting from 2-5 p.m.</p> <p>A January meeting may be added to schedule, but will discuss at December 8th meeting. Will also discuss public open houses dates and will confirm future meeting dates.</p>	<p>All - please send any dietary restrictions to Beth Coughlan</p>
7.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>None</p>	
8.	<p>Adjournment</p> <p>HHSPC 6-02 Moved by: Margaret McCarthy Seconded by: Susan Fielding</p>	



	THAT the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee adjourns at 2:50 p.m.	
	Carried	

Minutes distributed by: Beth Coughlan