

**Mission Statement of the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee**

To collaboratively develop and maintain a local watershed-based plan for the sustainable protection of municipal drinking water sources in the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Region that is science-based and prevents, reduces or eliminates risks to Lake Ontario and groundwater sources of municipal drinking water.

**MEETING NUMBER:** #2-21 Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee  
**DATE:** June 15, 2021  
**TIME:** 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm  
**LOCATION:** Virtual Meeting held on Zoom.

Minutes

Source Protection Committee (SPC) Attendees:

Bob Edmondson, Chair  
Daniel Banks  
Carla Coveart  
Gavin Smuk  
Dana Couture  
Sarah McQuaig  
Chris Murray  
Councillor Judi Partridge (left meeting at 3:00 pm)  
David Rodgers

SPC Liaisons:

Barbara Veale, Conservation Halton  
Scott Peck, Hamilton Conservation Authority  
Tea Pesheva, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Richard MacDonald, City of Hamilton Public Health Services

Conservation Authorities:

Chita Gowda, Senior Manager, Conservation Halton  
Jacek Strakowski, Conservation Halton  
Brad Rennick, Conservation Halton  
Christa Stribbell, Conservation Halton

Municipalities:

Marco Silverio, City of Hamilton  
Carmen Vega, City of Hamilton  
Kyle Davis, Township of Centre Wellington  
Emily Vandermeulen, Township of Centre Wellington  
Jen Croswell, Niagara Region

Therese Estephan, Peel Region

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1	<p>Roll call and welcome</p> <p>Chair Bob Edmondson welcomed the committee and advised that with Bert Andrews retiring from the committee, a candidate for the agricultural representative position was interviewed. The candidate needs to be endorsed by the Source Protection Authorities through September and should be ready to join the SPC in October 2021.</p>
2	<p>Disclosures of conflict of interest - None</p>
3	<p>Review of agenda</p> <p>Chair Bob advised that staff spent a lot of time and long hours preparing the documents. The meeting started half an hour early due to the amount of content. After the meeting, the documents will be sent for early engagement to the MECP. There are still a few outstanding formatting items within the documents that staff has not had time to look after yet.</p> <p>Chair Bob suggested that resolutions be changed for the business reports, to read:</p> <p>“The Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee endorses in principle the staff report S. 36 Updates: Proposed Assessment Reports and Maps Updates for the purpose of early engagement with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks”; and</p> <p>“The Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee endorses in principle the staff report S. 36 Updates: Proposed Source Protection Plan and Explanatory Document Updates for the purpose of early engagement with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.”</p> <p>Councillor Partridge advised she has another committee meeting at 3pm.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Moved by Carla Coveart and seconded by Dana Couture</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>THAT</b> the agenda be accepted as amended</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Carried</p>
4	<p>Approval of the minutes of the March 9, 2021 meeting of the Source Protection Committee</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Moved by Gavin Smuk and seconded by Christopher Murray</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>THAT</b> the minutes of the March 9, 2021 meeting of the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee be approved.</p>

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5	<p>Business arising from the March 9, 2021 minutes</p> <p>a) Low Impact Development Manual: the new manual is not yet posted on the Environmental Registry of Ontario. Staff will keep the SPC informed.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Chair Bob has been advised by Barbara Veale that the manual has been done but is waiting for sign off. Barbara confirmed that there is no new information regarding the status.</p> <p>b) Transport pathways analysis results: discussed in SPC-21-06-01</p> <p>c) Policy T-47-C discussions with municipalities: discussed in SPC-21-06-02</p>
6	<p>Business/Reports</p> <p>a) SPC-21-06-01 S. 36 Updates: Proposed Assessment Reports and Maps Updates</p> <p>Chitra Gowda acknowledged the CAs staff hard work and efforts, along with the valuable inputs from municipalities, and also the MECP through Tea Pesheva.</p> <p>Chitra described the main updates made to the assessment reports including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lake Ontario intake protection zone (IPZ) re-delineations</li> <li>• Liquid hydrocarbon pipelines as prescribed threats</li> <li>• Freelton system wellhead protection area (WHPA) updates</li> <li>• Transport pathways analysis in WHPAs</li> <li>• Managed lands and livestock density map updates</li> <li>• Threats risk assessments.</li> </ul> <p>Chitra acknowledged the seemingly duplicate maps in the business report; however she confirmed that they are the current figures as well as the revised figures to help compare, rather than duplicates.</p> <p>To develop the updates, staff took a deep dive into the WHPAs and conducted a contaminant Transport Pathways analysis for old wells, linear infrastructure, pits and quarries, and other pathways. As well, through the threats risk assessment for the Freelton updated WHPA, there is a large increase in the number of septic systems and fuel handling and storage identified as significant threats.</p> <p>Staff will work with the City of Hamilton and County of Wellington to refine numbers for the Freelton WHPA before pre-consultation, especially dense non-aqueous phase liquids (DNAPLs) and fuel threats. <u>(Action)</u></p> <p>Gavin Smuk asked if the proposed technical rules for the size of the fuel tank was considered. Chitra confirmed staff has not considered the proposed changes to the</p>

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	<p>technical rules because the rules are not finalized. Most of the threats identified are residential home heating fuel tanks. Staff hope to identify properties that are being serviced through a natural gas line, to exclude them from the fuel threats counts. This information was requested through natural gas providers, but staff has not received it yet.</p> <p>Chitra advised that staff prepared a chart of all properties for threats risk analysis, which can be updated once the technical rules are updated.</p> <p>Gavin Smuk asked about Carlisle WHPA livestock density calculations, as he would like to see the data about how the number of livestock was generated. There is a concern that buildings are counted rather than the actual animals. Staff confirmed the numbers were based on a desktop analysis using 2019 orthophotography and by applying the OMAFRA method for livestock density calculations for each property. This may not capture the actual number of animals on the land and field verification work is not being carried out at this time. Staff will follow up with the committee this week on the desktop calculations to confirm them. <u>(Action)</u></p> <p>Chitra went through the significant threats table for all WHPAs in the Halton Region Assessment Report, page 276. Staff are preparing the draft assessment reports for the purpose of early engagement. There might be an opportunity to refine the properties identified with the municipalities. Dan Banks suggested working together on threats verification to refine the counts over the next few weeks and Chitra agreed. <u>(Action)</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Moved by Judi Partridge and seconded by Carla Coveart</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>THAT</b> the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee endorses in principle the staff report “S. 36 Updates: Proposed Assessment Reports and Maps Updates” for the purpose of early engagement with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Carried</p> <p>b) SPC-21-06-02 S. 36 Updates: Proposed Source Protection Plan and Explanatory Document Updates</p> <p>Chitra advised that staff are still in progress with looking at the formatting, incorporating green vignettes into text and updating and deleting text figures.</p> <p>She highlighted the major updates to the source protection plan including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liquid hydrocarbon pipelines policies</li> <li>• Addressing implementation challenges and concerns for multiple policies.</li> </ul>

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	<p>Chitra thanked Christopher Murray for providing formatting suggestions. These include moving the current preambles to a new “Additional Notes” section at the bottom of the policy tables. By consensus from the committee, this change will be made to the table format. <u>(Action)</u></p> <p>By consensus, the committee agreed to edit the Legal effect row in the policy tables to cover <u>(Action)</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) each of the main policy parts’ legal effects and compliance lists</li> <li>b) the monitoring policy part to be mentioned in brackets without the need to specify legal effect.</li> </ul> <p>Chitra shared the edited Source Protection Plan with the committee. She pointed out that section 3.2.2 (for local threats) will be repealed but the policies are not deleted; they are absorbed into prescribed threat policies for liquid hydrocarbon pipelines.</p> <p>Staff will add “Education and Outreach” to T-47-C – Policy tool Section of the policy table. <u>(Action)</u></p> <p>Chris Murray noted that O. Reg 406/19 Excess Soils Regulation came into effect since the policy O-4-S was last updated and asked if there was a need to reference that regulation. Tea Pesheva will discuss with her policy team and follow up with Chitra. <u>(Action)</u></p> <p>Councillor Partridge requested the proper definition of excess soil and fill. She pointed out that contaminated fill is an issue in some parts of the region and that the intent of the policy to address this should be retained. Christopher Murray confirmed that per O. Reg 406, “excess soil” means “soil, or soil mixed with rock, that has been excavated as part of a project and removed from the project area for the project”. Chitra advised staff will investigate definitions and bring it back to the committee. <u>(Action)</u>.</p> <p>Chitra shared the Explanatory Document with the committee. All agreed the date should be the SPC meeting date of October 5, 2021, prior to public consultation.</p> <p>For the edit made to policy T-47-C (livestock related threats), Chitra read the statement from the committee (added to the Explanatory Document), to indicate the satisfaction of the committee to use an education and outreach policy tool where the nutrient units on the farm are less than 5 outside of a WHPA-A.</p> <p>Dan Banks will check on how the municipality converts biosolids to pellets and provide information to the CA. <u>(Action)</u></p> <p>Chitra provided an overview of the engagement and consultation process, noting the key milestone dates. Chair Bob summarized that the SPC will receive an email</p>

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	<p>package from the CA on August 10<sup>th</sup> if everything goes well with early engagement. The SPC can then review changes made by staff based on comments from MECP.</p> <p>Chair Bob recommended that a change log be submitted with the document. Chitra confirmed that the change logs will be sent to the MECP and made available to the SPC.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Moved by Carla Coveart, seconded by Dana Couture</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>THAT</b> the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee endorses in principle the staff report “S. 36 Updates: Proposed Source Protection Plan and Explanatory Document Updates” for the purpose of early engagement with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Carried</p>
7	<p>Correspondence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Letter to Premier Ford from the Town of Fort Erie, dated April 27, 2021, RE: Province Investigating and Updating Source Water Protection Legislation</li> <li>b) Letter to Premier Ford and Minister Yurek from the Township of South Frontenac, dated June 7, 2021, RE: Province Investigating and Updating Source Water Protection Legislation.</li> </ul>
8	<p>Presentations: None.</p>
9	<p>Source Protection Committee Chair’s Update by Bob Edmondson</p> <p>Chair Bob had an SPC Chairs’ webinar hosted by MECP on June 14, 2021 and provided some updates to the committee.</p> <p>Regulatory Proposals under the Conservation Authorities Act include looking at trying to direct the Conservation Authorities to deal with their core mandate (Flooding and Hazards) and the Clean Water Act has been added to that mandate. At the moment, the province is funding this. Regulatory Proposals list obligations of the SPAs under the new regulations.</p> <p>The Ministry is close to releasing a Best Practices for Source Water Protection. This is for drinking water systems not covered under the Clean Water Act and Source Protection Plans. The Best Practices talk about the source of the water and practices that will help protect that water.</p> <p>There were two presentations dealing with non-municipal water systems.</p> <p>There was another round of updates from the different Regions around the Province. The Chair’s update included SPC membership, results of our Annual Progress Report, and where we are at with section 36 updates. Chair Bob will</p>

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	forward the minutes to the committee when they are available.
10	<p>Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Liaison’s Update by Tea Pesheva</p> <p>Tea provided an update on the Conservation Authorities Act. The regulations have been posted on the ERO website and will be there until June 27, 2021. Source Protection is one of the core mandates that are set out. It keeps close to what is set out in the Clean Water Act. There are no changes to funding. Transfer payment agreements were signed for 2021-22.</p> <p>The Best Practices guidance piece will be a user-friendly online tool for anyone interested in finding out more about source protection. It will include a survey/feedback option to provide feedback to the MECP on what could be improved.</p> <p>Tea had no update on timelines for the Director Technical Rules. Chair Bob asked what the delay is. Tea confirmed it was due to the need to review and some approval hurdles. Tea has no specific timelines as of now.</p> <p>Tea advised there may be some changes in the fall, as MECP liaison officer Beth is due to come back. Chair Bob thanked Tea for the work and support that she has provided to our committee.</p>
11	<p>Proposed dates for meetings of the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee for fiscal year 2021-22 (all meetings to be held 1:30-4:30pm unless specified):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• October 5, 2021</li> <li>• December 14, 2021</li> <li>• March 15, 2022.</li> </ul>
12	Other Business
13	<p>Adjournment</p> <p>3:26 pm</p>

**Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee Chair:** Bob Edmondson, [spcchair@hrca.on.ca](mailto:spcchair@hrca.on.ca)

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