

RECOMMENDED: THAT the minutes of the September 25th, 2008 meeting of the Source Protection Committee be approved as printed and circulated.

(b) Technical Working Group (Pages 13–15)
Included is a copy of the draft minutes from the October 7th, 2008 meeting of the Technical Working Group.

RECOMMENDED: THAT the draft minutes of the October 7th, 2008 meeting of the Technical Working Group be received for information and the resolutions contained within the minutes be approved.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) Activities of the Chair & Committee

V. DELEGATIONS

There are no delegations scheduled for this meeting.

VI. PRESENTATIONS

(a) Wellhead Protection Areas and Intake Protection Zones

Don Goodyear will provide a presentation on the Wellhead Protection Areas and Intake Protection Zones within the Source Protection Region.

RECOMMENDED: THAT the presentation provided by Don Goodyear regarding the Presentation from Don Goodyear on the Wellhead Protection Areas and Intake Protection Zones within the Source Protection Region be received for information.

(b) Process to assess Risks

Lloyd Lemon of Jagger Hims Limited will provide a presentation regarding the process to assess risks.

RECOMMENDED: THAT the presentation provided by Lloyd Lemon of Jagger Hims Limited regarding the process to assess risks be received for information.

VII. DETERMINATION OF ITEMS REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION

(Pages 3-4)

VIII. ADOPTION OF ITEMS NOT REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION

IX. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION

X. OTHER BUSINESS

(a) 2009 Meeting Dates

Meeting dates for 2009 Source Water Protection Committee are proposed as follows:

January 22	July 23
February 26	August 27
March 26	September 24
April 23	October 22
May 28	November 26
June 25	December 17

All meetings for 2009, are scheduled for the fourth Thursday of every month, with the exception of the December 2009 meeting. It is expected that all meetings will be held from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. unless otherwise advised. Meeting locations to be confirmed.

RECOMMENDED: THAT the 2009 Meeting Schedule for the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region Committee be approved as presented in the October 23rd, 2008, meeting agenda.

XI. CLOSED SESSION

There is one item for in-camera discussion.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Correspondence

- (a) Attached is a letter dated August 21st, 2008 letter from Mrs. Barbara Gillibrand concerning a proposed land fill site in Simcoe County. Also included is Chair Dollin's response to Ms Gillibrand dated September 24th, 2008. **(Pages 16-18).**
- (b) Attached is a request for information which was acquired through the Source Water Protection web site dated September 17th, 2008 from Aaron Mosley concerning Site 41 in Simcoe County. Also included is Chair Dollin's response to Mr Mosley dated September 24th, 2008. **(Pages 19-20).**

RECOMMENDED: THAT the correspondence listed in the October 23rd, 2008 agenda as items 1 (a) through (c) be received for information.

- (c) Attached is a letter dated October 9, 2008, from David Parks Chair, Severn Sound Source Protection Authority, recommending Mr. Herb Proudley as the replacement member on the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region Committee as the municipal member from the Severn Sound Area. **(Pages 21-22)**

RECOMMENDED: THAT the correspondence listed as Item 1 (c) in the Agenda be received; and THAT the Source Protection Committee endorse the motion that Mr. Herb Proudley be appointed as the new municipal member for the Severn Sound Source Protection Authority municipalities; and FURTHER THAT this endorsement be put forward to the Lakes Simcoe and Couchiching/Black River Source Protection Authority for approval.

2. Communications Update *(Pages 23-39)*

Attached is Staff Report No. 2008-10-08-SPC regarding the media coverage, outreach activities, as well as the activity on the www.ourwatershed.ca web site for the period ending September 30th, 2008.

RECOMMENDED: THAT Staff Report No. 2008-10-08-SPC describing media and other communications activities surrounding Source Water Protection for the period ending September 30th, 2008 be received for information.

MINUTES

Source Protection Committee Meeting No. SPC-09/08
Georgina Ice Palace
90 Wexford Drive, Keswick
Thursday, September 25th, 2008 – 10 am to 12 pm

SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lynn Dollin, Chair	Source Protection Committee
Colin Elliott	Agricultural Sector Representative
John Hemsted	Agricultural Sector Representative
David Ritchie	Agricultural Sector Representative
Colin Nisbet	Economic / Development Sector Representative
Gerry Brouwer	Industrial / Commercial Sector Representative
David Ketcheson	Industrial / Commercial Sector Representative
John Boucher	Municipal Sector Representative, Town of Penetanguishene
Clayton Cameron	Municipal Sector Representative, Township of Severn
David Marquis	Municipal Sector Representative, Durham Region
Erin Mahoney	Municipal Sector Representative, York Region
Rick Newlove	Municipal Sector Representative, Simcoe County
Stan Wells	Municipal Sector Representative, Town of Wasaga Beach
Dianne Corrigan	Public Sector Representative
Bob Duncanson	Public Sector Representative
Stephanie Hobbs	Public Sector Representative
Tom Kurtz	Public Sector Representative
Alex Millar	Public Sector Representative
Larry Slomka	Public Sector Representative

LIAISONS:

Ted Devine	Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit
Kate Turner	Ministry of the Environment
Keith Sherman	Severn Sound Source Protection Authority

REGRETS:

Chris Galway	Aggregate Representative
Brian Milligan	Municipal Sector Representative, Town of Midland
Fred Jahn	First Nations Representative, Rama Mnjikaning First Nation
Fred Ruf	Public Sector Representative

GUESTS PRESENT:

Rob Catarino	Skelton Brumwell
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SOUTH GEORGIAN BAY LAKE SIMCOE REGION STAFF PRESENT:

Don Goodyear	Manager, Source Protection Planning
Susan Jagminas	Communications Specialist, Source Protection Planning
Andrea Torok	Project Coordinator, Source Protection Planning
Gina Casey	LSRCA

I. WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

Chair Dollin welcomed everyone to the meeting.

II. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None made for the record of this meeting.

III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

An article was referenced regarding the ban of bottled water. It was suggested this be placed on the October meeting agenda.

Moved by: R. Newlove Seconded by: D. Corrigan

RESOLVED THAT the agenda for the September 25th, 2008 meeting of the Source Protection Committee be approved as amended to include an activities update from the Chair.

CARRIED

IV. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

(a) Source Protection Committee

Moved by: L. Slomka Seconded by: J. Hemsted

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the August 14th, 2008 meeting of the Source Protection Committee be approved as printed and circulated.

CARRIED

(b) Municipal Working Group

It was requested that the attendance list for this meeting be revised to reflect Ilmar Simanovski was in attendance.

Colin Elliot requested clarification regarding current Planners preparing the Plan.

Don Goodyear responded that the intent is for the Working Group to deal with a series of recommendations which will then be presented to the SPC for further discussion. The expectation is to utilize the expertise around the watershed region and to work collectively.

Colin expressed his displeasure with this process.

Alex Miller reminded the SPC that they are approaching their one year anniversary and indicated it would be beneficial to have a PowerPoint presentation that can be used to inform councils and residents of the Committees' work and progress to date.

Susan Jagminas responded that she is currently working on uploading a presentation to the SWP website that will have a voice overlay. Susan further advised that the Communications Working Group is working on a presentation for use with all municipal councils.

Moved by: R. Newlove

Seconded by: C. Cameron

RESOLVED THAT the draft minutes of the September 9th, 2008 meeting of the Municipal Working Group be received for information as amended to reflect Ilmar Simanovski in attendance.

CARRIED

(c) Communications Working Group

Moved by: J. Hemsted

Seconded by: C. Elliot

RESOLVED THAT the draft minutes of the September 10th, 2008 meeting of the Communications Working Group be received for information.

CARRIED

(d) Technical Working Group

Larry Slomka, Chair, Technical Working Group noted a correction to page 2, Item II(d), indicating that Dave Ketcheson did leave the discussion however it should be noted as a perceived conflict as opposed to a conflict . The minutes will be corrected as such.

Colin Elliot opened a discussion regarding Class 1 Water Taking Permits and inquired as to how this will be dealt with.

Don Goodyear responded that the SPC will be very much involved in the process and that the Source Protection Plan could contain recommendations on how to manage water quantity. The SPC will have the opportunity to discuss water issues and how best to deal with them. This will flow from the assessment report and plan.

Don further advised that the recommendations contained in the Source Protection Plan must be used to make decisions. Decisions can be more restrictive however they cannot be less restrictive than what is in the Plan. The SPC will definitely have a role in the water quantity/taking issue which will be influenced through the Plan.

Action: Chair Dollin suggested that the MOE Liaison representative could look into have a water expert at a future meeting to assist with these discussions.

Moved by: S. Wells

Seconded by: R. Newlove

RESOLVED THAT the draft minutes of the September 11th, 2008 meeting of the Technical Working Group be received for information.

(e) Administrative Staff Team

Moved by: D. Marquis

Seconded by: E. Mahoney

RESOLVED THAT the draft minutes of the September 16th, 2008 meeting of the Administrative Staff Team be received for information.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) Activities of the Committee & Chair

Chair Dollin reported that:

- she attended and presented at the Elmvale Water Festival;
- she participated on a Director's Teleconference and will provide more details later in this meeting;
- she attended and presented at the Environmental First Symposium advising that this was a great event and congratulated Erin Mahoney on its success;
- SPC Member Colin Elliot did an excellent job representing both the SPC and the agricultural community at the Nottawasaga SPA meeting;
- Nottawasaga SPA is the first of the three Authority's to approve the Terms of Reference document. There were no changes however the terms of their approval includes that as the comment period is not closed should they receive comments they will be dealt with as required.

- Keith Sherman advised that the Severn Sound SPA will be holding a special meeting in the next two weeks in order to receive and deal with comments received in response to the TOR.

- Erin Mahoney advised that a meeting with local municipalities will be held to receive comments and feedback regarding the TOR document.

- Don Goodyear advised that he attended a meeting of the Wasaga Beach Chamber of Commerce and made a presentation. In order to reach various businesses and industry, it is the intent to target Chambers of Commerce to inform them of the source protection program and to receive their questions/comments.

VI. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations scheduled for this meeting.

VII. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations scheduled for this meeting.

VIII. DETERMINATION OF ITEMS REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION

Items 1 and 2 were identified for discussion.

IX. ADOPTION OF ITEMS NOT REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION

X. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION

1. Correspondence

- (a) Letter dated August 7th, 2008 from the National Farmers Union re: the issues of compensation for farm losses

- (b) Included in the agenda was a letter dated August 22nd, 2008 letter from the City of Kawartha Lakes re: correspondence from the Ontario Federation of Agriculture on the *Clean Water Act*.

Colin Elliot advised that he is pleased that the City of Kawartha Lakes Council is considering this issue seriously and asked that the correspondence be circulated to other SPC's.

Chair Dollin referenced the resolution which indicates the correspondence has been circulated.

Don Goodyear advised that municipalities will have to conform their Official Plans with the Source Protection Plan specifically in relation to the significant threats policy.

Kate Turner, MOE Liaison, directed the Committee Members to Section 39 of the *Clean Water Act* which addresses this.

John Hemsted put the following motion forward for the consideration of the SPC Members:

Moved by: J. Hemsted

Seconded by: G. Brouwer

RESOLVED THAT the correspondence dated August 22, 2008, from the City of Kawartha Lakes re: correspondence from the Ontario Federation of Agriculture on the *Clean Water Act*, be made part to the Terms of Reference document.

CARRIED

Chair Dollin requested comments on this motion.

Stan Wells noted that there is some confusion with the correspondence in terms of the sequence of events and further identified that the resolutions contained within the correspondence are two years old.

Chair Dollin requested a vote on the motion:

4 in favour

14 opposed

Motion denied.

Moved by: G. Brouwer

Seconded by: S. Wells

RESOLVED THAT the correspondence listed in the September 25th, 2008 agenda as items 1 (a) through (b) be received for information.

2. Communications Update

Larry Slomka spoke to the process for issuing media releases and indicated that, as a representative of the public sector, he believes it is important that the public be kept informed of the work of the SPC and of the reports being issued. Currently there appears to be some concerns around water systems that are under stress and information such as this needs to be shared publicly. Larry and Dianne Corrigan have worked collaboratively on a Press Release in this regard. A draft was included with the agenda and the final document was tabled at the meeting for consideration of the SPC.

Larry advised that the concept was discussed at both the Communications Working Group and the Technical Working Group and received their support. They are now looking for the support of the SPC.

Susan Jagminas drafted the policy on the process for issuing Source Protection Reports which was tabled for comments.

Request made to add, under Process, *that Committee Members or staff can initiate a request for a media release.*

Moved by: R. Newlove

Seconded by: B. Duncanson

**RESOLVED THAT Staff Report No. 2008-09-01-SPC describing media and other communications activities surrounding Source Water Protection for August 2008 be received for information; and
FURTHER THAT the Process for Issuing Source Water Protection Reports be approved as amended to include under Process that “Committee Members or staff can initiate a request for a media release.”**

CARRIED

Moved by: L. Slomka

Seconded by: D. Corrigan

**WHEREAS the SPC has accepted the report on the Tier 1 South Lake Simcoe Watershed; and
WHEREAS it is within the mandate of the SPC to communicate to the public and our agency partners the results of completed studies; and
WHEREAS the Tier 1 Study has indicated sub-watershed that have indications of water quantity stresses; and
WHEREAS a draft Press Release has been reviewed by the communications and Technical Working Groups and there has been general support for the purpose and intent of the draft press release;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the SPC authorizes the release of a Press Release similar to the draft, to the local media within the area served by the SGBLS SPC. The timing to be determined by Chair Lynn Dollin and Project Manager, Don Goodyear, however, barring unforeseen circumstances, the release to be prior to the SPC meeting in October; and
FURTHER THAT partner municipalities and agencies be given at least 48 hours advance notice of the release.**

CARRIED

The Committee thanked Larry and Diane for bringing this issue forward and for their continued commitment.

OTHER BUSINESS

(a) **Media**

Gerry Brouwer advised that he contacted the local media to advise of the SPC Member's tour of the two plants following this meeting in order to generate their interest to attend and get information in the local newspapers.

Chair Dollin suggested it would be a good idea to prepare media notices in advance of our meetings/activities for submission in local newspapers as well as to have a process in place regarding advising the local media of the SPC meetings and activities.

Action: Susan Jagminas to prepare media notices of the meeting and tours for submission in local newspapers.

Action: Communications Working Group to discuss preferred process for advising local media of the SPC meetings and activities.

(b) **2009 Meeting Dates**

Meetings will be held on the fourth Thursday of each month throughout 2009 with the exception of December. These meetings will be held from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

A meeting will be scheduled for December 17, 2009. If not required it will be cancelled.

Meetings during the winter months will be kept central.

(c) **Training Dates**

Chair Dollin advised she received an email from MOE regarding the workshops for the assessment reports. Currently the tentative dates are identified at December 3-4-5, 2008. SPC members are required to attend on one date only and based on previous discussions with this Committee, December 5th has been requested.

Don advised that if the SPC Members cannot attend on the specified date, there will be options to attend at other locations.

More information will be forthcoming as it is made available.

(d) **SPC Member Resignation**

Chair Dollin read an email received from Brian Mulligan, in which he advised he will be resigning from the SPC as he has resigned from the Town of Midland.

The SPC Members suggested that a letter be sent from Chair Dollin on behalf of the SPC thanking Brian for his work on the Committee.

Action: Chair Dollin to send a letter to Brian Mulligan thanking him for his work on the SPC.

(e) **Duplication of Efforts**

Gerry Brouwer brought forward the issue on the Maskinonge River being on the “critical list” and studies/work efforts being done by the MOE appears to be a duplication of the work being done by the SPC.

Kate Turner and Gerry will discuss this further.

Chair Dollin reminded members of a letter that was sent to MOE expressing concerns regarding duplication and overlap of efforts between the SPC and the LSPA. MOE will provide the SPC with a presentation regarding same at the October meeting.

XII CLOSED SESSION

Moved by: D. Marquis

Seconded by: J. Hemsted

RESOLVED THAT the Source Protection Committee move to Closed Session to discuss confidential personnel matters.

CARRIED

Moved by: E. Mahoney

Seconded by: D. Marquis

RESOLVED THAT the Source Protection Committee rise from Closed Session.

CARRIED

XIII ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by S. Hobbs at 12:20 p.m.

Summary of action items:

Action: Place article regarding banning bottled water on the October meeting agenda.

Action: Chair Dollin suggested that the MOE Liaison representative could look into have a water expert at a future meeting to assist with these discussions.

Action: Susan Jagminas to prepare media notices of the meeting and tours for submission in local newspapers.

Action: Communications Working Group to discuss preferred process for advising local media of the SPC meetings and activities.

Action: Chair Dollin to send a letter to Brian Mulligan thanking him for his work on the SPC.

**Technical Working Group
Minutes
October 7th, 2008
Town of Innisfil Town Hall, Rooms A & B**

Members in Attendance:

Larry Slomka, Chair	Technical Working Group
Lynn Dollin, Chair	Source Protection Committee
Dianne Corrigan	Member, Source Protection Committee
Colin Elliott	Member, Source Protection Committee

Severn Sound Environmental Authority

Keith Sherman	SSEA Coordinator
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Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

Don Goodyear	Manager, Source Water Protection
Gina Casey	Administrative Support, LSRCA

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority

Ryan Post	Hydrogeologist, Source Water Protection Co-ordinator
Bahar SM	Manager of Engineering Services

Regrets:

John Hemsted	Member, Source Protection Committee
Stephanie Hobbs	Member, Source Protection Committee
Tom Kurtz	Member, Source Protection Committee
Glenn Switzer	Director, Engineering and Technology, NVCA
Mike Walters	Director, Watershed Management, LSRCA
Andrea Torok	Project Coordinator, Source Protection Planning, LSRCA

Welcome & Introductions

Chair Slomka welcomed everyone to the meeting

1. Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the September 11th, 2008 Technical meeting were revised at the Source Protection Committee Meeting to reflect a correction to page 2, Item II(d), indicating that Dave Ketcheson did leave the discussion however it should be noted as a perceived conflict as opposed to a conflict .

Moved by: C. Elliot

Seconded by: D. Corrigan

RESOLVED THAT the minutes from the Sept 11th, 2008 Technical Working Group Meeting be approved as revised.

2. (a) Technical project discussions

Don provided background information regarding the Threats and Risk Assessment Project advising that a number of municipalities are undertaking this work on their own while others are looking to the SPC to do the work.

Based on a change in the requirement for this work as a result of the directors rules, and the resulting change in scope of existing projects, there will be some cost saving. Staff are recommending that these savings be used toward the completion of vulnerability ranking. This work will be completed by the existing consultant, Jagger Hims Ltd. doing the work on Threats and Risk Assessment.

There was some concern with utilizing the same consultant rather than going through an RFP process, however given that the re-scoping is a provincial driven change and the work is to be complete in nine months, the staff recommendation is appropriate.

Moved by: L. Dollin

Seconded by: C. Elliott

RESOLVED THAT the TWG support amending the contract between LSRCA and Jagger Hims Ltd. to reflect changes to the threats and risk assessment work and to include the vulnerability ranking of WHPAs.

(b) Well Location Survey Project

Don advised that is has come to light that a number of municipal wells have been poorly identified in terms of location. This is apparent when drawing the lines on the maps and some wells are falling outside the lines.

Don indicated that the NVCA and LSRCA are interesting is partnering on a project to have the wells in questions professionally located.

There was a discussion regarding the wells in the Severn Sound watershed and the capture zones.

Don advised that the expectation is to have a discussion at a future meeting regarding the time of travel/capture zones.

Moved by: D. Corrigan

Seconded by: K. Sherman

RESOLVED THAT the TWG endorse a project to undertake a survey of municipal well locations for selected municipalities.

3. Consulting support contracts

Don reported that 21 submissions were received in response to the RFQ issued.

The next step will be for the review team, which consists of Keith Sherman, Ryan Post, Larry Slomka and Don Goodyear to meet on October 8th, 2008 to review and rank/evaluate the submissions. They will then make the selection of the appropriate firms.

4. Presentations - Innisfil Creek Pilot Project

Ryan Post of NVCA made a presentation regarding advanced low water response work completed within the Innisfil Creek subwatershed, relevance to SWP, and next steps for the project.

Lynn Dollin inquired as to when it might be appropriate to have members of the Source Protection Committee participating on the Innisfil Pilot Project Committee as there will be some interest based on the project and its implication on the Source Protection Plan.

Don responded that as the Innisfil Creek is not a source of drinking water it will not have an effect on the Plan however it could provide options related to water quality.

5. Other Business

Dianne inquired about the Latornell Conference and if this is an event members of the Source Protection Committee should attend.

Lynn indicated this should be discussed further at the next SPC meeting.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for November 13, 2008.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

148 Peckahoo Trail, RR. #2
Penstangwsheme, Ind
Aug 21/08

Dear Sirs,

I am tired of hearing of laws and pro-
tections being offered.

We are in possession of some of the purest
water in the world and the idiots at Sincere
County are allowing a garbage dump on
top of the aquifer, despite our efforts to
stop it.


Is there nothing anyone, with common
sense, can do to stop it?

Any help you could provide would have
my undying thanks.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Barbara Gilliland

Don -
Can you please respond
or prepare response
for him.
T.C.

Recd by LERCA
MISC
SEP 04


September 24, 2008

Mrs. Barbara Gillibrand
148 Peekaboo Trail, RR2
Penetanguishene, Ontario
L9M 1R2

Dear Mrs. Gillibrand,

Thank you for your letter of August 21, 2008. Your concern for our water is shared by all members of the Source Protection Committee (SPC). Your letter also gives me an opportunity to clarify the role of the SPC, and how it may factor into the concerns you raise.

The Source Protection Committee is made of up 21 members plus myself, appointed as Chair, by the Minister of the Environment on August 20, 2007. Three first nations' representatives are also eligible to sit on the committee, and thus far we have representation from the Rama First Nations. A complete list of the Source Protection Committee members can be found online at www.ourwatershed.ca.

As you may or may not be aware, municipalities have the responsibility for developing waste management solutions for residents, and locally, it is the County of Simcoe that holds this responsibility. The process of selecting Site 41 has occurred over many years, starting with a Certificate of Approval issued in 1998.

Having said that, the Source Protection Committee has begun the process of developing a source protection plan, intended to provide additional safeguards to drinking water supplies. During the development of this plan which will take place over the next four years, land uses that are deemed potential threats to municipal sources of drinking water will be subject to scrutiny through the process described in the Province of Ontario's Clean Water Act (2006). This is a locally driven, science-based, multi-stakeholder process designed to protect municipal drinking water sources and promote stewardship.

Ultimately, the Source Protection Committee's mandate is to guide the safeguarding of municipal drinking water supplies. To this end, if Site 41 is assessed as a risk through the Clean Water Act (2006) process, policies to mitigate this risk will be enacted.

cont'd...

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I appreciate that there are drinking water related issues being considered prior to the completion of source protection plans across the province. In the period prior to the completion of source protection plans, the existing provincial and municipal planning and environmental protection process and policies apply.

Your letter will be brought forward to the Source Protection Committee as correspondence in the upcoming Source Protection Committee meeting that will be held on October 23, 2009 from 2 - 5pm. The location is yet to be determined, but it will be posted on our website <www.ourwatershed.ca> within the next week. This meeting is open to the public.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lynn Dollin".

Lynn Dollin
Chair
Source Protection Committee

Susan Jagminas - Source Water Protection Web site feedback

From: Source Water Protection <website@ourwatershed.ca>
To: <s.jagminas@lsrca.on.ca>
Date: 9/17/2008 11:31 PM
Subject: Source Water Protection Web site feedback

This is a response sent by Aaron Mosley using the feedback form on the website. The details of the message follow below:

Name: Aaron Mosley
 Email: am-75@hotmail.com
 comments: I would like to know how come the SWP avoids commenting on Site 41 in Simcoe County? If indeed the SWP is going to protect our water, they must stop this proposed disaster. The response that I get when asking about this topic is, it was approved in the 90's. Why if we weren't making mistakes with our water in the 90's do we need the SWP? For the SWP to be taken seriously it must stop previous mistakes. If you are unfamiliar with Site 41 I suggest you look at it as it will be the biggest problem the SWP will have to deal with in the future! A landfill on an aquifer, goes against all SWP recommendations that I have read so far!
 Aaron
 Response requested? yes
 If so, how? byemail

You can use this link to reply: am-75@hotmail.com

e-mail sent to Aaron Mosley
September 24, 2008
am-75@hotmail.com

Dear Mr. Mosley:

Thank you for your e-mail of September 17, 2008. Your concern for our water is shared by all members of the Source Protection Committee (SPC). Your letter also gives me an opportunity to clarify the role of the SPC, and how it may factor into the concerns you raise.

The Source Protection Committee is made of up 21 members plus myself, appointed as Chair, by the Minister of the Environment on August 20, 2007. Three first nations' representatives are also eligible to sit on the committee, and thus far we have representation from the Rama First Nations. A complete list of the Source Protection Committee members can be found online at www.ourwatershed.ca.

As you may or may not be aware, municipalities have the responsibility for developing waste management solutions for residents, and locally, it is the County of Simcoe that holds this responsibility. The process of selecting Site 41 has occurred over many years, starting with a Certificate of Approval issued in 1998.

Having said that, the Source Protection Committee has begun the process of developing a source protection plan, intended to provide additional safeguards to drinking water supplies. During the development of this plan which will take place over the next four years, land uses that are deemed potential threats to municipal sources of drinking water will be subject to scrutiny through the process described in the Province of Ontario's Clean Water Act (2006). This is a locally driven, science-based, multi-stakeholder process designed to protect municipal drinking water sources and promote stewardship.

Ultimately, the Source Protection Committee's mandate is to guide the safeguarding of municipal drinking water supplies. To this end, if Site 41 is assessed as a risk through the Clean Water Act (2006) process, policies to mitigate this risk will be enacted.

I appreciate that there are drinking water related issues being considered prior to the completion of source protection plans across the province. In the period prior to the completion of source protection plans, the existing provincial and municipal planning and environmental protection process and policies apply.

Your letter will be brought forward to the Source Protection Committee as correspondence in the upcoming Source Protection Committee meeting that will be held on October 23, 2009 from 2 - 5pm. The location is yet to be determined, but it will be posted on our website <www.ourwatershed.ca> within the next week. This meeting is open to the public.

Sincerely,



Lynn Dollin
Chair
Source Protection Committee



Severn Sound Source Protection Authority
67 Fourth Street Midland, Ontario L4R 3S9
(705) 527-5166 - FAX (705) 527-5167
Website: www.severnsound.ca
Source Water Protection website: www.ourwatershed.ca

October 9, 2008

Lynn Dollin, Chair
South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region
c/o Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority
120 Bayview Parkway, Box 282
Newmarket, ON
L3Y 4X1

RE: APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL MEMBER FOR SEVERN SOUND
MUNICIPALITIES TO REPLACE BRIAN MILLIGAN

As you know, Brian Milligan, one of two municipal members representing Severn Sound on the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region Source Protection Committee resigned in September, 2008. The list of four, Council approved candidates at the time of his selection, just over a year ago, also included Herb Proudley from the Township of Tay. Herb has expressed interest in letting his name stand as the replacement member for Brian pending confirmation that the Township of Tay is willing to let him remain as a candidate. The other potential candidate on the list of four has indicated that he will not let his name stand.

At a meeting of the Severn Sound Source Protection Authority (special meeting held October 3, 2008), the following motion was passed.

MOTION: Moved by Bob Jeffry, seconded by Axel Frandsen that Herb Proudley be appointed as the new Municipal member for the Severn Sound Source Protection Authority municipalities pending confirmation by the Township of Tay Council.

We have now received confirmation from the Township of Tay of Herb Proudley as a candidate for the position.

Accordingly, we are recommending Herb Proudley as the member to replace Brian Milligan on the Source Protection Committee as municipal member from the Severn Sound area. I have included Mr. Proudley's resume for the committee's information.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Parks". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" being more prominent than the last name "Parks".

David Parks, Chair,
Severn Sound Source Protection Authority

CC: Don Goodyear
Keith Sherman
Simone Latham

Staff Report Number: 2008-10-01-SPC
Agenda Item Number: 2 - SPC - 10/08

TO: South Georgian Bay – Lake Simcoe
Source Protection Committee

FROM: Susan Jagminas
Communications Specialist

DATE: October 9, 2008

SUBJECT: Communications Update

RECOMMENDATION: THAT Staff Report No. 2008-10-01-SPC regarding the
Communications Update be received for information

Purpose of Staff Report:

The purpose of this Staff Report is to update the Source Protection Committee members on media coverage and communications activities related to source water protection for the month of September, 2008.

Background:

Copies of media and communications related to source water protection are attached for the information and review of the Source Protection Committee Members.

Issues:

None identified.

Summary:

This Staff Report contains an update on communications activities, three (3) events, nine (9) media coverage items, and the September 2008 website statistics for www.ourwatershed.ca.

Recommendations:

THAT Staff Report No. 2008-09-01-SPC describing media and other communications and outreach activities surrounding Source Water Protection for August 2008 be received for information.

Prepared by: _____
Susan Jagminas
Communications Specialist

Recommended by: _____
Don Goodyear
Manager – Source Protection Planning

Source Water Protection Monthly Communications Report September 2008

COMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITIES

A press release is scheduled to be released as soon as we've received approval from the Ministry of Environment on the Tier 1 Water Budget Reports for LSRCA and NVCA.

The municipal council e-newsletter has been drafted and is presently in editorial. It is anticipated it will be distributed during the week of October 14.

Work with our SPR partners has been ongoing to coordinate the collection of council resolutions endorsing the expanded protection areas (2 year time of travel around wellheads and IPZ 1's around intakes) for the purposes of the Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program.

A "Request for Quotation" is underway to seek external assistance with the municipal workshops planned for 2009.

Work is still in progress to finalize the Communications Strategy and list of contacts (community groups, chambers of commerce).

EVENTS

On September 17, SPC Chair Lynn Dollin spoke at a York Region conference (2nd annual) entitled "Environment First". Approximately 100 people attended - most were staff from York Region or their member municipalities. There were a wide variety of speakers with the focus on planning for environmental sustainability in York Region. Erin Mahoney was one of the organizers and Ilmar Simanovskis was also in attendance. The presentation was very well received and a suggestion was made to have it posted to our website, which is being pursued.

On September 17, Don Goodyear presented to the Wasaga Beach Chamber of Commerce where approximately 12 members attended. The crowd was attentive but asked very few questions.

Source Protection staff and one committee member attended the Georgian Bay Waterworks Association conference on the evening of September 30 and morning of October 1 at the Nottawasaga Inn in Alliston, Ontario. It was a well attended conference with over 200 delegates; it was considered a worthwhile event to attend in future.

IN THE NEWS

"Compensation" included in one source water proposal; Committees across the province are submitting their terms of reference proposals to the Minister

Ontario Farmer

Tue 02 Sep 2008

Byline: BY FRANCES ANDERSON, ONTARIO FARMER

Source water protection committees across the province are nearing completion of their Terms of Reference. At least one proposal will be submitted to the minister next month with reference to the controversial issue of "compensation" included in the text.

The Ausable Bayfield/Maitland Valley Source Protection Committee (SPC) approved terms of reference that note "Funding mechanisms for implementing land use policies on private land will be identified and included in the source protection plans."

"Financial implications, including compensation, financial assistance, and incentives for land use restrictions will be researched by the SPC."

Keith Black, a farmer from Belgrave who represents agriculture on the AB/MV Source Water Protection Committee, said he wanted to see the word "compensation" in the proposal "in writing, because that was the way the agricultural groups felt, that compensation should be in there."

"We hope it will be approved," said Black.

The Terms of Reference have been forwarded to the AB/MV Source Water Protection Authority for a further comment period. But they can no longer be amended. Any further comments will be attached to the proposal when it's forwarded to the Ministry of the Environment, in mid-October.

The minister has three options, explained Cathie Brown, the project manager for the Source Protection Planning Committee. He can approve the proposed terms of reference; unilaterally amend them, or return them to the source protection committee with recommended amendments.

"SPCs have been advised that it would not be appropriate to include in the terms of reference, tasks related to the development of compensation for land use restrictions," Paul Heeney, the manager of source protection implementation for the Ministry of the Environment, told Ontario Farmer.

However, Heeney added in an email "It may be appropriate to include tasks relating to research on the impact of proposed source protection policies."

Ultimately, however, "the Clean Water Act provides that a decision to approve Terms of Reference is the Minister's to make and we cannot pre-determine the Minister's decision on specific tasks."

"I think the only way we're going to get compensation per se, is for the agriculture groups to put enough pressure on the minister and MPPs, to change the act," said Black.

To that end, the Ontario Federation of Agriculture has asked each of its members to contribute \$1 to fund a legal review of the legislation.

"We put out a call to county federations and we've heard back from several. We've also had several individuals contribute," said Dave Armitage, OFA's head of research.

"We've developed a request for proposal. We're optimistic that we will at least get the funding required for a legal review to advise on next steps."

Each Source Protection committee is working on slightly different timelines, depending on circumstances in the region.

Heeney reported that, of Aug. 20, 14 source protection committees were at the same stage as AB/MV, having forwarded the proposed Terms of Reference to their local Source Protection Authority and posted them electronically, providing for a second public comment period.

Four committees have just completed their first stage of public consultation on the draft proposals, which may result in amendments.

Five committees have requested and received a two-month extension and a sixth request for extension is under consideration by the ministry.

Buried tires at Oak Ridges Moraine site fuel anger
Toronto Star
September 02, 2008



Ed Beach throws a tire that has been on his Uxbridge-area property for decades. His neighbours worry about contamination of the water supply.

Local residents voice environmental concerns about 70,000 dumped tires

Phinjo Gombu

URBAN AFFAIRS REPORTER

Ask Ed Beach how many discarded car tires lie buried in two ravines on his picturesque century-old farm on the Oak Ridges Moraine, and his initial response is: "A few thousand tires."

But that's not exactly a universally accepted, comprehensive tally.

Ministry of Environment spokesperson Kate Jordan says the real number is as high as 70,000. That was the estimate in 1999, when the province allowed him to cover them with fill "for the purpose of soil erosion control."

Beach, a cattle farmer, says the tires have been accumulating on the family farm since Hurricane Hazel in 1954 through the 1970s, to shore up ravine walls.

The province was prompted to permit burying them out of fear the farm could fall to the same fate as a Hagersville tire dump that famously caught fire and smouldered noxiously for 17 days in 1990.

Nearby residents and environmental activists question the wisdom of that decision and the long-term environmental impact. They fear chemicals may be leaching out of the tires, through the moraine's sandy-gravelly soil, and into groundwater that feeds local wells. The area is one the province considers environmentally sensitive.

The issue raises questions about who has been, or should have been, monitoring Beach for the past nine years as he's brought in thousands of truckloads of fill to build a giant berm.

Complaints have prompted the Town of Uxbridge to investigate whether the amount and type of fill Beach is dumping on his farm today is justified under the provincial permit to keep the tires covered – or whether he should have also had a local fill permit.

"Everything has been done legally," Beach told the *Star* during a recent tour of his farm near Concession Rd. 2 and Wagg Rd. in Uxbridge, Ont.

Beach says he doesn't believe there is any threat to the groundwater.

That's hogwash, says Anne Holmes, a local activist who campaigned unsuccessfully for mayor.

She points out that the moraine aquifer, which the province regards as highly vulnerable, is part of the Oak Ridges Moraine, the source of drinking water for more than 200,000 people.

"I want these tires removed and shredded," said Holmes, who supplied the *Star* with a copy of a video that surfaced recently, showing the farm years ago, before most of the tires were covered over.

"If we are going to allow this to remain, what are the effects on the drinking water?"

The video casts doubt on whether the tires were used only for erosion control as advertised – or indiscriminately dumped. It shows thousands of tires strewn, not just inside the ravine walls, but also along the flat tableland above the valley. In some cases, mature birch trees can be seen growing up through stacks of tires obviously long in place.

But the tires are better off under the ground than on top, Jordan says, since they appear to degrade very slowly.

"The information I have from the district, based on the reports they've given us and based on the inspections we've done, is that there is limited leaching of any contaminants, and therefore there are no groundwater concerns related to this," she said, although she later acknowledged no testing of area soils or water had been done.

There seems to be little scientific data as to when and how leaching might become a concern with tire dumps.

With discarded tires now banned from municipal landfills – owing to fire concerns – and most now recycled, such stockpiles usually date to an earlier era.

Several researchers and scientists in Ontario and the United States confirmed that rubber itself is extremely slow to degrade, especially when not exposed to the elements.

But they said it's more difficult to say whether toxic additives used to make tires, such as plasticizers, will leach out if they're buried.

The Rubber Association of Canada agrees with the province that the big concerns with tires are fire and mosquitoes, not leaching.

But Ramani Nadarajah, a lawyer with the Canadian Environmental Law Association, warns that, "There's always the potential for contaminating groundwater."

The only way to be certain is to test the area water and soil, she says.

She pointed to a 1991 case that's still not entirely resolved involving a similar ministry-supervised plan to bury about 33,000 illegally dumped tires in a water-filled trench in Egremont Township in Grey County.

When ministry officials tested the water in the trench less than a decade later, they found levels of contaminants in excess of provincial guidelines. A cleanup was ordered.

The Canadian Environmental Law Association says that NDMA – found in rubber products, pesticides and dyes – is of particular concern because it is a potent animal and human carcinogen and its decomposition rate in water is unknown.

Other questions linger about the fill Beach continues to bring in long after most of the tires were covered.

Standing next to piles of fill accumulated over the past year, Beach explains that his family has been battling erosion for decades because runoff from several nearby properties flows on to his farm.

He points to an area where what was formerly a deep ravine now stands completely filled in and grassed over. There is no sign of the original valley.

There's a second ravine, about 22 metres deep that he says he must continue to fill. He says it will allow him to build a road to reach the first covered valley, where some surface and grading work has yet to be finished.

He's also building a giant berm that he says is needed to stem effluent from a neighbouring cattle operation.

Beach says town officials have consistently told him he doesn't need a local fill permit.

"On any given piece of property, you are allowed to push dirt wherever you want," Beach says. "Where you run into problems is if you take dirt from one property and move it to another."

Uxbridge town clerk Debbie Leroux says local bylaws do regulate the dumping and placing of fill, as well as altering the grade of the land. Responding to complaints, officials are now trying to figure out what Beach is allowed to do under his provincial permit.

Jordan said Beach has recently offered to provide ministry staff with soil analysis results he will conduct to determine whether the fill meets ministry standards.

Beach says he's never been asked to report to anybody exactly how much fill he has trucked in over the years, saying he would have to do some calculations to figure that out. He figures that as many as 1,000 trucks a year have continued to bring construction fill to his farm.

"The property owner is required to submit an annual report on its progress to clean up unwanted tires," Jordan says of the provincial regulations. "However, there is no requirement for an annual report on the ongoing maintenance of the site."

**City water checks out OK; Province announces funding for protection planning;
Sault Star (ON)
Fri 12 Sep 2008
Byline: BY MICHAEL PURVIS, THE SAULT STAR**

A project to assess and protect the sources of Sault Ste. Marie's municipal drinking water has so far found no chronic threats of contamination.

"What we're doing is helping make sure any threats (of contamination) that may exist before water gets to the distribution system are actually dealt with at the source," said Rhonda Bateman, drinking water source protection planning co-ordinator with Sault Ste. Marie and District Conservation Authority.

The program, launched across the province in the wake of fatal E coli bacteria contamination in Walkerton, Ont's municipal system eight years ago, is being carried out by conservation authorities with funding from the province.

MPP David Oraziatti announced this year's funding for the local project on Thursday.

Bateman said the \$371,543 announced represents roughly 75 per cent of the project's annual operating costs. She expects further funding. This year's amount is actually lower because money allotted last year was carried over.

So far, \$2 million has gone into the source protection project in the Sault. The tally should ring in at \$4.09 million, at the project's conclusion in 2012. The program began in 2004 and has since doubled the Conservation Authority's complement of staff.

Right now, the Conservation Authority is working on multiple technical studies to characterize the watershed and find any threats to the Sault's municipal source water system, said Bateman. "Nothing currently has been identified as being a chronic threat."

Part of the study is identification of potential problem areas, including land uses such as agriculture and industry.

When the science is done, the project will develop a protection plan for the area, said Bateman. That plan should be in place by the end of 2012.

The source protection program only deals with the municipal system, roughly half of which comes from the surface water intake on Lake Superior at Gros Cap, and the remainder from groundwater. But any progress made by the program should also decrease threats to those who take their drinking water from their own wells, said Bateman.

The land area under the jurisdiction of Drinking Water Source Protection is 522 square kilometres. The area comprises Sault Ste. Marie, Prince Township, parts of Dennis, Pennefather, Aweres, Jarvis and Duncan Townships, and portions of both the Garden River and Batchewana First Nations. When Canadian waters of the St. Mary's River and Lake Superior are added, the total area under Source Protection swells to 775 square kilometres.

Shame on Dion for exploiting Walkerton tragedy

Cornwall Standard-Freeholder (ON)

Thu 18 Sep 2008

Column: Letters to the Editor

Stephane Dion and the mayor of Walkerton this week exploited the deaths of Walkerton residents from deadly water contamination back in 2000. Like city farmers milking the bull they attributed the deaths to Tory government deregulations and cut backs. Officials originally tried to lay the blame on the local farmer but he had a doctorate of science degree and was quickly absolved of any wrong doing.

The deaths of local residents and the sickness of thousands of residents from the e-coli contamination resulted from the actions of two incompetent town employees with severe drinking problems who failed to do their job.

The McGuinty government in Toronto has since passed the clean water act that appears to be the most expensive piece of legislation to ever go through the provincial parliament.

This is so effective that a dumpsite in Tiny Township is about to be established on 200 acres of class 1 farm land in Tiny Township not far from Midland. This is located over one of the biggest and highest quality aquifers in North America. After spending \$10 million on environmental studies and lawyers fees, surrounding township councils are eager to get this site in use. For several years now bachelor of arts degrees in Toronto have been making decisions that should have been made by persons with masters and doctorates of science degrees.

Our provincial government has protected municipal well heads and surface water supplies from farmers, landowners, businesses and septic systems.

Trains, trucks and ships carrying toxic chemicals have not been addressed. Of course we will never have a spill from any of these.

Glen Runions, Cornwall

Potential for enormous costs

St. Thomas Times-Journal

Wed 17 Sep 2008

Byline: BY FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

Ever since Ontario's Source Water Protection legislation was being considered, it has sparked debate and concern throughout the province.

Farmers and their organizations have identified some of the potential costs for farmers as a result of the legislation and those costs could be enormous.

They have also identified the many inequities farmers could be exposed to as a result of the legislation and the resulting Clean Water Act.

"At this point, we don't have a clear indication of how many farm properties might be declared high risk," advises Mark Wales, member of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture Executive Committee.

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture recently attended a meeting in Kingston, Ont., where Environment Minister John Gerretsen was speaking about the Clean Water Act.

"Compensation has become a word even the minister doesn't want to use when speaking of the act," notes Wales, "and the contributions of so many people to the protection of drinking water sources."

He told attendees there would never be enough money to compensate people for the things they may have to do and affected people will just have to live with it.

"Other comments from the minister gave hope to those attending the meeting that financial assistance could be provided through stewardship funds under the act."

'Precautionary principle' has been a term long associated with the legislation. It essentially means to err on the side of caution.

"If the ministry moves to include broad definitions of risk in the act and the associated regulations, the precautionary principle would bring a large number of farming properties into the definition," suggests Wales.

"If, however, the legislation and regulations are tightly written to ensure only situations posing specific risk to the drinking water systems, the number of affected properties would be much smaller."

OFA's greatest concern with this process and the minister's comments is that the largest possible number of farm properties will be drawn into the source water protection process at considerable and unnecessary expense to farmers.

"If we compare this process to the purchase of insurance, we understand and appreciate that the more precautions we choose to cover, the more the insurance premium will cost," says Wales, who farms in the Copenhagen area.

With the source water protection process, however, the province and conservation authorities are engaged in assessing the risks, but then will direct the affected citizens to cover the costs of reducing that risk.

"From the Kingston meeting, it appears to OFA that farmers, as majority property owners, are being targeted by the government in this potentially burdensome legislation."

During a slide presentation at the meeting, agriculture, its people and its practices were mentioned at least nine times.

The spreading of biosolids on farmland, a practice approved, monitored and regulated by the ministry of the environment, is included in the government's list of risks to drinking water sources.

"Does this tell us something about the ministry's approach to protecting drinking water sources for the citizens of Ontario?" questions Wales.

"Minister Gerretsen's comment that there would never be enough money to compensate people for what the government is expecting them to do tells us he recognizes the unaffordable costs that will be imposed."

Farmers have always used best management practices to minimize their impacts on the environment. The OFA believes greater government involvement is essential, through the stewardship funds and direct compensation to farmers.

"Farmers can't afford to continue funding activities that benefit all citizens," warns Wales.

Heavy rains threaten drinking water: scientist

Guelph Mercury

Sat 20 Sep 2008

Byline: Nicole O'Reilly

Dateline: CAMBRIDGE

Source: Mercury Staff

The intense and sporadic rainfall events experienced across Ontario this past spring and summer are a growing reality in the face of climate change, says a leading scientist.

These events lead to greater soil erosion and runoff, potentially contaminating water, something of particular concern in Guelph and surrounding areas where drinking water is sourced from groundwater, Jim Bruce said yesterday during the eighth annual Grand River Watershed Water Forum. Bruce is also a member of the Soil and Water Conservation Society.

He called for greater government monitoring of wells and water courses to avoid contamination from phosphorus, chemicals and other pathogens.

"The washing of chemicals, bacteria and nutrients into groundwater systems is a serious health issue," Bruce said.

Extreme weather events caused by climate change, he said, will make it much more difficult to meet water quality initiatives, such as those under the 2006 Clean Water Act.

"There are enormous implications for people in this region," Bruce said.

Clean-water initiatives and in particular the development of source water protection committees - on which municipal and conservation authority representatives sit -- was a major focus of the Annual Report on Drinking Water released by Ontario's Environment Minister John Gerretsen during the water forum.

The committees will eventually release source water protection plans for regions across the province, detailing all the hazards to drinking water sources, remediation efforts and funds available to landowners whose properties are affected.

Speaking to the assembled audience, Gerretsen released the report that essentially summarizes all the drinking water initiatives over the last year. He touted source water protection committees as the right step toward the monitoring needed.

"The source water protection committees, their main purpose is to make sure the sources of water supplies in this province are protected in the best possible way," he said.

"But it's just a start, once these plans are in place we need to make sure these plans are being adhered to."

Many at the forum warned of the need to act now, before it is too late and the demands from a growing population increase.

Isobel Heathcote, University of Guelph professor of environmental science and engineering, touched on that point, tackling the issue of population growth and water use as the forum's first speaker.

"It should be simple, but it's not," she said, adding that despite knowing populations in Guelph and surrounding areas will grow, the exact demands the new people will place on water are unknown.

Regardless of how clean or ample the source, all water will always go through a treatment facility. The high quality of Ontario's drinking water, since Walkerton, was also a highlight of the drinking water report.

While not advocating for or against a bottled water ban, Gerretsen said all Ontarians should drink tap water.

"Water that is in a municipal system through the province of Ontario is in excellent shape and I would want people to drink tap water. It's good water, some of the best water in the world," he said.

**Midland council likes its plastic
Water bottle sales ban defeated in 4-4 tie vote
Posted By DOUGLAS GLYNN
Midland Free Press**

A motion to ban the sale of disposable plastic water bottles in town facilities, including office buildings and arenas, where access to town water is available was defeated Monday in a 4-4 tie vote at Council.

Coun. Gordon McKay, who introduced the motion, said afterward that he was "disappointed, but not terribly surprised by the result."

In what is becoming a voting pattern on some issues, councillors Pat File, Zena Pendlebury and Stephan Kramp voted for McKay's motion, while Mayor Jim Downer, Deputy-mayor Ruth Hackney and councillors Judy Contin and Jack Charlebois voted against it. Coun. Bob Jeffery was not at the meeting.

Letters from both Nestle Waters Canada (questioning the merits of the ban) and The Council of Canadians (supporting it) were read, but neither appeared to have much influence on the outcome.

McKay focussed his bid for support of the motion on what the ban would "mean to Midland."

Noting there are no water fountains at the North Simcoe Sports and Recreation Centre, he said people spent about \$14,000 last year for bottled water at the facility.

"We (the town) made \$9,000 in profit," he said. "If we provided fountains we wouldn't be taking money from the pockets of the public."

He also suggested 50 per cent of the bottles sold at the NSSRC go into the blue box recycling program, which is 73 per cent paid for by the public. The remaining 50 per cent go to landfill, he added, and "each bottle is like a shovel in (the ground) of Site 41.

Deputy-mayor Ruth Hackney said the motion was premature.

"We have a 10-year contract with Pepsi (at the NSSRC)," she said, noting Pepsi bought three scoreboards at a cost of \$30,000 among a number of other financial commitments -- including an annual donation of \$500 worth of product to minor hockey for 10 years.

"To pull that contract would be detrimental to the public," she said. "We need more research."

McKay countered that his motion would simply set a direction and that the town could talk with Pepsi.

Coun. Judy Contin recalled that when the NSSRC was built there was "a health and safety issue around water fountains," which require frequent cleaning. She listed a number of locations within the complex that would require fountains if bottled water sales were banned.

"People can't bring other drinks to dances at the NSSRC and this would take away their choice. The NSSRC has a good recycling program," she said. "This (motion) is wrong."

Coun. Stephan Kramp said the use of bottled water increased following the tainted water tragedy at Walkerton.

"It's use is only reinforced when councillors consume bottled water," he said.

Residents want water-taking proposal stopped

September 17, 2008

Author: Chris Fell

Blue Mountains Courier Herald

Grey Highlands council heard a loud and clear message from its residents at a special planning meeting Monday afternoon: no more water taking.

A massive audience filled the council chambers in Markdale and spilled out in the office's reception area. The crowd was on hand for a public meeting about a proposed water-taking venture in the geographic area of Osprey Township. The proposal would drain up to 112,320 litres per day from property close to the border with The Town of The Blue Mountains.

A massive contingent of ratepayers from both Grey Highlands and The Blue Mountains were on hand to express complete opposition to the proposal. The proposal requires a Grey County *Official Plan* amendment, a Grey Highlands *Official Plan* amendment, a Grey Highlands zoning bylaw amendment and a *Site Plan Control* agreement.

At the meeting, speaker after speaker condemned the proposal and said enough water was being pumped out of the ground by another water bottling operation in Feversham. They said enough was enough and it was time for Grey Highlands council to make a stand and stop such undertakings.

The municipality received dozens of letters about the proposal called Paradise Springs.

Monday's meeting was the second public meeting held about the proposal. A previous meeting was held in May 2007 on the same proposal and the entire matter was put on hold until the proponent provided more studies and information required in order to allow the application to move forward.

Grey Highlands Planner Lorelie Spencer said a number of concerns had to be addressed on the property before she would recommend approval for the O-P and zoning amendments. The biggest concern for the municipality focused on roads in the area.

Paradise Springs plans to pump water at that location and truck it to another location. Proposed haul routes are a serious issue for municipal officials. Grey Highlands wants the proponent to pay for a number of serious road upgrades before allowing the proposal to move forward.

Spencer also said an accurate *Site Plan* had not yet been submitted to the municipality.

For the residents at the meeting the biggest concern was the impact the proposal would have on the surrounding area. The rezoning would change the property from rural to light industrial. At the meeting speaker after speaker denounced the proposed planning change pointing out that an industrial use in a rural residential area is completely inappropriate.

Other residents said they were tired of this area's water resources being exploited by companies looking to make a quick buck.

"There will be no contribution to our local economy with this. It's strictly the removal of a resource for a substantial profit," said one resident.

Bill McMurray told council they were just facing a planning matter with the application.

"This is a moral issue for you. Don't tarnish your image by approving this. Even a thimble full of water is too much," he said.

Eugenia resident Larry Mann said another water taking company in the area wasn't needed.

"What value does water bottling have for our community? This serves no purpose," he said.

A number of citizens questioned the relatively small amount of water Paradise Springs was asking to pump. Paradise Springs planning consultant Dave Slade said 112,300 litres was about the same amount of water that's in a swimming pool. Several residents said they believed the application before council is just the start of the process.

"These things start small. I'm sure when Ice River Springs started it was small," said Emily Black. Another resident pointed out that another commercial water taking operation - Gilbralter Springs went out of business with a permit to take more than 700,000 litres of water.

Neighbouring property owner Amanda Knight said she couldn't believe she was seeing the possibility of land near her home being re-zoned for industrial purposes.

"We moved into the area thinking we wouldn't have an industrial area right next door. It was the last thing we expected," said Knight. "Why are you even considering re-zoning this property to a commercial water taking operation let alone any other industrial use?", she said.

John Hartley said the municipality is only going to create future problems for itself if it approves the re-zoning.

"There is no reason for council to consider the zoning and changing the *Official Plan* for a small operation that becomes a monster later on," he said.

Jim Bachelor said there were other places for a company to get water.

"Tap into the municipal water system in Barrie and take your swimming pool amount out of there," he told the proponents.

Slade explained to the audience that the proponent had received a permit to take up to 112,300 litres per day from the site. That would require three truck loads a day, seven days a week.

Slade also explained that the operation did not have plans to pump water from the ground.

"This is a spring. It's water that's coming to the surface," said Slade. "This is a very small application and all we can do is follow the guidelines. Water can be removed from this location and not affect the deep reserve," he said.

Grey Highlands council did not make any decisions on the matter at Monday's meeting. The municipality must first wait for Grey County to make a decision on its *Official Plan* amendment before proceeding with the matter.

Comments should be requested on both sides of issue

Brockville Recorder and Times

Thu 25 Sep 2008

Column: Letters to the Editor

This is my response to the Ontario Landowners Association request for letters describing the impact of environmental regulations on private property. I am a landowner near Merrickville.

The Clean Water Act and the Nutrient Management Act are helping to protect water quality in my area. Because of them I am more assured that the surface water and my well water are safe.

The Fisheries Act is protecting fish habitat in the Rideau River, Kemptville Creek, the South Nation River, and all of the tributaries which are part of their watersheds in my area. I am thankful that it is still a strong piece of legislation.

The Species at Risk Act has made me more aware of wildlife on my land, and helped me to protect habitat on my property. I am happy to be able to provide for any wildlife species in trouble.

I note that the association is requesting comments only from landowners who have suffered because of these regulations. This seems negative and one-sided. To be fair, it should be asking for comments from both sides of the issue.

Stew Hamill
Merrickville

MEDIA RELEASES

none

MISCELLANEOUS

none

WEBSITE STATISTICS

Unique visitors: 671

Number of visits: 1,939 (2.88 visits/visitor)

Pages viewed: 10,191 (5.25 pages/visit)

Monthly History

The monthly history shows a slight increase in visitors but a slight decrease in the number of visits compared to the previous month. The number of pages viewed decreased slightly over last month as well.

Duration of Visits

Just over 80% of visitors only stayed on the site for 0-30 seconds which is consistent with the previous months.

Page Views

The most visited page in August was the home page, followed by the SPC Meetings page, and then the SPC Committee main page.

