

Thames – Sydenham and Region Source Protection Authority Meeting Agenda

Source Protection Authority Upper Thames River

Meeting Date: Tuesday, April 23, 2019

Meeting Time: 9:30 a.m. - Prior to the Start of the UTRCA Board of Directors

Meeting Location: Watershed Conservation Centre Boardroom

Agenda

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes from the previous meeting
 - a) November 27, 2018
3. Source Protection Authority Presentation
(J.Welker)(15 minutes)
4. Business for Approval
 - a) Ratification of Elected Positions
(J.Welker)(Report attached)(5 minutes)
 - b) Drinking Water Source Protection Annual Progress Report
(J.Welker)(Report attached)(10 minutes)
5. Business for Information
6. Adjournment



Ian Wilcox
General Manager



Upper Thames River Source Protection Authority Meeting
Watershed Conservation Centre Boardroom
London, Ontario
Tuesday, April 23, 2019

- Members Present:
- | | |
|------------|---------------|
| M.Blosh | A.Murray |
| A.Dale | B.Petrie |
| D.Edmiston | J.Reffle |
| A.Hopkins | M.Ryan |
| T.Jackson | J.Salter |
| S.Levin | M.Schadenberg |
| H.McDermid | A.Westman |
| P.Mitchell | |
- Regrets:
- N.Manning
- Solicitor:
- G.Inglis
- Staff:
- | | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| T.Annett | A.Shivas |
| C.Harrington | C.Tasker |
| T.Hollingsworth | M.Viglianti |
| J.Howley | J.Welker |
| C.Saracino | I.Wilcox |
| J.Schnaithmann | |

1. Adoption of Agenda

The Chair requested a motion to approve the agenda.

B.Petrie moved – seconded by H.McDermid:-

“RESOLVED that the members approve the Agenda as presented.”

CARRIED.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

The Chair requested approval of the November 27, 2018 minutes.

M.Blosh moved – seconded by B.Petrie:-

“RESOLVED that the minutes of the Upper Thames River Source Protection Authority dated November 27, 2018 be approved as presented.”

CARRIED.

3. Source Protection Authority Presentation

J.Welker gave an orientation presentation outlining the Annual Progress Report and the history and legislated responsibilities of the Source Protection Authority (SPA).

It was reported that the Source Protection Committee is happy with the progress being made, and they are moving forward. The biggest challenge at the moment is interpreting the policies so they make sense on the ground. Staff are managing the risks as they receive the information. They clarified that plastics have not been discussed in detail, as it would most likely be encountered and dealt with at the operator and consumer stage.

Staff confirmed that to this date there have been no policy changes since the election. Staff speculate that there may be some minor changes and changes to vulnerability scoring, but they are not aware of any planned significant changes to the legislation. The Source Water Protection program is now being considered a core mandate for Conservation Authorities by the recent proposed changes to the Conservation Authorities Act.

There were questions and discussion around the Nutrient Management Act, its relation to the Source Protection Act, and any crossover of enforcement efforts between the two. Private wells have been discussed by the Source Protection Committee, but no action has been taken as it is outside of the scope of the program.

J.Reffle moved – seconded by A.Westman:-

“RESOLVED that the Source Protection Authority ask staff to prepare a report on the status of nutrient management planning and enforcement.”

CARRIED.

4. Business for Approval

- (a) Ratification of Elected Positions
(Report attached)

T.Jackson moved – seconded by A.Hopkins:-

“RESOLVED that the Source Protection Authority approve the recommendation as presented in the report.”

CARRIED.

- (b) Drinking Water Source Protection Annual Progress Report
(Report attached)

J.Reffle moved – seconded by A.Murray:-

“RESOLVED that the Source Protection Authority approve the recommendations as presented in the report.”

CARRIED.

5. Business for Information

There was no business for information.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 10:04 a.m. on a motion by M.Blosh.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "I. Wilcox".

I. Wilcox
General Manager
/mv

Report to Upper Thames River Conservation Authority Board of Directors

Cc

Date April 15, 2019

From Julie Welker, Source Protection Coordinator

Re: Ratification of Elected Positions

Recommendation

That the Source Protection Authority ratify the February 21, 2019 election of Joe Salter as the Source Protection Striking Committee Member and Committee Liaison.

Background

The following is an excerpt from the minutes of the February 21, 2019 UTRCA Board of Directors Annual General Meeting.

Source Protection Striking Committee Member & Committee Liaison

S.Levin noted that the election of this position will be ratified in April at the next meeting of the Source Protection Authority.

The Chair called three times for nominations for the position on the Source Protection Striking Committee and Committee Liaison.

Tony Jackson nominated Joe Salter to be the Source Protection Striking Committee Member and Committee Liaison.

Joe Salter agreed to let his name stand to be the Source Protection Striking Committee Member & Committee Liaison.

S.Levin confirmed Joe Salter as the Source Protection Striking Committee Member & Committee Liaison, to be ratified at the April Source Protection Authority meeting.

Recommended by:

Julie Welker,
Source Protection Coordinator

Report to Upper Thames River Source Protection Authority

Cc SP Management Committee

Date April, 2019

From Julie Welker, Source Protection Coordinator

Re: Drinking Water Source Protection Annual Progress Report

Purpose

To approve the submission of the Thames-Sydenham and Region Source Protection Annual Progress Report to the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change.

Background

In accordance with Ontario Regulation 287/07 s.52, all three Thames-Sydenham and Region Source Protection Authorities (Lower Thames Valley, St. Clair Region, Upper Thames River) are required to submit a Regional Annual Progress Report to the Director of the Source Protection Programs Branch by May 1 in the year following the year to which the report applies. Both the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change's (MOECC) Source Protection Annual Progress Report and the Supplemental Form are to be submitted as they are considered "prescribed forms" under O. Reg. 287/07 s.52(5). The first Thames-Sydenham and Region Annual Progress Report and Supplemental Form are due for submission to the MOECC in May 2019.

Annual Progress Report and Supplemental Form

The Thames-Sydenham and Region Annual Progress Report is a public-facing document developed by the MOECC and prepared by Thames-Sydenham and Region staff (Appendix A). The report provides valuable information about the implementation of the Thames-Sydenham and Region Source Protection Plan and the overall success of the program. The first Thames-Sydenham and Region Annual Progress Report reflects implementation efforts from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2018; subsequent progress reports will highlight information and data collected from actions taken during the previous calendar year.


Information presented in the progress report is intended to be a high-level reflection of annual reporting results collected through the Thames-Sydenham and Region Supplemental Form. The Supplemental Form is a tool to collect key information from implementing bodies to help convey the story of progress made in the Thames-Sydenham Source Protection Region using a series of "reportable items" or questions organized by theme (Appendix B). Some themes are specific and mirror policy tools, e.g., Prescribed Instruments, while others are more broad, e.g., municipal integration of source protection, achievement of source protection objectives.

The theme, "achievement of source protection plan objectives" includes two reportable items that require Source Protection Committee (SPC) input: the first, the committee's opinion on the extent to which objectives in the plan have been achieved during the reporting period and the second, comments to explain how the committee arrived at its opinion. The Thames-Sydenham

and Region Source Protection Committee has reviewed the results of the Supplemental Form and Annual Progress Report and recommend the following responses:

Reportable Item ID 43a

In the opinion of the Source Protection Committee (SPC), to what extent have the objectives of the SPP been achieved in this reporting period?

<p>Progressing well/on target – Majority of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing well.</p>	
<p>Satisfactory – Some of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing well.</p>	
<p>Limited progress made – A few of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing well.</p>	

Reportable Item ID 43b

Please provide comments to explain how the SPC arrived at its opinion. Include a summary of any discussions that might have been had amongst the SPC members, especially where no consensus was reached.

Overall, significant progress in the Thames-Sydenham and Region has been made since the Source Protection Plan came into effect. During the last two years of plan implementation, 84% of the policies that address significant drinking water threats have been implemented or are in progress. Of the 1,055 existing threats that were enumerated at the time of Plan approval, over half are considered addressed because the Plan policies have been implemented, or have been confirmed to no longer exist.

The Committee has been pleased with the actions taken by municipalities within the Thames-Sydenham and Region. All 27 municipalities with source protection implementation responsibilities have incorporated source protection considerations into municipal business processes. Municipalities have also made considerable progress in the implementation of mandatory septic inspections, with 85% of the first mandatory inspections now complete. Local Risk Management Officials have made substantial efforts to get out and confirm the presence or absence of significant drinking water threats, and negotiate Risk Management Plans where required.

For the reasons outlined above, the Source Protection Committee feels confident in their assessment that implementation of the Source Protection Plans is progressing well/on target.

Recommendation

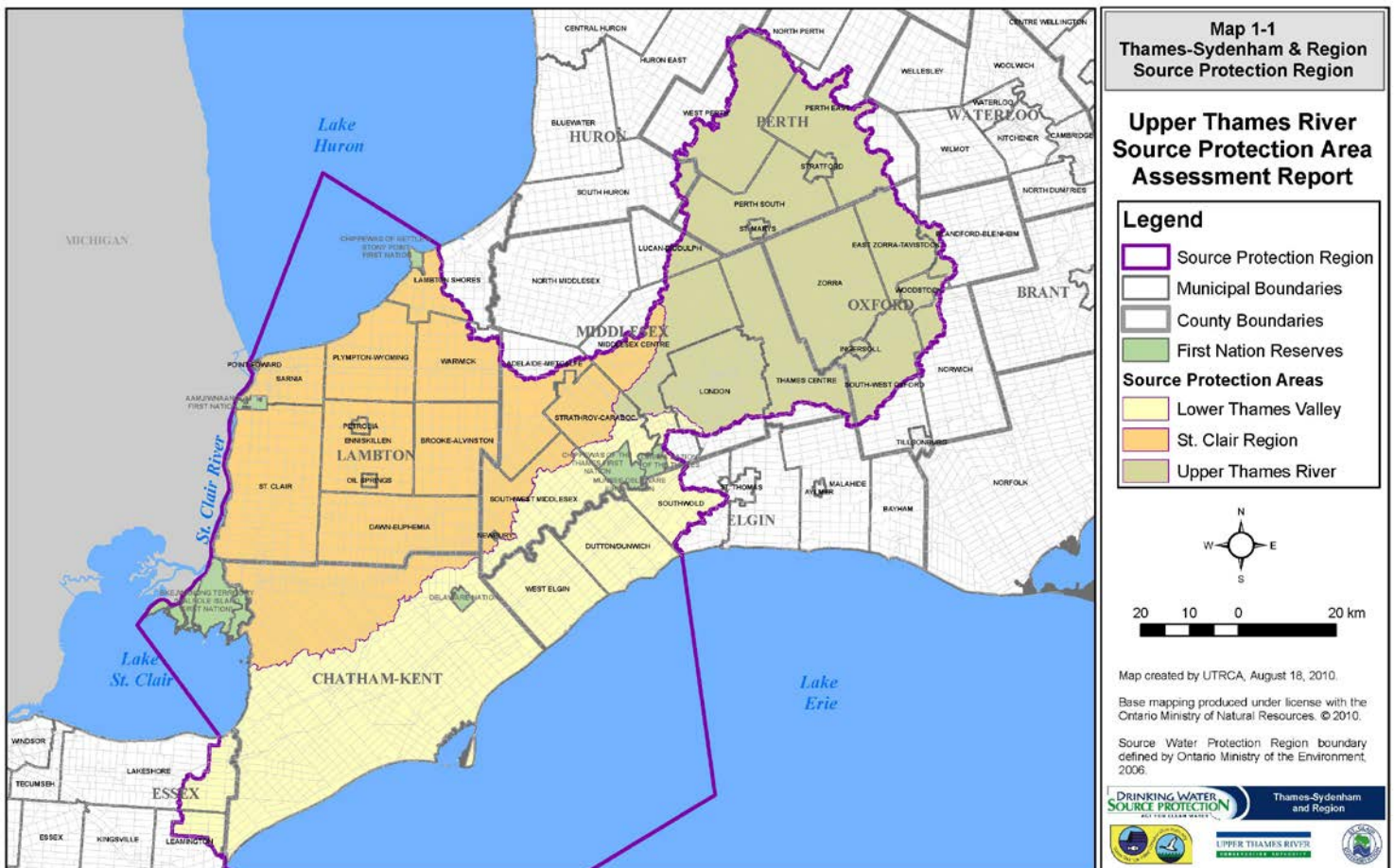
That the Upper Thames River Source Protection Authority direct staff to submit the Thames-Sydenham and Region Source Protection Annual Progress Report and Supplemental form to the Director of the Source Protection Programs Branch of the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change.

Source Protection Annual Progress Report | DRAFT

I. Introduction

This annual progress report outlines the progress made in implementing our source protection plan for the **Lower Thames Valley Source Protection Area**, **St. Clair Region Source Protection Area** and **Upper Thames River Source Protection Area**, as required by the Clean Water Act and regulations.

This is the third Annual Report on the implementation progress of the Drinking Water Source Protection Program in the Thames-Sydenham and Region. The report was written for the citizens of the Thames-Sydenham and Region, the Thames-Sydenham Source Protection Committee, and local stakeholders. We acknowledge and recognize the tremendous efforts made by our local municipalities, stakeholders, and the Source Protection Committee in the development of the Source Protection Plans, implementation of Source Protection Plan policies, and development of this annual report.



II. A message from your local Source Protection

Our progress score on achieving source protection plan objectives this reporting period:

- P : Progressing Well/On Target** – The majority of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing.
- S : Satisfactory** – Some of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing.
- L : Limited progress** – A few of source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing.

Overall, significant progress in the Thames-Sydenham and Region has been made since the Source Protection Plan came into effect. During the last three years of plan implementation, 83% of the policies that address significant drinking water threats have been implemented or are in progress. Of the 1,055 existing threats that were enumerated at the time of Plan approval, over half are considered addressed because the Plan policies have been implemented, or have been confirmed to no longer exist. The Committee has been pleased with the actions taken by municipalities within the Thames-Sydenham and Region. All 27 municipalities with source protection implementation responsibilities have incorporated source protection considerations into municipal business processes. Municipalities have also made considerable progress in the implementation of mandatory septic inspections, with 85% of the first mandatory inspections now complete. Local Risk Management Officials have made substantial efforts to get out and confirm the presence or absence of significant drinking water threats, and negotiate Risk Management Plans where required. For the reasons outlined above, the Source Protection Committee feels confident in their assessment that implementation of the Source Protection Plans is progressing well/on target.

III. Our Watersheds

To learn more, please read our assessment report(s) and source protection plan(s).

The Thames-Sydenham and Region is made up of the watersheds of Lower Thames Valley, the St. Clair Region, and the Upper Thames River.

The Lower Thames Valley Source Protection Area includes those lands draining into the Thames River from the community of Delaware to Lake St. Clair. It also includes the lands that drain into Lake Erie lying south of the lower Thames River watershed and a small triangle of land north of the mouth of the Thames draining directly into Lake St. Clair. This area includes most of the municipality of Chatham-Kent, the western portion of Elgin County, part of southwestern Middlesex County (including some of the City of London) and a portion of eastern Essex County. The Lower Thames Valley Source Protection Area also includes four First Nation reserves; the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Delaware Nation, Munsee-Deleware Nation and Oneida Nation of the Thames. Caldwell First Nation is also established in the area between Leamington and Rondeau Bay; however they currently do not have a reserve. The area covers approximately 3,274 square kilometres with a total watershed population (2001) of about 107,000.

The residents of the Lower Thames Valley Source Protection Area receive most of their municipal drinking water from Lake Erie through 3 intakes. The communities of Ridgetown and Highgate receive their drinking water from municipal wells. Some parts of the watershed within Essex County receive their municipal drinking water from intakes in Lake St. Clair. Although the drinking water for much of the population of the Lower Thames is supplied from municipal drinking water sources, some residents rely on water from private wells.

The St. Clair Region Source Protection Area includes the Sydenham River drainage basin and several smaller watersheds that drain to Lake Huron, the St. Clair River or Lake St. Clair. The Source Protection Area covers over 4,100 square kilometres and includes most of the County of Lambton, part of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent and part of the County of Middlesex with a total watershed population of 167,000. The area also includes three First Nation reserves; Chippewas of Kettle and Stoney Point, Aamjiwnaang, and Walpole Island First Nations.

The residents of the St. Clair Region Source Protection Area receive most of their municipal drinking water from Lake Huron and the St. Clair River through 3 intakes. Parts of Middlesex County receive their municipally supplied drinking water from an intake in Lake Huron outside the Source Protection Region. There are no longer any communities in the St. Clair Region that receive drinking water from municipal wells. Although the drinking water for much of the population of the Lower Thames is supplied from municipal drinking water sources, some residents rely on water from private wells.

The Upper Thames River Source Protection Area includes all areas draining into the Thames River above the community of Delaware. This covers large parts of Oxford, Perth and Middlesex Counties including most of the City of London. Very small portions of Huron and Elgin Counties also drain into the upper Thames River. The area covers approximately 3,423 square kilometres with a total watershed population (2001) of about 472,000. There are no First Nations in the Upper Thames River Source Protection Area.

The residents of the Upper Thames River Source Protection Area receive their municipal drinking water from Lake Huron or Erie through 2 intakes in other Source Protection Areas. Many of the communities in Perth and Oxford Counties rely on groundwater for municipally supplied drinking water. Although the drinking water for much of the population of the Upper Thames is supplied from municipal drinking water sources, many rural residents rely on water from private wells.

IV. At a Glance: Progress on Source Protection Plan Implementation

1. Source Protection Plan Policies

P : Progressing Well/On Target

Overall, significant progress in the Thames-Sydenham and Region has been made since the Source Protection Plan came into effect. During the last three years of plan implementation, 83% of the policies that address significant drinking water threats have been implemented or are in progress. Of the 1,055 existing threats that were enumerated at the time of Plan approval, over half are considered addressed because the Plan policies have been implemented, or have been confirmed to no longer exist. The Committee has been pleased with the actions taken by municipalities within the Thames-Sydenham and Region. All 27 municipalities with source protection implementation responsibilities have incorporated source protection considerations into municipal business processes.

Municipalities have also made considerable progress in the implementation of mandatory septic inspections, with 85% of the first mandatory inspections now complete. Local Risk Management Officials have made substantial efforts to get out and confirm the presence or absence of significant drinking water threats, and negotiate Risk Management Plans where required. For the reasons outlined above, the Source Protection Committee feels confident in their assessment that implementation of the Source Protection Plans is progressing well/on target.

2. Municipal Progress: Addressing Risks on the Ground

27 municipalities in our source protection region have vulnerable areas where significant drinking water threat policies apply. All of the municipalities (100%) in our source protection region have processes in place to ensure that their day-to-day planning and building permit decisions conform with our source protection plans. Municipalities in our source protection region also are required to take the next step to review and update their Official Plan to ensure it conforms with the local source protection plans the next time they undertake an Official Plan review under the Planning Act.

Completed OP - 5

In Process - 8

Completed but under appeal - 2

Not Started - 3

3. Septic Inspections

P : Progressing Well/On Target

84% of on-site sewage systems have been inspected in accordance with the Ontario Building Code. Inspection results found the majority are functioning as designed and did not require any minor or major maintenance work. Only .5% required major maintenance.

4. Risk Management Plans

P : Progressing Well/On Target

In the previous calendar year, 13 risk management plans were established in our source protection region for this reporting year. Since our source protection plan took effect, a total of 54 risk management plans have been established. 384 inspections have been carried out or planned by a Risk Management Official/Inspector for prohibited or regulated activities. There is a 100% compliance rate with the risk management plans established in our source protection region.

5. Provincial Progress: Addressing Risks on the Ground

P : Progressing Well/On Target

Ontario ministries are reviewing previously issued provincial approvals (i.e., prescribed instruments, such as environmental compliance approvals under the Environmental Protection Act, including OMAFRA's Actions Taken on Nutrient Management Strategies and NASM plans as well as MNRs Aggregates (Fuel Storage) - Site Plans/Aggregate Licenses) where they have been identified as a tool in our plan to address existing activities that pose a significant risk to sources of drinking water. The provincial approvals are being amended or revoked where necessary to conform with plan policies. Our policies set out a timeline of 5 years to complete the review and make any necessary changes. The ministries have completed this for 100% of previously issued provincial approvals in our source protection region.

6. Source Protection Awareness and Change in Behaviour

New, provincial standard road signs mark locations where well-used roads cross into zones where municipal drinking water sources are the most vulnerable to contamination. The road signs provide general public awareness about the sensitivity of the area. They will also alert first responders of the need to quickly inform the appropriate authorities so action can be taken to keep contaminants out of the public water treatment and distribution system. A total of 143 (includes 139 municipal road signs and 4 'other' signs). Drinking Water Protection Zone signs have been installed on roadways in the Thames-Sydenham Source Protection Region.

7. Source Protection Plan Policies: Summary of Delays

Incentive programs are not being considered by most organizations in the Thames-Sydenham Region as suggested by Policy 1.04 of the Source Protection Plan. If Provincial funding support were made available to help offset the costs of an incentive programs, more organizations would be open to the consideration of an incentive program. It should be noted that this is a non-legally binding policy in the Source Protection Plan.

Discretionary Septic System Maintenance Inspections programs targeting moderate and low septic system threats have not yet been considered by municipalities in the Thames-Sydenham and Region. Discretionary inspections are recommended in policy 3.01, and as above, it should be noted that this is a non-legally binding policy. At this point in time, municipalities have been focusing on the mandatory septic inspections as required for septic systems that pose a significant threat to drinking water. More consideration will be given to discretionary inspections once the mandatory inspections are complete.

8. Source Water Quality: Monitoring and Actions

There is one drinking water quality issue that has been identified for drinking water systems in the Thames-Sydenham and Region. This includes: Nitrogen at the Woodstock Well Systems. Monitoring of these issues continues at all drinking water systems identified, but at this point in time there is not enough data/information available to determine changes in the concentration/trend of these issues. Further monitoring is required and will continue.

9. Science-based Assessment Reports: Work Plans

No work plans were required to be implemented for our assessment reports.

10. More from the Watershed

To learn more about our source protection region/area, visit our Homepage.

<http://www.sourcewaterprotection.on.ca>

Place photos here