



Lakes Simcoe and Couchiching/Black River

Source Protection Authority

Meeting No. SPA-01-23

Friday, April 28, 2023

9:00 a.m.

Agenda

120 Bayview Parkway, Newmarket

I. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory

II. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and Conflicts of Interest

III. Approval of Agenda

Pages 1 – 3

Recommended: That the agenda for the meeting of Lakes Simcoe and Couchiching/Black River Source Protection Authority held on April 28, 2023 be approved as presented.

IV. Adoption of Minutes

a) Source Protection Authority

Pages 4 – 8

Recommended: That the minutes of the Lakes Simcoe and Couchiching/Black River Source Protection Authority Meeting No. SPA-01-22 held April 22, 2022 be approved as circulated.

b) Source Protection Committee

Pages 9 – 88

Recommended: That the minutes of the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Protection Region Source Protection Committee Meetings held March 29, 2022, May 3, 2022,

June 21, 2022, July 5, 2022, September 22, 2022, October 26, 2022, and February 2, 2023 be received for information.

V. General Updates

a) Correspondence

Pages 89 – 94

Included in the agenda are the following pieces of correspondence:

- i) November 14, 2022 letter from the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, regarding approval of amendments affecting Simcoe County;
- ii) February 9, 2023 letter to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks requesting a regulation change to streamline source protection processes; and
- iii) February 22, 2022 response letter from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, regarding the request for a regulation change to streamline source protection processes.

Recommended: That Correspondence items i), ii) and iii) be received for information.

b) Source Protection Committee Chair's Update

Pages 95 – 96

Included in the agenda is an update from South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee Chair, Innisfil Mayor Lynn Dollin.

Recommended: That the report by South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee Chair Lynn Dollin regarding Source Protection Committee updates be received for information.

c) Source Water Protection Overview

Manager, Integrated Watershed Management, Bill Thompson, will provide an overview of the Source Protection Program. This presentation will be provided at the meeting.

Recommended: That the presentation by Manager, Integrated Watershed Management, Bill Thompson, regarding an overview of the Source Protection Program be received for information.

d) Annual Source Water Protection Progress Report

Pages 97 - 109

Source Water Protection Hydrogeologist, Mike Wilson, will provide a presentation regarding the 2021 Source Water Protection Annual Report to the Ministry. This presentation will be provided at the meeting.

Recommended: That the presentation by Source Water Protection Hydrogeologist, Mike Wilson, regarding the Annual Source Water Protection Progress Report be received for information.

Included in the agenda is Staff Report No. 01-23-SPA regarding the 2022 Source Water Protection Annual Report to the Ministry.

Recommended: That Staff Report No. 01-23-SPA regarding the 2022 Source Water Protection Annual Report to the Ministry be received; and

Further that the Annual Report be approved for submission to the Director, Conservation and Source Protection Branch, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

e) Source Protection Plan Amendments Update

Pages 110 - 123

Included in the agenda is Staff Report No. 02-23-SPA regarding the regarding an update to Source Protection Plan Amendments.

Recommended: That Staff Report No. 02-23-SPA regarding amendments to the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Plan submitted for approval to the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks be received for information.

VI. Other Business

VII. Adjournment

Lakes Simcoe and Couchiching/Black River

Source Protection Authority

Meeting No. SPA-01-22

Friday, April 22, 2022

Held virtually via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Source Protection Authority Board Members Present

Regional Chairman W. Emmerson (Chair), Councillor P. Ferragine (Vice Chair), Councillor K. Aylwin, Mayor D. Barton, Councillor J. Dailloux, Mayor B. Drew, Councillor A. Eek, Councillor K. Ferdinands, Councillor W. Gaertner, Councillor J. Gordon, Councillor R. Greenlaw, Councillor S. Harrison-McIntyre, Councillor T. Lauer, Councillor C. Pettingill, Mayor M. Quirk, Councillor C. Riepma, Councillor M. Taylor, Regional Councillor T. Vegh, Councillor A. Waters

Source Protection Authority Board Members Absent

Deputy Mayor J. Gough, Mayor V. Hackson, Councillor E. Yeo

LSRCA Staff Present

R. Baldwin, T. Barnett, B. Longstaff, B. Thompson, M. Wilson

Guests in Attendance

Mayor L. Dollin, South Georgina Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee Chair

I. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory

Chair Emmerson acknowledged the Lake Simcoe watershed as traditional Indigenous territory and thanked all generations of Indigenous peoples for their enduring and unwavering care for this land and water.

II. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest or Conflict of Interest

None noted for this meeting.

III. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: J. Gordon

Seconded by: D. Barton

SPA-01-22 **Resolved That** the agenda for the meeting of Lakes Simcoe and Couchiching/Black River Source Protection Authority held on April 22, 2022 be approved as presented. **Carried**

IV. Adoption of Minutes

a) Source Protection Authority

Moved by: A. Waters

Seconded by: R. Greenlaw

SPA-02-22 **Resolved That** the minutes of the Lakes Simcoe and Couchiching/Black River Source Protection Authority Meeting No. SPA-03-21 held September 24, 2021 be approved as circulated. **Carried**

b) Source Protection Committee

Moved by: A. Waters

Seconded by: R. Greenlaw

SPA-03-22 **Resolved That** the minutes of the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Protection Region Source Protection Committee Meeting No. SPC-03-21 held December 16, 2021 be received for information. **Carried**

V. General Updates

a) Source Protection Committee Chair's Report

South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee Chair Lynn Dollin's report was included in the agenda. Chair Dollin provided a brief update noting that the Source Protection Committee continues to be a busy group, reviewing new technical rules and policies for integration of new wells into the system. She also noted that the Board will be hearing from Mike Wilson this day on the annual report.

Moved by: J. Dailloux

Seconded by: C. Riepma

SPA-04-22 **Resolved That** the report by South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee Chair Lynn Dollin regarding Source Protection Committee updates be received for information. **Carried**

b) Annual Source Water Protection Progress Report

Source Water Protection Hydrogeologist, Mike Wilson, provided a presentation regarding the 2021 Source Water Protection Annual Report to the Ministry, noting a primary objective of monitoring and reporting is to assess if threats to municipal drinking water sources are being reduced through the implementation of the Source Protection Plan's (Plan) policies.

He reviewed some essential implementation actions that have been completed, such as establishing a Risk Management Office and drafting policies for municipal Official Plans across the Source Protection Region. All municipalities have begun negotiating risk management plans with landowners, and most municipalities have successfully completed some of their required risk management plans. In 2021, York Region became the first municipality in the Source Protection Region to complete its required risk management plans. Ontario Ministries have completed reviewing previously issued provincial approvals that were identified to address existing activities that may pose a risk to sources of drinking water. A review by the Source Protection Committee of data provided identified the following key findings:

- All municipalities have submitted annual reports to Source Protection Authority staff.
- Most policies (98%) that address significant drinking water threats in the Plan have been or are in the process of being implemented in accordance with the timelines set out in the Plan or otherwise amended.
- An estimated 2,965 of 3,218 (92%) existing significant drinking water threats have been mitigated through policy implementation.
- A total of 265 risk management plans have been established and an estimated 103 risk management plans remain to be negotiated across the Source Protection Region. Historic rates of risk management plan establishment suggest the July 2022 deadline is unlikely to be met. In addition, risk management plan negotiation in the remaining two months leading up to the deadline will continue to be impacted by the pandemic.
- Of the estimated 2,095 second round inspections of on-site sewage (septic) systems required, 1,603 have been completed.

While Risk Management Officials had indicated in 2020 that a plan was in place to complete risk management plans by the July 2022 deadline, the Covid pandemic posed many challenges in meeting this deadline. Accordingly in early 2022 Risk Management Officials presented a comprehensive workplan to complete all outstanding risk management plans by July 2025. They advised that negotiations are well underway and draft risk management plans have been created for most of the estimated 103 risk management plans remaining, and workplans include having additional staff complete the Risk Management Official training to aid in meeting the proposed new target date. The committee passed a resolution to have Source Protection Authority staff seek an additional three-year extension on the deadline for risk management plan completion and requested that Risk Management Officials bring progress reports on risk management plan completion to the Source Protection Committee on an annual basis.

The Source Protection Committee recommended a satisfactory score on the current rate of progress on plan implementation given the impacts of the pandemic and the resources available to Risk Management Officials to complete the work.

Moved by: M. Taylor

Seconded by: T. Vegh

SPA-05-22 **Resolved That** the presentation by Source Water Protection Hydrogeologist, Mike Wilson, regarding the Annual Source Water Protection Progress Report be received for information. **Carried**

Staff Report No. 01-22-SPA regarding the 2021 Source Water Protection Annual Report to the Ministry was included in the agenda.

Moved by: M. Taylor

Seconded by: T. Vegh

SPA-06-22 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 01-22-SPA regarding the 2021 Source Water Protection Annual Report to the Ministry be received; and

Further that the Annual Report be approved for submission to the Director, Conservation and Source Protection Branch, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. **Carried**

c) **Source Protection Plan Amendments Update**

Staff Report No. 02-22-SPA regarding an update to Source Protection Plan Amendments was included in the agenda.

Moved by: T. Lauer

Seconded by: A. Eek

SPA-07-22 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 02-22-SPA regarding amendments to the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Plan submitted to the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks for approval be received for information. **Carried**

VI. Adjournment

Moved by: T. Lauer

Seconded by: J. Gordon

SPA-08-22 **Resolved That** the meeting be adjourned at 9:35 a.m. **Carried**

Original to be signed by:

Regional Chairman Wayne Emmerson
Chair

Original to be signed by:

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer

Source Protection Committee (SPC)

Minutes of Meeting SPC-01-2022

March 29, 2022

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. and conducted the Roll Call.

Members Present:

Lynn Dollin, Chair

Municipal

Andy Campbell, Chris Gerrits, Jeff Hamelin, Scott Lister, Kyle Mitchell, Katie Thompson, Stan Wells

Economic/Development

Colin Elliott, John Hemsted, Amanda Kellett, David Ketcheson, Jessica Neto, Rick Newlove, David Ritchie

Public Sector

Geoff Allen, Peter Dance, Bob Duncanson, David Greenwood, Stephanie Hobbs, Tom Kurtz, Cate Root

First Nations

Sharday James

Liaisons

Christina Wieder, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Ben Longstaff, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA)

Julie Cayley, Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA)

Doug Hevenor, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA)

Elizabeth Forrest, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Staff Present

Bill Thompson, LSRCA

Mike Wilson, LSRCA

Mystaya Touw, LSRCA

Ryan Post, NVCA

Melissa Carruthers, SSEA

Kathy Hillis, LSRCA (minutes)

Guests

Tavis Nimmo, Durham Region

1. Welcome & Opening Remarks

All Members and staff were welcomed to the meeting. Kathy Hillis, Sr. Administrative Assistant, Integrated Watershed Management and Conservation Lands, LSRCA was welcomed as the new meeting clerk for the SPC.

2. Land Acknowledgement

The Chair recited the Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory.

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and Conflict of Interest

None declared.

4. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Colin Elliott

Seconded by: Geoff Allen

SPC-01-22 Resolved That the agenda for the March 29, 2022 meeting of the Source Protection Committee (SPC) be approved as presented and amended. **Carried**

5. Adoption of Minutes

Three items identified at last meeting that are to be brought forward are not on the agenda. Bill confirmed that items to be brought forward are tracked in a carry forward list. The question on impacts to agriculture associated to the new well in Cannington was answered by email. The answer to the question of “if we have these new models why are we looking at two wellhead protection areas” is that we are not just looking at the two, but rather that Durham Region is looking at all of their municipal wells and their associated wellhead protection areas (WHPAs) to assess whether the new models would give better protection. Dealt with Cannington and Sunderland at last meeting due to wells coming online so there were deadlines. Mike Wilson is working with Durham staff to review their other drinking water systems and significant groundwater recharge areas and highly vulnerable aquifers and will report back to the Committee as required. We do a review of action items after approval of minutes at meetings.

Moved by: Cate Root

Seconded by: John Hemsted

SPC-02-22 Resolved That the minutes of the December 16, 2021 meeting of the Source Protection Committee be approved as amended and circulated. **Carried**

6. Announcements

- a) Beth Forrest advised that after the Director Technical Rules were released, guidance documents were released on February 15, 2022 to Source Protection Authorities (SPA). Best practices for source water protection (SWP) has been developed. It ensures communities

and landowners in areas not protected by a Source Protection Plan have the tools they require to protect their drinking water sources from contamination eg. how to ensure septic systems function properly. Survey was released February 18, 2022 and will collect comments until mid-April. The survey is intended to ensure continuous improvement with the document. Link to BMPs available at <https://www.ontario.ca/document/best-practices-source-water-protection>

In final stages of reviewing transfer payment agreements with conservation authorities. There was a call out late 2021 for funding applications and this is the first time that multi-year funding (2-year) is available.

All ministries reported into the online Annual Reporting database and the data is available to all SPAs. Road salt workshops have been taking place as MECP is reviewing guidelines for road salt use for environmental protection while ensuring public safety. Numerous workshops have been conducted and the feedback will inform next steps and best management practices. Bill advised that Ontario Road Salt Management Advisory Committee meets quarterly through Conservation Ontario and the Ontario Good Roads Association to discuss how to reduce the use of salt and alternatives to salt. Beth advised alternatives were brought up at workshops.

- b) Tom Kurtz noted that the Horseshoe Valley system has still not been included in the Source Protection program, which is of concern. Tom also shared concerns local landowners have around a lack of clarity of the ownership history of the well, and associated legal proceedings. Melissa Carruthers advised that the well will come to this SPC in the next 3-4 months.

7. Deputations

There were none.

8. Presentations

- a) A presentation by Mike Wilson, SWP Hydrogeologist, LSRCA regarding Staff Report #SPC-2.1 – Annual Report on Plan Implementation (to December 31, 2021).

All municipalities in our source protection region (SPR) have Risk Management Officials.

One hundred sixty-five Section 59 (S.59) notices were issued across our SPR; 87 were in Barrie, 43 in Newmarket and 13 in Aurora. Thirteen S.59 notices were issued by Barrie where a Risk Management Policy applied. S.59 is intended as a flagging tool of building applications and development proposals in highly vulnerable areas. RMOs in the region identified that the S.59 process is a significant workload not tracked. Recommending that RMOs voluntarily track this work in the future.

RMP progress to date – Fourteen Risk Management Plans (RMP) established in 2021 with approximately 103 RMPs remaining to negotiate with three months to go. RMO efforts were

limited in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. All lower tier municipalities in York Region have completed their RMPs. All municipalities now have RMPs in progress, with 74 in-progress as of December 31, 2021.

92% of the existing Significant Drinking Water Threats (SDWT) were addressed through policy implementation. Only 16 of the 22 SDWT are typically managed through the RMP tool. Almost two-thirds of the SDWT still to be addressed are either: Agricultural Source Material (ASM), commercial fertilizer, or Dense Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids (DNAPL). On average it took 22 months to complete Agricultural-based RMPs in our region (based on 11 completed RMPs in 2016-2018), which is longer than other RMPs.

The Ministry has completed review of all Prescribed Instruments for addressing Existing Threats.

Potential Issues:

- RMPs:
 - The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted RMP negotiation across the province in the past year.
 - The rate of RMP negotiation over the final 3 months will be impacted by the current COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Some Risk Management Officials will not be able to complete all required Risk Management Plans by the 2022 deadline.
- Septic Inspections
 - Four hundred and ninety-two (492) Septic Inspections (second round) need to be completed (with a 2022 deadline).
 - The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the ability of many municipalities to complete the inspections by the deadline.
- Next Steps:
 - SPA staff will bring progress reports on RMPs to future SPC meetings
 - Requesting another deadline extension (3 years), to account for the disruption caused by Covid.
- Summary Points:
 1. All municipalities submitted their 2021 annual reports to the Source Protection Authority. Municipalities in our source protection region have processes in place to ensure that their day-to-day planning decisions conform to our source protection plan.
 2. 98% of the policies that address significant drinking water threats have been or are being implemented.
 3. Approximately 92% of the existing SDWTs have been addressed through policy implementation.
 4. While 265 RMPs have been established as of December 31, 2021, it is unlikely that the estimated 103 outstanding RMPs will be completed by the July 2022 deadline.

5. 1,603 of the estimated 2,095 round-two on-site septic system inspections have been completed by municipal staff.

Recommended Progress Score is Satisfactory on achieving source protection plan objectives this reporting period.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

The new Directors Technical Rules mean that any spreading or spraying of pesticides could be a significant drinking water threat (when it happens in a vulnerable area), rather than the list of pesticides specified in our Source Protection Plan. We will be bringing it to the SPC for review at a later date.

Chris Gerrits advised that septic systems in Dufferin County can not currently get dumped as they have no location that will accept the waste.

The RMPs are just for the initial RMPs required and does not include any new changes to circumstances in the Directors Technical Rules.

Fuel storage threats initially identified at the time of Source Protection Plan (SPP) approval were at the municipal drinking water systems themselves for back up generators. Some of these issues were removed through a prescribed system outside of the RMP process, but the RMOs were not advised that they were removed, so they still show as outstanding in the numbers presented. Education for homeowners maybe be helpful to be delivered through the Ontario Federation of Agriculture. Larger tanks on farms require RMPs so would remain on the list until completed. Dave Ritchie advised that Environmental Farm Plans required by farmers identify storage of fuels, and the suppliers of tanks have to inspect the tanks when filling them.

Staff is not sure yet on how the new Directors Technical Rules affect threats. Expected it will result in an increase of the number of RMPs, which will be required within five years of the amendments taking effect, which will likely mean seven years before completion is required.

Moved by: Andy Campbell

Seconded by: Stan Wells

SPC-03-22 Resolved That presentation (a) be received for information; and

Further That Staff Report #SPC-2.1 regarding Annual Report on Plan Implementation (to December 31, 2021) be received for information; and

Further That the SPA staff be directed to rate progress as “Satisfactory”; and

Further That the Source Protection Committee utilize section II of the Annual Report to comment on the progress made to date, as described in the Issues section. **Carried**

b) A presentation by Source Protection staff regarding overview of remaining risk management plans and work plan for completion.

RMOs prefer to negotiate RMPs rather than issuing Orders. Deadline for RMP completion in this Source Protection Region was aggressive given the size of the jurisdiction and the number of RMPs required.

RMOs would like the SPC to consider amendments to the existing policy wording and implications as they relate to Livestock 1 policy to make it more consistent with other policies in the plan. Amendments would require time and approval and therefore add to an increased amount of time required to negotiate an RMP.

Hesitant to initiate new policies on newly identified properties with vulnerable areas until Section 34 Amendment is completed and approved. Durham is refraining from implementing policies on properties that are not captured under the new modelling but were identified in the initial Assessment Report.

Proposed workplan if the deadline pushed to July 1, 2025:

- Severn Sound SPA – Estimating 23 RMPs to be removed, leaving 28 to finalize. Four to be signed in 2022; 2023-24 negotiate and finalize the remaining 24; 2025 to issue any required Orders for any incomplete.
- Nottawasaga Valley SPA – 29 RMPs to be completed. Wait until S.34 amendments are completed as Shelburne’s number of RMPs may change. Recommence/start RMP negotiations for outstanding properties in Q2 of 2022. Explore use of tools (notices and orders) for lagging RMPs to meet anticipated revised extension.
- Lake Simcoe SPA – Municipalities complete the RMP work. Ramara has staff constraints but has indicated it has completed site visits at all properties identified when the SPP came into effect, and the result is five RMPs remaining, and all have been drafted; aiming for completion this year. Hoping to bring draft SPP amendment to the Minister in 2023 for approval in 2024-25. Finalize remaining RMPs before proposed new July 2025 deadline.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

In progress in the presentations indicates that at least one RMP is completed and signed, so although some areas of maps presented are noted as not started, they may have started the process but do not have at least one RMP completed. The 2nd map illustrates those where discussions have been started, so this does not give the impression that no work is being undertaken.

RMOs believe a 3-year extension is reasonable as major issues that would require an additional extension are not foreseen based on the work already completed.

For wells existing prior to Assessment Report being drafted, some activities are still prohibited, without compensation to landowners for the inability to conduct those activities. The mapping of vulnerable areas is available on our SPC website to assist purchasers when considering whether to purchase a property, and often realtors contact conservation authorities before purchasing. Similarly, Durham Region's OP is online that identifies WHPAs. However, this requires a high level of due diligence from potential purchasers to locate this information. Geoff Allen advised that it is up to the realtor to ask what the homeowner plans to do with the property to ensure they can research what restrictions may limit their activities. RMPs are an agreement between a municipality and landowner, so the RMP can not be provided to prospective owners, but they can be advised an RMP exists if this information is requested from Durham Region. Tavis to discuss with other RMOs as to whether they provide information on existing RMPs.

Beth Forrest recommends looking for ways to achieve the 2022 deadline by considering those in progress as completed for annual reporting, or by changing the timing policy as some SPAs decided not to have a timeframe for their Risk Management Policies. Scott Lister advised the Credit Valley-Toronto and Region-Central Lake Ontario Source Protection Committee (CTC-SPC) is considering requesting an extension as well. Even if timing policy is changed, the RMOs can still issue orders to encourage completion. Lake Erie is an example of a Region that does not have a timing window. Flexibility on timing windows was allowed across the province to ensure local issues are dealt with. RMOs can establish their own timelines when having discussions with landowners.

ACTION ITEM: Requested that this presentation be given annually to the SPC to ensure the deadline will be met. Staff to add it to the tracking list of future agenda items.

Moved by: Peter Dance

Seconded by: Stan Wells

SPC-04-22 Resolved That presentation (b) be received for information; and

Further That SPA staff be directed to seek an additional three-year extension on the deadline for risk management plan completion. **Carried**

c) A presentation by Bill Thompson, Manager, Watershed Plans and Strategies, LSRCA regarding Overview of amended Director Technical Rules.

Rules have been updated by MECP due to comments on limitations and challenges by SPCs as plans were written and by RMOs as they started implementing policies. Thirteen Circumstances for Significant Drinking Water Threats have been updated in the amendment.

- Municipal includes clarification of specific wastewater infrastructure that Circumstances apply to; new sub-categories such that stormwater becomes infiltration-based and non-infiltration-based; Major change is lowered thresholds for salt and snow threats.

- Industrial is seeing minor changes including some additional changes to fuel circumstances and additional flexibility for RMOs in dealing with DNAPLs. Unsure of what the changes are to waste stored at waste generating facilities and whether it is something SPCs should be concerned with.
- Agricultural includes specifics related to the type of Non-Agricultural Source Materials (NASM) which are threats; new sub-category for processed organic waste. Unsure of the impact of changes to general applicability to pesticides and fertilizer storage.
- Change to definition of 'Conditions'.
- Changes to when WHPA-Es should be included.
- Change to terminology around Issue Contributing Area.

Dave Ritchie advised that fertilizers, chemicals, and sprays are hard to obtain and as a result spreading of NASMs will be quite robust this year. A dried version of biosolids that is more concentrated and potent will be more widely used. Someone will need to keep an eye on this.

City of Barrie has come to the SPC to review salt usage but chloride levels in Lake Simcoe continue to rise. Bill advised that Barrie staff came to us a few months ago seeking an expansion to where RMPs apply. Impacts to the Lake are not solely due to Barrie. LSRCA has a real focus on salt usage locally and staff has been working with local municipalities and private sector contractors on application. Lynn advised that the Association of Municipalities in Ontario (AMO) is also working with the province on liability to ensure that if the required amount is administered landowners will not be open to lawsuits. Dave Ketcheson advised that will not see impact of the work being done for years or decades so what we are seeing may be legacy applications and not representative of current practices.

ACTION ITEM: Will bring projected impacts on the Source Protection Region and proposed policy updates to the SPC throughout 2022.

Moved by: Kyle Mitchell

Seconded by: Jessica Neto

SPC-05-22 Resolved That presentation (c) from be received for information

9. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

No items were identified under items requiring separate discussion.

10. Adoption of Items Not Requiring Separate Discussion

Item No. 1 was identified under items not requiring separate discussion.

Moved by: Stan Wells

Seconded by: Bob Duncanson

SPC-06-22 Resolved That the following recommendations respecting the matters listed as “Items Not Requiring Separate Discussion” be adopted as submitted to the Board, and staff be authorized to take all necessary action required to give effect to same. **Carried**

1. Correspondence

(a) Correspondence dated March 8, 2022 from Lynn Dollin, Chair, South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee regarding Risk Management Plan timeline.

SPC-07-22 Resolved That correspondence (a) be received for information. **Carried**

11. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

There were none.

12. Other Business

a) Meeting with the clerk to conduct a survey of SPC Members to determine timing for resumption of in-person meetings.

13. Closed Session

None.

14. Next Meeting and Adjournment

Moved by: Tom Kurtz
Seconded by: Peter Dance

SPC-08-22 Resolved That the date of the next meeting of the Source Protection Committee be scheduled by staff; and

Further that the March 29, 2022 meeting of the Source Protection Committee be adjourned at 3:53 p.m. **Carried**

Source Protection Committee (SPC)

Minutes of Meeting SPC-02-2022

May 3, 2022

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm and conducted the Roll Call.

Members Present:

Lynn Dollin, Chair

Municipal

Andy Campbell, Jeff Hamelin, Kyle Mitchell, Katie Thompson, Stan Wells

Economic/Development

Colin Elliott, John Hemsted, David Ketcheson, Jessica Neto, Rick Newlove, David Ritchie

Public Sector

Geoff Allen, Peter Dance, Bob Duncanson, Stephanie Hobbs (left at 2:28 pm; proxy to Tom Kurtz), Tom Kurtz, Cate Root

First Nations

Sharday James

Liaisons

Christina Wieder, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU)

Julie Cayley, Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA)

Doug Hevenor, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA)

Elizabeth Forrest, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Staff Present

Bill Thompson, LSRCA

Mike Wilson, LSRCA

Mystaya Touw, LSRCA

Ryan Post, NVCA

Melissa Carruthers, SSEA

Kathy Hillis, LSRCA (minutes)

Guests

Tavis Nimmo, Durham Region

Nicole Stott, SSEA

Jenee Wallace, SMDHU

Regrets:

Scott Lister – proxy to Katie Thompson

David Greenwood – proxy to Cate Root

Amanda Kellett – proxy to Dave Ketcheson

Chris Gerrits

1. Welcome & Opening Remarks

- a) This is Christina Wieder's last meeting representing SMDHU as she is moving to be the Safe Water program manager for York Region Public Health. Jenee Wallace is her replacement as SPC Liaison for SMDHU until her position is filled.
- b) Julie introduced Nicole Stott as a Risk Management Assistant at SSEA.
- c) Ben Longstaff has moved back to Australia.

2. Land Acknowledgement

The Chair recited the Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory.

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and Conflict of Interest

None declared.

4. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Bob Duncanson

Seconded by: Rick Newlove

SPC-09-22 **Resolved That** the agenda for the May 3, 2022 meeting of the Source Protection Committee (SPC) be approved as presented. **Carried**

5. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by: Stan Wells

Seconded by: John Hemsted

SPC-10-22 **Resolved That** the minutes of the March 29, 2022 meeting of the Source Protection Committee be approved as circulated. **Carried**

6. Announcements

There were none.

7. Deputations

There were none.

8. Presentations

- a) A presentation by Mike Wilson, SWP Hydrogeologist, LSRCA regarding Staff Report SPC2.1 – Proposed Amendments to Policy DNAPL-2 (Prohibition Policy).

The Circumstances at the time the Plan was written identified five specific chemicals as being Dense Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids (DNAPL). Under the new Circumstances any DNAPL could now be a Significant Drinking Water Threat, if stored in a vulnerable area with a sufficient score.

Circumstances also lowered the vulnerability score where the handling and storage of a DNAPL could be a significant threat in an IPZ, which may introduce new DNAPL threats to six IPZs in our Source Protection Region.

The Risk Management Officials (RMO) are finding that businesses that have DNAPLs mostly have products that may contain DNAPLs but not “pure” DNAPLs. Current policies prohibit “future” storage of DNAPLs. This can be challenging because if a business replaces all products that may contain a DNAPL with safer products to meet the terms of the Prohibition, they may unknowingly purchase products in the future containing DNAPLs and RMOs would not be aware. As a result, it is preferred to have an RMP with these businesses to ensure risk management measures stay in place.

Volume where we prohibit the handling and storage of DNAPLs: Tried to find other legislation that links DNAPL volumes to Regulations. Tetrachlorethylene (PERC) is the only DNAPL that appears to be regulated. Dry cleaners are one of the only industries licensed to use PERC, and they are phasing it out (though 45% in Ontario still use PERC). The industry requests that source protection policies align with Environment Canada Regulations. The largest dry cleaner in Ontario would not exceed two to three 205 L drums in a year. If you are using PERC you must report to Environment Canada how much you purchased and used, how you used it and how much waste was produced. The two regulations that apply to PERC are Solvent Degreasing Regulation and Tetrachloroethylene Regulations. Regulations apply to users, importers, sellers and recyclers of PERC.

Retail businesses often have small containers of DNAPLs, but it is possible that a large number of such containers could exceed a combined volume of 1,000 L.

Proposed two new policies for handling and storage of DNAPLs: DNAPL-2 and DNAPL-3 as outlined in the staff recommendations.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Colin Elliot would like to know how much DNAPL is actually used? When it is used is it gone or is it dirty DNAPL that is taken away. How does the normal sewage system handle this? Mike advised that PERC is put directly into dry cleaning machines which are placed in secondary containment. All the PERC is picked up and disposed of by a regulated company. There are filters that have a bit of water and waste PERC, and they need to be picked up as well. Theoretically there should be no waste as it is picked up and disposed of properly. Colin asked what about the old machines under the old method? Mike advised that all dry cleaners are regulated, and new dry cleaners are not using PERC.

Dave Ketcheson sought clarification on if changing businesses and the business had an existing threat, as a future business are they no longer considered a threat? Mike advised that if new machines are purchased they will not use PERC and are no longer considered a threat. If a business is sold and they do not change machines and still use PERC, they would be required to

negotiate a new RMP. There are businesses other than dry cleaners that still use PERC. The dry cleaning example was used to establish a volume of PERC. Dave does not like allowing any quantity of DNAPL in a WHPA. He believes the committee should consider prohibition versus RMPs.

Cate Root asked where the PERC waste is taken? Mike is unsure of the location, but advised that there are facilities that recycle toxic chemicals that would likely handle this waste in an environmentally safe way.

Peter Dance believes the bigger issue of the SPC is the degreasing functions as they are more prone to dilution and mixing with other items. Most operations having DNAPLs of any size will have RMOs attending, so RMOs can work with businesses through the RMP process. Prohibition is hard to work with and we are better to be on top of people who are disposing of it.

Jessica Neto asked what other businesses in the areas are we concerned about that are storing DNAPLs and what risks do they pose? Should we not be looking at those businesses and risks? Katie Thompson advised mechanic shops and manufacturing shops with tool and die operations meet this criterion. In the field have only found two industries using pure form DNAPLs, both of which have discontinued to use the products. Other industries using non-pure DNAPLs are using very small amounts, and generally they are willing to change products when given alternatives. Negotiation appears to be more effective than prohibiting DNAPLs.

Kyle Mitchell provided the following example from his former RMO role: a business that was not aware that they were using DNAPLs and had to talk to their corporate office in the United States who were not aware of source protection regulations. If a commercial business has a DNAPL onsite and they get rid of it, there is really no grounds to create an RMP, so the change in the proposed policy change would capture changes in products under the risk management measures. May want to go back to Environment Canada and seek changes to Regulations that prohibit DNAPLs from entering Canada for use by businesses.

Tom Kurtz asked what concerns other agencies regulating DNAPLs have when developing their Regulations and did their concerns have anything to do with groundwater? Mike looked at transportation of DNAPLs and found no regulations, so the only ones are the two Mike presented. Environment Canada Regulations are to protect soil and water from contamination. Tom sought clarification on DNAPLs migrating from place to place and accumulating over time, so we should be encouraging prohibition by Environment Canada as Kyle suggested. Bill Thompson advised that we can not create legally binding policies for the federal government but we can create non-legally binding policies.

Peter Dance asked if a letter to Environment Canada recommending prohibition of DNAPLs would be in order. Lynn Dollin suggested it could copy the other SPCs.

Andy Campbell commented that if a waste depot received a small amount of a DNAPL and combined it in drums with other accumulated waste, they may store greater than 617 L at a

facility as they likely wait for a truckload before shipping it out. Bill advised there are cases where activities fall under more than one category and this may be a case where it falls under the Transfer and Disposal of Hazardous Waste. We are not aware of any transfer stations in WHPA-A but with DNAPLs it goes into WHPA-C.

Stan Wells asked about the exception for retail sales, and how many businesses and industries in our area would be storing for retail sale in quantities greater than 617 L, and why would they need to be storing quantities of this level? Mike advised there is a lot of small retail that could quite possibly exceed this amount, but he can not give the number of businesses. Stan asked if we are proposing to prohibit these retailers from stocking these items on their shelves? Mike advised it is the opposite as by having an RMP in place the risk can be managed. Stan indicated that perhaps the recommendations should be worded as products retailed in small quantities rather than 617 L, but it would need to indicate some type of quantity.

Dave Ketcheson recommends modifying the policy to indicate a quantity greater than equal to 220 L (rather than 617 L) with the exception of retailers selling in quantities smaller than 2 L or a similar limit and provide an aggregate limit for these retailers so that if someone has huge quantities of containers of a DNAPL then it would be beneficial to have an RMP. Katie Thompson recommends that instead of coming up with a specific container size as manufactures can change their container sizes at anytime, it would be better to indicate the intent of retail sales eg. selling to a consumer vs. a commercial/industrial operation.

Stan Wells asked if this needs to be decided today or if it can be brought back to the next meeting for consideration? Bill advised that it is not an urgent item but that there is not a lot more that can be provided to the Committee other than modifying the wording as proposed. Staff has been struggling with the volume amount and how to propose an amount that is not arbitrary, which is why Mike provided the example he did of dry cleaners how staff came to the 617 L recommendation.

Lynn Dollin directed staff to look at the aggregate amount, define retail sales, and a letter to Environment Canada.

Moved by: Dave

Seconded by: Rick

SPC-11-22 **Resolved That** presentation a) regarding Proposed Amendment to Policy DNAPL-2 (Prohibition Policy) be received for information; and

Further That Staff Report SPC2.1 regarding Proposed Amendment to Policy DNAPL-2 (Prohibition Policy) be referred back to staff for a report back at the June 29, 2022 SPC meeting. **Carried**

ACTION ITEM: Colin Elliott requested staff investigate with Simcoe County staff why the plume coming from Perkinsfield from the landfill site and going toward Wyevale was supposedly stopped just north of Wyevale and advise him of the status of this.

- b) A presentation by Bill Thompson, Project Manager, South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region (SGBLS SPR) regarding Staff Report SPC2.2 - New and Updated Circumstances for Waste Transfer and Processing (Municipal, and Hazardous and/or Liquid Industrial Wastes).

Waste Transfer and Processing has now been explicitly brought in to address some changes with implementation. The threshold where waste can be a significant threat has gone down which is a more conservative approach, so more facilities may be considered a threat. These activities require Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) so it would be a fairly simple process to manage these threats through ECAs.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Peter Dance believes the word establishment should be removed and leave it at just existing, or indicate existing facility. Katie Thompson advised that the word establishment is in the legal description in the Act of the activities, so this wording is consistent with the Act

Andy Campbell questions whether prohibiting the activity is only in a WHPA-A or all areas. He is not concerned with the WHPA-A prohibition but believes there still needs to be the opportunity to manage in other circumstances. Bill advised this is the Committee's decision to make and there have been other cases of prohibition in WHPA-A and RMPs in other areas.

Dave Ketcheson questions if the prohibition of future establishments is going to sterilize existing facilities to their current levels and prohibit improvements or expansions? Bill advised that existing threat definition in the Source Protection Plan (SPP) includes alteration or expansion that reduces the risk of contaminating drinking water is permitted. A future threat is an alteration or expansion that does not reduce the risk of contamination so they would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Dave Ketcheson wants to be careful on the legal description of liquid industrial waste and what they could incorporate. Bill advised that Dave also flagged for him that a composting facility would fall under this category.

Andy Campbell requested the recommendation be changed to "existing or amended" in the first policy and remove municipal waste from the second policy.

Peter Dance asked if staff is expecting a lot of future threats to emerge in WHPAs and IPZs or is this more theoretical exercise? Bill advised that the future threat is very hard to estimate. The rationale the Committee has taken in the past is balancing the cost implications for the

proponent and protecting drinking water. There are options for future facilities not near a WHPA which provides more flexibility.

Moved by: Andy Campbell

Seconded by: Peter Dance

SPC-12-22 **Resolved That** presentation b) and Staff Report SPC2.2 regarding New and Updated Circumstances for Waste Transfer and Processing (Municipal, and Hazardous and/or Liquid Industrial Wastes) be received for information; and

Further That the Source Protection Committee endorse proposed policy one for Waste Transfer and Processing as presented in the staff report. **Carried**

Moved by: Peter Dance

Seconded by: Stan Wells

SPC-13-22 **Resolved That** the Source Protection Committee endorse proposed policy two for Waste Transfer and Processing as presented in the staff report; and

Further That staff be directed to incorporate the proposed policies for Waste Transfer and Processing as part of the forthcoming amendment to the Source Protection Plan, under Section 36 of the Clean Water Act. **Carried**

c) A presentation by Bill Thompson, Project Manager, SGBLS SPR regarding Staff Report SPC2.3 - New and Updated Circumstances for the Land Disposal of Hazardous Waste and Liquid Industrial Waste.

There is the possibility for existing threats to come in. Landfilling activities require an ECA so existing threats are managed through ECA approvals. No changes to policies recommended.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Dave Ketcheson asked if liquid industrial waste includes hydrovac, and if they are captured would they be prohibited? Bill advised that yes, this is the proposal.

Moved by: Kate Thompson

Seconded by: Peter Dance

SPC-14-22 **Resolved That** presentation c) and Staff Report SPC2.3 regarding New and Updated Circumstances for the Land Disposal of Hazardous Waste and Liquid Industrial Waste be received for information; and

Further That the Source Protection Committee endorse the proposed policies for Land Disposal of Hazardous Waste and Liquid Industrial Waste; and

Further That staff be directed to incorporate the new policies for Land Disposal of Hazardous Waste and Liquid Industrial Waste as part of the forthcoming

amendment to the Source Protection Plan, under Section 36 of the Clean Water Act. **Carried**

- d) A presentation by Bill Thompson, Project Manager, SGBLS SPR regarding Staff Report SPC2.4 - New Industrial Effluent Discharge Circumstances and Policy Implications.

Changes are the introduction of the WHPA threats so there could be new threats in WHPA 10s but if there are any it is likely a small number. All such activities can be addressed through ECAs. No changes to policies recommended.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Peter Dance wanted to confirm that Ministry of the Environment will be updated to Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. Bill advised that names to Ministries will be updated as required.

Moved by: Rick Newlove

Seconded by: Kyle Mitchell

SPC-15-22 **Resolved That** presentation d) and Staff Report SPC2.4 regarding New Industrial Effluent Discharge Circumstances and Policy Implications be received for information; and

Further That the Source Protection Committee endorse staff's recommendation that the current policies to manage industrial effluent discharge are adequate for managing the new industrial effluent discharge threats. **Carried**

- e) A presentation by Bill Thompson, Project Manager, SGBLS SPR regarding Staff Report SPC2.5 - New and Updated Circumstances for the Storage and Application of Hauled Sewage.

Disposal of Hauled Sewage is an existing subcategory with a new name. Storage of Hauled Sewage is a new subcategory which refers to temporary storage. Some haulers are finding difficulties in permanent disposal locations for sewage so are temporarily storing it, so this captures those cases. Table of Circumstances has been clarified to indicate hauled sewage through any method. No new threats for the disposal of sewage but potentially new threats under storage, but we are not aware of any currently. No changes recommended to the Disposal policy. Proposing three new policies related to Storage outlined in the staff report.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Dave Ritchie asked if the City of Barrie storage facilities in Oro near the airport would be prohibited? Bill advised that he believes it would be an existing activity in the Circumstances.

John Hemsted advised that the way we used to deal with it was spreading of raw septage on a plot of land in Tiny Township. It is fixed product that has already gone through their filtering and treated process. Bill clarified that he is speaking to the untreated waste.

Lynn Dollin advised that Innisfil is closing their facility for four years and septic haulers are concerned they will have no where for disposal.

Dave Ketcheson sought clarification that temporary storage does not include a truck that can not unload on a specific day. Bill confirmed that it applies to fixed storage.

Moved by: Andy Campbell

Seconded by: John Hemsted

SPC-16-22 **Resolved That** presentation e) and Staff Report SPC2.5 regarding New and Updated Circumstances for the Storage and Application of Hauled Sewage be received for information; and

Further That the Source Protection Committee endorse staff's recommended policies for Application of Hauled and Storage of Hauled Sewage; and

Further That staff be directed to incorporate the new policies for Storage of Hauled Sewage and the updated Application of Hauled Sewage as part of the forthcoming amendment to the Source Protection Plan, under Section 36 of the Clean Water Act. **Carried**

f) A presentation by Mystaya Touw, Hydrogeology Assistant, LSRCA regarding Staff Report SPC2.6 - New Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facilities Circumstances and Policy Implications.

New Director Technical Rules separate Significant Threats into Wastewater Collection and Wastewater Treatment, and each one is separated into chemical and pathogen circumstances. No changes recommended to the proposed policies.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Andy Campbell sought clarification that expansion of existing facilities is not prohibited. Bill confirmed this is the case.

Christina Wieder advised some existing plants do not have ECAs so how will this be looked at? Mystaya and Bill advised RMPs would be an alternate method where ECAs do not exist.

Tom Kurtz argued that storm sewers can exfiltrate sewage and wondered if this is captured in existing policies? Bill confirmed that it would fall under the same policy as existing facilities.

Moved by: Bob Duncanson

Seconded by: Kyle Mitchell

SPC-17-22 **Resolved That** presentation f) and Staff Report SPC2.6 regarding New Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facilities Circumstances and Policy Implications be received for information; and

Further That the Source Protection Committee endorse staff's recommendation that the existing wastewater collection and treatment policies are adequate for managing the new wastewater collection and treatment threat circumstances.

Carried

- g) A presentation by Mystaya Touw, Hydrogeology Assistant, LSRCA regarding Staff Report SPC2.7 - New Stormwater Management and Stormwater Infiltration Facilities Circumstances and Policy Implications.

The Committee directed staff to provide this presentation and staff report at a future SPC meeting. No deferral motion was made.

- h) A presentation by Bill Thompson, Project Manager, SGBLS SPR regarding the Source Protection Region Update.

Braestone, Robincrest, Maplewood and Stayner systems have been submitted to the Ministry for their review and approval. They have requested the data in a slightly different format which staff is preparing to provide to the Ministry.

Sunderland and Cannington systems are going to the consultation phase which is expected to take several months.

Horseshoe Highlands, Shelburne and Midhurst systems are undergoing technical work.

Changes to municipal drinking water systems in Ballantrae, Palgrave, Colgan and Craighurst are expected this year as well.

To review all of these we will likely need four more SPC meetings before the end of the year.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Colin Elliott asked how many wells are there in Midhurst? Ryan Post does not know the exact number.

ACTION ITEM: Colin requested the location of the Midhurst wells before the next meeting.

Tom Kurtz asked why it has taken so long to come up with a report on the Horseshoe Highlands wells. Melissa Carruthers advised that she has received the report from the consultant and is working through the report.

Moved by: Dave Ritchie

Seconded by: Colin Elliot

SPC-18-22 **Resolved That** presentation h) be received for information. **Carried**

9. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

No items were identified under items requiring separate discussion.

10. Adoption of Items Not Requiring Separate Discussion

No items were identified under items not requiring separate discussion.

11. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

There were none.

12. Other Business

- a) Beth Forrest advised there are few updates due to the election and WRIT coming down. The Ministry received annual reports from all source protection authorities by the May 1st reporting deadline except for one.
- b) The Ministry is continuing to review s.34 and s.36 updates. So far have done completed about five approval updates.

13. Closed Session

None.

14. Next Meeting and Adjournment

Moved by: Jessica Neto
Seconded by: Andy Campbell

SPC-19-22 **Resolved That** the date of the next meeting of the Source Protection Committee scheduled to be held June 29, 2022 from 1-4 pm (location to be advised); and

Further that the May 3, 2022 meeting of the Source Protection Committee be adjourned at 4:00 pm. **Carried**

Source Protection Committee (SPC)

Minutes of Meeting SPC-03-2022

June 21, 2022

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm and Bill Thompson conducted the Roll Call.

Members Present:

Lynn Dollin, Chair

Municipal

Andy Campbell, Chris Gerrits, Jeff Hamelin, Scott Lister, Kyle Mitchell, Katie Thompson

Economic/Development

Colin Elliott, Amanda Kellett, Jessica Neto, Rick Newlove, David Ritchie

Public Sector

Geoff Allen, Peter Dance, Bob Duncanson, David Greenwood, Stephanie Hobbs, Tom Kurtz, Cate Root

Liaisons

Jenee Wallace, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Julie Cayley, Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA)

Elizabeth Forrest, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Staff Present

Bill Thompson, LSRCA

Mike Wilson, LSRCA

Mystaya Touw, LSRCA

Sarah Thompson, NVCA

Ryan Post, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA), Acting Liaison

Melissa Carruthers, SSEA

Kathy Hillis, LSRCA (minutes)

Nicole Stott, SSEA

Guest

Greg Padusenko, WSP Golder Associates

Regrets:

Sharday James, First Nations

Stan Wells, Municipal – proxy to Dave Ritchie

Doug Hevenor, Liaison, NVCA

John Hemsted, Economic/Development

David Ketcheson, Economic/Development

1. Welcome & Opening Remarks

2. Land Acknowledgement

The Chair recited the Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory.

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and Conflict of Interest

None declared.

4. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Rick Newlove

Seconded by: Chris Gerrits

SPC-20-22 **Resolved That** the agenda for the June 21, 2022 meeting of the Source Protection Committee (SPC) be approved as presented. **Carried**

5. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by: David Greenwood

Seconded by: Andy Campbell

Action Item for Last Meeting: Colin Elliott requested staff investigate with Simcoe County staff why the plume coming from Perkinsfield from the Pauze landfill site and going toward Wyevale was supposedly stopped just north of Wyevale and advise him of the status of this. Melissa Carruthers contacted the County of Simcoe who advised that it is not a County-owned landfill so they have no information. MECP advised that additional monitoring was completed in the fall of 2021 and a report on the monitoring will be produced in the next few months, but to obtain results of that report a Freedom of Information request would need to be made. Anyone seeking further information can speak to Melissa offline.

SPC-21-22 **Resolved That** the minutes of the May 3, 2022 meeting of the Source Protection Committee be approved as amended and circulated. **Carried**

6. Announcements

- a) Lynn Dollin, Bill Thompson and Mike Wilson were invited by the Ogemawahj Tribal Council (joint Council of First Nations) to do a sourcewater 101 session on May 16, 2022. Beausoleil Island has interest in determining what their IPZ would be and how the Clean Water Act can protect their three drinking water systems, even though exempt. Rama has been working on a Council resolution for several years and Beausoleil is interested in exploring a similar pathway with this SPC.

- b) SPC Chairs meeting was held on May 9, 2022 and the Chairs were advised that almost all SPC Chairs terms are up in August 2022, and there may not be reappointments considered by this time due to the new Cabinet being assigned. If anyone is interested in being interim Chair, advise Bill Thompson of your interest. An updated will be provided at the July 5th SPC meeting. Lynn indicated she is interested in reappointment, but there still may be an interim Chair requirement. An Acting Chair must be chosen from among current SPC Members. Beth (MECP) recommends reviewing processes established by other SPCs as the Regulations do not elaborate on this process. **ACTION ITEM:** Bill Thompson to provide an update on the Chair's appointment process at the July 5th SPC Meeting.
- c) Section 34 SPA-led amendments and Section 36 packages are still being reviewed.

7. Deputations

There were none.

8. Presentations

- a) A presentation by Greg Padusenko, WSP Golder Associates and Ryan Post, NVCA regarding Staff Report SPC2.1 - Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update - Amendment to Township of Springwater Chapter.

Two new wells (Midhurst Valley Well 1 and Well 2) have been constructed to support the Carson Road development and are required to be incorporated into the Source Protection Plan and associated Assessment Report. This development will be completed in three phases:

- The first (current) phase will include two wells at the Snow Valley Road site (Wilson and Snow Valley; one duty well and one standby well).
- The second phase is to construct one additional well at the same site as phase 1,
- The third phase is to construct two additional wells at the West Snow Valley site.

The total Carson Road development will result in three duty wells and two standby wells for the system which can collectively and cumulatively serve 2,909 units (population 8,720) with pumping up to 76.8 L/s.

Wells 1 and 2 are screened in regional Aquifer A4 and are deeper than the existing Midhurst and Del trend wells which are completed in regional aquifer A3. The water quality of both wells meets the Ontario Drinking Water Quality Standards (ODWS) except for hardness. Neither well is considered a GUDI.

Numerical groundwater modelling was conducted using an updated version of the pre-existing Barrie (or Kempenfelt Bay) groundwater model that was originally constructed and approved in the early 2000's in support of the South Simcoe Groundwater Study. The refined model (2018 Kempenfelt Bay model) was calibrated in transient mode to monthly baseflow estimates along

Willow Creek. Future Conditions scenario showed drawdown of 0.2 m to 1.5 m at private wells, indicating no significant impact to these wells. Loss in baseflow shown to be 5%. In addition, the groundwater vulnerability classified as Low Vulnerability.

No drinking water issues identified in Wells 1 and 2. Nine significant threats identified on seven properties:

- one threat for the establishment, operation or maintenance of a system that collects, stores, transmits, treats or disposes of sewage – for the proposed effluent main;
- one threat for the handling and storage of fuel – water treatment plant;
- seven threats for the handling and storage of a DNAPL – generally associated with companies on Snow Valley Road.

Percent Managed Lands, Livestock Density, and Impervious surfaces were modelled using the 2021 Director technical Rules.

No anticipated policy changes required to the SPP. Targeted submission to MECP for approval is in mid-September.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Peter Dance: What are the proposed amendments?

They will focus on the additional maps to be included in Chapter 16 and the text to incorporate these new wells into the document.

Dave Ritchie: When the well starts to draw down, and contaminants may start to show up from the chemical plant in the area of the Snow Valley Road plume, will it have an affect on the well?

The NVCA has some provincial groundwater monitoring wells in the area. The plume does not migrate to the area of the wells, and they are at considerable depth and the plume is in the shallow aquifer.

Geoff Allen: Are there plans to ask the industries with significant threats from DNAPLs to do RMPs?

WSP Golder completed a windshield survey but a full review has not been done, but this will be done by the Springwater RMO.

Chris Gerrits: How long does the conceptual model to modelling report take to complete? How long is it expected for the Ministry to approve it, so in general how long does it take for approval of new wells?

This is partly based on how much of a push is there to complete the work. The source protection work alone is approximately one year. Permits, drilling and testing can be done in a year, but Ministry approvals prolongs this process.

Colin Elliot: Would like a map of exactly where these wells are? What are the nitrate levels? What is the flow of Willow Creek?

They are located at the northeast corner of Snow Valley Road and Wilson Road. Reduction in baseflow to Willow Creek would be approximately 5%, and acceptable reduction is 10%. Did not do nitrate isotope work to isolate the source of the nitrates. The nitrate level is 8 mg/L and will be treated at the water treatment plant, and the plant has been designed for this.

Peter Dance: Where is the sewage going, being treated, and discharged? Has there been any consultation with people who will experience well draw down or industries who will need RMPs?

Treated within the subwatershed, discharged to a watercourse at County Road 27 and Wilson Road. Drawn down on shallow wells is less than 1 m so no real impact. The drawn down of 1.5 m in wells that have significant drawdown available, so it is almost within the seasonal impact range. Public consultation would have occurred during the EA and during the aquifer tests. There will be public consultation during the s.34 process. Peter would like to see a policy for this development requiring a 10-year review of the WHPAs. Ryan believes that the modelling will look at the existing pumping rates and see how they influence the WHPAs before the 10-year period is up. There is a Tier 2 water budget in place for this area but will start to be concerned about water quantity in this area in the next 10-15 years. Midhurst's threshold is based on taking vs availability and there is a threshold that they are still below, but when they start to approach this threshold, we will need to look at a Tier 3 water budget. Currently there is not a quantity issue as per the Technical Rules.

Amanda Kellett: Is there any mechanism for monitoring the baseflow affects from a new well?

NVCA has a stream gauge on Willow Creek and can do a baseflow evaluation. There is a recommendation for the permit to take water application to study stream flows and stream levels at the closest creek, Black Creek.

Chris Gerrits: The SPC role is not to review the technical data of the report, but rather to protect sourcewater. The SPC's job is quality and quantity, and there must be a threshold for us to write policies on quantity.

Andy Campbell: There will be continued pressure from development, but the SPC is to deal with the wells before u. With the evidence provided there is reason to support the application.

Cate Root: Whenever building a facility you need to have a stormwater plan, and is this something we should hear about?

If SWM pond is deemed a significant drinking water threat it would have been flagged. Within the WHPA-A there is no SWM pond planned so there is not a threat. Stormwater was reviewed through the development process.

Rick Newlove: If MECP is concerned about water quality, they will deal with it the permit to take water.

Moved by: Andy Campbell

Seconded by: Rick Newlove

SPC-22-22 **Resolved That** presentation a) and Staff Report SPC2.1 regarding Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update - Amendment to Township of Springwater Chapter be received for information; and

Further That the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee agree that the proposed amendments to the Source Protection Plan and the Springwater Chapter of the Nottawasaga Valley Assessment Report are advisable.
Carried

b) A presentation by Mike Wilson, LSRCA regarding Staff Report SPC2.2 – Proposed Amendment to Policy DNAPL-2 (Prohibition Policy).

The staff report recommended lowering the DNAPL prohibition volume threshold from 617 L to 250 L. The rationale is that this is a small enough threshold to prevent businesses proposing to use a significant volume of DNAPL from opening in a vulnerable area, but is large enough to allow non-retail businesses to continue to store several small containers of products that contain some DNAPL.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Cate Root: Recommends that the SPC send a copy of this recommendation to other SPCs to get their agreement.

CTC has a similar volume threshold of 250 L in their new DNAPL policy, but they kept a prohibition at any volume in WHPA-A.

Moved by: Peter Dance

Seconded by: Cate Root

SPC-23-22 **Resolved That** presentation b) and Staff Report SPC2.2 regarding proposed new dense, non-aqueous phase liquid (DNAPL) prohibition policies be received for information; and

Further That the Source Protection Committee endorse the removal of policy DNAPL-2 which prohibits the future handling and storage of DNAPLs, in any quantity, where they would be a significant drinking water threat; and

Further That the Source Protection Committee endorse the addition of two new DNAPL policies: a prohibition policy for the future handling and storage of DNAPLs (at any concentration) in a quantity greater than or equal to 250 L, except when that DNAPL is stored for the purpose of retail sale; and a Risk Management Plan policy for the future handling and storage of DNAPLs (at any concentration) in a quantity less than 250 L or when stored for the purpose of retail sale; and

Further That staff be directed to incorporate the new policy text as part of the forthcoming amendment to the Source Protection Plan, under Section 36 of the Clean Water Act; and

Further That staff be directed to send a letter, on behalf of the Source Protection Committee, to Environment and Climate Change Canada recommending the prohibition of the use of DNAPLs. **Carried**

- c) A presentation by Mystaya Touw, Hydrogeology Assistant, LSRCA regarding Staff Report SPC2.3 - New Stormwater Management and Stormwater Infiltration Facilities Circumstances and Policy Implications.

Moved by: David Greenwood

Seconded by: Jessica Neto

SPC-24-22 **Resolved That** presentation c) and Staff Report SPC2.3 regarding New Stormwater Management and Stormwater Infiltration Facilities Circumstances and Policy Implications be deferred to SPC Meeting SPC-04-2022 scheduled to be held on July 5, 2022. **Carried**

9. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

No items were identified under items requiring separate discussion.

10. Adoption of Items Not Requiring Separate Discussion

No items were identified under items requiring separate discussion.

11. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

No items were identified under items requiring separate discussion.

12. Other Business

None.

13. Closed Session

None.

14. Next Meeting and Adjournment

Moved by: Bob Duncanson

Seconded by: Rick Newlove

SPC-25-22 **Resolved That** the next meeting of the Source Protection Committee scheduled to be held on July 5, 2022 from 1-4 pm via Zoom; and

Further that the June 21, 2022 meeting of the Source Protection Committee be adjourned at 3:28 pm. **Carried**

Source Protection Committee (SPC)

Minutes of Meeting SPC-04-2022

July 5, 2022

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm and Bill Thompson conducted the Roll Call.

Members Present:

Lynn Dollin, Chair

Municipal

Chris Gerrits, Jeff Hamelin, Kyle Mitchell, Katie Thompson, Stan Wells

Economic/Development

Colin Elliott, John Hemsted, Amanda Kellett, David Ketcheson, Jessica Neto, Rick Newlove, David Ritchie

Public Sector

Geoff Allen, Peter Dance, David Greenwood, Stephanie Hobbs, Tom Kurtz, Cate Root

Liaisons

Jenee Wallace, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit
Julie Cayley, Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA)
Doug Hevenor, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA)
Elizabeth Forrest, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Staff Present

Bill Thompson, LSRCA	Ryan Post, NVCA
Mike Wilson, LSRCA	Sarah Thompson, NVCA
Mystaya Touw, LSRCA	Melissa Carruthers, SSEA
Kathy Hillis, LSRCA (minutes)	Nicole Stott, SSEA

Guests

Angelika Masotti, York Region
Joanna Miron, York Region

Regrets:

Andy Campbell, Municipal
Scott Lister, Municipal – proxy to Katie Thompson
Bob Duncanson, Public Sector
Sharday James, First Nations
Karen Kivilahti, SMDHU

1. Welcome & Opening Remarks

2. Land Acknowledgement

The Chair recited the Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory.

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and Conflict of Interest

None declared.

4. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Kyle Mitchell

Seconded by: Rick Newlove

SPC-26-22 **Resolved That** the agenda for the July 5, 2022 meeting of the Source Protection Committee (SPC) be approved as presented. **Carried**

5. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by: Peter Dance

Seconded by: Amanda Kellett

SPC-27-22 **Resolved That** the minutes of the June 21, 2022 meeting of the Source Protection Committee be approved as amended and circulated. **Carried**

6. Announcements

There are none.

7. Deputations

There were none.

8. Presentations

- a) A presentation by Mystaya Touw, LSRCA regarding Staff Report SPC2.1 - New Stormwater Management and Stormwater Infiltration Facilities Circumstances and Policy Implications.

New Circumstances are shifting to include stormwater infiltration facilities. The Threat level is determined by overall drainage area to the imperviousness of drainage area (not including roofs, so basically how much pavement there is). It is the percentage of a drainage basin that is impervious for stormwater ponds and the total impervious area for infiltration features. Threat levels that are further differentiated by predominant land use type of drainage are greenspace, municipal, or commercial/industrial.

Stormwater management (SWM) facilities are considered more of significant Threat to surface water than to groundwater, and when the land use type is more developed and impermeable like commercial and industrial.

Not expecting very many new significant Threats due to the new circumstances. One potential new stormwater Threat is Cross St. Stormwater Pond in Barrie in an industrial area. It would need to have 20% of its drainage area impermeable. Depending on how the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) delineated the drainage basin it could cross this threshold.

Stormwater infiltration facilities are more likely to be a Threat to groundwater in WHPAs than surface water as they direct stormwater back into the ground. More of a Threat in commercial or industrial areas than greenspaces or municipal lands. Examples of facilities include: soak-a-ways, infiltration trenches and chambers, rain gardens and bioswales, permeable paving and rainwater harvesting if they are directing the water back into the ground afterwards.

MECP considers the following for a stormwater/drinking water Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA): Erosion and sediment control measures, spill contingency plans, inspection and monitoring, repair and maintenance programs, and access to records, reports and manuals for ministry staff, Source Protection Authority and any other parties identified in the source protection plan. LSRCA stormwater team is recommending more reference to operations and maintenance plans as this will be more proactive, rather than reactive which is the case with repair and maintenance plans.

If low impact development (LID) facilities are considered one drainage basin when they are near one another, they could cross the threshold to be classified as a significant Threat. The Ministry is to advise how they classify these: individual or as one. There are only a few LID facilities within the Lake Simcoe watershed within the area of a well that may be considered one drainage basin.

New regulatory amendment was approved to remove the requirement for ECAs for stormwater infiltration facilities at residential properties. For a residential property to have a significant Threat in this category, the infiltration facility would have to be:

- A) in a WHPA 10 with 200+m² of impervious surfaces in its drainage area
- B) in an IPZ 10 with 2000 +m² of impervious surfaces in its drainage area

Proposed policy change is to add a third condition when looking at ECA approval to include an operations and maintenance plan and monitoring plan, which ensure that the facility does not become a Significant Drinking Water Threat through insufficient maintenance. In the situations where the Ontario Water Resources Act does not require an approval, recommending to remove the existing policy which was asking the Ministry to consider the research which has been done on identifying risks into infiltration facilities, and adding a policy that existing and future stormwater infiltration facilities, where the activity would be a significant Threat to drinking water, shall require a Risk Management Plan that includes appropriate terms and conditions to ensure that the activity ceases to be or does not become a significant Threat.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Cate Root: Does approval of the policy mean that we do or do not look at the impact of stormwater when we are looking at wells and safe drinking water issues?

Role of the SPC is to ensure municipal sources of drinking water are protected from those uses that can be incompatible, and stormwater can be considered incompatible. The SPCs role is to write the policies to manage those incompatible policies. Any time any new well is proposed, staff bring any new potential Threats in a WHPA to the Committee to ensure the correct policies are in place. Site specific measures would fall to the Ministry to be handled through an ECA, and the Risk Management Officials (RMO) through the Risk Management Plan (RMP).

Colin Elliott: Does this new policy interfere with the well at Warminster?

We have not done the same level of screening in the NVCA and SSEA areas. The MECP needs to screen all the SWM ponds in the source protection region that have ECAs to determine if they are, or are not, Significant Drinking Water Threats. Colin confirmed that there are no impermeable surfaces, therefore Bill advised that it is not considered a significant Threat.

Amanda Kellett: Is there any consideration for pre-treatment in the circumstances and vulnerability score, eg. if you have an oil grit separator upstream of an infiltration facility.

No, it does not. The circumstances are defined by the province so we can not set them. The SPC could write the policy to include or require pre-treatment, but Bill recommends avoiding overly complicated policies. The current policy that says the ECA should have the appropriate terms and conditions gives the Ministry and the proponent the authority to determine what is appropriate on a site-by-site basis. Peter Dance reminded the Committee that it is the SPC's job to develop clear policies and other bodies to implement them. Other approval authorities may define an equivalent reduction because there is pre-treatment, but the policies would still need to be met.

Katie Thompson: For infiltration circumstances where they are exempt from the Water Resources Act and we would be requiring an RMP, the drainage area must capture a lot of the impervious surfaces. Do we anticipate ever having to implement this or will it come up more frequently than we think?

If it is in a WHPA-10 then it would require a minimum of 200m² pavement. It is possible in a residential lot but given the amount of pavement this would not be your average home. It would be more likely in an apartment or condo/townhouse situation. All residential is included in the regulatory amendment and therefore exempted from requiring an ECA.

David Greenwood: Are we able to define in the circumstance the time commitments, so that we indicate a timeframe that an operations and maintenance plan must be developed in?

The SPC can add more text to the proposed policy to deal with timelines of when the plan is to be initiated and the reporting frequency. Amanda Kellett advised that operations and maintenance plans for municipality-owned facilities normally come into effect when the municipality assumes it, and the municipality generally requires the facility be restored to the as-constructed state prior to it being assumed. Bill suggested that the timeline could be at the point of assumption by a municipality, and the SPC can require a reporting frequency. Peter Dance advised that any operations and maintenance plan must to be from the time of approval and they sometimes sit in developer's hands for years, and the plans are often written with too much detail and therefore poorly complied with. Reporting to the Ministry is sporadic and there is not the staff capacity to review them annually. The plans need to be in place from the time of construction. If we want a timeline, then Peter recommends five years.

David Ketcheson: Is it correct that the operations and maintenance plan is all through the ECA and adjudicated by MECP? MECP is now mandated to make sure the operations and maintenance plans are in play and the monitoring is done accordingly, so does the SPC not get involved in that?

Both are correct. There is an option to add wording requiring a reporting process to have reports come to the Source Protection Authority as well as the Ministry. This may be a policy directed to the SPA to request these reports.

The ECA often demands certain operations and maintenance things, but the Ministry historically has always allowed that if the monitoring data shows that there is no implied Threat, the monitoring activities may be curtailed. If we put a reporting policy in place, will it restrict the Ministry from curtailing aspects of it and would this pose a problem if the specific SWM pond posed no Threat for years to come?

The intent is to require monitoring plans for stormwater facilities in vulnerable areas, and we are proposing the monitoring be ongoing. The Ministry may push back on that proposal. The Ministry is updating its process for ECA approvals for stormwater, and are entering a system-wide or Linear ECA process which will provide more consistency on monitoring and reporting. However, this affects only a few facilities, and the additional oversight may be required on them.

Beth Forrest: When MECP sees this policy for early engagement, they will look at it and talk to the program areas to see if it is feasible. If early eyes on it are wanted let Beth know, and she see will see if it is feasible and will bring it back to the MECP to decide if they should move forward with it through the consultation process.

Amendment

Moved by: David Ketcheson

Seconded by: Rick Newlove

SPC-28-22 **That** the following be added after the second clause of the main motion:

Further That the Source Protection Committee ask the SPC Liaison to investigate adding an operations and maintenance plan schedule; and **Carried**

Moved by: Peter Dance

Seconded by: Kyle Mitchell

SPC-29-22 **Resolved That** presentation a) and Staff Report SPC2.1 regarding New Stormwater Management and Stormwater Infiltration Facilities Circumstances and Policy Implications be received for information; and

Further That the Source Protection Committee endorse staff's recommended policies for stormwater management; and

Further That staff be directed to incorporate the new policies for stormwater management and stormwater infiltration facilities as part of the forthcoming amendment to the Source Protection Plan, under Section 36 of the Clean Water Act. **Carried**

The Resultant Motion Reads as Follows:

Resolved That presentation a) and Staff Report SPC2.1 regarding New Stormwater Management and Stormwater Infiltration Facilities Circumstances and Policy Implications be received for information; and

Further That the Source Protection Committee endorse staff's recommended policies for stormwater management; and

Further That the SPC ask the SPC Liaison to investigate adding an operations and maintenance plan schedule; and

Further That staff be directed to incorporate the new policies for stormwater management and stormwater infiltration facilities as part of the forthcoming amendment to the Source Protection Plan, under Section 36 of the Clean Water Act.

b) A presentation by Bill Thompson, LSRCA regarding Staff Report SPC2.2 – Change to Circumstances – the Application of Road Salt.

Seeking direction from the SPC as the Ministry has provided flexibility on where and how we map impervious cover. Directed to look at areas with more paved surfaces and to assume that areas with greater paved surfaces pose a greater risk to drinking water rather than determining actual number of impervious surfaces (roads and parking lots, not roofs). No systems in our source protection region met the former circumstances to be a significant Threat. There was however an issue in Barrie where some of the wells had a trend of increasing sodium or sodium and chloride concentrations. This resulted in an issue contributing area being identified where activities in the area may be a source of that contamination, with 40 parking lots being a Significant Drinking Water Threat.

Similar issues occurred in other source protection regions, so the province looked at the impervious surfaces with 1 km² around these wells that had a problem and determined it to be around 30%, so they set this as the new threshold. The lower threshold may mean significant Threats due to salt application outside of Barrie which begs the question do the policies make sense for other municipalities?

With the drop in threshold, how and where we map impervious cover may matter. Under the new rules an SPC can chose to map within the 1 km² grid or by the WHPA boundary. The grid is a larger area, but it does not match all the technical work on rate and direction of work, so it is a bit arbitrary. Mapping by the WHPA boundary is consistent with how other Threats are dealt with. Staff has gone through an exercise to map impervious areas in the WHPAs and IPZs. There are several systems that met the threshold in the WHPA but not in the grid, so we now have significant Threats outside of Barrie, but the number is dependant on the type of mapping done.

Desktop analysis indicates that within Barrie, all parking lots in an ICA are considered a significant Threat. In addition, the estimated new number of Threats outside of Barrie in the source protection region in a WHPA are 22 based on the WHPA boundary vs seven Threats based on the 1 km² grid.

Staff is not proposing any changes to the current policies as they are still relevant, and the workload is manageable for the RMOs in either scenario. However, staff is recommending the additional policy identified in the staff recommendation. Barrie has optimized salt use on the road network as a whole instead of just on the roads in the WHPA, and staff is recommending this same approach with other municipalities. The policy connects the Ontario Good Roads document which identifies “salt vulnerable areas” with the Directors Technical Rules.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Peter Dance: In favour of using the WHPA approach rather than the 1 km² grid as it focuses on SWP and the environment immediately.

David Greenwood: Agrees with WHPA approach as it is supportable by the science behind it, and the grid model is risky.

Jessica Neto: Agrees with WHPA approach as the best option.

Lynn Dollin: Agrees with WHPA approach. In the Alliston example provided in the presentation, it will meet the threshold when it is built out, so when would we go back to see if it now meets the threshold?

If a new well is introduced in the area, the applicant would be required to map imperviousness, and any changes to land use would be picked up in that process. The Section 36 process is intended to be the cyclical review of the source protection plan (SPP) to account for those ongoing changes to land use. If there are significant changes to amount of impervious cover it will trigger a Section 34 process. Future comprehensive reviews are not identified in the Legislation, but this does not prevent the SPC from taking a holistic view of the entire SPP and determining future updating that may be needed, which can be done through a s.34 amendment.

Do we already have a policy with the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) for road salt application? Is that a type of prescribed instrument, or how would we capture Hwy 400?

We cannot write legally binding policies for MTO, unless there is a prescribed instance at play which could be legally binding. There was a salt yard with salt storage and an RMP was negotiated with MTO for the salt storage that was legally binding, but the application on Hwy 400 could not be addressed.

Colin Elliot: Level of salt in Lake Simcoe keeps rising, but Bill praised Barrie on their efforts, so how can you do a good job when the level is rising? Would you not bring in more restrictive policies rather than ease them?

It is not just Barrie that is the source of salt to Lake Simcoe (about 60% comes from municipal roads, including Simcoe County, Town of Innisfil, York Region, Town of Georgina, City of Barrie). Barrie has decreased their salt use approximately 40% per event, but due to development there are more surfaces, and more events being responded due to climate change.

David Ketcheson: The 100m circle around a well is not necessarily the primary cause of the salt impact being experienced by a well, as it is a much wider area and systemic use of salt due to urbanization. If the policy is perfectly implemented, we may not see a reduction in salt in wells due to this larger area. The SPC may want to delve into this science rather than what is proposed.

Kyle Mitchell: We have policies on source protection areas, specifically IPZs, however we have a bunch of Transport Pathways draining salt into the Lake, but we are not addressing these as we

are just looking at IPZ-1. Should we not be looking at where the salt is coming from and not just that it falls within an IPZ-1?

The SPC can only write legally binding policies that address significant Threats, which have a vulnerability score of 10, so we are really constrained to IPZ-1 and WHPA-A. Increasing chloride levels are a problem across the province. The SPC can write legally binding policies that apply to Significant Drinking Water Threats, and non-legally binding policies that relate to low and moderate Threats. The Education and Outreach policy directs municipalities and the SPAs to educate residents and municipalities on proper application and alternatives. Staff has worked with municipal staff on the roads network and the salt working group.

Peter Dance: The issue of us getting outside of our mandate is here. The way we are constrained, the WHPA-A and IPZs are the areas where we can have the most impact but obviously does not solve the problem. The larger issue is a provincial problem that MECP needs to deal with so that we do not have bare road and parking lot policies. Where we can have impact as a Committee is in the narrow areas of our mandate, and hopefully the province or someone else can have an impact on the larger issues affecting the Lake and the aquifers, and have a longer term impact while the SPC focuses on the short term impacts.

Beth Forrest: The Issue Contributing Area is also an option to the SPC where there are know issues at a well, like in the Barrie area. Although a more reactive approach, it does capture a larger area where an issue is identified as sodium or chloride contributing.

Moved by: Cate Root

Seconded by: Chris Gerrits

SPC-30-22 **Resolved That** presentation b) and Staff Report SPC2.2 regarding the change to circumstances for the application of road salt be received for information; and

Further That staff be directed to update the Assessment Report with new maps of impervious cover within vulnerable areas (rather than within 1 km² area centred on municipal wells); and

Further That a new policy be added to the Source Protection Plan requiring municipalities to maintain a salt management plan, which identifies any municipal drinking water system where the application of road salt could be a Significant Drinking Water Threat as a “salt vulnerable area.” These plans will identify and implement practices to minimize the loss of salt to the environment and the impact of salt on drinking water, in areas where it would be a significant drinking water Threat; and

Further That staff be directed to incorporate the new policy text and updated maps as part of the forthcoming amendment to the Source Protection Plan, under Section 36 of the Clean Water Act. **Carried**

- c) A presentation by Bill Thompson, LSRCA regarding Staff Report SPC2.2 – Change to Circumstances – the Application of Road Salt.

Circumstances and vulnerability score looks at the amount of salt stored on a given property in a WHPA or IPZ. New circumstances reduced the quantity stored substantially from 500 tonnes to 10 kg so more significant Threats are identified. Salt stored inside (not subject to precipitation) and not on an impervious surface is not a significant Threat, except in the Barrie ICA where everything gets promoted.

The much lower threshold is such that every home with a bag of salt in the Barrie ICA could be a significant Threat, even if stored in the garage, resulting in approximately 20,000 significant Threats. Removing these residential properties and farms reduces the number to approximately 1,300 significant Threats. The SPCs role is to write a policy to address significant Threats, not to identify if something is a Threat.

As an example of the difference in Threats between application and storage, if a property in a WHPA or IPZ had a salt bin on their property and applied that salt to surface with less than 30% imperviousness or to a road, that would not be a Threat, but the simple storage of salt in that bin is a significant Threat. This is challenging for an RMO to explain to the property owner and therefore brings into question the integrity of the source protection program. As a result, staff is recommending the following outside of the ICA:

- to exclude residential properties from requiring an RMP as the amount of salt stored at a residential property or farm is minimal.
- requiring RMPs for existing and future salt handling and storage only at sites with >30% impervious cover in a WHPA or >8% in an IPZ. This would result in RMOs only needing to negotiate RMPs in areas where they are already negotiating one for salt application. For all other sites the focus should be on education and outreach.
- Maintain the prohibition on future handling and storage at 500 tonnes rather than 10 kg as the smaller number is unsustainable.

Inside the ICA staff is recommending that the proposed policy be updated to apply outside the WHPA-A to road salt storage associated with parking lots greater than 1 hectare.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Rick Newlove: Any chance that in areas of high residential use they can require that salt can only be bought in plastic containers rather than bags due to the potential for leakage from the bags?

This could be a component of education and outreach of proper storage.

David Ketcheson: Why has there been such a dramatic change in weight and what the province is trying to make us do?

It is related to the ongoing sodium and chloride increases across the province, and recognition that the thresholds were too high. The thresholds now are very low, but the province believes these are the correct thresholds although SPA staff does not agree with this rationale. Beth advised that a lot of thought was put to the changes in the 2021 Director Technical Rules, and a salt working group provided input into these changes. If they are not satisfactory there can be discussions with MECP staff to see if they can be amended to make more sense and bring this back to the SPC.

Peter Dance: If we are just talking about storage, should the focus be on open or inadequate storage, and not on all storage? There may be enough staff resources to deal with improper storage and application, but not on the amount of storage.

Policy speaks to handling and storage of salt. The risk may be spillage during the handling of salt, or failure of the storage container, resulting in the small amount of storage being a significant Threat. The point of the RMP is to put measures in place to ensure the storage does not fail.

David Ketcheson: When a salt truck enters a WHPA-A or IPZ does this policy apply?

Policy applies to stationary storage and not to trucks. In response David raised that it is hard to explain to people that a truck carrying a large amount of salt different from a bin of salt. The Chair responded that transport routes have always been treated differently.

David Ritchie: The root of the issue is liability and the ability of people to successfully sue, so property owners are using too much salt to protect themselves from liability. If this issue is not resolved, it will be difficult to stop the application of too much salt. In discussions with the Attorney General, we are trying to mediate some of the liability that municipalities are subject to.

This is the focus of the Salt Working Group.

Stan Wells: Joint and Several Liability results in the over application of salt. Does not see how this is anyway enforceable as it is no longer reasonable and manageable. Do not make a rule that you will not, or can not, enforce.

Kyle Mitchell: The real issue is the handling of salt and the potential for spillage while filling containers. As was seen in the fuel industry, when the thresholds were lowered for storage, many users stored less but then filled containers more often, which created a greater Threat due to the higher potential for spillage when filling containers more regularly. Believes the volumes are too low.

Chris Gerrits: When MECP had their road salt best management practices workshop in March, the discussion was that the main hurdle is liability. We can start to have more reasonable salt applications once the risk of being successfully sued is dealt with.

Lynn Dollin: Minister Downey went to municipalities with a survey on lawsuits that they are being faced with. Are we still asking about and promoting Smart About Salt certifications?

It is not in our policies, but it is being recommending in Barrie in the RMPs being negotiated, and a similar approach could be recommended to all RMOs.

Peter Dance: Personal domestic use has been exempted but are their other areas where the implementation issues can be minimized, and focus on the education and outreach components to get to the other issues?

Bill identified to MECP that such low volumes make it impossible for the RMOs to enforce. MECP responded that the SPC can set their policies to the thresholds that they feel are more appropriate, and everything else can be dealt with through education and outreach. The staff proposal is to exempt residential, and those sites that do not need an RMP for the application of salt. This limits the RMPs required to those already needing an RMP for application, and the rest would be dealt with through education and outreach.

Lynn Dollin: On the future prohibition policy, is 500 tonnes the right amount?

Bill recommends 500 tonnes as it is what is in the former policy. Municipalities and a wholesaler would be prohibited but a retailer or a property with storage for onsite application would not be prohibited. Beth advised that some other source protection regions have used the prohibition policy only for uncovered storage, trying to encourage them to cover it. Any policy needs to make sense for each region.

David Ketcheson: For future handling and storage of quantities greater than 500 tonnes it should be covered, but should the number be lower if it was not covered, or do we just prohibit any future uncovered salt storage?

Rick Newlove responded that Barrie would need to store their salt in Barrie so it would need to be covered in their boundaries. David Ritchie indicated that there are not too many municipalities that have uncovered storage of salt due to weather conditions and handling of it. David recommends we should restrict the ability of municipalities to have uncovered salt storage of any quantity.

ACTION ITEM: Bill will come back at future date with the recommended text for the policy.

Amendment

Moved by: Dave Ritchie

Seconded by: Dave Ketcheson

SPC-31-22 **That** the third clause of the main motion be amended to read as follows:

Further That Policies which apply to the future handling and storage of salt be amended to prohibit only volumes larger than 500 tonnes or prohibit any volume

of uncovered storage, to maintain the effect of the policies as originally written; and **Carried**

Moved by: John Hemsted

Seconded by: Stan Wells

SPC-32-22 **Resolved That** presentation c) and Staff Report SPC2.3 regarding the change to circumstances for the handling and storage of road salt be received for information; and

Further That Policies which apply to the existing handling and storage of salt be amended such that Risk Management Plans are required in cases where Risk Management Plans are required for the application of salt, and that Education and Outreach apply in all other cases; and

Further That Policies which apply to the future handling and storage of salt be amended to prohibit only volumes larger than 500 tonnes, to maintain the effect of the policies as originally written; and

Further That staff be directed to incorporate the new policy text as part of the forthcoming amendment to the Source Protection Plan, under Section 36 of the Clean Water Act. **Carried**

The Resultant Motion Reads as Follows:

Resolved That presentation c) and Staff Report SPC2.3 regarding the change to circumstances for the handling and storage of road salt be received for information; and

Further That Policies which apply to the existing handling and storage of salt be amended such that Risk Management Plans are required in cases where Risk Management Plans are required for the application of salt, and that Education and Outreach apply in all other cases; and

Further That Policies which apply to the future handling and storage of salt be amended to prohibit only volumes larger than 500 tonnes and prohibit any uncovered storage, to maintain the effect of the policies as originally written; and

Further That staff be directed to incorporate the new policy text as part of the forthcoming amendment to the Source Protection Plan, under Section 36 of the Clean Water Act.

d) A presentation by Bill Thompson, LSRCA regarding Staff Report SPC2.4 – Change to Circumstances – the Storage of Snow.

Changed storage of snow in areas larger than 1 hectare stored above ground or larger than 0.01 hectare stored underground in a WHPA or IPZ. No underground storage of this size was found in the province. Did not have any significant Threats but 41 low and medium Threats in Barrie were promoted because of the ICA.

The new circumstances lowered areas of storage and added a condition of where it is stored. Any storage up to 200 m² in WHPA or IPZ is a significant Threat. Offsite storage with an outfall into the WHPA or IPZ is a significant Threat. This amount means any storage areas in a WHPA or IPZ is a significant Threat. The province clarified that it is only intended to apply to commercial and industrial sites to the storage of any amount of snow in designated sites, and is not intended to apply to snowbanks. Over 1,000 properties across the region would meet the new circumstances and would be considered a significant Threat.

Using the same scenario provided in the previous presentation, if applying salt to an area with <30% imperviousness it would not be considered a significant Threat but storing snow in a designated area would be considered a significant Threat. This would be hard to rationalize to the property owner that spreading the salt is not a significant Threat but storing the portions of salt picked up by the plow that they had spread would be. Storing of snow in designated areas is good practice that we do not want to discourage, so we need to focus the RMOs efforts on the areas that make sense to address.

Recommending:

- Require RMPs for only sites in areas with >30% imperviousness in a WHPA or >8% in an IPZ.
- RMP requirement for snow storage be the same as for salt application.
- Use education and outreach for all other situations.
- Maintain Prohibition on Future storage at volumes equal to amounts greater than 1 hectare.
- Manage Future storage of smaller volumes through an RMP.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Chris Gerrits: For commercial sites, if snow is stored in a designated area, would it be more appropriate to have it apply to every commercial site unless they export their snow? Will the policy worded this way make commercial property owners push their snow to a snow bank as a work around?

The wording is vague but RMPs should be able to negotiate proper locations for snow storage.

Peter Dance: Concern is if someone is importing snow from parking lots, how is it covered and it may be the one to prohibit? Believes they should require an ECA for these sites.

This was not on Bill's radar but is something he will consider.

Stan Wells: A significant number of leisure lifestyle communities provide snow removal by private contractors. How does this apply as it is residential, but it could be considered commercial?

It would not apply as they would be considered residential. Rationale provided by the province to having it apply to commercial and industrial only is that they tend to apply more salt and there is more risk of picking up non-salt contaminants. A condominium would fall into the same category as a residential subdivision.

ACTION ITEM: Bill to confirm if condominiums are designated residential or commercial and will follow up with the Committee.

David Ketcheson: How does mixed commercial/residential fit into the Ministry guidelines?

ACTION ITEM: Beth to get back to the Committee on this.

Rick Newlove: What kind of control is there on residential developments that remove snow to a different location?

If going to an area that has an ECA it would be controlled by the ECA. If going to an area larger than 1 hectare Bill is recommending this be prohibited if in a vulnerable area, and if outside of a vulnerable area it is not in the Committee's purview.

Cate Root: Residential areas have a lot of pervious surfaces so when thinking of storage of snow in these areas it should not be an issue.

Moved by: Peter Dance

Seconded by: Chris Gerrits

SPC-33-22 **Resolved** That presentation d) and Staff Report SPC2.4 – Change to Circumstances – the Storage of Snow be received for information; and

Further That Policies which apply to the storage of snow be amended such that Risk Management Plans are required in cases where Risk Management Plans are required for the application of salt, and that Education and Outreach apply in all other cases; and

Further That Policies which apply to the future handling and storage of snow be amended to prohibit only areas larger than 1 ha, to maintain the effect of the policies as originally written; and

Further That staff be directed to incorporate the new policy text as part of the forthcoming amendment to the Source Protection Plan, under Section 36 of the Clean Water Act. **Carried**

9. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

No items were identified under items requiring separate discussion.

10. Adoption of Items Not Requiring Separate Discussion

No items were identified under items requiring separate discussion.

11. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

No items were identified under items requiring separate discussion.

12. Other Business

Election of Officers

Lynn Dollin conducted the election of officers. Lynn noted that the position is required for Acting Chair for the period from August 20, 2022, until such time as the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks appoints a Chair and must be appointed from members of the Source Protection Committee.

Peter Dance put his name forward for the position of Acting Chair. Nominations were called and no further nominations were put forward.

Moved by: David Ritchie

Seconded by: Stan Wells

SPC-34-22 **Resolved That** the nominations for the position of Acting Chair by closed; and

Further That Peter Dance be appointed Acting Chair for the period from August 20, 2022, until such time as the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks appoints a Chair. **Carried**

Peter Dance accepted the nomination for the position of Acting Chair.

Acting Chair Peter Dance assumed the Chair.

Moved by: David Ritchie

Seconded by: Stan Wells

SPC-35-22 **That** the Committee advise the province that they fully support the reappointment of Lynn Dollin to the position of South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Region Source Protection Region Source Protection Committee Chair. **Carried**

Lynn Dollin reassumed the Chair.

David Ketcheson finds having to work around non-viable Threat assessments based on what the province is putting before us is very difficult for SPCs to manage. The SPCs are put in a position of having to modify policies to make them manageable but that may be less strict than what the province is recommending. How can this dichotomy be resolved with the province, rather than trying to find innovative ways to work around what the province is putting before us? Lynn and Bill reminded Members that it is the SPCs job to represent the region and to find the balance between what is effective versus unmanageable. It is the Committee's role to determine what policies to adopt and decide what is too strict vs too lax for the region. David reminded the SPC that the province could come back to an SPC and advise that a region is in a situation because of not adopting the strict policies that the province recommended. Stephanie Hobbs would prefer to prohibit everything but works with the SPC on reasonable measures, but lately she has not been able to support some decisions as she does not believe they are strict enough. Beth Forrest flagged that the Technical Rules govern the program, but flexibility is built into the program that does not put the SPC at risk as long as the policies adopted are implemented. Education and outreach have played a critical role in changing people's behaviours. Cate Root welcomes the oversight of the province and going to stricter rules, but if we have rules that are too strict to be accomplished, a lot will be missed and forgotten as it can not be negotiated. Education and outreach provide the opportunity to move things forward as we learn more and negotiate under good faith.

13. Closed Session

None.

14. Next Meeting and Adjournment

Moved by: Rick Newlove

Seconded by: Stan Wells

SPC-36-22 **Resolved That** the next meeting of the Source Protection Committee to be scheduled by poll; and

Further that the July 5, 2022 meeting of the Source Protection Committee be adjourned at 3:22 pm. **Carried**

Source Protection Committee (SPC)

Minutes of Meeting SPC-05-2022

September 22, 2022

The Acting Chair called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and Bill Thompson conducted the Roll Call.

Members Present:

Peter Dance, Acting Chair

Municipal

Andy Campbell, Chris Gerrits, Jeff Hamelin, Scott Lister, Katie Thompson

Economic/Development

Colin Elliott, Amanda Kellett, David Ketcheson, Rick Newlove, David Ritchie

Public Sector

Geoff Allen, Bob Duncanson, Stephanie Hobbs, Tom Kurtz, Cate Root

Liaisons

Karen Kivilahti, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU)

Julie Cayley, Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA)

Don Goodyear, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA)

Ryan Post, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA)

Elizabeth Forrest, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Staff Present

Bill Thompson, LSRCA

Mike Wilson, LSRCA

Mystaya Touw, LSRCA

Kathy Hillis, LSRCA (minutes)

Sarah Thompson, NVCA

Melissa Carruthers, SSEA

Nicole Stott, SSEA

Regrets:

David Greenwood – proxy to Cate Root

John Hemsted, Public Sector

Sharday James, First Nations

Kyle Mitchell, Municipal – proxy to Katie Thompson

Jessica Neto, Economic/Municipal

Stan Wells, Municipal – proxy to Dave Ritchie

1. Welcome & Opening Remarks

2. Land Acknowledgement

The Acting Chair recited the Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory.

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and Conflict of Interest

None declared.

4. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Cate Root

Seconded by: Rick Newlove

SPC-37-22 **Resolved That** the agenda for the September 22, 2022 meeting of the Source Protection Committee (SPC) be approved, with the amendment of Peter Dance as Acting Chair. **Carried**

5. Adoption of Minutes

Action Item Follow-up from July 5, 2022 Meeting:

Salt Storage – Proposed revision to the policy will be brought forward at a future meeting.

Snow Storage – Any type of unregulated snow storage under the *Ontario Water Resources Act* can be identified using two Circumstances: i) type of land use; ii) the areas and quantities of snow stored. As long as the SPA and SPC determine the land use to be predominantly industrial/commercial, the snow storage for residential or institutional can be captured. Typically road salt in pure residential areas would be driving the risk, and if it is not determined to be industrial/commercial it can be managed by the application and storage of road salt threat rather than snow storage.

Amendment to Minutes: On page 4 change grid separator to grit separator.

Moved by: Andy Campbell

Seconded by: Chris Gerrits

SPC-38-22 **Resolved That** the minutes of the July 5, 2022 meeting of the Source Protection Committee be approved as amended. **Carried**

6. Announcements

a) MECP

- i) Stormwater Management Policies and Operation and Maintenance (O&M) plans – Ministry's Environment Compliance Approvals requires the owner to prepare an operations manual prior to commencement of operation of the approved sewage

works. Beth can send the reason for the terms and conditions to anyone requesting it.

MECP has historically allowed that if the monitoring data shows that there is no implied threat, the monitoring works could be curtailed, and if the SPC was to put a reporting policy in place would that restrict the Ministry's ability to curtail aspects of it and would this provide problems. Response from MECP is no, for SWM works monitoring is required to ensure design will meet design objectives and ensure protection of the receiving water body. The frequency of monitoring affects on the discharge may be increased or decreased, but it does not affect the reporting requirement.

Would adding an Operations and Maintenance Plan schedule be feasible. Beth is seeking additional clarification from Ministry staff. The Ministry did advise they do include the O&M condition requiring it to be in operation before approval of the sewage works and they do require it to be updated regularly, so a schedule may be feasible.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Andy Campbell: advised that the Ministry is downloading all stormwater management approvals to the municipalities. Monitoring and having a plan are in the municipal Environmental Compliance Approvals.

David Ketcheson: Is the Ministry required to report to the SPA on exceedances that may affect source water protection?

Beth and Bill advised there is not a reporting requirement to the SPA.

David Ketcheson: Would the Committee be interested in adding that clause to some of our stormwater management policies if it is in an IPZ or wellhead protection area?

Bill advised that it would be useful to know if there are weaknesses in the framework of protecting source water. A policy for contacting the SPA if there is a spill would also be useful. Beth advised that Spills Action has a procedure card on who they are to notify, but SPAs are not part of that procedure card. A request can be made by putting it into a policy but it would not be legally binding. On exceedances, if other SPRs request this is may be quite a lot of work to compile and send to SPAs annually. Beth can discuss internally if both of these issues are requested by the SPA.

Cate Root: Concerned about hearing that the work may be onerous as that indicates many spills and exceedances.

Beth clarified that Ontario is a large area and to determine which SPA to contact on each spill may be an issue, but Beth does not have the metrics on how often spills and exceedances occur so this was just a caution and Beth will need to see if it is possible.

Cate Root: Could be requested from municipalities?

As these items move from the province to the municipalities this may be the way to go. Andy Campbell advised the Ministry is putting different conditions on stormwater management and they require mandatory threat assessment and reporting, so the Ministry is already working on this type of reporting requirement. Bill advised there approximately six SWM facilities in vulnerable areas in our jurisdiction, so it may be more efficient to deal with municipalities directly.

ACTION ITEM: Beth to report back on the feasibility of scheduling Operations and Maintenance Plan review with further clarification from Ministry staff.

ACTION ITEM: Beth and Bill to follow up to determine if something should be added to our policy on SWM, and it may just be a request that municipalities circulate to SPAs when there are occurrences in vulnerable areas.

- ii) Appointment of Chair – Job advertisements for seven SPAs was posted, but this does not include for this SPA as Chair Dollin has requested reappointment. The postings close on October 3rd, and then the Ministry will consider all applicants. Reappointment packages are being reviewed but there is not a timeline on reappointment.
- iii) First Nations Best Practices Pilot – The Ministry released a best practices document to promote the use of source protection in those areas not currently captured under the *Clean Water Act*. The Ministry will be doing a First Nations pilot project to promote best practices, and Bill provided the names of the First Nations communities in this SPR jurisdiction that have indicated an interest in being involved in the process. There is a focus on northern communities, but the Ministry is determining interest level in the southern Ontario First Nation communities.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Colin Elliot: Does the Ministry have federal approval to reach out to the First Nations communities?

The Ministry has so far only engaged Chiefs of Ontario, Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation, and the Source Protection Authorities.

Chris Gerrits: Is there much interest from northern communities?

There has been interest expressed by some norther SPA managers, but outside of these areas Beth is not sure of the interest. Past interactions with First Nations communities have been recorded by the Ministry and they are reaching out to them to determine interest.

ACTION ITEM: Beth will keep the SPC updated as the First Nations Best Practices Pilot progresses.

7. Deputations

There were none.

8. Presentations

a) A presentation by Bill Thompson, LSRCA regarding Source Protection Region Update.

Significant Drinking Water Threats Circumstances Changes: No changes to the Quantity Circumstances. Some changes to Industrial Circumstances. Municipal Circumstances have largely been addressed by the SPC. Agricultural Circumstances changes will start to be reviewed by the SPC today, and future meetings will consider pesticides and livestock grazing Circumstances.

Plan amendments for new/modified drinking water systems: Process takes 1-2 years, and there are four amendments currently in the queue for review by the Minister. Horseshoe Highlands, Shelburne and Craighurst will hopefully come to the SPC in October. This is an area of large growth and development so staff is facing a lot of work in this area.

Water budget review: Water quantity is assessed through the water budget process, which is a tiered process intended to determine when a risk to water availability may exist. It is time to do a periodic review of our water budgets as they are 10-12 years old, and we may find that some of the data and assumptions are out of date. Will be looking at the following two things and based on results, will determine how to deal with them:

- How does current demand compare to the “planned future” demand in the water budgets?
- How do growth projections / water master plans compare to “planned future” demand in the water budgets?

Willow Creek subwatershed has a number of wells and has several future conditions and new wells proposed due to growth and development. Question is how do these new wells compare with what is in the water budget? Five new wells will add an additional 131L/s whereas the water budget planned for 81 L/s, and there are two more wells to include in the modelling. Bill has shared concerns with the Ministry and will be following up with the staff dealing with the Permit to Take Water process. Bill will provide updates as future meetings as required.

First Nations support: Bill met with Beausoliel and Georgina Highlands First Nations communities to discuss what would be required for them to adopt source water protection

policies. They are aware of best practices and funding available from the Ministry, so they are reviewing options.

Education and Outreach: A webinar is being hosted by SSEA in the Lafontaine area. The Township of Tiny has adopted a prohibition on the application of fertilizer outside of commercial applications and this will be discussed at the webinar.

Upcoming meetings: Will hopefully review at the October 26th SPC meeting the new WHPAs associated with new wells. Other agricultural items currently scheduled to be reviewed at a November SPC meeting.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Colin Elliott: Look at Willow Creek with seven new wells coming off the system and a possible reduction in Willow Creek by approximately 40%.

Management of water balance in Ontario is very complex. Approval is a multi-stage, multi-agency process, and by the time it comes to the SPA the well has already been approved by the province in terms of pumping rate. The SPCs role is to make sure the WHPAs are appropriate and that the policies in place are appropriate for protecting that well from activities that can cause a decline in quality. We have policies in the SPP for water quantity, but they are not triggered until we get to a Tier 3 water budget. We only have a handful a places in our SPR that require a Tier 3, and few of them indicate a moderate or severe risk. Willow Creek is currently a low risk in Tier 2, but if reanalyzed it may be a moderate risk and therefore moving to Tier 3. Bill will be reaching out to the Permit to Take Water staff for an update on their process and possibly bring an update to the SPC.

Dave Ritchie: How does the Ministry come up with the criteria to approve a well, and what their checklist is that allows for approval?

Bill does not have experience with the approval process so will see about having a Ministry rep present at the next meeting.

Amanda Kellett: Can a reassessment of a water budget analysis come from the SPC?

Bill is not aware of a trigger for him to allow for this to go to Tier 3. Some SPAs have taken this work on themselves.

Chris Gerrits: There are some areas where these sorts of agreements exist, for example the province through the CTC SPC made Orangeville and three lower tiered municipalities enter into a joint water management arrangement where that list triggers will dictate when the water budget needs to be done and if it is not triggered then it is automatically done every three years.

Cate Root: What is the role of the municipality as they are one of the first to approve the development, so would they not be aware of water quantity availability?

Municipalities do have responsibility for water master planning which is associated with the Ministry consultation review process. Some upper tier municipalities in our SPA have updated their water master plans, but most of the lower tier municipalities are still going through the process.

Peter Dance: Hoping the SPC can focus on the issues within the Committee's scope when dealing with these issues.

David Ketcheson: Privatization issue is possibly missing as source water protection does not address condominium complexes that will take quantity away from the overall resources. Also important to consider climate change impacts on water quantity.

ACTION ITEM: Bill to present at the next SPC meeting on the scope of what the SPC decision making against the scope of whole the approval process to outline SPC roles and responsibilities, and to try to get someone from the Ministry to report on Permit to Take Water approvals process and how their decision making happens respecting these types of permits.

ACTION ITEM: Beth to report back to the SPC on how re-evaluation can be triggered for moving from one Tier review to another Tier.

Moved by: Cate Root

Seconded by: Amanda Kellett

SPC-39-22 **Resolved That** presentation a) by Bill Thompson, LSRCA regarding Source Protection Region Update be received for information. **Carried**

b) A presentation by Mystaya Touw, LSRCA regarding SPC2.1 – Waste Generating Facilities (Threats 1.12 & 1.13).

Small volumes of waste is no longer a specific threat category and can be captured under these Circumstances. The term “non-subject waste” may not be correct, something like “non-registering” waste generators may be more accurate. These wastes are potentially a threat if stored partially or fully below ground. If required to register as a significant waste generator then storage above ground may be considered a threat.

Unsure of the number of subject waste threats that exist in the watershed, so determination is made through RMO discussions with property owners as to whether or not they are registered. Currently has found approximately 25 properties that require investigation.

For the non-subject waste, many of the risks can be managed through Education and Outreach rather than through Risk Management Plans. 20-30 potetial threats identified through air photos and Google maps, but this could have missed some potential threats, and it is likely that many of these potential threats would not be threats after investigation due to the requirement to store underground to be considered a threat.

Proposed policy direction:

- Replace the current education and outreach policy for small volumes, with one focused on the new circumstances for “non-subject waste”.
- The goal is to cover households and businesses likely to only have these wastes in small volumes with outreach and education.
- Existing subject waste generators and “non-subject waste” generators who may have larger volumes of waste as a result of their businesses primary purpose would be covered by Environment Compliance Approvals where required, and Risk Management Plans everywhere else.
- Future activities where they would be a significant drinking water threat would be prohibited.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Stephanie Hobbs: Is there recommended wording for the Policy?

One option is to take the volume thresholds from the “p, q, r, s, t” list and put them into the policy.

Peter Dance: Do we have enough direction in the Recommendation for staff to be able to proceed to getting updates in to the amended Plan? When do we see the amendments to the Plan?

Seeking confirmation that staff is on the right path in taking this kind of multi-pronged approach or do we need to head in another direction. If there is this agreement that the direction is correct, staff will work on the policy wording and will bring it back to the SPC. In the spring staff will bring forward a fully draft amended SPP with updated wording on all policies so they can all been seen together and how they relate to each other.

Moved by: Rick Newlove

Seconded by: Bob Duncanson

SPC-40-22 **Resolved That** presentation b) and Staff Report No. SPC 2.1 regarding Waste Generating Facilities (Threats 1.12 & 1.13) be received for information; and

Further That the Source Protection Committee endorse a policy approach which would differentiate between businesses who generate waste as a result of their businesses’ primary purpose and all other waste generators; and

Further That existing threats associated with businesses who generate waste as a result of their businesses’ primary purpose be managed through Risk Management Plans and amended Environmental Compliance Approvals and their future threats be prohibited; and all other threats addressed through Education and Outreach; and

Further That Source Protection Authority staff be directed to refine the policies related to waste stored at waste generating facilities and bring back to the Source Protection Committee for further review, prior to including it in an amendment to the Source Protection Plan. **Carried**

- c) A presentation by Mystaya Touw, LSRCA regarding SPC2.2 – Non-Agricultural Source Material (NASM) – Updated Circumstances.

The following are considered a NASM in Ontario:

- Category 1: pre-compost plant material; waste related to non-farm herbivorous animals (feed, bedding, manure, washwater).
- Category 2: Compost 'B' from yard waste; organic waste from washwater from bakeries, distillers, etc.; other plant material excluded from Category 1.
- Category 3: Wastewater from meat, egg and dairy processing; organic matter from processing of fish; biosolids; waste pet food; other compost 'B'.

Plant material (Category 1) is exempted from being a significant drinking water threat. Existing Circumstances wording is focused on material from meat plants and sewage biosolids. The updated circumstances also include waste from (Category 1) non-farm herbivorous animals (manure, bedding, etc.). Vulnerability scores have not changed, but rather have changed in what Circumstances they apply.

Staff is not recommending any changes to NASM policies to deal with the changes in circumstances.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Colin Elliott: Some people put their manure through a compressor and then squeeze it for use as bedding, so not sure which Category this would fall under? Believes the practice of not spreading manure within 100m of a well has been well adopted by farmers.

Some policies were for Circumstances that are not covered under the *Nutrient Management Act*. This does not cover manure that comes from a farm as it is only non-agricultural source materials eg. Zoos, pets, etc. and it being brought to a farm for use. All Circumstances related to Agricultural Source Material (ASM), or farm-to-farm manure use, are unchanged.

Dave Ritchie: What Category does washing of vegetables and the stuff that goes into settling ponds if they were to put that back on the land fit into? Processed biosolids (CAKE) is being used instead of sludge, and what Category does it fall under?

The first one is included in Category 2 NASM, unless it contains fish or meat then it would be a Category 3 NASM. CAKE is a treated biosolid under Category 3 NASM.

Andy Campbell: Some treated biosolids from sewage treatment plants are Class A fertilizer and do not fall under the NASM guidelines.

Colin Elliott: CAKE can be spread on the farm but if it is sold it has to be declared.

Andy recommends contacting Listech who makes the sludge a non-waste to find out about their process.

David Ketcheson: Processed biosolids being cooked at high heat would kill any pathogens, so why would it have a Category 3 designation since it would not have an e-coli threat?

Definitions are provided by the *Nutrient Management Act* so staff can not advise why it is a Category 3.

Moved by: Rick Newlove

Seconded by: Andy Campbell

SPC-41-22 **Resolved That** presentation c) and Staff Report SPC2.2 regarding Non-Agricultural Source Material (NASM) – Updated Circumstances be received for information; and

Further That the Source Protection Committee endorse staff's recommendation that the current policies to manage Non-Agricultural Source Material (NASM) are adequate for managing threats resulting from the update circumstances. **Carried**

d) A presentation by Mystaya Touw, LSRCA regarding SPC2.3 – Handling and Storage of Commercial Fertilizer – Change of Circumstances.

Changes to Circumstances:

- The volume threshold and the vulnerability scores needed for a significant threat have not changed.
- The new Circumstances clarify that these circumstances apply to all storage on the same property and storage for any purpose.
- 'Storage on the same property' is how the threat had been interpreted already in our Source Protection Region so there are no new threats

Staff is not recommending and changes to policies to deal with the changes in Circumstances.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Colin Elliot: Commercial storage of fertilizer has already been dealt with so there are enough rules in place.

Moved by: Scott Lister

Seconded by: Dave Ritchie

SPC-42-22 **Resolved That** presentation d) and Staff Report SPC2.3 regarding Handling and Storage of Commercial Fertilizer – Change of Circumstances be received for information; and

Further That the Source Protection Committee endorse staff’s recommendation that the current policies to manage the Handling and Storage of Commercial Fertilizer are adequate for managing new and existing threats. **Carried**

9. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

No items were identified under items requiring separate discussion.

10. Adoption of Items Not Requiring Separate Discussion

No items were identified under items requiring separate discussion.

11. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

No items were identified under items requiring separate discussion.

12. Other Business

- a) Colin Elliott: It was commented on at the last meeting that the SPC may rubber stamp items, but the SPC can discuss and ask questions and they therefore do not rubber stamp items.
- b) Colin Elliott: We should be asking questions about one of the wells on Horseshoe Valley Road.
- e) Colin Elliott: PTTW and the SPAs need to work more closely together as what is approved has cumulative impacts on water quantity that must then be dealt with by the SPAs.

13. Closed Session

None.

14. Next Meeting and Adjournment

Moved by: Colin Elliott

Seconded by: Jeff Hamelin

SPC-43-22 **Resolved That** the next meeting of the Source Protection Committee scheduled to be held on Wednesday, October 26, 2022 from 1-4 pm via Zoom; and

Further that the September 22, 2022 meeting of the Source Protection Committee be adjourned at 11:47 am. **Carried**

Source Protection Committee (SPC)

Minutes of Meeting SPC-06-2022

October 26, 2022

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm and Bill Thompson conducted the Roll Call.

Members Present:

Lynn Dollin, Chair

Municipal

Andy Campbell, Chris Gerrits, Jeff Hamelin, Scott Lister, Kyle Mitchell, Katie Thompson, Stan Wells

Economic/Development

Colin Elliott, John Hemsted, Amanda Kellett, David Ketcheson, Jessica Neto, Rick Newlove, David Ritchie

Public Sector

Peter Dance, Bob Duncanson, David Greenwood, Tom Kurtz, Cate Root

Liaisons

Karen Kivilahti, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU)

Julie Cayley, Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA)

Don Goodyear, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA)

Doug Hevenor, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA)

Elizabeth Forrest, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Staff Present

Bill Thompson, LSRCA

Ryan Post, NVCA

Mike Wilson, LSRCA

Sarah Thompson, NVCA

Mystaya Touw, LSRCA

Melissa Carruthers, SSEA

Kathy Hillis, LSRCA (minutes)

Nicole Stott, SSEA

Guests

Ian Callum, S. Burnett and Associates (SBA)

Sarah Lionsbridge, SBA

Dirk Kassenaar, EarthFX

E.J. Wexler, EarthFX

Gabriel Bacca Cortes, EarthFX

Hayley Wallace, WSP Golder

Amy Domaratzki, Stantec

Bill Banks, Banks Groundwater Engineering Ltd.

Conor Gamelin, MECP

Regrets:

Stephanie Hobbs, Public Sector, proxy to Tom Kurtz

Geoff Allen, Public Sector, proxy to David Ritchie

Sharday James, First Nations

1. Welcome & Opening Remarks

The Chair thanked Peter Dance for acting as Chair at the last meeting.

2. Land Acknowledgement

The Chair recited the Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory.

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and Conflict of Interest

Andy Campbell declared a conflict of interest regarding item SPC 2.2 – Assessment Report - Amendment to Oro-Medonte Wellhead Protection Areas as he is a landowner and lives in the WHPA D-zone that is the subject of the staff report.

4. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Rick Newlove

Seconded by: Katie Thompson

SPC-44-22 **Resolved That** the agenda for the October 26, 2022 meeting of the Source Protection Committee (SPC) be approved as amended. **Carried**

5. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by: Cate Root

Seconded by: Bob Duncanson

SPC-45-22 **Resolved That** the minutes of the September 22, 2022 meeting of the Source Protection Committee be approved as amended and circulated. **Carried**

6. Announcements

a) Chair

- i) The Chair announced her reappointment as Chair of the SPC until August 2025.

b) MECP

- i) Twelve Chairs seeking reappointment have been reappointed. Waiting to hear on seven new Chair appointments which are going through the application review process right now.
- ii) Follow up from previous meeting on whether or the not the SPC could include in the Policy a requirement to update the O&M plan: There is currently a requirement to update the O&M plans by the owner updating the manual as soon as changes occur and making it available onsite for the life of the works, and if requested making it available to Ministry staff. If the SPC were to add to the Policy an update schedule, this could result in the plans being out-of-date rather than updated as required.

- iii) Don Goodyear flagged that the Bill proposed yesterday prohibits conservation authorities from providing advice to municipalities on Planning Act matters. How do we navigate the contradictions? There is removal of York Region from planning matters and the RMO at the Region will not be copied on development proposals, so how would Region staff implement future prohibitions from the Committee? This appears to be a conflict between the Omnibus Bill and some of the source protection requirements that municipalities are looking to conservation authorities and upper tier municipalities to implement. There are no changes proposed to the Clean Water Act.

ACTION ITEM: The Ministry has not had a chance to review the impacts and will raise the concerns internally and Beth will update the Committee as she can.

7. Deputations

There were none.

8. Presentations

- a) A presentation by Bill Thompson, LSRCA, regarding SPC2.1 – Role of the Source Protection Committee and Source Protection Authority in Plan Amendments for New Municipal Drinking Water Systems.

Seven steps in the Assessment Report and Plan Revision process under the Clean Water Act, as outlined in the Regulation:

1. Need for revisions identified. If the SPA/SPC wants to update content, or the drinking water system owner wants to include new/expanded systems, amendments under s.34 are initiated. Revisions may also be needed to meet the terms of Minister's orders under s.35 or s.36.
2. Development of amendments/updates, in consultation with the SPC. The SPA receives the technical work from the proponent. The SPA does not approve the technical work but is expected to consider if the work generally aligns with the content of the approved assessment report, plan and Director's Technical Rules. If that is the case, then the SPA amends the assessment report and ensures the SPP policies are appropriate for managing existing and future Threats in newly identified vulnerable areas. The SPA and SPC role is to agree that the resulting amendment is advisable, and when that is the case consultation outlined in steps 3-6 is undertaken.
3. The proponent and the SPA work with MECP staff on the draft technical work and policy revisions and provide feedback to the proponent. The SPA receives feedback on draft policies, and considerations for additional items to include in the Assessment Report/Plan.
4. Pre-consultation with MECP and implementing bodies. Intended to make sure those responsible for implementing the SPP are aware of the impending workload.

5. Municipal endorsement by Council resolution of all affected municipalities is required for s.34 amendments. It is intended to ensure that municipal councils are aware of forthcoming changes to the SPP and upcoming workload for their staff and restrictions to residents.
6. Public consultation for a minimum of 35 days. Consultation includes public notices, letters sent seeking comment to all persons believed to be engaged in significant Threats, all implementing bodies, and all affected municipalities. Hard copies are made available. There is the option to host public meetings. The role of the SPA and SPC is to agree on any revisions necessary based on the comments they received.
7. Submission to MECP, including all supporting documentation, for the Minister to approve.

Going forward for clarity, agenda items will be brought to the SPC as two separate items:

1. Technical work for information – can ask questions and provide comments to the consultant. Comments will be passed onto the Ministry for their consideration with their review of the technical work.
2. Proposed amendment for review and decision

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

David Ketcheson: A lot of third party review was conducted by various ministries when developing the SPP originally. Is all this peer review now being done by the Ministry and the SPC does not get to see it to the same level as it did when initially developing the SPP?

Beth responded that the Ministry has a hydrologist and hydrogeologist, and an expert in the Threat Circumstances, who review all technical work submitted at the various stages. In terms of water quantity there used to be a lot more involvement, especially when the water budgets were first being developed, but when most water budgets were prepared the Ministry took back the function of review and consults with other ministries as required.

David Ketcheson: Does the Committee still get to review the comments made by the peer reviewers of the technical work, or has the Ministry assumed this role entirely and the SPC no longer gets to see these comments?

Bill advised that the process is different now. With the initial delineation of vulnerable areas the SPC was the client, so we were more involved in this work.

Cate Root: Before development happens, is there a conversation with a municipality, or can they reach out to the Ministry and have conversations about the project before discussing with the municipality?

Lynn Dollin advised that in her experience any developer would pre-consult with a municipality in advance of making an application. Beth added that since the Clean Water Act predominantly deals with municipal systems, if a developer was doing a development that

would need to be transferred to the municipality, there would need to be significant consultation with the municipality at the very early stage. To Beth's knowledge they have never had a developer reach out to them prior to engaging with the municipality.

Colin Elliott: Do we need to say yes or no to the technical work, or can we put conditions on the approval for the areas we are very concerned about? For the area in Snow Valley, they have high nitrate levels and are we not worried about that?

Staff is not asking for a yes or no from the SPC, but rather looking for the SPC to amend the SPP given the technical work. The SPA and SPC do not have the ability to say yes or no to the technical work. It is the Ministry's responsibility to approve the technical work. SPC comments and concerns on the technical work will be passed onto the Ministry.

David Ketcheson: When the report is deemed to be out-of-date, the SPC can update the report. Is this the mechanism in Midhurst for the water budget to be updated for the upcoming development?

Bill advised that the SPC can use the s.34 process to update the SPP. It does not give us the ability to require an update to the water budget, and we do not have the funds available to update the water budgets. If we had an updated water budget to act upon, we could use s.34 to do so. Beth advised that currently there is not a trigger to update water budgets. It is something that the Ministry needs to work on to determine what the triggers would be to update the water budgets to deal with growth pressures. There could be opportunity to build a business case to do this work. Beth and Bill will work on this and will bring it back to the Committee when ready.

Chris Gerrits: Are we able to update the SPP to include triggers that would require municipalities to do water budget updates? The CTC SPC required Orangeville and three other municipalities to enter into an agreement for triggers to update the water budgets, and if it is developer driven, the costs were given back to the developer, which perhaps can be done here.

In the case of Orangeville, they went through a Tier 1-3 water budget, and they found in the Tier 3 water budget it would be either a moderate or significant Threat, which allowed the CTC to put a Policy. Until we determine a moderate or significant Threat in a Tier 3 water budget, we do not have the ability to create such a Policy that would trigger action by a municipality. In terms of Willow Creek subwatershed, they had a low Threat so no ability to create a Policy in the SPP.

ACTION ITEM: Beth and Bill to discuss opportunities on water budget updates and bring back a staff report at a future date.

Moved by: John Hemsted

Seconded by: Peter Dance

SPC-46-22 **Resolved That** presentation a) and Staff Report SPC2.1 regarding the role of the Source Protection Committee and Source Protection Authority in Plan Amendments for New Municipal Drinking Water Systems be received for information. **Carried**

b) A presentation by Melissa Carruthers, SSEA, Haley Wallace, Junior Hydrogeologist, WSP Golder, and Mike Wilson, LSRCA regarding SPC2.2 – Assessment Report - Amendment to Oro-Medonte Wellhead Protection Areas.

Wells 1 and 3 provide the daily water required, and they do not both pump at the same time but rather they alternate. Well 2 is a standby well. Well 3 was drilled for redundancy and was brought online to deal with expected future growth. If Well 3 was not there and Well 1 went down, Well 2 could not service the existing population. The technical report has been reviewed by MECP as part of the early consultation work and had no comments at that time.

Results of the Vulnerability Assessment demonstrates that the thick till aquitard unit protects the Horseshoe Highlands aquifer system from contamination.

There is proposed no changes to the percentage of managed lands and impervious surfaces. No new Threats are proposed. No anticipated Policy changes needed at this time.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Peter Dance: When was the Ministry's modelling data on groundwater levels developed and what are the major private takings in the area and how do they compare to the 3,000+ cubic metres per day?

Static water levels from the Ministry database were queried out in 2015. Melissa would need to investigate whether permitted rates for other businesses in the area have changed or not. Peter commented that if the private takings have significantly increased since the 2015 levels, we should take this as a comment to the Ministry. Melissa has noted this comment.

Tom Kurtz: What population is the 2,900 cubic metres based on?

Melissa advised it is tied to a future predicted rate of average demand. They do not know the population but at the time this work was done in 2015 it was based on average projected demand. Tom advised that the projected population rate has increased from the current 2,000 to approximately 10,000 people. Current pumping rate is about 423 cubic metres/day, so it is well below the 2,960 rate. Melissa to review the modelling to see how it relates to the projected populations.

Tom Kurtz: Have you checked out what properties the wells are on?

Melissa advised they are all on the same parcel of land which is owned by the municipality. Tom does not believe this is correct and provided Block Number 74053 and PIN 0269.

Melissa will investigate ownership. Chair Dollin asked if the property ownership would transfer to the municipality regardless of current ownership if it is a municipal system? Melissa advised that this is most likely the case.

Tom Kurtz: There is a communal septic system that services 17 lots immediately upstream of Well 3. What affect does this have on the Vulnerability rating?

Melissa confirmed that there is a communal septic system there. The bed is the responsibility of the Ministry, and the Township does inspections. The current policies that we have are being implemented and the risks are being managed.

David Ketcheson: How is a proponent supposed to evaluate the influence it may have on the WHPA zones of another system through new takings that may shift the way that water is taken through the A2 aquifer?

Bill advised this is one of the challenges faced as systems are looked at in isolation, rather than the cumulative impacts on water takings in the subwatershed. Bill brought up a further question of what mechanism is there to update the existing WHPAs based on new water systems coming or changes to pumping rates? We do not have the funding from the province to fund technical work and it is all proponent driven at this stage. Staff has brought these concerns to the Ministry of the need to review WHPAs based on neighbouring water takings.

ACTION ITEM: Melissa to provide the comments from the SPC to the Ministry.

ACTION ITEM: Melissa to review the modelling to see how it relates to the projected populations.

ACTION ITEM: Melissa to investigate ownership to address to Tom Kurtz's comment on potential ownership discrepancies.

ACTION ITEM: Chair Dollin will bring this up at the next Chair's Meeting.

ACTION ITEM: Comments by the Committee will be passed onto the Ministry with the report. Some of the questions are factual and staff can find the answers and pass them to the Ministry with the comments, but some are better passed onto the Ministry as they are better suited to investigate the answer to the questions.

ACTION ITEM: Bill and Beth to have a meeting with the Permit to Take Water staff on cumulative impacts on water budgets and encourage the staff to present this information at a future SPC meeting. If this is not possible staff will report back on these discussions.

Moved by: David Ritchie

Seconded by: David Greenwood

SPC-47-22 **Resolved That** presentation b) and Staff Report SPC2.2 regarding Assessment Report - Amendment to Oro-Medonte Wellhead Protection Areas be received for information; and

Further That the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee agree that the proposed amendments to the Source Protection Plan and the Oro-Medonte Chapter of the Severn Sound Assessment Report are advisable. **Carried**

c) A presentation by Ryan Post, NVCA, Ian Callum, S. Burnett and Associates (SBA), Sarah Lionsbridge, SBA, Dirk Kassenaar, EarthFX, E.J. Wexler, EarthFX, and Gabriel Bacca Cortes, EarthFX regarding SPC2.3 – Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update - Amendment to Town of Shelburne Chapter.

The Town of Shelburne is serviced by six municipal groundwater wells. The Town has one in-service water tower. The newer wells are in the Grand River Conservation Authority jurisdiction whereas the rest are in the NVCA jurisdiction. The Town is completing a well field capacity assessment as part of their Permit to Take Water process. Two wells operate as back up wells. Some of the older wells have limited operational rates due to blending for reduction in arsenic concentrations.

The presentation provided an overview of the testing that has gone on since 2015 on the wells, as well as rehabilitation of activities of the wells that was conducted.

2015 WHPA Delineation assessed supply well PW7. Since then, PW8 has been added which doubled the permitted pumping. Pumping at older wells has also been increased. This resulted in WHPAs for all wells being updated.

Well total pumping rates increased by 44% above the 2015 rates due to population increases, with increased pumping of existing wells and the addition of a new well. This affects the size and shape of WHPAs. The consultants conducted a review of the conceptual model and geologic layerings. The 2021 pumping test provided significant new data for model calibration. Land classification is a key input to the Precipitation-Runoff Modeling System (PRMS) recharge model, and significant effort has been made to re-classify all land use that was previously classified as undifferentiated.

Since the technical work for the original work was completed, the Ontario Geological Survey (OGS) has released updated data that offers more detail into the local hydrogeological conditions. The updated technical work for all the wells was based on the updated data set.

There are water level differences between the shallow and deep systems, with the deep system having better water quality. Blending occurs between the water from the deep system and the water from the shallow aquifer system before it is pumped out into the community due to arsenic concentrations. The blending of the water sources ensures that the drinking water is

below the provincial guidelines for arsenic levels. Testing in 2021 demonstrated a significant head drop across the lower aquitard.

The consultants updated the modelling with new aquifer properties. The model was used to determine the Wellhead Protection Areas (WHPAs). This process also included Forward Particle Tracking to confirm the water table to well affected time analysis. Once travel times are available, the Vulnerability Index can be developed based on the travel times. These WHPAs and vulnerability scores are reflected in the updated mapping. These new results reflect higher pumping rates and changes in conceptual model, aquifer properties and groundwater recharge rates.

As PW1 and PW3 are classified as GUDI (Groundwater Under the Direct Influence of Surface Water) wells and therefore required to have a WHPA-E delineation, hydraulic analyses were conducted to determine travel times through streams and storm sewer network, and Vulnerability scores assigned to each WHPA.

Chris Gerrits: Advised that the GUDI map showing area as 7.2, should not be noted as a regulated watercourse by NVCA as it is a municipal drain. Amaranth will have significant objections if it is showing as a regulated watercourse.

Vulnerability scoring determines whether potential drinking water quality Threats are significant, moderate, or low based on the table for each type of Threat. Part of the analysis was on livestock density in the WHPA based on the desktop analysis. Separate analyses were done for WHPA-A to D and for WHPA-E to determine percentage of livestock density. The desktop study was based mainly on available land use data and air photo interpretation.

No significant Threats were added; only moderate. 242 total potential significant Threats were identified which is more than previous studies due to higher pumping rates and more thorough analysis. Confirmation of Threats requires visits to parcels and interviews since it is based on land use and assumptions on types of materials used for each type of land use.

A 'windshield survey' was conducted by NVCA on October 3, 2022 which conservatively observed 66 potential Threats, including the municipal water supply which is noted due to fuel storage onsite.

Impervious lands identified where significant, moderate, or low salt application Threats can occur. No significant Threats for salt application were found.

NVCA is working with the Grand River Conservation Authority given the new wells are in their jurisdiction. Expected to complete pre-consultation, municipal endorsement, public consultation, and submission to MECP for approval by March 2023.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Peter Dance: The thin area between PW1 and PW5/6, how do the RMOs deal with this gap, and how you work with the landowner on the area between these Vulnerable areas?

Ryan advised that the Vulnerability score of 10 drives the process. As an RMO Ryan asked the question: do we have any of the 22 Drinking Water Threats in the area? He deals with these pockets that are isolated from the Vulnerable areas on a case-by-case basis. Ryan looks at the role of the SPA and has the proponent provided the information required for the submission to MECP for the new WHPA. In the area there could be influences on the geology that impact the Vulnerability score.

Colin Elliott: What does Threat 21 – Livestock Density and what does it entail?

Livestock within a confinement area in a parcel. When the 'windshield survey' was conducted the active livestock area was identified. Ryan confirmed this is a 'windshield survey' that indicates a potential for a Threat, not that it is a definite Threat. Number of Threats changes when ground truthing the area. Update the wording to indicate potential Threats where it is not known to be a Threat. The RMO will confirm whether it is a Threat when onsite.

Chris Gerrits: How does the Vulnerability Scoring compare to current, specifically the 8 and 10 scores around PW5/6?

For Shelburne PW7/8 the pumping rate has doubled compared to the 2015 study. There are some similarities with the 2015 study in the shallow system but for the deep system it is very different. Chris is wondering if PW3 and PW5/6 is due to proposed development? Ryan advised that if they are in the queue they would be recognized as an existing Threat and would be commented on in the process for s.59 workflows.

Chris Gerrits: How are landowners informed of changes to the SPP?

Ryan advised that they will be notified of the changes during the consultation process.

David Ketcheson: Given that there is a significant arsenic source that does not come up in the Threats as it is historic in nature, has anyone looked at the transport pathways to the deep wells and is it a concern?

Dirk clarified that the arsenic is naturally present in the shallow aquifer. David questioned if it was due to the lumber treatment facility, but Dirk advised that as far as he is aware it is a natural source, and that this is why they are going to the deeper system and blending. The majority of the water capture is from the deeper aquifer and there is distributed leakage from above which has been simulated in the model. This is a long-term solution for the Town of Shelburne. The levels of arsenic are so low that they require very moderate dilution.

Chris Gerrits: Can Bill Banks confirm that his prior work with OGS eliminated the wood processing facility as the source of the arsenic? This has been seen to arise in other areas of Dufferin County as the arsenic starts to leach out of the rock.

Bill Banks confirmed this to be naturally occurring and that the lumber facility has never been the source, and that there is no other known source of the arsenic that is not naturally occurring.

Moved by: Chris Gerrits

Seconded by: Rick Newlove

SPC-48-22 **Resolved That** presentation c) and Staff Report SPC2.3 regarding Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update - Amendment to Town of Shelburne Chapter be received for information; and

Further That the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee agree that the proposed amendments to the Source Protection Plan and the Shelburne Chapter of the Nottawasaga Valley Assessment Report are advisable.

Carried

9. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

No items were identified under items requiring separate discussion.

10. Adoption of Items Not Requiring Separate Discussion

No items were identified under items not requiring separate discussion.

Moved by: Andy Campbell

Seconded by: Stan Wells

SPC-49-22 **Resolved That** the recommendations as set forth in the items not requiring separate discussion be approved, and staff be authorized to take all necessary actions to affect those recommendations. **Carried**

SPC1.1 – An email dated October 4, 2022 from Bill Thompson, LSRCA, regarding Permits to take water and the Source Protection program.

SPC1.2 – An email dated October 13, 2022 from David Ketcheson, Azimuth Environmental Consulting, Inc., regarding MECP confirms pooling of water at rehabilitated gravel sites does not contribute chemicals or pathogens to the natural environment.

SPC-50-22 **Resolved That** correspondence SPC1.1 and SPC1.2 as listed in the agenda be received for information.

11. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

There were no items requiring separate discussion.

12. Other Business

- a) Colin Elliott: Requesting Bill to find out if there are any other chemicals in the well on Snow Valley Road and do we have to deal with it in the future? The technical work done by the consultant did have detailed results of the chemicals. Bill will share the results with the SPC or bring a report to the next meeting. David Ritchie asked what happened to the Technical Working Group and if it has been dissolved, should it be reactivated? Bill advised that as it is not the SPCs role it may not be a good use of time to reactivate the working group, but instead continue to bring the technical work to the SPC for their comments at a high level rather than getting into the details of the technical work, and to advise staff and the Ministry of local issues that should be brought to their attention. Chair Dollin believes that the work being reviewed by the SPC is just as technical as it was in the past, but the volume of work has decreased significantly from when the Committee began. Beth confirms that the SPC has a key role in bringing the local knowledge to the table as this is particularly important input from the SPC. Don reiterated that the Committee does not have the ability to stop a report from going to the Ministry but can provide comments and local information to inform the Ministry decisions. The Committee does not have the power to stop a well or Vulnerability assessment from going to the Ministry. David Ketcheson asked if there is synergy in a subgroup, or the SPC as a whole, reviewing the information and discussing to bring different levels of expertise to the discussion.

ACTION ITEM: Bill and Lynn to discuss.

ACTION ITEM: Bill will bring a report to the next meeting on the detailed results of the chemicals.

13. Closed Session

None.

14. Next Meeting and Adjournment

Moved by: Scott Lister
Seconded by: Kyle Mitchell

SPC-51-22 **Resolved That** the next meeting of the Source Protection Committee to be scheduled; and

Further that the October 26, 2022 meeting of the Source Protection Committee be adjourned at 3:22 pm. **Carried**

Source Protection Committee (SPC)

Minutes of Meeting SPC-01-2023

February 2, 2023

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:59 p.m. and Bill Thompson conducted the Roll Call.

Members Present:

Lynn Dollin, Chair

Municipal

Andy Campbell, Chris Gerrits, Jeff Hamelin, Scott Lister, Kyle Mitchell, Katie Thompson, Stan Wells

Economic/Development

Colin Elliott, John Hemsted, Amanda Kellett, David Ketcheson, Jessica Neto, Rick Newlove, David Ritchie

Public Sector

Peter Dance, David Greenwood, Stephanie Hobbs, Tom Kurtz, Cate Root

Liaisons

Julie Cayley, Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA)

Don Goodyear, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA)

Doug Hevenor, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA)

Elizabeth Forrest, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)

Staff Present

Bill Thompson, LSRCA

Mike Wilson, LSRCA

Mystaya Touw, LSRCA

Kathy Hillis, LSRCA (minutes)

Ryan Post, NVCA

Sarah Thompson, NVCA

Melissa Carruthers, SSEA

Nicole Stott, SSEA

Guests

Amy Domaratzki, Stantec

Behnam Doulatyari, Credit Valley Conservation

David Dillon, Golder

Deborah Balika, Conservation Ontario

Patty Meyer, Aqua Insight

Amanda Fracz, MECP

Therese Estephan, Region of Peel

Erin Ihnat, Region of Peel

Stephan Herceg, Region of Peel

Maureen Bianchet, Region of Durham

Colin Hall, Region of Durham

Stephen Di Biase, Stantec

Regrets:

Geoff Allen, Public Sector – Proxy to David Ritchie

Bob Duncanson, Municipal Sector

Sharday James, First Nations

Karen Kivilahti, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

1. Welcome & Opening Remarks

2. Land Acknowledgement

The Chair recited the Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory.

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and Conflict of Interest

Jessica Neto declared a conflict of interest with any items pertaining to Colgan.

4. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: John Hemsted

Seconded by: Stan Wells

SPC-01-23 **Resolved That** the agenda for the February 2, 2023 meeting of the Source Protection Committee (SPC) be approved as amended. **Carried**

5. Adoption of Minutes

Update on Action Items relating to Horseshoe Highlands:

- Comments have been provided to the Ministry.
- Reviewing the modelling is an ongoing item. Staff has requested that MECP provide the answer to the questions, but they have not provided a response yet.
- Investigating ownership regarding where the physical municipal wells are – Until the Ministry deems one not to be a municipal system, staff will not be looking further into who owns the system.

Moved by: Rick Newlove

Seconded by: Andy Campbell

SPC-02-23 **Resolved That** the minutes of the October 26, 2022 meeting of the Source Protection Committee be approved as circulated. **Carried**

6. Announcements

a) MECP

- i) Bill 23 – Have completed an analysis and have determined that there are no impacts or changes to the *Clean Water Act*. There could be long term impacts to drinking water systems. Beth can report back on implications and how it could potentially affect other areas as other information comes available.
- ii) Triggers to update water budgets, especially in areas experiencing intense growth. There are opportunities to look at a business case to update water budgets. Bill and Beth will continue to discuss.

- iii) Cumulative impacts and permits to take water – PTTW staff will attend an upcoming SPC meeting; currently scheduled for the March SPC meeting.
- iv) Still awaiting appointments for the seven remaining SPC Chairs.
- v) All provincial ministries have reported in and so SPA staff has access to the data. This will inform the May progress report that the SPAs submit.
- vi) Working on many s.34 and s.36 updates.
- vii) Best practices guidance document released last year for areas outside of the SPRs. Completing the pilot project with First Nations communities, including Beausoleil and developing funding model.
- viii) Scheduling meetings with all SPC Chairs and Beth's Director to bring forward any challenges that the SPRs are facing and to highlight good news stories. If anyone has items to be brought to the Director, email them to Lynn.

7. Deputations

There were none.

8. Presentations

- a) A presentation by Patty Meyer, Aqua Insight regarding Staff Report SPA2.1 - Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update – Technical Report in Support of the Regional Municipality of Peel S34 WHPA Update.

Municipal Class EA to support the proposed increase in taking at PW4 to support the Palgrave and Caledon East drinking water systems. Requires updating the WHPAs.

Peel Region developed groundwater flow model to manage groundwater resources. Updated the model to focus on local areas of Palgrave, Caledon East, and Caledon Village.

Scope of Work - Update WHPAs using revised groundwater flow models. No WHPA-Es for the Palgrave region. Vulnerability increased to account for transport pathways. Applied Credit Valley Conservation's guidance document. Applied the Ministry's Technical Rules to WHPAs.

WHPAs are similar to those modelled in 2008. Biggest change is that Well-4 is extending further to the west than previously due to the new pumping rate; increased from over 100 cubic metres per day to over 5,000.

Groundwater vulnerability – Well 3 has a small area around the well with medium vulnerability, with the surrounding area being predominantly low. Surficial sources of contamination are less likely to reach the well in these areas. Well 3 is well within the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region.

A few watermains on Mount Pleasant Road are acting as Transport Pathways. Generally, the vulnerability scores for well-3 range from 10 down to 2 for WHPA-D.

- Managed lands – Slightly elevated levels near PW3 due to sports parks, cemetery, and other uses in the area.
- Livestock density – Very few livestock farms resulting in very low nutrient units per acre.
- Impervious surfaces – 1-5% impervious surfaces.

Other threats: well-3 has four activities considered to be threats; three due to sewage threats and one the storage of chemicals.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Peter Dance: Larger WHPA-B that will not be a big issue this time, but keep in mind for future discussions on when WHPAs should be updated on their own rather than waiting for an application.

David Ketcheson: Why is a slice of WHPA-C of PW4 missing in the mapping?

Patty Meyer responded that water is moving northerly from PW4 and then the groundwater is moving straight vertically as it slowly moves through an aquitard.

Moved by: Kyle Mitchell

Seconded by: Cate Root

SPC-03-23 **Resolved That** presentation a) and staff report number SPC2.1 regarding Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update – Technical Report in Support of the Regional Municipality of Peel S34 WHPA Update be received for information.
Carried

b) A presentation by Ryan Post, NVCA regarding Staff Report SPA 2.2 - Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update - Amendment to the Regional Municipality of Peel Chapter.

No anticipated policy changes are required. Will be proceeding in mid-March to 30-day pre-consultation with affected agencies. Municipal endorsement expected by May 21, 2023. 35-day public consultation process in June/July. Wrap up and submission to the Ministry anticipated in September.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Stan Wells: What is the nature of the sewage threats? Are they municipally controlled?

Therese Estephan advised that there is one municipal septic system for PW3, one private septic system and one municipal system for Palgrave Park.

Lynn Dollin: Will be asking the Ministry how we can streamline the s34 process.

Moved by: Scott Lister

Seconded by: Peter Dance

SPC-04-23 **Resolved That** presentation b) and staff report number SPC2.2 regarding Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update - Amendment to Regional Municipality of Peel chapter be received for information; and

Further That the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee agree that the proposed amendments to the Source Protection Plan and the Regional Municipality of Peel chapter of the Nottawasaga Valley Assessment Report are advisable. **Carried**

c) A presentation by Dave Dillon, Golder regarding Staff Report SPA2.3 – Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update – Technical Report in Support of the Colgan S34 WHPA Update.

Two developments will result in a population increase from 230 to approximately 2,500. Three wells in Adjala-Tosorontio, in a combined sand and gravel aquifer.

Existing well field was installed 20 years ago and designed for a higher taking rate than they have been used for. Two significant tests were completed since the WHPAs were designated. The 2017 test for 55 days concluded that the wells could handle the full proposed build out of the proposed development.

Historic models reviewed and a new 3-D model was developed. The geology of the system is complex. A major refinement from previous modelling is that it better captures the groundwater features.

Model is calibrated based on existing data. Baseflow measures were taken in the creek. The pumping test was used as a major point of calibration. Trial and error approach was used. Results showed agreement with the available data.

The WHPA-A is 100m radius around the wells. WHPA-A did not change, but WHPA-B, C and D changed. Expanded the WHPAs to capture fluctuations in flow. New WHPAs are somewhat larger and better respect the flow pattern.

Vulnerability rating is generally medium. Only high ratings are in WHPA-A.

SDWT assessment – presence of coliform in the raw water, so the municipality treats them as GUDI wells even though they are not designated GUDI wells. No SDWTs were identified. No landowners will be affected by the Colgan wellfield vulnerable area land use restrictions or policies.

- Managed Lands – In close proximity to the wellhead are under 40%. The outer area around WHPA-D has a higher rating of over 80% due to a horse farm. Overall, the nutrient loading remains less than 0.5 NU/acre.
- Impervious Surfaces – The only real impervious surfaces are the municipal roads and driveways as there are no developments of note in the WHPA.

Required to develop a WHPA-E Delineation. Although the mapping identifies surface water features, they are all essentially drainage swales that for most of the year are dry. As a result, the entire subcatchment area for the drainage area was defined as WHPA-E. Land use is almost entirely residential properties, undeveloped lands, and woodlots.

Zero potential SDWTs identified. No anticipated policy changes are required.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Peter Dance: Can the GUDI determination be clarified, and if it is not in the PTTW maybe it should be added?

David Dillon advised that the PTTW was issued about two weeks ago. GUDI concerns were not part of the discussion. Peter noted that the technical report clearly identifies it as a GUDI well, so this should be part of the process. The SPC could make a strong recommendation that the ECA and permit be reviewed in light of this work completed by Golder. David advised the wells are not technically classified as GUDI but are treated as such by the municipalities. Amy Domaratzki advised that the GUDI status comes up during the water licensing process rather than the PTTW.

Chris Gerrits: How was the duration for the 55-day test determined?

David Dillon advised that a 15-day test was done at a high rate and suggested there was potential for interference between the wells and the surface water features. David is not sure on why 55-days was specifically chosen, but this extremely long test was conducted due to the potential for interference noted in the 15-days test.

Colin Elliott: Is a private septic or sewage treatment system being developed?

David Dillon advised that a septic station is being developed.

Stan Wells: Testing shows the number of private wells within the WHPA area and surrounding the areas. Were projections done on the impact on these private wells?

David Dillon responded that both testing and modelling was done to test the impact on nearby private wells, with results showing little to no impact. There will be robust monitoring at the nearest wells to monitor impacts.

Stan Wells: Are the neighbours aware of the findings of coliform in the water and recommendations being made to well owners?

David Dillon clarified that the presence of coliform in municipal wells is due to drawing from the tributary of the creek. It is the influence of surface water that provides for the presence of coliform. The private wells draw significantly less water than the municipal wells, so coliform is much less likely to be in the private systems, so no concerns are expected.

David Ketcheson: Has the creek been sampled for coliforms?

David Dillon advised they have not sampled the creek specifically. David would be surprised to find a significant coliform level in the groundwater as that is very rare, so it is assumed that the creek is the source.

ACTION ITEM: Beth Forrest to confirm with Approvals and Licensing staff at MECP that the GUDI status would be assigned to the designation number and will report back to Bill.

Moved by: Kyle Mitchell
Seconded by: Amanda Kellett

SPC-05-23 **Resolved That** presentation c) and Staff Report SPC2.3 regarding Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update – Technical Report in support of the Colgan S34 WHPA update be received for information. **Carried**

d) A presentation by Ryan Post, NVCA regarding Staff Report SPA2.4 - Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update - Amendment to Township of Adjala-Tosorontio Chapter.

Moved by: Peter Dance
Seconded by: Rick Newlove

SPC-06-23 **Resolved That** presentation d) as circulated with the agenda package and Staff Report SPC2.4 regarding Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update - Amendment to Township of Adjala-Tosorontio chapter be received for information; and

Further That the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee agree that the proposed amendments to the Source Protection Plan and the Adjala-Tosorontio chapter of the Nottawasaga Valley Assessment Report are advisable, with the request that MECP review the drinking water works license in the context of the Golder report with respect to the GUDI status of this system.
Carried

e) A presentation by Amy Domaratzki, Stantec regarding Staff Report SPA2.5 – Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update – Technical Report in Support of the Craighurst PW4 S34 WHPA Update.

New well (PW4) requiring the WHPA be delineated and to be integrated into the Assessment Report for the Oro-Medonte chapters. Anticipated the community to expand from 300 to 2,000 by 2031. PW4 to be in a lower aquifer.

New test well was tested for 33 days. Water levels drop in the deep aquifer but responds quickly. No response to pumping the shallow aquifers and private wells. Conducted well tests with continuous data monitors. Almost all the yield is coming from the deep aquifer, with only a small amount from flows, which is why there is no impact on the shallow aquifers.

No changes proposed from the current Assessment Report with respect to intrinsic vulnerability. Aquifer vulnerability at locations was either unaffected or lower, so no changes indicated in the intrinsic vulnerability.

High level of uncertainty for the work which is consistent with the Assessment Report for this area.

- Managed Lands – All less than 40%.
- Livestock Density – Less than 0.5 NU/acre.

Percent Impervious Surface – Less than 8% except in WHPA-A where it is between 8% & 30%.

No drinking water issues identified. Possibility of DNAPL threats on seven properties but do not have confirmation that the threats exist; will be confirmed by the RMO.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Colin Elliott: Will the farm just outside of Craighurst on the southeast side be affected by this well, and will it require an RMP?

Amy advised that it is a dairy operation that does not score high enough under the Technical Rules for it to be considered a significant threat, unless they are storing DNAPLs which could trigger an RMP.

Peter Dance: As we start stressing these areas, the overall water budget is useful to start thinking about before all the new systems come online so a reminder to keep water budgets in mind.

David Ketcheson: Was any thought given to age dating the water to see how old it is and if it is very old could it run into depletion problems?

Stephen Di Biase advised that four samples were collected, and all of the water levels were in compliance. While the age of the water is not known, these tests indicate that its quality should be sustained with the additional water taking.

Colin Elliott: Where did the estimate of 2,000 more residents come from?

Stephen Di Biase responded that it comes from the master plan for the municipality, which should be shared with residents by the municipality. Tom Kurtz commented that this information has been shared with all residents of Oro-Medonte and 750 homes has been on the books for about 10 years.

David Ritchie: Surprised that going that deep at this well location as approximately a mile away is a forest and swamp that is a significant recharge area, and he wonders if it may start drawing from that area.

Amy Domaratzki advised that going that deep will help with the protection of these surface features as it will draw from groundwater rather than surface water.

David Ritchie: How many more proposed wells are going along there?

Amy Domaratzki is only aware of a back-up well to support this well if required to support development. Amy is not aware of any other new water supply systems in the immediate future.

David Ketcheson: If the waters are relatively young then what is the source of the water and is surface water at risk?

Stephen Di Biase advised that it is water in the capture area that has penetrated two layers to the deep aquifer. The capture area for the well is headed toward Horseshoe Village rather than toward the forest.

Scott Lister: There is a lack of availability of data in the area which led to the high uncertainty for the WHPA. Was there anything done when delineating the WHPA to account for that eg. extending the time of travel zones or rotation?

Amy Domaratzki advised that nothing was specifically done in this regard. Where it is most important, and where policies would apply, is where there is data. There was not a lot of information about the deep aquifer, so wells were drilled to get this information close to the wells. Within WHPA-B they are confident that they have good data, but due to the uncertainty beyond this area and it did not require any policy updates, they did not feel they needed to do further work.

Lynn Dollin: What is the plan for wastewater?

Amy Domaratzki advised a large septic system that covers multiple homes. This was tested at the same time as the water system to simulate the impact of both at the same time. None of the systems score a significant threat based on where they are located.

Moved by: Chris Gerrits

Seconded by: Stan Wells

SPC-07-23 **Resolved That** presentation e) and Staff Report SPC2.5 regarding Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update – Technical Report in Support of the Craighurst PW4 S34 WHPA Update be received for information. **Carried**

f) A presentation by Ryan Post, NVCA regarding Staff Report SPA2.6 - Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update - Amendment to Township of Oro-Medonte Chapter.

Moved by: Andy Campbell

Seconded by: Rick Newlove

SPC-08-23 **Resolved That** presentation f) as circulated with the agenda package and Staff Report 2.6 regarding Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update - Amendment to Township of Oro-Medonte chapter be received for information; and

Further That the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee agree that the proposed amendments to the Source Protection Plan and the Oro-Medonte chapter of the Nottawasaga Valley Assessment Report are advisable.

Carried

9. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

No items were identified under items requiring separate discussion.

10. Adoption of Items Not Requiring Separate Discussion

No items were identified under items not requiring separate discussion.

Moved by: John Hemsted

Seconded by: Don Greenwood

SPC-09-23 **Resolved That** the recommendations as set forth in the items not requiring separate discussion be approved, and staff be authorized to take all necessary actions to affect those recommendations. **Carried**

SPC1.1 – A letter dated November 14, 2022, from David Piccini, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding approval of proposed amendments to the Severn Sound and Nottawasaga Valley Assessment Reports and the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Plan.

SPC-10-23 **Resolved That** correspondence SPC1.1 as listed in the agenda be received for information. **Carried**

11. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

There were no items requiring separate discussion.

12. Other Business

- a) David Ritchie requested an update on new wells in Cannington – Bill responded that this is part of the s34 process that was presented to the SPC in 2022. The final stage which is currently ongoing is public consultation. Several farmers are now in a vulnerable area that were not previously. We have not received any formal comments but have had some conversations with landowners. Any comments submitted by Tuesday will be responded to and will be included in our submission to the province, and if they are significant enough, they will reopen negotiations. Colin Elliott asked how this will affect a farmer's well, and

how is a farmer expected to comment without knowing how this will affect them? Further, wells are not supposed to be put in locations that would adversely affect a farm, are they, and believes this well could have been put in a location that would not be disadvantageous to the farm? In keeping with the response to this question previously, Bill advised that creation of new SDWTs is to be considered by municipalities when choosing the location for a new well. This is part of the Environmental Assessment process, along with other considerations. In Durham they only put wells on their land so they were limited to where it could be located. Bill advised that the letter did advise of the activities that would be a threat. There is no legal prohibition to putting in wells. Colin indicated that farmers are not aware of what is going on until after the fact. Bill recommended that Colin advise any concerned farmers to speak with Mike Wilson on the specifics of their property. Chris Gerrits advised that in Amaranth they use the local Federation of Agriculture to communicate with farmers. He recommends that other areas use this resource. Mike Wilson, in conversations with farmers, gets an idea of the threats impacting them, and discusses the potential for RMPs, and if they want to get to specifics suggests that they speak to the RMO. Agriculture members from the SPC could play a role in communicating the issues with landowners.

- b) Cate Root asked if there are any implications of the Bradford Bypass on source water in this area. The selected route may cross the WHPA C & D. LSRCA staff is reviewing the application, and do not believe there will be any impacts on water quality but are looking at it from a hydrogeology application.
- c) Colin Elliott is again requesting the chemical breakdown in the Snow Valley well in Barrie and was told to obtain it from public health. Colin is requesting that this information be given to the SPC. Bill has sent what information is available to him to Colin and will send it again, as well as to the entire SPC. The water quality information was not sent directly to us as part of this process as it is out of scope for the SPC, so the material provided may only be part of the answer as there may be additional water quality information. Bill will send the material that the technical report that referenced the environmental study report conducted in 2018, which refers to water quality monitoring at this site. Many chemicals were reported on and the data indicates that no chemicals cross the parameters of drinking water standards. Nitrate levels are quite high. The data reported was collected in 2014. Bill recommends asking questions of MECP staff when they attend on PTTWs as they will have more information available to them.

13. Closed Session

None.

14. Next Meeting and Adjournment

Moved by: Stan Wells

Seconded by: Cate Root

SPC-11-23 **Resolved That** the next meeting of the Source Protection Committee scheduled to be held on Thursday, March 30, 2023 from 1-4 pm to be held via Zoom; and

Further that the Thursday, February 2, 2023, meeting of the Source Protection Committee be adjourned at 3:41 pm. **Carried**



Office of the Minister

Bureau du ministre

777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 2J3
Tel.: 416-314-6790

777, rue Bay, 5^e étage
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 2J3
Tél. : 416.314.6790

357-2022-1931

November 14, 2022

Wayne Emmerson, Chair
Lake Simcoe Region Conservation
Authority
120 Bayview Parkway, Box 282
Newmarket, ON L3Y 3W3

Lynn Dollin, Chair
South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source
Protection Committee
120 Bayview Parkway, Box 282
Newmarket, ON L3Y 3W3

Dear Wayne Emmerson and Lynn Dollin,

I am pleased to inform you that the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has completed its review of your proposed amendments to the Severn Sound and Nottawasaga Valley Assessment Reports and the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Plan in accordance with the *Clean Water Act, 2006*, affecting drinking water systems located in Simcoe County.

To ensure that Ontario's municipal drinking water sources continue to be protected in the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region, I approve the amendments pursuant to section 34 of the *Clean Water Act, 2006*. The amendments to the Township of Oro-Medonte (Robincrest, Maplewood Estates and Braestone drinking water systems), the Township of Clearview (Stayner – Klondike Road drinking water system) and the Township of Springwater (Midhurst Valley wellfield) will take effect on the day a notice of this decision is posted to Ontario's Environmental Registry.

I appreciate the dedication of the local municipalities, source protection authorities and committees, and all our partners and stakeholders for their work and contributions to these amendments.

Our strong protection framework will continue to help ensure Ontario's drinking water is held to high safety standards and that sources of drinking water in the province are protected for future generations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Piccini".

David Piccini
Minister

C: Bill Thompson, Project Manager, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority
Kirsten Corrigan, Director, Conservation and Source Protection Branch, MECP

February 9, 2023

Sent by email to: kirsten.service@ontario.ca

Ms. Kirsten Service
Director, Conservation and Source Protection Branch
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
14th Floor, 40 St. Clair Avenue West
Toronto, ON, M4V 1M2

Dear Ms. Service:

Re: Request for Regulation Change to Streamline Source Protection Processes

Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority is one of 19 lead Source Protection Authorities, working in close partnership with the Province, to deliver the Sourcewater Protection Program.

Through this program, the Province has made significant investments to identify and protect the raw sources of municipal drinking water, and in working with Source Protection Authorities and Source Protection Committees to develop Source Protection Plans, providing the first in a multi-barrier approach to ensuring the safety of municipal drinking water.

In 2018, protections to municipal drinking water were enhanced, through the introduction of Regulation 205 under the *Safe Drinking Water Act*. This Regulation ensures that all future municipal drinking water sources are equally well protected, by requiring their addition to the relevant Source Protection Plan before they can be brought into service.

As you know, this Regulation introduces two points of contact between the Drinking Water Works License / Permitting process and the Source Protection Program: 1) proponents of new or amended Drinking Water Works License or Permit are required to include in their application package a notice from their local Source Protection Authority confirming that the required technical work has been completed, and 2) when approved, that license or permit will include a condition prohibiting the provision of that water to users until such time as its vulnerable areas have been included in a Ministerial approved amendment to the relevant Source Protection Plan.

Between those two points of contact, Source Protection Authorities are responsible for drafting and submitting an amendment to their Source Protection Plan for approval by the Minister, following a process outlined in O. Reg. 287/07 under the *Clean Water Act*.

That process outlined in O. Reg 287/07 includes the following steps:

1. Early engagement with the proponent and MECP on the draft technical work completed by the proponent
2. Consultation with the Source Protection Committee, to ensure that they agree that the draft amendment is advisable
3. Pre-consultation with the MECP, municipality, and other agencies responsible for implementing policies within the newly identified vulnerable areas
4. Endorsement from Councils of all affected municipalities
5. Public consultation, including providing notice to all effected municipalities, all agencies responsible for implementing policies within the newly identified vulnerable areas, and all persons believed to be engaged in significant drinking water threats
6. Submission to MECP for Ministerial approval

In the South Georgian Bay – Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region, we are currently managing several such amendments. Our Source Protection Region is one experiencing rapid rates of growth and development, and is also one served by many small municipal drinking water systems in many small communities. At the time we negotiated a Transfer Payment Agreement, we projected that between April 2022 and March 2024 we would be undertaking 11 amendments to our Source Protection Plan to account for new or expanded drinking water systems; since that time, our projection has increased to 16 such amendments.

We do not anticipate that the number of such amendments will decrease over time. In fact, we anticipate it to increase, as the rate of growth and development increases as industry responds to the *More Homes Built Faster Act*.

The process described above is a lengthy one; recent experience indicates that it takes our staff between 7 and 21 months to complete those steps. A process this lengthy as part of bringing critical municipal infrastructure online has the potential to lead to delays in housing development. Recently we managed one such file which both SPA and MECP staff needed to prioritize to ensure that this process did not interfere with closing dates a developer had with purchasers of new homes. We believe that the process could be simplified, however due to the specific requirements laid out in O. Reg 205/18 and O. Reg 287/07, Source Protection Authorities have limited options for simplification.

Protection of municipal drinking water is critically important, however the processes currently are extensive and repetitive. We believe that options exist to reduce red tape and further Provincial objectives of increasing housing availability, while still protecting the raw sources of municipal drinking water.

We believe that the following options exist, however Regulatory amendments would be required:

1. Releasing the condition prohibiting the provision of water to users earlier in the process for low-risk amendments. In practice, the most important part of the process as outlined above is early engagement with MECP staff and proponents on the technical work. Once Ministry staff are confident that vulnerable areas have correctly been identified, the remaining steps (while time-consuming) simply extend existing policies into these newly identified areas. Amending O. Reg 205/18 to allow the Ministry to release the condition which prohibits the provision of water after early engagement would allow the Source Protection Authority to combine multiple drinking water systems into one larger amendment, without introducing the risk of delay to development. For example, this would allow us to complete one larger amendment to our Source Protection Plan annually, rather than the 16 amendments we currently project in the next two years. This would reduce staff effort at the Source Protection Authority (and thereby reduce the cost of the program), accelerate the process for development, as well as reducing effort for MECP staff as they would have fewer amendments to review.
2. Reducing the number of consultation cycles needed. As outlined above, the pre-consultation, and public consultation steps both include points of contact with affected municipalities, MECP staff, and staff of other responsible Ministries. The municipal engagement is a further point of contact with affected municipalities. In our experience, no comments have been received at any of these points of contact, so we believe that these steps could be combined into one consultation step which includes affected municipalities, agencies responsible for implementing policies, and members of the public believed to be engaging in significant drinking water threats.
3. Providing affected municipalities the option to pass a Resolution providing standing endorsements of such amendments for some period of time. In our Source Protection Region, 8 of the 16 projected amendments are for drinking water systems located in Simcoe County, requiring us to seek endorsement from County Council 8 times in two years. If County Council were given the option to provide standing endorsement, this could reduce timelines, and reduce workload for Source Protection Authority and municipal staff. In those rare cases where vulnerable area boundaries cross municipal boundaries (i.e. when an affected municipality is not also the benefitting municipality), maintaining the current requirement for endorsement may be appropriate.

My staff and I would be more than willing to meet with you to discuss these opportunities to reduce red tape and increase program efficiencies.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Bill Thompson, Manager, Watershed Plans and Strategies, Integrated Watershed Management and Project Manager, South Georgian Bay – Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region at b.thompson@lsrca.on.ca or by calling 905-716-9351.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Baldwin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer

February 22, 2023

Mr. Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer
Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority
120 Bayview Parkway
Newmarket ON L3Y 4X1

Dear Mr. Baldwin:

Thank you for your letter presenting options to streamline the source protection plan amendment processes. We welcome your suggestions on how to reduce regulatory burden and find program efficiencies while maintaining the high level of protection for sources of drinking water required by the *Clean Water Act, 2006*.

I appreciate the challenges the South Georgian Bay-Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region is experiencing due to rapid growth and development and that the s.34 amendment process can be lengthy. I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss the options you have presented in your letter further. I will work with the Liaison Officer for your region, Beth Forrest, to set up a meeting. In the meantime, I encourage you to share with us any other ideas you may have to streamline the source protection program.

As always, we appreciate your leadership and support of the drinking water source protection program as well as your concern to ensure that Ontario's drinking water sources are protected while minimizing undue burdens and delays. I look forward to discussing your ideas further.

Sincerely,



Kirsten Service
Director, Conservation and Source Protection Branch

Source Protection Authority Staff Report

To: Lakes Simcoe and Couchiching/Black River Source Protection Authority

From: Lynn Dollin, Chair – South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee

Date: April 11, 2023

Subject

Source Protection Committee Chair's Update

Recommendation

That the report by South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee Chair Lynn Dollin regarding Source Protection Committee updates be received for information.

Chair's Update

Below is a brief update from the Source Protection Committee since the last meeting of the Lakes Simcoe and Couchiching/Black River Source Protection Authority Board.

The Source Protection Committee has met seven times in the past year and most recently received the annual report on implementation progress, which will be presented by Mike Wilson. Delays in implementing the Source Protection Plan due to the COVID-19 pandemic are still being felt, but the Committee remains confident that the Risk Management Officials and other municipal staff in this Source Protection Region are committed to their role in delivering this program.

Source Protection Committee meetings have become more frequent than recent years, as the Committee has been involved in two significant undertakings.

The first undertaking has been reviewing and commenting on proposed amendments to the Source Protection Plan to add new municipal drinking water systems. This is a very important part of the Source Protection Program that ensures all future municipal drinking water systems receive the same level of protection as existing systems and all the future residents in our Source Protection Region can have the same level of confidence in the water that they drink. With the rate of growth and development in this area, however, our Source Protection Committee has dealt with more amendments of this sort than any other committee in the province. Through this experience, both the Committee and staff have become aware of inefficiencies in the process, and recommendations to address these efficiencies were

forwarded by Source Protection Authority staff to Ministry staff. Questions have also been raised amongst the Committee regarding the relationship between the Committee's role and other Ministry approval processes associated with new wells.

Secondly, the Committee continues to review the policies in our Source Protection Plan in the light of recent changes the Province made to the technical rules underpinning the program. In some cases, these rules will change what is considered a "significant drinking water threat", and as such will change where our policies apply. The committee has been reviewing the implications of these changes to ensure that our policies continue to find the right balance between protecting drinking water, without becoming overly onerous or providing unnecessary restrictions on people's livelihoods. The Committee has reviewed changes related to road salt, waste management, and the storage of fuel. Next will be a review of policies that relate to farming practices. Given the prevalence of farming in our Source Protection Region, the Committee recognizes that changes to provincial rules could have far-reaching implications, and it is expected that the committee will review these changes in some detail.

Finally, I am happy to announce that Minister Piccini has appointed me to another term as Chair of the Source Protection Committee, through until 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Dollin, Chair

Source Protection Authority Staff Report

To: Lakes Simcoe and Couchiching/Black River Source Protection Authority

From: Mike Wilson, P. Geo., Source Water Protection Hydrogeologist

Date: April 19, 2023

Subject

Annual Source Water Protection Progress Report

Recommendation

That Staff Report No. 01-23-SPA regarding the 2022 Source Water Protection Annual Report to the Ministry be received; and

Further that the Annual Report be approved for submission to the Director, Conservation and Source Protection Branch, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

Purpose of this Staff Report

The purpose of this Staff Report No. 01-23-SPA is to provide an overview of the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Plan annual progress report, as well as to obtain approval to submit the annual report to the Director, Conservation and Source Protection Branch, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (the Director).

Background

The South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Plan (the Plan) has been in effect since July 1, 2015. The *Clean Water Act* (Section 46) requires that the lead Source Protection Authority report to the Director on the implementation of all policies each year. It also requires that the Source Protection Committee be provided an opportunity to comment on the draft report before its submission (draft report attached).

A primary objective of monitoring and reporting is to assess if threats to municipal drinking water sources are being reduced through the implementation of the Plan's policies. This information will help support any future amendments to the Plan and provide accountability and transparency to stakeholders.

Essential implementation actions such as establishing a Risk Management Office and drafting policies for municipal Official Plans have been completed across the Source Protection Region. All municipalities have been negotiating risk management plans with landowners, and many municipalities have successfully completed some or all of their required risk management plans.

Similarly, Ontario ministries have completed the task of reviewing previously issued provincial approvals (prescribed instruments such as Nutrient Management Plans) where they have been identified to address existing activities that may pose a risk to sources of drinking water.

Issues

At their most recent meeting, the Source Protection Committee reviewed source protection plan implementation progress data and identified the following key findings:

- All municipalities have submitted their annual reports to Source Protection Authority staff.
- Most policies (98%) that address significant drinking water threats in the Plan have been or are in the process of being implemented in accordance with the timelines set out in the Plan or otherwise amended.
- It is estimated that 94% (4,070 of 4,317) of existing significant drinking water threats have been mitigated through policy implementation.
- A total of 271 risk management plans have been established and an estimated 92 risk management plans remain to be negotiated across the Source Protection Region. Risk Management Officials have workplans that indicate the remaining risk management plans will be established by the July 2024 deadline.
- Approximately 94% (1,954 of 2,083) of the round-two on-site sewage (septic) system inspections required have been completed, with the deadline having passed in the current reporting year (2022).

In January 2023 the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks approved an extension to the risk management plan deadline to July 1, 2024, for all municipalities (except for York Region, who had not sought an extension) in the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe source protection region. As part of granting this extension, they have requested that the Source Protection Authority submit a workplan for completing all remaining risk management plans. Risk Management Officials worked with Source Protection Authority staff to develop a comprehensive workplan which was presented to the Source Protection Committee at the March 30, 2023 meeting. Based on the workplan (see Table 1), all the risk management plans remaining to be negotiated will be established by the July 2024 deadline.

Source Protection Authority staff will continue to bring progress reports on risk management plan completion to future meetings of the Source Protection Committee so the Committee can monitor progress.

The Source Protection Committee indicated that, considering the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on risk management plan negotiations over the past three years, it is satisfied with the current rate of progress on plan implementation.

Summary and Recommendations

The various implementers of the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Plan have submitted their 2022 annual reports to the Source Protection Authority as required under the *Clean Water Act*. These reports show that implementation of the Plan is currently progressing at a satisfactory rate. Most Plan policies are progressing in accordance with the timelines specified in the Plan.

The comprehensive risk management plan workplan developed in early 2023 by Risk Management Officials indicates that all the risk management plans remaining to be negotiated will be established by the July 2024 deadline.

It is therefore **Recommended that** Staff Report No. 01-23-SPA regarding the 2022 Source Water Protection Annual Report to the Ministry be received; and **Further that** the Annual Report be approved for submission to the Director, Conservation and Source Protection Branch, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

Pre-Submission Review

This Staff Report has been reviewed by the General Manager, Integrated Watershed Management and the Chief Administrative Officer.

Signed by:

Don Goodyear
General Manager, Integrated Watershed
Management

Signed by:

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments:

1. Table 1 – Risk Management Plans Status
2. Source Protection Annual Progress Report, South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Region

Table 1 – Risk Management Plans Status

Risk management plan category, timelines for signature and mechanism to be used if signature deadline missed	City of Barrie	City of Kawartha Lakes	Durham Region	Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority	Severn Sound Environmental Association	Township of Ramara	Total
Estimated number of Risk Management Plans remaining	13	3	4	25	35	5	85
Number on hiatus	0	1	3	4	6	0	14
Number which may need to be "Ordered"	0	0	0	1	0		1
Number remaining to be negotiated	13	2	1	20	29	5	70
Number remaining to be drafted	0	2	1	20	11	0	34
Timeline for circulating drafts	Not applicable	April 2023	Pending WHPA approval	Adjala-Tosorontio and New Tecumseth: Spring 2023 Melanchthon and Shelburne: Winter 2023	July 2023	Not applicable	Not applicable

Risk management plan category, timelines for signature and mechanism to be used if signature deadline missed	City of Barrie	City of Kawartha Lakes	Durham Region	Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority	Severn Sound Environmental Association	Township of Ramara	Total
Timeline by which signatures are expected	June 2023	May 2023	Pending WHPA approval	Adjala-Tosorontio and New Tecumseth: Summer 2023 Melancthon and Shelburne: Spring 2024	March 2024	Sept 2023	Not applicable
Mechanism to be used if signature deadline missed	Not expected to occur	RMO will issue Notices if necessary	TBD, Pending WHPA approval	RMO will consider using Part IV powers after the specified time has passed	RMO will utilize Part IV powers under the Act	RMO will utilize Part IV powers under the Act	Not applicable

Source Protection Annual Progress Report

South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Region



On the Implementation of the South
Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source
Protection Plan

Reporting period January 1 to December 31, 2022

Ourwatershed.ca



2022 Source Protection Annual Progress Report

I. Introduction

This annual report briefly summarizes the progress made in implementing the source protection plan for the Lakes Simcoe & Couchiching Black River, Nottawasaga Valley and Severn Sound Source Protection Areas, as required by the Clean Water Act and its regulations for the 2022 calendar year.

Protecting the sources of our drinking water is the first step in a multi-barrier approach to safeguard the quality and quantity of our water supplies. The source protection plan is the culmination of extensive science-based assessments, consultation with the community, collaboration with local stakeholders and the province, and research. The implementation of the policies contained in the source protection plan ensure that activities carried out in the vicinity of municipal drinking water supply wells and lake-based drinking water intakes do not pose a significant risk to those supplies.



II. A Message from your local Source Protection Committee

Our source protection committee was asked to provide a progress score on achieving source protection plan objectives this reporting period, with three progress scores to choose from as follows:

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

The progress score selected for achieving source protection plan objectives this reporting period is satisfactory.

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted progress made in achieving source protection plan objectives in 2022. All municipalities submitted their 2022 annual reports to the Source Protection Authority. Municipalities in our source protection region have processes in place to ensure planning decisions conform to our source protection plan. Ninety-eight percent of the policies that address significant drinking water threats in our Plan have been or are being implemented. Approximately 94% of the 3,313 significant drinking water threats that existed at the time of source protection plan approval have been addressed through policy implementation.

A total of 271 risk management plans have been established as of December 31, 2022, and workplans have been established by Risk Management Officials to complete the estimated 92 outstanding Risk Management Plans by the July 2024 deadline. Progress will be closely monitored on outstanding Plans and reported to the Source Protection Committee until they are all complete.

III. Our Watershed

The South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe source protection region contains four watersheds and spans over 10,000 km², from the Oak Ridges Moraine in the south to the Canadian Shield in the north and is comprised of the Black-Severn, Lake Simcoe, Nottawasaga Valley and Severn Sound watersheds. The region contains portions of the Niagara Escarpment, Oak Ridges Moraine, Oro Moraine, Peterborough Drumlin Fields, Simcoe Uplands and Lowlands and the Canadian Shield. The region includes:

- 4 watersheds
- 52 municipalities
- 3 First Nations communities
- 107 drinking water systems
- 276 municipal supply wells
- 16 municipal surface water intakes
- More than 50,000 private wells

All told, the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe region has about one third of the municipal drinking water systems in the province.

The region is complex and diverse in terms of geology, physiography, population, and development pressures, with many, often conflicting, water uses including drinking water supply, recreation, irrigation, agriculture, commercial and industrial uses, as well as ecosystem needs.

These differences represent a significant challenge for the development of a source protection plan because of the associated variability of available information upon which to base the technical work, the differing stresses on water resources related to development pressure and population growth, and the differences in the nature, density and locations of threats to the quality and quantity of water resources.

To learn more, please read our assessment reports and source protection plan.

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

1. Source Protection Plan Policies and Addressing Significant Risks

The South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee included 129 policies in their source protection plan to address 22 prescribed threats, protect sources of drinking water and monitor the progress of policy implementation.

Since the source protection plan took effect over eight years ago, much has been accomplished. To date, 100% of the legally binding policies that address significant drinking water threat activities have been or are being addressed. 42% have been implemented, 51% are in the process of being implemented, and 7% have been evaluated and determined no further action is required.

The progress score for implementing Plan policies is progressing well/on target.

2. Municipal Progress: Addressing Risks on the Ground

Of the 52 municipalities (upper, lower and single-tier) within the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region, 43 of these are subject to one or more source protection plan policies. The remaining nine municipalities do not have vulnerable areas where policies apply.

Planning departments and building officials are screening applications for locations within vulnerable areas where threats to drinking water sources are possible and policies may apply.

Municipalities in our source protection region are also required 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. All 43 of the municipalities that are subject to source protection plan policies have amended or are in the process of amending their Official Plan to conform with the source protection plan for our region.

The municipal progress score is progressing well/on target.

3. Septic Inspections

Within our source protection region, 2,083 septic systems are required to be inspected as part of the 5-year inspection cycle. To date, 1,954 (94%) of on-site sewage systems have been inspected in accordance with the Ontario Building Code in the second round.

The progress score for the septic inspection program is progressing well/on target.

4. Risk Management Plans

271 risk management plans were established in our source protection region as of December 31, 2022 with 6 of those being completed within the 2022 calendar year.

56 inspections were carried out in 2022 by a Risk Management Official/Inspector for prohibited or regulated activities. There is a greater than 99% compliance rate with the risk management plans established in our source protection region.

Workplans have been established by Risk Management Officials to complete the 92 outstanding Risk Management Plans by the July 2024 deadline. Progress will be closely monitored on outstanding Plans and reported to the Source Protection Committee until they are all complete.

The progress score for establishing risk management plans is satisfactory.

5. Provincial Progress: Addressing Risks on the Ground

Ontario ministries are reviewing applications for new or amended and previously issued provincial approvals (i.e. prescribed instruments, such as environmental compliance approvals under the Environmental Protection Act) where they have been identified as a tool in our plan to address activities that pose a significant risk to sources of drinking water. The provincial approvals are being issued, denied, amended or revoked, where necessary, to conform to plan policies. Our policies set out a timeline of five years from the date the source protection plan took effect (July 1, 2015) to complete the review of existing activities and make any necessary changes to previously issued approvals. The timeline for new or amended prescribed instruments is outlined in the Plan as the day the Source Protection Plan took effect. The Ministries have reported 100% completion of previously issued provincial approvals in our source protection region and have a review protocol in place to screen all new applicable approval applications.

As an example, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) performed a detailed review of 3 Non-Agricultural Source Material (NASM) Plans for source protection in 2022. The location of each NASM Plan application is screened to see if source water protection policies apply. If no policies apply, the review carries on as usual. If policies apply OMAFRA adds applicable conditions, if necessary, to the prescribed instrument approval.

The progress score for the addressing risks using prescribed instruments is progressing well/on target.

6. **Source Protection Awareness and Change in Behaviour**

To raise awareness about the protection of local drinking water sources, municipalities across the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe source protection region have installed a total of 334 drinking water protection zone signs on municipal roads surrounding vulnerable areas. In addition, 14 signs have been installed on provincial highways.

Staff from Lake Simcoe and Severn Sound Source Protection Authorities met with Beausoleil First Nation, Ogemawahj Tribal Council and Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation to present to them the Source Water Protection Best Management Practices, developed by the Ministry. Beausoleil First Nation has since signed a funding agreement with the Ministry, allowing them to implement some of the voluntary best practices to protect their well and surface water supplies.

7. **Source Protection Plan Policies: Summary of Delays**

Of the 129 policies included in the Source Protection Plan, all (with the exception of one) are currently being implemented or are in the process of being implemented. The only policy that has had no progress made to date is the non-legally binding policy on transport pathways (TP-1). This policy only applies to one municipality in the Severn Sound Source Protection Area. Within this area there are numerous significant drinking water threats and managing these threats through the use of legally binding policies has been the main priority to date. This policy will continue to be considered in future work plans.

8. **Source Water Quality: Monitoring and Actions**

City of Barrie - Barrie Well Supply - Central Well Field Issue contributing area for:

Sodium and Chloride

An increasing concentration/trend has been observed.

Risk management plans are being developed for large users of salt to ensure best practices are implemented for storage and application. The City of Barrie staff follow Smart About Salt practices.

Town of Penetanguishene - Robert Street West Supply Well Issue contributing area for:

Trichloroethylene

A decreasing concentration/trend has been observed.

Township of Brock – Cannington Well Supply – Arena Well Field

Trichloroethylene

A decreasing concentration/trend has been observed.

Township of Severn - Coldwater Well Supply Issue contributing area for:

Trichloroethylene

No change in concentration/trend.

Tiny Township - Lafontaine Well Supply Issue contributing area for:

Nitrate

A decreasing concentration/trend has been observed.

Tiny Township - Georgian Sands Well Supply Issue contributing area for:

Nitrate

No change in concentration/trend.

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 the South Georgian Bay-Lake Simcoe Protection Region, visit:

www.ourwatershed.ca

Education and outreach are an important part of implementing Source Protection. Source protection authorities, municipalities and Risk Management Officials within the region continue to engage the community through site visits, social media, and workshops.

Source Protection Authority Staff Report

To: Lakes Simcoe and Couchiching/Black River Source Protection Authority

From: Bill Thompson, Manager, Integrated Watershed Management

Date: April 19, 2023

Subject

Source Protection Plan Amendments Update

Recommendation

That Staff Report No. 02-23-SPA regarding amendments to the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Plan submitted for approval to the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks be received for information.

Purpose of this Staff Report

The purpose of this Staff Report No. 02-23-SPA is to provide an update to the Source Protection Authority Board of Directors on amendments to the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Plan that have recently been submitted for approval.

Background

Regulation 205/18 under the *Safe Drinking Water Act* requires that any amendments to municipal residential Drinking Water Works Licences and Permits be accompanied by an amendment to the appropriate Source Protection Plan. The intent of this Regulation is to ensure that raw sources of municipal drinking water remain protected, even as drinking water systems change (or expand). As such, new or upgraded municipal wells or water treatment plants generally require new or revised Wellhead Protection Areas and Intake Protection Zones in Source Protection Plans and may lead to new restrictions associated with Source Protection Plan policies in those areas.

As the lead Source Protection Authority for the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region, staff are responsible for ensuring these amendments are completed, and ultimately approved by the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks (Ministry). The process that staff are directed to follow is a consultation-rich one, with engagement occurring with Ministry staff, municipal staff and councils, and affected local landowners. After completing that consultation and drafting the amendment to the Plan, the amendments are submitted to the Minister for approval.

Issues

At the February 26, 2021 meeting of the Source Protection Authority Board of Directors, staff were delegated the authority to submit such amendments after consultation is complete. In return, staff committed to provide annual updates on any such amendments submitted.

Over the course of the past year, Source Protection Authority staff have submitted the following four Source Protection Plan amendments to the Ministry for approval:

- Township of Oro-Medonte, to address the transfer of ownership of the Braestone drinking water system to the Township, and to add back-up wells at the Robincrest and Maplewood drinking water systems which have been brought online in recent years. This amendment was submitted in April 2022 and approved in November.
- Township of Clearview, to incorporate five planned new wells in the Stayner drinking water system, to support future growth. This amendment was submitted in April 2022 and approved in November.
- Township of Springwater, to incorporate two planned wells to the Midhurst Valley drinking water system, to support future growth. This amendment was submitted in September 2022 and approved in November.
- Durham Region, to incorporate a new well in the Sunderland drinking water system and to add two new wells to the Cannington drinking water system and remove two others which have been decommissioned. This amendment was submitted in March 2023.

Summary and Recommendations

As the lead Source Protection Authority, the Lakes Simcoe/Couchiching Black River Source Protection Authority is responsible for ensuring that the Source Protection Plan is amended to account for new or expanded municipal drinking water systems. Over the course of the last year, four amendments to the source protection plan to address changes in municipal drinking water systems have been submitted to the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks for approval, three of which have been approved to-date.

It is therefore **Recommended That** Staff Report No. 02-23-SPA regarding amendments to the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Plan submitted for approval to the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks be received for information.

Pre-Submission Review

This Staff Report has been reviewed by the General Manager, Integrated Watershed Management and the Chief Administrative Officer.

Signed by:

Signed by:

Don Goodyear
General Manager, Integrated Watershed
Management

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments:

- A. Township of Oro-Medonte (overview)
- B. Braestone drinking water system, Oro-Medonte
- C. Robincrest drinking water system, Oro-Medonte
- D. Maplewood drinking water system, Oro-Medonte
- E. Township of Clearview (overview)
- F. Stayner drinking water system, Clearview
- G. Township of Springwater (overview)
- H. Midhurst Valley drinking water system, Springwater
- I. Durham Region (overview)
- J. Sunderland drinking water system (proposed), Durham Region
- K. Cannington drinking water system (proposed), Durham Region



Legend

- Municipal Supply Well in Township of Oro-Medonte
- WHPA-A (100m)
- WHPA-B (2 years time of travel)
- WHPA-C (5 years time of travel)
- WHPA-C1 (10 years time of travel)
- WHPA-D (25 years time of travel)
- SWP Watershed Area
- Municipal Boundary

**Drinking Water System
Vulnerable Areas in
Township of Oro-Medonte**

Original Created by: LSRCA
Revision by: SSEA

0 2 km

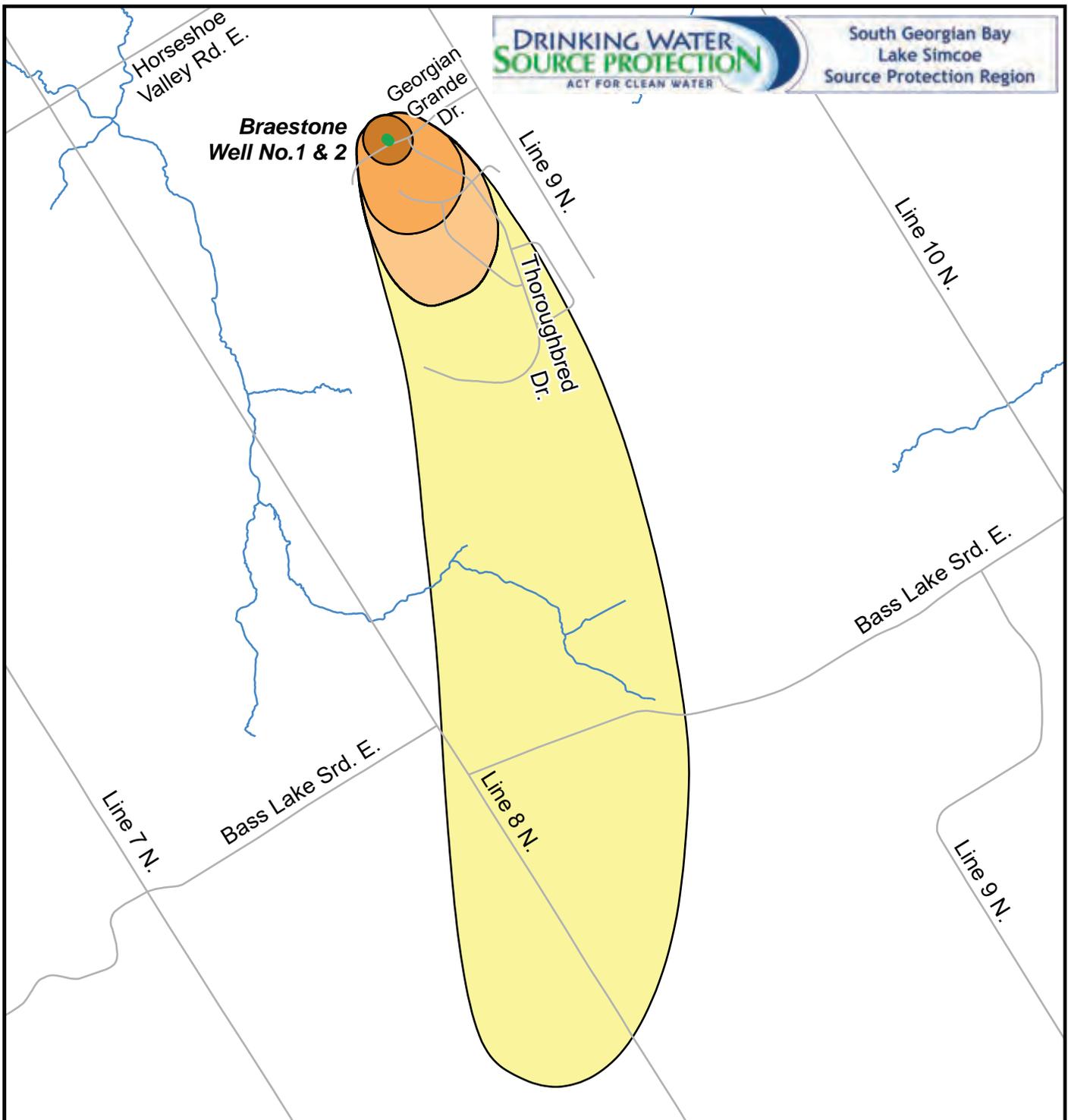
UTM Zone 17N, NAD 83



Revision Date: 2020-10-16

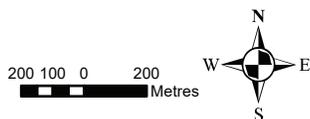
SCALE: 1:200,000

This map was originally produced by the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, lead agency of the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region and was revised in 2020 by the Severn Sound Environmental Association. Base data have been compiled from various sources, under data sharing agreements. While every effort has been made to accurately depict the base data, errors may exist.



Legend

- MUNICIPAL WELL LOCATION
- ROADS
- WATERCOURSE



WELLHEAD PROTECTION AREA

- WHPA-A: 100 m RADIUS
- WHPA-B: 2-YEAR TIME-OF-TRAVEL
- WHPA-C: 5-YEAR TIME-OF-TRAVEL
- WHPA-D: 25-YEAR TIME-OF-TRAVEL

WELLHEAD PROTECTION AREAS - BRAESTONE, ORO-MEDONTE

ASSESSMENT OF DRINKING WATER THREATS
SELECTED MUNICIPAL GROUNDWATER SUPPLIES

South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe
Source Protection Region

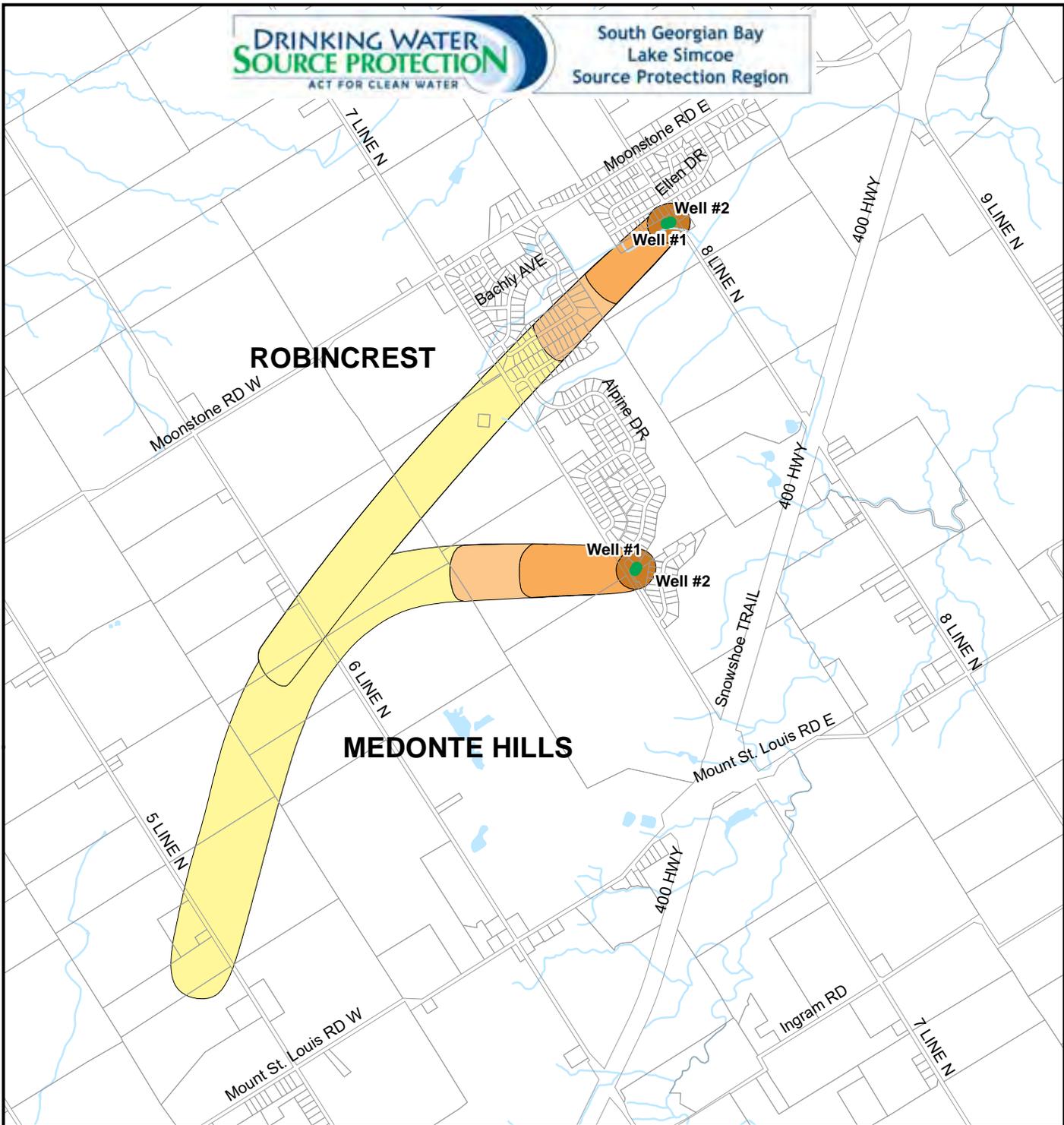
DATE: OCTOBER 2020

SCALE: 1:24,000

This map was produced for the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region for the purposes of completing the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Assessment Report. Base data have been compiled from various sources, under data sharing agreements. While every effort has been made to accurately depict the base data, errors may exist.



FIGURE
9e-1



Legend

- MUNICIPAL WELL LOCATION
- WHPA-A: 100 m RADIUS
- WHPA-B: 2-YEAR TIME-OF-TRAVEL
- WHPA-C: 5-YEAR TIME-OF-TRAVEL
- WHPA-D: 25-YEAR TIME-OF-TRAVEL



300 150 0 300 Metres

WELLHEAD PROTECTION AREAS – MEDONTE HILLS/ROBINCREST, ORO-MEDONTE

**ASSESSMENT OF DRINKING WATER THREATS
SELECTED MUNICIPAL GROUNDWATER SUPPLIES**
South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe
Source Protection Region

Revisions made by Severn Sound Source Protection Authority

REVISION DATE: APRIL 2020

SCALE: 1:30,000

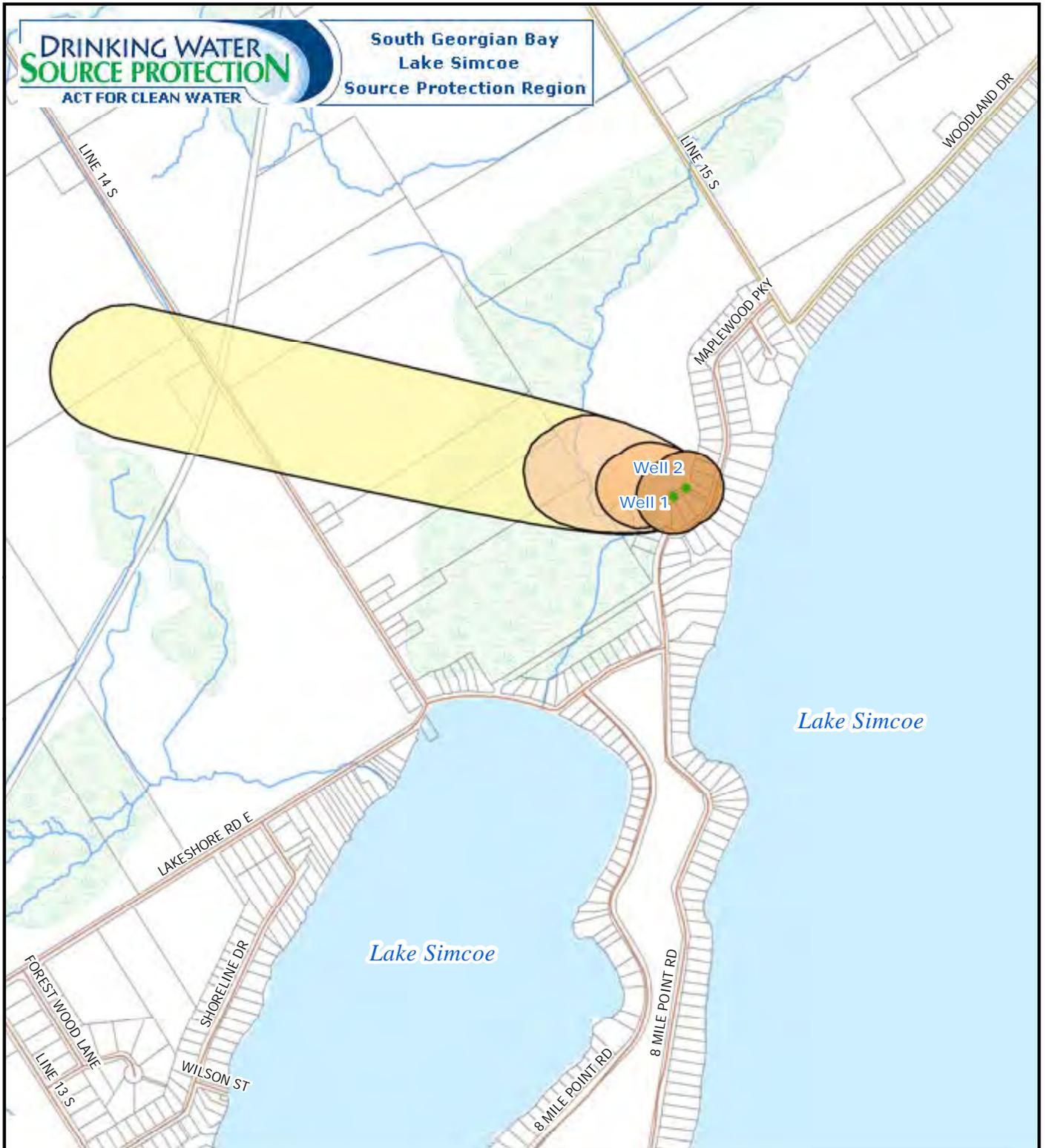
PROJECT:0-071948.07

FILE. NO.:0-07194807F13.7-1

This map was produced for the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region for the purposes of completing the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Assessment Report. Base data have been compiled from various sources, under data sharing agreements. While every effort has been made to accurately depict the base data, errors may exist.



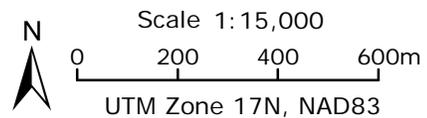
FIGURE
9b-1



- Municipal Supply Well
- WHPA-A (100m radius)
- WHPA-B (2 years time of travel)
- WHPA-C (5 years time of travel)
- WHPA-D (25 years time of travel)

Wellhead Protection Areas -
Maplewood, Oro-Medonte

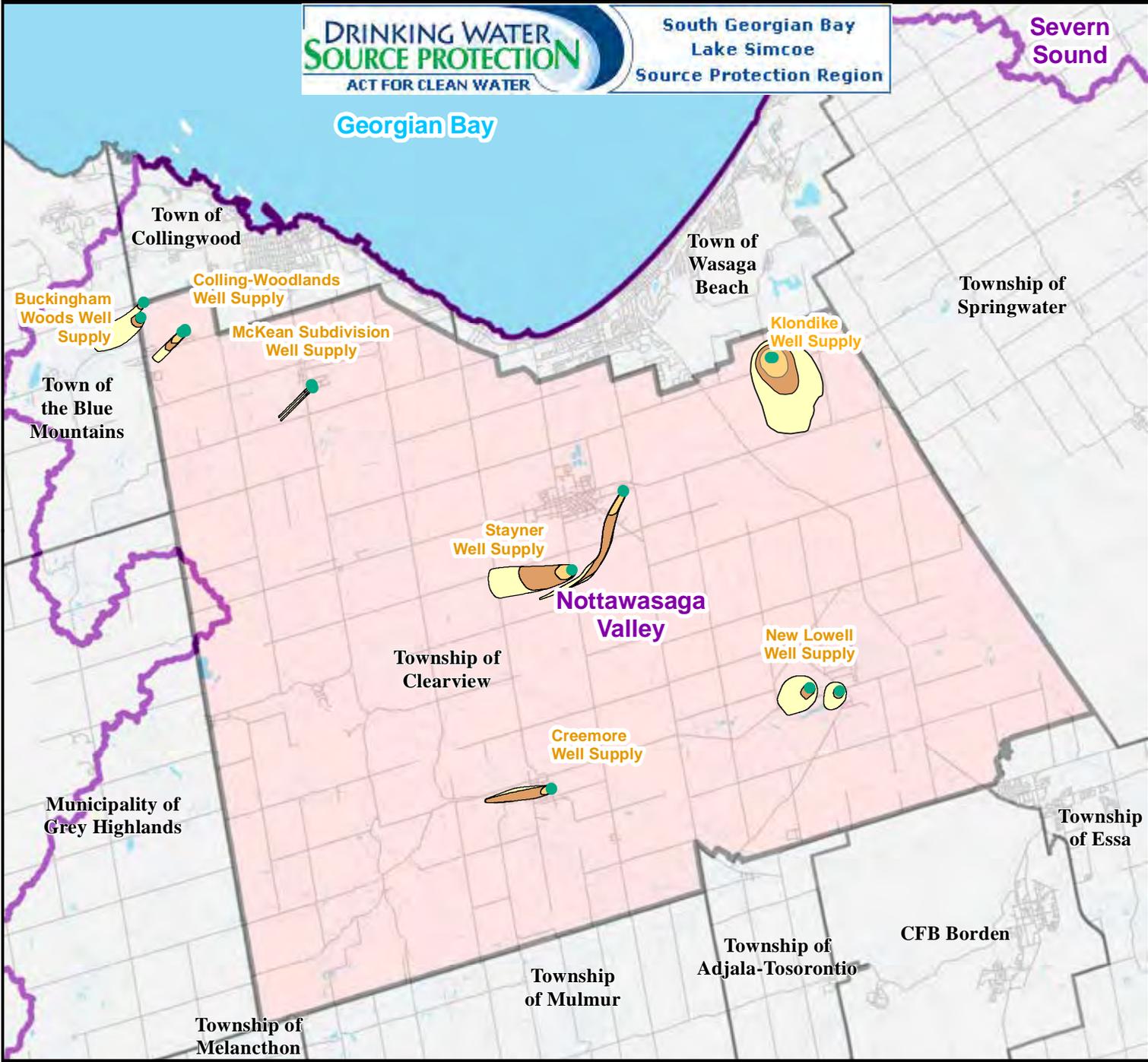
Created by: LSRCA, 2021-05-12



This map was produced by the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, lead agency of the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Region Source Protection Region. Base data have been compiled from various sources, under data sharing agreements. While every effort has been made to accurately depict the base data, errors may exist.



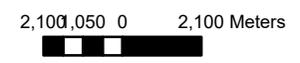
Figure 11d-1



Legend

- Municipal Supply Well in Township of Clearview
- WHPA-A (100 m RADIUS)
- WHPA-B (2-YEAR TIME-OF-TRAVEL)
- WHPA-C (5-YEAR TIME-OF-TRAVEL)
- WHPA-C1 (10-YEAR TIME-OF-TRAVEL)
- WHPA-D (25-YEAR TIME-OF-TRAVEL)
- Municipality Boundary
- SWP Watershed Area

Drinking Water System
 Vulnerable Areas in Township of Clearview



Created by: NVCA
 Date: 2021-09

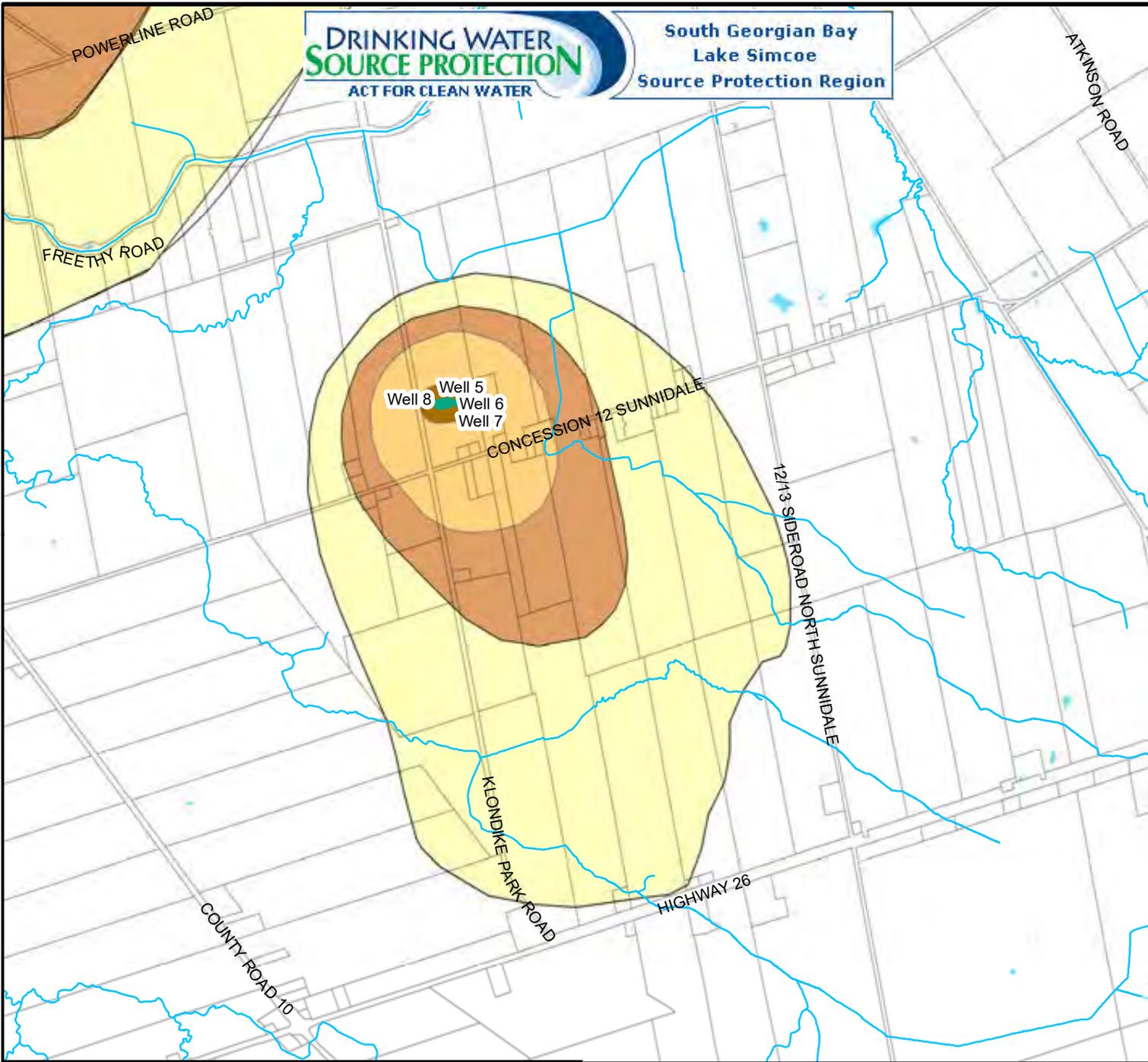


Scale: 1:200,000

UTM Zone 17N, NAD83

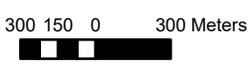
Figure 10-1

This map was produced for the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Protection Region for the purposes of completing the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Assessment Report. Base data have been compiled from various sources, under data sharing agreements. While every effort has been made to accurately depict the base data, errors may exist.



Legend

- MUNICIPAL WELL LOCATION
- WHPA-A: 100 m RADIUS
- WHPA-B: 2-YEAR TIME-OF-TRAVEL
- WHPA-C: 5-YEAR TIME-OF-TRAVEL
- WHPA-D: 25-YEAR TIME-OF-TRAVEL



**WELLHEAD PROTECTION AREAS-
KLONDIKE WELLS, STAYNER, CLEARVIEW**

**ASSESSMENT OF DRINKING WATER THREATS
SELECTED MUNICIPAL GROUNDWATER SUPPLIES
South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe
Source Protection Region**

Created by: NVCA
Date: 2021-09



Scale: 1:30,000

UTM Zone 17N, NAD83

Figure 10f-10

This map was produced for the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Protection Region for the purposes of completing the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Assessment Report. Base data have been compiled from various sources, under data sharing agreements. While every effort has been made to accurately depict the base data, errors may exist.



Legend

- MUNICIPAL SUPPLY WELL IN SPRINGWATER
- WHPA-A (100 m RADIUS)
- WHPA-B (2-YEAR TIME-OF-TRAVEL)
- WHPA-C (5-YEAR TIME-OF-TRAVEL)
- WHPA-C1 (10-YEAR TIME-OF-TRAVEL)
- WHPA-D (25-YEAR TIME-OF-TRAVEL)
- SWP Watershed Area
- Municipality Boundary

Drinking Water System Vulnerable Areas in Township of Springwater

Created by: NVCA
Date: 2022-05

Scale: 1:225,000

UTM Zone 17N, NAD83

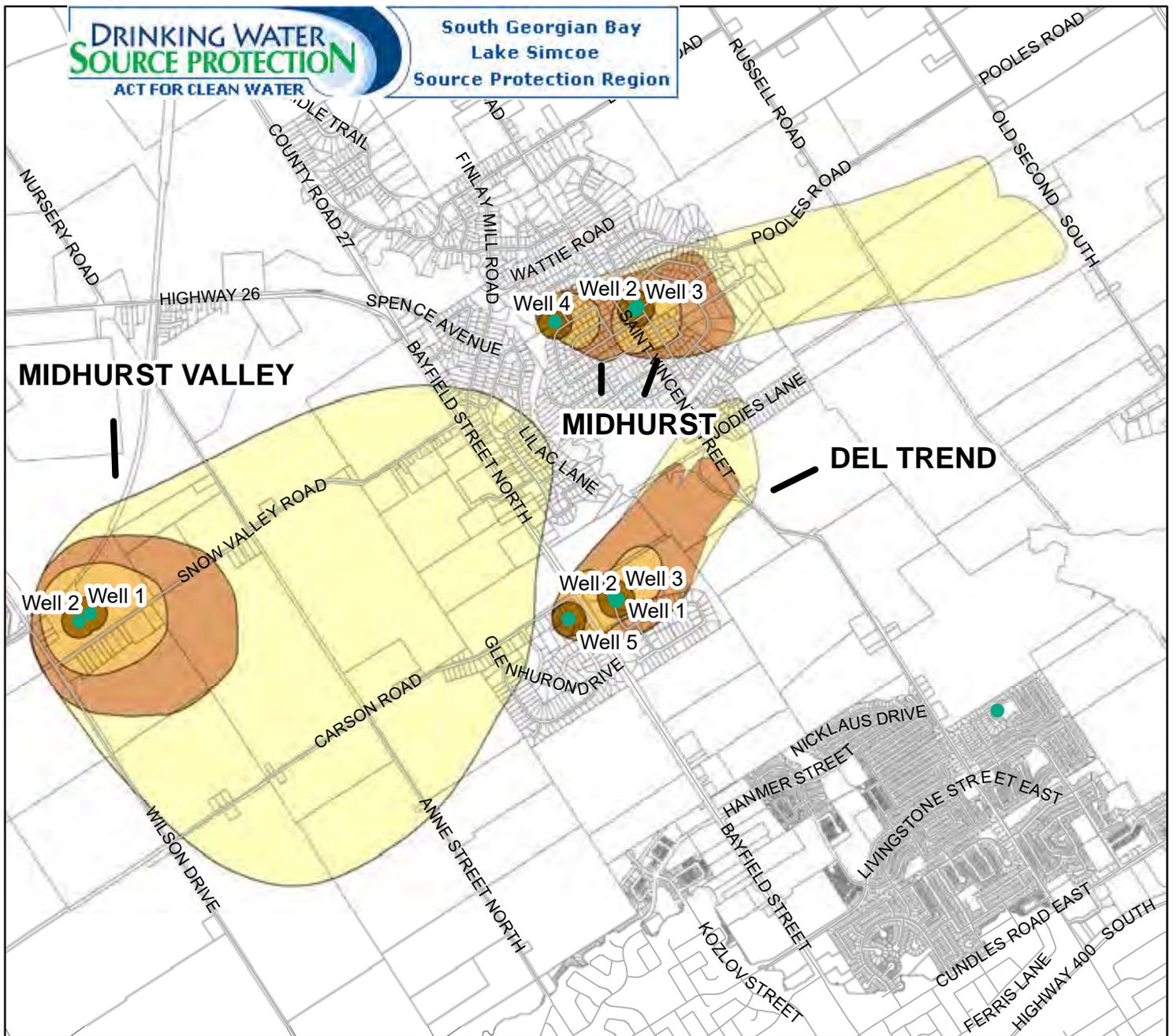


2,300,150 0 2,300 Meters



Figure 16-1

This map was produced for the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Protection Region for the purpose of completing the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Assessment Report. Base data have been compiled from various sources, under data sharing agreements. While every effort has been made to accurately depict the base data, errors may exist.



Legend

- MUNICIPAL WELL LOCATION
- WHPA-A (100 m RADIUS)
- WHPA-B (2-YEAR TIME-OF-TRAVEL)
- WHPA-C/C1 (5/10-YEAR TIME-OF-TRAVEL)
- WHPA-D (25-YEAR TIME-OF-TRAVEL)



WELLHEAD PROTECTION AREAS- MIDHURST VALLEY/DEL TREND/MIDHURST

ASSESSMENT OF DRINKING WATER THREATS
SELECTED MUNICIPAL GROUNDWATER SUPPLIES
South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe
Source Protection Region

Created by: NVCA
Date: 2022-05

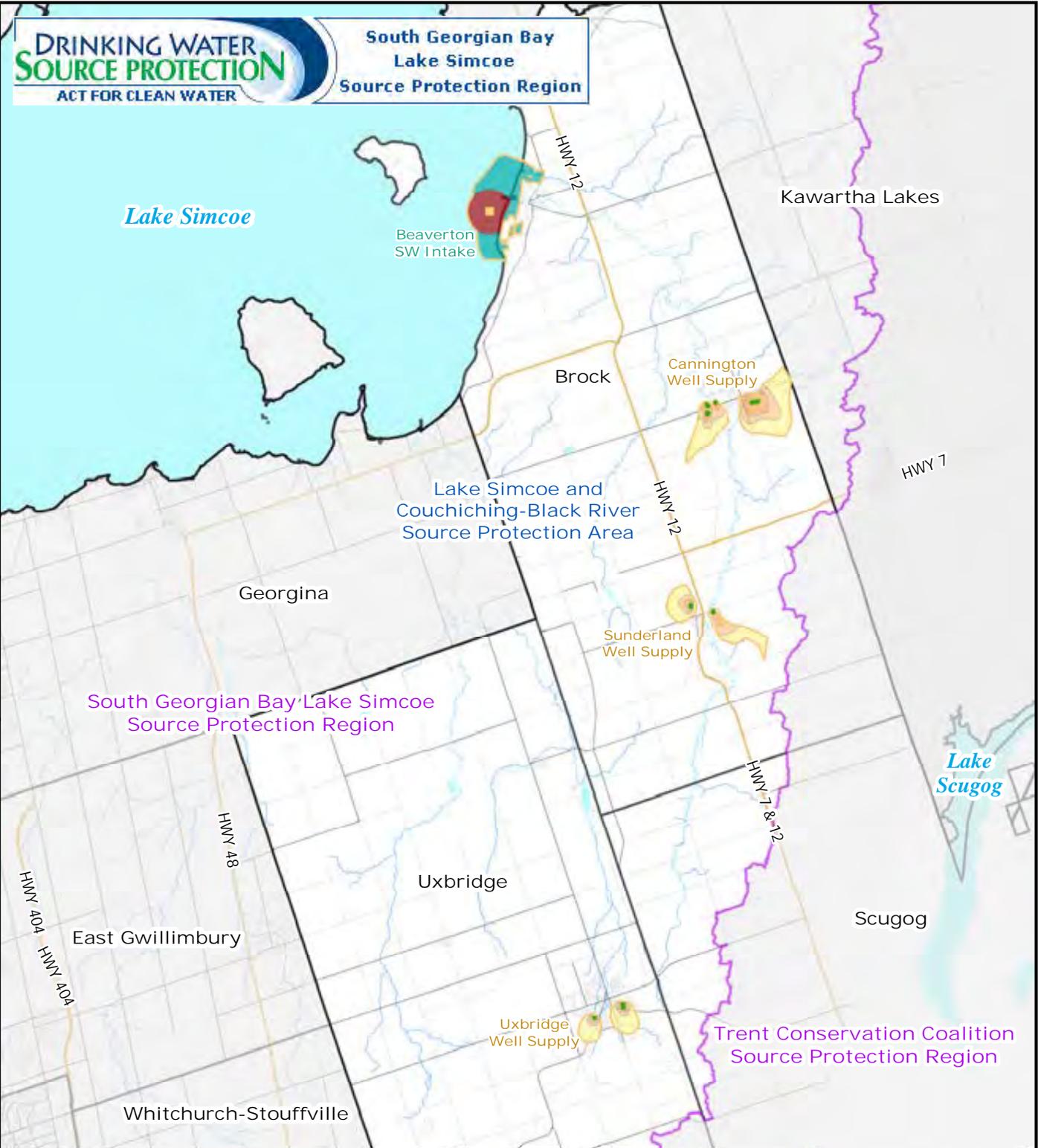


Scale: 1:35,000

UTM Zone 17N, NAD83

Figure 16b-1

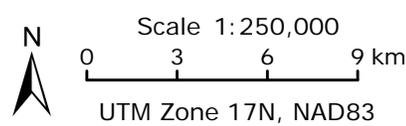
This map was produced for the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Protection Region for the purpose of completing the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Assessment Report. Base data have been compiled from various sources, under data sharing agreements. While every effort has been made to accurately depict the base data, errors may exist.



- Municipal Surface Water Intake
- IPZ-1 (1000m on water or 120m inland)
- IPZ-2 (2 hours time of travel)
- Municipal Supply Wells in Durham Region
- WHPA-A (100m)
- WHPA-B (2 years time of travel)
- WHPA-C (5 years time of travel)
- WHPA-D (25 years time of travel)

Drinking Water System
Vulnerable Areas in
Regional Municipality of Durham

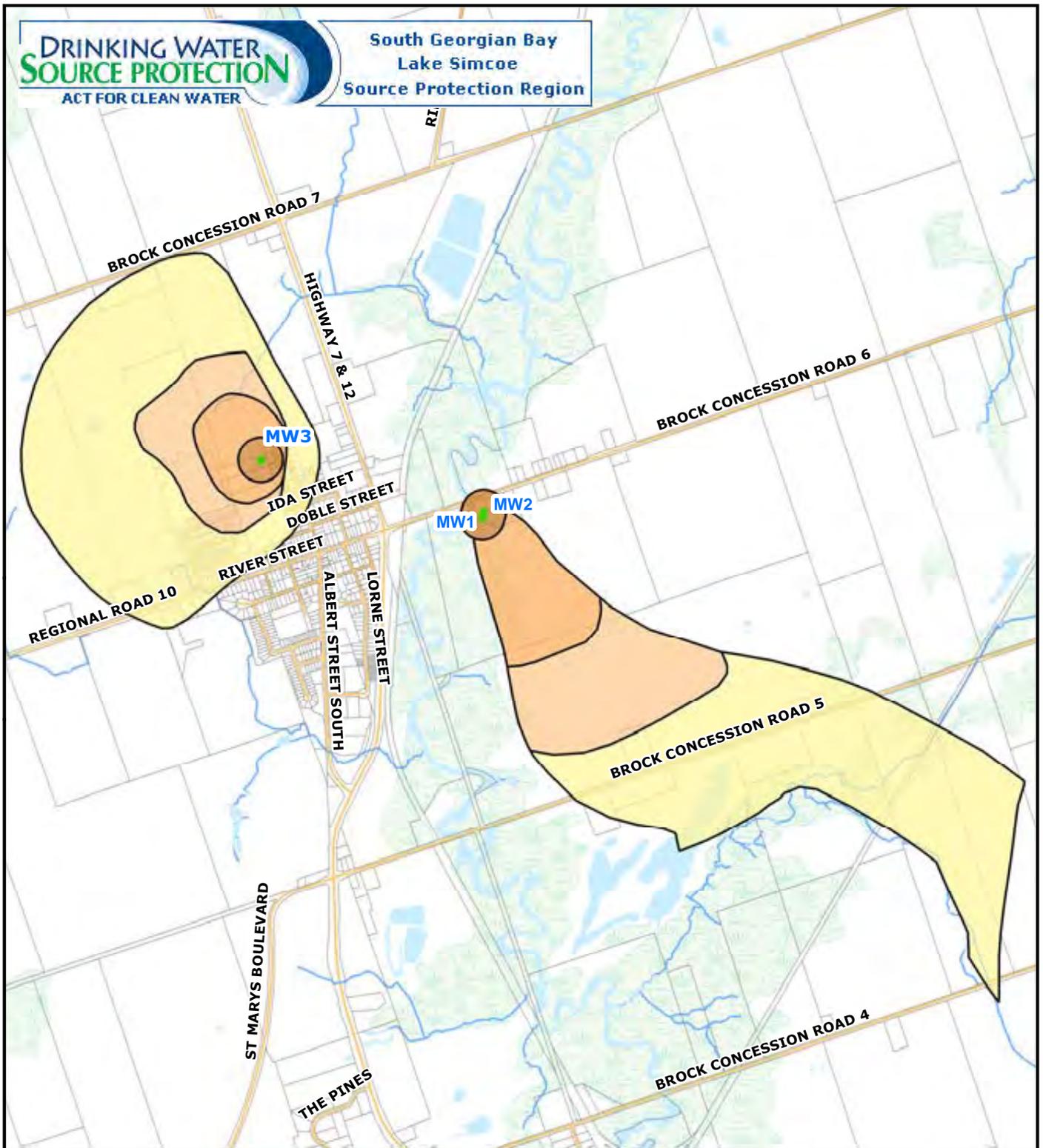
Created by: LSRCA, 2021-12-16



This map was produced by the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, lead agency of the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Region Source Protection Region. Base data have been compiled from various sources, under data sharing agreements. While every effort has been made to accurately depict the base data, errors may exist.



Figure 6-1



● Municipal Supply Wells in Sunderland

Wellhead Protection Areas

- WHPA-A (100 radius)
- WHPA-B (2 years time of travel)
- WHPA-C (5 years time of travel)
- WHPA-D (25 years time of travel)

Wellhead Protection Areas – Sunderland

Created by: LSRCA, 2021-12-08



Scale 1:25,000

0 200 400 600 800 1000m

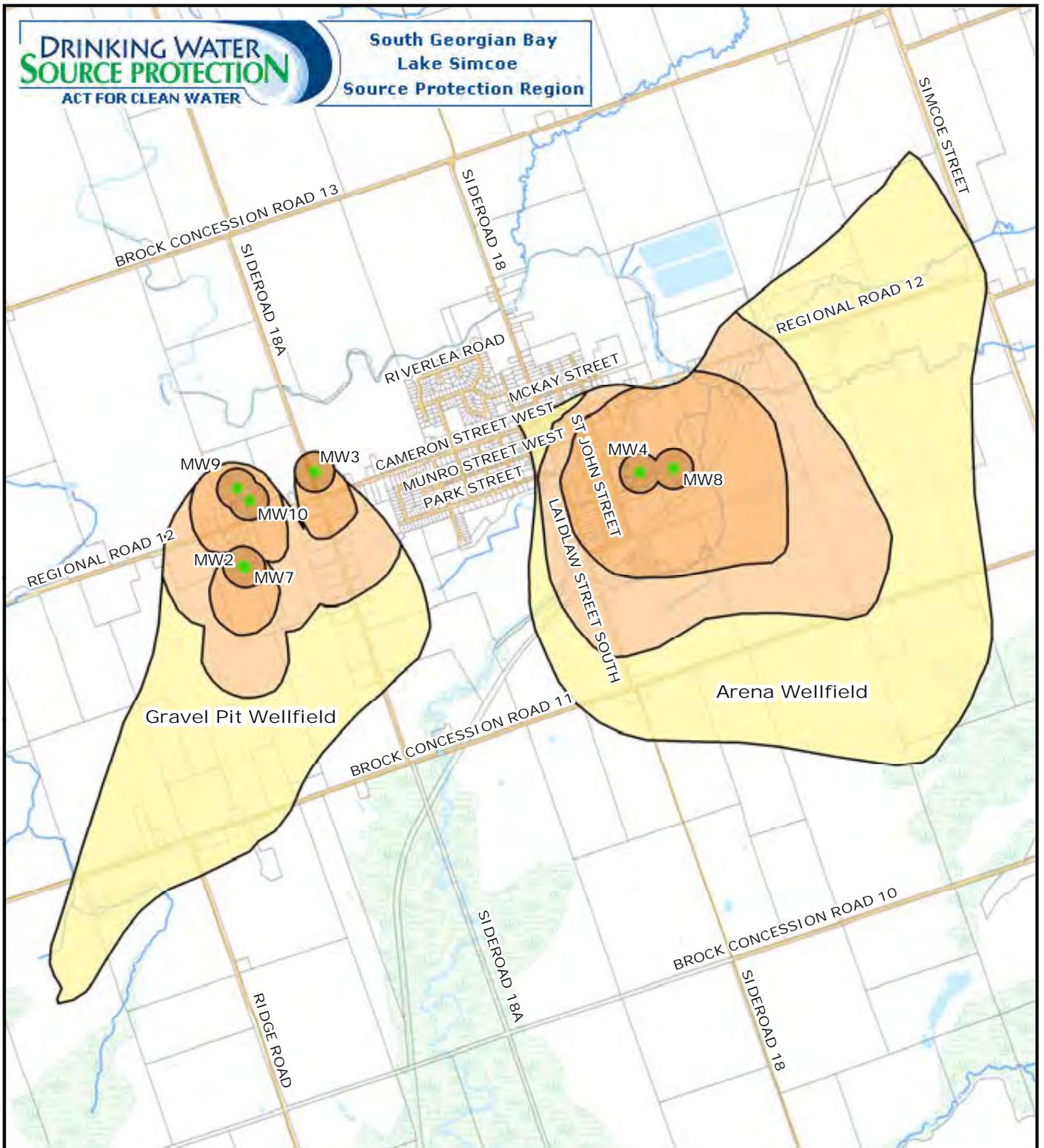
UTM Zone 17N, NAD83



This map was produced by the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, lead agency of the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Region Source Protection Region. Base data have been compiled from various sources, under data sharing agreements. While every effort has been made to accurately depict the base data, errors may exist.



Figure 6b-1



● Municipal Supply Wells in Cannington

Wellhead Protection Areas

- WHPA-A (100 radius)
- WHPA-B (2 years time of travel)
- WHPA-C (5 years time of travel)
- WHPA-D (25 years time of travel)

**Wellhead Protection Areas -
Cannington**

Created by: LSRCA, 2021-12-06

Scale 1:28,000
0 200 400 600 800 1000m
UTM Zone 17N, NAD83



This map was produced by the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, lead agency of the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Region Source Protection Region. Base data have been compiled from various sources, under data sharing agreements. While every effort has been made to accurately depict the base data, errors may exist.



Figure 6a-1