

*Advisory Council on Drinking Water Quality and Testing Standards  
Minutes from January 20, 2006 Meeting*

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<b>Members Present:</b>	Ron Brecher Rod Holme Alex Hukowich Harry Richardson John Rudnickas	Michele Giddings Peter Huck Jim Merritt Ken Roberts
<b>Ministry Liaison Staff Present:</b>	Pat Lachmaniuk, MOE	Fred Ruf, MOHLTC
<b>Council Staff Present:</b>	Scott Barrett	Iris Biggar
<b>Regrets:</b>	Robert Andrews Lesbia Smith	Marilyn Lee Robert Walton
<b>Guests:</b>	Kathleen Carter, IEPD, SPB Heather Malcolmson, DWMD, DWPMB	Jason Jessel, IEPD, SPB

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**1. Call to Order:**

The Chair opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

**Adoption of January 20, 2006 Agenda**

January 20, 2006 agenda was adopted by consensus

**Adoption of December 16, 2005 Meeting Minutes**

December 16, 2005 meeting minutes were adopted by consensus, with minor changes

**Review of Outstanding Action Items**

Council member Michele Giddings to investigate whether the general public has access to NSF certified additives, for use in private water supplies

**2. Reg 170 Review:**

The MOHLTC Liaison staff member updated the Council on the progress of the Joint (MOHLTC / MOE) Project Management Committee regarding the Small Drinking Water Systems Transformation Project, whose goal is to move the Regulation 252 systems from MOE over to MOHLTC. The Council has asked to remain engaged in this project as it progresses.

It was noted that the Council would receive drafts of the Risk Assessment Tools for its review.

**Action:**

- **Council to remain engaged in the Small Drinking Water Systems Transformation Project, in order to provide on-going advice**

The issue of the application of total coliform standards was next discussed.

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It was agreed that the current total coliform standard of zero be maintained and adhered to but that a series of corrective actions should be developed, based on the various types of unregulated systems, when the standard is exceeded.

**Action:**

- **Council Executive Assistant to coordinate the development of a series of corrective actions for unregulated systems, for use when the total coliform standard of zero is exceeded, to be used as advice for the Small Drinking Water Systems Transformation Project**

**3. Drinking Water Source Protection**

Ministry staff were on hand to present and answer questions on the proposed *Clean Water Act*.

The Council focused on the aspect of Risk Assessment and noted that, wherever the term risk is used, the Legislation, Regulations, and Guidance Modules should be in harmony with standardized and recognized industry terminology.

**Actions:**

- **Ministry staff to contact the Council Executive Assistant, as needed, for further advice on risk terminology and application from the Council**
- **Council member Ron Brecher to supply the Executive Assistant with the Environment Canada document that he helped author, regarding risk, to aid in the Council's on-going advice on the *Clean Water Act*, its regulations, and Guidance Modules**

The Council next compared its previous advice to the Minister with the proposed Act, Regulations, and Guidance Modules.

It was decided that the Council should first focus on providing its feedback on changes to the Act, and then engage in the Regulations and Guidance Modules, as they are developed.

**Actions:**

- **Council Chair and members Peter Huck, Rob Walton to suggest changes to the Act, as advice to the Minister, and Executive Assistant to arrange a meeting with key Ministry staff and Council members to discuss the legislation, if necessary**
- **Council to become engaged, on an on-going basis, in the Act's Regulations and Guidance modules as they develop**

**4. Justice O'Connor Priorities**

The Council reviewed the draft advice, which used AWWA definitions for free available chlorine, free available chlorine residual, and chlorine residual for use in the *Procedure for Disinfection of Drinking Water In Ontario*.

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It was decided that the definitions should be included in the *Procedure for Disinfection of Drinking Water In Ontario*, and linked, through a regulatory amendment, to Reg. 170.

Also, it was determined that the list of definitions should be expanded to include: total chlorine residual and combined available chlorine, in order provide additional clarity to the advice.

**Action:**

- **Executive Assistant to re-draft advice, based on draft Reg. 170 terminology and new AWWA definitions**

## **5. Standards Review**

### **Arsenic:**

Health Canada's Final Arsenic Guideline Technical Document was reviewed along with comments from the public consultation, and the Ministry's cost estimates.

The Council found that Health Canada's arsenic documentation and rationale were sound, and represent the best information that is currently available anywhere in the world.

**Action:**

- **Executive Assistant to draft an advice letter to the Minister, outlining the Council's endorsement of the Health Canada Guideline**

### **MTBE:**

It was noted that the CDW would be meeting and is expected to discuss and possibly approve the revised MTBE AO Guideline (post consultation) in early April, 2006, and that the provincial representative would need to know Ontario's position prior to the meeting

**Action:**

- **Council Executive Assistant to re-draft the MTBE advice letter to the Minister for the February 17, 2006 meeting**

## **6. Other Drinking Water Issues**

### **Reg. 903 Update:**

It was noted that the Ministry is still working on a regulatory amendment for Reg. 903.

**Action:**

- **Council to monitor and review the regulatory amendment on Reg. 903 to ensure its advice was given proper consideration**

### **Use of Untreated Surface Water as a Source of Drinking Water:**

The draft advice for the use of untreated surface water as a drinking water supply for private systems was discussed, and it was decided that the advice could be simpler, and briefer.

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**Action:**

- **Executive Assistant to re-draft advice letter to the Minister for further discussion at the February 17, 2006 meeting**

**Drinking Water Testing Services (Reg. 248):**

It was noted that the final advice letter on Reg. 248 was delivered to the Minister on January 3, 2006.

In a subsequent meeting with Ministry staff and the Council's Chair and Executive Assistant on January 17, 2006, it was determined that a further meeting between select Council members and Ministry staff would be warranted.

**Action:**

- **MOHLTC Liaison staff member to arrange a meeting with select Council members and MOHLTC / MOE staff to discuss the Council's Reg. 248 advice, and the MOE's proposed actions**

**Drinking Water Quality Management Standard**

The proposed *Drinking Water Quality Management Standard* was discussed and it was agreed that, fundamentally, there appears to be a lack of distinction amongst the various nomenclature, roles and responsibilities and their sequence for the owner, the operating authority, and the operational levels.

**Actions:**

- **Chair and Council member Rod Holme to highlight the Council's concerns for further discussion at the February 17, 2006 meeting**
- **Council member Harold Richardson to provide a synopsis of the ISO 9001 – 2000 standard to the Executive Assistant for the Council's use and formulation of advice**

**7. Administrative Items:**

The Action Plan for the Council's 2005-2006 fiscal year was discussed and minor revisions were suggested.

**Action:**

- **Executive Assistant to update and maintain the 2005-2006 Action Plan on a continuous basis to reflect priorities for Council engagement**

Upcoming conferences were also discussed. It was decided that the Council's presentation on its Reg. 170 Advice and Recommendations would best be presented by the Chair at the 12th Canadian National Conference and 3rd Policy Forum on Drinking Water.

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**Action:**

- **Executive Assistant to develop a presentation on the Council's Reg. 170 advice and recommendations for use by members at conferences**

The Walkerton Clean Water Centre's Research Advisory Committee met recently and it was reported that they will be looking to the Council in the future for ideas on areas of research.

**Next Meeting(s):**

February 17, 2006

March 17, 2006

April 21, 2006

May 12, 2006

**9. Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 3:30 p.m.