

*Advisory Council on Drinking Water Quality and Testing Standards
Minutes from May 12, 2006 Meeting*

Members Present:	Rod Holme Alex Hukowich Jim Merritt Lesbia Smith	Peter Huck (via phone) Marilyn Lee John Rudnickas Robert Walton
Ministry Liaison Staff Present:	Satish Deshpande, MOE	Fred Ruf, MOHLTC
Council Staff Present:	Scott Barrett	Iris Biggar
Regrets:	Robert Andrews Michele Giddings Harry Richardson	Ron Brecher Pat Lachmaniuk, MOE Ken Roberts

1. Call to Order:

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

Adoption of May 12, 2006 Agenda

May 12, 2006 agenda was adopted by consensus, with one addition under administrative items.

Adoption of April 21, 2006 Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2006 meeting minutes were adopted by consensus.

2. Reg. 170 Review:

The date for the Reg. 170 amendment posting is still unknown.

Action:

- *Council to remain engaged in the Reg. 170 amendment process, in order to provide on-going advice*

3. Small Drinking Water Systems Program

The MOHLTC liaison member provided the Council with an update on the progress of the program. Of particular note was the challenge faced in balancing due diligence with practicality in regards to microbiological testing for remote fly-in camps.

Actions:

- *MOHLTC liaison staff member to present to the Council the suggested approach for administering the Small Drinking Water Systems Program for remote fly-in camps, at a future meeting*
- *Council to remain engaged in the Small Drinking Water Systems Program, in order to provide on-going advice*

Also of note is that the Risk Assessment Tool pilots have been selected and will begin in the summer of 2006.

*Advisory Council on Drinking Water Quality and Testing Standards
Minutes from May 12, 2006 Meeting*

Action:

- *Council to monitor the development of the Risk Assessment Tool for the Small Drinking Water Systems Program, in order to provide on-going advice*

The **Total Coliform Corrective Action draft advice letter** was next discussed.

Action:

- *Executive Assistant and Chair to seek Minister's Office staff feedback and then finalize "Total Coliform Corrective Action advice letter" for transmittal to the Minister, prior to the June 16, 2006 meeting*

4. Drinking Water Source Protection / Clean Water Act

It was noted that the draft *Clean Water Act* went for second reading on April 12, 2006, and that it returned on May 3, 2006, for further debate.

Actions:

- *Council to remain engaged in the development of the Clean Water Act, its regulations, and its guidance documentation, in order to provide on-going advice*
- *Council Executive Assistant to obtain Clean Water Act Hansard documentation for Council consideration*

It was also noted that both the Minister of the Environment and Ontario's Chief Drinking Water Inspector made speeches that included the *Clean Water Act* at the Ontario Water Works Association 2006 Annual Conference.

Action:

- *Council Executive Assistant to obtain Minister of the Environment and Ontario's Chief Drinking Water Inspector speeches made at the Ontario Water Works Association 2006 Annual Conference*

5. Standards Review

Arsenic:

It was noted that both the Committee on Drinking Water (CDW) and the Committee on Health and the Environment (CHE) approved the revised Guideline for arsenic, and the Council transmitted its **Final Arsenic Advice Letter** to the Minister of the Environment on April 28, 2006.

MTBE, Chlorite / Chlorate:

The Council's **advice letters on MTBE and Chlorite / Chlorate** have been finalized and will be transmitted to the Minister upon confirmation that both CDW and CHE have approved the Guidelines, *with no significant changes*.

*Advisory Council on Drinking Water Quality and Testing Standards
Minutes from May 12, 2006 Meeting*

Action:

- *Executive Assistant and Chair to transmit final advice letters on MTBE and Chlorite / Chlorate to the Minister upon confirmation that both CDW and CHE have approved the Guidelines, with no significant changes*

Radiological Characteristics:

It was re-affirmed that the Council will re-visit the Document for Public Comment for a more detailed review after comments from the public consultation are known. It was also noted that the MOE possesses a comparison table of the old versus the new Radiological Characteristics Guidelines.

Actions:

- *Council to review the Radiological Characteristics Document for Public Comment, once comments from the public consultation are incorporated*
- *MOE liaison staff member to provide comparison table of old versus new Radiological Characteristics Guidelines to the Council's Executive Assistant, to assist the Council in its review*

HAAs:

The draft advice letter on HAAs was introduced for Council discussion.

Actions:

- *Executive Assistant to re-work draft advice letter on HAAs with Council's advice for further development by the working group, and transmittal to Minister's Office staff for comment, prior to the June 16, 2006 meeting*
- *Draft final advice letter to be presented for the Council's consideration of next steps at the June 16, 2006 meeting*

MCPA:

The Draft Document for Public Comment for MCPA was discussed. It was decided that, since MCPA is a pesticide, and may be part of the broader issue of the perceived and /or real health effects of pesticides in the environment, that the Council may need more information to complete its review.

Action:

- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison staff member to arrange for a formal presentation on MCPA for the June 16, 2006 Council meeting*

6. Other Drinking Water Issues

There was no update available on Ministry of the Environment progress on the proposed **Drinking Water Quality Management Standard**.

*Advisory Council on Drinking Water Quality and Testing Standards
Minutes from May 12, 2006 Meeting*

Action:

- *Council to remain engaged in the development of the MOE's Drinking Water Quality Management Standard, in order to provide on-going advice*

There was no update on the activities of the Walkerton Clean Water Centre's **Research Advisory Committee (RAC)**, as it had not met since the Council's last update.

The Council's **RAC Suggested Research Recommendations Template** was updated for Council Members' ongoing use. A suggested research topic (Positive E. coli results versus measured health consequences) arose from the discussion.

Action:

- *Council to use the RAC Suggested Research Recommendations Template in the priorities setting exercise, at the June 16, 2006 meeting, and on a on-going basis*

7. Administrative Items:

The **Council's Draft Annual Report for 2005-2006** was introduced and discussed.

Action:

- *Council members to review Draft Annual Report for further discussion at the June 16, 2006 meeting*

The **Chief Drinking Water Inspector's 2004-2005 Annual Report** was next discussed, and it was decided that a working group, comprised of Council members, would provide comments for the June 16, 2006 meeting.

Action:

- *Council Members Lesbia Smith, Robert Walton, and John Rudnickas to develop comments on the Chief Drinking Water Inspector's 2004-2005 Annual Report for presentation to the Council on June 16, 2006*

The Council was updated on the on-going plans and progress to develop a **corporate identity** for the Council's various printed and electronic media.

It was brought to the attention of the Council that both the Canadian Water and Wastewater Association and the American Water Works Association sent complaint letters to **Brita** about a television commercial that was deemed to potentially undermine the confidence of the public in municipal drinking water supplies.

The Chair next briefed the Council on the status of new **membership**. It was noted that the Council wished to acknowledge the significant contributions made by two of its outgoing members: **Marilyn Lee** and **Dr. Harold Richardson**.

*Advisory Council on Drinking Water Quality and Testing Standards
Minutes from May 12, 2006 Meeting*

Next Meeting(s):

June 16, 2006 (40 St. Clair, 3rd Floor, Training Room “B”)

July 21, 2006 (40 St. Clair, 3rd Floor, Training Room “B”)

August, 2006 – No meeting to be held

September 22, 2006 (Location to be determined)

October 20, 2006 (Location to be determined)

8. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 2:15 p.m.