

*Advisory Council on Drinking Water Quality and Testing Standards
Minutes from June 16, 2006 Meeting*

Members Present:	Robert Andrews Rod Holme Alex Hukowich Ken Roberts Lesbia Smith	Michele Giddings Peter Huck Jim Merritt John Rudnickas Robert Walton
Ministry Liaison Staff Present:	Satish Deshpande, MOE	Fred Ruf, MOHLTC
Council Staff Present:	Scott Barrett	Iris Biggar
Regrets:	Ron Brecher	Pat Lachmaniuk, MOE
Guests:	Honourable Laurel Broten, Minister of the Environment Theresa McClenaghan, MO	Zsuzsanna Rajda, MOHLTC Matt Uza, WPB

1. Call to Order:

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

Adoption of June 16, 2006 Agenda

June 16, 2006 agenda was adopted by consensus, with the additions of THMs and an update on the San Antonio AWWA conference.

Adoption of May 12, 2006 Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2006 meeting minutes were adopted by consensus, and will be posted to the public area of the Council's website.

2. Reg. 170 Review:

The Council was informed that the amendments to Reg. 170 were finalized and posted on the Environmental Registry on June 7, 2006.

Matt Uza from the Ministry of the Environment's Water Policy Branch presented and explained the amendments to the Regulation, which involved changes in testing requirements, corrective actions, operational requirements, and consequential changes to Reg. 169, Reg. 248, Reg. 252, the Procedure for Disinfection of Drinking Water in Ontario, the Technical Support Document for Ontario Drinking Water Standards, Objectives and Guidelines, and the Procedure For Corrective Action for Systems Not Currently Using Chlorine.

Action(s):

- *Council to discuss the amendments in detail, including the revised Procedure for Disinfection of Drinking Water in Ontario, at the July 21, 2006 meeting*
- *Council Executive Assistant to provide a link from the Council's website to the various Reg. 170 education and outreach tools on the Ministry of the Environment's website*

*Advisory Council on Drinking Water Quality and Testing Standards
Minutes from June 16, 2006 Meeting*

It was noted that the **Total Coliform Corrective Actions final advice letter** was transmitted to the Minister of the Environment on June 1, 2006.

3. Small Drinking Water Systems Program

Zsuzsanna Rajda from the MOHLTC provided the Council with an update on the progress of the program, including a demonstration of the computerized Risk Assessment tool, which continues to be piloted through the summer of 2006. Council member Alex Hukowich volunteered to witness one of the actual risk assessment evaluations

Action(s):

- *Council to remain engaged in the Small Drinking Water Systems Program, including the Risk Assessment tool, in order to provide on-going advice*

- *Council to receive an update on the Risk Assessment Tool at the October 20, 2006 meeting*

4. Drinking Water Source Protection / Clean Water Act

It was noted that the draft *Clean Water Act* passed second reading on May 18, 2006, and will be sent to the Committee on Social Policy for further review later this year.

Action(s):

- *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*

5. Priorities

The Council discussed its priorities for the 2006-2007 fiscal year, which included the following categories:

- drinking water standards;
- previously engaged matters
- areas of interest
- outstanding part 2 Walkerton recommendations
- research suggestions and recommendations
- pending Ministry of the Environment activities

The following list of potential priorities was suggested and discussed:

- **Drinking Water Standards:**
 - Review of Pesticides currently in Reg. 169
 - Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products (PPCPs)
 - Ethylene Glycol
 - Approach to deal with groups of substances
 - Use of surrogates

*Advisory Council on Drinking Water Quality and Testing Standards
Minutes from June 16, 2006 Meeting*

- **Previously Engaged Matters:**
 - Reg. 170
 - Procedure for Disinfection of Drinking Water in Ontario
 - Reg. 903
 - Reg. 248
 - Clean Water Act
 - Act
 - Committee on Social Policy, 3rd Reading
 - Regulations
 - Guidance Manual
 - Drinking Water Quality Management Standard
 - Small Drinking Water System Program
 - Risk Assessment Tool
 - New Reg. under the HPPA

- **Areas of Interest:**
 - Public confidence in drinking water systems (Brita)
 - Security and vulnerability of drinking water systems
 - Drinking water additives and standards for materials
 - Non-chlorine drinking water systems
 - Climate change
 - Small systems treatment technologies (Recommendation # 17 in Council's Reg. 170 Report): *"The Council recommends that the Ministry of the Environment work with the water treatment equipment industry to develop a system to pre-approve or certify treatment equipment. Such pre-approved systems will assist the "Public Water Health Inspector" to identify appropriate treatment options and should reduce costs to owners."*

Action(s):

- *Council to decide which "Areas of Interest" to pursue, and then determine a strategy for addressing selected items*

- **Outstanding Part 2 Walkerton Recommendations:**
 - Recommendations that may warrant the Council's further attention

Action(s):

- *Council to discuss "Outstanding Part 2 Walkerton Recommendations" at a future meeting*

- **Research Recommendations:**
 - Recommendations on specific areas on interest

*Advisory Council on Drinking Water Quality and Testing Standards
Minutes from June 16, 2006 Meeting*

Action(s):

- *Council to discuss and capture “Research Recommendations” on an on-going basis, using the form, and roll up recommendations on a quarterly basis for transmittal to the Minister of the Environment*

- **Pending Ministry of the Environment Activities:**
 - Nutrient Management Act (NMA) vs. SDWA well set-back discrepancies
 - Sustainable Water and Sewage Systems Act (SWSSA):
 - *Watertight* Report ramifications to the MOE
 - Cross-Connection with other legislation and regulations

Action(s):

- *Council’s Chair to confirm with Minister’s Office staff if there are matters that the Minister may want the Council to address in this fiscal year*

- *Council Executive Assistant and Chair to prepare a brief description of each priority item for discussion and consideration at a future meeting*

6. Standards Review

Standards Review Protocol:

The Council’s Executive Assistant presented an updated **Standards Review Protocol** which will make it easier to determine the status of a standard’s progress through the national and provincial process.

MTBE, Chlorite / Chlorate:

The Council’s **advice letters on MTBE and Chlorite / Chlorate** have been finalized and will be transmitted to the Minister of the Environment upon confirmation that both the Committee on Drinking Water (CDW) and the Committee on Health and the Environment (CHE) have approved the Guidelines, *with no significant changes*.

Action(s):

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

Radiological Characteristics:

The Council will review, in detail, the Document for Public Comment for **Radiological Characteristics of Drinking Water** during the public consultation process. It was also noted that the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) possesses a comparison table of the old versus the new Radiological Characteristics Guidelines.

Action(s):

- *Council to review the Radiological Characteristics Document for Public Comment, during public consultation*

*Advisory Council on Drinking Water Quality and Testing Standards
Minutes from June 16, 2006 Meeting*

- *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*

HAAAs:

An updated **draft advice letter on HAAAs** was introduced for Council discussion.

Action(s):

- *Executive Assistant and Chair to finalize draft advice letter on HAAAs and transmit to Minister's Office staff*

THMs:

The comments received as a result of the more stringent **THMs** Environmental Registry posting period were discussed, including the issue of a phase-in period.

MCPA:

The Council decided that it may need more information to complete its review of **MCPA**, and, as such, requested a formal presentation on this substance.

Action(s):

- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison staff member to arrange for a formal presentation on MCPA for the September 22, 2006 Council meeting*

Potassium, Chloral Hydrate, Corrosion Control:

The Council determined that it would review, in detail, the Documents for Public Comment for **Potassium, Chloral Hydrate, and Corrosion Control** after comments from the public consultation are incorporated.

Action(s):

- *Council to review, in Detail, the Documents for Public Comment for Potassium, Chloral Hydrate, and Corrosion Control after comments from the public consultation are incorporated*

Pending Reviews: Chlorine, Benzene:

The **Documents for Peer Review for Chlorine and Benzene** were introduced to the Council and discussed at a preliminary stage. It was indicated that these documents will be revised (to incorporate peer review comments) prior to the public consultation phase.

Action(s):

- *Council to re-visit both the chlorine and benzene documents at a future Council meeting to determine the next steps to be taken*

It was also noted that the next group of Guidelines to be reviewed and updated would include: **Tetrachloroethylene, Barium, and Fluoride**.

*Advisory Council on Drinking Water Quality and Testing Standards
Minutes from June 16, 2006 Meeting*

7. Other Drinking Water Issues

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

Action(s):

- *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 **Chief Drinking Water Inspector's 2004-2005 Annual Report** was re-discussed, and it was decided that the Council should discuss it in more detail, at a future meeting.

Action(s):

- *Council Members Lesbia Smith, Robert Walton, and John Rudnickas to develop comments on the Chief Drinking Water Inspector's 2004-2005 Annual Report for discussion at the September 22, 2006 Council Meeting*

8. Administrative Items:

The Honourable Laurel C. Broten was on hand to address the Council. She expressed her thanks and stressed the importance of the Council in providing solution-based advice to drinking-water-related matters.

She also noted that the Council's priority-setting exercise could be meshed with provincial priorities.

The **Council's Draft Annual Report for 2005-2006** was discussed. It was noted that it is due to the Minister by July 31, 2006.

Action(s):

- *Council Chair and Executive Assistant to re-draft the Annual Report for members' review and discussion at the July 21, 2006 meeting*

The Council was updated on the progress in developing a **corporate identity** for the Council's various printed and electronic media.

Action(s):

- *Council Executive Assistant to post corporate identity design series on the Council's website for members' comments*

Council members who attended the AWWA's June, 2006 conference in San Antonio, Texas provided brief comments on the proceedings.

*Advisory Council on Drinking Water Quality and Testing Standards
Minutes from June 16, 2006 Meeting*

The Council was next briefed on the status of new members. Two new members are slated to join the Council, pending Public Appointments Secretariat approval. Updated reference binders have been produced to aid in the orientation process of the new members.

Action(s):

- *Council Executive Assistant to post a virtual reference binder on the Council's website for members' on-going use*

- *Council Executive Assistant to maintain a hard copy of the updated reference binder to be used at future Council meetings.*

Next Meeting(s):

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)
November 17, 2006 (Location to be determined)

9. Adjourn

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