

<b>Members Present:</b>	Robert Andrews Rod Holme Alex Hukowich Jim Merritt John Rudnickas Robert Walton	Michèle Giddings Peter Huck Robert Lannigan Ken Roberts Lesbia Smith
<b>Ministry Liaison Staff Present:</b>	Pat Lachmaniuk, MOE	
<b>Council Staff Present:</b>	Scott Barrett, ODWAC	Iris Biggar, ODWAC
<b>Regrets:</b>	Ron Brecher Derrick Kamanga	Mary Jane Conboy Fred Ruf, MOHLTC
<b>Guest(s):</b>	Zsuzsanna Rajda, MOHLTC	Angela Belo, MOHLTC

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**1. Call to Order:**

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

**Adoption of November 17, 2006 Agenda**

November 17, 2006 agenda was adopted by consensus, with one additional change: a brief discussion of the current drinking water problems in Vancouver.

**Adoption of October 20, 2006 Meeting Minutes**

October 20, 2006 meeting minutes were adopted by consensus, with no changes, and will be posted to the public area of the Council's website.

The Chair briefed the Council on recent meetings with the Minister's Office staff, in which several matters were discussed, including the MOE's progress on implementing the Walkerton Part 2 recommendations, and the Minister's report on drinking water.

**Action(s):**

- *Executive Assistant to circulate revised Walkerton Part 2 Recommendations progress table to Council Members*

The Chair also briefed the Council on some upcoming events, including:

- CWN Connecting water Resources 2006 Conference, November 20-23, 2006, in Montreal
- NSERC Chair Information Day, December 7, 2006, in Waterloo
- Latornell Conservation Symposium, November 15-17, 2006, in Alliston

## **2. Reg. 170 Review:**

The Chair noted that the MOE's progress on implementing the 22 recommendations made in the Council's February 8, 2005 report to the Minister of the Environment entitled "Report and Advice on Ontario Regulation 170/03 Smaller, Private Systems Review and Recommendations" will be discussed with Minister's Office staff.

### *Action(s):*

- *Chair to follow-up with Minister's Office staff on the progress of the Council's recommendations on Reg. 170*

## **Reg. 248:**

Next discussed was Regulation 248 in relation to the MOE's progress on implementing Walkerton Part 2 Recommendation 40, and the Council's advice in its Reg. 170 and Reg. 248 reviews.

It was generally agreed that data obtained outside of regulatory requirements should be considered as "fit for purpose" so as not to discourage its use. As well, it was noted that alternative testing methods are not actively being promoted.

It was decided that the Reg. 248 Working Group would discuss a strategy for the next steps including:

- Meeting with the MOE's Laboratory Services Branch and MOHLTC staff
- The possibility of writing back to the Minister requesting a formal response to the Council's areas of concern

### *Action(s):*

- *Reg. 248 Working Group to meet to discuss a strategy for next steps*

## **3. Small Drinking Water Systems Program**

MOHLTC staff presented the latest version of the Risk Assessment Tool, now called the Small Drinking Water Inspection System (SDWIS) to the Council, and the members offered numerous suggestions for improving the model.

It was also noted that the MOHLTC is still developing the Legislative and Regulatory changes the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*, as well as the ensuing protocols.

### *Action(s):*

- *Council to remain engaged in the Small Drinking Water Inspection System, Legislative and Regulatory changes, and the development of new protocols, in order to provide on-going advice to the MOE and the MOHLTC*

## **4. Clean Water Act**

It was noted the *Clean Water Act* was assented to on October 19, 2006, and that the Council will hear a presentation from MOE staff at the December 15, 2006 meeting.

It was decided that the *Clean Water Act* Working Group would then convene in early 2007, in order to identify topics and issues to be considered when reviewing the upcoming draft regulations (17) and guidance documentation under development, to assess how the Act will be implemented.

It was also noted that the *Clean Water Act* Working Group should review the *Clean Water Act* in relation to the *Nutrient Management Act*.

*Action(s):*

- *Working Group to convene in early 2007 to determine next steps regarding determination of potential areas of concern for review of draft regulations and guidance documentation*

**5. Priorities**

Banned Pesticides in Reg. 169:

The Council discussed the possibility of removing **pesticides**, which do not have a corresponding Guideline for Canadian Drinking Water Quality, from **Reg. 169**.

The Council agreed to leave these pesticides in Reg. 169 on the basis of following the precautionary approach, and the potential for negative ramifications of removing standards in general.

Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products (PPCPs):

The Council discussed the potential next steps for PPCPs.

It was noted that there is a proposed March 5-7, 2007 National Workshop on **Pharmaceutical and Personal Care Products** in the Environment, although there is a lack of emphasis on drinking water and associated treatment technologies.

*Action(s):*

- *Council to discuss next steps on PPCPs after the proposed March 5-7, 2007 National Workshop on Pharmaceutical and Personal Care Products in the Environment*

Approaches for Groups of Substances: Use of Surrogates and Indicators:

Council Member Robert Andrews made a presentation to the Council entitled “**Surrogate Water Quality Measurements for Use in the Disinfection of Drinking water**”.

*Action(s):*

- *Executive Assistant to combine and update the Project Working Documents for “Approaches for Dealing with Groups of Substances” and the “Use of Surrogates and Indicators”, for discussion at the December 15, 2006 Council Meeting*

## **6. Standards Review**

As a result of the MOE's plans to hold their public consultation (via EBR) after Health Canada finalizes a Guideline for Canadian Drinking Water Quality, a revised Standards Review Protocol was presented and discussed.

### *Action(s):*

- *Executive Assistant to update the Council's "Review of Standards Protocol" to include detailed information for each step in the process*

Next discussed was a summary of the Council's currently engaged Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality (GCDWQ). Specific details as discussed are below:

### **Chlorite / Chlorate:**

The revised **Chlorite / Chlorate Draft Final Guideline Technical Document** was not available at the time of this Council meeting so it was decided that the Council would review the amended document at the December 15, 2006 meeting.

### *Action(s):*

- *Executive Assistant to obtain and circulate the revised Chlorite / Chlorate Document to the Council members for discussion at the December 15, 2006 meeting*
- *MOE Liaison staff member to arrange for a presentation on the revised Chlorite / Chlorate Document for the December 15, 2006 meeting*

### **MCPA:**

It was noted that MCPA was posted on Health Canada's website for public consultation on November 17, 2006. The comment period will end January 19, 2007. Council Members were supplied with the consultation copy of the document.

### *Action(s):*

- *Council to discuss the MCPA Document for Public Comment at a future meeting, after national consultation comments are made available*

### **Radiological Characteristics / HAAs:**

It was noted that the **Radiological Characteristics** and **HAAs** national public consultations are both finished, and that comments will be made available to the Council when available. Ontario will hold its public consultations after final GCDWQ are announced.

### *Action(s):*

- *MOE Liaison staff member to supply the Council with the national public comments for Radiological Characteristics and HAAs for a future meeting*
- *Council to discuss the Radiological Characteristics and HAAs Documents at future meetings*

**Potassium, Chloral Hydrate, Corrosion Control, MCPA:**

The **Documents for Public Comment for Potassium, Chloral Hydrate, and Corrosion Control** will be made available to the Council after the peer review comments are incorporated and the documents are posted for national consultation.

**Pending Reviews:**

The revised **Draft Documents for Public Comment for Benzene, and Chlorine** will soon be made available to the Council.

**Tritium:**

The Chair noted that the Medical Officer of Health for Toronto wrote the Minister of the Environment on September 27, 2006 asking for a review of the **Tritium** Standard (and other Radionuclide Standards) to ensure that they are protective of human health. The letter was written as a result of Ontario's new energy strategy that presumably intends to make more use of nuclear energy.

The Minister may forward this request officially to the Council, but nothing has been received as of yet.

As a result of the discussion, the Council's Health Canada representative will raise the issue of reviewing **Tritium** at an upcoming national planning meeting.

***Action(s):***

***Council to remain engaged in the issue of a Tritium review in order to provide advice to the Minister of the Environment***

**Reg. 169:**

It was noted that the regulatory amendment to **Reg. 169** that is currently underway will update the following standards: Arsenic (10 µg/L), THMs (80 µg/L), and BDCM (16 µg/L).

**7. Other Drinking Water Issues**

**DWQMS:**

The **Drinking Water Quality Management Standard** was posted as a Decision (final) on the Environmental Registry on October 30, 2006. Along with Decision, 4 other Proposals were posted, pertaining to the Municipal Drinking Water Licence Program:

- Drinking Water Quality Management Standard Guidance Document
- Director's Direction for Operational Plan Submission
- Prescribed Dates Regulation for the Municipal Drinking Water Licence Program
- Accreditation Protocol for Operating Authorities

*Action(s):*

- *DWQMS Working Group to review the October 30, 2006 postings for discussion at the December 15, 2006 Council Meeting*
- *Council to discuss next steps with regard to the October 30, 2006 DWQMS postings at the December 15, 2006 meeting*

**Reg. 903:**

The Chair briefed the Council on the status of the MOE's progress in amending Reg. 903. It was noted that a *Notice of Proposal for Regulation* may be posted on the Environmental Registry later this year. The Council may receive an advance copy of the draft Regulation for its review.

*Action(s):*

- *Council to discuss Reg. 903 amendments at a future meeting*

**Vancouver Drinking Water Problems:**

The Council briefly discussed the events that forced Boil Water Advisories in the Greater Vancouver area:

- Drinking water source reservoirs were subject to mudslides as result of heavy rain
- Unfiltered drinking water systems used (New plant with filtration is under construction, due to be operational in 2009)
- Turbidity levels were as high as 100 NTU
- Positive *E. coli* results were found in Nanaimo, but not in the GRVD area nor has there been any report of disease

**CCME Canada-wide Strategy for Managing Municipal Wastewater consultation:**

Council Member Michèle Giddings noted that consultation materials for the draft CCME Canada-wide Strategy for Managing Municipal Wastewater are now available for comment until March 1, 2007, at:

[http://www.ccme.ca/ourwork/water.html?category\\_id=81](http://www.ccme.ca/ourwork/water.html?category_id=81)

**8. Administrative Items:**

The Chair briefed the Council on a proposed protocol for the public release of the Council's advice, which was presented to the Minister's Office staff. The 6-step protocol is as follows:

1. ODWAC sends advice letter to Minister; 90 day clock starts.
2. ODWAC contacts both Minister's Office and responsible Division, after 90 days, asking if there are any concerns with posting advice letter on ODWAC website.

3. ODWAC will need to hear from both Minister's Office and responsible Division, before posting.
4. If both Minister's Office and responsible Division have no concerns, advice letter will be posted on ODWAC website.
5. If either Minister's Office or responsible Division have concerns, then advice letter will not be posted until concerns are addressed, provided that active resolution to the concerns is being sought.
6. Minister's Office and / or responsible Division to provide alternate posting date in the case of delay.

The Council also learned that its 2005-2006 Annual Report will likely be released to the public before the end on November, 2006. The report will be posted on the Council's website in conjunction with a News Release from the Minister.

The Chair also noted that the 3 Members whose terms expire next year have all agreed to return for a renewal term on the Council.

**Next Meeting(s):**

- December 15, 2006 (40 St. Clair Ave West, 10th Floor, Boardroom 1040)
- January 19, 2007 (Location to be determined)
- February 16, 2007 (Location to be determined)
- March 23, 2007 (Location to be determined)
- April 20, 2007 (Location to be determined)

**9. Adjourn**

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