

## Ontario Drinking Water Advisory Council: Minutes from April 20, 2007 Meeting

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<b>Members Present:</b>	Robert Andrews Michèle Giddings Peter Huck Jim Merritt John Rudnickas	Mary Jane Conboy Rod Holme Alex Hukowich Ken Roberts Robert Walton
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<b>Ministry Liaison Staff Present:</b>	Pat Lachmaniuk, MOE
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<b>Council Staff Present:</b>	Scott Barrett, ODWAC	Iris Biggar, ODWAC
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<b>Regrets:</b>	Ron Brecher Robert Lannigan MOHLTC Staff Liaison	Derrick Kamanga Lesbia Smith
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<b>Guests:</b>	Stephanie McFadyen, Health Canada	Mary Lou Mendro, Probe Research
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### 1. Call to Order:

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

#### **Adoption of April 20, 2007 Agenda:**

**April 20, 2007 agenda** was adopted by consensus, with no changes.

#### **Adoption of March 23, 2007 Meeting Minutes:**

**March 23, 2007 meeting minutes** were adopted by consensus and will be posted to the public area of the Council's website at [www.odwac.gov.on.ca](http://www.odwac.gov.on.ca).

### 2. Priorities:

#### **Use of Surrogates:**

The Council heard a presentation on **Health Canada's Quantitative Microbiological Risk Assessment**, which will be tabled for consideration at the next Committee on Drinking Water (CDW) meeting in May, 2007.

As well, draft Terms of Reference for a study on the **use of surrogates** on was presented to the Council by member Ken Roberts, in order to facilitate discussion of next steps.

#### *Action(s):*

- *Council's Surrogates Working Group to meet to discuss and further develop proposed Terms of Reference presented by Council member Ken Roberts*

#### **Dual Water Systems:**

The Council heard a presentation on **Health Canada's proposed Household Reclaimed Water Guidelines**, which will be posted for public comment in the summer of 2007.

*Action(s):*

- *Council to remain engaged in dual water systems and Health Canada's initiatives on reclaimed water, in order to provide ongoing advice to the Minister of the Environment on these matters, as deemed necessary*

**Public Confidence in Municipal Drinking Water:**

The Council heard a presentation from Probe Research on the "*Third National Syndicated Study of Canadians and Their Drinking Water*".

*Action(s):*

- *Council to remain engaged in the issue of public confidence in municipal drinking water, in order in order to provide ongoing advice to the Minister of the Environment as deemed necessary*
- *Council Executive Assistant to obtain from the Ministry of the Environment, the full "Third National Syndicated Study of Canadians and Their Drinking Water" report, prepared by Probe Research*

**Alternative Approaches to Disinfection:**

The Council was updated on the progress of setting up the **Alternative Approaches to Disinfection workshop** by the Council Chair and member Peter Huck.

It was noted that the Working Group is scheduled to meet on April 26, 2007 to further develop and solidify the arrangements for the workshop.

*Action(s):*

- *Working Group to meet to further develop and solidify arrangements for a workshop on alternative approaches to disinfection*

**3. Reg. 170 Review:**

The Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff member updated the Council on the **progress of amendments to Reg. 169** on arsenic and THMs.

The Ministry intends to post Arsenic on the Environmental Registry as a Proposal in the fall of 2007, after an education and outreach program, targeted at the rural community, is undertaken, in conjunction with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

The Ministry also intends to post THMs on the Environmental Registry as a Decision at that time.

*Action(s):*

- *Council to remain engaged in Reg. 170 and its associated amendments, in order to provide ongoing advice to the Minister of the Environment*

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

The “**Health Systems Improvement Act**” (Bill 171), which includes the Small Drinking Water Systems Program (Schedule D) passed second reading and is scheduled to go before the “Standing Committee on Social Policy”, starting April 23, 2007, before being tabled for third reading.

It was also noted that the Chair of the Council has been invited to attend a May 1, 2007 **small systems workshop**, which is being held by the Committee on Drinking Water.

Council member Mary Jane Conboy reported that she has been tasked with developing the curriculum for the Sir Sanford Fleming Public Health Inspector course on the Reg. 252 systems.

The suggestion was made that the Council’s upcoming advice letter to the Minister of the Environment on the “certification” small systems treatment equipment also include a recommendation that the Ministry of the Environment facilitate the transfer of Reg. 252 systems to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care as soon as possible, so as not lose momentum.

It was noted that a new Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) Liaison Staff member did not attend nor had been appointed as of the date of this Council meeting.

*Action(s):*

- *Council’s upcoming advice letter to the Minister of the Environment on the “certification” small systems treatment equipment to also include a recommendation that the Ministry of the Environment facilitate the transfer of Reg. 252 systems to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care as soon as possible*
- *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*

#### **5. Standards Review**

The Council reviewed its **Standards Review Protocol** against the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality that the Council is currently engaged in, and noted the following:

The Council will become engaged in its standards review at both Stage 2 and Stage 4.

**Chlorite and Chlorate (Stage 4a):**

A draft final **Chlorite and Chlorate Advice Letter** was tabled to the Council.

*Action(s):*

- *Executive Assistant and Chair to finalize and transmit the Chlorite and Chlorate advice letter to the Minister of the Environment*

**Radiological Characteristics / HAAs / MCPA / Chloral Hydrate (Stage 4a):**  
The **Radiological Characteristics, HAAs, MCPA, and Chloral Hydrate Draft Final Guidelines** will be made available to the Council before the next meeting.

*Action(s):*

- *Council to review the MCPA and Chloral Hydrate Draft Final Guidelines at the May 25, 2007 meeting*
- *MOE Liaison Staff Member to arrange for presentations on the MCPA and Chloral Hydrate Draft Final Guidelines for the May 25, 2007 meeting*
- *Council to review the Radiological Characteristics and HAAs Draft Final Guidelines at a future meeting*
- *MOE Liaison Staff Member to arrange for presentations on the Radiological Characteristics and HAAs Draft Final Guidelines at a future meeting*

**Potassium (Stage 3):**

**Potassium** is still under Health Canada public consultation until May 31, 2007.

*Action(s):*

- *Council to review the Potassium Draft Final Guideline at a future meeting*

**Corrosion Control (Stage 2b):**

The **Document for Public Comment for Corrosion Control** was posted on Health Canada's website for public consultation on April 20, 2007.

*Action(s):*

- *Council to review the Document for Public Comment for Corrosion Control at the May 25, 2007 meeting*
- *MOE Liaison Staff Member to arrange for a presentation on the Corrosion Control Document for Public Comment for the 25, 2007 meeting*

**Tritium:**

The Council was presented with the draft final response letter on the projected timing for the **review of the Tritium Standard**, which has also been shared with the Minister's Office staff.

*Action(s):*

- *Executive Assistant and Chair to finalize and transmit the Tritium timing response letter to the Minister of the Environment*

It was noted that the Tritium Working Group is scheduled to meet with Toronto Public Health, the Toronto Cancer Prevention Coalition, and the Ministry of Labour's Radiation Protection Service on April 25, 2007.

**6. Other Drinking Water Issues**

**Chief Drinking Water Inspector's 2005-2006 Annual Report:**

The Chair presented highlights and comments on the **Chief Drinking Water Inspector's 2005-2006 Annual Report**.

**Regulation 903 (Wells):**

An analysis of the proposed regulatory amendments to **Reg. 903** versus the Council's recommendations of June 16, 2005, was presented and discussed, including the appropriateness of who should be responsible for undertaking microbiological sampling.

As well, it was noted that there may be several other parameters that would be in the best interests of the well owners to test for.

*Action(s):*

- *Council to consider its next steps for advice to the Minister of the Environment on microbiological verification and other non-aesthetic parameters at the May 25, 2007 meeting*
- *Council members Mary Jane Conboy and Robert Walton to collaborate on a protocol for bacteriological and possibly other parameters for well testing for presentation at the May 25, 2007 meeting*

**First Nations Drinking Water Quality Recommendations:**

A draft advice letter for the Minister of the Environment on **First Nations Drinking Water Quality Recommendations** was tabled and introduced.

*Action(s):*

- *Council to discuss draft advice letter with recommendations for First Nations drinking water in Ontario, at the May 25, 2007 meeting*

**7. Administrative Items:**

**Clean Water Act Regulations:**

The Council discussed the Ministry of the Environment's **proposed regulations under the Clean Water Act**, which were posted on the Environmental Registry on April 12, 2007.

*Action(s):*

- *Council to remain engaged in the development of the Clean Water Act Regulations and Guidance Documentation, in order to provide on-going advice to the Minister of the Environment*

**Safeguarding and Sustaining Ontario's Water Act (SSOWA):**

The Council discussed the Ministry of the Environment's **proposed new Act** called the **Safeguarding and Sustaining Ontario's Water Act (SSOWA)**, which was posted on the Environmental Registry on April 3, 2007.

**Action(s):**

- *Council to remain engaged in the development of the Safeguarding and Sustaining Ontario's Water Act Clean Water Act, in order to provide on-going advice to the Minister of the Environment*
- *Executive Assistant to arrange for a presentation on the Safeguarding and Sustaining Ontario's Water Act Clean Water Act, for a future Council meeting*

**Next Meeting(s):**

- May 25, 2007 (40 St. Clair Ave. W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Training Room "B")
- June 22, 2007 (Location to be determined)
- July 20, 2007 (Location to be determined)
- *No meeting scheduled for August, 2007*
- September 21, 2007 (location to be determined)
- October 19, 2007 (location to be determined)
- November 16, 2007 (location to be determined)
- December 14, 2007 (location to be determined)

**7. Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 3:15 p.m.