

Ontario Drinking Water Advisory Council: Minutes from October 19, 2007 Meeting

Members Present:	Mary Jane Conboy Peter Huck Derrick Kamanga Jim Merritt John Rudnickas	Michèle Giddings Alex Hukowich Robert Lannigan Ken Roberts Robert Walton
-------------------------	--	--

Ministry Liaison Staff Present:	Pat Lachmaniuk, MOE
--	---------------------

Council Staff Present:	Scott Barrett, ODWAC	Iris Biggar, ODWAC
-------------------------------	----------------------	--------------------

Regrets:	Tony Amalfa, MOHLTC Ron Brecher Lesbia Smith	Robert Andrews Rod Holme
-----------------	--	-----------------------------

1. Call to Order:

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

Adoption of October 19, 2007 Agenda:

October 19, 2007 agenda was adopted by consensus.

Adoption of September 21, 2007 Meeting Minutes:

September 21, 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.

2. MOE Update:

The Council received update presentations from Ministry of the Environment staff on **Regulation 903 (Wells)** and **Regulation 453 (Financial Plans)**, and the associated guidance documentation.

Action(s):

- *Council to remain engaged in the Ministry of the Environment's Legislative, Regulatory, and Policy developments and amendments, in order to provide ongoing advice to the Minister of the Environment*

3. MOHLTC Update:

In absentia, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Liaison Staff Member provided the Council and a written update on the progress of the **Small Drinking Water Systems Program**, which will facilitate the transfer of Reg. 252 systems from the Ministry of the Environment to Public Health oversight.

Action(s):

- *Council to remain engaged in the Small Drinking Water Systems Program, Legislative and Regulatory changes, and Policy developments, in order to provide on-going advice to the MOE and the MOHLTC*

4. Standards Review:

Committee on Drinking Water (CDW):

The **Committee on Drinking Water** Meeting was held in Ottawa from October 17 to 19, 2007. As a result, updated versions of most of the standards currently under review by the Council will be available for the next Council Meeting on November 16, 2007.

Action(s):

- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff Member to provide updated versions of all Documents from the October, 2007 CDW meeting to the Council's Executive Assistant*

Corrosion Control:

The Council reviewed the CDW presentation on **Corrosion Control**, which provided an overview of the proposed changes, including reformatting from a Guideline Technical Document to a **Guidance Document**. (*Council Standards Review Stage 4a*)

Action(s):

- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff Member to provide national and Ontario consultation comments on the "Corrosion Control in Drinking Water Distribution Systems" Document for Public Comment to Council Executive Assistant*
- *Council Executive Assistant to provide copies of the three articles on lead from the fall, 2007 "Ontario Pipeline" magazine to all Council members*
- *Corrosion Control Working Group to meet to discuss potential further advice for presentation to the full Council at the November 16, 2007 Meeting*

Tritium:

The **Tritium** Working Group met with Greenpeace and Dr. Ian Fairlie, on October 12, 2007, in order to discuss their report and concerns with tritium.

It was noted that there will be a CNSC report released at approximately the same time as the Tritium report coming out of the United Kingdom. Both are slated for release before the end of the year.

The Council discussed the idea of holding a one-day public forum in order to ensure that all interested parties can voice their opinions.

Action(s):

- *Tritium Working Group to meet to discuss next steps for presentation the full Council on November 16, 2007*
- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff Member to arrange for an Alpha / Beta Screening Protocols presentation from the Ministry of Labour, or the Ministry of the Environment, for the December 14, 2007 Meeting*

HAAAs:

The **HAAAs in Drinking Water Document** was approved by CDW. (*Council Standards Review Stage 5*)

Action(s):

- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff Member to arrange for a presentation on the HAAAs in Drinking Water Document for the November 16, 2007 Meeting*
- *Council to review the HAAAs in Drinking Water Document at the November 16, 2007 Meeting*

Radiological Characteristics:

The **Radiological Characteristics of Drinking Water Document** was discussed by CDW (*Council Standards Review Stage 4a*). **Radon** was added to the Document.

The Ministry of the Environment is continuing to develop an **Alpha / Beta Screening Protocol**.

Action(s):

- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff Member to arrange for a presentation on the Radiological Characteristics of Drinking Water Document for the December 14, 2007 Meeting*
- *Council to review the Radiological Characteristics of Drinking Water Document at the December 14, 2007 Meeting*

Benzene:

The **Benzene in Drinking Water Document** was approved by CDW. (*Council Standards Review Stage 5*)

Action(s):

- *Council to review the Benzene in Drinking Water Document at the December 14, 2007 Meeting*
- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff Member to arrange for a presentation on Benzene in Drinking Water Document for the December 14, 2007 Meeting*

Chloral Hydrate, Potassium:

The **Chloral Hydrate and Potassium in Drinking Water Documents** were reformatted as **Guidance Documents**, and approved by CDW. The Potassium Document is now called “**Guidance on Potassium from Water Softeners**” (*Council Standards Review Stage 5*)

Action(s):

- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff Member to arrange for presentations on Chloral Hydrate and Potassium Documents for future Meetings*
- *Council to review Chloral Hydrate and Potassium in Drinking Water Documents at future Meetings*

Chlorine:

The **Chlorine in Drinking Water Document** for Public Comment was posted on Health Canada’s website on October 17, 2007 for a 2-month public consultation period. (*Council Standards Review Stage 2a*)

Action(s):

- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff Member to arrange for a presentation on the Chlorine in Drinking Water Document for the November 16, 2007 Meeting*
- *Council to review the Chlorine in Drinking Water Document at the November 16, 2007 Meeting*

MCPA:

The **MCPA in Drinking Water Document** will be re-consulted on using a new Maximum Acceptable Concentration (MAC). (*Council Standards Review Stage 2a*)

Action(s):

- *Council to review new MCPA in Drinking Water Document at a future Meeting*

It was reported that the next group of Guidelines and / or Guidance Documents to be updated and / or developed include: **Viruses and Protozoa** (*using Quantitative Microbiological Risk Assessment*), **Fluoride, NDMA, Boil Water Advisories, and Drinking Water Avoidance Advisories in Emergency Situations.**

5. Other Drinking Water Issues:

Private Well Management:

The Council held an open discussion on **approaches for private well management**.

This issue may also be linked to some or all of the following:

- The Clean Water Act (Source Protection Plans)
- The revised Reg. 903 (Wells)
- Best Management Practices Manuals for Reg. 903
- The Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network (PGMN)

It was noted that education and outreach packages are sent to owners of new wells but owners of existing wells may not be aware of or informed of these packages. As well, these packages are not sent upon changes in ownership.

It was suggested that there were three areas that the Council could focus on to develop questions and notes for further discussion:

1. Approach for Monitoring / Sampling New Wells
2. Approach for Monitoring / Sampling Existing / Older Wells
3. Approach for Dealing with Abandoned Wells

Action(s):

- ***Council Executive Assistant and Chair, along with Members Mary Jane Conboy and Rob Walton to collaborate on developing discussion notes on the 3 areas for managing private wells with regards to testing, maintenance, and education, for presentation at the November 16, 2007 Meeting***

6. Administrative Items:

Council Initiatives:

The Council's initiatives were reviewed and discussions around prioritization followed. The Initiatives were re-aligned to mirror the latest Annual Report, as follows:

- Requests from the Minister of the Environment
- Initiatives Under Review
- Areas of Ongoing Interest

It was suggested that the Council revisit its initiatives in the future to decide on:

- Moving an Area of Ongoing Interest to an Initiative under Review
- Moving an Initiative under Review to an Area of Ongoing Interest
- Keeping the Status Quo
- Initiatives that no longer require the Council's attention

Action(s):

- *Council to revisit initiatives at future Council Meetings to discuss and reprioritize*

MOE Drinking Water Organizational Charts:

The Council's Executive Assistant presented an updated **organization chart** for use by the Council, **based on drinking water functions and responsibilities** within the Ministry of the Environment.

Next Meeting(s):

- November 16, 2007 (location to be determined)
- December 14, 2007 (location to be determined)
- January 18, 2008 (location to be determined)
- February 15, 2008 (location to be determined)
- March 14, 2008 (date to be confirmed and location to be determined)

7. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 3:00 p.m.