

Ontario Drinking Water Advisory Council: Minutes from April 18, 2008 Meeting

Members Present:	Mary Jane Conboy Rod Holme Alex Hukowich Robert Lannigan Ken Roberts Lesbia Smith	Michèle Giddings Peter Huck (<i>via phone</i>) Derrick Kamanga Jim Merritt John Rudnickas Robert Walton
-------------------------	--	--

Ministry Liaison Staff Present:	Pat Lachmaniuk, MOE	Tony Amalfa, MOHLTC
--	---------------------	---------------------

Council Staff Present:	Iris Biggar
-------------------------------	-------------

Regrets:	Robert Andrews Ron Brecher	Scott Barrett, ODWAC
-----------------	-------------------------------	----------------------

1. Call to Order:

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

Adoption of April 18, 2008 Agenda:

April 18, 2008 agenda was adopted by consensus.

Adoption of March 14, 2008 Meeting Minutes:

March 14, 2008 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.

The Chair noted that Council Members attended several seminars/meetings:

- U of T NSERC Chair: Technology Transfer Day
- MOE Water Standards: Technology Transfer Forum
- First Nations Conference: Niagara Falls

2. MOE Update:

The Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff Member updated the Council on the MOE **Water Standards Technology Forum**.

The Members had a general discussion on the **Bisphenol-A** issue and possible drinking water implications.

The Chair brought up the issue of various media reports of **boil-water advisories** in Canada and Ontario.

Action(s):

- *Council requested MOE and MOHLTC representatives to provide a breakdown of boil-water advisories as reported in the Canadian Medical Association Journal for the Council's consideration at May 23, 2008 Meeting*

3. MOHLTC Update:

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Liaison Staff Member updated the Council on the progress of implementing the **Small Drinking Water Systems Program**.

Action(s):

- *MOHLTC to present Risk Assessment Tool at June 20, 2008 Council Meeting*

The Chair updated the Council on the Committee on Drinking Water (CDW) **Small Systems Task Group** meeting in Ottawa on April 15, 2008.

The Chair presented the **Ontario Public Health Standards Protocol consultation process**, which the Council has been asked to participate in. The focus of the discussion was on the Drinking Water Protocol. The Council did not have comments on the Protocol, however, the new regulations and related directives contain further information on the program, and Members expressed an interest in reviewing these documents, when they become available.

Action(s):

- *Council to review the new public health regulations and directives under the HPPA, when available*

Small Systems Working Group Meeting:

The Council received a report from the Chair on meeting of the Working Group on Small Systems, as a part of the Committee on Drinking Water meeting that was held in Ottawa on the April 16 and 17, 2008.

4. Standards Review:

Tritium:

Jean-Louis Gaudet from LURA Consulting presented the draft **Tritium consultation report**, which is due in final form by April 30, 2008.

The Chair briefed the Council on the progress of the **Tritium Working Group**:

- Public consultation meeting was held on March 26 and 27, 2008
- 33 presentations heard; 43 written submission received
- Working group to meet on April 30, 2008 (other Council members are welcome to attend) to consider all reference material and consultation information.

HAA₅:

A revised draft **advice letter to the Minister of the Environment on HAA₅** was discussed.

Action(s):

- *Council members Ken Roberts and Bob Andrews to address question raised and assist Scott Barrett with revising the draft letter for consideration at the next meeting.*

Radiological Characteristics:

The Council was updated on the progress of the **Radiological Characteristics of Drinking Water Document** (*Council Standards Review Stage 5*).

Action(s):

- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff Member to arrange for a presentation on the Radiological Characteristics of Drinking Water Document for deliberation at a future Council Meeting in 2008*

Benzene:

The Council was updated on the progress of the **Benzene in Drinking Water Document** (*Council Standards Review Stage 5*).

Action(s):

- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff Member to arrange for a presentation on Benzene in Drinking Water Document for deliberation at a future Council Meeting in 2008*

Chloral Hydrate, Potassium:

The Council was updated on the status of the **Chloral Hydrate in Drinking Water and Guidance on Potassium from Water Softeners Documents** (*Both 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 Council deliberation at future Meetings in 2008*

Chlorine:

The Council was updated on the **Chlorine in Drinking Water Document** (*Council Standards Review Stage 3*).

Action(s):

- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff Member to arrange for a presentation on the Chlorine in Drinking Water Document for deliberation at a future Meeting in 2008*

5. Other Drinking Water Issues:

AWWA Webcast on Water Industry Trends:

Council Member Rod Holme participated in the **AWWA Webcast on Water Industry Trends** and briefed the Council on what was presented.

Well Sampling Advice:

The Chair discussed the Council's next steps with providing advice to the Minister on **private well sampling**.

Action(s):

- *Council Executive Assistant to obtain package that is sent to new well owners from well drillers*
- *Council to seek out what arrangements have been made by MOE to communicate with and inform owners of existing / older / abandoned wells as to their regulatory requirements and best management practices*
- *Council member Mary Jane Conboy to make a presentation on recent Well Surveys at next Council Meeting*

Other Working Group Updates:

The Chair updated the Council on the progress of several other Council Working Groups:

- Alternative Approaches to Disinfection Working Group:
 - Symposium date confirmed for September 22, 2008
 - 6 Speakers have been confirmed; 1 MOE speaker to be named later
 - Request for Services approved by legal and will be sent to 3 prospective consultants in May, 2008.
 - Working Group met April 17, 2008
- Reg. 248 Working Group:
 - Schedule spring, 2008 meeting with MOE LaSB staff to discuss outstanding concerns
- DWQMS Working Group:
 - MOE Licencing staff to keep Council informed of new and / or updated documents
- Surrogates Working Group:
 - RFP to be developed in spring 2008
 - Working Group to meet in spring 2008 to discuss next steps, timing

6. Administrative Items:

The Chair noted the province will have a new **Conflict of Interest Regulation** in place on August 20, 2008, that applies to all advisory bodies.

Action(s):

- *MOE representative to arrange for a presentation on the new regulation for a future Council Meeting*

Next Meeting(s):

- May 23, 2008 (40 St. Clair Ave. W. 3rd Floor, Training Room “B”)
- June 20, 2008 (40 St. Clair Ave. W. 3rd Floor, Training Room “B”)
- July 18, 2008 (Hukowich residence, Cobourg)
- September 12, 2008 (location to be determined)
- October 17, 2008 (location to be determined)
- November 21, 2008 (location to be determined)
- December 19, 2008 (location to be determined)

7. Adjourn

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