

Ontario Drinking Water Advisory Council: Minutes from July 24, 2009 Meeting

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| Members Present: | Mary Jane Conboy Rod Holme Derrick Kamanga Ken Roberts Robert Walton | Michèle Giddings Alex Hukowich Jim Merritt, Chair John Rudnickas |
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| Ministry Liaison Staff Present: | Pat Lachmaniuk, MOE |
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| Council Staff Present: | Scott Barrett | Iris Biggar |
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| Regrets: | Tony Amalfa, MOHLTC Peter Huck Lesbia Smith | Ron Brecher Robert Lannigan |
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1. Call to Order:

The Chair opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Adoption of July 24, 2009 Agenda:

The **July 24, 2009 agenda** was adopted by consensus.

Adoption of June 26, 2009 Meeting Minutes:

The **June 26, 2009 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.

A couple items were noted by the Chair, including:

- **Meeting with the Chief Drinking Water Inspector**
- Updating the Council on the **tritium report** and **Ontario's decision on nuclear power**

As well, Council Member Michèle Giddings briefed the Council on a **World Health Organization Experts Task Group**, which was formed to **develop recommendations on Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products**.

2. MOE Update on Initiatives and Activities:

The MOE Liaison Staff Member briefed the Council on a few items of interest, including:

- **Reg. 169, Reg. 170, and Reg. 248 amendments**
- **Upcoming EBR consultations on Ontario Drinking Water Quality Standards**
- **Arsenic funding options for very small systems**
- **THMs guidance for small systems**

Action(s):

- *MOE Liaison Staff Member to arrange for a presentation on the THMs guidance for small systems for the October 16, 2009 Council Meeting*
- *Chair and Executive Assistant to review “Discussion Paper on Requirements for the Content and Preparation of Source Protection Plans” and report back to the full Council at the September 18, 2009 Meeting*

3. MOHLTC Update on Initiatives and Activities:

The Council briefly discussed a few items of interest, including:

- **The Response to Adverse Water Quality Incidents** document
- **“Screening” samples taken by Public Health Inspectors**
- **What level of interest the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion may have in drinking water**

Action(s):

- *Council Member Alex Hukowich to make independent contact with the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion, to investigate the possibility of having a representative of the Agency present to the Council*

4. Standards Review:

Radiological Characteristics:

Health Canada’s **Radiological Characteristics of Drinking Water** (*Guideline Document*) is currently with the CHE for final approval and the Council’s latest **draft advice letter on Radiological Monitoring** was discussed.

Action(s):

- *Executive Assistant to revise the draft radiological monitoring advice letter based on Council discussions, for full discussion at the September 18, 2009 Meeting*
- *MOE Liaison Staff Member to arrange for a meeting with SDB, DWMD, and LeSB staff to discuss legal implications of amending Reg. 169, Schedule 3, prior to the September 18, 2009 Council Meeting*

Benzene:

Health Canada’s **Benzene in Drinking Water** (*Guideline Document*) is currently with CHE for final approval and the Council’s latest **draft advice letter on Benzene** was discussed, including what other jurisdictions use for their standard, and linkages to Site Condition Standards for Contaminated Sites.

Action(s):

- *Executive Assistant to revise the draft benzene advice letter based on Council discussions, for full discussion at the September 18, 2009 Meeting*

Chlorine:

The **Chlorine in Drinking Water** (*Guidance Document*) has been **approved by both the CDW and the CHE.**

Action(s):

- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff Member to supply the latest version of Health Canada's Chlorine in Drinking Water Document to Executive Assistant prior to the September 18, 2009 Council Meeting*
- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff Member to arrange for a presentation on the Chlorine in Drinking Water Document for deliberation at the September 18, 2009 Council Meeting*

MCPA:

The **MCPA Document for Public Comment** is currently **undergoing national public consultation until August 14, 2009.**

Action(s):

- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff Member to supply the latest version of Health Canada's MCPA in Drinking Water Document to Executive Assistant prior to the October 16, 2009 Council Meeting*
- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff Member to arrange for a presentation on the MCPA in Drinking Water Document for deliberation at the October 16, 2009 Council Meeting*

5. Other Drinking Water Issues:

The Chair updated the Council on the progress of the **Alternatives to Disinfection Symposium part one report**, noting that almost all of the speakers have provided their comments.

It was decided that the part one report and presentations should be released to the symposium participants, once completed.

It was also decided to reconstitute the Working Group to develop part two of the report, along with options for full Council deliberation. The Working Group will now consist of:

- Scott Barrett
- Michèle Giddings
- Peter Huck
- Alex Hukowich
- Jim Merritt
- John Rudnickas
- Rob Walton

Action(s):

- *Council Chair and Executive Assistant to review and revise the Alternatives to Disinfection Symposium part one report, once all speaker feedback has been incorporated*
- *Council to review an updated draft of the Alternatives to Disinfection Symposium part one report at the September 18, 2009 Meeting*
- *Council Working Group to meet in September, 2009 to develop part two of the report, along with options for deliberation at a future Council Meeting*

6. Administrative Items:

Priorities Review:

The **Council's priorities review for 2009-2010** were discussed and finalized.

Action(s):

- *Council Member John Rudnickas to revise the Reg. 248 discussion document to include concerns raised over private well testing, and Public Health Inspector screening samples*
- *Executive Assistant to document the Council's 2009-2010 priorities and facilitate next steps for each item*

ODWAC Annual Report:

The most recent draft copy of the **Council's 2008-2009 draft Annual Report** was next presented and discussed.

Action(s):

- *Council Members to send any further annual report comments to the Executive Assistant*

- *Chair and Executive Assistant to provide a draft final copy of the annual report to the Minister's Office*
- *Chair and Executive Assistant to finalize and transmit the annual report to the Minister, once finalized*

ODWAC Membership Renewals:

The MOE Liaison Staff Member noted that all of the **renewal letters have been sent out by the Minister of the Environment** to those Council Members, whose terms expire in July, 2009.

Next Meeting(s):

- August, 2009: *No Meeting Planned*
- Friday, September 18, 2009 (40 St. Clair Ave. W., 3rd Floor, Training Room "B")
- Friday, October 16, 2009 (40 St. Clair Ave. W., 3rd Floor, Training Room "B")
- Friday, November 20, 2009 (Venue to be announced)
- Friday, December 18, 2009 (40 St. Clair Ave. W., 3rd Floor, Training Room "B")

7. Adjourn

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