



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Appointment of the City of Toronto Representatives to the CTC Source Protection Committee

Date:	August 23, 2007
To:	Executive Committee
From:	Lou Di Gironimo, General Manager, Toronto Water
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	P:\2007\Cluster B\TW\ec07034 (AFS # 5732)

SUMMARY

The Clean Water Act, directed at protecting the natural sources of Ontario's drinking water, was passed on October 18, 2006. The purpose of the Act is to protect existing and future sources of drinking water. The Act establishes Source Water Protection Regions in Ontario; delegates Conservation Authorities as Source Protection Authorities and requires them to create Source Protection Committees which will prepare and submit a Terms of Reference, an Assessment Report and finally, a Source Water Protection Plan (SWPP) for their region. The City of Toronto is within the CTC Source Protection Region and has been allocated two positions on its Source Protection Committee.

The appointment of the City's representatives is addressed in this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager of Toronto Water recommends that:

1. The Deputy City Manager responsible for Toronto Water, in consultation with the General Manager of Toronto Water, designate Toronto's two representatives on the CTC Source Protection Committee; and
2. The City Clerk forward the names of the two City of Toronto representatives to the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority prior to November 3, 2007.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The recommendations contained in this report will have no financial impact.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

For the purposes of administering the Clean Water Act, the Toronto and Region Source Protection Area falls under the jurisdiction of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. Toronto is in the Source Protection Region that is made up of the Credit Valley, Toronto Region, and Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authorities, known as the CTC Source Protection Region.

The source protection authority establishes the selection process for members of each source protection region and leads the process for developing source protection plans. Councils for each municipality within the region have been requested to submit the names of suitable persons to be appointed to the CTC SPC to represent their municipality. The membership qualifications and responsibilities have been outlined below.

Currently there are a total of 31 municipalities represented in CTC Source Protection Region, including the City of Toronto. Each Source Protection Committee will be comprised of municipal representatives, sectoral representatives (agriculture, aggregate industry, petrochemical industry, land development and golf course) and general public representatives (including ENGO's and the general public). The Ontario government has established that the CTC Source Protection Committee will be comprised of 21 members plus chair (total 22). One third of the members (7) are to be members who reflect the interests of the municipalities within the region. The City of Toronto will have two members, recognizing its large population. The City of Toronto is in a unique position in that Lake Ontario is the City's sole drinking water source and can, therefore, represent other municipalities which rely on Lake Ontario for their source water.

COMMENTS

Members of the Source Protection Committee must meet the selection criteria set out in the regulation and must be ready and willing to serve an initial term which will complete the first source protection plans (this may be as long as 5+ years). Members can either be elected officials or staff of the municipality or citizen appointees. Working groups will be established to support the SPC municipal members to aid in representing all municipal perspectives.

Source Protection Committee Member Qualifications

Mandatory

1. Members must reside in, own or rent land in, or be employed or operate a business in the source protection region.
2. Members must not be board members or employees of a conservation authority.

Guidance

1. Members must have demonstrated ability to understand source protection science, concepts and technical reports.

2. Members must have familiarity with the rules of operation for committee processes.
3. Members must have proven ability to act as liaison to and from the sector(s) being represented.
4. Members must have solid problem-solving, analytical, communication and organizational skills.
5. Members must demonstrate an openness to work together, and with, representatives from other sectors.
6. Members must have knowledge of local watershed(s), communities and issues.
7. Members must demonstrate an ability to work with group dynamics and team environments; conciliatory decision-making skills.
8. Members must possess strong communications skills.
9. Members must show willingness and ability to travel around the source protection region.
10. Members are expected to be involved in the implementation of source water protection.
11. Members must be in direct contact with residents and landowners.
12. Members must be perceived as a credible source of information.
13. Members must have demonstrated social /economic influence on the community.

Source Protection Committee Member Responsibilities

1. Members must regularly attend meetings of the SPC.
2. Members must abide by the SPC code of conduct and conflict of interest policy.
3. Members should be available to attend meetings of the committee until completion of the terms of reference, assessment report and source protection plan; note that committee meetings will, generally be held during daytime hours and attendance at evening or weekend public consultations will occasionally be required.
4. Members may act as liaisons by bringing forward common concerns from their knowledge and experience in the sector to the committee and assist in communicating the committee's work.
5. Members should make decisions at the committee table.
6. Members should work collaboratively and respectfully with each other and other stakeholder groups such as the general public.
7. Members should attend public information sessions and participate in public consultation forums.
8. Members should respect confidential information and abide by the process in place to safeguard confidential information.

The Source Protection Committees will be preparing a Terms of Reference, an Assessment Report and the Source Water Protection Plans (SWPP). The Assessment Report will identify vulnerable areas around municipal water sources; threats and issues within those vulnerable areas and identify low, moderate and high risks to either quantity or quality of existing municipal water sources. The SWPP will identify actions to be taken to eliminate high risks and mitigate moderate risks.

Municipalities will be responsible for implementing the Source Water Protection Plans, including the development of Official Plan policies, Zoning bylaws, licensing and permitting processes and enforcement.

It is expected that the makeup of the CTC Source Protection Committee will be approved by the Province and that on or before September 3, 2007, we will receive a letter from the TRCA asking for our two appointees to the CTC Source Protection Committee. Given the direct linkage to Toronto Water's operations, and the need to ensure the long term protection of its source water (Lake Ontario), it is recommended that the Deputy City Manager responsible for Toronto Water, in consultation with the General Manager of Toronto Water, designate Toronto's two representatives on the CTC Source Protection Committee.

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SIGNATURE

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