

Authority to Enter into Agreement for Municipal Drinking Water System Operating Authority Accreditation

Date:	January 18, 2010
To:	Public Works and Infrastructure Committee
From:	General Manager, Toronto Water
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	P:\2010\Cluster B\TW\pw10001

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek authorization for the General Manager of Toronto Water to finalize negotiations, enter into and execute agreements necessary for accreditation as the operating authority for the City of Toronto's municipal drinking water system.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager of Toronto Water recommends that City Council:

1. Authorize the General Manager, Toronto Water to finalize negotiations, enter into and execute an agreement on behalf of the City for the accreditation of the operating authority of municipal drinking water systems with Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (as represented by the Minister of Public Works and Government Services acting through the Canadian General Standards Board) or such other accreditation body as may be designated by the Minister of the Environment, on terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager, Toronto Water including indemnities as may be required of the City, and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.
2. Subject to the adoption of Recommendation 1, authorize the General Manager, Toronto Water to negotiate, enter into and execute any other related agreements on behalf of the City as may be necessary to give effect to Recommendation 1, on terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager, Toronto Water including indemnities as may be required of the City, and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

3. To the extent necessary, authorize the General Manager, Toronto Water, to negotiate, enter into and execute any other documents or agreements on behalf of the City as may be necessary to maintain the City's accreditation as an Operating Authority on terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager, Toronto Water including indemnities as may be required of the City, and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

Financial Impact

The recommendations will have no financial impact beyond what has already been approved in the current budget.

DECISION HISTORY

There are no previous reports requesting signing authority on this subject. This report is submitted as part of Toronto Water's response to the Ministry of the Environment's requirement for accreditation of municipal drinking water system operating authorities.

On July 16, 17, 18 and 19, 2007 City Council adopted a motion (Item # PW7.9) to designate the General Manager of Toronto Water as the Owner Representative for the Toronto Water Quality Management System. This delegation allowed the General Manager of Toronto Water to address prerequisites for operating authority accreditation. <http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/pw/bgrd/backgroundfile-5146.pdf>

On November 30, December 1, 2, 4 and 7, 2009 City Council received a report (Item # PW28.11) which included an update on the City's accreditation status. <http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/pw/bgrd/backgroundfile-24535.pdf>

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Section 13 of the Ministry of the Environment's *Safe Drinking Water Act* (SDWA) requires municipal residential drinking water system operating authorities to be accredited.

Accreditation means verification by a third party accreditation body that the operating authority has a quality management system in place for the drinking water system that meets the requirements of the Ministry of the Environment's Drinking Water Quality Management Standard.

Effective April 1, 2008, Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Ontario as represented by the Minister of the Environment (the MOE) entered into an agreement with Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada as represented by the Minister of Public Works and Government Services c/o the Canadian General Standards Board (CGSB) in which the MOE designated CGSB as an accreditation body for the purposes of Part IV of the SDWA. The MOE may designate a different entity to be the accreditation body in the future.

In the fall of 2009, staff received written correspondence from CGSB indicating the City was awarded accreditation on September 4, 2009.

COMMENTS

Following notice of accreditation, CGSB sent City staff an accreditation agreement. CGSB requires an executed agreement before issuing the City's certificate of accreditation. There is a request for an indemnity by CGSB that will form part of the agreement negotiations.

CONTACT

Karen Frizzell
EH&S Compliance Specialist
Toronto Water
Phone: 416-392-9170
Fax: 416-392-5305
kfrizze@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Lou Di Gironimo, General Manager, Toronto Water