



CTC SOURCE
PROTECTION
REGION



CTC SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

CTC Source Protection Committee Meeting #02/09 February 17, 2009, Black Creek Pioneer Village

CTC Tiered Water Budgets – General Matters

At previous meetings and this meeting, the SPC has received a number of Water Budget reports for the different source protection areas for their review and acceptance as the basis for the relevant parts of the Assessment Reports being prepared. The SPC has identified a number of matters which the committee is working to address in a consistent manner across the entire CTC Region. These include:

Additional Uses of Water Budget Work Beyond Source Water Protection – The SPC recognizes that while the provincial rules and funding for the Water Budget studies is aimed at answering questions around the presence or absence of water quantity risks for municipal and designated water supplies, these reports also have value to municipalities, conservation authorities and others for more comprehensive watershed management purposes. The committee wants to ensure that while encouraging the use of the reports more broadly, they also identify the limitations of using this data and analysis. Staff has been directed to include in the current water budget documents, specific wording identifying the limitations of this water budget work.

Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas (SGRA) – The committee noted that with the optional approaches available under the Technical Rules regarding delineation of SGRAs there are a number of different approaches for delineating these areas. The committee has directed its Ad Hoc Working Group dealing with the CVC Tier 2 to expand their mandate to include the matter of SGRA mapping in all water budget reports and to report back to the SPC on their recommendations for the specific approach to be used in each case to delineate the SGRA. Staff has been directed to provide optional delineation methodologies in their reports and their technical advice as to the most appropriate to that specific situation for the Ad Hoc Committee's consideration. Staff has also asked the province to provide more guidance around what criteria should be used in choosing the approach to SGRA mapping. While the SPC recognized that each of the CTC Source Protection Areas may require the use of different methodologies they believe that a consistent approach which compares several methods will provide greater confidence in the SGRA delineation.

Central Lake Ontario Source Protection Area (CLOSPA) – Tier 1 Water Budget

The Draft Accepted Tier 1 Water Budget for CLOSPA was presented to the SPC for review and acceptance. The committee received the report along with a presentation from CLOSPA technical consultants Dirk Kassenaar and EJ Wexler from EarthFx Inc.

The Tier 1 Water Budget was accepted for the purposes of source protection planning in CLOSPA. The report's conclusion is that there are no subwatersheds within CLOSPA that require a Tier 2 Water Budget analysis since there are no municipal or designated supplies located in the sub watersheds

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that are showing potentially moderate or significant water quantity stress. The committee referred the mapping of Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas to the Ad Hoc Working Group and directed staff to make some editorial revisions to the report (see above).

Since the report indicated that two sub watersheds were potentially moderately stressed due to existing groundwater takings and that five sub watersheds were potentially significantly stressed due to summer surface water takings, the committee directed staff to bring these findings to the attention of the affected municipalities, conservation authority and the province for further consideration outside of the source water protection program.

Introduction of Toronto and Region Source Protection Area (TRSPA) –Tier 1 Water Budget

Donald Ford, Project Lead, TRSPA presented the initial findings of the draft TRSPA Tier 1 Water Budget to the committee. The draft report will now be peer reviewed and after the peer reviewers are satisfied, the report will be brought forward to the committee for their review and acceptance, anticipated for SPC review in April, 2009.

The preliminary findings are that one sub watershed which is potentially moderately stressed due to groundwater takings and where there is a municipal groundwater supply may require a Tier 2 Water Budget to further refine the stress assessment. The mapping of the Significant Groundwater Areas has been referred to the Ad Hoc Working Group as described above.

Credit Valley Source Protection Area (CVSPA) – Tier 2 Water Budget Ad Hoc Working Group

Michael Garrett, Chair, CTC Ad Hoc Water Budget Working Group presented a report to the committee which reviewed the findings of an Ad Hoc Working Group which convened on January 12, 2009 for further review of the CVSPA Tier 2 Water Budget. The recommendations of the Ad Hoc Water Budget Working Group were accepted by the SPC.

The next meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group meeting has been scheduled for March 31, 2009 to consider these matters, plus in addition how SGRAs should be mapped in the TRSPA and CLOSPA.

Communications Update

The committee received a report on the ongoing source water protection communications activities. The committee was provided with copies of the '2008 Progress Report', a document which summarizes the committee's accomplishments to date and looks ahead at the work still to be accomplished. If you would like copies of the '2008 Progress Report' please send us a request at sourcewater@trca.on.ca.

On March 21, 2009 the CTC SPC and Youth4Water will be hosting a youth forum on water. For more information on the "It Starts With A Drop Youth Forum" visit www.ctcswp.ca.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 7, 2009
Black Creek Pioneer Village
1000 Murray Ross Parkway