



CTC Source Protection Committee Meeting #2/21

Chair: Douglas Wright

Tuesday March 23, 2021

1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Zoom Virtual Meeting<sup>1</sup>

**AGENDA**

**Page  
Number**

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
2. **Review of Agenda**
3. **Disclosure of Conflict of Interest**
4. **Minutes of Previous Meetings**
5. **Chair's Remarks**
6. **Updates**
  - 6.1 Update from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks Liaison – Tea Pesheva
  - 6.2 Update from Conservation Ontario Source Water Protection Lead – Debbie Balika
7. **Committee Business**
  - 7.1 Reports to Committee
    - a. CTC Program Update 2
    - b. Implementation of CTC Source Protection Plan in 2020 – Annual Progress Report 7
  - 7.2 Other Business
8. **Correspondence**
  - 8.1 Letter advising of resolutions passed by Halton Region Council on status of Risk Management Plan establishment. January 26, 2021. From Graham Milne, Regional Clerk to Doug Wright, Chair of the CTC Source Protection Committee. 20
9. **Next Meeting**

September 21, 2021 – virtual or in-person to be confirmed
10. **Adjourn**

<sup>1</sup> CTC Source Protection Committee meetings are video recorded for the purpose of minute taking.

**TO:** Chair and Members of the Source Protection  
Committee Meeting #2/21

**DATE:** March 23, 2021

**FROM:** Janet Ivey, Chief Specialist, Watershed Plans and Source Water  
Protection, Credit Valley Conservation

**RE:** CTC Program Update

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## **KEY ISSUE**

A CTC Source Protection Region program update.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the CTC Source Protection Committee receive the staff report CTC Program Update for information.**

## **REPORT**

### **Committee Member Re-Appointments and Recruitment**

At CTC Source Protection Committee (Committee) meeting #1/21, staff delivered a presentation on committee member recruitment and orientation. There are currently 6 vacant positions on the Committee: 1 municipal sector, 1 economic sector, and 4 public sector positions (Attachment A). In addition to the vacant positions, the terms of 5 members will expire on September 23, 2021; these include 2 municipal sector, 2 economic sector, and one public sector representatives.

The expirations of the 5-year term appointments were originally staggered as a succession planning strategy; however, the combination of vacant positions and expiring terms could result in turnover of half the committee in 2021. Under the *Clean Water Act 2006* (CWA), and Ontario Regulation 288/07, there is no limitation on Committee members serving for consecutive terms.

Committee members representing the economic and public sectors whose terms are expiring in 2021 will receive a letter from the lead Source Protection Authority (SPA) by May 1, 2021. The SPA will request that members identify whether they are interested in serving another 5-year term. For economic sector representatives, if members are interested in serving another term, a current letter from a sector organization endorsing their representation will be additionally required. Responses will be requested by June 1, 2021.

Recruitment of new members to fill vacant positions is proceeding as described at meeting #1/21. New members are expected to be approved by the SPA in advance of Committee meeting #3/21 (September 2021). Orientation sessions for new

members are anticipated in the late summer.

### **Amendments to Committee Rules of Procedure**

Ontario Regulation 288/07 (section 14) under the CWA sets out requirements for Source Protection Committees to prepare written rules of procedure (Rules) for conducting the business of the committee that are satisfactory to the Source Protection Authority. Within the CTC, the Rules were first finalized on January 29, 2008 and further amended on October 27, 2017 and April 29, 2020. The Rules are posted on [ctcswp.ca](http://ctcswp.ca).

The currently-approved Rules reference the Toronto and Region Source Protection Authority in rules regarding duties of members, removal of members from office, per diems and expenses, and indemnity. As the Credit Valley Source Protection Authority is assuming the role of Lead SPA for the CTC Source Protection Region, the Rules require amendment. Proposed amendments will be brought to the Committee for endorsement at meeting #3/21 in September 2021.

### **Risk Management Plan Deadline Extension Follow-up**

At meeting #1/21, the Committee received a report on municipal work plans to complete CWA s. 58 risk management plans for existing significant drinking water threats by the extended December 31, 2023 deadline. SPA staff will submit the municipal s.58 work plans to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks by May 1, 2021.

Following submission of the work plans, letters will be sent from the Committee to each of the municipal Councils advising them of the 3-year extension, asking for their support in obtaining the resources necessary to meet the requirements of the s.58 work plans, and to remind Councils of the s. 58 powers under the CWA (per resolution #13/20 carried at Committee meeting #2/20).

### **Addressing Source Protection Plan Implementation Challenges**

Between 2016 and 2018, a working group composed of SPA staff, municipal representatives, and Committee members undertook a comprehensive review of the CTC Source Protection Plan and its implementation. The review was undertaken in accordance with provincial guidance and considered the following factors:

- Results of environmental monitoring programs;
- Growth and infrastructure changes;
- Council resolutions;
- Policy effectiveness;
- Implementation challenges;
- Technical rule changes;
- Review of prohibition policies; and
- Local considerations.

As a result of the review, a multi-year work plan was developed and submitted to

the MECP in compliance with an order issued by the Ministry under section 36 of the CWA. In July of 2019, the Minister amended the order to require the CTC Source Protection Region to update its Assessment Reports and Source Protection Plan to address some of the items included in the s. 36 work plan.

A key component of the required work is to revise policies to address implementation challenges where the Committee, SPA, and affected municipalities determine it is necessary. The policies identified for review were those regarding the handling and storage of dense non-aqueous phase liquids (DNAPLs) and organic solvents, as well as policies for agricultural activities that impose prohibitions outside of a Wellhead Protection Area-A and those that address nutrients. Review and update of these policies has been included in the CTC 2021-2022 work plan. The Committee will address these policy issues, and others, at upcoming meetings planned for September and December 2021.

### Upcoming Changes to Municipal Water Systems

Under section 34 of the CWA, a SPA may propose amendments to Assessment Reports and the Source Protection Plan under certain circumstances, including when a municipality intends to apply for a new, replacement, or altered municipal drinking water system under section 32 of the *Safe Drinking Water Act*. Changes to drinking water systems need to be incorporated into approved Assessment Reports for the Source Protection Plan policies to apply. Updated timelines for anticipated s. 34 amendments within the CTC Source Protection Region are presented in Table 1. Staff will continue to work with the municipalities to complete technical work and provide updates to the Committee on the status of s. 34 amendments.

**Table 1. Anticipated timeline of upcoming CWA s. 34 updates**

Drinking Water System	Anticipated Timeline		
	Pre-Consultation	Public Consultation	Submission Date
Newmarket-Aurora wellfields Wellhead Protection Areas	Oct 30 – Dec 12, 2019	February 2020	April 2021
Peel Region groundwater model update	Early 2022	2022	2022-2023
Durham Region groundwater model update (Uxville)	To be determined	To be determined	To be determined
New Toronto Island intakes	2022	2022	2022-2023
Town of Erin water supply	Early 2022	2022	2022-2023
Town of Orangeville new water supply	Early 2022	2022	2022-2023

**Report prepared by:**

**Janet Ivey, Chief Specialist, Watershed Plans and Source Water Protection,  
Credit Valley Conservation**

**T: 905-670-1615, ext. 379**

**Email: Janet.ivey@cvc.ca**

**Date: March 15, 2021**

## ATTACHMENT A: CTC SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Per section 10 of Ontario Regulation 288/07, this summary serves as the **Notice of CTC Source Protection Committee Member Appointments**.

**Chair:** Douglas Wright, Appointed in August 2020 by the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks ; Appointment expires August 2022.

<b>Municipal Sector Representatives</b>		<b>Date of Appointment</b>	<b>Appointment Expiry</b>
David Kentner	Municipal Sector	June 21, 2019	June 20, 2024
VACANT	Municipal Sector	September 23, 2016	-
Chris Gerrits	Municipal Sector	September 23, 2016	September 23, 2021
Scott Lister	Municipal Sector	June 21, 2019	June 20, 2024
John Presta	Municipal Sector	June 21, 2019	June 20, 2024
Frank Quarisa	Municipal Sector	June 21, 2019	June 20, 2024
Mahesh Patel	Municipal Sector	September 23, 2016	September 23, 2021
<b>Economic Sector Representatives</b>			
Louise Foster	Land Development Sector	June 21, 2019	June 20, 2024
VACANT	Aggregate Sector	-	-
Dan Bunner	Chemical Sector	June 21, 2019	June 20, 2024
Lee Gould	Road Salt Sector	September 23, 2016	September 23, 2021
Deon Bridge	Petrochemical/Petroleum Sector	June 21, 2019	June 20, 2024
Gary Mountain	Agriculture Sector	June 21, 2019	June 20, 2024
Geoff Maltby	Agriculture Sector	September 23, 2016	September 23, 2021
<b>Public Sector Representatives</b>			
Julie Aboucher	Citizen-At-Large	June 21, 2019	June 20, 2024
VACANT	Citizen-At-Large	-	-
VACANT	Citizen-At-Large	-	-
Peter Miasek	Citizen-At-Large	June 21, 2019	June 20, 2024
VACANT	Citizen-At-Large	-	-
VACANT	ENGO	-	-
Rosemary Keenan	ENGO	September 23, 2016	September 23, 2021

**TO:** Chair and Members of the Source Protection Committee Meeting #2/21

**DATE:** March 23, 2021

**FROM:** Janet Ivey, Chief Specialist, Watershed Plans and Source Water Protection, Credit Valley Conservation

**RE:** Implementation of CTC Source Protection Plan in 2020 – Annual Progress Report

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## **KEY ISSUE**

To review progress made in 2020 towards implementation of the CTC Source Protection Plan and seek the CTC Source Protection Committee's opinion on progress towards achieving the SPP's objectives.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the CTC Source Protection Committee receive the staff report Implementation of CTC Source Protection Plan in 2020 – Annual Progress Report for information;**

**AND THAT in the opinion of the CTC Source Protection Committee, implementation of the Source Protection Plan has progressed well in 2020 but is short of target in achieving the plan's objectives.**

**AND FURTHER THAT CTC staff be directed to submit the CTC Source Protection Committee's comments on implementation progress to the Credit Valley, Toronto and Region, and Central Lake Ontario Source Protection Authorities for inclusion in the annual progress report.**

## **BACKGROUND**

The Credit Valley – Toronto and Region – Central Lake Ontario (CTC) Source Protection Plan (the Plan) came into effect December 31, 2015, providing a framework of policies to protect the quality and quantity of the source waters for municipal drinking water systems located in the CTC Source Protection Region. The objectives of the Plan are:

1. To protect existing and future drinking water sources in the CTC Source Protection Region; and
2. To ensure that existing activities cease to be, or do not become, significant drinking water threats, and that new activities never become significant drinking water threats.

Source Protection Authorities (SPAs) are required to submit annual reports on implementation progress to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) under section 46 of the *Clean Water Act 2006* (CWA). The report on

2020 implementation progress will be the fourth such report since the Plan came into effect.

Annual progress reports are prepared using data provided by municipalities, provincial ministries, and other implementing bodies as required by the monitoring policies in the Plan and in accordance with section 81 of the CWA and section 65 of Ontario Regulation 287/07. Municipal and provincial reports are required to be submitted to the SPA annually by February 1st and reflect implementation efforts from the previous calendar year, January 1 to December 31, 2020.

Staff aggregate and evaluate implementation data to populate two reporting templates provided by the MECP: 1) a summary-level annual progress report and 2) a more detailed supplemental form. Annual reports must be shared with the Source Protection Committee (the Committee) at least 30 days before being submitted to the Director, Conservation and Source Protection Branch, of the MECP. The Committee is required to review the annual progress report and provide written comments to the Source Protection Authorities about the extent to which, in the opinion of the Committee, the objectives set out in the plan are being achieved by the measures described in the report (per s. 46 of the CWA).

## **DISCUSSION**

The supplemental form includes two questions that require Committee input. Staff have reviewed the results of the supplemental form and annual progress report (included as Attachment A) and recommend the following responses:

1. In the opinion of the Source Protection Committee, to what extent have the objectives of the source protection plan been achieved in this reporting period? (Question ID 350)

Three response options are provided by the Province:

- Progressing well/on-target – The majority of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing.
- Satisfactory – Some of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing.
- Limited progress – A few source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing.

Staff recommend a response of **progressing well, but short of target**, consistent with the modified language used to describe 2019 implementation progress. The rationale for this assessment is described further below.

2. Please provide comments to explain how the Source Protection Committee arrived at its opinion. Include a summary of any discussions that might have been had amongst the Source Protection Committee members, especially where no consensus was reached. (Question ID 351)



Staff recommend the response included in Section II of Attachment A and described more fulsomely below.

Substantive implementation has occurred, since most legally binding policies (96%) that address significant drinking water threats (SDWTs) are implemented and about 94% of existing SDWTs on the landscape in the CTC Region have been addressed through policy implementation or removed through threats verification.

Originally, 10,583 significant drinking water threats were enumerated as of 2015. Since then, field verification has reduced that number to 6,077 significant threats; of these, only 362 (about 6%) remain to be addressed, down from 424 at the end of 2019. Further, most applicable Plan policies that address significant drinking water threats are either implemented or in progress. Therefore, staff suggest that implementation of the Plan is progressing well.

Outstanding threats are predominantly associated with application of road salt; livestock grazing, pasturing, or outdoor confinement areas; and agricultural source materials. Of the remaining 362 SDWTs, 360 are in the Credit Valley Source Protection Area (CVSPA). The distribution of existing SDWTs across the CVSPA is as follows:

- Town of Mono - 6 threats,
- Township of Amaranth - 4 threats,
- Region of Peel - 10 threats (including those enumerated in 2019 for a new drinking water well in Alton),
- Region of Halton - 215 threats,
- Town of Orangeville - 95 threats,
- Town of Erin - 30 threats, and
- Township of East Garafraxa - No threats.

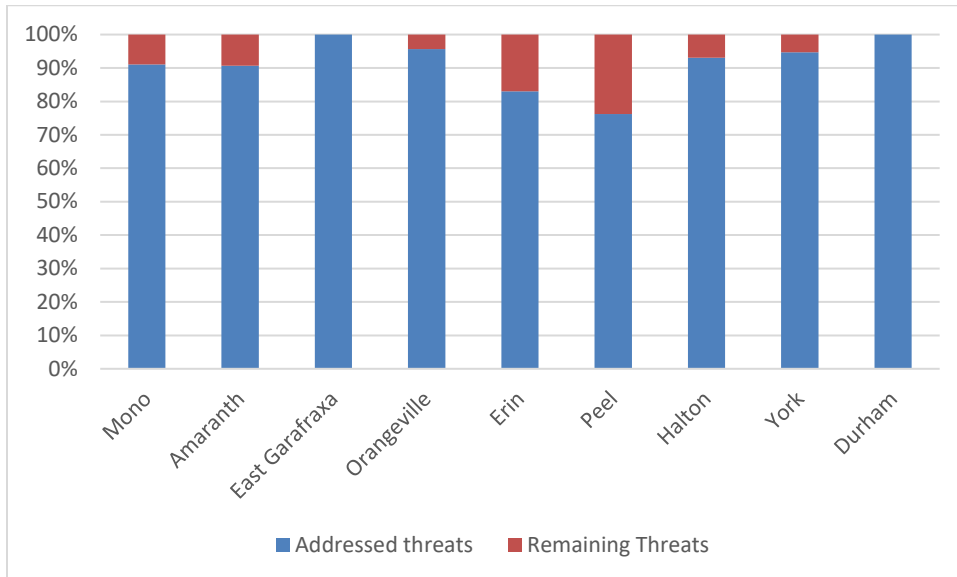
Figure 1 illustrates the proportion of SDWTs that remain to be addressed by municipality. As no significant prescribed drinking water threats were originally identified for the City of Toronto, that municipality does not appear in the figure.

Most of the outstanding significant threats will be addressed through risk management plans (RMPs) negotiated with property owners and businesses by municipal Risk Management Officials. Following a request by the Committee in 2020, the MECP approved a 3-year extension to the December 31, 2020 deadline to complete RMPs for existing significant threats. Municipalities have prepared work plans to achieve the new December 31, 2023 deadline.

Implementation challenges identified by municipal staff include the time consuming nature of the threat verification and RMP negotiation process, the priority placed on RMPs initiated through the land use planning and building permit process, additional complexities in negotiating agricultural RMPs (seasonal availability, multiple threats, regulatory burden), and COVID-19 pandemic impacts.

Since an estimated 205 risk management plans remain to be negotiated by the extended deadline, and recognizing the pandemic-related challenges to

implementation, staff recommend an assessment of “progressing well, but short of target” for 2020. The plain-language annual progress report (Attachment A) includes a more complete summary of Plan implementation.



**FIGURE 1: PROPORTION OF SIGNIFICANT DRINKING WATER THREATS THAT REMAIN TO BE ADDRESSED AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2020.**

### **DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE**

The annual progress report and the Committee’s comments will be presented to the Credit Valley, Central Lake Ontario, and Toronto and Region Source Protection Authorities for endorsement at meetings in April 2021. Following SPA approval, staff will submit the annual progress report and supplementary form to MECP by May 1, 2021. Also due to MECP by May 1<sup>st</sup> are the municipal work plans prepared for the deadline extension for risk management plan completion. Following submission to the province annual progress reports are posted to the CTC website (ctcswp.ca).

#### **Report prepared by:**

**Janet Ivey, Chief Specialist, Watershed Plans and Source Water Protection,  
Credit Valley Conservation  
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**Date: March 15, 2021**



# CTC Source Protection Region 2020 Annual Progress Report | 05/01/2021

## I. Introduction

This annual progress report outlines the progress made in implementing our source protection plan for the Credit Valley, Toronto and Region, and Central Lake Ontario (CTC) Source Protection Areas, as required by the *Clean Water Act, 2006* and regulations, for the 2020 year. Together, these source protection areas form the CTC Source Protection Region, as shown in the image below.

Protecting the sources of our drinking water is the first step in a multi-barrier approach to safeguard the quality and quantity of our water supplies. The source protection plan is the culmination of extensive science-based assessment, research, consultation, and collaboration with local stakeholders and the Province. When policies in the plan are implemented it ensures that activities carried out near municipal wells and lake-based intakes will not pose significant risk to drinking water supplies.



## II. A message from your local Source Protection Committee

- P : Progressing Well/Short Of Target – The majority of the protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing; but some fall short of target.**
- S : Satisfactory – Some of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing.**
- L : Limited progress – A few of the source protection plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing.**

This is the fourth Annual Report on implementation progress of the Drinking Water Source Protection Program in the CTC Source Protection Region since the CTC Source Protection Plan took effect on December 31, 2015.

In the fifth year of implementation of the plan, 96% of the legally-binding policies to address significant drinking water threats have now been implemented. At the end of the 2020 calendar year, 94% of the significant drinking water threats that existed at the time of source protection plan approval had been addressed through policy implementation or removed through threats verification.

All stakeholders responsible for the implementation of policies in the CTC Source Protection Plan reported on the progress of their implementation activities during the previous calendar year. In addition, all municipalities in the CTC Source Protection Region have established processes to ensure that land use planning decisions conform to the CTC Source Protection Plan.

Originally, 10,583 significant drinking water threats were enumerated as of 2015. Since then, field verification efforts have reduced that number to 6,077 significant threats; and of these, only 362 remain to be addressed.

The COVID-19 pandemic presented significant challenges through most of 2020 in the CTC; with progress on negotiating risk management plans and inspecting septic systems particularly hampered. 205 risk management plans remain to be negotiated before the revised deadline of December 31, 2023. As a result, the committee chose to report the status of the CTC SPP as “Progressing well, but short of target” in its report back for 2020.

### III. Our Watershed

To learn more, please read our assessment report(s) and source protection plan(s)

The CTC Source Protection Region contains 25 large and small watersheds and spans over 6,400 km<sup>2</sup>, from the Oak Ridges Moraine in the north to Lake Ontario in the south. The region contains portions of the Niagara Escarpment, Oak Ridges Moraine, Greenbelt, Lake Ontario, and the most densely populated area of Canada. The CTC Source Protection Region includes 25 local municipalities and eight single tier, regional or county municipalities, 66 municipal supply wells, and 16 municipal surface water intakes in Lake Ontario. The region is complex and diverse in terms of geology, physiography, population, and development pressures. There are many, often conflicting, water uses including, drinking water supply, recreation, irrigation, agriculture, commercial and industrial uses, and ecosystem needs.

The Credit Valley Source Protection Area contains 22 subwatersheds, each representing a major drainage area of the Credit Valley watershed. Nearly 1500 km of streams and creeks empty into the Credit River including Black Creek, Silver Creek, West Credit River, Shaw's Creek, East Credit River, Fletchers Creek, Caledon Creek, and several others. There are thirteen municipal water systems operating in the source protection area, two are surface water based – accessing Lake Ontario as the source; the remainder are groundwater-based. There are no municipal drinking water sources taking from the Credit River.

The Toronto and Region Source Protection Area comprises nine watersheds, plus their collective Lake Ontario waterfront shorelines, to incorporate portions of six upper-tier and 15 lower-tier municipalities. These nine watersheds include Carruthers, Duffins, Etobicoke, Highland, Mimico, and Petticoat Creeks, and also the Don, Humber and Rouge Rivers. More than 3.5 million people live within the source protection area with the population expected to grow significantly in the years to come. There are ten municipal water systems operating in the source protection area, five are surface water based – accessing Lake Ontario as the source; the remainder are groundwater-based.

The Central Lake Ontario Source Protection Area is fully contained within the Regional Municipality of Durham. There are 15 watersheds within its boundaries, with the five major watersheds originating at the Oak Ridges Moraine. There are no municipal wells within the source protection area; all municipal drinking water comes from Lake Ontario. There are three municipal drinking water systems: Whitby, Oshawa, and Bowmanville.

## IV. At a Glance: Progress on Source Protection Plan Implementation

### 1. Source Protection Plan Policies

2020 Progress - P: Progressing Well/On Target.

There are 129 policies in the CTC Source Protection Plan to address: 21 prescribed and 2 local types of drinking water threats; actions considered necessary to protect sources of drinking water; and policies for monitoring implementation. Some policies are required to be implemented by a single stakeholder, others by multiple.

As of the end of 2020, most legally binding policies (96%) that address significant drinking water threats are implemented. Furthermore, approximately 94% of existing significant drinking water threats on the landscape have been addressed (i.e., eliminated or managed).

### 2. Municipal Progress: Addressing Risks on the Ground

2020 Progress: P - Progressing Well/On Target

Municipalities in our source protection region are required to review and update their Official Plans to ensure they conform with the local source protection plans the next time they undertake an Official Plan review under the *Planning Act*. Municipalities in the CTC Source Protection Region are also amending their Official Plans as required to conform with the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2020. The Growth Plan requires that all upper tier municipalities complete their review by summer 2022 and lower tier municipalities by summer 2023.

As of December 2020, over 85% of municipalities within the CTC have completed or are in the process of completing their conformity exercise with the CTC Source Protection Plan.

### 3. Septic Inspections

2020 Progress: S - Satisfactory

Within the CTC Source Protection Region, there are 368 septic system inspections that are required to be completed every five years to satisfy the requirements of the Mandatory Septic System Inspection Protocol. In 2020, one septic system inspection was completed to conform with the Ontario Building Code. The inspection of this system confirmed it was functioning as designed and did not require either minor or major maintenance.

Due to the pandemic, municipal sewage inspection programs across the CTC were put on hold or delayed in 2020.

## 4. Risk Management Plans

2020 Progress: S - Satisfactory

In 2020, 14 Risk Management Plans (RMPs) were established in the CTC Source Protection Region. However, the COVID-19 pandemic had a significant impact on the ability of Risk Management Officials to negotiate and establish RMPs throughout much of this reporting year. As of the end of 2020, 118 Risk Management Plans are in place within the CTC Source Protection Region. Municipalities have also reported that 43 Risk Management Plans are in the process of being completed.

There were 46 inspections carried out in 2020 by a Risk Management Inspector for prohibited or regulated activities. In 2020, there was 100% compliance for Risk Management Plans and prohibited activities that were inspected.

In 2020, a 3-year extension (to December 31, 2023) to the original completion deadline for outstanding risk management plans was authorized.

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## 5. Provincial Progress: Addressing Risks on the Ground

P: Progressing Well/On Target

Ontario ministries review applications for new or amended provincial approvals (i.e., prescribed instruments, such as environmental compliance approvals under the *Environmental Protection Act*) where they have been identified as a tool in our Source Protection Plan to address activities that pose a significant risk to sources of drinking water. The Province has established Standard Operating Policies to ensure that approvals take into account the science generated through the Drinking Water Source Protection Program and policies in the Source Protection Plan. Where necessary, conditions are added to provincial approvals to ensure that an activity does not pose a significant threat to sources of drinking water.

By December 2018, the province had completed their review of all previously issued approvals (100%) where the activity could have resulted in a significant threat within the CTC. Through 2020, provincial ministries continue to review applications for new or amended approvals for conformity with the CTC Source Protection Plan.

## 6. Source Protection Awareness and Change in Behaviour

Municipalities and conservation authorities within the CTC Source Protection Region work with landowners and business owners to help safeguard our sources of drinking water. All municipalities across the CTC have established education and outreach programs, which contribute to enhancing awareness of source water protection.

In 2020, the pandemic limited some approaches to spreading source protection awareness, however 2020 efforts included:

- Orangeville added 5 new drinking water protection zone road signs and distributed doorhangers to: raise awareness of source protection; promote salt use best management practices; and notify residents and property owners about sodium and chloride impacted drinking water sources
- municipal staff working on the Waterloo-Wellington Children's Water Festival pivoted to assisting in the development of a series of grade-specific online videos showcasing in person activity centres
- a financial incentive program was established by a municipality to encourage homeowners to purchase efficient water softeners to reduce salt use
- education and outreach materials encouraging adoption of low impact development (LID) practices were developed and distributed throughout a municipality



## 7. Source Protection Plan Policies: Summary of Delays

The development of a Joint Municipal Water Supply Management Model (policy DEM-6) for several area municipalities within Dufferin County remains in progress and is anticipated in 2021.

Provincewide, all Source Protection Plans were required to include policies to address significant drinking water threats. The CTC Source Protection Committee chose to also include policies to address moderate and low drinking water threats. These moderate and low drinking water threat policies relate to the application of road salt, the handling and storage of certain chemicals and provision of education and outreach materials. Since the implementation of these moderate and low threat policies (SAL-10, SAL-12, SAL-13, DNAP -3, OS -3, GEN-8) is non-legally binding, their execution varies across the source protection region.

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## 8. Source Water Quality: Monitoring and Actions

Fourteen drinking water issues have been identified at four drinking water systems in our Source Protection Region. For these drinking water systems, the Source Protection Plan requires that the municipality establish more frequent raw water quality monitoring. This is to help further characterize water quality trends and determine the impact policies established to manage activities contributing to increased values have had. This information can be accessed by contacting the local municipality.

Since these monitoring initiatives have been established relatively recently, there is insufficient data to be able to discern the impact of source protection plan policies on activities which may contribute to these elevated concentrations. On the ground actions, education and monitoring efforts are continuing in order to try to improve these raw water quality trends.

An assessment of the 2020 status of the identified water quality issues is provided below:

Orangeville Drinking Water System (5 municipal wells)

- Sodium: Well 6 - A decreasing trend/concentration has been observed.
- Sodium: Wells 9A, 9B, 10, 11 - An increasing trend/concentration has been observed.
- Chloride: Well 6 - A decreasing trend/concentration has been observed.
- Chloride: Wells 9A, 9B, 10, 11 - An increasing trend/concentration has been observed.

Acton Drinking Water System (2 municipal wells)

- Nitrates: Davidson Wells 1 and 2 - No change in trend/concentration.

Georgetown Drinking Water System (3 municipal wells)

- Chloride: Cedarvale Wells 1, 4, and 4A - No change in trend/concentration.

Inglewood Drinking Water System (1 municipal well)

- Pathogens: Well 2 - This well was disconnected in 2020 and is planned for decommissioning in 2021; therefore the municipality has discontinued monitoring this issue there.

## 9. Science-based Assessment Reports: Work Plans

No work plans were required to be implemented for our assessment reports.

## 10. More from the Watershed

Despite the impacts of the pandemic in 2020, implementation of policies to protect drinking water sources across the CTC resulted in several other successes, including the following:

- the Lake Ontario Collaborative Group's (Policy LO-G-3) Lake Ontario Water Quality Forecasting System provides Water Treatment Plant operators with better understanding of lake currents in the event of a significant spill
- Orangeville adopted a Water Conservation Plan (Policy DEM-4); committing them to water conservation initiatives to help reduce water use.
- Wellington County updated their Emergency Response Procedures to reference source water protection mapping and notification procedure to involve the Risk Management Official if needed.
- in Erin, a Drinking Water Threat Disclosure Report was developed for municipal wellhead protection areas where significant drinking water threats are possible; resulting in useful report submissions.
- across the CTC, remote or virtual work procedures were developed to support risk management policy implementation

For more information about source protection implementation in the CTC Source Protection Region, please see our story map, which is available on our website: <https://ctcswp.ca/>



**VIA EMAIL**

January 26, 2021

Legislative & Planning Services  
Department  
Office of the Regional Clerk  
1151 Bronte Road  
Oakville ON L6M 3L1

Chair of the CTC Source Protection Committee, Douglas Wright  
Chair of the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee, Bob Edmondson  
Chair of the Lake Erie Source Protection Committee, Wendy Wright Cascaden  
Source Protection Liaison from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and  
Parks, Tea Pesheva  
Wellington County, Donna Bryce  
Town of Erin, Lisa Campion  
City of Burlington, Kevin Arjoon  
Town of Milton, Meaghen Reid  
Town of Halton Hills, Valerie Petryniak  
Town of Oakville, Vicki Tytaneck

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Please be advised that at its meeting held Wednesday, January 20, 2021, the Council of the Regional Municipality of Halton adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION: PW-02-21 - Status of Establishing Risk Management Plans for Source Water Protection**

1. THAT Report No. PW-02-21 re: "Status of Establishing Risk Management Plans for Source Water Protection" be received for information.
2. THAT the Regional Clerk forward a copy of Report No. PW-02-21 to the City of Burlington, the Town of Halton Hills, the Town of Milton, the Town of Oakville, the Town of Erin, Wellington County, the Chair of the CTC Source Protection Committee, the Chair of the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee, the Chair of the Lake Erie Source Protection Committee, and the Source Protection Liaison from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for their information.

Included please find a copy of Report No. PW-02-21 for your information.

If you have any questions please contact me at extension 7110 or the e-mail address below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G. Milne', with a large loop at the end.

Graham Milne  
Regional Clerk  
[graham.milne@halton.ca](mailto:graham.milne@halton.ca)



Report To:	Regional Chair and Members of Regional Council
From:	Andrew Farr, Commissioner, Public Works
Date:	January 20, 2021
Report No:	PW-02-21
Re:	Status of Establishing Risk Management Plans for Source Water Protection

## RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Report No. PW-02-21 re: "Status of Establishing Risk Management Plans for Source Water Protection" be received for information.
2. THAT the Regional Clerk forward a copy of Report No. PW-02-21 to the City of Burlington, the Town of Halton Hills, the Town of Milton, the Town of Oakville, the Town of Erin, Wellington County, the Chair of the CTC Source Protection Committee, the Chair of the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee, the Chair of the Lake Erie Source Protection Committee, and the Source Protection Liaison from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for their information.

## REPORT

### **Executive Summary**

- As noted in Report No. PW-34-15/LPS113-15 re: "Source Protection Plan Implementation Requirements Under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*", Halton Region is located within three Source Protection Regions: Halton-Hamilton; Lake Erie; and Credit Valley - Toronto and Region - Central Lake Ontario (CTC) (Attachment #1). Each of the Source Protection Regions has its own Source Protection Plan that applies within its jurisdiction within Halton Region.
- Since approval of the Source Protection Plans, staff have been collaborating with the local municipalities and the Province of Ontario on implementing the Source Protection Plans policies. To date approximately 95 per cent of significant drinking water threat activities have been addressed. All of the remaining drinking water threats to be addressed by Halton Region staff will require the establishment of Risk Management Plans with landowners.

- The CTC and Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Plans both included policies that required that Risk Management Plans for existing significant drinking water threats be established by December 31, 2020. The Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks subsequently extended the deadlines within the CTC and Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Regions to December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2021, respectively.
- The CTC and Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committees also require staff to provide work plans that describe how Halton Region will establish Risk Management Plans with landowners. Where efforts to engage landowners in voluntary negotiation are not successful, the Risk Management Official may need to utilize enforcement tools within the *Clean Water Act, 2006* to establish Risk Management Plans. The outreach efforts and consideration of the use of enforcement tools will be carried out in consultation with Halton Region's Communications and Legal Services staff.

## Background

As reported to Regional Council over several reports in the past, the Province of Ontario has implemented a regulatory framework that provides a proactive, multi-barrier approach to safeguard municipal drinking water. The *Clean Water Act, 2006* provides a protective framework that focuses on protecting municipal drinking water at its source through the mandatory implementation of Source Protection Plans.

As noted in Report No. PW-34-15/LPS113-15 re: "Source Protection Plan Implementation Requirements Under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*", the three Source Protection Plans (CTC, Halton-Hamilton, and Lake Erie) that impact Halton Region were approved by the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Parks (then Ministry of Environment and Climate Change) in 2015 and came into effect between December 2015 and July 2016.

As part of the approved Source Protection Plans, Halton Region and other municipalities are mandated to implement several Source Protection Plan policies to protect municipal drinking water sources using tools such as: Risk Management Plans negotiated with landowners; land use planning policies and development application review; education and outreach; and prohibitions on a small number of activities within close proximity to municipal drinking water supplies. Staff also coordinates with Local Municipal staff to implement the Source Protection Plan policies, with Local Municipal staff employing additional tools such as inspections of private septic systems in areas that may pose risks to municipal drinking water supplies. The Province of Ontario also implements Source Protection Plan policies through some of the conditions in the permits and approvals it issues for activities such as water takings, waste management, and sewage works.

As noted in Report No. LPS52-20 re: "Regional Official Plan Review - Natural Heritage Discussion Paper", Source Protection Plans also include policies that must be

implemented through land-use planning and require that official plans be updated to conform to the Source Protection Plans as part of a Regional Official Plan review. The land use policies contained in the applicable Source Protection Plans will replace the need for some of Halton Region's existing Regional Official Plan policies. The Regional Official Plan review process will determine the best approach to implementing the Source Protection Plan policies into the Regional Official Plan in a clear and concise way.

The technical work that was completed by the three Source Protection Authorities in Halton Region was documented in the Assessment Reports that preceded the development of the Source Protection Plans. Based on the completed technical work, the Assessment Reports estimated the number and location of potential drinking water threat activities. More than 4,400 properties within Halton Region were initially identified to have potential drinking water threat activities.

Through threat verification work (e.g., site visits), collaboration with Local Municipal staff, and ongoing implementation of Source Protection Plan policies, staff have been able to confirm that approximately 95 per cent of the identified threat activities within Halton Region have been addressed. The remaining significant drinking water threats need to be addressed by Risk Management Plans. The Risk Management Plans are binding agreements that are negotiated between a municipality's Risk Management Official (the Supervisor, Municipal Water Resources of the Public Works Department, as described in Report No. PW-34-15/LPS113-15) and landowners, and identify the risk management measures to be implemented so that activities cease to be, or never become, significant drinking water threats.

As of November 2020, there are an estimated 158 properties with significant drinking water threat activities remaining that the Risk Management Official must address through working with landowners to establish Risk Management Plans. The majority of these properties are either located in Georgetown where winter maintenance activities on parking lots may constitute significant drinking water threats due to the potential to increase chloride concentration in groundwater, or in the agricultural areas north of Acton.

The CTC and Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Plans both included policies that required that Risk Management Plans for existing significant drinking water threats be established by December 31, 2020 (the Lake Erie Source Protection Plan does not include a deadline for establishing Risk Management Plans). In recognition of the significant amount of time required to negotiate most Risk Management Plans, and the challenges of working closely with landowners during COVID-19, the CTC and Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committees requested that the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks grant extensions to the deadlines for establishing Risk Management Plans (Attachment #2).

The overall progress towards addressing all of the significant drinking water threat activities in Halton Region is summarized in Table #1 below.



**Table #1: Comparison of Initial Estimate of Properties with Drinking Water Threats to the Estimate of the Number of Properties that Still Require Risk Management Plans**

<b>Source Protection Region</b>	<b>Initial Number of Properties with Identified Threats (2015)</b>	<b>Estimated Remaining Properties with Threats – To Be Addressed by Region with Risk Management Plans (2020)</b>
CTC	4,392	147
Lake Erie	16	8
Halton-Hamilton	40	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,448</b>	<b>158</b>

## **Discussion**

In order to address the remaining significant drinking water threat activities within Halton Region, staff have been seeking to work with landowners to negotiate and establish Risk Management Plans. Towards this objective, staff from Public Works, Communications, and Legal Services have been working collaboratively in the preparation of outreach letters that notify landowners of the Source Protection Plan policies that may apply to their properties and activities, and encourage landowners to contact staff to initiate discussions towards negotiating and establishing Risk Management Plans.

To better engage landowners, until early 2020 staff sought to hand-deliver letters as often as possible, which provided an opportunity for landowners to ask questions and for staff to address any concerns landowners may have regarding municipal drinking water, managing threat activities and the process to establish Risk Management Plans.

After providing education and outreach materials, along with one-on-one conversations, staff have been able to negotiate and establish Risk Management Plans with some landowners. The Risk Management Plans document the best management practices and risk management measures that landowners are required to implement to ensure that activities undertaken at the property cease to be significant drinking water threats. Landowners are always invited to provide their input on the measures that will be required by the Risk Management Plans, and in most cases Risk Management Plans do not require landowners to significantly alter their practices.

Staff have found that working collaboratively with landowners is the best approach to ensure that landowners understand and agree to implement the required risk management measures in the Risk Management Plans. The process of working with landowners to establish Risk Management Plans typically can take from a few weeks to more than one year.

Despite outreach efforts, the majority of contacted landowners remain hesitant to initiate Risk Management Plan discussions with staff, to sign off on draft Risk Management Plans, or simply do not reply to outreach efforts. Additionally, most outstanding Risk Management Plans will apply to agricultural and winter maintenance activities, leading to

seasonal challenges in establishing contact with landowners and their operators. These challenges have been exacerbated by COVID-19, although staff continue to follow up with landowners and operators by phone, email and virtual meeting technology where possible.

As noted above, the deadlines to establish Risk Management Plans in the CTC and Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Regions were extended from December 31, 2020 to December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2021, respectively. These extensions were granted with the expectation that staff would prepare and submit a work plan outlining steps needed to establish Risk Management Plans with landowners who are engaged in the remaining significant drinking water threat activities.

Staff anticipate continuing to use appropriate outreach tools to inform and engage the landowners with properties that still require Risk Management Plans as much as possible, as staff have found this approach to be successful in achieving landowner implementation of the risk management measures in the Risk Management Plans.

Due to the reluctance of some landowners to respond to outreach efforts or engage with staff to discuss Risk Management Plans, it is anticipated that the Risk Management Official will need to rely on enforcement tools in order to establish all of the required Risk Management Plans by the deadlines. These enforcement tools, in the form of notices to the landowners of the Risk Management Official's intent to establish a Risk Management Plan for their property, still allow for a period of several months during which discussion and negotiations with the landowners may occur. It is anticipated that these tools would only be used where repeated outreach efforts have been unsuccessful, and Public Works staff will continue to work collaboratively with Communications and Legal Services staff on this approach.

FINANCIAL/PROGRAM IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial impacts arising from this report. Costs associated with the establishment of Risk Management Plans for Source Water Protection are included in the rate-supported operating budget.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Connell  
Acting Director, Infrastructure Planning and  
Policy



Andrew Farr  
Commissioner, Public Works

Approved by



Jane MacCaskill  
Chief Administrative Officer






If you have any questions on the content of this report,  
please contact:

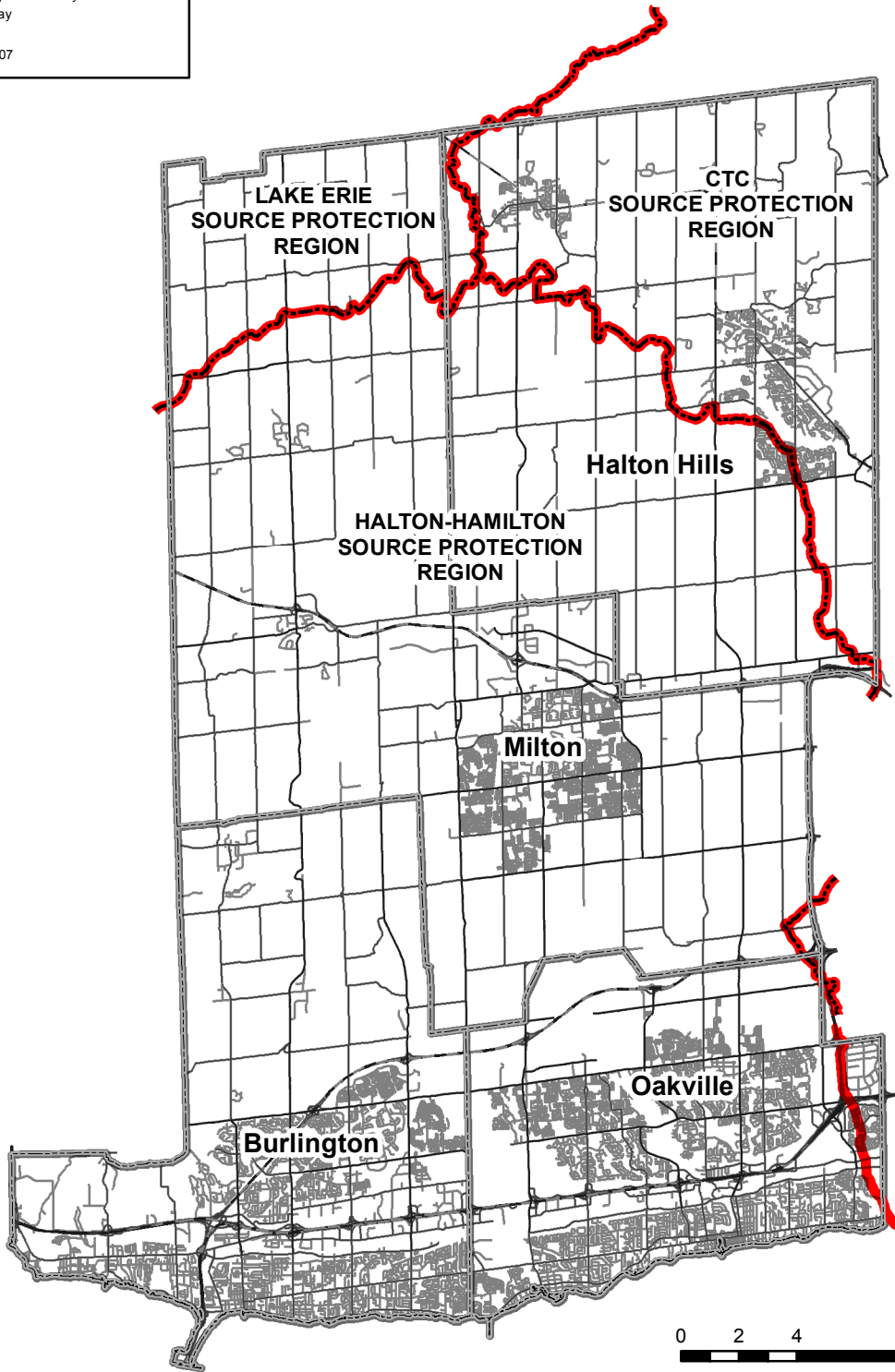
Mark Connell

Tel. # 7322

Attachments: Attachment #1 – Credit Valley, Toronto and Region, Central Lake Ontario (CTC) Source Protection Region within Halton Region  
Attachment #2 – Recommendations to Halton-Hamilton and CTC Source Protection Committees on Risk Management Plan Timeline Extensions

**Legend**

-  Source Protection Region Boundary
-  Municipal Boundary
-  Highway
-  Roads
-  ETR 407



**Source Protection Regions  
Within Halton Region**

PUBLIC WORKS

NOV 2020

**TO:** Chair and Members of the Source Protection Committee  
Meeting #1/20, April 29, 2020

**FROM:** Jennifer Stephens, Manager, Source Water Protection

**RE:** Implementation of CTC Source Protection Plan in 2019

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## **KEY ISSUE**

To provide the CTC Source Protection Committee (SPC) with an overview of implementation progress and seek the Committee's opinion in accomplishing source protection plan objectives in 2019. The Committee is also asked to provide comments on implementation progress that would then be conveyed to source protection authorities, the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, stakeholders, and the public. The discussion which is expected to occur during the assessment of implementation progress will render options from the Committee for directing future work to achieve source protection objectives in the CTC Source Protection Region. Lastly, the Committee will decide whether to seek an extension to the deadline for risk management plan (RMP) completion.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT a summary of implementation activities in 2019 obtained through Annual Reports submitted by February 1, 2020 be received by the CTC SPC for input on progress achieved in accomplishing source protection plan objectives;**

**AND THAT CTC Source Protection Region (CTC SPR) staff be directed to take the necessary action to request a formal 3-year extension to the December 31, 2020 deadline for the completion of Risk Management Plans (RMPs) in the CTC SPR to address the remaining existing significant drinking water threats;**

**AND THAT CTC SPR staff be directed to advise all Risk Management Officials in the source protection region of the revised timeline to complete RMPs and communicate the desire of the CTC SPC for the use of Part IV powers under the *Clean Water Act, 2006* to establish outstanding RMPs;**

**AND THAT CTC SPR staff be directed to take the necessary action to communicate the Committee's assessment of implementation progress as well as any feedback from the CTC SPC to the Credit Valley, Toronto & Region, and Central Lake Ontario Source Protection Authorities at meetings scheduled for May 8<sup>th</sup>, May 12<sup>th</sup>, and May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019.**

**AND FURTHER THAT the CTC SPR staff be directed to take the necessary action to submit the 2019 Annual Progress Report and 2019 Annual Report – Supplemental Form to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, along with any Source Protection Committee comments, in accordance with Section 46 of the *Clean Water Act, 2006* and any Director's instructions established under O. Reg. 287/07 S.52.**

**REPORT TO: Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee**

**REPORT NO: SPC-20-09-05**

**FROM:** Chitra Gowda, Senior Manager, Watershed Planning and Source Protection  
**cgowda@hrca.on.ca**

**DATE:** August 26, 2020

**SUBJECT:** S. 58 Risk Management Plans Policy Timeline Extension

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### **Recommendation**

THAT the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee **endorses the Staff report S. 58 Risk Management Plans Policy Timeline Extension**

AND THAT the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee **direct Staff to seek a one-year extension on the deadline for risk management plan completion.**

### **Executive Summary**

The deadline for risk management officials to establish risk management plans for existing significant threats in the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Region is December 31, 2020. Work was progressing well, however the unexpected COVID-19 global pandemic and a few other factors will cause a delay to complete a limited number of risk management plans. Staff recommend an extension to the policy timeline by one year.

### **Report**

The effective date of the Halton-Hamilton (HH) Source Protection Plan is set as December 31, 2015 by the Minister, Environment, Conservation and Parks (previously known as Environment and Climate Change). The HH source protection plan contains polices that utilise Part IV of the Clean Water Act, including the establishment of risk management plans by risk management officials, and also a policy setting a deadline. The policy G-1 states that risk management plans for existing significant threats must be established within five years of the date that the HH source protection plan comes into effect. Therefore all risk management plans for existing threats within the HH Source Protection Region (SPR) must be established by December 31, 2020.

As described in the 2019 Annual Progress Report for the HH source protection plan, municipalities have made great progress in establishing risk management plans for significant threat activities. Risk management officials and inspectors continued to verify threat activities occurring in the region in 2019. Screening processes are in place at municipalities to ensure applications for future

development are reviewed appropriately for potential threat activities and source protection policy application. In 2019, two significant threat activities were added (commercial fertilizer application and use of land by livestock). The municipal risk management officials continue to put full effort into establishing the last few risk management plans. However the unexpected and unprecedented COVID-19 global pandemic and a few other factors caused delays in work required including site visits. Work is carefully being resumed using modified procedures including physical distancing during site visits, and multiple phone interactions with the property landowners to explain emailed maps and other scientific and policy information, in lieu of in-person meetings. As well, negotiations for certain types of activities require more time than others.

A few other source protection regions have requested policy timeline extensions from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) and obtained approval for the same. The extensions requested range from one to three years. It is noted that at the time of writing the source protection plans, the extent of the work and time to be taken to establish a risk management plan were unknown. The COVID-19 pandemic is a major reason for the policy timeline extension requests, along with the fact that negotiations for certain types of activities, for example activities on farms and at small industrial-commercial companies, require more time than others.

If a risk management official encounters persons (undertaking significant threat activities) who are uncooperative there are methods outlined in the Clean Water Act to establish a risk management plan, and it may become necessary to issue an order. Risk management officials are keen on continuing their collaborative, negotiated process with the landowner. An order that imposes a risk management plan is a last resort tool.

It is anticipated that there are two risk management plans in the HHSPR that will likely be delayed beyond 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the nature of the activities which require more time for negotiations with the persons undertaking the activities. Staff will send a letter to MECP requesting an extension to risk management plan policy timelines to December 31, 2021. It is expected that risk management officials will be required, as condition of the extension approval, to work with the source protection region to prepare a plan to move forward. Risk management officials would eventually submit a simple plan to the source water protection program manager similar to that shown in **Attachment 1**. As well, during the S. 36 update of the source protection plan, revisions will be made to the text of the policy G-1 to reflect the extended policy timelines.

Signed & respectfully submitted:

Chitra Gowda, Senior Manager  
Watershed Planning and Source Protection  
[cgowda@hrca.on.ca](mailto:cgowda@hrca.on.ca)

**Attachments**

**1. Plan to establish risk management plans in the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Region**

**Attachment 1: Plan to establish risk management plans in the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Region**

<b>Risk Management Official Name:</b>		
<b>Task For Risk Management Officials</b>	<b><i>Suggested Timelines</i></b>	<b>Risk management Official's Timeline</b>
Develop Workplan and submit to Program Manager at Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Region	<i>October 8-20</i>	September-30-20
Contact all persons requiring risk management plans	<i>November-30-20</i>	
Complete initial site visits	<i>February-30-21</i>	
Issue Orders if necessary	<i>May-01-21</i>	
Negotiate risk management plans	<i>September-01-21</i>	
<b>Completion Date (mandatory)</b>	<b>December-31-21</b>	<b>December-31-21</b>