

Source Protection Committee

Minutes of Meeting of the Essex Region Source Protection Committee (SPC) held on
Wednesday, October 14, 2020 via Zoom video conferencing.

Members Present:

Tom Fuerth (Chair)	Tim Mousseau
John Barnett – audio only	Cynthia Ouellet
Ron Barrette – carrying proxy for Jean-Marc Beneteau	Nelson Santos
Albert Dionne	Chris Snip
Jim Drummond	Justine Taylor
Bill Dukes	Larry Verbeke (SPA Liaison)
Antionetta Giofu	Ian Wilson
Thom Hunt	Olga Yudina (MECP Liaison)
Matthew Merritt	

Absent:

Regrets:

Jean-Marc Beneteau	Phillip Wong (Health Unit Liaison)
	Victoria Peczulis (Health Unit)

Staff:

Katie Stammer, Project Manager, Source Water Protection/Water Quality Scientist
Kevin Money, Director, Conservation Services
Laura Monforton, Risk Management Official/ Inspector
Aaron Zimmer, Multimedia Specialist

Delegates:

Guests:

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair of the SPC, Tom Fuerth, called the meeting to order at 4:05p.

CHAIRS WELCOME

Chair Fuerth welcomed everyone to the meeting and our guests who are tuning into the meeting streamed live on ERCA's YouTube channel. Thank you for attending the Essex Region's Source Protection Committee this afternoon.

I'd like to announce the changes to the committee and introduce our newest members. Albert Dionne is our new municipal representative for the Town of Lakeshore and replaces Kevin Girard. Matthew Merrett is our new economic representative from Sterling Fuels and replaces Ian Wilson. Ian Wilson is filling in for Paul Drca's position from the City of Windsor. Nelson Santos was reappointed to continue as the municipal representative for Union Water Supply System.

Our Project Manager, Katie Stammer, held a short Source Water Protection refresher via Zoom for new and other interested SPC members covering the background of the program and highlights of our local actions and next steps. There is also additional material from CO that will add more depth description of the Source Water Protection Program from the beginning to now, and includes additional information regarding the consideration of Climate Change. This information and slide deck will be sent to SPC Members via email.

Chair meetings continue to be held virtually 3 times a year via Skype.

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

AGENDA

1. Agenda for the Meeting of the Essex Region Source Protection Committee (SPC) held on Wednesday, October 14th, 2020

Resolution SPC 14/20

Moved by Nelson Santos

Seconded by Albert Dionne

THAT the Agenda for the Wednesday, October 14th, 2020, Meeting of the Essex Region Source Protection Committee (SPC) be approved

- CARRIED

MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Meeting of the Source Protection Committee (SPC) held on Wednesday, March 11th, 2020

Resolution SPC 15/20 Moved by Jim Drummond

Seconded by Ron Barrette

THAT the Minutes for the Wednesday, March 11th, 2020, Meeting of the Essex Region Source Protection Committee (SPC) be approved as presented

- CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

None

SOURCE PROTECTION AUTHORITY (SPA) INFORMATION

1. Minutes for the Meeting of the Essex Region Source Protection Authority (SPA) held on Thursday April 16, 2020

Resolution SPC 16/20 Moved by Tim Mousseau

Seconded by Thom Hunt

THAT the Minutes for the Thursday April 16, 2020 Meeting of the Essex Region Source Protection Authority (SPA) be received.

- CARRIED

MECP LIAISON'S UPDATE

Olga Yudina, MECP Liaison provided a brief update to the SPC.

- (1) The proposed amendments to the Directors Technical Rules are posted on the Environmental Registry (EBR) of Ontario. Katie will be covering these technical items in detail within her reports, but right now I'll outline more generally what our next steps are as it relates to the proposed amendments. The posting is currently on the EBR for 90 days and closes on November 9th, 2020. We welcome everyone to provide comments and encourage you to spend time digesting the information. Katie will outline how you can submit your own comments and also whether there will be a coordinated effort for gathering comments for submission by the committee as a whole. The MECP is going to review the submissions and consider all of the comments before proceeding. We are working on developing a guidance document to support the implementation of the changes to the Technical Rules, this has not yet been released. This guidance document will support the implementation

of those changes once they are in effect. The expected decision notice posting to the EBR date, depending on feedback from the commenting period, is scheduled for some time in January or February 2021.

- (2) I also want to provide a little bit of an update on progress MECP is making in the development of *guidance documents for private systems* to ensure communities and individuals that don't have access to municipal drinking water systems have the tools they need to protect their sources of drinking water that are not covered under the *Clean Water Act*. This guidance uses existing source water protection information to provide a range of cost effect strategies to for the protection of sources of drinking water and how to manage the risks to drinking water. By using everything we learned under the Clean Water Act framework, this guidance will assist in the efforts to provide tips to these communities and individuals in the protection of their sources of drinking water. For example, it will include information and resources to help landowners ensure they have properly functioning septic systems, proper storage of on-site fuel tanks, pesticides, other sources of contaminants to make sure their drinking water is safe. The document will include information for municipalities on how they can use their existing regulatory tools to protect those private systems (e.g. planning act, municipal act, and septic inspection program). Right now we are consulting with a small representative sample of source protection authorities and municipalities. We have one or two project managers from each of the four regions in the province involved in the pilot stages to get some feedback on the guidance document. We've also reached out to municipal associations to identify representatives that could also be involved in reviewing the guidance document to determine how helpful it would be to communities. The MECP is going to incorporate all the feedback to finalize the guidance document. This document will be posted to Ontario.ca, and depending on the type of feedback received, it is scheduled for release sometime in the Spring of 2021.
- (3) The MECP continues to provide support to Source Protection Authorities, Municipalities and Committees with the amendments to their Source Protection Plans. Each Source Protection Area is in a different stage of working through their s.36 comprehensive review and update of the Assessment Reports and Plans. Since the approval of plans in 2015, there have been roughly twenty amendments to Assessment reports and Source Protection Plans. Depending on the complexity of this work and the changes, the Source Protection Areas have timeframes for completion of these updates and the MECP continues to provide support throughout the process.

PRESENTATION

None

REPORTS - A PowerPoint presentation to the SPC was provided to accompany the reports

1. **Report SPC 06/20** – SPC Rules of Procedure, Code of Conduct, and Conflict of Interest Policies

Resolution SPC 17/20 Moved by Chris Snip

Seconded by Albert Dionne

THAT edits to the 'Rules of Procedure, Code of Conduct, and Conflict of Interest Policies' be accepted.

- CARRIED

2. **Report SPC 07/20** – Update on Part IV Risk Management Services

Resolution SPC 18/20 Moved by Albert Dionne

Seconded by Ron Barrette

THAT Report SPC 07/20 be received for information.

- CARRIED

3. **Report SPC 08/20** – S.36 Update - Liquid Hydrocarbon Pipeline Policy

Resolution SPC 19/20 Moved by Nelson Santos

Seconded by Matthew Merrett

THAT Report SPC 08/20 be received for information and discussion purposes, and further;

THAT the Source Protection Committee endorse the proposed liquid hydrocarbon policies, and further;

THAT staff be directed to incorporate the proposed policy as part of the forthcoming amendment to the Source Protection Plan, under Section 36 of the Clean Water Act.

- CARRIED

4. **Report SPC 09/ 20** – Monitoring Policies

Resolution SPC 20/20 Moved by Tim Mousseau

Seconded by Cynthia Ouellet

THAT the proposed changes to the Monitoring Policies in the Essex Region Source Protection Plan be included in the Section 36 update.

- CARRIED

* John Barnett left the meeting at 5:15 *

4. **Report SPC 10/ 20** – Director Technical Rules, Phase II amendments

Resolution SPC 21/20

Moved by Albert Dionne

Seconded by Matthew Merrett

THAT Report 10/20 be received for information;

THAT Administration prepare comments to the MECP in response to the proposed amendment to the Director Technical Rules posted to the Environmental Registry of Ontario; and further;

THAT the comments be circulated to the Source Protection Committee

- CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS

A few weeks ago, an issue was reported at the Arner Stop Gas station. This was initially reported as a natural gas leak, then confirmed to be a localized fuel leak. Due to older, compromised underground tanks, gas fumes were building up in the basement of the gas station. The immediate threat was a threat of explosion, not a threat of fuel leaking into the environment. The Fire Department confirmed that no fuel was lost to the environment and the Spills Action Centre (SAC) investigated and determined that it was not a threat to the environment or to our sources of drinking water, so they did not need to contact the water treatment plant operators.

This location is in close proximity to the Event Based Area and there was some confusion about whether there was a fuel spill, leading to some concern about contamination of nearby watercourses. We are confident that SAC followed the appropriate protocols, but this event has brought to light that we should consider developing a local procedure to share information about potential spills. This procedure should include notification that a spill has been determined *not* to be a threat to drinking water, particularly when information in the media is unreliable.

NEW BUSINESS

None

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Resolution SPC 22/20

Moved by Tim Mousseau

Seconded by Ron Barrette

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 5:35 pm.

- CARRIED

DATE – NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Source Protection Committee (SPC) is tentatively scheduled for January 13th, 2021.

CONCLUSION OF MEETING



Katie Stammler,
Project Manager, Source Water Protection/
Water Quality Scientist