

Ministry of  
the Environment

Source Protection Programs  
Branch

14th Floor  
40 St. Clair Ave. West  
Toronto ON M4V 1M2

Ministère de  
l'Environnement

Direction des programmes de protection  
des sources

8<sup>e</sup> étage  
2, avenue St. Clair Ouest  
Toronto (Ontario) M4V 1L5



Log: ENV1174IT-2010-239

February 17, 2011

Mr. John Williamson  
Chair, Cataraqui Source Protection Committee  
4145 Holmes Road  
R.R. #1  
Inverary ON K0H 1X0

Dear Mr. Williamson:

I am responding to your October 22, 2010 letter regarding your request to use an alternate method under Rule 15.1 of the Director's Technical Rules (Rules) for the completion of the assessment report under the *Clean Water Act* (CWA) for the Cataraqui source protection area.

#### Variation from Rule – Tier 3 Water Budget Assessments

As set out in your correspondence, your proposal is to use an alternative method to complete Tier 3 Water Budget assessments for the Sydenham Lake drinking water system.

As stated in your letter, you wish to use the approach set out in Technical Bulletin: Part IX Local Area Risk Level, dated April 2010. You state that the Technical Bulletin provides a consistent alternative approach that can be applied by any source protection committee in the province to evaluate the circumstances in which water quantity threats could be considered as significant or moderate threats in their source protection area.


We accept your opinion that the method outlined in the Technical Bulletin is better than the methods prescribed in the Rules because it provides: clarification on committed demand and planned systems; clarification on the temporal and spatial information requirements for the risk scenarios; clarification on the evaluation of 'tolerance' and 'other uses' within the circumstances; a clearly defined threshold for evaluating impacts to 'others uses'; and the introduction of professional judgement for assigning risk levels to local areas.

In accordance with my authority under Rule 15.1, I hereby provide Director's approval, granting the SPC with the authority to use the alternative method for the Sydenham Lake drinking water system.

Your rationale for the use of the alternative method and how it is being applied must be included in your assessment report.

We thank you for your efforts in completing the technical studies in support of the assessment report under the CWA. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact our office.

Sincerely,



Ian Smith, Director  
Source Protection Programs Branch  
Ministry of the Environment

cc: Rob McRae, Cataraqui Region Source Protection Authority  
Heather Malcolmson, Manager, Source Protection Planning  
Keith Willson, Manager, Source Protection Approvals  
Wendy Lavendar, Liaison Officer, Source Protection Implementation  
Melanie Ward, Source Protection Approvals