

Ministry of
the Environment

Source Protection Programs
Branch

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Ministère de
l'Environnement

Direction des programmes de protection
des sources

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June 8, 2010

Mr. Sean Watt, Water Resources Engineer
Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority
1641 Perth Road, P.O. Box 160
Glenburnie, Ontario K0H 1S0

Dear Mr. Sean Watt,

Thank you for letter dated January 21, 2010 requesting a Director's opinion regarding the addition of water softeners as a local drinking water threat under Rule 119 of the technical rules.

In accordance with my authority under Rule 119, 120, or 121, I hereby provide the following Director's opinion for the activity, circumstance and hazard rating related to your proposed request as per the attached table. These activity, circumstances, and hazard ratings have been approved as a local threat in the Cataraqui Source Protection Area.

A copy of this letter along with your rationale for the inclusion of this local threat must be included in your assessment report.

Sincerely,



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

- c: Rob McRae, Project Manager, Cataraqui Source Protection Area
John C. Williamson, Chair, Cataraqui Source Protection Committee
Keith Willson, Manager, Source Protection Approvals
Paul Heeney, Manager, Source Protection Implementation
Heather Malcolmson, Manager, Source Protection Planning
Katie Fairman, Supervisor, Source Protection Implementation
Wendy Lavender, Liaison Officer, CRCA, Source Protection Implementation

Attachment: Local Threat, Circumstances and Hazard Ratings

LOCAL DRINKING WATER THREAT (Activity)	CIRCUMSTANCES	HAZARD RATING	
		Ground-water	Surface Water
The use of a water softener	<p>1. The operation of the water softener results in backwash being discharged directly to a system that is an earth pit privy, privy vault, greywater system, cesspool, or a leaching bed system and its associated treatment unit.</p> <p>2. The system is subject to the <i>Ontario Building Code Act, 1992</i>.</p> <p>3. The discharge from the system may result in the presence of Chloride in groundwater or surface water.</p>	7.5	5.9
	<p>1. The operation of the water softener results in backwash being discharged directly to a system that is an earth pit privy, privy vault, greywater system, cesspool, or a leaching bed system and its associated treatment unit.</p> <p>2. The system is subject to the <i>Ontario Building Code Act, 1992</i>.</p> <p>3. The discharge from the system may result in the presence of Sodium in groundwater or surface water.</p>	7.5	5.9
The use of a water softener	<p>1. The operation of the water softener results in backwash being discharged directly to ground surface or into a subsurface structure that is not a septic system, sewer system, or storm water system,</p> <p>2. The water softener is designed to convey less than 683 L backwash per week and services a residential dwelling</p> <p>3. The discharge from the water softener may result in the presence of Chloride in groundwater or surface water.</p>	7.5	8.3
	<p>1. The operation of the water softener results in backwash being discharged directly to ground surface or into a subsurface structure that is not a septic system, sewer system, or storm water system,</p> <p>2. The water softener is designed to convey less than 683 L backwash per week and services a residential dwelling</p> <p>3. The discharge from the water softener may result in the presence of Sodium in groundwater or surface water.</p>	7.5	8.3

LOCAL DRINKING WATER THREAT (Activity)	CIRCUMSTANCES	HAZARD RATING	
		Ground-water	Surface Water
The use of a water softener	<p>1. The operation of the water softener results in backwash being discharged directly to ground surface or into a subsurface structure that is not a septic system, sewer system, or storm water system,</p> <p>2. The water softener is designed to convey greater than or equal to 683 L backwash per week and services a residential dwelling</p> <p>3. The discharge from the water softener may result in the presence of Chloride in groundwater or surface water.</p>	8.3	9.1
	<p>1. The operation of the water softener results in backwash being discharged directly to ground surface or into a subsurface structure that is not a septic system, sewer system, or storm water system,</p> <p>2. The water softener is designed to convey greater than or equal to 683 L backwash per week and services a residential dwelling</p> <p>3. The discharge from the water softener may result in the presence of Sodium in groundwater or surface water.</p>	8.3	9.1