

Appendix ‘B’ – Summary of Consultation on the Assessment Report

Purpose

This appendix is intended to document the process of local consultation by the Cataraqui Source Protection Committee (SP Committee) and the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority (CRCA) regarding this Assessment Report (and component technical studies) with municipalities, stakeholders, and the broader community. The consultation was undertaken to share draft findings and reports, and to seek local knowledge about vulnerable areas. Our process exceeded the requirements of the Ontario *Clean Water Act, 2006* and Ontario Regulation 287/07, as amended.

Consultation Activities

Consultation on Component Technical Studies

This Assessment Report is composed of technical findings from numerous technical studies that were commissioned by the CRCA between 2005 and 2011. The SP Committee and the Conservation Authority adopted an approach through which local decision-makers and residents could offer their input on each component study, prior to its completion and inclusion in the draft Report. Public open houses in the subject communities were used as the forum for this dialogue. The ‘bottom-up’ approach allowed for feedback early in the process, resulting in the collection of local knowledge about the realities of each vulnerable area.

The technical study open houses were hosted by a combination of SP Committee members, technical staff from the CRCA, and consultants. The focus of the presentations and discussion was the delineation of vulnerable areas and the assignment of vulnerability scoring, as work on the threat inventory and issue evaluation was still ongoing. All of the draft findings that were presented had been reviewed by the CRCA, the relevant technical advisory group, and the SP Committee prior to sharing the relevant information with the community.

An initial round of seven public open houses was held in the spring of 2009. An open house was held at Sydenham in May 2009 for the Sydenham Intake Protection Zone Study. Open houses were held in June 2009 for the Cana Subdivision Wellhead Protection Area Study (Kingston), the Miller Manor Apartments Wellhead Protection Area Study (Mallorytown) and the Eastern Lake Ontario – Upper St. Lawrence River Intake Protection Zone Study (Bath, Brockville, Gananoque and Kingston). The Bath event was hosted jointly with the neighbouring Quinte Source Protection Region. A total of 85 people attended this round of public events, not including SP Committee members and staff/consultants. There was some positive media coverage that helped to raise the profile of drinking water source protection across the Area.

A subsequent public open house for the Lansdowne Wellhead Protection Area Study was held at Lansdowne in November 2009. There were 20 people in attendance, not including SP Committee members and staff/consultants.

Consultation on the Draft Assessment Report

The Draft Assessment Report for the Cataraqi Source Protection Area was published on April 15, 2010. In accordance with Ontario Regulation 288/07, notices were placed on the Internet and in local newspapers, and were sent to municipal clerks, the adjacent source protection regions, the Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan and other interested parties. The draft was made available for public review at the CRCA office in Glenburnie (Kingston) and in local libraries.

Comments were requested (to the attention of the Cataraqi Source Protection Committee) by May 20, 2010, in accordance with the prescribed 35-day comment window. About 125 individual comments were received; two comment letters were received from the municipalities in the Source Protection Area. A majority of those comments suggested how to improve the clarity of the report; the SP Committee felt that most of the comments warranted revisions to the document. A table that showed how each comment was addressed was posted on the Internet for public review.

Presentations about the findings were made to 12 municipal councils in January, February, and March 2010. Public open houses were held at Brockville, Kingston, and Napanee in May 2010; the latter event was held in conjunction with the Quinte Source Protection Region. The events were held after the prescribed 21 day waiting period after the publication of the draft. There were a total of 31 participants not including SP Committee members and staff/consultants. Response to the Draft Assessment Report was generally positive.

Consultation on the Proposed Assessment Report

The Proposed Assessment Report for the Cataraqi Source Protection Area was published on July 21, 2010. In accordance with the Ontario *Clean Water Act, 2006* and Ontario Regulation 288/07, notices were placed on the Internet, and were sent to municipal clerks, the adjacent source protection regions, the Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan and other interested parties. The proposed version was also made available for public review at the CRCA office in Glenburnie (Kingston).

Comments were requested (to the attention of the Cataraqi Source Protection Authority) by August 20, 2010, in accordance with the prescribed 30-day comment window. No comments were received in response to the posting; all of the earlier comments received from municipalities had been resolved prior to the completion of the Proposed Assessment Report.

Consultation on the Draft Amended Proposed Assessment Report

The Draft Amended Proposed Assessment Report for the Cataraqi Source Protection Area was published on April 27, 2011. In accordance with the Ontario *Clean Water Act, 2006* and Ontario Regulation 288/07, notices were placed on the Internet, and were sent to municipal clerks, the adjacent source protection regions, and other interested parties. This version was also made available for public review at the CRCA office in Glenburnie (Kingston).

Comments were requested (to the attention of the Cataraqi Source Protection Authority) by May 27, 2011, in accordance with the prescribed 30-day comment window. One comment was received in response to the posting and was resolved prior to completion of the Report.

During March, April and May 2011, presentations about the findings were made to the municipal councils of Gananoque, Greater Napanee (in conjunction with the Quinte Source Protection

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Region) and Kingston, as well as Frontenac County, Lennox & Addington County, and the United Counties of Leeds & Grenville (in conjunction with the adjacent source protection regions).

Municipal and public open houses were held at Glenburnie (Kingston) on the afternoon and evening of May 10, 2011. There was representation from six of the 12 municipalities in the CSPA at the afternoon session. The municipal response to the Draft Amended Proposed Assessment Report was positive. There was no attendance at the evening public open house.

Consultation on the Amended Proposed Assessment Report

The Amended Proposed Assessment Report was endorsed by the Cataraqui Source Protection Authority on June 22, 2011. The Report was subsequently submitted to the Ministry of Environment for final review and comment on June 27, 2011. The review process ensured that all comments from the Ministry, municipalities and the public were addressed.

The Ontario Ministry of Environment approved the Cataraqui Source Protection Area Assessment Report (June 2011) on October 6, 2011.