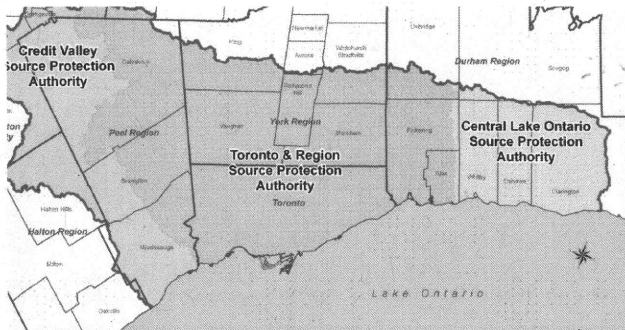


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CTC SOURCE PROTECTION REGION

**DRINKING WATER
SOURCE PROTECTION**
ACT FOR CLEAN WATER

CTC SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

NOTICE

Denis Kelly
Regional Clerk
Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street PO Box 147
Newmarket, ON
L3Y 6Z1

April 15, 2011



REGION OF YORK
CLERK'S OFFICE

FILE No. - P42

FOR THE ATTENTION OF COUNCIL:

NOTICE UNDER O.REG.287/07 SOURCE PROTECTION PLAN PREPARATION FOR DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION IN THE CREDIT VALLEY, TORONTO AND REGION AND CENTRAL LAKE ONTARIO (CTC) SOURCE PROTECTION REGION

We are writing to advise you about the upcoming preparation of a Source Protection Plan for Drinking Water Threat activities in the CTC Source Protection Region. This letter serves as a notice under Ontario Regulation 287/07.

Background

The Ontario *Clean Water Act, 2006* and the associated Regulations have prompted the formation of the CTC Source Protection Committee. The mandate of this Committee is to develop a science-based Source Protection Plan to ensure the protection of clean and plentiful municipal drinking water sources. The Region of York's representative on the committee is Laura McDowell, Director, Environmental Protection, Region of York.

The first task of the Source Protection Committee was to develop its own Terms of Reference (TOR) for each of the three Source Protection Areas within the CTC Source Protection Region. The Terms of Reference outlined all the steps to be taken to develop and implement a Source Protection Plan. The TOR for the Toronto and Region, Credit Valley and Central Lake Ontario Source Protection Areas of the CTC Source Protection Region were approved by the Ministry of the Environment on August 17, 2009.

The second step in the process was to develop an Assessment Report (AR) for each Source Protection Area in the CTC Source Protection Region. The Assessment Reports identify vulnerable areas where municipal drinking water sources might face a risk of contamination or depletion and identifies drinking water threats within those vulnerable areas. After two consultation periods, the Central Lake Ontario Source Protection Area (CLOSPA) Proposed Assessment Report was submitted to the Director of the Ministry of the Environment's Source Protection Programs Branch on August 9, 2010 and the Toronto and Region Source Protection Area (TRSPA) and Credit Valley Source Protection Area (CVSPA) Proposed Assessment Reports were submitted on December 21, 2010.

The third step in the Drinking Water Source Protection process, the preparation of a science-based Source Protection Plan for each Source Protection Area in the CTC Source Protection Region has now begun.

Source Protection Plans

The Source Protection Plans will build on the information contained in the earlier reports. The Source Protection Plans will outline policies and programs to eliminate or mitigate existing Significant Threats and to ensure that no new threats develop and may include policies and programs to address Moderate or Low Drinking water threats.

The CTC Source Protection Region is committed to keeping our municipal partners informed and engaged in the Source Protection Process, specifically now that we are entering the policy development phase. The Source Protection Committee has formed a Source Protection Plan working group which is overseeing development of policy options for the committee. The Working Group is supported by the Source Protection Plan Steering Committee, a committee made up of conservation authority and municipal staff representing a cross-section of municipalities. Municipal staff from the planning and water departments of all municipalities where there are municipal wells have been invited to participate in a series of facilitated workshops to develop the policy options. The whole Source Protection Committee will review the policy options to select draft proposed policies on which they will consult with municipalities and other stakeholders starting in later 2011.

The Source Protection Committee has a number of tools at their disposal to develop source protection plans, including:

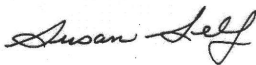
1. Prescribed Instruments (provincial approvals such as Certificates of Approval)
2. Risk Management Plans (site-specific plans negotiated with owner and Risk Management Official)
3. Prohibition of Activities
4. Restriction of Activities (for example using municipal planning tools under the *Planning Act*)
5. Education and Outreach and Incentive Programs
6. Combination of the above

The Source Protection Committee will strive to maximize accountability and transparency in the preparation, consultation and implementation of Source Protection Plan policies. Municipalities' Official Plans must conform to the source protection plan policies that deal with significant drinking water threats and have regard for policies addressing moderate and low drinking water threats, when approved by the Minister of the Environment.

Your municipality is being represented by Laura McDowell on the Source Protection Committee. If your council would like further information, a presentation or a discussion with staff or councillors, please let your representative or our staff know. You will also receive notification when there is a formal opportunity for the Region of York to review and to provide input on the draft policies.

The Steering Committee and planned policy development workshops are the first step in developing policy options for the Source Protection Committee's consideration in developing the Source Protection Plans over the next 18 months. We look forward to working with you as we make progress towards completion of this process by **August 2012**. Thank you for your ongoing assistance with Drinking Water Source Protection. Should you require further information or have any questions, please contact Beverley Thorpe, Project Manager at 416 661-6600 extension 5577.

Yours sincerely,



Susan Self
Chair, CTC Source Protection Region Committee

Cc: Laura McDowell, Director, Environmental Protection, Region of York