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MANDATED REGULATORY REPORTING TO COUNCIL 2008 DRINKING WATER SYSTEM SCHEDULE 22 SUMMARY REPORT

The Transportation and Works Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendation contained in the following report dated February 9, 2009, from the Commissioner of Environmental Services.

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

1. The Regional Clerk forward a copy of this report and attachments to the Clerks of the nine local municipalities.

2. PURPOSE

This report fulfills the requirements mandated under Schedule 22 of the Ministry of the Environment's Drinking Water Systems Ontario Regulation (O. Reg. 170/03). This regulation requires that Regional Council be provided with an understanding of York Region's drinking water systems capacities for the 2008 reporting year. The 2008 Drinking Water System Schedule 22 Summary Report is required to be submitted to Regional Council no later than March 31st of the reporting year (*see Attachment 1*).

This report addresses the addendum applied to the 2007 York Region Drinking Water System Schedule 22 Summary Report which has been published and posted on the York Region website (*see Attachment 2*).

3. BACKGROUND

Legislation mandates system owners to report to Council and the Public

Legislative amendments to the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*, released in 2004 by the Ministry of the Environment, resulted in substantial changes to Water and Wastewater Operations. Amendments to O. Reg. 170/03 increased regulatory compliance requirements on system operations. Reporting under Schedule 22 and Section 11 of O. Reg. 170/03 was mandated, requiring the owner of a drinking-water system to prepare an annual report in accordance with the Regulation and submit these reports to Regional Council and the public.

Drinking Water System Schedule 22 Summary Report provides Regional Council with summary of requirements for water systems and capacity

Reporting requirements under Schedule 22 require York Region to submit a Drinking Water System Schedule 22 Summary Report to Regional Council no later than March 31st of each reporting year. This report provides the owners and Regional Council with an understanding of York Region's drinking water systems status and capacities for the reporting year. The report includes:

- Rated capacity and flow rates approved by each Permit to Take Water approval.
- Quantities and flow rates of water supplied.
- Monthly average, maximum daily flow and daily instantaneous peak flow rates.
- Legislative requirements under the *Safe Drinking Water Act 2002*.
- Provincial Officer Orders the system failed to meet and related corrective actions.

Requirements of the Annual Water Quality Report

Reporting under Section 11 requires York Region to submit an Annual Water Quality Report to the local municipalities and the public no later than February 28th of each reporting year. This report provides the local municipalities and the public with a summary of the drinking water system, and the water quality produced, treated and delivered for the reporting year. The Annual Water Quality Report can be accessed through York Region's website after February 28th of each reporting year.

It is mandated that Regional Council receive the Drinking Water System Schedule 22 Summary Report; however, it is only required that the Annual Water Quality Report be made available to local municipalities and the public.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

Findings of the 2008 Drinking Water System Schedule 22 Summary Report met the limits imposed by the Permit to Take Water

All of York Region's Drinking Water Systems met the monthly average flow, maximum daily withdrawal, and the allowable daily withdrawal limits imposed by the Permit to Take Water for the 2008 reporting year.

It was determined that upgrades to the Mount Albert water supply system which includes the development of a new well and treatment system is required in order to provide additional water supply and adequate standby capacity to service growth anticipated in the community.

In 2008, 10 of 37 production wells experienced short-term incidents where instantaneous peak flow rates exceeded the Permit to Take Water limits. Water production wells may

experience brief flow spikes (typically, less than five minutes) where the instantaneous flow rate exceed the Permit to Take Water limits. Flow spikes are generally associated with start-up of our well pumps. The Ministry of Environment is satisfied that any short term flow spikes recorded at York Region production wells are expected and do not pose a compliance issue.

The total maximum daily average of water supplied from Peel to the York Water System for the reporting period of January 1 – December 31, 2008 was 72,304,917 litres per day. The system operated at 1.04% above the maximum permitted withdrawal prescribed in the operating agreement. This increase in withdrawal resulted from annual maintenance conducted on the production wells which increased the system demand for the Aurora water supply. Higher precipitation in 2008 also contributed to lower than average withdrawal volumes from the Aurora water supply and surrounding water supply systems. Operating above the maximum permitted withdrawal is acceptable and is not classified as a regulatory exceedance as prescribed in the operating agreement when agreed upon between York Region and the Region of Peel.

York Region Drinking Water Systems In Compliance with Ministry Inspections

The Ministry of the Environment has a rigorous and comprehensive inspection program for municipal residential drinking water systems. The objective of this program is to determine compliance with requirements under the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*, associated regulations, Ministry Permit to Take Water and Certificates of Approvals.

For the 2008 reporting year, there were no orders issued by the Ministry of the Environment under the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002* or the O. Reg. 170/03 for any inspections conducted on York Region's municipal drinking water systems.

June of each year, the Ministry of the Environment publishes the Ontario Chief Drinking Water Inspector's Annual Report. In this report municipal drinking water systems receive an Inspection Report Ratings (IRR) on a scale of 0-100% based on the inspection report results achieved for the reporting year. A separate report to Council will be submitted at this time summarizing the IRR findings for each of York Regions municipal drinking water systems, sharing the finding with council, appropriate officials in the operating authority and local area municipality that receives drinking water from York Regions systems.

Addendum published and changes made to the 2007 Drinking Water System Schedule 22 Summary Report

An addendum has been published for the 2007 report with regards to the total annual water withdrawal from the Newmarket/East Gwillimbury/Holland Landing production wells Section 2.9.3 and Table 27. Results in this section were previously under reported, reporting less water taken for the 2007 reporting year than actually taken. The revised

values did not exceed the permitted withdrawal limits and no non-compliances were determined. An addendum to the 2007 York Region Drinking Water System Schedule 22 Summary Report has been published and posted on the York Region website (*see Attachment 2*).

Relationship to Vision 2026

The 2008 Schedule 22 Summary Report support two of the eight goals of Vision 2026 (Goal 2: Enhanced Environment, Heritage and Culture, Goal 7: Infrastructure for a Growing Region) by:

- Complying with and maintaining high standards for drinking-water quality.
- Providing safe and dependable water supply to systems and facilities in area municipalities.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

York Region's Drinking Water Systems meet all regulatory compliance prescribed through applicable Federal and Provincial legislation, Certificates of Approval, and Permits to Take Water, enabling us to deliver safe drinking water to our local municipalities.

7. CONCLUSION

The findings from the 2008 reporting year continue to demonstrate that York Region meets all regulatory compliance requirements prescribed through applicable Federal and Provincial legislation with regards to provision of safe drinking water as well as our commitment to communicate our performance to our stakeholders.

For more information on this report, please contact Laura McDowell, Director of Environmental Promotion and Protection at Ext. 5077.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

(The two attachments referred to in this clause are attached to this report.)