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MANDATED REGULATORY REPORTING TO COUNCIL 2007 DRINKING WATER SYSTEM SCHEDULE 22 SUMMARY REPORT

The Transportation and Works Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendation contained in the following report, February 22, 2008, from the Commissioner of Environmental Services:

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

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

2. PURPOSE

This report fulfills the requirements mandated under Schedule 22 of the Ministry of the Environment's Drinking Water Systems Regulation (O. Reg. 170/03) by providing Regional Council with an understanding of York Region's drinking-water systems capacities for the 2007 reporting year. The 2007 Drinking Water System Schedule 22 Summary Report is required to be submitted to Regional Council no later than March 31st of the reporting year (*Council Attachment 1*).

3. BACKGROUND

Changing Legislation and Mandated Reporting 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 the regulatory compliance requirements on system operations. The amendments also required an increase in reporting by system owners on the performance of systems to the Ministry of the Environment and applicable stakeholders.

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 understanding of requirements for water systems and capacity.

Reporting requirements under Schedule 22 requires 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 the rated capacity and flow rates approved by the system's Permit to Take Water approval, the quantities and flow rates of water supplied, the monthly average and maximum daily flow rates and daily instantaneous peak flow rates.

Legislative requirements under the *Safe Drinking Water Act 2002*, Provincial Officer Orders that the system failed to meet, and related corrective actions, are also discussed.

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.

It is mandated that Regional Council receive the Drinking Water System Schedule 22 Summary Report. The Region also produces the separate Annual Water Quality Report which is made available to local municipalities and the public. This Annual Water Quality Report can be accessed through York Region's website after February 28th of each reporting year.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

Findings of the Drinking Water System Schedule 22 Summary Report

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 2007 reporting year.

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 well pump start up and can be found to occur within other groundwater systems throughout the Province. It is recognized by the Ministry of the Environment that short term flow spikes are expected and do not pose a compliance issue. York Region monitors and records operating conditions of its wells and this information is reviewed by the MOE. To date, the MOE is satisfied that any short term flow spikes recorded at York Region production wells do not pose a compliance issue.

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 of York Region's Municipal Drinking Water Systems for the 2007 reporting year.

Relationship to Vision 2026

The 2007 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 2007 reporting year continue to demonstrate that York Region meets all regulatory compliance requirements prescribed through applicable Federal and Provincial legislation as well as our commitment to communicate our performance to our stakeholders.

For more information on this report contact Michele Maitre, ext. 5097, Manager of Regulatory Compliance and Policy, Water and Wastewater Branch, in the Environmental Services Department.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

(The attachment referred to in this clause was attached to this report.)