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REGULATORY REPORTING – SECTION 11 AND SCHEDULE 22 OF ONTARIO REGULATION 170/03 MUNICIPAL DRINKING WATER SYSTEMS

The Transportation and Works Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendations contained in the following report, February 15, 2006, from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works:

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. Transportation and Works Committee and Regional Council, receive the attached Summary Report (*see Attachment 1*) on water supply as required by Schedule 22 of Ontario Regulation 170/03.
2. The Regional Clerk forward copies of the Summary Report to the Clerks of the local municipalities.

2. PURPOSE

This report is to inform members of Transportation and Works Committee and Regional Council that staff have prepared reports as required by Ontario Regulation 170/03 (O.Reg.170/03), a regulation enacted under the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*.

The Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with Section 11, O.Reg.170/03 and it was made available on the official York Region website and submitted to the Ministry of the Environment by February 26th, 2006. The Annual Report provides an overview of the operation and quality of water provided to the local municipalities from York Region's municipal residential drinking water systems.

The Summary Report has been prepared in accordance with Schedule 22, O.Reg.170/03 and will be presented to the members of the Transportation and Works Committee and Regional Council.

3. BACKGROUND

Ontario's Drinking Water Systems Regulation (O.Reg.170/03) made under the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*, requires that the owner of a municipal drinking water system prepare both an Annual Report and a Summary Report on the operation and quality of water in their system.

The Annual Report addresses the period of January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005, as specified within O.Reg.170/03 and was made available on the official York Region website by February 26th, 2006, and at the offices of the Transportation and Works Department. This report is not required to be received by Regional Council.

The Summary Report has been created to advise members of the Transportation and Works Committee and Regional Council on the status of their respective municipal residential drinking water systems. The Summary Report provides an overview of the operation of York Region's municipal residential drinking water systems during the previous calendar year. The Summary Report addresses the period of January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

4.1 Annual Report

Section 11 of O.Reg.170/03 requires that an 'Annual Report' be prepared, made available to the public and be submitted to the Ministry of the Environment by February 28th of each year.

With the exception of the Ansnorveldt Water Supply system, all of the York Region water supply systems are classified as 'large municipal residential' drinking water systems because they serve more than 100 homes. The Ansnorveldt Water Supply system is classified as a 'small municipal residential' drinking water system because it serves less than 100 homes.

Annual Reports have been prepared for York Region's water supply systems as listed in Table 1.

Table 1
York Region Water Supply System

Local Municipality	Water Supply System
Town of Aurora	Aurora
Town of Georgina	Keswick
	Georgina
Town of East Gwillimbury	Holland Landing
	Mount Albert
	Sharon/Queensville
Township of King	Ansnorveldt
	King City
	Nobleton
	Schomberg
Town of Markham	York Water System

Town of Newmarket
Town of Richmond Hill
City of Vaughan

Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville

Newmarket
York Water System
Kleinburg
York Water System
Ballantrae
Stouffville

4.2 Annual Report Content

The format for the Annual Report has been established by the Ministry of the Environment. Each water supply system is required to have an individual report prepared with the following information:

- A brief description of the water system.
- A summary of chemical usage for treatment.
- A summary of improvements made to the water systems in 2005.
- A summary of water quality testing results for microbiological, inorganic chemical, and organic chemical parameters.
- A summary of adverse water quality reports.
- A description of how the Annual Report has been distributed and where the Annual Report and Summary Report required under O.Reg.170/03 Schedule 22, will be located in order to be accessible to the public.

4.3 Overview of Annual Report Findings – Water Quality

The water quality for York Region is tested rigorously using the following methods:

- Continual electronic recording of the turbidity of the treated water.
- Continual electronic recording of the residual chlorine of the treated water.
- Weekly microbiological testing of both raw and treated water.
- Quarterly testing for metals and inorganic chemistry parameters of both raw and treated water.
- Annual testing for organic chemistry parameters in both raw and treated water.

York Region's sampling schedule for chemical testing of organic and inorganic parameters exceeds the minimum requirements for sampling as dictated in O.Reg.170/03. The increased frequency of testing assists the Water and Wastewater Branch staff in achieving and maintaining the water quality objectives.

The microbiological testing program has consistently demonstrated that York Region maintains a high quality product that meets all the Ontario Drinking Water Standards under Ontario Regulation 169/03. A very small proportion of the tested samples required a second test which confirmed that water quality met the prescribed standards in all cases.

In testing for the chemical parameters, York Region continues to maintain a high quality product that exceeds the Ontario Drinking Water Standards for all health-related parameters under Ontario Regulation 169/03. Occasional samples contained concentrations marginally greater than the guideline but these results were not duplicated upon resampling.

4.4 Summary Report

Schedule 22 of O.Reg.170/03 requires a Summary Report to be prepared and submitted to the members of Regional Council by March 31st following the reporting year for all large and small municipal residential drinking water systems.

4.5 Summary Report Content

The Summary Report has been prepared to include all of York Region's municipal residential drinking water systems and contains the following information:

- A list detailing the requirements of the *Safe Drinking Water Act (2002)* and its regulations.
- The municipal drinking water system approval and any order that the system failed to meet at any time during the period covered by the report and specify the duration of the failure.
- A description of the measures that were taken to correct the failure.
- A summary of the quantities and flow rates of the water supplied during the period covered by the report, including monthly average and maximum daily flows and daily instantaneous peak flow rates.
- A comparison of the summary referred to above and the rated capacity and flow rates approved in the municipal drinking water system approval.

4.6 Overview of Summary Report Findings

The water supplies in York Region are monitored continuously in relation to the maximum allowable limits dictated by the Ministry of the Environment issued Permits to Take Water. There is no Permit to Take Water issued for the York Water System because it is a 'large municipal residential receiving from a large municipal residential' and is strictly a wholesale water supplier from the City of Toronto to the southern local municipalities.

In 2005, the Yonge Street Aquifer (YSA) met all of the limits imposed by the Permit to Water with the only exception of the annual daily average, which was 3% above the allowable limit. This issue was previously identified and will be resolved when the connection to the Region of Peel lake-based supply is completed in the Spring 2007. Opportunities to advance this schedule are currently under review by staff. Discussions with the Ministry of Environment have already commenced to review the practicality of this limit and the feasibility of amending the permit. This limit was originally derived from an elementary modelling work in 1993. Current work suggests that groundwater

levels in the YSA have stabilized and modelling predictions suggest that a higher annual average is sustainable.

There have been no Provincial Officer Orders issued by the Ministry of the Environment under the *Safe Drinking Water Act (2002)* or O.Reg.170/03 for the period of January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005 for York Region's water supply systems.

4.7 Public Information

The Annual Report has been submitted to the Ministry of the Environment as required and has also been made available to the public through the official York Region website. Copies are also available at the Transportation and Works Department offices in Newmarket.

York Region's residents will be notified of the publication of the Annual Reports through the semi-annual Transportation and Works Department newsletter "York Works" as distributed by mail.

The Summary Report is being submitted to the members of the Transportation and Works Committee through this staff report and is being submitted to the member of Regional Council by March 31, 2006.

The Summary Report will be made available to the public at no charge at the Transportation and Works Department offices in Newmarket.

Copies of both the Annual Report and the Summary Report will be distributed to the local municipalities.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

York Region staff have prepared both the Annual Report and the Summary Report as required under O.Reg.170/03.

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

The members of Regional Council and the local municipalities will benefit from the sharing of information contained within the Annual Report and the Summary Report. These reports provide assurance to local municipal councils and staff and to the public at large that York Region is meeting or exceeding its water quality requirements as dictated by the regulations under the *Safe Drinking Water Act (2002)*.

7. CONCLUSION

The Annual Report and the Summary Report continue to demonstrate that York Region meets or exceeds the prescribed water quality requirements stipulated in the various Certificates of Approval, Permits to Take Water, and the regulations under the *Safe Drinking Water Act (2002)*.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

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