

October 30, 2019

Via email: <u>christopher.raynor@york.ca</u> Mr. Christopher Raynor Regional Clerk Regional Municipality of York 17250 Yonge Street Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1

Dear Mr. Raynor:

# RE: AMENDMENTS TO CREDIT VALLEY – TORONTO AND REGION – CENTRAL LAKE ONTARIO (CTC) and SOUTH GEORGIAN BAY LAKE SIMCOE (SGBLS) SOURCE PROTECTION PLANS

### Notification of Consultation Pursuant to Sections 34(2) and 34(3) of the *Clean Water Act,* 2006 and Ontario Regulation 287/07

#### Written Comments due by Thursday, December 12, 2019

The South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe (SGBLS) and Credit Valley – Toronto and Region – Central Lake Ontario (CTC) are proposing amendments to the Source Protection Plans under Section 34 of the *Clean Water Act, 2006.* These amendments will incorporate new technical work completed at Aurora Well 7 and remove Newmarket Well 14 since it is no longer in use. Over the past several months, conservation authority staff have been working with York Region staff to finalize this amendment.

#### BACKGROUND

Section 34 of the *Clean Water Act, 2006* provides a Source Protection Authority (SPA) with the option to amend the source protection plan. As part of the Section 34 process, SPAs are required by the Province to formally inform all relevant bodies responsible for implementing Source Protection Plan policies of the proposed changes during **pre-consultation**, prior to conducting a broader public consultation. Following pre-consultation, a public consultation period will take place for a minimum duration of 35 days. Based on current timelines, public consultation is anticipated to take place in January and February 2020.

You are receiving this correspondence as you represent one of the implementing bodies for the SGBLS and CTC Source Protection Plans that is impacted by the proposed amendments. Specifically, this correspondence is to inform you that all Source Protection Plan policies, which were approved by the Minister, have simply been extended to new locations within the updated wellhead protection area. And further, to request written comments be provided by **Thursday December 12, 2019**.

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#### MUNICIPAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Under Section 34 of the *Clean Water Act, 2006,* the acquisition of a municipal Council resolution is required from each <u>municipality affected by the amendments</u>. Over the past couple months, York Region staff have been working collaboratively with both source protection authorities to acquire the necessary municipal Council resolutions to accompany the amendment when submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for approval. This resolution is requested before the end of the public consultation period (approximately February 28, 2020).

#### **NEXT STEPS**

Once the pre-consultation period ends on December 12, 2019, written comments will be reviewed and if necessary, changes will be made to the Source Protection Plan text and mapping. Preparations will be made for consulting with the public and all stakeholders in January 2020. Following the period of Public Consultation, where warranted, revisions will again be made to Source Protection Plan text and mapping. The amendments will then be received by the Lakes Simcoe and Couchiching-Black River and Toronto & Region Source Protection Authorities (TRSPA) for endorsement and authorization to submit the documents to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. Lastly, the proposed amendments will be considered by the Minister for approval.

#### **REQUEST FOR WRITTEN COMMENTS**

At this time, we welcome your feedback on the proposed amendments in writing. These comments can be sent via email to <u>sourcewater@trca.ca</u> and <u>t.harvey@lsrca.on.ca</u> by **5:00 pm** on <u>Thursday</u>, <u>December 4, 2019</u>. If you require further information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Tara Harvey (905-895-1281 Ext. 250) or Jennifer Stephens (416-661-6600 Ext. 5633).

Thank you, in advance, for your continued support and participation in efforts to protect our sources of drinking water.

Best regards,

Junifer Stephens

Jennifer Stephens Program Manager, CTC Source Protection Region jennifer stephens@trca.ca 416.661.6600 Ext. 5633

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Ben Longstaff General Manager, Integrated Watershed Management <u>b.longstaff@LSRCA.on.ca</u> 905.895.1281 x 305

cc: Scott Lister, Risk Management Official, York Region (scott.lister@york.ca)

Encl: Rationale for and Summary of Changes to Source Protection Plans



## **RATIONALE FOR AND SUMMARY OF CHANGES TO SOURCE PROTECTION PLANS**

In 2016, the Regional Municipality of York drilled a new municipal supply well to recover lost well capacity due to aging infrastructure and water quality issues. Before water can be provided from this new Aurora Well PW7, the Wellhead Protection Areas (WHPAs), vulnerability analysis, and threats enumeration must be incorporated into Approved Assessment Reports so that policies in the Source Protection Plans would apply.

Golder Associates Limited (GAL) was retained by the Regional Municipality of York to update the existing York Region groundwater flow model to reflect the addition of Aurora Well 7 and the removal of Newmarket Well 14 from the Yonge Street Aquifer (YSA) Water Supply System. Further, GAL assisted with the delineation of WHPAs and the vulnerability assessment associated with these areas. York Region Staff have completed the threats enumeration for the updated WHPAs. Additional technical work accomplished for Aurora Well 7 includes the delineation of impervious surfaces, percent managed lands, and livestock density mapping following the Director's Technical Rules (2017) under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*.

#### SUMMARY OF CHANGES:

In 2019, York Region updated their existing 2013 groundwater flow model. These updates better reflect the current state of knowledge of the Yonge Street Aquifer. In particular, the model is more representative of observed data and the current conceptual understanding of the YSA. This new modeling work is vastly improved compared to the original groundwater model (2007/2009) used to delineate the WHPAs around municipal drinking water wells in York Region.

- Wellhead Protection Area (WHPA) Delineation: WHPAs expanded slightly within the Newmarket and Aurora wellfield. The most significant expansion was within the WHPA-D, representing 25 year time of travel. The WHPA-D now extends south into the Toronto and Region Source Protection Area, CTC Source Protection Region.
- Intrinsic Vulnerability: Now classified as low (>25-year Water-to-Well Advection Time) for the entire wellfield. Decreasing the intrinsic vulnerability impacts the vulnerability score assigned to the WHPAs, ultimately affecting the enumeration of potential drinking water threats.
- **Threats Enumeration:** No new significant drinking water threats are associated with the expanded WHPAs. Four fuel storage and handling threats will be removed from the list of significant drinking water threats.
- **Policy Changes**: No changes are needed to the policies in either Source Protection Plan and existing policies will simply be extended to new locations within the updated wellhead protection area.

The relevant assessment report sections and associated amendments can be downloaded using the following link: <u>http://ourwatershed.ca/municipal-input</u>