

STAFF REPORT:

Planning



REPORT TO: Mayor & Members of Council
MEETING DATE: July 23, 2007
REPORT NO.: PL.07.98
SUBJECT: Source Water Protection
PREPARED BY: Cindy Welsh,
Senior Policy Planner and John
Caswell, Manager of
Environmental
Services/Assistant Director

A. Recommendations

THAT Council authorize the Mayor to confirm in writing to the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Region concurrence with the five groupings which have been made out of the twenty-one municipalities that lie wholly or partially within the Source Protection Region.

AND THAT Council has no objection to one municipal representative being appointed in each of the groupings to make up the total of five municipal representatives on the Source Protection Committee.

B. Background

The Clean Water Act came into effect on July 3, 2007, along with five accompanying regulations which were approved at the same time.

For the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Region there will be a sixteen (16) member Source Protection Committee comprised of one third municipal representatives, one third of representatives from the agriculture, commercial or industrial sector and one third of representatives from the environmental, health and the general public sector. In total there will be five representatives on the Source Protection Committee who will be appointed to represent the interests of municipalities.

The Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Region has twenty-one (21) municipalities located wholly or partially within its region. Five (5) municipal groupings have been proposed. Groupings are based on communities of interest and delineate sub-regions of the watershed.

The Town of The Blue Mountains, in a memorandum dated July 17, 2007, from the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Region, has been asked to comment on municipal groupings for this Source Protection Committee. The

Town of The Blue Mountains has been identified in Grouping Number 5 along with the Municipality of Grey Highlands, the Municipality of Meaford and the City of Owen Sound. According to the proposed structure of the Committee, these four municipalities will be allowed to have one representative for all four.

The Town is being asked to concur with this grouping and to report back to the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Region before August 3, 2007. It should be noted that the number of municipal representatives on the Source Protection Committee has been discussed as being low considering the number of municipalities in the Source Protection Region. Previously there have been discussions between Council and the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Region where Council has indicated this. *Ontario Regulation 288/07* made under *The Clean Water Act, 2006*, however, outlines the number of representatives each Committee will have and the composition.

The next step in the process will be for the Town to meet with representatives from the other Group 5 municipalities in order to comprise a list of people from which the source protection authority can appoint a representative. This meeting will also allow for accountability and information sharing between the Group 5 municipalities to be discussed.

C. Strategic Plan

The development of Source Protection Committees continue to be consistent with Strategic Plan goal:

1. *Managing growth to ensure the ongoing health and prosperity of the community.*

D. Budget Impact

There will be future associated municipal costs regarding this program dealing with implementation of Source Water Protection Plans.

E. Attachment

1. Memo to: CAOs and Clerks, Municipalities in the Source Protection Region from Don Smith, Project Manager, Source Protection Regarding: Consultation on Municipal Groupings for Source Protection Committee.
2. Copy of *Ontario Regulation 288/07* made under *The Clean Water Act, 2006*.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Welsh, Senior Policy Planner

John Caswell, Manager of
Environmental Services/Assistant
Director