

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 23, 2018

Item 10, Report No. 18, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on May 23, 2018.

10 CENTRAL LAKE ONTARIO, TORONTO REGION AND CREDIT VALLEY SOURCE PROTECTION PLAN AND TORONTO AND REGION ASSESSMENT REPORT - PROPOSED POLICY AMENDMENTS

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Deputy City Manager, Planning and Growth Management, dated May 8, 2018:

Recommendations

1. THAT the Central Lake Ontario, Toronto Region and Credit Valley Source Protection Plan and Toronto and Region Assessment Report BE RECEIVED; and
2. THAT the proposed policy amendments, identified in this report, to the Central Lake Ontario, Toronto Region and Credit Valley Source Protection Plan and Toronto and Region Assessment Report BE ENDORSED.

(A copy of the attachments referred to in the following report have been forwarded to each Member of Council and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the City Clerk.)

Item:



Committee of the Whole Report

DATE: Tuesday, May 08, 2018

WARDS: ALL

TITLE: CENTRAL LAKE ONTARIO, TORONTO REGION AND CREDIT VALLEY SOURCE PROTECTION PLAN AND TORONTO AND REGION ASSESSMENT REPORT - PROPOSED POLICY AMENDMENTS

FROM:

Jason Schmidt-Shoukri, Deputy City Manager, Planning and Growth Management

ACTION: FOR INFORMATION

Purpose

This report provides an overview of both the Toronto and Region Assessment Report (Assessment Report) and the Central Lake Ontario, Toronto Region and Credit Valley Source Protection Plan (Source Protection Plan), which took effect on December 31, 2015, as mandated by the *Clean Water Act*, 2006. It also identifies the Regional Municipality of York's and the City of Vaughan's responsibilities for the implementation of the Source Protection Plan policies, while summarizing the proposed policy amendments to the Source Protection Plan and the Assessment Report and how the proposed amendments impact the City's municipal approval processes.

Report Highlights

- The Central Lake Ontario, Toronto Region and Credit Valley Source Protection Plan was approved by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change on July 27, 2015, and came into effect on December 31, 2015.
- The Source Protection Plan includes portions of York Region and Vaughan, which are within the jurisdiction of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.
- The City contains four Vulnerable Areas, including the Kleinburg Wellhead Protection Area, Highly Vulnerable Aquifers, Recharge Management Areas (known as “Wellhead Protection Area – Quantity” (WHPA-Q)), and Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas.
- The City has been implementing the policies of the Source Protection Plan through the development application review process, building permit approvals process, and the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process.
- The Central Lake Ontario, Toronto Region and Credit Valley Source Protection Committee has requested that municipalities obtain a Council resolution indicating support of the proposed policy amendments.
- Vaughan Official Plan 2010 must conform to the policy framework of the Source Protection Plan by 2020. However, the Central Lake Ontario, Toronto Region and Credit Valley Source Protection Committee is recommending the conformity exercise with the Source Protection Plan can take place through York Region’s Municipal Comprehensive Review and the City’s Official Plan Review.

Recommendations

1. THAT the Central Lake Ontario, Toronto Region and Credit Valley Source Protection Plan and Toronto and Region Assessment Report BE RECEIVED; and
2. THAT the proposed policy amendments, identified in this report, to the Central Lake Ontario, Toronto Region and Credit Valley Source Protection Plan and Toronto and Region Assessment Report BE ENDORSED.

Background

The Province addressed the Walkerton Tragedy by passing the Clean Water Act, 2006

In response to the Walkerton Tragedy in 2000, the Provincial government passed the *Clean Water Act, 2006 (Act)* that established a process to safeguard municipal drinking water supplies. Under the *Act*, the Drinking Water Source Protection Program was established, which resulted in the development of science-based Assessment Reports and Source Protection Plans that have been developed by Source Protection Committees. Source Protection Committees (SPC) are comprised of representatives from municipalities, economic interests and the public. York Region is a member of the Central Lake Ontario, Toronto Region and Credit Valley SPC that represents York Region and its lower-tier municipalities.

The CTC Source Protection Plan was approved by the Ministry of the Environmental and Climate Change

The Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) approved the Central Lake Ontario, Toronto Region and Credit Valley Source Protection Plan on July 27, 2015, and it came into effect on December 31, 2015. The development of Source Protection Plans was based on the results/recommendations of the Assessment Reports, and established how water quality and water quantity for municipal water supplies will be protected.

The Central Lake Ontario, Toronto Region and Credit Valley Source Protection Plan is available at this link:

<https://www.ctcswp.ca/protecting-our-water/the-ctc-source-protection-plan/>

The Toronto and Region Assessment Report (July 27, 2015) is available at this link:

<https://www.ctcswp.ca/the-science/toronto-and-region-spa-assessment-report/>

There were four Vulnerable Areas identified in the City of Vaughan

There are presently four Vulnerable Areas identified in the City of Vaughan, which are described below:

1. Kleinburg Wellhead Protection Area: it includes surface and subsurface areas surrounding a water well or well field that supplies a municipal residential system or other designated system through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move to eventually reach the water well or wells.

2. Recharge Management Areas: are also known as “Wellhead Protection Area Quantity (WHPA-Q)” and have been identified as critical to maintaining water balance and functions to replenish municipal wells and groundwater.
3. Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas: are areas with porous soils which allow water to seep easily into an aquifer.
4. Highly Vulnerable Aquifers: are areas that are susceptible to contamination due to the location of the groundwater aquifer near the ground’s surface.

Attachment 1 identifies the Kleinburg Wellhead Protection Area and Highly Vulnerable Aquifers in Vaughan. Attachment 2 identifies the Recharge Management Areas and Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas in Vaughan.

MOECC requires upper-tier and lower-tier municipalities to implement the applicable Source Protection Plan policies within their respective jurisdiction

Both upper-tier and lower-tier municipalities are responsible for implementing the applicable Source Protection Plan policies. In addition, York Region is responsible for assisting lower-tier municipalities in implementing the Source Protection Plan policies. Since 2015, York Region has provided training and support to lower-tier municipal staff in order to facilitate the implementation of the Source Protection Plan requirements into the development application review process, building permit approvals process and the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process. It is important to note that any applications deemed complete prior to December 31, 2015 are considered exempt and are not required to meet the Source Protection Plan policy requirements.

Previous Reports/Authority

Not applicable.

Analysis and Options

The approval of the Source Protection Plan has implications for the City of Vaughan

Schedule 11 of Vaughan Official Plan 2010 (VOP 2010) only identifies the Kleinburg Wellhead Protection Area, which is subject to policies 8.3.1.13. to 8.3.1.19. of VOP 2010. The other three Vulnerable Areas (Highly Vulnerable Aquifers, Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas and Recharge Management Areas) have not been addressed by VOP 2010 and will be incorporated during the City’s Official Plan Review process in order to comply with the *Act*.

Notwithstanding the lack of a formal policy in VOP 2010, with respect to the three outstanding Vulnerable Areas, staff have been implementing the Source Protection Plan through the development application review process and building permit approvals process consistent with York Region's requirements.

Prior to the submission of any development application, a Pre-Application Consultation meeting is held with the proponent wherein they are notified if their site is located within an identified Vulnerable Area.

The following provides an overview of the technical review process for lands located within the four Vulnerable Areas:

Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas and Recharge Management Areas

Development applications, including Water Balance Studies, are circulated to the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) for review and comment. The TRCA reviews all supporting documents on behalf of the City of Vaughan because they are the technical subject matter expert. As part of the comment review process, the TRCA has developed guidelines to achieve minimum technical requirements in order to maintain post-construction water balance levels, which have been provided to the development industry. Low Impact Development (LID) techniques for stormwater management to maintain groundwater recharge are generally applied. It should be noted that there is a fee charged by the TRCA to the applicant for their review.

Kleinburg Wellhead Protection Area and Highly Vulnerable Aquifers

Development applications and building permit applications are circulated to York Region for review. York Region determines if a Section 59 notice (permit) and/or a Source Water Impact Assessment and Mitigation Plan or Contaminant Management Plan is required to be submitted for approval.

Municipal Class Environmental Assessment

The TRCA reviews the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment in the context of the Source Protection Plan for conformity.

The Source Protection Committee has proposed a number of Policy Amendments

The SPC has proposed a number of policy amendments that were based on a best management practices review since the Source Protection Plan came into effect on December 31, 2015. Attachment 3 identifies all the proposed policy amendments recommended by the SPC. The following proposed policy amendments are the most relevant to the development application review process and are generally described below:

1. T-8 (Section 10.1.3 Timelines for Implementation - Land Use Planning)

Identifies when an Official Plan and Zoning by-law must be updated. The proposed policy amendment provides flexibility to align the Source Protection Plan conformity exercise with regular Official Plan and Zoning By-law updates.

Amendment No. 1 (T-8) proposes the removal of the 5-year deadline (2020) to conform to a municipal Official Plan and defers conformity with the Source Protection Plan to the City's next Official Plan Review. The City supports this change, as many lower-tier municipalities are undergoing an Official Plan Review at this time, which will coincide with the York Region Municipal Comprehensive Review. This will eliminate the need to initiate an individual Official Plan Amendment and ensure a more comprehensive process.

2. REC-1 (Section 10.13 Water Quantity)

Manages recharge to protect municipal wells. The proposed policy amendment allows more flexibility for recharge management in areas that do not impact municipal wells (best management practices) versus areas where recharge does impact municipal wells (maintain recharge to greatest extent feasible).

Amendment No. 2 the Recharge Management Area policy (REC-1) introduces a new WHPA-Q Downgradient line, as shown on Attachment 2. Any development applications south of the WHPA-Q Downgradient line, where recharge reduction does not impair municipal water supply wells, are only required to implement best management practices to the greatest extent feasible and practical. Recharge Management Area policies no longer requires off-site compensation for applications south of the line that are not able to fully maintain recharge on-site. City staff are in support of the SPC proposed policy amendments pertaining to Recharge Management Areas as there are no longer off-site compensation requirements. York Region has informed City staff that the majority of development in the City has been able to meet the Recharge Management Area requirements and thereby maintaining recharge on-site through the use of LID best management practices.

In addition, Amendment No. 2 (REC-1) no longer exempts a single family dwelling or Agriculturally zoned properties from the Source Protection Plan policies. The proposed policy amendment now requires that a single family dwelling exceeding 500 m² or greater or lands zoned as Agricultural to meet water balance requirements. Best management practices, such as LIDs, should be implemented in such cases with the goal of maintaining predevelopment recharge levels. The development review and building permit approvals processes will be updated to reflect these changes.

As part of the overall changes to safeguarding municipal drinking water supplies, the Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas will be updated to reflect revisions that have

been identified through the technical work produced by the TRCA. This is not a policy change but a mapping change.

What are the next steps to conforming with the Source Protection Plan?

Policy 3.2.7 of the Growth Plan (2017) requires municipalities to incorporate appropriate LIDs and green infrastructure in their stormwater management practices. The City has established LID pilot projects and is currently monitoring and analyzing these sites. Based on the resulting data from the pilot projects, it is the intent of staff to collaborate with the TRCA to develop a general set of LID Standards for all development proposals in Vaughan.

York Region has provided Source Protection Plan policy wording to be integrated into the respective Official Plans and Zoning By-law amendments for its lower-tier municipalities. Policy conformity will take place during York Region's Municipal Comprehensive Review and the City's Official Plan Review.

Financial Impact

There is no direct economic impact to the City as a result of this report. Staff will assess any financial implications associated with developing the general LID Standards in conjunction with the TRCA, as they may relate to development proposals and report back to Council in Q4 2019, if required.

Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations

York Region has requested that all lower-tier municipalities obtain a Council resolution for the proposed policy amendments to the Source Protection Plan. York Region anticipates bringing a report to Regional Council in Q2 2018, requesting endorsement of the proposed policy amendments, and identifying the lower-tier municipalities that are in support of the proposed policy amendments.

Conclusion

The Central Lake Ontario, Toronto Region and Credit Valley Source Protection Plan is mandated under the *Clean Water Act*, 2006. Four Vulnerable Areas have been identified in Vaughan based on the Toronto and Region Assessment Report (July 27, 2015). City staff have implemented the Source Protection Plan through the development application review process, building permit approvals process and the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process consistent with York Region's guidance.

City staff recommend that Council endorse the proposed policy amendments to the SPC in principle. City staff will continue to work with York Region and the TRCA to incorporate and implement the Source Protection Plan policies.

For more information, please contact: Ruth Rendon, Senior Environmental Planner, Policy Planning and Environmental Sustainability by phone at 905-832-8585, ext. 8104 or by email at ruth.rendon@vaughan.ca.

Attachments

1. Map of Kleinburg Wellhead Protection Area and Highly Vulnerable Aquifers, Policy Planning and Environmental Sustainability, February 2018
2. Map of Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas, Recharge Management Area (WHPA-Q) and WHPA-Q Downgradient Line, Policy Planning and Environmental Sustainability, February 2018
3. CTC Proposed Policy Amendments, Source Protection Committee, April 2018

Prepared by

Ruth Rendon, Senior Environmental Planner, ext. 8104

Melissa Rossi, Manager of Policy Planning, ext. 8320

Tony Iacobelli, Manager of Environmental Sustainability, ext. 8630

Bill Kiru, Interim Director of Policy Planning and Environmental Sustainability ext. 8633

Item:



Committee of the Whole Report

DATE: Tuesday, May 08, 2018

WARDS: ALL

TITLE: CENTRAL LAKE ONTARIO, TORONTO REGION AND CREDIT VALLEY SOURCE PROTECTION PLAN AND TORONTO AND REGION ASSESSMENT REPORT - PROPOSED POLICY AMENDMENTS

FROM:

Jason Schmidt-Shoukri, Deputy City Manager, Planning and Growth Management

ACTION: FOR INFORMATION

Purpose

This report provides an overview of both the Toronto and Region Assessment Report (Assessment Report) and the Central Lake Ontario, Toronto Region and Credit Valley Source Protection Plan (Source Protection Plan), which took effect on December 31, 2015, as mandated by the *Clean Water Act*, 2006. It also identifies the Regional Municipality of York's and the City of Vaughan's responsibilities for the implementation of the Source Protection Plan policies, while summarizing the proposed policy amendments to the Source Protection Plan and the Assessment Report and how the proposed amendments impact the City's municipal approval processes.

Report Highlights

- The Central Lake Ontario, Toronto Region and Credit Valley Source Protection Plan was approved by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change on July 27, 2015, and came into effect on December 31, 2015.
- The Source Protection Plan includes portions of York Region and Vaughan, which are within the jurisdiction of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.
- The City contains four Vulnerable Areas, including the Kleinburg Wellhead Protection Area, Highly Vulnerable Aquifers, Recharge Management Areas (known as “Wellhead Protection Area – Quantity” (WHPA-Q)), and Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas.
- The City has been implementing the policies of the Source Protection Plan through the development application review process, building permit approvals process, and the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process.
- The Central Lake Ontario, Toronto Region and Credit Valley Source Protection Committee has requested that municipalities obtain a Council resolution indicating support of the proposed policy amendments.
- Vaughan Official Plan 2010 must conform to the policy framework of the Source Protection Plan by 2020. However, the Central Lake Ontario, Toronto Region and Credit Valley Source Protection Committee is recommending the conformity exercise with the Source Protection Plan can take place through York Region’s Municipal Comprehensive Review and the City’s Official Plan Review.

Recommendations

1. THAT the Central Lake Ontario, Toronto Region and Credit Valley Source Protection Plan and Toronto and Region Assessment Report BE RECEIVED; and
2. THAT the proposed policy amendments, identified in this report, to the Central Lake Ontario, Toronto Region and Credit Valley Source Protection Plan and Toronto and Region Assessment Report BE ENDORSED.

Background

The Province addressed the Walkerton Tragedy by passing the Clean Water Act, 2006

In response to the Walkerton Tragedy in 2000, the Provincial government passed the *Clean Water Act, 2006 (Act)* that established a process to safeguard municipal drinking water supplies. Under the *Act*, the Drinking Water Source Protection Program was established, which resulted in the development of science-based Assessment Reports and Source Protection Plans that have been developed by Source Protection Committees. Source Protection Committees (SPC) are comprised of representatives from municipalities, economic interests and the public. York Region is a member of the Central Lake Ontario, Toronto Region and Credit Valley SPC that represents York Region and its lower-tier municipalities.

The CTC Source Protection Plan was approved by the Ministry of the Environmental and Climate Change

The Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) approved the Central Lake Ontario, Toronto Region and Credit Valley Source Protection Plan on July 27, 2015, and it came into effect on December 31, 2015. The development of Source Protection Plans was based on the results/recommendations of the Assessment Reports, and established how water quality and water quantity for municipal water supplies will be protected.

The Central Lake Ontario, Toronto Region and Credit Valley Source Protection Plan is available at this link:

<https://www.ctcswp.ca/protecting-our-water/the-ctc-source-protection-plan/>

The Toronto and Region Assessment Report (July 27, 2015) is available at this link:

<https://www.ctcswp.ca/the-science/toronto-and-region-spa-assessment-report/>

There were four Vulnerable Areas identified in the City of Vaughan

There are presently four Vulnerable Areas identified in the City of Vaughan, which are described below:

1. Kleinburg Wellhead Protection Area: it includes surface and subsurface areas surrounding a water well or well field that supplies a municipal residential system or other designated system through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move to eventually reach the water well or wells.

2. Recharge Management Areas: are also known as “Wellhead Protection Area Quantity (WHPA-Q)” and have been identified as critical to maintaining water balance and functions to replenish municipal wells and groundwater.
3. Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas: are areas with porous soils which allow water to seep easily into an aquifer.
4. Highly Vulnerable Aquifers: are areas that are susceptible to contamination due to the location of the groundwater aquifer near the ground’s surface.

Attachment 1 identifies the Kleinburg Wellhead Protection Area and Highly Vulnerable Aquifers in Vaughan. Attachment 2 identifies the Recharge Management Areas and Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas in Vaughan.

MOECC requires upper-tier and lower-tier municipalities to implement the applicable Source Protection Plan policies within their respective jurisdiction

Both upper-tier and lower-tier municipalities are responsible for implementing the applicable Source Protection Plan policies. In addition, York Region is responsible for assisting lower-tier municipalities in implementing the Source Protection Plan policies. Since 2015, York Region has provided training and support to lower-tier municipal staff in order to facilitate the implementation of the Source Protection Plan requirements into the development application review process, building permit approvals process and the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process. It is important to note that any applications deemed complete prior to December 31, 2015 are considered exempt and are not required to meet the Source Protection Plan policy requirements.

Previous Reports/Authority

Not applicable.

Analysis and Options

The approval of the Source Protection Plan has implications for the City of Vaughan

Schedule 11 of Vaughan Official Plan 2010 (VOP 2010) only identifies the Kleinburg Wellhead Protection Area, which is subject to policies 8.3.1.13. to 8.3.1.19. of VOP 2010. The other three Vulnerable Areas (Highly Vulnerable Aquifers, Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas and Recharge Management Areas) have not been addressed by VOP 2010 and will be incorporated during the City’s Official Plan Review process in order to comply with the *Act*.

Notwithstanding the lack of a formal policy in VOP 2010, with respect to the three outstanding Vulnerable Areas, staff have been implementing the Source Protection Plan through the development application review process and building permit approvals process consistent with York Region's requirements.

Prior to the submission of any development application, a Pre-Application Consultation meeting is held with the proponent wherein they are notified if their site is located within an identified Vulnerable Area.

The following provides an overview of the technical review process for lands located within the four Vulnerable Areas:

Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas and Recharge Management Areas

Development applications, including Water Balance Studies, are circulated to the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) for review and comment. The TRCA reviews all supporting documents on behalf of the City of Vaughan because they are the technical subject matter expert. As part of the comment review process, the TRCA has developed guidelines to achieve minimum technical requirements in order to maintain post-construction water balance levels, which have been provided to the development industry. Low Impact Development (LID) techniques for stormwater management to maintain groundwater recharge are generally applied. It should be noted that there is a fee charged by the TRCA to the applicant for their review.

Kleinburg Wellhead Protection Area and Highly Vulnerable Aquifers

Development applications and building permit applications are circulated to York Region for review. York Region determines if a Section 59 notice (permit) and/or a Source Water Impact Assessment and Mitigation Plan or Contaminant Management Plan is required to be submitted for approval.

Municipal Class Environmental Assessment

The TRCA reviews the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment in the context of the Source Protection Plan for conformity.

The Source Protection Committee has proposed a number of Policy Amendments

The SPC has proposed a number of policy amendments that were based on a best management practices review since the Source Protection Plan came into effect on December 31, 2015. Attachment 3 identifies all the proposed policy amendments recommended by the SPC. The following proposed policy amendments are the most relevant to the development application review process and are generally described below:

1. T-8 (Section 10.1.3 Timelines for Implementation - Land Use Planning)

Identifies when an Official Plan and Zoning by-law must be updated. The proposed policy amendment provides flexibility to align the Source Protection Plan conformity exercise with regular Official Plan and Zoning By-law updates.

Amendment No. 1 (T-8) proposes the removal of the 5-year deadline (2020) to conform to a municipal Official Plan and defers conformity with the Source Protection Plan to the City's next Official Plan Review. The City supports this change, as many lower-tier municipalities are undergoing an Official Plan Review at this time, which will coincide with the York Region Municipal Comprehensive Review. This will eliminate the need to initiate an individual Official Plan Amendment and ensure a more comprehensive process.

2. REC-1 (Section 10.13 Water Quantity)

Manages recharge to protect municipal wells. The proposed policy amendment allows more flexibility for recharge management in areas that do not impact municipal wells (best management practices) versus areas where recharge does impact municipal wells (maintain recharge to greatest extent feasible).

Amendment No. 2 the Recharge Management Area policy (REC-1) introduces a new WHPA-Q Downgradient line, as shown on Attachment 2. Any development applications south of the WHPA-Q Downgradient line, where recharge reduction does not impair municipal water supply wells, are only required to implement best management practices to the greatest extent feasible and practical. Recharge Management Area policies no longer requires off-site compensation for applications south of the line that are not able to fully maintain recharge on-site. City staff are in support of the SPC proposed policy amendments pertaining to Recharge Management Areas as there are no longer off-site compensation requirements. York Region has informed City staff that the majority of development in the City has been able to meet the Recharge Management Area requirements and thereby maintaining recharge on-site through the use of LID best management practices.

In addition, Amendment No. 2 (REC-1) no longer exempts a single family dwelling or Agriculturally zoned properties from the Source Protection Plan policies. The proposed policy amendment now requires that a single family dwelling exceeding 500 m² or greater or lands zoned as Agricultural to meet water balance requirements. Best management practices, such as LIDs, should be implemented in such cases with the goal of maintaining predevelopment recharge levels. The development review and building permit approvals processes will be updated to reflect these changes.

As part of the overall changes to safeguarding municipal drinking water supplies, the Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas will be updated to reflect revisions that have

been identified through the technical work produced by the TRCA. This is not a policy change but a mapping change.

What are the next steps to conforming with the Source Protection Plan?

Policy 3.2.7 of the Growth Plan (2017) requires municipalities to incorporate appropriate LIDs and green infrastructure in their stormwater management practices. The City has established LID pilot projects and is currently monitoring and analyzing these sites. Based on the resulting data from the pilot projects, it is the intent of staff to collaborate with the TRCA to develop a general set of LID Standards for all development proposals in Vaughan.

York Region has provided Source Protection Plan policy wording to be integrated into the respective Official Plans and Zoning By-law amendments for its lower-tier municipalities. Policy conformity will take place during York Region's Municipal Comprehensive Review and the City's Official Plan Review.

Financial Impact

There is no direct economic impact to the City as a result of this report. Staff will assess any financial implications associated with developing the general LID Standards in conjunction with the TRCA, as they may relate to development proposals and report back to Council in Q4 2019, if required.

Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations

York Region has requested that all lower-tier municipalities obtain a Council resolution for the proposed policy amendments to the Source Protection Plan. York Region anticipates bringing a report to Regional Council in Q2 2018, requesting endorsement of the proposed policy amendments, and identifying the lower-tier municipalities that are in support of the proposed policy amendments.

Conclusion

The Central Lake Ontario, Toronto Region and Credit Valley Source Protection Plan is mandated under the *Clean Water Act*, 2006. Four Vulnerable Areas have been identified in Vaughan based on the Toronto and Region Assessment Report (July 27, 2015). City staff have implemented the Source Protection Plan through the development application review process, building permit approvals process and the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process consistent with York Region's guidance.

City staff recommend that Council endorse the proposed policy amendments to the SPC in principle. City staff will continue to work with York Region and the TRCA to incorporate and implement the Source Protection Plan policies.

For more information, please contact: Ruth Rendon, Senior Environmental Planner, Policy Planning and Environmental Sustainability by phone at 905-832-8585, ext. 8104 or by email at ruth.rendon@vaughan.ca.

Attachments

1. Map of Kleinburg Wellhead Protection Area and Highly Vulnerable Aquifers, Policy Planning and Environmental Sustainability, February 2018
2. Map of Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas, Recharge Management Area (WHPA-Q) and WHPA-Q Downgradient Line, Policy Planning and Environmental Sustainability, February 2018
3. CTC Proposed Policy Amendments, Source Protection Committee, April 2018

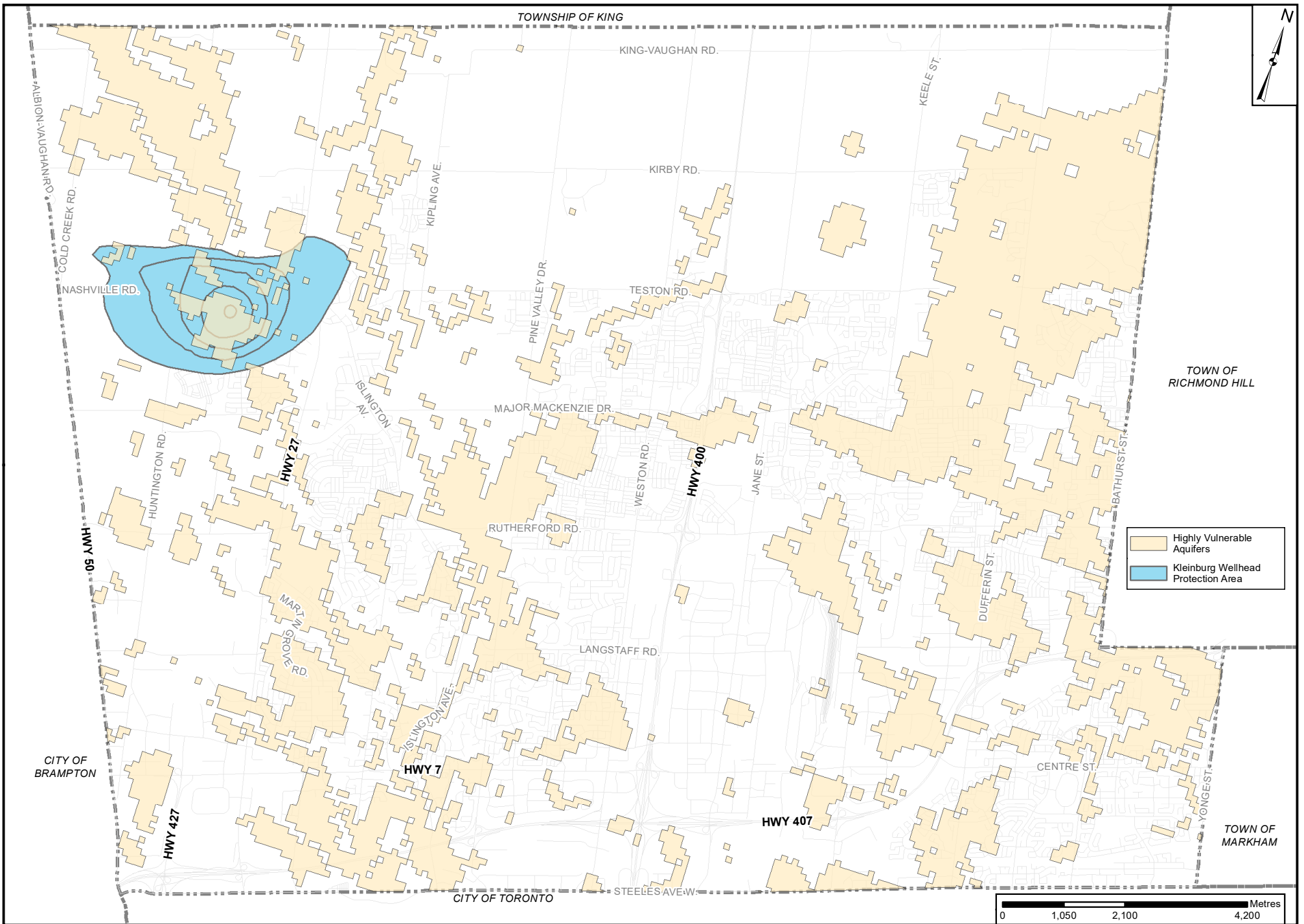
Prepared by

Ruth Rendon, Senior Environmental Planner, ext. 8104

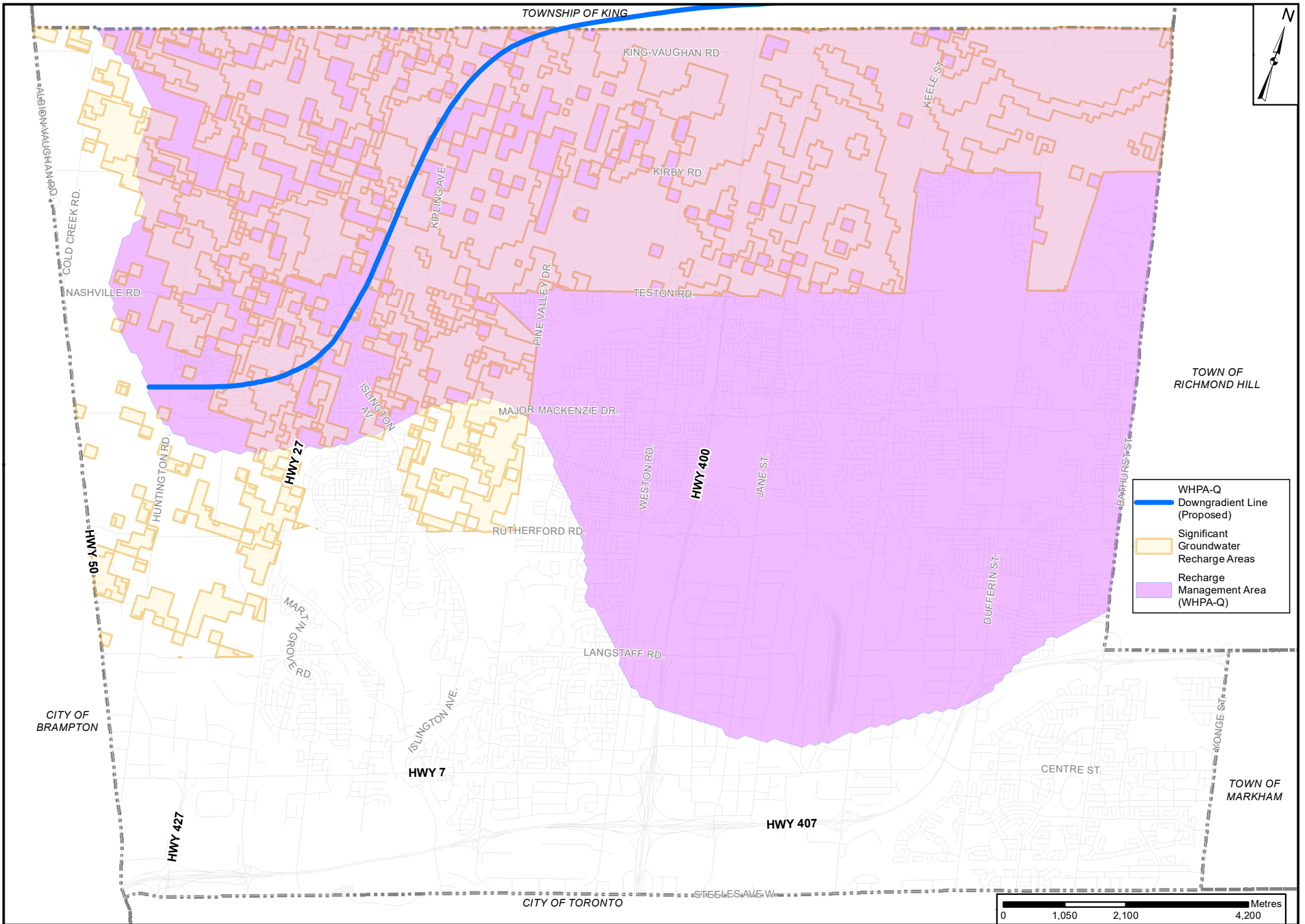
Melissa Rossi, Manager of Policy Planning, ext. 8320

Tony Iacobelli, Manager of Environmental Sustainability, ext. 8630

Bill Kiru, Interim Director of Policy Planning and Environmental Sustainability ext. 8633



Vulnerable Areas



Vulnerable Areas

TEXT HIGHLIGHTED IN GREY INDICATES A REMOVAL (~~STRIKETHROUGH~~) OR ADDITION (**BOLD**) FROM APPROVED CTC SOURCE PROTECTION PLAN (JULY 2015)

TRANSITION PROVISION

Under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*, there is consideration for source protection plans (SPPs) to have a Transition Provision that outlines the circumstances under which a “future” drinking water threat activity, that would otherwise be prohibited, may be considered as “existing”, even if the activity has not yet commenced. The intent is to allow applications in transition to proceed while drinking water threats are managed under the “existing threat” policies.

The CTC Source Protection Committee included a Transition Provision to recognize situations where an approval-in-principle to proceed with a development application had already been obtained, or where a complete application was made prior to the date the SPP came in to effect, but requires further planning approvals to implement the application in progress.

The CTC SPP was approved by the Minister of Environment and Climate Change on July 28, 2015 and became effective on December 31, 2015. Applications submitted after the effective date of the CTC SPP may only be transitioned if they are helping to implement an application in process prior to the date the CTC SPP took effect.

“Existing Threat” policies apply to prescribed drinking water threat activities under the following circumstances:

- 1) A drinking water threat activity that is part of a development proposal where a Complete Application (as determined by the municipality or Niagara Escarpment Commission) was made under the *Planning Act, Condominium Act* or *Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act* (NEPDA) prior to the day the Source Protection Plan comes into effect. The policy for “existing” drinking water threats also applies to any further applications required under the *Planning Act, Condominium Act*, Prescribed Instruments, or a development permit under the NEPDA, to implement the development proposal.
- 2) A drinking water threat activity that is part of an application accepted for a Building Permit, which has been submitted in compliance with Division C 1.3.1.13-~~(5)~~ of the *Ontario Building Code* **under the *Building Code Act, 1992 as amended***, prior to the day the Source Protection Plan comes into effect.
- 3) A drinking water threat activity that is part of an application accepted for the issuance or amendment of a Prescribed Instrument prior to the day the Source Protection Plan comes into effect.

Explanatory Document Text

The Transition Provision outlines the circumstances under which a future significant drinking water threat activity may be considered an existing significant drinking water threat activity.

The *Clean Water Act, 2006* requires source protection plans to contain policies to address both existing and future threat activities. *The Clean Water Act, 2006* further specifies that all policies will come into effect upon the plan approval date or an effective date specified by the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change. Transition provisions have been developed to recognize those situations where an applicant has either obtained an approval-in-principle to proceed with a development application, or where a complete application has already been made to a planning approval authority that are “in process” on the date the Source Protection Plan comes into effect. They are not designed to allow proponents to ignore or circumvent the provision contained in this Plan. They will allow the applications to proceed subject to existing significant drinking water threat policies.

The CTC Source Protection Committee concluded a transition provision should be included in the Source Protection Plan to be fair to those with applications in progress or that have received an approval-in-principle to proceed with works. The policy will allow those with complete applications made under the *Planning Act* or *Condominium Act*, building permits submitted in compliance with Division C.1.3.1.13(5) of the *Ontario Building Code Act, 1992 as amended*, development permits under the *Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act*, or an application for the issuance or amendment of a Prescribed Instrument prior to the day the Source Protection Plan comes into effect to be treated as existing threat activities.

Transition Provision and Policy REC-1

Policy REC-1 is intended to apply to “future threats” in a WHPA-Q2 with a significant or moderate risk level. However, if an application subject to REC-1 Parts 2a) and 2b) is submitted after the date the source protection plan came into effect (December 31, 2015), but is required to implement a development proposal in progress (as per the Transition Provision), the threat (reducing aquifer recharge) is to be managed as “existing”.

Through the plan review process, the Planning Approval Authority will decide what is required to ensure the “existing” threat does not become significant. This is generally to be determined through water balance assessments, or their equivalent (e.g. addendums or amendments to previous stormwater management reports undertaken on site). The Planning Approval Authority may, however, determine that an application submitted after the Transition Provision deadline to implement an application in progress would not increase impervious cover and a water balance assessment (or equivalent) is not required.

The CTC Source Protection Committee intended to allow the Planning Approval Authority the flexibility to require the appropriate level of detail in a specific water balance assessment (or equivalent) that is commensurate with the scale and location of the proposed development. Some areas of the WHPA-Q2 are particularly important for recharge (i.e. Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas) and should be given specific protection, while others may not be as important and/or cannot provide the required level of infiltration. Therefore, the water balance assessment (or equivalent) should include a site specific assessment, acknowledgement of previous planning approvals obtained or in progress that could impact infiltration, and an identification of recharge characteristics.

Ultimately, the intent of the water balance assessment is to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Planning Approval Authority, that pre-development recharge will be maintained to the greatest extent feasible through best management practices such as low impact development (LID), minimizing impervious surfaces, and lot level infiltration.

Policy ID	Timelines for Policy Implementation
Land Use Planning	
T-8	Official plans shall be amended for conformity with the Source Protection Plan within 5 years from the date the Source Protection Plan takes effect, or at the time of the next review in accordance with s.26 of the <i>Planning Act</i> , whichever occurs first. Zoning by-laws shall be amended within 3 years after the approval of the official plan.

Explanatory Document Text

Section 40(1) of the *Clean Water Act, 2006* requires that the Council of a municipality or a municipal planning authority that has jurisdiction in an area to which the source protection plan applies shall amend its Official plan to conform with significant threat policies and designated Great Lakes policies set out in the source protection plan. In part 2 of Section 40, the Council or municipal planning authority are required to make these amendments before the date specified in the source protection plan. Timeline T-8 in the CTC Source Protection Plan required that Official Plans be amended for conformity within 5 years from the date the Plan took effect (i.e., December 2020).

Several upper tier municipalities within the CTC Source Protection Region have communicated the difficulty with achieving the December 2020 timeline as outlined in the CTC Source Protection Plan which also impacts the ability of those lower tier municipalities dependent on the completion of the conformity exercise by their upper tier counterparts in meeting the same timeline. Further, the Government of Ontario released the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe ('Growth Plan') in May 2017. The Growth Plan was prepared and approved under the *Places to Grow Act, 2005* and took effect on July 1, 2017. Upper Tier municipalities are expected to review and update their Official Plans to conform with the updated Growth Plan by July 2022; lower tier municipalities must conform within 1 year of their upper tier counterparts. CTC Source Protection Region municipalities have communicated that completing conformity with the CTC Source Protection Plan and the Growth Plan, 2017, in unison, would be more time and cost effective.

Policy ID	Implementing Body	Legal Effect	Policy	When Policy Applies	Monitoring Policy
GEN-1	Municipality RMO	A	<p>s.59 Restricted Land Uses</p> <p>All land uses are designated for the purpose of Section 59 Restricted Land Uses under the <i>Clean Water Act, 2006</i>, with the exception of residential uses, in all areas where the following activities are, or would be, a significant drinking water threat....</p> <p>In accordance with Section 59 of the <i>Clean Water Act, 2006</i>, all land uses, except solely residential uses, where significant drinking water threat activities have been designated for the purposes of Sections 57 and 58 of the <i>Clean Water Act, 2006</i>, are hereby designated as Restricted Land Uses and a written notice from the Risk Management Official shall be required prior to approval of any Building Permit, <i>Planning Act</i> or <i>Condominium Act</i> application.</p>	Immediately (T-9)	
		I	<p>Despite the above policy, a Risk Management Official may issue written direction specifying the situations under which a planning authority or Chief Building Official may be permitted to make the determination that a site specific land use designation is, or is not, designated for the purposes of Section 59. Where such direction has been issued, a site specific land use that is the subject of an application for approval under the <i>Planning Act</i> or for a permit under the <i>Building Code Act</i> is not designated for the purposes of Section 59, provided that the planning authority or Chief Building Official, as applicable, is satisfied that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The application complies with the written direction issued by the Risk Management Official; and, b. The applicant has demonstrated that a significant drinking water threat activity designated for the purposes of Section 57 or 58 will not be engaged in, or will not be affected by the application. c. Where the Risk Management Official has provided written direction designating a land use for the purpose of section 59, a written Notice from the Risk Management Official shall be required prior to approval of any Building Permit under the <i>Building Code Act, 1992</i> as amended, in addition to <i>Planning Act</i> and <i>Condominium Act</i> applications in accordance with Section 59 of the <i>Clean Water Act, 2006</i>. 	Amend OPs for conformity within 5 years and ZBLs within 3 years of OP approval (T-8)	MON-1 MON-2

Explanatory Document Text

Policy GEN-1 manages existing and future activities within vulnerable areas where the activity is or would be a significant drinking water threat as designated under section 59 of the *Clean Water Act, 2006*, by requiring Risk Management Officials to screen applications for works proposed under the *Planning Act*, the *Condominium Act*, and the *Building Code Act, 1992* as amended, excluding residential uses.

Where the activities are or would be a significant drinking water threat, this policy requires municipalities to designate land uses within their Official Plans and Zoning By-Laws. This will allow for the pre-screening by the Risk Management Official, via using section 59 of the *Clean Water Act, 2006*. Section 59 policies require that municipalities put a process in place to “flag” for the Chief Building Official and the Planning Department applications made under the *Planning Act* and/or the *Condominium Act*, as well as or an application for a building permit under the *Building Code Act, 1992, as amended*, that is within a vulnerable area where a threat could be significant and where Part IV authorities are being used to prohibit or manage activities. The “flag” would indicate to the Chief Building Official or the Planning Department that the proposal needs to be reviewed by the Risk Management Official. Once the Risk Management Official is satisfied that the applicable Part IV policies are addressed, he/she would issue a “Notice to Proceed”. This Notice is used to let the Chief Building Official or Planning Department know they can proceed with processing the proposal.

Risk Management Officials in the CTC Source Protection Region have communicated that Policy GEN-1, as originally written, had ambiguity regarding their ability to determine when site-specific land uses, activities, or building projects are or are not subject to Section 59 Notice requirements under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*. The revised policy text now has clear policy direction allowing Risk Management Officials the autonomy to determine the site specific land uses that both are and are not subject to Section 59 Notices.

Policy ID	Threat Description	Implementing Body	Legal Effect	Policy	Where Policy Applies	When Policy Applies	Monitoring Policy
SWG-3	Septic Systems Governed under the <i>Building Code Act, 1992 as amended</i>	Planning Approval Authority	A	<p>Land Use Planning</p> <p>Where septic systems, including holding tanks, governed under the <i>Building Code Act</i> (vacant existing lot of record) would be a significant drinking water threat, vacant lots of record shall be subject to site plan control so that the location of the individual on-site sewage systems and replacement beds only be permitted if they are sited to ensure they do not become a significant drinking water threat in any of the following areas:</p> <p>Municipalities shall adopt Official Plan policies that require the enactment or amendment of Site Plan Control By-laws containing provisions for the siting and design of septic systems, including holding tanks, governed under the <i>Building Code Act, 1992 as amended</i>, as follows:</p> <p>Site Plan Control is required for existing vacant lots of record to ensure that the siting and design of on-site septic systems, including the siting of future reserve bed locations, is optimized in relation to significant drinking water threats in any of the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHPA-A (future); or • WHPA-B (VS = 10) (future); or • WHPA-E (VS = 10) (future); or 	See Maps 1.1 - 1.21	<p>Future: Immediately (T-9)</p> <p>Amend OPs for conformity within 5 years and ZBLs within 3 years of OP approval (T-8)</p>	MON-1

Policy ID	Threat Description	Implementing Body	Legal Effect	Policy	Where Policy Applies	When Policy Applies	Monitoring Policy
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the remainder of an Issue Contributing Area for Nitrates or Pathogens (future). 			

Explanatory Document Text

Policy SWG-3 is a land use planning policy for future septic systems, including holding tanks, governed under the *Building Code Act, 1992, as amended*, ensuring that vacant lots of record be subject to site plan control so that the location of individual on-site sewage systems and replacement beds are only permitted if they are sited to ensure they do not become a significant drinking water threat. **The intent of this policy is to ensure that site plan control, as a planning and development control tool, is used to optimize the location and design of septic systems when existing vacant lots of record are proposed to be developed within certain designated vulnerable areas identified in the policy.**

The CTC Source Protection Committee recognizes that prohibiting a septic system on a vacant lot where there is no municipal sewer connection available may make it impossible to build on such a lot which has received prior approval for such a use from the municipality. **to obtain a building permit for the lot and thereby void previous planning decisions to create and zone the lot for development.** This was deemed considered to be a significant hardship for the landowner. For this reason, the Source Protection Committee has provided through this policy for the municipality to subject vacant lots of record to site plan control to ensure sewage systems and replacement beds are only permitted if they can be appropriately sited and constructed to protect the municipal well. **chosen to require the enactment or amendment of municipal site plan control by-laws to allow for the detailed review of on-site sewage systems for vacant lots in order to optimize their location and design relative to the designated vulnerable areas present.**

The verb “optimize” means “to make as effective as possible” or “to make the best of” and was chosen to allow municipal planning authorities the flexibility to use sound professional judgement in the review and approval of the siting and design of on-site sewage systems proposed to facilitate the development of existing vacant lots as part of the municipal site plan control process.

The policy directs municipalities to “adopt Official Plan policies that require the enactment or amendment of Site Plan Control By-laws” for the purposes of the policy. This structure is introduced for the following reasons. First, the *Clean Water Act, 2006* provides in s. 40 and s. 42 that a municipality shall amend its Official Plan and Zoning By-laws to conform to the significant threat policies set out in the source protection plan. There is no authority for the source protection plan to direct that site plan control by-laws conform to the source protection plan outside of the Official Plan conformity process. Second, the *Planning Act* requires municipalities to have enabling policy in their Official Plans in order to use the site plan control power. Requiring an Official Plan to contain specific site plan control by-law policies is therefore consistent with the provisions of the *Clean Water Act, 2006* and current practice under the *Planning Act*.

Municipalities affected by the SWG-3 policy are encouraged to amend their site plan control by-law and associated application review processes in order to conform with this policy in advance of future Official Plan conformity policy direction on a voluntary basis in order to advance the implementation of the source protection plan in as timely a manner as possible. Municipalities are also required to continue to monitor the aquifer and report on the results (see GEN-7). Should the contaminant levels continue to increase, it may be necessary to review this policy and others associated with the Issue.

Policy ID	Threat Description	Implementing Body	Legal Effect	Policy	Where Policy Applies	When Policy Applies	Monitoring Policy
SAL-10	Moderate/ Low Threats Application of Road Salt	Planning Approval Authority	B	<p>Land Use Planning</p> <p>Where the application of road salt would be a moderate or low drinking water threat, the planning approval authority is encouraged to require a salt management plan, which includes a reduction in the future use of salt, as part of a complete application for development which includes new roads and parking lots in any of the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHPA-A (VS = 10) (existing, future); or • WHPA-B (VS ≤ 10) (existing, future); or • WHPA-C (future); or • WHPA-D (future); or • WHPA-E (VS ≥ 4.5 and <9) (future); or • HVA (future); or • SGRA (VS ≥ 6) (future). <p>Such plans should include, but not be limited to, mitigation measures regarding design of parking lots, roadways and sidewalks to minimize the need for repeat application of road salt such as reducing ponding in parking areas, directing stormwater discharge outside of vulnerable areas where possible, and provisions to hire certified contractors.</p>	See Chapter 5 of the respective Assessment Report	<p>Future: Immediately (T-9)</p> <p>Amend OPs for conformity within 5 years and ZBLs within 3 years of OP approval (T-8)</p>	N/A
SAL-11	Moderate/ Low Threats Application of Road Salt	MOECC	J	<p>Specify Action</p> <p>Where the application of road salt is, or would be, a moderate or low drinking water threat, the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change in consultation with other provincial ministries and municipal associations should promote best management practices for the application of road salt, to protect sources of municipal drinking water in any of the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHPA-A (VS = 10) (existing, future); or • WHPA-B (VS ≤ 10) (existing, future); or • WHPA-C (existing, future); or • WHPA-D (existing, future); or • WHPA-E (VS ≥ 4.5 and <9) (existing, future); or • HVA (existing, future); or • SGRA (VS ≥ 6) (existing, future). 	See Chapter 5 of the respective Assessment Report	<p>Existing & Future: Consider within 2 years (T-15)</p>	N/A

Policy ID	Threat Description	Implementing Body	Legal Effect	Policy	Where Policy Applies	When Policy Applies	Monitoring Policy
SAL-12	Moderate/ Low Threats Application of Road Salt	Municipality	J	<p>Specify Action</p> <p>Where the application of road salt on unassumed roads and private parking lots with greater than 200 square metres is, or would be, a moderate or low drinking water threat in any of the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHPA-A (VS = 10) (existing, future); or • WHPA-B (VS ≤ 10) (existing, future); or • WHPA-C (existing, future); or • WHPA-D (existing, future); or • WHPA-E (VS ≥ 4.5 and <9) (existing, future); or • HVA (existing, future); or • SGRA (VS ≥ 6) (existing, future); <p>the municipality is encouraged to:</p> <p>a) require implementation of a salt management plan which includes the goal to minimize salt usage through alternative measures, while maintaining public safety; and</p> <p>b) require the use of trained individuals in the application of road salt (could include technicians and technologists and others responsible for salt management plans, winter maintenance supervisors, patrollers, equipment operators, mechanics, and contract employees).</p>	See Chapter 5 of the respective Assessment Report	Existing & Future: Consider within 2 years (T-15)	N/A

SAL-13	<p>Moderate/ Low Threats</p> <p>Application of Road Salt</p> <p>Handling and Storage of Road Salt</p>	<p>SPA Municipality</p>	<p>J</p>	<p>Specify Action</p> <p>Where the application, handling and storage of road salt is, or would be, a moderate or low drinking water threat, the municipality is requested to report the results of its sodium and chloride monitoring conducted under the <i>Safe Drinking Water Act</i> and any other monitoring programs annually to the Source Protection Authority. The Source Protection Authority shall assess the information for any increasing trends and advise the Source Protection Committee on the need for new source protection plan policies to be developed to prevent future drinking water Issues, in any of the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHPA-A (VS = 10) (existing, future); or • WHPA-B (VS ≤ 10) (existing, future); or • WHPA-C (existing, future); or • WHPA-D (existing, future); or • WHPA-E (VS ≥ 4.5 and <9) (existing, future); or • HVA (existing, future); or • SGRA (VS ≥ 6) (existing, future). 	<p>See Chapter 5 of the respective Assessment Report</p>	<p>Existing & Future: Consider within 2 years (T-15)</p>	<p>N/A</p>
--------	--	-----------------------------	----------	---	--	--	------------

Explanatory Document Text

Policies SAL-10 through SAL-13 apply to low and moderate threat areas.

The CTC Source Protection Committee has chosen to include a land use planning policy using *Planning Act* tools and a number of Specify Action policies where the threat is low or moderate in recognition that road salt application and storage activities **are** carried out throughout **all source protection areas the source protection region**; chloride and sodium are very mobile chemicals that move easily and rapidly into and through aquifers; and that there are many other sources of drinking water that may be protected as well through implementation practices to reduce the threat.

All of these low and moderate threat policies are non-legally binding. Each specific implementer must have regard for the policy in making decisions, but has the flexibility of determining what action(s) will be taken. While an implementer is not required to provide a report on their actions on implementing low or moderate threat policies, the CTC Source Protection Committee encourages them to provide information that will help in future review and revision of policies.

CTC Source Protection Plan Policies for Section 34 Amendment

Policy ID	Threat Description	Implementing Body	Legal Effect	Policy	Where Policy Applies	When Policy Applies	Monitoring Policy
SNO-1	Storage of Snow	RMO	G	<p>Part IV, s.57, s.58</p> <p>Where the storage of snow is, or would be, a significant drinking water threat, the following actions shall be taken:</p> <p>1) The storage of snow is designated for the purpose of s.57 under the <i>Clean Water Act</i>, and is therefore prohibited where the threat is, or would be significant, in any of the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHPA-A (existing, future); or • WHPA-B (VS = 10) (future); or • WHPA-E (VS ≥ 9) (future); or • the remainder of an Issue Contributing Area for Sodium or Chloride (future). <p>Notwithstanding the above, emergency snow storage may be permitted outside of WHPA-A as determined by the risk management official and the municipality responsible for snow storage.</p>	See Maps 1.1 - 1.21	<p>Future: Immediately (T-5)</p> <p>Existing: 180 days (T-4)</p>	MON-2
			H	<p>2) The storage of snow is designated for the purpose of s.58 under the <i>Clean Water Act</i>, requiring risk management plans, where the threat is significant in any of the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHPA-B (VS = 10) (existing, future); or • WHPA-E (VS ≥ 9) (existing, future); or • The remainder of an Issue Contributing Area for Sodium or Chloride (existing, future). <p>Without limiting other requirements, risk management plans shall include appropriate terms and conditions to ensure the storage of snow, and associated runoff, ceases to be a significant drinking water threat.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the above, emergency snow storage may be permitted outside of WHPA-A as determined by the risk management official and the municipality responsible for snow storage in the absence of a Risk Management Plan.</p>		<p>Existing: 1 year/ 5 years (T-6)</p>	MON-2

Explanatory Document Text

Policy SNO-1 prohibits existing and future snow storage in WHPA-A and future snow storage in WHPA-B (VS = 10), WHPA-E (VS ≥ 9) and in the remainder of an Issue Contributing Area for Sodium or Chloride. In the WHPA-B (VS = 10), WHPA-E (VS ≥ 9) and in the remainder of an Issue Contributing Area for sodium and chloride, existing and future significant drinking water threats are managed using a Risk Management Plan. **Emergency snow storage may be permitted outside of WHPA-A as determined by the Risk Management Official and the municipality responsible for snow storage in the absence of a Risk Management Plan.** In situations, future snow storage may be permitted outside of WHPA-A as determined by the Risk Management Official. Existing snow storage is otherwise managed outside of WHPA-A requiring a Risk Management Plan.

Storage of snow can pose a significant drinking water threat depending on the geographic location of the storage area and whether the snow is stored above or below grade. In general, the greater the snow storage area, the greater the risk to drinking water. Generally, snow storage is a seasonal activity that takes place **on along** roadsides, parking lots, and vacant land without the construction of permanent facilities. **When originally developing this policy** the CTC Source Protection Committee encouraged, where possible, the existing storage of snow (which often contains road salts and other contaminants) **be located** outside of vulnerable areas where possible. **The policy as currently written prohibits the existing and future storage of snow in the WHPA-A, the most vulnerable area to a municipal well, as well as future occurrences of the activity where it would be a significant drinking water threat in the WHPA-B (VS=10), WHPA-E (VS≥9), and the remainder of the Issues Contributing Area for sodium and chloride. Given the large surface areas in the Credit Valley Source Protection Area covered by Issues Contributing Areas for sodium and chloride, municipalities have communicated the difficulty implementing a prohibition of a potential future activity. A number of provisions could be included in a Risk Management Plan to ensure that the storage of snow does not become a significant drinking water threat, therefore, the CTC Source Protection Committee has opted to manage any future instances of the activity outside of the WHPA-A.**

CTC Source Protection Plan Policies for Section 34 Amendment

Policy ID	Threat Description	Implementing Body	Legal Effect	Policy	Where Policy Applies	When Policy Applies	Monitoring Policy
REC-1	An activity that reduces recharge to an aquifer	Planning Approval Authority	A	<p>Land Use Planning (Planning Policies for Protecting Groundwater Recharge)</p> <p>For applications under the Planning Act within the Tier 3 Water Budget WHPA-Q2 identified as having significant water quantity threats, the relevant Planning Approval Authority shall ensure recharge reduction does not become a significant drinking water threat by:</p> <p>1) Requiring new development and site alteration under the Planning Act for lands zoned Low Density Residential (excluding subdivisions) or zoned Agricultural to implement best management practices such as Low Impact Development (LID) with the goal to maintain predevelopment recharge. Implementation of best management practices is encouraged, but voluntary, for Agricultural Uses, Agriculture-related Uses, or On-farm Diversified Uses where the total impervious surface does not exceed 10 per cent of the lot.</p> <p>2) Requiring that all site plan (excluding an application for one single family dwelling) and subdivision applications to facilitate major development (excluding development on lands down-gradient of municipal wells in the Toronto & Region Source Protection Area [Figure X]) for new residential, commercial, industrial and institutional uses provide a water balance assessment for the proposed development to the satisfaction of the Planning Approval Authority which addresses each of the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) maintain pre-development recharge to the greatest extent feasible through best management practices such as LID, minimizing impervious surfaces, and lot level infiltration; b) where pre-development recharge cannot be maintained on site, implement and maximize off-site recharge enhancement (within the same WHPA-Q2) to compensate for any predicted loss of recharge from the development; and c) for new development (excluding a minor variance) within the WHPA-Q2 and within an Issue Contributing Area (for sodium, chloride or nitrates), the water balance assessment shall consider water quality when recommending best management practices and address how recharge will be maintained and water quality will be protected. <p>The Planning Approval Authority shall use its discretion to implement the requirements of this policy to the extent feasible and practicable given the specific circumstances of a site and off-site recharge opportunities.</p> <p>3) Only approving settlement area expansions as part of a municipal comprehensive review where it has been demonstrated that recharge functions will be maintained on lands designated Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas within WHPA-Q2.</p> <p>4) Amending municipal planning documents to reference most current Assessment Reports in regards to the Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas within WHPA-Q2.</p>	<p>Future: WHPA-Q2 with a significant risk level</p> <p>See Maps 3.1 3.2</p> <p>Future: WHPA-Q2 with a moderate risk level</p> <p>See Maps 3.3 3.4</p>	<p>Future: Immediately (T-9)</p> <p>Amend OPs for conformity within 5 years and ZBLs within 3 years of OP approval (T-8)</p>	MON-1

EXPLANATORY DOCUMENT TEXT

Policy REC-1 is a land use planning policy that manages activities that reduce recharge to an aquifer. This policy applies to future threats in a WHPA-Q2 with a significant or moderate risk level.

The intent of the policy is to ensure that the Planning Approval Authority makes decisions that do not result in recharge reduction from new development becoming a significant drinking water threat within a WHPA-Q2. The Planning Approval Authority, through the plan review process (i.e., *Planning Act* applications) will determine what is required, and determine the acceptability of the proposed actions, in the water balance assessments.

The CTC Source Protection Committee wants the Planning Approval Authority to have the flexibility to require the appropriate level of detail in a specific water balance assessment commensurate with the scale and location of a proposed development. For example, within the WHPA-Q2 are areas that have been identified as Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas which are particularly important due to the nature of the soils and slope that permit higher than average infiltration of precipitation to replenish the groundwater. These areas should be given particular protection. Other areas **within the Tier 3 WHPA-Q2**, may not be important for recharge and/or cannot provide the required infiltration due to the local soil and slope conditions. Site specific assessment and identification of the recharge characteristics of the site should be part of such water balance assessments **or equivalent**. Where a detailed assessment is warranted, using the current version of the Tier 3 Water Budget model and updated information should ensure that the results are technically robust and comparable to the original analysis. The local source protection authority has the model files and information to support this analysis, but it is envisioned that an applicant will have to retain qualified expertise to do the analysis.

The Source Protection Committee encourages the “complete application” check list be updated to include the Water Balance Assessment.

The intent of Part 1) of the policy is to ~~avoid the burden on individual residential owners or agricultural operations by requiring that they undertake expensive hydrogeological assessments, but to protect recharge by requiring instead that they implement best management practices that will reduce or eliminate any impact from their building or development activities that are subject to planning approvals.~~ **provide an appropriate level of policy direction to maintain recharge for development and site alteration associated with smaller-scale or agriculture-related development not covered by Part 2 of this policy. In lieu of providing hydrogeological assessments, applicants are required, or in the case of agriculture-related development where the total lot impervious surface is beneath a threshold of 10 per cent, encouraged to voluntarily implement best management practices, that will reduce or eliminate any impact from their building, or development, or site alteration activities that are subject to planning approvals**

With respect to the voluntary implementation of Part 1) of this policy for *Agricultural Uses, Agricultural-Related Uses, and On-farm Diversified Uses* these terms have the same meaning as defined in the *Provincial Policy Statement, 2014* and as further articulated in the *Guidelines on Permitted Uses in Ontario's Prime Agricultural Areas, 2016*. The 10 percent impervious threshold for agricultural-related uses is adapted from Policy 3.2.4.2 of the *Greenbelt Plan, 2017* for the purposes of this policy.

In general, on low density and agriculturally zoned lands, it is possible to ensure that roof and impermeable surface run-off can be directed to on-site infiltration and thus maintain recharge without requiring technical assessments.

The intent of Part 2) of this policy is to ensure **certain** *Planning Act* applications ~~(excluding an application for one single family dwelling and on lands zoned agricultural)~~ include an assessment of the potential reduction in recharge so that specific measures are identified and implemented to ensure the proposal does

CTC Source Protection Plan Policies for Section 34 Amendment

not result in recharge reduction becoming a significant drinking water threat within a WHPA-Q2. This requirement applies to **major development** on lands with the greatest potential for reducing recharge, such as commercial, employment, institutional, industrial uses and includes residential subdivisions. ~~but excludes an application for one single family dwelling.~~ *Planning Act* applications applicable to Parts 2 (a) and (b) include site plan applications, draft plan of subdivision applications, and any associated implementing official plan or zoning by-law amendment applications, **however, applications for development on lands zoned agricultural, which do not meet the criteria for major development, and any development on lands down-gradient of municipal wells in the Toronto and Region Source Protection Area [See Figure X], are exempt from Part 2).**

The intent of Part 2 (b) is to allow the municipality the option where it meets local requirements to require the applicant to locate compensating recharge on another site within the WHPA-Q2 where it is not feasible to protect pre-development recharge within the development site. The CTC Source Protection Committee concluded that the local municipality is best placed to determine the optimal actions to protect recharge and this provides them some local flexibility in their decision-making.

Part 2 (c) of this policy applies ONLY to those parts of a WHPA-Q2 which are also within an Issue Contributing Area for Sodium, Chloride or Nitrate. These areas are shown on the maps in the appendices ~~in~~ **of** the **CTC** Source Protection Plan and also will be provided by the Source Protection Authority in other formats upon request to municipalities or other planning approval authorities. This requirement is intended to ensure that any risk management measure that is implemented to maintain recharge does not create a threat to source water quality. For example, infiltration of stormwater containing road salt in an Issue Contributing Area for Sodium or Chloride is a significant drinking water threat and subject to policies SWG-11 and SWG-12. The CTC Source Protection Committee has included Part 2 (c) of this policy for clarity to ensure that an implementing body does not inadvertently approve an activity to protect water quantity that is a threat to water quality.

The intent of Part 3) is to ensure municipalities evaluate planned growth against recharge reduction at a large scale and only proceed if the planned growth will not result in new significant drinking water threats. Once feasibility of the growth is confirmed, development proponents are subject to Parts 1) and 2) of this policy which are site-specific.