

Memo to: SPC

Cc: SP team

From: Robert Bedgood

Date: March 25, 2011

Re: April 7 SPC sub-committee meeting

Further to my covering memo attached to the agenda for the April 7 sub-committee meeting, we understand that not all committee members will be able to attend these additional sessions and appreciate those that can provide input into the Threats Policy Discussion Papers in this manner. I have called this sub-committee meeting to allow the members who are available to have an opportunity to provide additional input on the Threats Policy Discussion Papers related to Agricultural Threats. This is consistent with the SPC decision not to engage an external working group to develop policies related to agricultural threats. Further, I had indicated that we would utilize sub-committee meetings such as this the day before the SPC meetings for detailed discussions.

The primary focus of discussions on April 7 will be on the Threat Policy Discussion Papers included in this package. Input received through this meeting or provided directly to staff will be used to improve the discussion papers. I do not expect that policy recommendations will be developed until the May SPC meeting, likely through a sub-committee meeting the day before the SPC meeting. As previously indicated the materials developed through these sub-committee meetings will be brought forward to the committee at their regularly scheduled meetings. At SPC meetings it is hoped that the discussion can be much more focused and efficient given the previous opportunities for discussion and input.

Staff would welcome comments prior to the meeting from anyone not able to attend the meeting. Staff will incorporate those comments into the future versions of the discussion paper and bring that information to the sub-committee meeting. Please forward your input directly to Ingrid.

As noted in a previous SPC meeting, the members should set aside time on Thursday prior to the SPC meetings for these sub-committee meetings. If the sub-committee meeting is not required, it can be cancelled. This will reduce the likelihood of future sub-committee meetings from being called without sufficient notice.

I appreciate the considerable commitment that the committee members have made to participate in this policy development. We are just embarking on this challenging task. The provincial deadline necessitates an aggressive policy development schedule which needs to include other opportunities for committee involvement in policy development. Monthly meetings will not by themselves allow the time necessary to consider the threats and management options. I remain committed to the province to deliver the Thames-Sydenham and Region Source Protection Plans on schedule. As such I appreciate the members' commitment to this process. I also acknowledge that full participation in these meetings may not be possible.

It is my hope that this will allow our committee meetings to be more efficient and focus on high level policies and concepts and not get bogged down in detailed discussions. If you have any concerns related to this I would encourage you to contact me directly so that the concerns can be considered as we move through this process.