



**Thames-Sydenham and Region
Source Protection Region**

Assessment Report Consultation Plan

**Version 4.8
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1 Background

The Clean Water Act requires the completion of Assessment Reports which will contain the science on which the Source Protection Plan will be based. These reports will identify vulnerable areas, assess the vulnerability of those areas, identify water quality issues related to the water sources and assess the risks to the water systems. General Regulation 287/07 under the Clean Water Act requires consultation on the Assessment Report.

Work on the components of the Assessment Report (AR) is being undertaken by various leads through partnerships involving system operating authority and CA staff. The following table summarizes the various projects and the systems included in those projects. It is generally anticipated that the work on the systems within a project will be completed together and this will determine when the work from a system can begin the peer review and consultation processes. Peer review involves the review of the work for technical completeness and whether it meets provincial rules and guidance. It is generally accepted that only the vulnerability assessment requires peer review due to the highly technical nature of this work. Upon completion of the peer review, stakeholder consultation on the delineation and vulnerability assessment of the vulnerable areas can be initiated. When the other components of the Assessment Report are complete consultation on those parts can be initiated. The regulations also require that the specific consultation be undertaken on the draft and proposed Assessment Reports.

Table 1 - Assessment Report technical studies

Ground-water		Surface Water	
Projects	Systems	Projects	Systems
Perth	Stratford St Marys West Perth -Mitchell Perth East -Shakespeare (& Milverton)* Perth South - St Pauls, Sebringville*	Essex Chatham Kent	Wallaceburg Wheatley South Chatham Kent/Chatham
London- Middlesex	City of London - Fanshawe, Hyde Park Thames Centre - Thorndale, Dorchester Kilworth Heights Subdivision, Melrose, Mount Brydges Birr	West Elgin	West Elgin
Oxford	Woodstock, Innerkip Ingersoll, Beachville-Loweville Mount Elgin* Embros, Lakeside* Thamesford Tavistock, Hickson-King*	Southern Lake Huron	LAWSS* Petrolia*
Chatham- Kent	Ridgetown Highgate		
GUDI Studies	St. Marys Oxford (Thamesford, Woodstock) City of London (Fanshawe) Thames Centre (Dorchester) Middlesex Centre (Kilworth Heights Subdivision) Chatham-Kent (Highgate)	IPZ-3 Studies	LAWSS, Petrolia Wallaceburg, Wheatley, Erie Beach West Elgin Lake St. Clair intakes (Essex Region SPA)

Municipalities identified with an asterisk (*) include vulnerable areas from water systems in neighbouring municipalities
Note: Milverton is outside of the TSR SP Region but included in the technical study

The Assessment Reports are to be submitted to the MOE one year from the approval of the Terms of Reference (April 20, 2010). MOE has accepted that it is unlikely that all work on the Assessment Report will be completed by the due date in the larger and more complex regions. They have therefore accepted that some components of the Assessment Report will be identified as data gaps at the time of submission of the first Assessment Report. There is an expectation that work would continue on those gaps in parallel with work on the Source Protection Plans. The remaining aspects would be expected to be submitted sufficiently in advance of the due date of the Source Protection Plan to allow for the approval of that work prior to the completion of the Source Protection Plan. Those aspects of the Assessment Report which we expect cannot be completed prior to the submission of the Assessment Report are identified in Phase 4 in the following table.

Due to the size and complexity of the AR it is not adequate to await its completion prior to initiation of consultation. Instead, a phased approach to consultation is proposed and described in the consultation plan. This Consultation Plan outlines the planned consultation on the Assessment Report in the Thames-Sydenham and Region..

2 Purpose

This consultation plan is intended to:

- Describe the consultation on the vulnerability assessment work including vulnerability zones (the lines on the map); Issues and Threats; Risk Assessment; and Tier 1 Water Budget.
- Meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act and related regulations and rules.
- Allow adequate opportunity for stakeholder input into the technical work comprising the Assessment Report.
- Increase the local community awareness of the Source Protection Planning process

3 Consultation Overview

In order to allow for adequate stakeholder engagement in the development of the Assessment Report a phased approach to consultation is planned. These phases allow multiple opportunities for stakeholders to be involved in the consultation process. The phases will allow multiple times and locations to be involved. The phases align with the availability of technical reports. The phases are also intended to target local information at the local communities. The 4 phases of consultation are described in the following table

Table 2 - Consultation phases

Phase	Description	Anticipated consultation
1. Vulnerability Assessment (Draft)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHPA –A, B, C, D delineations • IPZ -1, 2 delineations • Vulnerability scores • List of activities which would be threats with a given vulnerability score 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dependant on completion of work by consultants • Dependant on completion of peer review including possible revisions as a result of peer review comments • Local targets (systems or groups of nearby systems) • Municipal information packages
2. Issues and Threats (Final Draft)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vulnerable areas from previous consultation • HVA, SGRA • IPZ3 (preliminary) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local targets • Municipal consultation

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues • Conditions • Significant Risks (preliminary) 	
3. Assessment Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed draft containing all aspects of the Assessment Report except for those identified in Phase 4 below. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional open houses/public meeting • Internet posting and notices • Municipal and First Nations consultation required
4. After submission of the first Assessment Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tier 3 Water Budget – SGRA Vulnerability Assessment • Significant Risks - Refinements based on site specific Risk Assessment • IPZ 3 vulnerability assessment • GUDI based WHPAs (WHPA E and F) • Prior to completion of SP Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation on the additional components • Consultation on the proposed AR – required regional open houses/ public meeting • Municipal and First Nations consultation required

4 Target Audiences

4.1 Municipalities which do not include lands within vulnerable areas

While these municipalities are not directly impacted by some aspects of the Source Protection planning process, it is important to maintain a flow of information to ensure they understand the process and the scope of the impacts in the region. Information will be made available to these municipalities on a regular basis. The focus on the municipalities outside of vulnerable areas will be on the process and to work ahead.

4.2 Municipalities which include jurisdiction within vulnerable areas

These municipalities need to be kept current and engaged with the Source Protection planning Process. Their participation will include all four phases of the consultation process. Significant effort will be focused on engaging those communities containing Wellhead Protection Areas (WHPA) and Intake Protection Zones which are likely to be the focus of many of the policies of the Source Protection Plans.

4.3 Land owners within vulnerable areas

These landowners may or may not be impacted by the Source Protection planning process. They will be included in all four phases of consultation. The early phases of the consultation are intended to allow these landowners to determine how closely they should remain involved in the Source Protection Planning process.

4.4 Landowners that are or could be a significant risk

At this point, these landowners have not been identified. They will be included in consultation in phase 1 as they are within the vulnerable areas. Specific efforts will be made to directly engage them in Phase 2 and 3 of the consultation. The regulation requires that landowners who are known to be involved in an activity which poses a significant risk to municipal drinking water source be contacted as part of the consultation on the Assessment Report.

4.5 First Nations

At this point, no First Nation Systems are part of the Source Protection Plan. Efforts will continue to involve First Nations in initiating technical studies. Once a system is identified, formal consultation on the vulnerability assessment will commence. Until this time, First Nation Communities will be kept informed of the Source Protection planning process.

4.6 General Public

The general public outside of vulnerable zones will be kept informed about the Source Protection planning process. It is important that all landowners have an opportunity to understand the process and to determine that, in fact, their properties lie outside of a vulnerable zone and therefore, are not directly impacted by this process.

5 Approaches to Consultation

5.1 Phase 1 – July – October, 2009

Phase I involves consultation on the identification of vulnerable areas and a general overview of threats and issues. The key messages to be communicated will include details regarding the planning process to date, local vulnerable areas and scores, the science behind the vulnerability mapping and the next steps.

5.1.1 Municipalities which do not include lands within a vulnerable area

- distribution of updates and other printed material
- invitations to public meetings held throughout the region

5.1.2 Municipalities which include jurisdiction within a vulnerable area

- letter and package of information to municipality which includes maps of vulnerable areas
- meeting with municipal staff/council as required

5.1.3 Land owners within a vulnerable area

- A series of public meetings will be held as outlined in Table 1 below. The meetings will each be held from 3:00 – 7:00 as an open house format. A 10 minute presentation will be available throughout the meeting as required.

Table 3 - Phase 1 schedule

Meetings	PHASE 1 Meeting Date	Meeting Location	IPZ/WHPA	# of parcels in IPZ1 or WHPA A (2 year time of travel)	# of parcels in vulnerable area (IPZ 1 and 2 or WHPAs A-D)	Methods of Notification
Meeting 1	Aug. 4 3:00 – 7:00 (Completed)	Royal Canadian Legion Branch 221 at 142 John Street, West Lorne	West Elgin	34	179	ad in paper direct mail website
Meeting 2	Aug. 6 3:00 – 7:00 (Completed)	Huron Oaks Golf Club, 2587 Lakeshore Rd. Bright's Grove	Lambton Area Water Supply System	62	494	direct mail ad in paper website
			Petrolia	157	3470	direct mail ad in paper website
Meeting 3	Week of Oct. 26 3:00 – 7:00 (Tentative)	Merlin (Tentative)	South Kent/Chatham	71	487	ad in paper direct mail website
			Wheatley	119	365	ad in paper direct mail website
Meeting 4	Oct. 29 3:00 – 7:00 (Tentative)	Wallaceburg (Tentative)	Wallaceburg	23	51	hand delivered ad in paper website
Meeting 5	Week of Oct. 26 3:00 – 7:00 (Tentative)	Highgate (Tentative)	Ridgetown	216	938	ad in paper direct mail website
			Highgate*	85	108	ad in paper direct mail website
Meeting 6	Oct. 21 3:00 – 7:00 (CONFIRMED)	Meeting Room A, Sherwood Branch library, Sherwood Forest Mall, 1225 Wonderland Road North, London	Fanshawe*	8	9	ad in paper website
			Hyde Park	253	3168	ad in paper direct mail website
			Birr	15	18	ad in paper direct mail website
			Melrose	26	37	ad in paper direct mail website

Meeting 7	TBD	TBD	Kilworth Heights *	30	72	ad in paper direct mail website
			Mount Brydges?	10	42	ad in paper direct mail website
Meeting 8	TBD (Likely late October)	Public Library, Meeting Room 21790 Fairview Rd, Thorndale (Tentative)	Thorndale	34	38	ad in paper direct mail website
			Dorchester*	280	634	ad in paper direct mail website
Meeting 9	Sept. 29 3:00 – 7:00 (CONFIRMED)	Rotary Complex, Tim Taylor Lounge, 353 McCarthy Road, Stratford	Stratford	1596	1924	ad in paper direct mail website
			Shakespeare	25	29	ad in paper direct mail website
			Sebringville	18	36	ad in paper direct mail website
			St. Pauls	17	18	ad in paper direct mail website
Meeting 10	TBD	TBD	St. Marys*	2208	2755	ad in paper direct mail website
Meeting 11	Sept. 30 3:00 – 7:00 (CONFIRMED)	West Perth Public Library, Meeting Room, 105 St. Andrew Street, Mitchell	Mitchell	505	1716	ad in paper direct mail website
Meeting 12	Week of Oct. 26 3:00 – 7:00 (Tentative)	Municipal Office, Council Chambers, Hickson (Tentative)	Innerkip	5	56	ad in paper direct mail website
			Embros	84	106	ad in paper direct mail website
			Hickson-King	58	74	ad in paper direct mail website
			Tavistock	670	1127	ad in paper direct mail website
			Lakeside	12	14	ad in paper direct mail website

Meeting 13	Week of Oct. 26 3:00 – 7:00 (Tentative)	Ingersoll - Henderson Hall 133 John St Ingersoll, ON (Tentative)	Ingersoll	762	2279	ad in paper direct mail website
			Beachville- Loweville	29	106	ad in paper direct mail website
			Mount Elgin	9	34	ad in paper direct mail website

*GUDI systems

5.1.4 First Nations (not within a vulnerable area)

- general distribution of tabloid
- public meetings

5.1.5 General Public

- invitation through newspapers for public meeting
- media articles
- general distribution of tabloid
- response to requests for information/presentations

5.2 Phase 2 – September – October, 2009

Phase 2 Consultation involves the results of issues evaluation and the Tier 1 Water Budget. The key messages to be communicated will include details regarding the planning process to date, how threats are determined, the science behind the threats assessment and the next steps.

5.2.1 Municipalities which do not include a vulnerable area

- distribution of updates and other printed material
- invitations to public meetings held throughout the region

5.2.2 Municipalities which include jurisdiction within a vulnerable area

- letter and package of information to municipality which includes maps of vulnerable areas
- meeting with municipal staff/council as required

5.2.3 Land owners within a vulnerable area:

- A series of public meetings will be held as outlined in Table 2 below. The meetings will each be held from 3:00 – 7:00 as an open house format. A 10 minute presentation will be available throughout the meeting as required.

Table 4 - Phase 2 consultation schedule

Meetings	PHASE 2 Meeting Date (final report ready by)	Meeting Location	IPZ/WHPA	# of parcels in IPZ1 or WHPA A (2 year time of travel)	# of parcels in vulnerable area (IPZ 1 and 2 or WHPAs A-D)	Methods of Notification
Meeting 1	Late Oct.-early Nov. (Tentative)	West Lorne	West Elgin	34	179	ad in paper direct mail website
Meeting 2	Mid Oct. (Tentative)	Sarnia	Lambton Area Water Supply System	62	494	direct mail ad in paper website
			Petrolia Intake	157	3470	direct mail ad in paper website
Meeting 3	Late Oct.-early Nov. (Tentative)	Merlin	South Chatham Kent/Chatham	71	487	ad in paper direct mail website
			Wheatley	119	365	ad in paper direct mail website
Meeting 4	Late Oct.-early Nov. (Tentative)	Wallaceburg	Wallaceburg	23	51	ad in paper direct mail website
Meeting 5	Late Oct. (Tentative)	Highgate	Ridgetown	216	938	ad in paper direct mail website
			Highgate*	85	108	ad in paper direct mail website
Meeting 6	Late Oct.-early Nov. (Tentative)	London	Fanshawe*	8	9	ad in paper direct mail website
			Hyde Park	253	3168	ad in paper direct mail website
			Birr	15	18	ad in paper direct mail website
			Melrose	26	37	ad in paper direct mail website
Meeting 7	TBD	TBD	Kilworth Heights *	30	72	ad in paper direct mail website

			Mount Brydges?	10	42	ad in paper direct mail website
Meeting 8	Late Oct.-early Nov. (Tentative)	Thorndale	Thorndale	34	38	ad in paper direct mail website
			Dorchester*	280	634	ad in paper direct mail website
Meeting 9	Late Oct.-early Nov. (Tentative)	Stratford	Stratford	1596	1924	ad in paper direct mail website
			Shakespeare	25	29	ad in paper direct mail website
			Sebringville	18	36	ad in paper direct mail website
			St. Pauls	17	18	ad in paper direct mail website
Meeting 10	TBD	St. Marys	St. Marys*	2208	2755	ad in paper direct mail website
Meeting 11	Late Oct.-early Nov. (Tentative)	Mitchell	Mitchell	505	1716	ad in paper direct mail website
Meeting 12	Late Oct.-early Nov. (Tentative)	Woodstock	Woodstock*	1859	5600	ad in paper direct mail website
			Innerkip	5	56	ad in paper direct mail website
Meeting 13	Late Oct.-early Nov. (Tentative)	Embro	Embro	84	106	ad in paper direct mail website
			Hickson-King	58	74	ad in paper direct mail website
			Tavistock	670	1127	ad in paper direct mail website
			Lakeside	12	14	ad in paper direct mail website

Meeting 14	Late Oct.- early Nov. (Tentative)	Ingersoll	Ingersoll	762	2279	ad in paper direct mail website
			Beachville- Loweville	29	106	ad in paper direct mail website
			Mount Elgin	9	34	ad in paper direct mail website
			Thamesford*	84	115	ad in paper direct mail website

*GUDI systems

5.2.4 Landowners that are or could be a significant risk

- direct mail followed with a kitchen table meetings with any landowner who is a significant risk, when information becomes available

5.2.5 First Nations not a vulnerable area

- general distribution of tabloid
- public meetings

5.2.6 General Public

- invitation through newspapers for public meeting
- media articles
- general distribution of tabloid
- response to requests for information/presentations

5.3 Phase 3 – December 2009 – March 2010

Phase Three involves the formal consultation for the complete Assessment Report and will include 4 public meetings held throughout the region. These sessions will be timed to satisfy the requirements of the regulation. Date will be set based on the previous consultation phases and completion of technical studies. The key messages to be communicated will include details regarding the process for establishing the Assessment Report and the consultation that has taken place to date. Additional local consultation will be undertaken as required.

5.4 Phase 4

Phase four involves consultation of parts of the Assessment Report which were not available when the proposed AR was consulted on. Location and dates of consultation will be based on a due date for the updates. It is anticipated that this will be in 2011.

Phase 4 will include local consultation on those aspects of the Assessment Report that have a local impact. There will also be a general Source Protection Area focus similar to that undertaken in phase three above.

5.5 Use of Website

The website www.sourcewaterprotection.on.ca will be used extensively for the purpose of extending the consultation beyond the public meetings. A description of the process, vulnerability maps and scores, materials used in the consultation as well as the draft assessment report will be available on-line. The web site will describe options for submitting comments as well as the ability to provide comments on-line. Comments collected through the consultation will be posted on the web site as well as forming part of the submission to the MOE with the proposed Assessment Report.

5.6 Distribution of Report and Other Materials

The web site will include access to interactive mapping products through a geoportal. It will also include the availability of documents. The web site will be promoted as the primary method of accessing the documents and mapping products. CDs will also be made available to those who request them. Printed copies of the reports will be made available for review at CA offices and at the public meetings. Various summary products will be available for the public at the public meetings.