



## Source Protection Committee

March 24, 2021

Jennifer Innis  
Chair, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority  
101 Exchange Avenue  
Vaughan, ON  
L4K 5R6

Dear Jennifer Innis:

The Credit Valley – Toronto and Region – Central Lake Ontario (CTC) Source Protection Plan (the Plan) has been in effect since December 31, 2015, with the primary objective to protect current and future sources of drinking water from contamination and overuse.

In accordance with Ontario Regulation 287/07, the Toronto and Region Source Protection Authority is required to submit an annual progress report to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) by May 1, 2021. The fourth CTC annual progress report documents the status of policy implementation, progress in achieving the source protection plan objectives, and implementation efforts between January 1 and December 31, 2020 (see attached).

On March 23, 2021, the CTC Source Protection Committee reviewed the annual progress report and passed the following resolutions:

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the CTC Source Protection Committee receive the staff report Implementation of CTC Source Protection Plan in 2020 – Annual Progress Report for information;

AND THAT in the opinion of the CTC Source Protection Committee, implementation of the Source Protection Plan has progressed well, but remains short of target in achieving the plan's objectives;

AND FURTHER THAT CTC staff be directed to submit the CTC Source Protection Committee's comments on implementation progress to the Credit Valley, Toronto and Region, and Central Lake Ontario Source Protection Authorities for inclusion in the annual progress report.

At the time the Plan was made effective in 2015, 10,583 significant drinking water threats were identified in the CTC Source Protection Region. Since then, field verification has reduced that number to 6,077 significant threats. At the end of the current reporting period, only 362 (about 6%) significant threats remain to be addressed. Additionally, most policies that address significant drinking water threats are implemented or in progress. Therefore, the CTC Source Protection Committee (Committee) determined that implementation of the CTC Source Protection Plan is progressing well overall.

However, the Committee expressed concern regarding the limited progress made in 2020 in some areas:

- Some policies in the Plan require the establishment of risk management plans (RMPs) to address significant drinking water threats. Currently, only 118 RMPs have been established in the CTC Region. At the request of the Committee, the MECP

authorized a 3-year extension to the deadline to complete RMPs. About 205 RMPs remain to be negotiated by the new December 31, 2023 deadline. In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic constrained the ability of municipal risk management officials to engage property and business owners and conduct site visits. With continued pandemic impacts, substantive effort will be required to complete outstanding RMPs by the 2023 deadline.

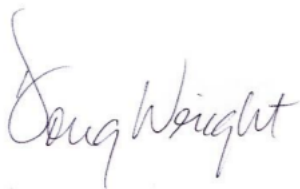
- A policy in the Plan requires about 368 septic systems in the CTC Region to be inspected every 5 years. The COVID-19 pandemic also constrained municipal staff ability to perform on-site inspections; therefore, only one inspection was completed in the CTC Region in 2020. Most of the outstanding inspections (about 350) are required to be completed by 2022.
- Under the Plan, municipalities monitor and report on raw water quality from wells in vulnerable areas with known drinking water issues. Monitoring in 2020 suggested increasing sodium and chloride concentrations or trends for most of the municipal wells with identified issues for the Town of Orangeville.

For these reasons, the Committee concluded that progress in achieving the Plan's objectives falls short of target. Continued monitoring and assessment of raw water quality is required to determine whether the policies in the Plan are sufficient to prevent future drinking water issues.

The Toronto and Region Source Protection Authority (SPA) is now tasked with considering the annual progress report and submitting it to the MECP together with any comments the SPA wishes to make. Similarly, both Central Lake Ontario and Credit Valley SPAs are reviewing the comments received from the CTC Source Protection Committee and will report their assessment of implementation status to the Ministry within the same timeframe.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, or the CTC Source Protection Plan 2020 Annual Progress Report, please contact Janet Ivey at 437-247-8078 or [janet.ivey@cvc.ca](mailto:janet.ivey@cvc.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Doug Wright". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Doug Wright  
Chair, CTC Source Protection Committee

Copy to:

John MacKenzie, Chief Executive Officer, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority  
Janet Ivey, Chief Specialist, Watershed Plans and Source Water Protection, Credit Valley Conservation