

Subject: Joint Municipal Water Supply Management Model: Tier 3 Update

Department: Infrastructure Services

Division: Capital Works

Report #: INS-2023-065

Meeting Date: 2023-10-16

Recommendations

That report INS-2023-065, Joint Municipal Water Supply Management Model: Tier 3 Update, be received;

And that Council direct Staff to proceed with updating the Tier 3 Water Budget Study as set out in Report INS-2023-065 and the Joint Water Supply Management Model agreement.

Background and Analysis

A Municipal Class Environmental Assessment recommending a new groundwater pumping well at the Pullen Well Site located in the Township of Amaranth on County Road 16 was completed in 2022. Additional technical work is required to address Source Protection Planning requirements due to amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002 and Clean Water Act, 2006 passed in 2018. This includes updating the Tier Three Water Budget model and Local Area Risk Assessment Report. Water budget and water quantity risk assessments help understand water availability, water movement, water uses, and water stresses within an area's watersheds.

The current model was developed in 2011 based on data available in 2008. Using data from 2008 to 2022, a consultant would update the current model and complete various simulations of groundwater risk scenarios. The updated Assessment Report must be completed and accepted by the Source Protection Authority. Additionally, approval by the MECP of an updated Source Protection Plan is needed before being able to provide water to the public.

The Township of East Garafraxa, The Township of Amaranth, The Town of Mono and the Town of Orangeville executed the Joint Water Supply Management Model agreement in 2023, which is included as an appendix to this report, and outlines the framework to initiate the process to update and re-run the model. The agreement conditions indicate that the recommendation to proceed with the update and re-run of the models must be communicated to each Council for a Resolution.

Staff have met with representatives from each of the municipalities to discuss the update to the model. Letters have been sent to the three (3) municipalities requesting endorsement by their respective Councils for the Town of Orangeville to develop a procurement document that will retain a consultant to update the model, complete the technical work, and support the process to satisfy requirements of the Source Protection Authority. The Terms of Reference, which will explain the scope of work and tasks to be performed, will be reviewed by a technical steering committee set up to oversee the work prior to issuing. The costs associated with the work will be apportioned using the Cost Allocation Approach in Schedule A of the existing Joint Municipal Water Management agreement.

Strategic Alignment

Strategic Plan

Strategic Goal: Future Readiness

Objective: Sustainability and Capacity

Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan

Theme: Natural resources and environment

Strategy: Protecting, improving or restoring the quality and quantity of water resources

Notice Provisions

n/a

Financial Impact

CVSPA staff, in collaboration with the Town of Orangeville and support from the CTC SPC representative for the Dufferin County group of municipalities, Chris Gerrits, submitted a business case to MECP in the fall of 2023. The business case highlighted the importance of the Joint Municipal Water Management Model Agreement and how provincial support will help the implementation and reinforcing the agreement. On the Sep 29th MECP announced up to \$100k funding for this project. This funding will be provided through the current Transfer of Payment Agreement for CTC DWSP which requires the technical work to be substantially completed by the end of March 2024. Any cost more than \$100k will be apportioned using the cost allocation approach in Schedule A of the agreement. We are following up with the MECP to see if it is possible to extend the deadline of March 2024. The Town's share of the cost will be funded by Capital Project number 13950.0000 – Water Supply.

Respectfully submitted

Tim Kocialek, P. Eng., PMP
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Attachment(s): Joint Municipal Water Management Agreement between the Township of East Garafraxa, Township of Amaranth, Town of Mono and Town of Orangeville