



Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority
April 16, 2025

Agenda
11:00 a.m.

Audio/Video Recording Notice

Land Acknowledgement

Kettle Creek Conservation Authority wishes to acknowledge the treaty and traditional lands originally occupied by the Indigenous First Nation peoples of the Anishinabek, Attiwoonderonk and Haudenosaunee nations. KCCA strives to build meaningful relationships with Indigenous communities and recognizes the importance of respecting these treaties and lands.

Introductions and Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

Delegations

Election of Officers and Administrative Approvals

Recommendation: That the Chair, Vice Chair and all officers elected or appointed by the Kettle Creek Conservation Authority in 2025 serve in the same roles for the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority in 2025.

Minutes of Meetings

a) Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority August 22, 20242

Recommendation: THAT the minutes of the August 22, 2024 Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority be approved.

b) Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee Meeting January 30, 20255

Recommendation: THAT the minutes of the January 30, 2025 Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee Meeting be received.

New Business

a) Kettle Creek Annual Progress Report.....17

Recommendation: THAT the staff report on the Kettle Creek Annual Progress Report be received as information.

That in the opinion of the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority implementation of the Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan is progressing well and is on target towards achieving plan objectives.

AND THAT the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority direct Lake Erie Source Protection Region staff to submit the Kettle Creek Annual Progress Report to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

Next Meeting As required.

KETTLE CREEK SOURCE PROTECTION AUTHORITY

Wednesday, August 22, 2024

A hybrid meeting of the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority was held on August 22, 2024 at 10:36 a.m. with members and staff joining in-person and electronically. The meeting was streamed live to Facebook.

VanHooren conducted a roll call with the following members identifying their presence:

Members Present:

Lori Baldwin-Sands (Vice Chair)	St. Thomas	In Person
Frank Berze	Middlesex Centre	In Person
Jim Herbert	St. Thomas	In Person
Grant Jones (Chair)	Southwold	In Person
Sharron McMillan	Thames Centre	In Person
Todd Noble	Central Elgin	In Person
Jerry Pribil	London	Virtual
Sam Trosow	London	Virtual
John Wilson	Malahide	In Person

Members Absent:

JJ Strybosch	London
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Staff Present:

Jennifer Dow	Water Resources Supervisor	In Person
Joe Gordon	Manager of Planning and Development	In Person
Jeff Lawrence	Forestry and Lands Supervisor	Virtual
Jessica Kirschner	Corporate Services Coordinator	Virtual
Marianne Levogiannis	Public Relations Supervisor	In Person
Betsy McClure	Stewardship Program Supervisor	In Person
Elizabeth VanHooren	General Manager/Secretary Treasurer	In Person

Audio/Video Record Notice

The Audio/Video Recording Notice was posted and made available to the public.

Land Acknowledgement

Kettle Creek Conservation Authority wishes to acknowledge the treaty and traditional lands originally occupied by the Indigenous First Nation peoples of the Anishinabek, Attiwonderonk and Haudenosaunee nations. KCCA strives to build meaningful relationships with Indigenous communities and recognizes the importance of respecting these treaties and lands.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

Delegations

There were no delegations.

Minutes of Meetings

a) Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority April 17, 2024.

KCSPA5/2024

Moved by: Todd Noble

Seconded: Frank Berze

That the minutes of the April 17, 2024, Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority Meeting be approved.

Carried

b) Lake Erie Source Protection Region Management Committee Meeting April 30, 2024

c) Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee Meeting April 25, 2024

d) Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee Meeting March 28, 2024

KCSPA6/2024

Moved by: Todd Noble

Seconded: Jim Herbert

That the minutes of the April 30, 2024, Lake Erie Source Protection Region Management Committee and the minutes of the April 25 and March 28, 2024, Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee Meeting be received.

Carried

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

New Business

a) Approval of the Updated Assessment Report and Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan

Staff reported that updates to the Assessment Report and the Source Protection Plan were approved on June 24, 2024, and came into effect on August 12, 2024. This is the first update since 2014 when the plan was first approved. The policies now align with the new technical guide which includes: new and amended mapping, updated groundwater and surface water quality information, removal of a commercial fertilizer threat from (EAWSS), and additional climate considerations. The plan and its associated documents are available online at www.sourcewater.ca.

The report was provided for information.

KCSPA7/2024

Moved by: Sharron McMillan

Seconded: Todd Noble

That the meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

Elizabeth VanHooren
General Manager/Secretary Treasurer

Grant Jones
Chair

Recorded Vote Registry KCSPA5/2024 to KCSPA7/2024

A=Absent Y=Yes N=No AB=Abstained

Board Member	KCSPA5/2024	KCSPA6/2024	KCSPA7/2024
Baldwin-Sands	Y	Y	Y
Berze	Y	Y	Y
Herbert	Y	Y	Y
Jones	Y	Y	Y
McMillan	Y	Y	Y
Noble	Y	Y	Y
Strybosch	A	A	A
Trosow	Y	Y	Y
Wilson	Y	Y	Y
Pribil	Y	Y	Y
Result	Carried	Carried	Carried

LAKE ERIE REGION SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Date:	January 30, 2025
Time:	1:00 pm
Location:	Virtual
Members Present (at roll call)	A. Dale, L. Dickson, A. Domaratzki, P. Emerson, C. Gerrits, N. Goucher, A. Henry, G. Moroz, A. Piggott, G. Schneider, I. Macdonald, J. Sepulis, E. Stahl, B. Whitwell, P. Wilson
Members Joined (after roll call)	L. Davis, K. Hunsberger, M. Jauernig, L. Jones, F. Sault
Members Absent	L. Vandendriessche
Proxies:	P. Wilson (L. Vandendriessche)
Liaisons:	E. VanHooren (SPA Liaison), L. Rich (Conservation Ontario), T. Black (Public Health)
Staff:	S. Dahmer, J. Ivey, E. Persaud, K. Rosebrugh

1. Call to Order

S. Walsh called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

2. Roll Call and Certification of Quorum – 14 Members Constitute a Quorum (2/3 of Members plus Chair)

The Recording Secretary called the roll and certified a quorum with 16 members present.

3. Chair's Remarks

S. Walsh noted that Elisha Persaud, Source Water Hydrogeologist, GRCA, has accepted a position with the City of Guelph. He acknowledged her hard work and contributions.

4. Updates

4.1 Source Protection Authority Liaison, Kettle Creek Conservation Authority

E. VanHooren provided the following update:

- Conservation Authorities have been finalizing budgets and completing elections of officers. The new Chair for Kettle Creek Conservation Authority is Todd Noble (Central Elgin) and the new Vice-Chair is Sharron McMillan (Thames-Centre). The new Chair for the Grand River Conservation Authority is John Challinor (Town of Milton) and the new Vice-Chair is Shawn Watters (Centre Wellington).

4.2 Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

None

4.3 Conservation Ontario

L. Rich provided the following updates:

- Conservation Ontario has released a winter salt responsibly social media campaign. It is a 9-week campaign to raise awareness of road salt issues, including the promotion of salt reduction and better road salt management. It runs from January 22 to March 19.
- A working group has been established to develop a short video to acknowledge the upcoming 25th anniversary of the Walkerton water contamination event. The video will reflect on the event by focusing on the positive work that has taken place to protect municipal sources of drinking water and will be available for use in May.
- Conservation Ontario, in collaboration with Source Protection Program Managers, submitted comments on the ERO Posting regarding Enabling the Development of Commercial-Scale Geologic Carbon Storage in Ontario: The Carbon Storage Act (included in the Committee agenda package). The bill has died on order paper because of the Provincial election but it may be reintroduced in the future. Conservation Ontario has reached out to staff at the Ministry of Natural Resources to discuss further after the election period.
- The Ontario Groundwater Geoscience Open House will be held on Tuesday, February 11 in-person at the University of Waterloo and online. An additional online session will be held on February 13. The deadline to register has been extended to January 31.

C. Gerrits added that he attended a round table with the Minister of Natural Resources last week regarding the geologic carbon storage project. He encouraged the Ministry to engage with source water

protection early because there is a process for the activity to become a prescribed drinking water threat and that discussion should be initiated early on.

N. Goucher asked staff to share the winter social media campaign materials with the Committee.

5. Review of Agenda

Res. No. 1-25

Moved By A. Henry

Seconded By C. Gerrits

THAT the agenda of January 30, 2025 be approved as distributed.

Carried

6. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interests made in relation to the matters to be dealt with.

7. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Res. No. 2-25

Moved By A. Domaratzki

Seconded By P. Emerson

THAT the minutes of the previous meeting on November 28, 2024 be approved as circulated.

Carried

8. Hearing of Delegations

None

9. Presentations

9.1 "Importation of Excess Soil in Wellhead Protection Areas - Update" by Behnam Doulatyari, Senior Manager, Watershed Plans and Source Water Protection, Credit Valley Conservation

S. Walsh notified the Committee that the presentation by B. Doulatyari is intended to address Item c) under Business Arising from Previous Meetings and take the place of a staff report.

There were no objections.

10. Correspondence

- 10.1 (a) Wellington Source Water Protection to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding comments on ERO Posting # 019-0240, Lafarge Quarry Permit to Take Water (December 20, 2024)**
- 10.2 (b) City of Guelph to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding comments on ERO Posting # 019-0240, Lafarge Quarry Permit to Take Water (December 23, 2024)**
- 10.3 (c) Grand River Conservation Authority to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding comments on ERO Posting # 019-9325, Glenchristie Quarry Permit to Take Water (November 27, 2024)**
- 10.4 (d) Regional Municipality of Waterloo to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding comments on ERO Posting # 019-9325, Glenchristie Quarry Permit to Take Water (January 10, 2025)**
- 10.5 (e) Wellington Source Water Protection to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding comments on ERO Posting #019-9325, Glenchristie Quarry Permit to Take Water (January 10, 2025)**
- 10.6 (f) City of Guelph to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding comments on ERO Posting # 019-9325, Glenchristie Quarry Permit to Take Water (January 8, 2025)**
- 10.7 (g) Township of Puslinch to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding comments on ERO Postings # 019-9378 and # 019-9325, Glenchristie Quarry Environmental Compliance Approval and Permit to Take Water (January 16, 2025)**

J. Sepulis made the following remarks:

- The correspondence relates to proposed water takings at the Glenchristie quarry and summarizes comments made by the Township of Puslinch, Wellington County and the Township of Guelph Eramosa.
- The primary concern is ensuring that the aquitard will not be breached by the extraction (as occurred with the Dolime Quarry). Borehole data does not match statements made in the proponent's assessment and technical staff are concerned that there is insufficient information to ensure there will not be a breach or to assess the cumulative impact of dewatering. Municipal staff have also suggested that the Permit to Take Water (PTTW) renewal be set at 5 years instead of 10 years.

J. Sepulis put forward the following motion:

THAT the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee direct staff to send a letter to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks stating that the Source Protection Committee fully supports the concerns, recommendations and requests expressed in Correspondence a), b), c), d), e), f) and g).

G. Schneider spoke on behalf of the Ontario Stone, Sand and Gravel Association, noting that the dialogue between the various regulatory agencies is productive. Decisions should be made by technical experts and be based on science. He supported the motion and felt that outstanding technical issues can be resolved in this case, allowing operations to continue once all parties have come to an agreement on the facts and the need for ongoing monitoring.

P. Emerson supported the motion. He added that this happened in the County of Brant at an aggregate pit in Paris. Productive and cooperative technical discussion led to the proper decision.

A. Domaratzki commended municipalities for submitting comments on the PTTW applications. She noted that Lafarge was able to use the Tier 3 model in their assessment. She asked how this work is funded.

E. Stahl clarified that the model used by Lafarge was the Guelph groundwater model based on the Tier 3 work. The model has been updated and is available for use with a user agreement. Lafarge entered an agreement with the City and paid the City's consultants to run the model. The license agreement ensures cost recovery but also allows the City to obtain the data for future use.

G. Moroz added that the Region of Waterloo ran their own modelling scenarios using the updated Cambridge model and most recent Tier 3 work. The Region paid their consultants to complete the work in house with no cost recovery. The results supported their comments on decreasing water supply to wells in the east end of Cambridge. The Hespeler wellfield has been impacted by local water takings. The [Glenchristie] application is concerning because of the amount of future growth expected in the area.

A. Domaratzki noted that one of the modelling scenarios for Lafarge was replacement of water takings through injection wells. She asked if an applicant proposes injection whether municipalities are less able to comment because the water taking does not meet the definition of a water quantity threat under the Clean Water Act (i.e. taking without replacing).

E. Stahl responded that the injection scenario helps to replace some water back into the aquifer system. However, the water must be treated before it is returned; therefore, the City does not consider injection to be 100% replacement of the same water.

G. Moroz added that the threat of consumptive use is defined by taking water from an aquifer and not returning it to the same aquifer. Injection into a different aquifer is better than zero mitigation, but it can still be considered a water quantity threat.

C. Gerrits supported the motion; however, he felt that 5 year renewal for a PTTW could trigger more work and may not be necessary, creating a burden on staff resources for reviewing and commenting.

S. Dahmer responded that there are no Source Protection Plan policies in place for the Guelph-Guelph/Eramosa WHPA-Q yet while policy development remains ongoing. Shortening the PTTW renewal may allow future policy requirements and considerations to be incorporated at that time which are not required to be implemented as part of the current PTTW review.

Res. No. 3-25

Moved By J. Sepulis
Seconded By P. Emerson

THAT the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee direct staff to send a letter to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks stating that the Source Protection Committee fully supports the concerns, recommendations and requests expressed in Correspondence a), b), c), d), e), f) and g).

Carried

- 10.8 (h) Conservation Ontario to the Ministry of Natural Resources regarding comments on ERO Posting # 019-9299 "Enabling the Development of Commercial-Scale Geological Carbon Storage in Ontario: The Geological Carbon Storage Act" (January 9, 2025)**
- 10.9 (i) Regional Municipality of Waterloo to the Ministry of Natural Resources regarding comments on ERO Posting # 019-9299 "Enabling the Development of Commercial-Scale Geologic Carbon Storage in Ontario: The Geologic Carbon Storage Act" (January 9, 2025)**

Res. No. 4-25

Moved By A. Domaratzki
Seconded By C. Gerrits

THAT Correspondence from January 30, 2025 be received as information.

Carried

11. Reports

11.1 SPC-25-01-01 Source Protection Program Update

S. Dahmer presented the report.

P. Emerson asked when policy options for the nitrate Issue in Brantford will be brought back to the Committee.

S. Dahmer replied that policy options will be part of the Section 36 update to the Grand River Source Protection Plan, which is in progress. Currently, staff do not have a specific date for when the draft Section 36 update will be completed.

P. Emerson expressed concern that the system for incorporating policies into the Source Protection Plan is too slow for proactively addressing this very serious issue.

A. Dale recalled that nitrate was a concern several years ago south of Kitchener and work was done on the Doon wastewater treatment plant in response. He thought the issue was improving and asked how the wastewater treatment plant upgrades are connected to the current issue.

J. Ivey responded that years ago there was rising ammonia levels in the Grand River. As part of a multi-year strategy, municipalities upgraded wastewater treatment plants to implement technology that converts ammonia into nitrate (as it is less toxic). This improved water quality and reduced the risk to drinking water; however, it was known that this would contribute to rising nitrate levels in the Grand River.

In response to P. Emerson, J. Ivey noted that the nitrate issue is not new and has been tracked over time. Programs supported by the GRCA and municipalities have helped; however, water quality changes slowly over time and it will take many years of better non-point source control and municipal investments into denitrification technologies to significantly reduce nitrate. The City of Brantford is taking active steps to resolve this and the Water Managers Working Group has been sharing information and resources as well. Action that can be taken under the Clean Water Act is to amend the Assessment Report to formally recognize nitrate as an Issue. This allows for the creation of Source Protection Plan policies. However, action is being taken outside of the Clean Water Act using other available tools and approaches.

P. Emerson asked again when staff will bring policy options to the Committee.

J. Ivey explained that remaining technical work for the Section 36 update will be finalized over the next two years. At some point in the next year or more, staff will be able to share the proposed content for the Assessment Report and this will be the Committee's first opportunity to discuss policy options. She emphasized that the process to update the Source Protection Plan is gradual, but other actions are being taken outside of and concurrently with the Section 36 review.

Res. No. 5-25

Moved By A. Henry
Seconded By E. Stahl

THAT report SPC-25-01-01 Source Protection Program Update be received as information.

Carried

11.2 SPC-25-01-02 S.34 Amendment to the Grand River Assessment Report and Source Protection Plan: City of Hamilton - Lynden Rural Settlement Area

K. Rosebrugh presented the report.

Res. No. 6-25

Moved By I. Macdonald
Seconded By G. Schneider

THAT report SPC-25-01-02 S.34 Amendment to the Grand River Assessment Report and Source Protection Plan: City of Hamilton - Lynden Rural Settlement Area be received as information;

AND THAT the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee release the S.34 amendment to the Grand River Assessment Report and Source Protection Plan to the Source Protection Authority for submission to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

Carried

11.3 SPC-25-01-03 S.34 Amendment to the Grand River Assessment Report and Source Protection Plan: County of Brant

K. Rosebrugh presented the report.

Res. No. 7-25

Moved By N. Goucher
Seconded By L. Davis

THAT report SPC-25-01-03 S.34 Amendment to the Grand River Assessment Report and Source Protection Plan: County of Brant be received as information;

AND THAT the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee release the S.34 amendment to the Grand River Assessment Report and Source Protection Plan for public consultation.

Carried

11.4 SPC-25-01-04 S.34 Amendment to the Grand River Assessment Report and Source Protection Plan: City of Brantford

K. Rosebrugh presented the report.

Res. No. 8-25

Moved By A. Dale
Seconded By J. Sepulis

THAT report SPC-25-01-04 S.34 Amendment to the Grand River Assessment Report and Source Protection Plan: City of Brantford be received as information;

AND THAT the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee release the S.34 amendment to the Grand River Assessment Report and Source Protection Plan for public consultation.

Carried

11.5 SPC-24-01-05 Transport Pathway Assessment - Lafarge Wellington County

E. Persaud presented the report.

A. Domaratzki pointed out that the vulnerability increased across the entire Lafarge property. In other transport pathway assessments, the area of influence was a buffer applied around an activity (e.g. a cluster of wells) instead of the property boundary. She asked how this is decided each time.

E. Persaud responded that the convention for establishing boundaries in transport pathway adjustments is based on guidance documents for Lake Erie Region and guidance developed by Conservation Ontario. For pits and quarries, the property boundary is often equal to the licensed extraction area (as is the case with Lafarge) and that becomes the transport pathway area of influence. This is different than point transport pathways, such as wells or boreholes, where a buffer is applied to the cluster.

A. Henry felt it is a shame there are not more tools available for the Committee to proactively address activities that impact vulnerability. Transport pathway assessments are very reactive.

E. Persaud agreed but also noted that it depends on how and when the transport pathway assessment comes forward. Often municipalities are screening for transport pathways during development applications, and this can be considered early on in the process.

E. Stahl added that the Lafarge assessment is slightly more proactive because the full extraction area is included as the area of influence despite the fact that Lafarge has not extracted all of the aggregate yet.

Res. No. 9-25

Moved By J. Sepulis

Seconded By A. Domaratzki

THAT report SPC-25-01-05 Transport Pathway Assessment - Lafarge Wellington County be received as information;

AND THAT the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee direct staff to incorporate the Lafarge Transport Pathway Assessment into the Grand River Assessment Report.

Carried

11.6 SPC-25-01-06 S.36 Draft Policy Approaches for Road Salt and Snow Subthreats

K. Rosebrugh presented the report.

N. Goucher noted that lowering the threshold for road salt threats appears to be a step in the right direction. Chloride is essentially permanent when it enters groundwater and is very difficult and expensive to treat. She asked if lower thresholds is proactive enough.

K. Rosebrugh responded that the Ministry's intention in revising the 2021 Technical Rules was to more proactively address road salt by capturing more threats with the lower thresholds. It is recognized that many areas and activities were not being captured under the old Technical Rules. However, municipalities implementing road salt policies may have more insight into how effective this change is.

G. Moroz shared that being able to identify the activity as a significant drinking water threat under the Technical Rules without necessarily having an Issue Contributing Area is helpful for proactively managing chloride in groundwater. However, it will not fully address the issue. The legislative framework for winter maintenance in Ontario sets a minimum standard for roads; however, there is no such framework for properties. Where there are high concentrations of large parking lots, there is heavy salt loading. Growth creates more hard surfaces that require salt and that cannot be curtailed. Mitigation is the only tool and it has its limitations.

Res. No. 10-25

Moved By I. Macdonald

Seconded By N. Goucher

THAT report SPC-25-01-06 S.36 Draft Policy Approaches for Road Salt and Snow Subthreats be received as information.

Carried

11.7 SPC-25-01-07 Evaluating Implementation Progress in Lake Erie Source Protection Region

S. Dahmer presented the report.

A. Domaratzki asked for clarification that the metric to be considered for evaluating progress is the percentage of policies implemented. For example, there are a number of Risk Management Plan policies in place. Measuring progress would not be based on the number of Risk Management Plans currently being negotiated, but rather that there is a process in place for doing so.

S. Dahmer confirmed that is correct. Generally, if a policy is marked implemented or in-progress, there is a process in place for managing the threat. Through other reporting metrics, the Committee should see an annual improvement as a result of the policies being implemented (e.g. more Risk Management Plans each year).

Res. No. 11-25

Moved By J. Sepulis

Seconded By A. Dale

THAT report SPC-25-01-07 Evaluating Implementation Progress in Lake Erie Source Protection Region be received as information;

AND THAT the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee endorse the proposed approach for evaluating the extent of Plan implementation.

Carried

12. Business Arising from Previous Meetings

12.1 Local aggregate threat request under Technical Rule 119: Discussion has been referred to the Lake Erie Region IWG for further consideration

12.2 MECP response to SPC concerns regarding Part IV policy implications for storm water management subthreats 2.3 and 2.4 (report SPC-24-06-05 - Draft Policy Approaches for Sewage Subthreats)

12.3 SPC request for staff report regarding the importation of excess soil in Wellhead Protection Areas

This item was addressed through the presentation "Importation of Excess Soil in Wellhead Protection Areas - Update" by Behnam Doulatyari.

13. Other Business

None

14. Closed Meeting

Not applicable

15. Next SPC Meeting

March 2025 - date to be determined

Lake Erie Region staff will send a voting poll requesting member availability to reschedule the March 2025 meeting date.

16. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

Res. No. 12-25

Moved By I. Macdonald

THAT the Lake Erie Source Protection Committee meeting of January 30, 2025 be adjourned.

Carried

DATE: April 16, 2025
TO: Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority
FROM: Elizabeth VanHooren
SUBJECT: Kettle Creek Annual Progress Report

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the staff report on the Kettle Creek Annual Progress Report be received as information.

That in the opinion of the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority implementation of the Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan is progressing well and is on target towards achieving plan objectives.

AND THAT the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority direct Lake Erie Region Source Protection staff to submit the Kettle Creek Annual Progress Report to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

SUMMARY:

- The Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan came into effect in 2015 providing a framework of policies to protect existing and future drinking water threats and ensure existing activities never become significant drinking water threats.
- In accordance with Ontario Regulation 287/07 s.52 Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority is required to submit an Annual Progress Report to the Director by May 1 in the year following to which the report applies.
- The Progress Report uses data provided by municipalities, Provincial ministries and other implementing bodies.
- KCSPA Annual Progress Report was reviewed by the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee at their March 25, 2025 meeting. In the Committee's opinion the plan is progressing well and is on target to achieve the plan objectives.
- Based on the Source Protection Committee's recommendation, KCSPA is now charged with submitting the Annual Progress Report and Supplemental Form to the Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks (MECP) by May 1, 2025 with any additional comments it wishes to make.

BACKGROUND:

In accordance with Ontario Regulation 287/07 s.52 Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority is required to submit an Annual Progress Report and Supplemental Form to MECP by May 1 in the year following to which the report applies. The annual reporting requirement consists of two elements: the Annual Progress Report and the Supplemental Form.

Annual Progress Report

Appendix A: contains the 2024 Annual Progress Report for the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area. This is a public-facing document developed by MECP and prepared by Lake Erie Region staff. It provides a summary of progress on implementation of the Plan.

Appendix B: contains the Supplemental Form. This is a tool developed by MECP using a series of questions to collect information from implementing bodies that helps tell the story of the progress made in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area.

Section II of the Annual Progress Report entitled “A message from your local Source Protection Committee” requires the SPC to provide their opinion on the extent to which progress has been made on Plan implementation in this reporting period. MECP has clarified that the intent is for the SPC to reflect on implementation progress since the Plan came into effect, despite the reference to “in this reporting period”.

The following options are provided to rate progress:

- P: Progressing Well/On Target – The majority of the Plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing.
- S: Satisfactory – Some of the Plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing.
- L: Limited Progress – A few Plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing.

Lake Erie Region Staff reviewed the results submitted by implementing bodies on the Supplement Form and formulated the Annual Progress Report. The two documents were presented at the Lake Erie Source Protection Committee Meeting on March 25, 2025.

It was the recommendation of staff that the plan is progressing well/on target as the majority of the source protection plan polices have been implemented and/or are progressing well.

All legally binding Plan policies that address significant drinking water threats (100 percent) are either implemented, in progress, or have been determined to require no further action.

At the time the Plan came into effect in 2015, two (2) significant drinking water threats were identified in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area. One of the threats (storage of commercial fertilizer) no longer exists and ceases to be a threat.

At the March 25, 2025 the Lake Erie Source Protection Committee passed the following motion:

THAT report SPC-25-03-02 2024 Annual Progress Report for the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area be received as information;
THAT in the opinion of the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee, implementation of the Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan is progressing well and is on target towards achieving plan objectives;
AND THAT the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee direct staff to present the 2024 Annual Progress Report to the Source Protection Authority for submission.

With the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority’s approval staff will now forward the Annual Report and Supplemental Form to the Province in advance of the May 1, 2025 deadline.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the staff report on the Kettle Creek Annual Progress Report be received as information.

That in the opinion of the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority implementation of the Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan is progressing well and is on target towards achieving plan objectives.

AND THAT the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority direct Lake Erie Region Source Protection staff to submit the Kettle Creek Annual Progress Report to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

March 26, 2025

Todd Noble
Chair, Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority
44015 Ferguson Line
St. Thomas ON, N5P 3T3

Dear Chair Noble,

RE: Annual Progress Reporting

The Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan (the Plan) has been in effect since 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 s.52, the Kettle Creek Source Protection Authority (SPA) is required to submit an Annual Progress Report on implementation of the Plan to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) by May 1st of each year. This report is comprised of the Kettle Creek Annual Progress Report (**Appendix A**) and the Supplemental Form (**Appendix B**) and reflects implementation efforts from January 1 to December 31, 2024.

On March 25, 2025 the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee (SPC) passed the following resolution:

THAT in the opinion of the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee, implementation of the Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan is progressing well and is on target towards achieving the plan objectives;

AND THAT the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee direct staff to present the 2024 Annual Progress Report to the Source Protection Authority for submission.

As such, this letter serves as notice of submission of the 2024 Annual Progress Report and Supplemental Form to the Kettle Creek SPA, as per the annual reporting administrative protocol adopted by the Lake Erie Region Management Committee (Report No. 17-01-03).

Achievement of Source Protection Plan Objectives:

It is in the opinion of the SPC that implementation of the Plan is progressing well and is on target towards achieving Plan objectives.

All legally binding Plan policies that address significant drinking water threats (100 percent) are either implemented or in progress.

At the time the Plan came into effect in 2015, two significant drinking water threats were identified in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area. Since then, one threat was determined not to exist and was removed from the Assessment Report through a comprehensive update to the Plan completed under Section 36 of the *Clean Water Act, 2006*. There is one existing significant drinking water threat (storage of fuel) in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area and a Risk Management Plan is currently being negotiated to manage this threat (anticipated for completion in 2025).

The Kettle Creek SPA is now tasked with considering the Annual Progress Report and submitting it to MECP, along with any comments the SPA wishes to make.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or the Kettle Creek Annual Progress Report and Supplemental Form, please contact Shari Dahmer 519-621-2763 ext. 2303 or sdahmer@grandriver.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Walsh', with a stylized, cursive script.

Steve Walsh
Chair, Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee

c.c. Elizabeth VanHooren, General Manager, Kettle Creek Conservation Authority

Appendix A

2024 Annual Progress Report – Kettle Creek Source Protection Area

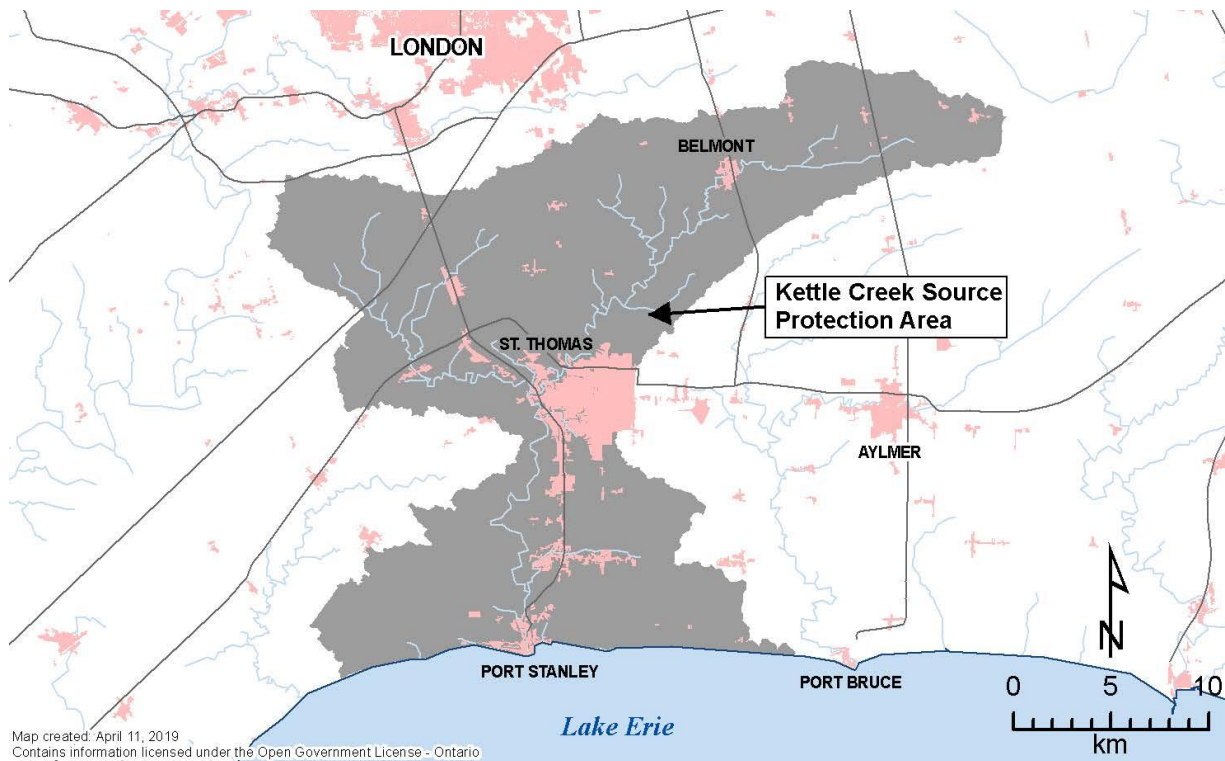
Kettle Creek Source Protection Area Annual Progress Report 2024

I. Introduction

This annual progress report outlines the progress made in implementing our Source Protection Plan for the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area, as required by the *Clean Water Act, 2006* and its regulations.

The Source Protection Plan (the Plan) is the culmination of extensive science-based assessment, research, consultation, and collaboration with local stakeholders and the provincial government. When policies in the Plan are implemented it ensures that activities carried out near municipal wells and surface water intakes will not pose significant risk to the sources of our drinking water.

We acknowledge and recognize the efforts made by our local municipalities, stakeholders, and Source Protection Committee in the development and implementation of the Plan.



Map 1 Kettle Creek Source Protection Area

II. A message from your local Source Protection Committee

P: Progressing Well / On Target – The majority of the Plan policies have been implemented and/or are progressing.

All legally binding Plan policies that address significant drinking water threats (100 percent) are either implemented or in progress.

At the time the Plan came into effect in 2015, two significant drinking water threats were identified in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area. Since then, one threat was determined not to exist and was removed from the Assessment Report through a comprehensive update to the Plan completed under Section 36 of the *Clean Water Act, 2006*. There is one existing significant drinking water threat (storage of fuel) in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area and a Risk Management Plan is currently being negotiated to manage this threat (anticipated for completion in 2025).

III. Our Watershed

The Kettle Creek Source Protection Area (watershed) includes Kettle Creek and its tributaries. The main branch of Kettle Creek originates at Lake Whittaker, an 11 hectare spring-fed kettle lake. The watershed is comprised of three subwatersheds: Dodd Creek, Upper Kettle Creek, and Lower Kettle Creek. These watercourses drain 520 square kilometres of agricultural and urban lands before entering Lake Erie at Port Stanley.

The Kettle Creek Source Protection Area includes the City of St. Thomas, the southern portions of Middlesex County (Township of Thames Centre and Townships of Middlesex Centre) and the City of London, and the central portion of Elgin County (Township of Southwold, Township of Malahide and Municipality of Central Elgin).

The watershed has two municipal drinking water systems: two wells in Belmont and the Elgin Area Primary Water Supply System (EAPWSS) in Port Stanley.

IV. At a Glance: Progress on Source Protection Plan Implementation

1. Source Protection Plan Policies and Addressing Significant Risks

P: Progressing Well / On Target

The original Kettle Creek Source Protection Plan came into effect in 2015. All of the legally-binding policies that address significant drinking water threats (100 percent) in the original Plan were implemented or were in progress.

A comprehensive update to the Plan was completed under Section 36 of the *Clean Water Act, 2006*, which took effect on August 15, 2024. As of December 31, 2024, 100 percent of the legally-binding Plan policies remain implemented or in progress.

The two policies in progress are related to zoning by-law conformity for two municipalities and one Risk Management Plan.

2. Municipal Progress: Addressing Risks on the Ground

P: Progressing Well / On Target

Three municipalities in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area have vulnerable areas where significant drinking water threat policies apply: Township of Malahide, Municipality of Thames Centre, and Municipality of Central Elgin.

Planning departments and building officials are screening applications for locations within vulnerable areas where threats to drinking water sources are possible and Plan policies may apply.

These municipalities are also required to review and update their Official Plan to ensure it conforms with the Source Protection Plan the next time they undertake an Official Plan review under the *Planning Act, 1990*. The Municipality of Thames Centre, the Municipality of Central Elgin, and the Township of Malahide have completed their Official Plan updates.

Municipalities will need to determine if an Official Plan update is required to conform to the recent Section 36 Plan update and report on such progress starting in 2025.

3. Septic Inspections

Not applicable to the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area. There are no on-site sewage systems requiring inspection.

4. Risk Management Plans

P: Progressing Well / On Target

There is currently one Risk Management Plan required within the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area to address the handling and storage of fuel at the Elgin Area Primary Water Supply treatment plant (as required by policy PS-CW-7.1). Best management practices and risk management measures have been in place

since the policy was adopted; however, the formal Risk Management Plan agreement is still being finalized.

No inspections were carried out or planned by a Risk Management Official or Inspector for prohibited or regulated activities in the 2024 annual reporting period.

5. Provincial Progress: Addressing Risks on the Ground

P: Progressing Well / On Target

There are no existing significant drinking water threats that require provincial approvals in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area. Ontario ministries review applications for new provincial approvals (e.g. Environmental Compliance Approvals issued under the Environmental Protection Act) where they have been identified as a tool in our Plan to address activities that pose a significant risk to source water.

The Province has established Standard Operating Policies to ensure that approvals take into account the science generated through the Drinking Water Source Protection Program and policies in the Source Protection Plan. Provincial approvals are issued, denied, amended, or revoked to conform to Plan policies. Where necessary, conditions are added to approvals to ensure that the activity does not pose a significant threat to sources of drinking water.

In 2024, there were no new prescribed instrument applications that required a detailed review for source protection in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area.

6. Source Protection Awareness and Change in Behaviour

There have been no measurable or quantifiable outcomes reported for the 2024 annual reporting period.

7. Source Protection Plan Policies: Summary of Delays

Not applicable to the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area.

8. Source Water Quality: Monitoring and Actions

No issues have been identified in the local science-based assessment report regarding the quality of the sources of municipal drinking water in the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area.

9. Science-based Assessment Reports: Work Plans

An order was received from the Ministry on July 22, 2019 providing for a comprehensive review and update to the Kettle Creek Assessment Report and Source Protection Plan under Section 36 of the *Clean Water Act, 2006*. The tasks identified in the order were incorporated into the Section 36 update that was approved by the Ministry and which took effect on August 15, 2024.

10. More from the Watershed

To learn more about the Kettle Creek Source Protection Area, visit the [Lake Erie Source Protection website](#).