

Source Water Protection

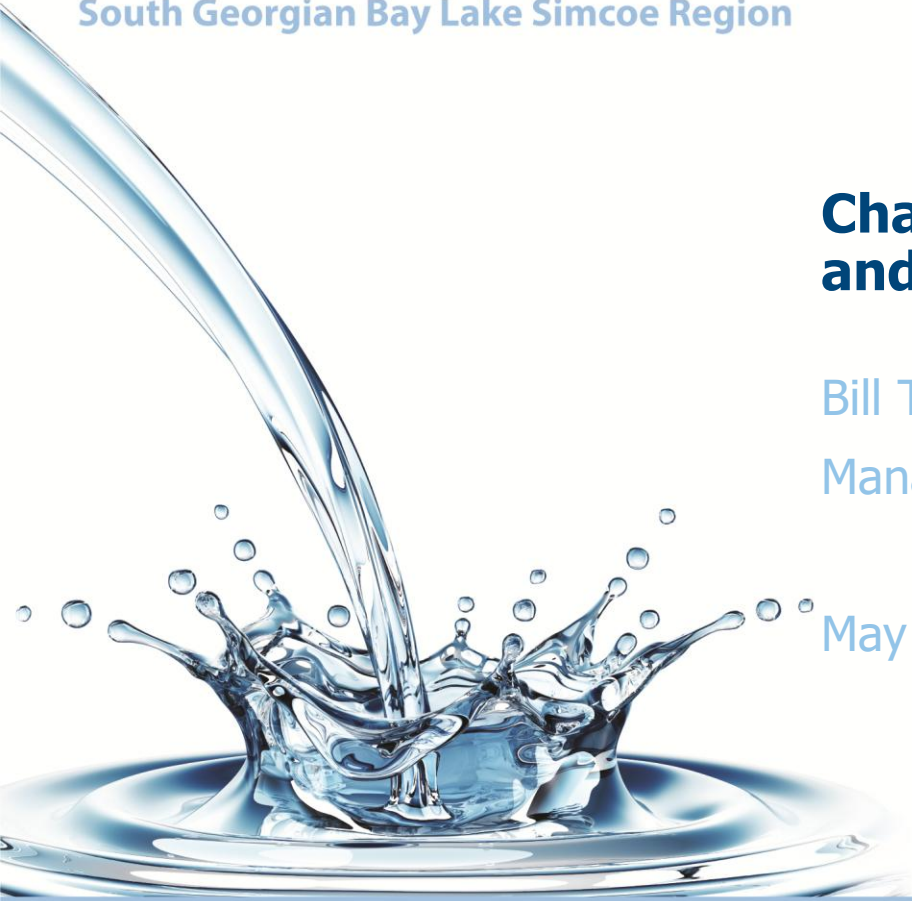
South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Region

Changes to the *Clean Water Act* and its Regulations

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Water
is life.
Protect
Yours.

Amendments to the Act and Regulations

Changes to the Clean Water Act

- Provides overall intent of the changes
- Posted on Environmental Registry on October 20, decision made on October 31
- Changes have been PASSED

Changes to the Regulations

- Will provide the detail of how the overall intent is delivered
- Posted on Environmental Registry on October 20, closed December 4
- Changes are still PENDING

Three types of changes:

1. To the process for incorporating new / expanded drinking water systems
2. To the approval process for amendments
3. To the use of prescribed instruments to address threats

1. Incorporating new drinking water systems

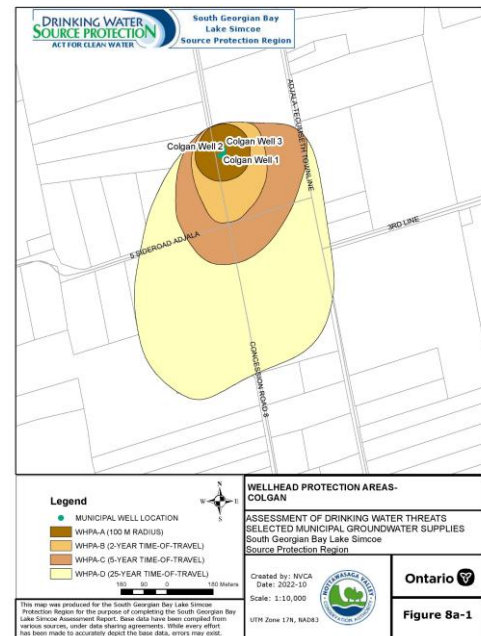
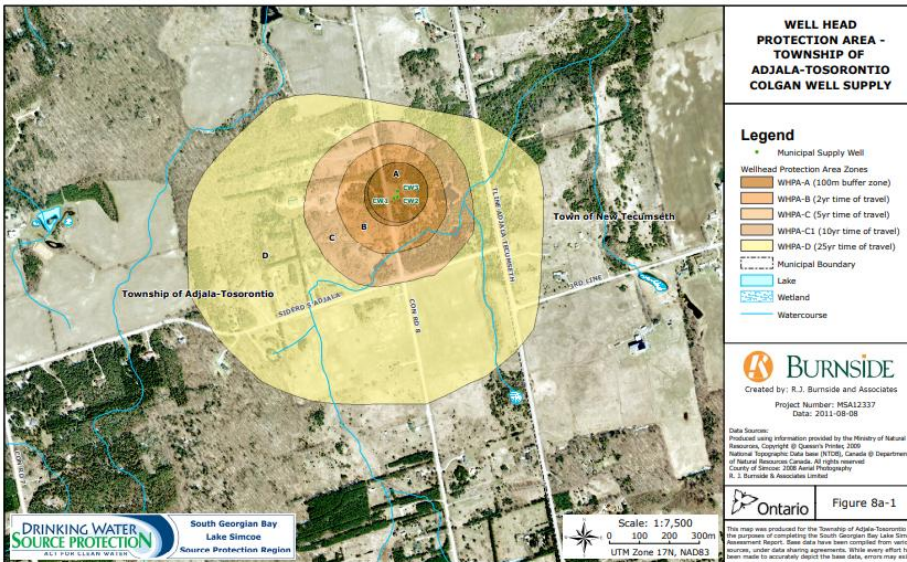
The principle:

- Any time a new drinking water system is built, or an existing one is expanded, it should be protected by the Source Protection Plan before coming into service

1. Incorporating new drinking water systems

In practice:

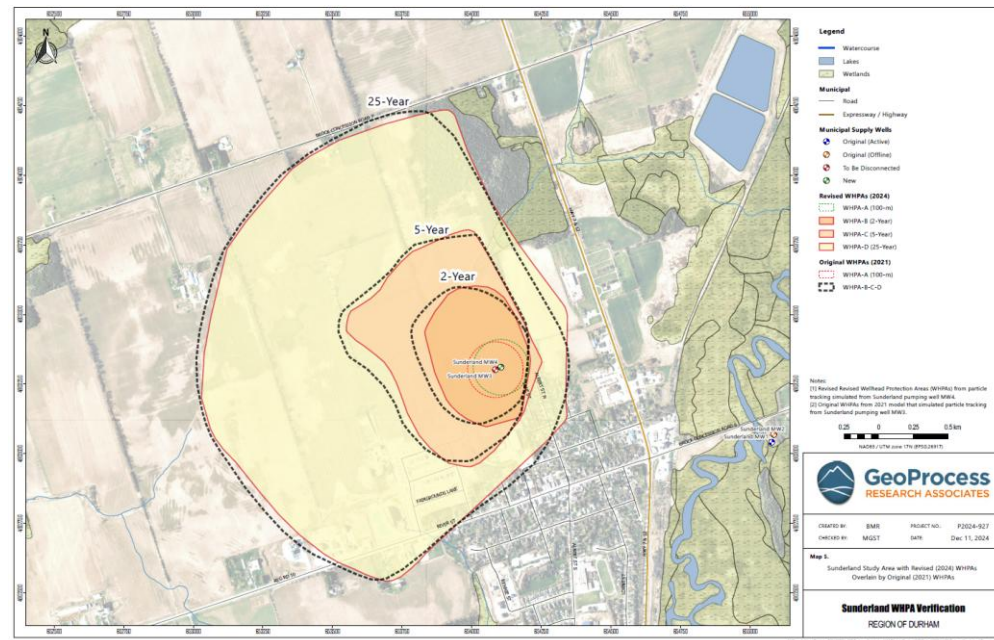
- If expansion just means an increased taking, no SPP update has been required



1. Incorporating new drinking water systems

In practice:

- If expansion means changes to infrastructure, full amendment process is required (even if a minor change)



1. Incorporating new drinking water systems

The amendment:

1. Closes the loophole that did not require increased consumption to have a plan amendment
2. Gives the source protection authority the ability to recommend cases where the system can come into service before the amendment is complete

Details still to be resolved:

- What situations would we be able to recommend that systems can come into service? (e.g., where no significant drinking water threats exist?)

2. Changing the approval process for amendments

The principle:

- Source Protection Plans should be based on good science and consultation / collaboration with stakeholders

In practice:

- The Regulated process can take anywhere from one to two years
- In some cases the risk doesn't merit the effort

2. Changing the approval process for amendments



- Technical work completed

- Early engagement

- Source protection committee presentation

- Pre-consultation with implementing bodies

- Municipal endorsement

- Public consultation

- Submission to Ministry for approval

2. Changing the approval process for amendments

The proposal – three types of amendments



1. Bookkeeping amendments

- Completed / approved by SPA, Ministry is informed when complete
- Might apply to replacement of wells / intakes in close proximity



2. Amendment approved by source protection authority

- New process to be developed
- Might apply in cases where existing policies are applied to new vulnerable areas
- Needs to be requested by source protection authority
- Ministry approves technical work, SPA approves amendment



3. Amendment approved by Minister

- Existing process, would apply in all other scenarios
- New 120-day decision timeline for the Minister

3. Prescribed instruments

The amendment:

1. Removes the ability to prohibit existing activities with Prescribed Instruments
2. Requires standardize wording in the Prescribed Instruments

3. Prescribed instruments

Details to be resolved:

1. The standardized wording to be used
2. Clarification related to process for SPC to update the policies

Next steps

- The changes to the Act have been approved by Queen's Park, though not yet in effect
- Environmental Registry posting on the Regulatory Changes closed December 4, no decision announced yet
- Province intends to have the Act and Regulations come into effect on same date, expected to be in near future

Thank you

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