

DEBERT SOURCE WATER PROTECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Debert Source Water Protection Advisory Committee was held at the Debert Water Utility Building, 251 Lancaster Crescent on November 18, 2019 at 10:00 am.

Present: Councillor Robert Pash, Chair
Deputy Mayor Geoff Stewart
Crawford Macpherson, Director of Community Development
Jonathan Whitlock, Envirosystems
Michelle Newell, Director of Public Works

Regrets: Mayor Christine Blair
Don Geldart, Citizen Rep
Steve Emery, Home Hardware
James Freill, Home Hardware
Charlotte Sullivan, Nova Scotia Environment
Michael Allen, Nova Scotia Environment
Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq

Approval of Agenda: The meeting was called to order at 10:10 am.

There was no quorum, therefore no motions were passed.

The agenda was accepted by all those present.

Approval of Minutes: There were no comments on the minutes from May 21, 2019.

Watershed Uses #450 and #250 Dakota Road
Michelle reviewed the email as provided by Charlotte Sullivan from NSE, with information as follows:
"The facility at 250 Dakota Road is in the process of applying for a salvage yard Approval. Since the facility is outside the 5 year travel zone from the municipal groundwater supply it will meet the separation distance requirements in the new Standard coming into effect in December so I do not see a reason at this point for the facility not to receive an approval from NSE. The second site does not meet the definition of "a commercial salvage facility" so it does not require an Approval from NSE. I am still going to be following up with the facility as there were a couple of areas where some staining was noted and these areas need to be cleaned up. For both facilities I did remind them that they were within the municipal watershed so they needed to be very diligent to keep hazardous materials from being released into the environment."

Diesel Spill John Snook Blvd

On October 8, 2019, Debert Water Utility staff became aware of a possible fuel release at Classic Truck and Trailer on John Snook Blvd. A snow melting machine was being washed and releasing a petroleum product onto the ground. Staff contacted Nova Scotia Environment. No update at this time.

Spill Terrapure Site

At the end of July, there was a spill of untreated wastewater from one of the lagoons at the Terrapure facility. Approximately 2,000 gallons of wastewater were spilled onto the ground due to the siphoning effect during a pumping exercise between lagoons. Some material left the property to the east, into the woods. All free product was cleaned up, and Stantec was hired to sample the soil and conduct any necessary remediation. The soil samples showed that the level of contamination in the soil was below the limits for removal and disposal. Terrapure has reviewed their process for wastewater transfer to ensure that this does not occur in the future.

No other watershed changes were identified or discussed.

Source Water Protection Monitoring Program:

Monitoring program was reviewed; no issues identified.

Public Education Initiatives:

An insert on illegal dumping in the watershed areas was included in the September 2019 County Newsletter.

New Business:

Michelle gave an update on the MacElmon Road Water Tower. Demolition has been delayed due to the discovery of artifacts. Alternative demolition approaches are being reviewed.

Terrapure has reviewed its operating approval with NSE for another 5 years. There are additional conditions on groundwater monitoring and odours.

Councillor Pash expressed some concerns with some open burning which is taking place on a property on Ventura Drive. Crawford advised that a Dangerous and Unsightly complaint would need to be submitted for the property, even though this has already been done once before.

Next Meeting:

The Committee agreed to meet again in the Spring on May 11, 2020 at 10am.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 10:32 am.

Michelle Newell
Recording Secretary