

BONNECHERE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)
FINAL - Minutes of Meeting #21 – October 7th, 2009
Eagles Nest, Eganville

Attendees:

SAC: Don Pouliot, Murray Borer, Lucy King, Niall McArdle, Murray Bimm, Ross Campbell, Kevin O'Connor

Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn: Jan Leroux

MNR: Mike Radford, Joanna Samson, Tom Giesler

Waterpower Producers: Jeff Featherston (RPG), Peter Boldt (RPG), Frank Scheer (Eganville Generation Corporation), Janusz Rydel (Multistream), Andreas Vornweg

Regrets: None

1. Housekeeping Items

- 1.1. Review of Agenda
 - Nothing was added to the agenda
- 1.2. Steve Munger has resigned from the committee as he was having a difficult time making the meetings.
- 1.3. Wendy Engel was asked to have some time on the next agenda to provide information to the group about the role and difference between the RLPOA and Coalition 108. This will be added to the next agenda. The RLPOA's new president, Bill Goderre, will be introduced at the same time.
- 1.4. Expense Claim Forms were handed it out
- 1.5. Boat trip took place in August. We went from the outlet of Golden Lake up to the dam. **Action Joanna:** Put out a summary of the boat trip to the SAC.

2. Review & Approval of Minutes of Meeting #20 – April 29/09

Discussion around the format of the minutes took place. Minutes will capture the essence of the discussion, decision points and action items. Less specifics will be included.

Comments put forward for the April Minutes by Don Pouliot will stay as is. Joanna will revise minutes and mark as final.

There were no other changes to the minutes.

3. Power Producers Update

Andreas

- Incident occurred at the facility (1st incident); 8cm below the lower limit. The incident was reported to the MNR. Rain brought the level up very quickly.

- Mike explained that this is described as an incident, not a non-compliance because it was non-preventable.

Frank

- Good production year; July and August were very similar but now it's down because it's drier.
- New plant breaker was put in this fall
- Are seeing problems with the wicket gates from debris accumulation
- Gate changes are on hold because we are having engineering problems because we can't locate the original drawings for the dam.

Janusz

- Construction period; target to be up and running is December.

Tom mentioned to the group that both Frank and Janusz provided a tour of their plants for our new Regional Director, Regional Operations Manager and our Head of Engineering. They were all appreciative of the tour.

Jeff

- Round Lake is down at the moment, but on track and is about to go up.
- Golden Lake: 1st year for new operating range. Have received comments that it's low.
- Lake Clear: Lower than typical because the township approached RPG to do shoreline stabilization work and the levels would need to be lowered to accomplish this work. Work should be completed in the next couple of weeks..
- Renfrew: New headwork gates to be installed
- Capacity is 35% as we are not getting much accumulation. Anticipate traditional fall recovery.

4. Lake Trout Report Update

The review of the draft report happened in late April/early May. Many comments were put forward including extensive edits. Doug Skeggs did some design work with the document and a new draft was circulated in September to the district, RPG and others. Unfortunately, there are still a number of issues with the document and some substantial changes will still need to be made, not just minor edits. MNR will need to meet with RPG to go through the comments they have submitted. Therefore it will take a while longer to finalize and distribute this document to the SAC.

5. Round Lake Amendment (New)

RPG presented a new amendment request for Round Lake. Please refer to the handout provided at the meeting.

The amendment request is to remove the Lake Trout Box as it is redundant because RPG gets permission to go into the box every year because of the ice damage study.

This amendment will get the impediments out of the road for Round Lake and assist in understanding Golden Lake. Peter Boldt commented that he is looking to use MNR's

bathymetry equipment, with help from Darwin Rosien, to map the area from the dam to the Golden Lake Bridge.

The lower limit would change in November instead of January. The timeline will be elongated. It will be the same amount of water but over a longer timeframe.

MNR supports this amendment request as the majority of eggs are below the 169.6 level. Additionally, MNR was granted pre-approval for RPG to enter the box to accommodate for spring freshet since the plan has been approved. MNR does not believe that the box is needed for Lake Trout protection anymore, which was the initial reason for the box.

Support for the Amendment

The SAC members were asked to provide their opinion on the proposed amendment:

The SAC agreed unanimously to support the amendment request.

Category of Amendment

The SAC members were asked to provide their opinion on categorization of the amendment and the three categories were briefly explained.

Administrative: Approval is still required but could be in time for this fall. No major public issues would result.

Minor: this involves advertising and 15 day consultation period – could take up to 3months

Major: Information Centres are necessary - up to 4-6 months to process.

Peter Boldt indicated that this amendment should be categorized as administrative because the Lake Trout Box was originally an MNR issue and they feel that the lines are now redundant because of the lake trout work that has been done to date.

The SAC agree unanimously that the amendment should be classified as administrative.

Mike Radford indicated that this will still need to be put forward to the Regional Director for a final decision on acceptance of the amendment and its category.

6. Walk-on Agenda Items

- Clear Point Project (RPG): Peter Boldt informed the group that they are applying for a FIT (Feed in Tariff) project. They are hopeful that the project will be constructed next summer. It is currently in the middle of it's EA.
- 1st Chute project is still a go. Also applying for a FIT contract for this project.

7. Next Meeting Date

Wednesday January 20th, @ Eagles' Nest in Eganville

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.