

**BONNECHERE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
**STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)**  
**FINAL - Minutes of Meeting #27 – November 24, 2011**  
**Township of Bonnechere Valley Office, Eganville**

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**Attendees:**

**SAC:** Murray Borer, Niall McArdle, Ross Campbell, Kevin O'Connor

**Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn:**, Danny Sarazin

**MNR:** Joanna Samson, Tom Giesler, Jeremy Jones, Rick Watchorn

**Waterpower Producers:** Peter Boldt (RPG), Shawn Cameron (RPG), Janusz Rydel (Multistream); Andreas Vornweg (Vornweg Waterpower), Frank Scheer (Eganville Generation Corporation)

**Guests:** Wendy Engel

**Regrets:** Jan Leroux, Don Pouliot, Lucy King, Murray Bimm

**1. Housekeeping Items**

1.1. Introductions:

- Round table introduction were made to introduce Rick Watchorn, Pembroke MNR's District Manager to the group.
- Wendy Engel (RLPOA), was also introduced. Wendy sat in on the meeting as an observer on behalf of Don Pouliot and the RLPOA. At the last minute, Don was unable to attend.

1.2. Expense Claims

- Expense claims were handed out to the group. Joanna informed the group to please submit their expenses every meeting from now on.

1.3. Review of Agenda & Walk-on items

- Niall requested a walk on agenda item. A concern was expressed to him regarding low water below the dam in Eganville.

**2. Review & Approval of Minutes of Meeting #25– March 31, 2011**

Three changes were made to the draft minutes:

- Under Attendees: Daniel Sarazin was changed to Danny Sarazin
- Page 1, #3. Andreas:
  - Normal year. Spillage is running over the dam
- Page 1, 3#. Shawn:
  - July 1<sup>st</sup>, we saw more rain, removed logs from the dam

The minutes were approved.

### **3. Power Producers Update**

#### Andreas:

- Spill over the dam, not much water
- We had 2 occurrences below the limit, hadn't run the turbines since March
- At the end of September there was just no water, nothing could be done to prevent the incidents from occurring.

#### Janusz (Douglas/Multistream)

- Not much water flow
- Currently waiting for a work permit application from MNR do some additional work, including dredging of the tailrace.

#### Shawn (RPG)

- It's been a dry summer
- 2-5 cms through the plant, with 2 units running at minimum
- Logs are in the dams – there has not been much manipulation since August.
- Hoping for rain!

#### Frank (Eganville Generation Corporation)

- We are seeing the same conditions in Eganville, it's been a dry year
- Work/maintenance occurring at the dam
- Waiting to become a legal entity for the dam
- Power factor correction at the plant
- Installing safety booms (dam is not registered with Transport Canada)
  - o Niall asked Frank if the booms would be installed before the spring. Concerns expressed to him are that people in Eganville don't want the booms to be yellow. Tom Giesler indicated that yellow is standard and that all dam owners will have to adhere to it. Tom directed Niall to send a letter to Tim Markus with Transport Canada if he so wishes regarding the booms.

### **4. Walk-on agenda items**

#### Low water level below Eganville Dam – Niall

- A member of the public expressed a concern regarding the low level of the water below the dam in Eganville.
- Niall contacted MNR and Frank at the time and was informed by both parties that yes, the limit was low, but that the minimum flow requirements (through leakage) were still being met as per the WMP.
- Niall informed the group that individual did not agree with this information and would like MNR to go out with him next fall.

#### **ACTION:**

Niall will forward the contact information to Tom/Joanna for follow-up.

MNR will contact individual to discuss the issue with him and set up a time to meet with him if necessary.

## **5. Round and Golden Lakes high water incidents spring 2011**

Rick Watchorn distributed to the SAC a copy of the MNR incident review letter to RPG, dated October 31, 2001, detailing the outcome of MNR's review of the two high water incidents.

Rick explained to the group that in conducting our review, we experienced a great level of cooperation from RPG. The findings of the review determined that both incidents this past spring were considered to be non-compliance events. Rick further explained that as we move forward with RPG, future approaches regarding the parameters set out in the WMP will be discussed, and operating strategies will be shared.

Joanna explained the differences between an incident and a non-compliance event to the group. A discussion regarding how an incident becomes a non-compliance event followed. Reference was made to the compliance section of the Bonnechere River WMP and members were directed to review page 155. It was explained that the WMP has considerable flexibility with respect to the compliance review and further actions under the *Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act* with respect to penalties.

Rick explained that in terms of consequences, the two events have been deemed non-compliance events; details have been documented and have been placed on the file as background for the future. He further explained that the district review team made the decision to not refer this to enforcement for further action, which is one of the options available.

A SAC member asked if a response from Killaloe Hagarty Richards had been received to date by MNR regarding the outcome of the review. Rick explained that there had been no response as of yet.

In closing, Rick expressed MNR's continued desire to work with RPG as there are many objectives to be realized out of the WMP.

## **6. Next Meeting Date**

**Thursday February 16, 2012 6:30pm, @ Eagles' Nest in Eganville**

## **7. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.