

**MADAWASKA RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT REVIEW  
STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)  
Meeting #63, November 25, 2015 @ 5:30 pm  
OPG Eastern Operations Board Room, Renfrew Office**

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**AGENDA**

**Attendance:**

**SAC:** Steve Roy, Roelf Beukens, Damian Hanel

**MNR:** Jeremy Jones, Kirby Punt

**OPG:** Don Ferko, Jennifer Gardiner

**Regrets:** Dan White, Jerry Lapierre, Lyle Stewart, Brian Moran

1. **Call to Order** .....Chair
2. **Review of Agenda** .....Chair
3. **Delegations (if any)**
4. **Final approval of minutes:**
  - 4.1 Meeting # 62 .....All
    - Steve Roy believed action for OPG to review operational data (in Stewartville Reach) was to be completed for meeting #63, not end of 2015. Discussion concluded that the notes would remain the same as that is the date captured.  
  
Roelf Beukens accepted the minutes and Kirby Punt seconded the motion
5. **Business arising:**
  - 5.1 **Levels and flows/freshet**  
Review, questions .....Don Ferko

For a copy of the water levels and flows report please email [jennifer.gardiner@opg.com](mailto:jennifer.gardiner@opg.com)

This PDF shows an orange haze (which reflects the daily fluctuations). The thick orange line is the daily average.

- Bark Lake:
  - Summer minimum achieved by May long weekend and was maintained throughout the summer.
  - Drawdown began after Thanksgiving weekend.
- Kamaniskeg Lake:
  - Level is currently within a few cms of where it should be prior to freeze up.

- Barrett Chute GS:
  - Summer minimum achieved by May long weekend and was maintained throughout the summer.
- Calabogie GS:
  - Expect to see cycling of 20-30 cms through winter when flows are high.
  - August flows were low, so the station was not cycling the water.
- Stewartville GS:
  - Summer minimum achieved by May long weekend and was maintained throughout the summer.
- Arnprior GS:
  - Little fluctuation.

**5.2 WMP Information needs .....Don Ferko**

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- 7.2.8.9:
  - OPG is currently investigating upgrading Calabogie GS; therefore OPG will not take on a large study based on the current site.
  - Steve Roy concerned that current conditions negatively impact spawning, despite MNR studies concluding no impact. Kirby Punt asked for a retraction of the statement. Retraction was not made.
  - Steve Roy concerned that a pilot was done to address 7.2.7.6, but not this issue. Don Ferko remarked that the 7.2.7.6 pilot was done within the current WMP, not requiring an amendment.
- 7.2.7.6:
  - Water levels were dropped (within the WMP) in October as a pilot project to force amphibians to burrow deeper for the winter.
  - If levels remain high throughout the late fall, it's possible that amphibians burrow into mud in shallow areas and get crushed by ice as levels fluctuate.
  - MNR has noted a decline in amphibian diversity, and believe that this technique could help more survive the winter.
  - Both OPG and MNR acknowledge a need for a communications plan should this pilot project continue, including ensuring that the levels and flows pdfs are updated on opg.com.
- 7.2.8.1:
  - Gate replacement is currently underway.
- 7.1.10:

- Continued data collection in 2015, noted that most sites should have fixed sensors by 2018.
- New – Madawaska Water Temperatures:
  - OPG will be deploying sensors in 2016 again.

**5.3 WMP plans and committee recruitment:.....Jeremy Jones**

- WMP:
  - No amendments to WMP until technical bulletins are final
  - MNR hasn't initiated any reviews of WMPs
  - WMPs currently nearing review have been extended
  - MRWMP does not expire until 2019
- SAC Recruitment:
  - One of the draft technical bulletins (Operating and Water Management Plan Implementation and Reporting) proposes that SACs be considered as a best management practice and not mandatory. The existing, approved Plans are still the authoritative source of direction, however given that the Madawaska WMP is not set to expire until 2019 and the ongoing WMP policy reform, which may suggest changes for SAC's and reviews.
  - <https://www.ebr.gov.on.ca/ERS-WEB-External/> enter 012-0562. This will bring you to the bulletin.
  - The committee recruitment will follow the MRWMP TOR.
  - Minimum members at this time and do not anticipate recruitment until needed in the future when members are lower than required numbers.
  - Discussion brought up by Damian Hanel on the relevance of the committee prior to recruiting and if the committee is needed. MNR agreed that this would be an opportunity for the group to accomplish this review.

**5.4 Action Register Review .....All**

- Establish relationship with MNR/Bancroft (for possible SAC representation):
  - Suzy Shall is to be ccd on notes and someone from her group will be available should their presence be required.
- Report on status of Lucien Lacombe's environmental concerns:
  - MNR had addressed this concern and believes it's been resolved.

**6. Summary of Public Issues Since Last Meeting.....All**

- MNR
  - One issue regarding the October water levels.

- **OPG**
  - Will be made available for next meeting
- **SAC Members**
  - Steve Roy received some calls from stakeholders regarding water levels in October. Count not available.

#### **7. New Business**

- OPG has announced that the control centre, currently at Chenaux GS, will be moved to Saunders GS in 2017. This will have no impact on operations or public safety.

#### **8. Date of next meeting**

- It was decided to provide potential meeting dates to Dan White to ensure he is able to attend.

#### **9. Adjournment**

Steve Roy proposed adjourning the meeting, Damian Hanel. Seconded.

**Review Tracked Agenda Items Meeting #62**

**TRACKED AGENDA ITEMS**

Meeting #	Agenda Item	Assigned To	Completed
62-1	OPG to review operational data (in Stewartville Reach) to see if there are areas for improvement	Don Ferko	End of 2015
63-1	Determine if OPG reporting document can be shared with SAC	Jeremy Jones	Meeting #64
63-2	Discussion about future of group	All	Meeting #64