

Backgrounder Document d'information



Ministry of
the Environment

Ministère de
l'Environnement

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO BILL 43

The Ministry of the Environment filed a number of motions suggesting amendments to Bill 43, the proposed Clean Water Act. Some of the more significant proposed amendments include:

- Creating a financial assistance program to support activities to reduce threats to drinking water sources.
- Replacing permits with risk management plans.
- Giving risk management officials and property owners the ability to agree upon a negotiated risk management plan.
- Ensuring that risk management officials have appropriate training and qualifications to develop plans with property owners. For instance, an official working with farmers would have training in biosecurity, health and safety protocols.
- Increasing the appeal period for a risk management plan to 60 days.
- Allowing a First Nations drinking water system to be considered as part of the source protection planning process.
- To better protect the Great Lakes, Source Protection Plans will now require policies to assist in achieving Great Lakes targets established by the Minister (where the Source Protection Authority has been directed by the Minister to prepare a report recommending policies for inclusion in the plan).
- Clarifying that municipal decisions under the Planning Act or the Condominium Act must conform to the significant threat policies and the designated Great Lake policies in the source protection plan, and have regard to the other policies in the plan.
- Providing the Minister with the authority to require that a Source Protection Plan consider other drinking water systems.
- Clarifying that policies in a source protection plans may provide for incentive programs and education and outreach programs
- Removing the maximum limit for Source Protection Committee membership.

A full set of proposed amendments is available at www.ene.gov.on.ca.

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