

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**Date and Time:** Thursday March 6, 2008 12:10 p.m.

**Location:** PUC Building Commission room, 765 Queen Street East

**Members Present:** Chair Mark Howson  
Pat Mick

Guests: Jason Bertrim - Q104 Radio

Regrets: Maureen Sullivan

Staff: Brian Curran, President & CEO  
Brenda Nesom, Executive Secretary  
Terry Greco, Vice President Financial Services  
Dominic Parrella, Vice President Operations & Engineering  
Claudio Stefano, Vice President Customer Service & Business Development  
Dan Tonon, Item 6.1  
Andrew Hallett, Item 6.1

**1.0 Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair M. Howson at 12:15 p.m.

**2.0 Conflict of Interest**

No one declared a conflict of interest.

**3.0 Minutes**

It was moved by P. Mick and seconded by M. Howson:

**“That the minutes of the Commission meeting dated November 29, 2007 be accepted as presented.”**

Carried

**4.0 Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**5.0 Approval Items**

There were no agenda items for approval.

**6.0 Information Items**

6.1 Status of Lead Monitoring Program

D. Tonon and A. Hallett were in attendance at the meeting to assist in answering questions regarding the report to the Commission on the status of the lead monitoring program. The report outlined the amendments to Regulation 170/03 of the Safe Drinking Water Act. The following steps are required:

1. sample for and monitor lead in drinking water from residential and non residential facilities twice per year;
2. notify users of the facilities from which the samples were taken of the analytical results; and
3. where samples have lead concentrations in excess of the 10 parts per billion (ppb), to put a plan in place to address the problem.

The amendments that came into effect July 26, 2007 require samples from 80 private residences, 8 non residential and 16 points in the water distribution system between December 15 and April 15 and again between June 15 and October 15. The samples are to be taken from facilities that are suspected of having lead services or internal plumbing which would have been installed prior to 1990. The regulation requires precise sampling procedures and time lines and, should the samples exceed the 10 ppb limit, a plan that assesses the source of the lead entering the water supply, provides options to mitigate the problem, and indicates a preferred action plan and an implementation schedule. The plan must be submitted to the Ministry of the Environment within one year. The Commission sampling program is scheduled to begin the week of March 3, 2008.

Lead services were primarily installed between 1943 and 1947, which gives some knowledge of the higher risk areas of the city. It was noted that services entering the premises will be checked when homes are visited to take water samples and where replacement is recommended an incentive of interest free payments over a five year period would be offered to the property owner.

Those people who are most at risk from lead in drinking water are children 6 years and under, pregnant women and the elderly. There are special regulations for schools, daycare and nursing homes. Where exceedences are found filters will be supplied by PUC Services until pipes are replaced.

Annual sampling and analytical costs are estimated to be \$24,000.

The following supporting reports were also included as information to the Commission:

1. Memo dated 2008-01-30 from Andrew Hallett
2. Information Brief for Commissioners and City Councilors
3. Form Letter to occupants of homes with record of lead lines
4. Questionnaire for occupants of homes with record of lead lines
5. Form Letter to landlords of homes with record of lead lines
6. MOE Question and Answer publication

The report was accepted as information. The information brief, the form letters and the questionnaire will be provided to the mayor and city councillors.

6.2 Status of Drinking Water Quality Management System Plan (DWQMS)

Commissioners were updated on the Drinking Water Quality Management System (DWQMS) Plan. The firm of BRI International Inc. completed a 'Gap Analysis' last October to determine the gap between how we currently operate the city's water works and how it needs to be operated in conformance to DWQMS criteria. BRI will assist with the development of an operational plan that will document PUC's quality management system. D. Tonon, Manager Water Treatment Operations, has been assigned the project lead and will coordinate with the consultant and staff. A team made up of senior personnel from water treatment and engineering will work with BRI to develop the plan. An initial meeting was held on Feb 21 and 22, 2008 with the implementation team. As the project unfolds additional staff will be required to document system procedures and standard operating procedures will need to be documented to support the operational plan. The plan is proposed to be in place by the end of 2009, in time to do an audit before the deadline of January 2010.

The report to the Commission included the BRI implementation work plan and preliminary schedule. The report was accepted as information.

6.3 January 2008 Financial Statements

The financial statements for January were accepted as information.

**7.0 New Business**

It was noted that the water main breaks have not been as high this winter.

**8.0 Adjournment**

It was moved by M. Howson and seconded by P. Mick:

**"That the meeting be adjourned."**

Carried

The regular meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m. and the next meeting will be at the call of the chair.

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Chair

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Secretary