





Halton









13 WATER

The Complete Draft GUDI Terms of Reference: Guidance Document to Determine Minimum Treatment for Municipal Residential Drinking Water Systems Using Subsurface Raw Water Supplies

> Professional Geoscientists Ontario September 24, 2019 Webinar

Overview

- Regulatory Framework in Ontario
- Need and Driving Force For Change
- Development of the Guidance Document
- Peer Review and Consultations
- ToR Overview
- Reporting Requirements
- Feedback
- Next Steps

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Legislative Framework



Key Regulations

- Drinking-Water Systems (Reg. 170/03)
- Drinking-Water Quality Standards (Reg. 169/03)
- Drinking-Water Testing Services (Reg. 248/03)
- Operator Certification (Reg. 128/04)
- Flushing for Lead Schools, Private Schools, Day Nurseries (Reg. 243/07)
- Compliance and Enforcement (Reg. 242/05)
- Municipal Residential Systems in Source Protection Areas (Reg. 205/18)



Regulation 170/03 Schedule 1: What is GUDI?

Systems are deemed GUDI [Section 2(2)] if:

- not a drilled well
- watertight casing does not extend 6 m below ground level
- infiltration gallery
- wells adjacent to surface water:
 - 0.58 L/s < and within 15m from surface water
 - > 0.58 L/s, overburden well within 100 m surface water
 - > 0.58 L/s, bedrock well within 500 m of surface water
- exhibits evidence of surface water contamination
- engineer's/hydrogeologist's report concludes GUDI & includes reasons

Above [Section 2(2)] <u>does not apply</u> if engineer or hydrogeologist makes determination of ground water and not GUDI (requires Director's agreement) [Section 2(3)]. Procedure for disinfection of drinking water allows for GUDI with effective *in-situ* filtration (GUDI WEF).



2001

GUDI ToR

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PROJECT CHARTER: GUDI Terms of Reference Review

- 2001 GUDI Terms of Reference: old and outdated
- <u>No change in legislation</u> clarification & transparency
- Ensure that scarce tax dollars are spent to provide treatment and undertake monitoring, that promotes positive public health outcomes
- Update to incorporate most current consensus of science



The Original ToR

Two main objectives of the ToR were:

- 1. To reduce the risk to human health attributable to disease causing microorganisms.
- 2. To ensure appropriate treatment is provided for subsurface water supplies.

This does not change!



Historical Source Classification	Treatment Requirements	Typical Treatment Equipment
Groundwater	Currently minimum of 2-log inactivation of viruses Moving towards 4-log	Chlorination
GUDI	 4-log inactivation of viruses 3-log removal and inactivation of <i>Giardia</i> 2-log removal and inactivation of <i>Cryptosporidium</i> 	Chemically Assisted Filtration (CAF) or Approved Equivalent (AE) UV irradiation or Ozonation Chlorination
GUDI EF	4-log inactivation of viruses3-log inactivation of <i>Giardia</i>2-log inactivation of <i>Cryptosporidium</i>	UV irradiation or Ozonation chlorination Giardia lamblia

Central treatment questions that we must answer:

When is treatment for protozoan pathogens necessary? What level of treatment must be provided?





Opportunity

Opportunity exists to update the ToR and to apply the international scientific community's most current consensus



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Process of Revision

- Collaborative, multi-stakeholder group:
 - Municipal system owners, both large and small
 - Industry consultants
 - Academic experts
 - Cross-divisional ministry staff
- Over 12 presentations (list provided separately) to reach out to the industry to provide an understanding of the draft document
- Facilitated process (Canadian Water Network)
- Led by Aziz and Monica



Process of Revision

Group #1: Well Integrity and Structural Assessment Tim Lotimer/ James Pickering

Group Group Leader/ MECP Liaison Group #2 Microbiological WQ Evaluation Tim Walton/ Albert Simhon

Group #3: Assessment of Vulnerability to Contamination by Protozoa Tammy Middleton/ Cynthia Doughty

Group #4: Physical/ Chemical WQ Assessment & CAF Treatment Dennis Mutti/ John Minnery



Process of Revision

Bernadette Conant – CWN - Facilitator Dave Belanger – City of Guelph – Group 3 Vincent Suffoletta – City of Guelph - Facilitator Matthew Phillips – City of Guelph – G4 I&C Practical Kier Taylor – City of Guelph – Group 1 Simon Gautry – AMEC – Group 3 Craig Johnston – Stantec – Group 3 Lloyd Lemon – WSP – Group 3 Jamie Connoly – MOE/MOECC – Group 3 Jennifer Volpato – MOE/MOECC – Group 4 Minnie de Jong – MOE/MOECC – Group 2 Kim Yee – MOE/MOECC – Group 2 George Lai – MOE/MOECC – Group 4

Paul Froese – MOE/MOECC – ADM's Office Christine Morritt – MOE/MOECC – Group 2 Jim Merritt – MOE/MOECC – ODWAC Richard Vantfoort – MOE/MOECC – Source Water Protection Jim Gehrels – MOE/MOECC – Original ToR Dave Kerr – City of Kawartha Lakes – Small Systems Gary Houghton – Norfolk County – Small Systems Tom Renic – Halton Region – Group 4 Eric Hodgins – RMOW – Group 3 Olga Vrentzos – RMOW – Group 1 Al Couch – RMOW – G4 I&C Practical Dave Rudolph – University of Waterloo – Group 3 Alex Chik – CWN & University of Waterloo - Facilitator



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2012-2013 Peer Review Workshop & Scientific Expert Review Panel*

- Dr. Nick Ashbolt* USEPA, Drinking Water Health and Risk Assessment
- Dr. Beniot Barbeau* Ecole Polytechnique de Montreal
- Dr. Mark Borchart USDA-ARS
- Dr. Edward Bouwer John Hopkins University
- Dr. Phil Berger USEPA
- Vicki Carmichael BC Environment
- Dr. Jennifer Clancy* First Female Recipient of AWWA AP Black Award
- Dr. Monica Emelko* University of Waterloo
- Dr. Ron Harvey* USGS
- Dr. Steve Hrudey University of Alberta
- Dr. Larry McKay University of Tennessee



2012-2013 Peer Review Workshop & Scientific Expert Review Panel*

Stephanie McFayden – Health Canada

Dr. Simon Sihota – Health Canada

Dr. Annie Locas – INRS-IAF

Dr. Pierre Payment - INRS-IAF

Dr. Ray Chittaranjan – University of Hawaii

Dr. Donald Reid – Alberta Environment

Dr. David Rudolph* – University of Waterloo

Dr. Jack Schijven – RIVM Utrecht University

Dr. Jiri Simunek – University of California Riverside

Dr. Marylynn Yates* - University of California Riverside



2018 Expert Review Panel

Stephanie McFayden – Health Canada

Dr. Jennifer Clancy – ESPRI

Dr. Ron Hofmann, University of Toronto

Dr. Steve Hrudey – University of Alberta, Emeritus

Dr. Joan Rose – Michigan State University



- SP1. **Drinking water treatment requirements are based on water quality** and should give consideration to potential changes in water quality, which may be long term or short-lived.
- SP2. Major waterborne microbial pathogens include viruses, bacteria and protozoa. Viruses (as a whole group) require more treatment by disinfection than bacteria. Therefore, provision of disinfection for viruses typically provides concurrent, comparable or greater disinfection of bacteria. Protozoa are more difficult to treat than viruses and bacteria by traditional disinfection with chemical oxidants in particular, *Cryptosporidium* spp. oocysts are not effectively inactivated in this manner.



- SP3. Viruses and bacteria are much more prevalent in the subsurface than protozoa cysts.
- SP4. Viral and bacterial pathogens have been the major sources of human waterborne disease associated with subsurface water supplies.
- SP5. Essentially all wells have some risk of contamination by viruses; accordingly, a "minimum level" of disinfection is required for all well-based municipal drinking water systems.



SP6. In Ontario, the majority of public health risk from waterborne pathogens is attributable to fecal contamination of untreated/inadequately treated water supplies by warm-blooded animals. *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) and enterococcus are examples of bacterial indicators of fecal contamination; male-specific F(+) RNA coliphages are viral indicators of fecal contamination and *Giardia* spp. and *Cryptosporidium* spp. are protozoan pathogens of fecal origin. Some, but not all, of the species of these indicators are human pathogens. Because of their association with warm blooded animals, fecal contaminants originate in the near surface (e.g., septic tanks) or above ground.



- SP7. There are no broadly reliable quantitative surrogates for the occurrence (or absence) or fate and transport of human pathogens in water.
- SP8. Unlike bacterial indicators of fecal contamination (e.g., *E.coli*); because of their similarity to enteroviruses (in shape, size, morphology and composition) the presence of viral indicators (e.g. male-specific F(+) RNA coliphage) of fecal contamination in subsurface water supplies is likely the best available indicator of a potential pathway for pathogenic viruses to pass through the subsurface into subsurface water supplies.



- SP9. The presence of photosynthetic pigment-bearing algae and/or diatoms (PBADs) (i.e. pigment-bearing algae and diatoms) is likely the best available indicator of a potential pathway for pathogenic protozoa to pass through the subsurface into well supplies because some of these organisms (especially when unicellular) are similar to or larger in size than pathogenic *Cryptosporidium* spp. and *Giardia* spp. (oo)cysts and because the presence of photosynthetic pigments suggests relatively rapid travel from above ground to a well.
- SP10. Groundwater age and travel times are not necessarily indicative of pathogen survival and transport in the subsurface. Further, travel time estimates yield the mean of advective mass, not first arrival. Thus they have limited utility in assessing pathogen risk and advising event based sampling.



Microbiological WQ Evaluation

- E. coli (already monitored): an indicator of fecal contamination
- Photosynthetic Pigment Bearing Algae and Diatoms (PBADs): an indicator of a rapid subsurface pathway/large enough for protozoan transport
 - Microscopic examination of water in conjunction with the 2012 (or current) US EPA Method 1623.1
 - 400 L (maximum of one capsule) of raw ground water examined
 - Recovery assessed using a marine diatom (*Thalassiosira weissflogii*) (6-20 μm x 8-15 μm): size range of *Cryptosporidium/Giardia* (oo)cysts
 - available in Canada
 - not present in freshwater (no background)
 - easily identified (cylindrical glass box), but not confused with other PBADs





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Updated Terminology

Source Wat	er Category	Minimum Required Treatment Level		
Existing Term	Updated Term	Overall	Particulate Removal	
Groundwater	Category 1	4-log virus for new systems and existing systems as determined by MECP	None	
Groundwater Under the Direct Influence of Surface Water (GUDI) With Effective Filtration	Category 2	4-log virus 3-log <i>Giardia</i> spp. cysts 2-log <i>Cryptosporidium</i> spp.	None	
GUDI	Category 3	oocysts or as mandated by the MECP	Chemically Assisted Filtration (CAF)	
	Category 3E		Approved alternative to CAF	



Key Components of New ToR

LEGEND

Well Integrity and Structural Assessment

> Microbiological Water Quality Evaluation

Evaluation of Susceptibility to Contamination by Pathogens

Physical & Chemical Water Quality Evaluation & Chemically Assisted Filtration Treatment

Minimum Treatment Requirements



ToR Overview





ToR Overview

ltem	Baseline Monitoring Program	Enhanced Monitoring Program			
1. Supply Well	Continuous turbidity measurements (15 min intervals)	Continuous turbidity measurements (15 min intervals)			
2. Supply Well	Weekly raw water samples for <i>E.</i> coli	Weekly raw water samples for <i>E. coli</i>			
3. Supply Well	Three (3) samples per year for <i>Giardia</i> spp. cysts, <i>Cryptosporidium</i> spp. oocysts, and photosynthetic pigment- bearing algae and/or diatoms (PBADs) ¹ . Samples should be collected at least 3 months apart and in the following periods: fall, spring recharge, and summer.	Monthly, i.e. twelve (12) samples per year for <i>Giardia</i> spp. cysts, <i>Cryptosporidium</i> spp. oocysts, and PBADs ¹ .			
4. Wellfield	Pumping rates and water level measurements. Surface water drainage assessment.				
¹ Sampling for these parameters may be discontinued once a potential pathway that is					

rapid and adequately large for protozoa or similar-sized particles to migrate into the well from above ground or the near surface has been confirmed (i.e., once there are 2 detections of PBADs). Legend AVCP - Assessments of vulnerability to contamination by protozoa NTU - Nephelometric turbidity units PBADs - Photosynthetic pigment bearing algae and/or diatoms Crypto - Cryptosporidium spp. oocysts Giardia - Giardia spp. cysts E. coli – Escherichia coli WQ > T – Water quality threshold $\ge 4 E$. coli + ≥ 2 PBADs OR any Giardia or Cryptosporidium detected PFD - Procedure for Disinfection of Drinking Water in Ontario CAF - Chemically Assisted Filtration Cat 1 - Category 1, disinfection to achieve treatment levels for groundwater as per PFD. Cat 2 - Category 2, disinfection to achieve treatment levels for surface water as per PFD. No particulate removal required. Cat 3 - Category 3, disinfection to achieve treatment levels for surface water as per PFD. CAF or equivalent required.



Figure A-1: Determining Treatment Requirements for New Wells





Well Integrity and Structural Assessment

Ontario: protozoa have never been detected in untreated water from a well. North America: limited detections of protozoa in untreated well water associated with direct contamination from sewage sources (e.g. leaking sanitary sewers) or from faulty well casings near sources of sewage or agricultural contamination.

Well integrity is a critical component of the multi-barrier approach to drinking water protection and complements source protection measures.

- Assessment completed for new wells and existing wells with water quality triggers.
- All wells must comply with Ontario Regulation 903/90 Wells
- Additional assessment to categorize well as low or high risk.
 - Annular seal depth, thickness and material composition (guidance provided on intrusive & non-intrusive methods of investigation).
 - Well casing integrity.
 - Movement of water from uncased portion of well.







Figure A-1: Determining Treatment Requirements for New Wells



Ontario 😽

Assessment of Vulnerability to Contamination by Protozoa (AVCP)

Minimum sampling required to evaluate susceptibility to contamination by protozoa:

NEW WELLS INITIAL PUMP TEST:

• 72 hour pump test

NEW WELLS 2 YEAR MONITORING PERIOD:

- baseline (3 samples / year for protozoa and PBADs), or
- enhanced (monthly) sampling for protozoa and PBADs, and
- Weekly sampling for *E. coli*.
- Enhanced sampling when:
 - QP designates new well as high risk during hydrogeological evaluation based on evidence of preferential pathways; water table drawdown; temperature, turbidity and conductivity fluctuations > 20%.







Item	Baseline	Enhanced			
	Monitoring Program	Monitoring Program			
1. Supply Well	Continuous turbidity	Continuous turbidity			
	measurements (15 min	measurements (15 min			
	intervals)	intervals)			
2. Supply Well	Weekly raw water samples	Weekly raw water samples			
	for fecal indicators (<i>E. coli</i>)	for fecal indicators (<i>E. coli</i>)			
3. Supply Well	Three (3) samples per	Monthly, i.e. twelve (12)			
	year for Cryptosporidium	samples per year for			
	spp., <i>Giardia</i> spp., and	Cryptosporidium spp.,			
	photosynthetic pigment-	<i>Giardia</i> spp., and			
	bearing algae and/or	photosynthetic pigment-			
	diatoms (PBADs) ¹ .	bearing algae and/or			
	Samples should be	diatoms (PBADs) ¹ .			
	collected at least 3 months				
	apart and in the following				
	periods: fall, spring				
	recharge, and summer.				
4. Wellfield	Pumping rates and water				
	level measurements as				
	detailed below.				
	Surface Water drainage				
	assessment as detailed				
	below.				
1: Sampling for these ite	ems may be discontinued onc	e there are 2 detections of			
photosynthetic pigment-bearing algae and/or diatoms (PBADs) because a					
potential transport pathway for protozoa or similar-sized particles to migrate into					
the well from above ground or the near surface into the well will be confirmed.					



Assessment of Vulnerability to Contamination by Protozoa (AVCP)

Principal objective of the GUDI ToR is to determine whether a subsurface water supply requires treatment beyond a minimum level of disinfection required to inactivate or remove viruses and bacteria, i.e., whether or not treatment for protozoa is required.

Treatment for protozoa required if the assessment criteria are met at any time:

a) Evidence of *Cryptosporidium* and/or *Giardia* contamination (If *Cryptosporidium* and/or *Giardia* are detected)

OR

 b) Evidence of both fecal contamination and the presence of an adequately sized or relatively rapid pathway connecting the subsurface and above ground or near surface areas.

(If water quality threshold is met: \geq 4 detections of *E. coli*. during any 12-month running period **AND** \geq 2 detections of PBADs at any point in time)



Figure A-1: Determining Treatment Requirements for New Wells





Physical/Chemical WQ Assessment & CAF Treatment

Well classification is also based on whether or not particulate removal is required, i.e., by means of chemically-assisted filtration (CAF) or equivalent.

Particulate removal is required if:

• Particles in the water could harbor pathogens or otherwise hinder the disinfection process.

(if well meets criterion: turbidity > 10 NTU in two consecutive samples collected continuously and/or the 95th percentile is > 5 NTU.

Assessed with a minimum of 3 months of continuously collected turbidity data.











Figure A-1: Determining Treatment Requirements for New Wells



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Figure A-2: Monitoring of Existing Category 1 (including Provisional) Well in Production





Microbiological WQ Evaluation

- E. coli (already monitored): an indicator of fecal contamination
- Photosynthetic Pigment Bearing Algae and Diatoms (PBADs): an indicator of a rapid subsurface pathway/large enough for protozoan transport
 - Microscopic examination of water in conjunction with the 2012 (or current) US EPA Method 1623.1
 - 400 L (maximum of one capsule) of raw ground water examined
 - Recovery assessed using a marine diatom (*Thalassiosira weissflogii*) (6-20 μm x 8-15 μm): size range of *Cryptosporidium/Giardia* (oo)cysts
 - available in Canada
 - not present in freshwater (no background)
 - easily identified (cylindrical glass box), but not confused with other PBADs





Microbiological WQ Evaluation

In addition to the AVCP described, if at any time during the operation of a Category 1 well *E. coli* is detected during O. Reg. 170/03 monitoring, a sample shall be taken and tested for *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia* within 24 hours and a resample of *E. coli*.

If at any time during the operation of a Category 1 well the assessment criteria are met, the ministry must be notified and treatment for protozoa must be installed.



Figure A-2: Monitoring of Existing Category 1 (including Provisional) Well in Production





Assessment of Vulnerability to Contamination by Protozoa (AVCP)

Minimum sampling required to evaluate susceptibility to contamination by protozoa:

EXISTING WELLS WITH WATER QUALITY TRIGGERS:

- 2 year monitoring period
 - enhanced (monthly) sampling for protozoa and PBADs, and
 - Weekly sampling for *E. coli*.
 - Enhanced sampling when:
 - Category 2/3 wishing to reclassify
 - Category 1 wells with > 4 detections of E. coli during any 12-month period.



Figure A-2: Monitoring of Existing Category 1 (including Provisional) Well in Production





Figure A3: Determining Treatment Requirements for Existing Wells Seeking Reclassification

From Category 3 to Category 2 (Filtration Avoidance)



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Figure A-4: Determining Treatment Requirements for Existing Wells Seeking Reclassification From Category 2 or 3 to Category 1



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Reporting: AVCP Stage 1 Report

- Part A preliminary hydrogeological evaluation summary report
- Part B pumping test evaluation
- Determination: Provisional Category 1 (lower/higher risk) or Category 2/3.



Reporting: AVCP Stage 2 Report

- Determination: Category 1 (with/without further monitoring) or Category 2/3.
- MECP notification when water quality deteriorates
 - EC detected; resampling and Cryptosporidium sampling results
 - EC > 4 detections in a running year; 2 year enhanced monitoring period
 - Assessment Criteria met (Cryptosporidium or Giardia detected, or water quality threshold exceeded); Category 2/3 reclassification.



MECP application for DWWP amendment

- Physical / Chemical Water Quality Assessment included with design of treatment
 - UV light disinfection
 - Chemically assisted filtration or equivalent
 - Chemical disinfection



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Comments by Stakeholders

A total of 408 comments on the Terms of Reference were received from municipalities, ministry staff, and consultants between January 2019 – April 2019.

- 158 comments on the Terms of Reference
- 250 comments on the Technical Support Document



Comments by Stakeholders

- General support for the science-based approach outlined in the updated ToR
- Positive reception of the emphasis placed upon well integrity and structural assessments to reduce the risk of water quality deterioration
- Support for simple, yet well defined, water quality criteria for determination of when CAF or an approved equivalent is required
- Strong attempt to make documents user-friendly and understandable to system owners and operators



Areas of Concern

- Concerns related to the limited availability of accredited analytical laboratory services with respect to *Cryptosporidium* and PBAD testing – potential bottleneck
- Requests to consider additional testing methods not currently specified as accredited methods in the Technical Support Document
- Lack of sufficient historical records and documentation for older wells undertaking well integrity and structural assessment
- Ambiguity over the requirements for owners of existing wells under the proposed ToR – introduction of new methods and terminology with which owners/operators may not be familiar



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Next Steps:

- All comments submitted to the MECP will be reviewed and consolidated by the working group
- Working group meeting summer 2019
- Final document fall 2019
- DWL renewals underway to 2021
 - Some aspects of the ToR (4-log virus) may be incorporated into new licenses with consultation
 - Ongoing pilots



Thank You!

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