

Quarterly Report Summary

The following is a summary for the quarter of October 1 / 2002 – December 31 /2002.

On October 9 / 02, we reported a chlorine residual below the minimum of 0.05 mg/L at the City of Kenora Waste Transfer Station. The chlorine residual was 0.01 mg/L. In accordance with the provincial officer's recommendation as per Reg. 459/00, if a free chlorine residual cannot be maintained to the minimum standards, bacteriological samples must be obtained until the minimum free chlorine residual standard can be maintained and two (2) subsequent bacteriological samples are non-adverse. Mains were flushed. The chlorine residual was initially regained to an acceptable level, and all bacteriological samples upstream, downstream and at the Transfer Station were acceptable. Subsequent testing indicated that the chlorine residual at the Transfer Station was declining at a rate that would eventually result in adverse conditions. A public notice was posted at the site, Do Not Drink This Water. This site was posted due to the fact that Transfer Station is fed by a large and long line and consumption is insufficient to obtain an acceptable turnover in order to maintain a supply of fresh water and therefore minimum chlorine residual at the end of the line. The transfer facility has a holding tank for its waste which would make bleeding costly as compared to drinking bottled water. The transfer facility will be using bottled water until further notice.

We reported an exceedance of the MAC for trihalomethanes (THM'S) on November 20/02. The MAC for THM'S is 100 ug/L based on a four quarter running annual average. The average THM concentration in the Kenora distribution system for the latest four quarters is 151ug/L. THM'S are a byproduct of the chlorination of water with a high organic content. The natural organic content of Lake of the Woods water is high, a common characteristic for lakes in northern geographic locations. With the new regulation (i.e., Reg. 459/00) we have also had to increase our chlorine dosage in order to meet the minimal requirements for chlorine residual at the farthest point in our distribution system.

On the basis of a review of the First Engineer's Report, a new consolidated Certificate of Approval has been created. The City of Kenora will implement physical improvements to the works, in keeping with recommendations of the new Certificate of Approval. One of the upgrading requirements is a treatment system or other measures to reduce THM'S to meet the Ontario Drinking Water Standards. RAL Engineering Ltd. was awarded the tender to identify and implement the preferred solution for the reduction of THM'S. Chloramination is the preferred solution by RAL and they are currently working on implementing the change to our process to include chloramination. The public will be notified prior to completion of this.

On November 22 / 02 we had a turbidity spike on number two filter reaching 1.218 NTU for a duration of seconds. The turbidity stabilized immediately and remained stabilized. The effluent chlorine was at 1.589 F. Filter two was backwashed and the turbidimeter was cleaned.

Filter two had a high turbidity spike on December 11/02 which reached 1.347 NTU for a duration of seconds. The turbidity stabilized immediately and remained stabilized. Effluent chlorine was at 1.49F. Turbidimeter was cleaned and calibrated and the filter was backwashed.

After investigating the above turbidity spikes we are currently backwashing based on elapsed runtime of each filter rather than loss of head. We are also in the process of confirming the accuracy of our loss of head transmitters and panel meters.