

<u><i>The Town of Fort Frances</i></u>	SECTION OPERATIONS & FACILITIES DIVISION
<u>The Use Of Pesticides In And Around Water Works</u> <u>POLICY</u>	REVISED May 2005
Resolution No. 145 (05/05)	Supercedes Resolution Number:
Policy Number: 4.17	PAGE 1 of 2

1. PURPOSE:

To ensure that potable water remains free from contamination by pesticides both during and after the treatment process. All Town Employees will adhere to the following policy.

2. DEFINITION:

Pesticides are any organism, substance or thing that is manufactured, represented, sold or used as a means of directly or indirectly controlling, preventing, destroying, mitigating, attracting or repelling any pest or of altering the growth, development or characteristics of any plant life that is not a pest and includes any organism, substance or thing registered under the *Pest Control Products Act* (Canada); ("pesticide").

3. STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES:

This policy establishes the practice of prohibiting or controlling the use and storage of pesticides in and around all water works. The requirement is necessary to ensure that potable water supplies are protected from contamination by pesticides.

This policy applies to those water works that require approval pursuant to Section 34 of the **Ontario Water Resources Act**, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.40.

The policy is written in support of the **Pesticides Act**, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P.11, Section 4, which restricts the discharge of a pesticide in to the environment, such the human health is not adversely of likely to be adversely affected.

The policy further supports the **Safe Drinking Water Act**, 2002; S.O. 2002, Chapter, which states that the people of Ontario are entitled to expect their drinking water to be safe and provided for the protection of human health and the prevention of drinking water hazards through the control and regulation of drinking-water systems and drinking-water testing.

4. RESPONSIBILITY:

All individuals in the Operations & Facilities Division workforce, at all levels and functions, are responsible for understanding and carrying out the responsibilities and duties outlined in the policy.

5. REQUIREMENTS:

- 1) The application of pesticides is to be prohibited around, over or in the immediate vicinity of water works. Of particular importance are those facilities where reservoirs are open to the air and are located outdoors, covered in ground reservoirs, reservoirs located within structures and used for storage, flocculation or clarification processes or any part of the facility where there are open water areas or sites with water wells or springs located on the premises.
- 2) The storage of pesticides is to be prohibited within or on the premises of the water works.
- 3) The filling of private mixing tanks for pesticide application by personnel not employed by the Town's Water Treatment Facility is prohibited on the premises of the water works. Fire hydrants shall not be used in filling tanks without the use of a back-flow prevention device or an anti-suction device between the fire hydrant and the mixing tank.

6. EXEMPTIONS:

- a) Rodent Control: The acceptable use of rodenticides for rat and mouse control within and around water works by a licensed exterminator, under the supervision of Water Treatment personnel.
- b) Public Health: The use of pest control products applied in the interest of public health under the **Health Protection and Promotion Act** to prevent the spread of disease causing pests or the control of noxious weeds by an order issued under the **Weed Control Act** or the use of chemical (micro-biological) agents for the control of microbes and bacteria. The application of all pest control products is to be carried out by a licensed applicator.
- c) Mechanical Devices: The use of mechanical devices or apparatus, which do not utilize any chemical agent.
- d) Exempted Premises: The use of pesticides on land or premises where there is no possibility of water contamination such as elevated tanks or where water is continuously under pressure and is enclosed in a pipe.
- e) Notification: Where a Water Treatment Facility is exempt from this policy the operator in charge is to advise the Regional Director in writing prior to the commencement of an extermination.
- f) Storage Facilities: If pesticides are used under the Section 4 –Exemptions, as outlined herein then the storage facility shall conform to Ontario Regulation 229/03, Section 119 to 123 under the **Pesticides Act**.