

Drinking Water Quality Management System Review and Endorsement

Introduction to the Water and Wastewater Division Quality Management System

December 13, 2022

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The Municipal Drinking Water Licensing Program

In Ontario, a valid Municipal Drinking Water License (MDWL) from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) is required to operate a Municipal Drinking Water System. In order for a license to be issued, the Owner requires:

- A Permit to Take Water (PTTW)
- A Drinking Water Works Permit (DWWP)
- A Financial Plan
- **An Accredited Operating Authority**
- **An Approved Operational Plan**

Accredited Operating Authority

- Every municipal drinking water system must be operated by an Accredited Operating Authority.
- In order to become Accredited, an Operating Authority must implement a Quality Management System (QMS) that meets the legislative requirements of the Drinking Water Quality Management Standard.
- Accreditation is granted after successful completion of an audit of both the Operational Plan (the documented version of the QMS), and the implementation of the QMS.

Accredited Operating Authorities for Kawartha Lakes

- CKL has two Accredited Operating Authorities
- For the 21 municipal residential drinking water systems owned by the City of Kawartha Lakes, the Water and Wastewater Division (CKL) and Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA) share this responsibility.
 - The Water and Wastewater Division is the Accredited Operating Authority for the Lindsay, Manilla and Sonya drinking water systems (treatment and distribution), and for all 21 water distribution systems.
 - OCWA is the Accredited Operating Authority for the remaining 18 water treatment facilities.

Owner Endorsement

- Owner Endorsement is a requirement of The Drinking Water Quality Management Standard (DWQMS). In order to remain in compliance, the Operating Authority's Operational Plan must contain a written endorsement by the Owner of the drinking water system(s).
- The Owner of the CKL Drinking Water Systems is The Corporation of the City of Kawartha Lakes. The Corporation is represented by Mayor and Council. The Mayor and CAO sign the endorsement as representatives of Council.

What Does it Mean to Endorse?

- Endorsement is not an approval. The onus of determining the suitability of the Quality Management System, is not placed on the Owner.
- The approval of the QMS is obtained by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks and the third party accreditation body.
- Endorsement demonstrates Council's support and commitment to the delivery of safe, reliable drinking water and the acknowledgment of the need for the provision of sufficient resources to maintain and continually improve the QMS.

Rationale for Endorsement - Summary

- Owner Endorsement of the Accredited Operating Authority's Operational Plan (Quality Management System), is a mandated requirement of the Drinking Water Quality Management Standard.
- Remaining in compliance with the DWQMS is required to retain our accredited status and our Municipal Drinking Water License(s). Without these we cannot legally operate any municipal drinking water systems.

Questions?

