

17 Plan Term, Amendments, Review and Renewal

17.1 Term of the Plan

The term of the plan is 10 years from the time of approval of the WMP. Following the approval of the WMP, the PAC is replaced by the SAC, and the PIT takes over from the Planning Team. The SC remains and retains overall responsibility for the implementation of decisions and the management of the water resources.

17.2 Plan Amendments

Plan amendments may be made during the term of the WMP as a result of newly obtained information (from compliance monitoring, effectiveness monitoring or fulfilling science or data gap needs) or new issues and concerns. The SAC will monitor and review the need for a plan amendment(s), and will make recommendations to the SC as appropriate.

17.2.1 Types of Amendments

Amendments to the plan fall into one of three categories as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Administrative | These amendments are administrative in nature and will not affect the implementation of the plan. An example would be a change in the manner in which information is presented in the plan. |
| Minor | Minor amendments are changes that are anticipated to affect a small geographic scale (i.e., in the vicinity of one dam) and without significant impact. |
| Major | Major amendments are changes that are anticipated to affect a wide geographic scale (i.e., multiple dams or area) and have a significant impact on the balancing of environmental, social and economic attributes. |

17.2.2 Amendment Request

Any request for an amendment must be accompanied by sufficient information to allow the OMNR Regional Director to determine whether the

proposed amendment should proceed, and whether the amendment should be treated as administrative, minor or major. The amendment request must contain the following information:

- a brief description of the proposed amendment
- the rationale for the proposed amendment and a discussion of its significance
- if new operations are proposed:
 - (a) a brief description of the proposed operation and a description of the previously approved operations in the WMP that will be changed by the proposed amendment
 - (b) an outline of the applicable planning requirements for the proposed operations including public consultation, based on the planning requirements for similar operations in the WMP.

The SAC will be informed of all amendments and will be given an opportunity to provide comments.

17.3 Plan Review and Renewal

The PIT will produce regular reports (see Section 16) that summarize operational aspects of implementation of the plan and identify any outstanding issues or concerns. The SAC will review this information, and may request that actions are taken to address issues or concerns as appropriate. The SC will determine whether the issues/concerns merit an amendment to the plan, maintenance of the status quo, or an early review of the WMP.

17.3.1 Plan Renewal

A plan review process will be initiated 18 to 24 months prior to the date of plan renewal. New data and information will be considered as appropriate during the review as a basis for continuing with the status quo or recommending changes. All information collected during the term of the plan (compliance monitoring data, effectiveness monitoring data, gaps and science and information needs data) will be considered during the plan review process.