

For Immediate Release
May 26, 2006

CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF KAWARTHA LAKES FINED TOTAL OF \$25,000 FOR WATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS VIOLATIONS

LINDSAY—The Corporation of the City of Kawartha Lakes was fined a total of \$25,000 today, plus victim fine surcharge, after pleading guilty to five violations pertaining to four water treatment systems.

The Corporation of the City of Kawartha Lakes owns and operates a number of water treatment systems within the City of Kawartha Lakes, including the Lindsay, Norland, Sturgeon Point and Highview Acres systems.

The Court heard that a series of Ministry of the Environment inspections of the above-listed water treatment systems revealed four violations of the *Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA)* and one violation of the *Ontario Water Resources Act (OWRA)*. Following investigations by the ministry's Investigations and Enforcement Branch, charges were laid for the following infractions:

- Absence of remote alarms on the turbidity analyzers at the Lindsay plant (to notify a certified operator of turbidity exceedances when the plant was not physically attended), contrary to section 140(3) of the *SDWA*.
- Failures to report turbidity exceedances at both the Lindsay and Norland plants—each one a violation of section 18 of the *SDWA*.
- Failure to collect the requisite number of turbidity and other chemical analysis samples at the Sturgeon Point plant in 2004 and 2005, contrary to section 140(3) of the *SDWA*.
- Failure to collect requisite raw water samples stipulated in the certificate of approval for the Highview Acres plant for the first three quarters of 2003, contrary to section 107(3) of the *OWRA*.

The Corporation pleaded guilty to the five violations, and was fined \$5,000 for each count.

The Court was told that, in the time since these charges were laid, the City water systems have shown considerable improvement, which is a trend that the ministry is anticipating will continue.

Justice of the Peace Tom Norton heard the case in the Ontario Court of Justice in Lindsay on May 26, 2006.

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