News Release Communiqué

Ministry of the Environment Ministère de l'Environnement



For Immediate Release July 20, 2006

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF KINCARDINE FINED \$8,000 FOR VIOLATING THE SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT

The Corporation of the Municipality of Kincardine has been fined \$8,000, plus a victim fine surcharge (VFS), after pleading guilty to one count under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

The Corporation of the Municipality of Kincardine owns and operates its drinking water treatment and distribution system.

The drinking water system is categorized as a large municipal residential system under Ontario Regulation 170/03 and is required to ensure that a distribution system sample is taken each day, tested immediately for chlorine residual and the results written into a log book.

The Court heard that in November 2004, the ministry inspected the water system and found that no results for chlorine residual testing were recorded in the log book for multiple days in the preceding year. Further investigation revealed that the Municipality of Kincardine failed to obtain daily samples for testing for 33 days between November 19, 2003 and November 23, 2004.

The ministry's Investigations and Enforcement Branch confirmed the findings and charges were laid.

The Corporation of the Municipality of Kincardine pleaded guilty to failing to ensure that a distribution sample was taken at least once every day and was tested immediately for free chlorine residual, contrary to Section 7-2(3)(a) of Schedule 7 of O. Reg. 170/03 under the SDWA and was fined \$8,000, plus VFS.

Justice of the Peace Robert T. Gay heard the case in the Ontario Court of Justice in Walkerton, Ontario, on January 13, 2006.

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