

For Immediate Release
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THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LUCAN BIDDULPH FINED TOTAL OF \$15,000 FOR WATER SYSTEMS VIOLATIONS

LONDON—The Corporation of the Township of Lucan Biddulph has been fined a total of \$15,000, after pleading guilty to two violations of the *Ontario Water Resources Act (OWRA)* and three violations of the *Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA)*.

The Corporation of the Township of Lucan Biddulph, located in the County of Middlesex, owns and operates the Granton Well Supply System, which serves approximately 300 residents, as well as the Lucan Biddulph Water Distribution System, which serves approximately 2,200 residents.

The Court heard that on July 22, 2004, a ministry inspection of the Granton system—covering the operating period of August 1, 2003 to July 31, 2004—revealed several violations of environmental legislation. Specifically, the township had failed to ensure that:

- all operators received the required number training hours;
- a 2003 compliance report was completed within the first quarter of 2004, as is stipulated in the Certificate of Approval for the system;
- monthly raw water samples were taken and tested for turbidity; and
- daily distribution samples were taken and tested immediately for free chlorine residual.

The former two were violations under sections 107(1) and 107(3) respectively of the *OWRA*. The latter two were violations under section 140(3) of the *SDWA*.

With respect to the third violation, the Court was told that that daily samples of treated water had been tested for free chlorine residual and turbidity during the same period, and there were no adverse results.

The Court also heard that on January 26, 2005, a ministry inspection of the Lucan system—covering the operating period of June 1, 2003 to December 31, 2004—revealed that daily distribution had not been taken and tested for free chlorine residual, contrary to section 140(3) of the *SDWA*.

Following an investigation conducted by the ministry's Investigations and Enforcement Branch, charges were laid.

The Corporation of the Township of Lucan Biddulph was fined \$3,000, plus a victim fine surcharge, for each offence.

Justice of the Peace Robert Ponton sentenced the defendant on July 12, 2006 in the Ontario Court of Justice in London.

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Contacts:
John Steele
Communications Branch
(416) 314-6666

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