

For Immediate Release
October 20, 2006

DUFFERIN WATER CO. LTD. FINED \$2,500 FOR ONTARIO WATER RESOURCES ACT VIOLATION

ORANGEVILLE—Dufferin Water Co. Ltd. has been fined \$2,500, plus a victim fine surcharge, after pleading guilty to one count of operating a water treatment works in contravention of a condition of its Certificate of Approval (C of A).

Dufferin Water Co. Ltd. operates water and sewage treatment and distribution systems on a contractual basis. In May 2005, the company began operating the Marsville Subdivision Water Supply System for the Township of East Garafraxa. The system was to be operated in accordance with the C of A granted to the township by the Ministry of the Environment (MOE).

Continuous chlorine residual monitoring equipment measures the chlorine residual in the water as it enters the distribution system. If the concentration of residual is outside the normal range, the system should automatically shut down, triggering an alarm that notifies the company president of the problem.

The Court heard that on October 19, 2005, an MOE Drinking Water Inspector found the alarm on the chlorine residual monitoring equipment for the Marsville system was set to “Off.” This was a violation of a condition of the C of A for the system.

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

Dufferin Water Co. Ltd. pleaded guilty to one count of operating a water treatment system in contravention of a condition of its C of A, contrary to section 107(3) of the *Ontario Water Resources Act*. The company was fined \$2,500 for this offence.

The MOE investigation concluded that there was no threat to public health as a result of the alarm system being turned off.

Justice of the Peace Michael Barnes sentenced Dufferin Water Co. Ltd. on August 16, 2006 in the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville.

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