

Policy Decision Notice:**1)Title:**

Feasibility Study for Water Quality Trading in the Lake Simcoe Watershed.

EBR Registry Number:

010-8989

Ministry:

Ministry of the Environment

Date Decision loaded to the**Registry:**

July 07, 2010

Date Proposal loaded to the**Registry:**

February 17, 2010

Decision on Policy:

The Ministry of the Environment released and consulted on a Feasibility Study for Water Quality Trading in the Lake Simcoe Watershed, pursuant to clause 75 (1.9) (c) of the Ontario Water Resources Act. In addition to the EBR posting, the Ministry held numerous meetings with the general public and key stakeholders. The Ministry also received advice from the Lake Simcoe Science Committee and the Lake Simcoe Coordinating Committee.

After considering the feedback received, the Ministry has decided to further evaluate a number of issues related to the potential design and operation of a water quality trading program. This further evaluation will be undertaken in consultation with watershed stakeholders before making a decision on whether or not to develop a water quality trading regulation and program for the Lake Simcoe watershed.

Policy Decision Notice:**2)Title:**

Lake Simcoe's Proposed Phosphorus Reduction Strategy and Amendments to the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan

EBR Registry Number:

010-8986

Ministry:

Ministry of the Environment

Date Decision loaded to the**Registry:**

July 07, 2010

Date Proposal loaded to the**Registry:**

February 17, 2010

Decision on Policy:

The Lake Simcoe Protection Plan commits the Province, under Policy 4.24-SA, to develop a Phosphorus Reduction Strategy for the Lake Simcoe watershed within one year of the date the Plan comes into effect. The Phosphorus Reduction Strategy was developed for the purpose of reducing phosphorus loadings to achieve the target of dissolved oxygen of 7 milligrams per litre, which is required to support a naturally reproducing and self-sustaining cold water fish community. This translates into an annual phosphorus load of 44 tonnes per year. This Strategy is intended to serve as a long-term framework to reach this goal.

The Ministry of the Environment released and consulted on a draft Phosphorus Reduction Strategy and on Lake Simcoe Protection Plan amendments, which provide updates to policies related to the implementation of the Phosphorus Reduction Strategy. In addition to the EBR posting, the Ministry held numerous meetings with the general public and key stakeholders. The Ministry also received advice from the Lake Simcoe Science Committee and the Lake Simcoe Coordinating Committee.

The Ministry has updated and finalized the Phosphorus Reduction Strategy and subsequent Plan amendments, further to comments received during the posting period. The Strategy will be published on the Ministry of the Environment's website and will be available for use by the public and Ministry staff.