Overview

• Incorporation of source protection (SP) information into MOECC agriculture inspection program

• Role of MOECC Agricultural Environmental Officers (AgEOs) in source protection implementation
Incorporating Source Protection Information into Inspections

• MOECC considers SP information when selecting farms for inspection

• Risk ranked lists generated each year (ASM/NASM)

• Assigned risk score based on several variables, including SP information
  - operations deemed a potential significant drinking water threat are considered a priority risk
  - final site selection is made by the local District/Area office
Ag Program Proactive Inspections

- Primary focus on assessing compliance with the NM Act, regulations and the site specific requirements of a NMS, NMP or NASM Plan.

- AgEOs do not assess compliance with the CWA, specifically:
  - They do not assess the contents of a NMS, NMP or NASM Plan to determine if it was prepared in accordance with SP policies.
  - They do not assess compliance with any other policies made under a local Source Protection Plan.

- We recognize AgEOs may engage with an operator who is subject to requirements under both the NMA and under a RMP and there may be some confusion in terms of roles/responsibilities.
Agricultural Environmental Officers can...

- Obtain/provide general information on regulatory requirements under the *Environmental Protection Act*, *Pesticides Act*, *Environmental Assessment Act*, *Safe Drinking Water Act*, *NM Act* or *Ontario Water Resources Act*
- Provide basic information on *MOECC issued prescribed instruments*, e.g., confirm if an approval/permit has been issued for a particular operation, provide a copy of an issued MOECC instrument on request
- Provide contact information for different branches/staff within the ministry (e.g., for Source Protection Programs Branch)
- Help arrange pre-submission consultation meetings for clients planning on submitting an ECA or PTTW application
Agricultural Environmental Officers do not…

• Enter property under the authority of the Clean Water Act (MOECC environmental officers are not designated under that Act)

• Provide copies of NMA instruments (such as NMS, NMPs and NASM Plans) to RMOs/RMIs or the general public

• Assess if any instrument (issued by MOECC or any other party) complies with any SP plan prescribed instrument policy

• Provide advice on what measures should/could be included in a NMP, NMS, NASM Plan or a Risk Management Plan to address SP requirements
Questions?