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## **MEMORANDUM**

**PWC-C 6-2019**

**Subject: Niagara Water Treatment Plant 2018 Summary Reports**

**Date: March 19, 2019**

**To: Public Works Committee**

**From: Jen Croswell, C.Tech., Water Compliance Specialist**

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A Drinking Water Summary Report (Summary Report), required under the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002, has been prepared for each of Niagara Region's six (6) drinking water treatment plants for January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018, inclusive. The Summary Reports have been provided as Appendix I and include:

- A description of any failure to meet the requirements of any governing Act, Regulation, Order or Approval that the Drinking Water System operates under, along with the actions the Operating Authority undertook to mitigate any such non-compliance;
- A summary of water flow rates including maximum daily flow rates and instantaneous peak flow rates in comparison with the capacity of the water works identified in the drinking water license and permit. This information is included for the purpose of allowing the owner (Niagara Region) of the system to assess the capability of the system to meet existing and planned uses of the system.

The intent of the Summary Report is to provide full disclosure and acts as an instrument to ensure Council, senior management, regulatory agencies and the public are made aware of any non-compliance issues.

In addition to the Summary Reports, staff have produced Annual Water Quality Reports (Annual Reports) for each of Niagara Region's six (6) drinking water treatment plants, as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002. The Annual Reports have been made available to the public via the Niagara Region website

(<https://www.niagararegion.ca/living/water/Water-Quality-Reports/default.aspx>).

The publication of these reports will be advertised in the Region's Public Works Green Scene newsletter in spring 2019.

Inspections were completed for all of Niagara's six (6) water treatment plants. Five (5) water treatment plants (Decew Falls, Grimsby, Niagara Falls, Port Colborne, and Rosehill) obtained a 100% compliance score on the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) Inspection Rating Report. One (1) water treatment plant, Welland, was found to be in non-compliance with Ministry Regulations and/or System Licences and obtained an inspection rating of 99.17%. The non-compliance

was administrative in nature and did not result in environmental or public health risk. Details of the non-compliance are as follows:

- Watermain installation which crosses a waterbody using an open-cut construction method requires an application for a Schedule C amendment and approval from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks prior to construction. The initial assessment for a watermain construction project concluded that the impacted ditch was not a waterway. Upon further review it was determined that the ditch was deemed a waterway, therefore, an inappropriate approval method for construction was used. Niagara Region was found to be in non-compliance with item (b) of Subsection 31 (1) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002. Internal operating procedures were updated and staff training was conducted to ensure appropriate approvals are obtained for future construction projects.

May this memorandum serve as acknowledgment of receipt of the Summary Reports by the system owner, Council.

#### **Appendices**

Appendix I – 2018 Summary Reports – Decew Falls, Grimsby, Niagara Falls, Port Colborne, Rosehill and Welland Water Treatment Plants

Respectfully submitted and signed by

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Jen Croswell, C.Tech.  
Water Compliance Specialist