

## Staff Report

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**Report To:** Council

**Report From:** Geoff Aitken, CET – Director, Infrastructure & Public Works

**Meeting Date:** January 14, 2025

**Subject:** IPW-2025-01 – West Grey Drinking Water Systems – 2024/25  
Inspection Reports

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### Recommendations:

That in consideration of staff report ‘IPW-2025-01 – West Grey Drinking Water Systems – 2024/25 Inspection Reports’, Council receives the report for information purposes.

### Highlights:

- The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MOECP) awarded the Durham Drinking Water System an inspection rating of 100 percent and a risk rating of zero percent.
- It is reasonable to conclude that the MOECP will/has assigned the Neustadt Drinking Water System an inspection rating of 100 percent and a risk rating of zero percent.

### Climate and Environmental Implications:

The most significant climate and environmental implications are found in the Permit to Take Water (PTTW), issued by the MOECP. Each production well in Durham and Neustadt is identified in the West Grey PTTWs.

The significance of the PTTW is that it speaks to the volume of water that can be pumped (withdrawn from the aquifer) in a 24-hour period; and to monitoring the water level in each production well. This data is valuable information for those monitoring the amount of ground water available for both domestic/residential use and to minimize the impacts to ecosystems. During the period covered by these inspection reports, the PTTW was not exceeded; and no significant fluctuations were recorded in water level; which demonstrates sound environmental stewardship.

## **Previous Report/Authority:**

[IPW-2023-09 – West Grey Drinking Water Systems – Inspection Reports](#)

[IPW-2024-02 – West Grey Drinking Water Systems – Inspection Reports](#)

## **Analysis:**

In compliance with legislation, each drinking water system must undergo an annual inspection by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MOECP) before the end of their fiscal year. The Municipality of West Grey has now received the inspection reports for the 2024/25 fiscal year for both the Durham and Neustadt Drinking Water Systems (DWS).

It is also a legislative requirement for Council to be aware of the ongoing operations of the waterworks itself. In the case of West Grey, Council has predominately relied on staff to advise of the status of operations. For normal routine operations, staff provide an update to Council based on various milestones over the course of the year. The receipt of the DWS inspection reports is the catalyst for this report.

On July 18 and 25, 2024 the Neustadt DWS was inspected; and the Durham DWS on October 9, 2024. The Durham DWS received an inspection rating of 100 percent and a risk rating of zero percent. At the time of writing this report, the inspection report rating for the Neustadt DWS is not available. In consultation with the Inspector and given that the findings in the Neustadt inspection report are similar to the findings of the Durham inspection report, it is reasonable to conclude that the inspection and risk ratings for Neustadt will be similar to those given to Durham.

A typical inspection is based on a selection of 15 modules covering topics from source, licenses and permits, capacity, treatment, logbooks, administration etc. In the case of the Durham and Neustadt DWS 2024/25 inspections, a total of nine modules were considered for each DWS. Each module will consist of a series of questions to determine the risk to the delivery of safe drinking water. “Risk” is not complying with regulations and is referred to as the Risk Management framework which essentially provides a formula for risk.

Risk = likelihood multiplied by consequence. Every regulatory question is assigned a likelihood value (L= 0, possibly but highly unlikely to L = 4, almost certain to occur) for an assigned consequence value (C = 1, medium administrative consequence to C = 8, major health consequence). The highest risk rating for an individual regulated question is 32 (4x8) and the lowest is 0 (0x1). Questions resulting in a higher risk rating have potentially a more significant impact on drinking water safety and a higher likelihood of occurrence. The risk rating methodology is reviewed every three years.

**Financial Implications:**

There is no financial impact because of this report.

**Communication Plan:**

Communication of this report is through the posting of council meeting agendas on the Municipality of West Grey website.

**Consultation:**

Supervisor, Urban Operations

**Attachments:**

Durham Drinking Water Inspection Report

Durham Inspection Report Rating

Neustadt Drinking Water Inspection Report

**Recommended by:**

Geoff Aitken, CET, Director, Infrastructure & Public Works

**Submission approved by:**

Michele Harris, Chief Administrative Officer

For more information on this report, please contact Geoff Aitken, Director, Infrastructure & Public Works at [publicworks@westgrey.com](mailto:publicworks@westgrey.com) or 519-369-2200 x 227.