



Report to: General Committee

Meeting Date: April 25, 2023

SUBJECT: The MECP – Markham Distribution System – Drinking Water Inspection Report, February 08, 2023

PREPARED BY: Helena Frantzke, Ext. 2449
Water Quality Coordinator, Environmental Services

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the report entitled “The MECP – Markham Distribution System – Drinking Water Inspection Report, February 08, 2023” be received;
2. And that Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Not Applicable

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the findings of the Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)’s Inspection of Markham’s Water Distribution System undertaken on February 08, 2023. This MECP inspection covered regulatory compliance since our last inspection conducted on January 20, 2022 to January 26, 2023.

BACKGROUND:

The objective of the MECP Inspection is to provide a rigorous and comprehensive inspection program for municipal residential drinking water systems to determine if the systems are in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002 (SDWA) and associated Regulations as well as evaluating conformance with ministry drinking water policies and guidelines during the inspection period. The Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002 (SDWA) states that a provincial officer may at any reasonable time conduct an inspection for the purpose of determining compliance with regulatory requirements contained within the Act, or any of the associated Regulations. Traditionally, the MECP has conducted an annual inspection of Markham’s Water Distribution System.

On January 26, 2023 the MECP announced the annual inspection of Markham’s Drinking Water Distribution System. The MECP Inspector reviewed Waterworks procedures, policies and records and covered the inspection period from the last inspection held on January 20, 2022 and up to January 26, 2023.

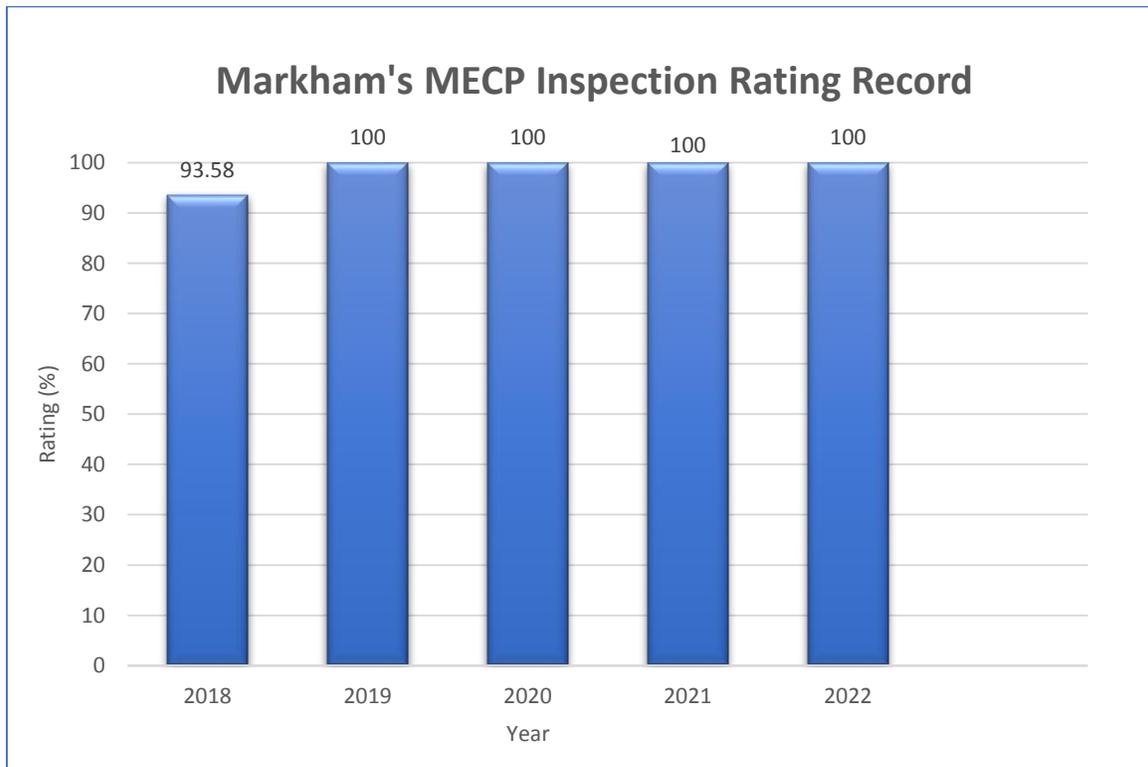
The final MECP inspection report was received on February 24, 2023, (see attachment “A”).

OPTIONS/ DISCUSSION:

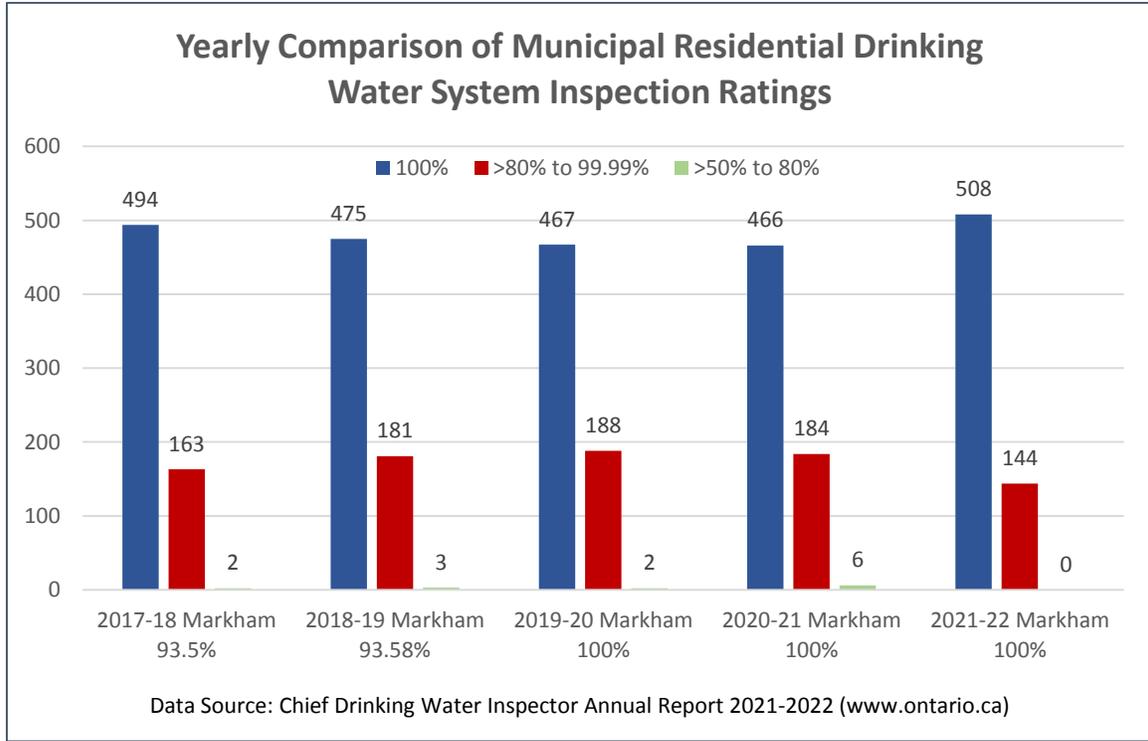
On January 26, 2023 the MECP Inspector provided a detailed list requesting data and documents which were all provided by staff in a timely manner. The MECP followed up with a site visit with staff on February 08, 2023 which included a detailed discussion with regard to Markham Waterwork’s existing procedures and clarification of information previously provided. Additional documentation was also requested which was all provided by staff in a timely manner.

During the inspection time period, between, January 20, 2022 to January 26, 2023, there were no incident of regulatory non-compliance identified. As a result, the City of Markham received an Inspection Summary Rating Record (IRR) of 100.0% for meeting compliance with the MECP’s Drinking Water Systems Regulation 170/03 during the period covered. This IRR is a quantitative measures the Municipal Residential Drinking Water System’s annual inspection and regulated water quality testing performance The MECP’s inspection program is an important aspect of the MECP’s drinking water safety net and the primary goal is to encourage ongoing improvement of drinking water systems and to work toward the goal of 100% regulatory compliance.

Below is a summary of Markham’s MECP Inspection Summary Rating Records over the past five years:



Below is a comparison of Markham’s MECP Inspection Rating Records to other municipalities over the last five years. The 2022-2023 Municipal Inspection Ratings will be published by December 2023 by the MECP that will capture our latest rating.



MECP BEST PRACTICE ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations are suggestions that the owner or operating authority should consider implementing in order to advance efforts already in place. Please note recommendations help to improve best practice measures and do not constitute a non-compliance violation.

As part of the inspection the MECP had identified one Best Management Practice recommendation:

1. During the inspection it was observed that on July 26, 2022 logbook entries were made for both of the continuous chlorine analyzers, at 8100 Warden and Calvert Road, referencing the annual calibration of the analyzers. However, it was determined that details of the time the work was completed were not recorded in either logbook, and the operator’s name who made the entry was not recorded in the Warden logbook.

Section 27 of O. Reg. 128/04 requires that the logbooks must identify a record of equipment taken out of service or ceased to operate, maintenance or repair carried out on the equipment, including the date and time when equipment was repaired and returned to service. As well it requires a person making an entry in a log to do so in a manner that permits the person to be clearly identified.

The City of Markham is committed to conducting a training/refresher session with all operators to review logbook entry procedures for chlorine analyzers.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Not Applicable

HUMAN RESOURCES CONSIDERATIONS

Not Applicable

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

The MECP – Markham Distribution System Drinking Water Inspection Report, January 23, 2023 meets legislative requirements and is consistent with the Building Markham’s Future Together; specifically a Safe, Sustainable & Complete Community through achieving sustainable Infrastructure Management and Quality Services.

BUSINESS UNITS CONSULTED AND AFFECTED:

Not Applicable

The report presented herein, communicates the results of the annual MECP Inspection conducted on February 08, 2023

The undersigned represent the Top Management of the City of Markham’s Drinking Water Distribution system and by signing below the Top management of the Operating Authority have reviewed the MECP Inspection Report.

RECOMMENDED BY:

Eddy Wu, P. Eng.
Acting Commissioner, Community Services
Director, Environmental Services

Andy Taylor
CAO, City of Markham

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment “A” – The MECP - Markham Distribution System – Drinking Water Inspection Report, February 08, 2023.