



Report to: General Committee

Meeting Date: April 1, 2025

SUBJECT: The MECP – Markham Distribution System – Drinking Water Inspection Report, January 30, 2025

PREPARED BY: Catalina Ching, Ext. 2035
Water Quality Coordinator, Environmental Services

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the report entitled “The MECP – Markham Distribution System – Drinking Water Inspection Report, January 30, 2025” 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 January 30, 2025. This MECP inspection covered regulatory compliance since our last inspection conducted, from January 23, 2024 to January 17, 2025.

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 30, 2025 the MECP conducted an announced annual inspection of Markham’s Drinking Water Distribution System. Since the last inspection date held last year on January 30, 2024, the MECP Inspector reviewed Waterworks procedures, policies and records covered within the inspection period between January 23, 2024 to January 17, 2025.

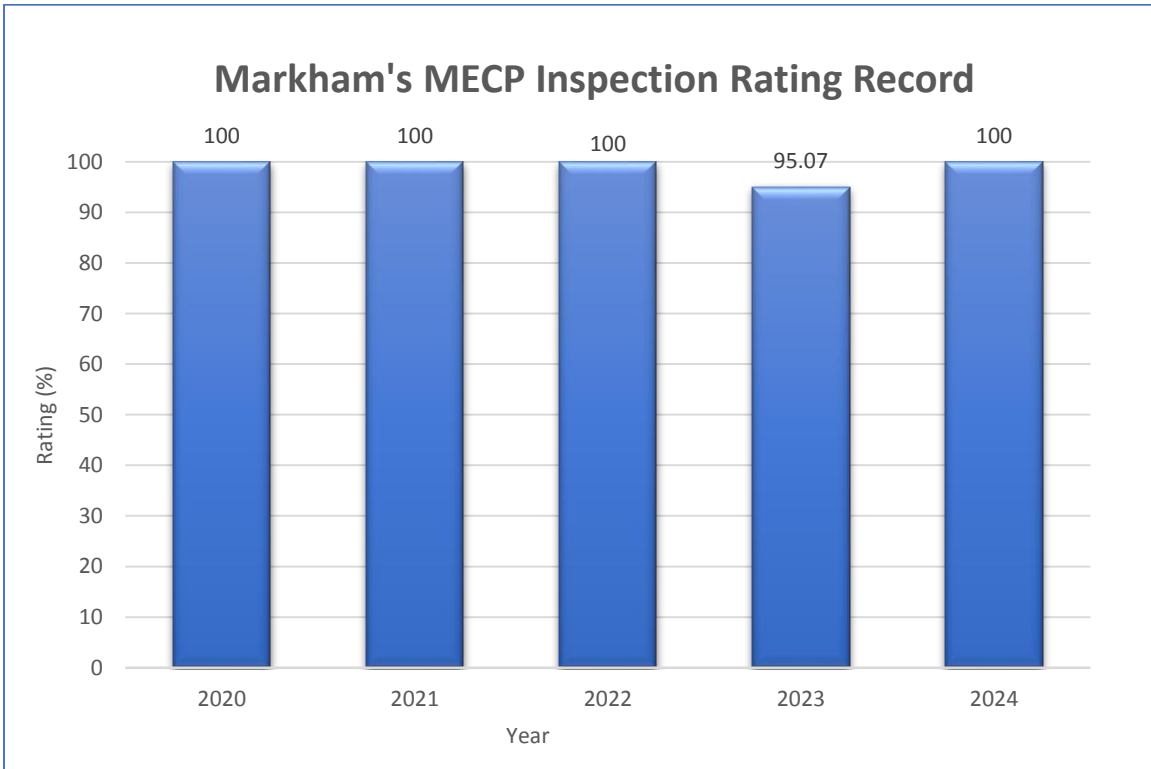
The final MECP inspection report was received on February 12, 2025, (see attachment “A”).

OPTIONS/ DISCUSSION:

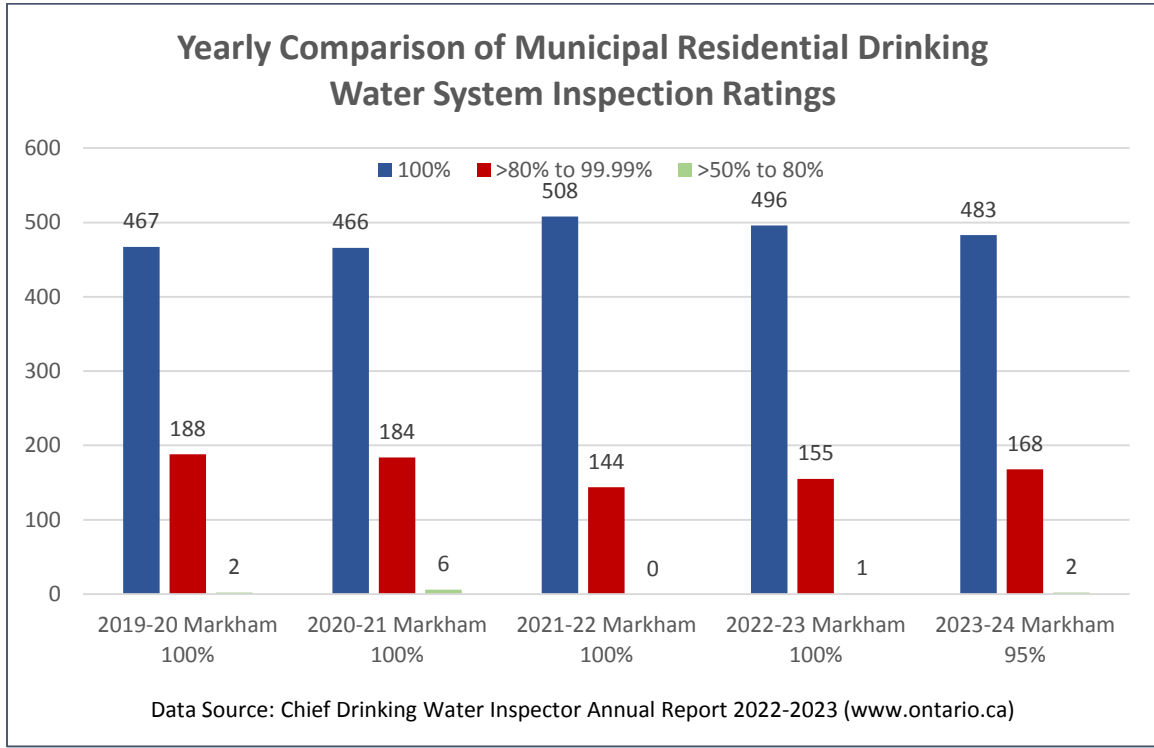
On January 30, 2025 the MECP Inspector conducted an announced inspection on site with staff which included a detailed discussion with regard to Markham Waterwork’s existing procedures, reviewed operational logbooks. Prior to the on-site inspection the MECP Inspector provided a detailed list requesting data and documents which were all provided by staff in a timely manner. Following the on-site inspection, the MECP Inspector requested additional documentation which was also promptly provided by staff.

During the inspection time period, between January 23, 2024 to January 17, 2025, there was no incident of regulatory non-compliance identified. As a result, the City of Markham received an Inspection Summary Rating Record (IRR) of 100% for meeting full compliance with the MECP’s Drinking Water Systems Regulation 170/03 during the period covered. This IRR is a quantitative measure of 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 2024-2025 Municipal Inspection Ratings will be published by December 2025 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.

There was no best practice issue or recommendation identified during this inspection period.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Not Applicable

HUMAN RESOURCES CONSIDERATIONS

Not Applicable

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

The MECP – Markham Distribution System Drinking Water Inspection Report, January 30, 2025 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 January 30, 2025.

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.
Director, Environmental Services

Morgan Jones
Commissioner, Community Services

Andy Taylor
CAO, City of Markham

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment "A" – The MECP - Markham Distribution System – Drinking Water Inspection Report, January 30, 2025.