



**CONTINGENCY PLAN  
Municipality of Machin**

**Vermilion Bay Water Treatment & Distribution Systems**

**Problem:**                    **Contaminated Water in Clearwell  
(Physical/Chemical Parameter)**

**Contact Info:**            Overall Responsible Operator (ORO)  
Operator-In-Charge (OIC)

1. Turn off and lock-out the high lift (treated water) pumps. Determine whether or not the contaminated water has been isolated in the clearwell, or whether the water distribution system has also been affected. If the distribution system is also affected, refer to the contingency for Contaminated Water in Distribution System (Physical/Chemical Parameter). Immediately contact the ORO and OIC and determine whether or not the contamination poses an immediate health risk to the community.
2. If contaminant levels in any treated or distribution samples exceed the MAC (Maximum Acceptable Concentration) as determined by Provincial regulations (O. Reg. 169/03), refer to the appropriate contingency for Adverse Water Quality.
3. Determine the nature of the contamination. If contamination is related to raw water quality, refer to the appropriate contingency for Contaminated Raw Water Source. If contamination is related to poor plant performance, refer to the contingency for Poor Treatment Plant Performance.
4. Once the source of contamination has been determined and eliminated, isolate reservoir # 1 from reservoir # 2 at the water treatment plant. Contaminated water can then be pumped from the clearwell to the sludge holding tank. From the sludge holding tank the contaminated water must be properly disposed of. Proper disposal will depend on the type and severity of the contamination. Coordinate the plan for disposing the contaminated water with the Ministry of the Environment's Abatement Officer.
5. The empty reservoir should then be cleaned and disinfected; the extent of which is also determined by the type and severity of the contamination.

### **Contaminated Water in Clearwell (Physical/Chemical Parameter)**

5. Once the reservoir has been emptied of contaminated water and properly cleaned and disinfected, the operator can begin filling the reservoir with potable water.
6. After verifying that the contaminant is no longer present, and after the required contact time has been provided to ensure primary disinfection, the operator may resume high lift pumping operations from the reservoir which has been decontaminated, properly cleaned and disinfected.
7. Decontamination, cleaning and disinfection of the other reservoir may then commence following the same procedure.