SUBJECT: Cooling Tower Inventory  BOH07021(a) (City Wide)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Cooling Towers item referred from the Board of Health on April 23, 2007 be identified as completed and removed from the Outstanding Business List.

Elizabeth Richardson, MD, MHSc, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health
Public Health Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Recommendation (d) in item 7.3 of Board of Health Report 07-004 states; that staff be directed to revisit a sample of the cooling towers identified as having the highest risk to determine if the operators have implemented the best practices and report back to the Board of Health with their findings.

Public Health Services staff have re-visited all 24 cooling towers and/or evaporative condensers that were identified as being the highest risk to determine if the operators have implemented the best practices.

BACKGROUND:

At the April 23rd, 2007 Board of Health meeting, Recommendation (d) in item 7.3 of Board of Health Report 07-004 was added to Report BOH07021.
ANALYSIS/RATIONALE:

Findings

Public Health Services reports the following findings back to the Board of Health;

All of the cooling towers identified as having the highest risk have received the best practices documentation. Of the 24 cooling towers re-visited:

Operators of 15 cooling towers indicated they have reviewed the guidelines sent to them by Public Health Services. Of these, 11 stated that they have since adopted enhanced practices referred to in the guidelines regarding disinfection and maintenance of the cooling tower(s) they operate. The remaining 4 stated that they or their contractors felt their current programs were consistent with the guidelines.

Operators of 9 cooling towers indicated that they are in the process of reviewing the guidelines and that they take them seriously and appreciate what Public Health Services is trying to achieve through this outreach to operators. They concluded by saying that they will review their practices in consultation with their service providers and then make decisions on how to proceed.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION:

None

FINANCIAL/STAFFING/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

None

POLICIES AFFECTING PROPOSAL:

None

RELEVANT CONSULTATION:

None

CITY STRATEGIC COMMITMENT:

By evaluating the “Triple Bottom Line”, (community, environment, economic implications) we can make choices that create value across all three bottom lines, moving us closer to our vision for a sustainable community, and Provincial interests.

Community Well-Being is enhanced. ☑ Yes ☐ No
Participation in community life is accessible to all Hamiltonians.
Environmental Well-Being is enhanced. ☑ Yes  ☐ No
Human health and safety are protected.

Economic Well-Being is enhanced. ☑ Yes  ☐ No
Hamilton's high-quality environmental amenities are maintained and enhanced.

Does the option you are recommending create value across all three bottom lines? ☑ Yes  ☐ No

Do the options you are recommending make Hamilton a City of choice for high performance
public servants? ☑ Yes  ☐ No