

Municipal Drinking Water Systems – Permits for Innovative Technologies

To assist Showcasing Water Innovation projects to meet deadlines set out in funding contracts, the ministry collaborated on a streamlined approvals process to facilitate these innovative projects. This page provides an overview of the steps required to use an innovative technology *for systems supplying drinking water to municipalities*.

1.0 Innovative Technology Approvals

The Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change may approve the use of innovative technologies in municipal drinking water systems. If the technology adds to, modifies, replaces or extends a municipal drinking water system, these changes must be approved through an amendment to a municipality's Drinking Water Works Permit or pre-authorized through a condition in the permit.

2.0 Background

Various types of drinking water systems are owned or used by municipalities. The Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change regulates these systems to ensure water safety and quality. This includes:

- Registering all municipal drinking water systems;
- Licensing system owners/operators;
- Authorizing operators to run and maintain drinking water systems; and
- Issuing drinking water works permits to modify, repair or extend drinking water systems.

Every owner and operator of a drinking water system must ensure that:

- The system's water meets Ontario's Drinking Water Quality Standards;
- Anyone who operates or works on their system is properly trained and licensed;
- Drinking water tests are done by licensed, accredited laboratories;
- Adverse test results are reported to the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change and the local medical officer of health.

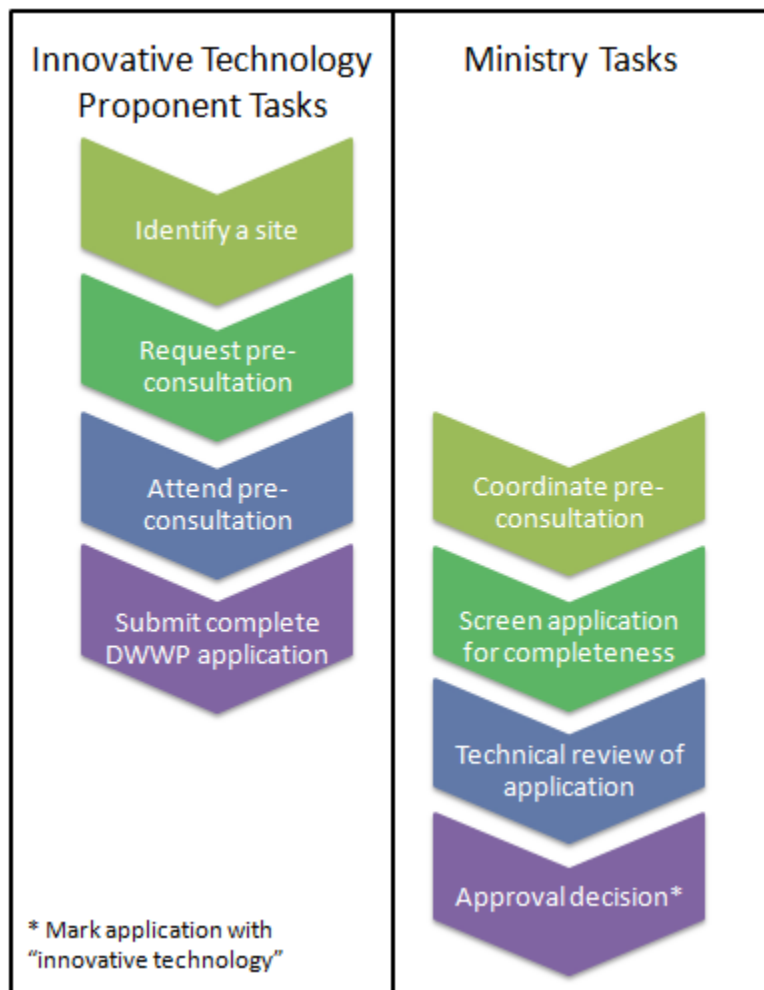
3.0 Questions about the Approval Process

For questions or to learn more about the environmental approval process for new and innovative technology solutions to be used in a municipal drinking water system

Please call: (416) 314-4625

The Safe Drinking Water Branch, Approvals and Licencing
Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change

Steps taken in the process by the Technology Proponent and the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change



4.0 Resources

Information on Municipal Drinking Water Systems is available at:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/municipal-drinking-water-systems-licencing-registration-and-permits>