

West Elgin / Chatham-Kent Transformer Station Project

Environmental Mitigation Measures

Measures to prevent or mitigate potentially adverse environmental effects during design, constructions and operation stages include:

- Spill containment and storm water management
- Control of dust and traffic disturbances during construction
- Noise mitigation
- Protection of electrical equipment from fire hazards
- Environmental management during construction and operation
- Protection of archaeological resources

Next Steps

- Evaluation of alternative sites, review and address stakeholder input – Summer 2007
- Select preferred site – Summer 2007
- Public Information Centre #2 to present preferred site – September 2007
- Class EA Approval (anticipated) – Fall 2007
- Planned project start date – Spring 2008
- Planned in-service date – Summer 2009

For More Information

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PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE

Thursday, June 14th, 2007

Rodney Community Centre



Bringing Power to the People of Ontario™

Need for the Project

Currently, the Chatham-Kent and West Elgin areas are supplied electricity from Kent transformer station (TS) and St. Thomas TS which are approximately 80 kilometres apart. A recent study conducted by Hydro One indicates that the area is prone to voltage and reliability issues as a result of the long distribution lines feeding the area. In addition, St. Thomas TS is reaching end-of-life, and Kent TS is at capacity. Hydro One is proposing to construct a new transformer station to improve the capacity of its electricity transmission system and to ensure reliable supply for existing and future electrical needs in the Chatham-Kent and West Elgin areas.

Project Description

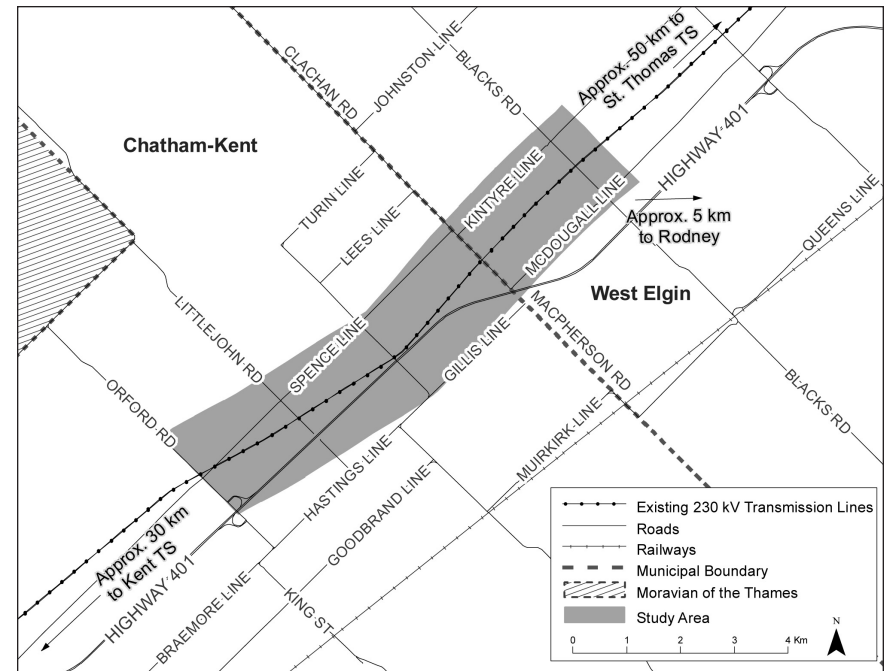
The project involves the construction of a new 230/27.6 kilovolt (kV) transformer station. The new TS will step-down electricity from Hydro One's high voltage transmission system to lower voltages, so that it can be distributed to homes and businesses.

Environmental Assessment and Study Area

The proposed TS is subject to the *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act* approval in accordance with the *Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities*. The Class EA study will involve the identification and comparative evaluation of alternative sites to select a preferred site. The study area is outlined on the map shown opposite.

Hydro One is collecting information to assist in identifying and evaluating alternative sites for the new station. We are seeking stakeholder and public feedback for the proposed transmission facilities. Provincial and municipal government agencies are also included in the consultation process. All comments will be considered as part of the Class EA study.

Map of Study Area



Environmental Planning Process

Potential effects of the proposed transmission facilities are considered during planning, design and construction. These include effects on:

- Property owners: residences, businesses, farms
- Existing infrastructure and planned land uses
- Agricultural lands and productivity
- Archaeological (heritage) resources
- Biological and aquatic resources
- Natural heritage features
- Stormwater management