

PIC 2 Summary Report
Public Information Centre for proposed Duart TS in Chatham-Kent/West Elgin
April 7, 2009, 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Highgate, Ontario

Hydro One and SENES Attendees

Brian McCormick – ES & A

Yu San Ong – ES&A

Alaa Ibrahim – Project Management

Marylena Stea – Corporate Communications

Lyla Garzouzi – Dept.

Erin Luchhart – Dept.

Orn Ben-Shlomo – Dept.

Enza Cancilla – Corporate Communications

John Sabiston – Dept.

Dan White – Dept.

Isla

Rick Poppe – Real Estate, Land Use Agent

Edmond Laratta – SENES Consultants

Anoushka Martil – SENES Consultants

The Public Information Centre was held from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Highgate Community Hall on April 7, 2009. The purpose of the PIC was to present and seek input on the preferred site for the proposed Duart TS, and to outline the next steps in the Class EA process. It was also an opportunity for those interested in the project to gather more information and ask questions of Hydro One staff and SENES Consultants.

Residents were notified of the PIC by way of:

- advertisements placed in local newspapers, including *The Ridgeway Independent* on March 25 and April 1, 2009; *The Dresden Bothwell Spirit Leader* March 25 and April 1, 2009; *The Thamesville Herald* on April 1; and *West Lorne Elgin Chronicle* on March 26 and April 2, 2009;

- direct mail sent to property owners within the TS study area and those who requested to be placed on the community mailing list; and
- a Canada Post Unaddressed Ad Mail (which included the PIC #2 invitation ad) sent to residences within the study area.

At the PIC, display panels describing various aspects of the project, such as the need for the project; proposed TS location, site identification criteria and evaluation process; comparison of alternative sites; the preferred site; environmental mitigation measures; and the Class Environmental Assessment process were available for review.

Large scale maps of the study area and various proposed layouts of the Duart TS were on display. Brochures on a variety of subjects, including EMFs and energy consumption, were also made available.

A total of 41 people attended the PIC. In addition to the two written comments received at the PIC, the following highlights the key comments/questions voiced at the event:

- Wind power generation and future plans for the site
- Questions related to the planning process and Class Environmental Assessment process, i.e., PIC format, opportunities/process for public input, next steps, availability of Draft Environmental Study Report and 30-day public review period, and project timeline
- Comments and questions related to site evaluation process based on environmental and social features
- Rezoning issues and Hydro One's exemption from the *Planning Act*
- Questions related to stray voltage and EMFs
- Location and layout of distribution line from the preferred site
- Questions and comments related to the potential drop in property value of neighbouring lots and compensation
- Screening options to mitigate visual impacts
- Need for project and comments on distribution study
- Questions related to noise and light pollution

- Set-back requirements for PSW versus other wetlands
- Impacts on wildlife
- Size and layout of the proposed TS

All queries raised by the participants were promptly answered by the Hydro One staff and all efforts were made by the staff to explain the details of the project.