

Welcome to our Public Information Centre

Public Information Centre



The Project

Electricity demand in northern York Region is growing by more than 3% per year.

In 2005, the Ontario Power Authority (OPA) reviewed the electricity load forecast for northern York Region and examined supply alternatives for the growing area. Its short-term recommendations included aggressive conservation and demand management initiatives as well as installing a new 230/44kV transformer station in the vicinity of Holland Marsh Junction.

The station will improve reliability of electricity supply to customers in the Newmarket, Aurora, King Township, East Gwillimbury and Bradford/West Gwillimbury areas.

Holland Transformer Station – Construction

Benefits of starting construction in February:

- The ground is still frozen which makes construction easier and cleaner. The tracking of mud and dirt is minimized with frozen ground.
- Avoids half-load restrictions for construction vehicles on local roads which begin in March. Delays in construction would double the amount of trucks required to bring supplies into the station.
- The construction period allows for a May 2009 in-service date, to accommodate the increase in demand for electricity in the summer.

Construction Details

Typical hours of construction are from Monday to Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. although if required, work may occur beyond these days and hours.

Construction crews will access the site by Miller's Side Road, travelling on Bathurst Street. Occasionally, crews will also travel on Dufferin Street only between Miller's Side Road and King Street.

Distribution Station – Pad-Mount Style

The design of the distribution station is a pad-mount style, which has many benefits when compared to a traditional, U-90 style station. These advantages include:

- More environmentally friendly
 - Produces less noise
 - Equipment is enclosed in metal, allowing for trees to be planted close by
 - Compact design makes it more aesthetically pleasing
- Easier to operate and maintain
- No live equipment exposed to the public, animals or weather which improves reliability
- Easier and quicker to construct
- More cost effective

Distribution Lines from Holland TS

- 8 distribution circuits will exit the station
 - Four circuits on two pole lines will serve Hydro One customers
 - Four circuits on two pole lines will serve Newmarket Hydro customers
- Hydro One is committed to making the best use of existing infrastructure by:
 - Using existing poles where possible
 - Upgrading existing poles to accommodate new lines
 - Striving to keep poles on one side of the road to avoid the tunnelling effect
 - Coordinating with Newmarket Hydro

Conditions from the Ministry of the Environment

Hydro One is diligently pursuing the satisfaction of the conditions set out from the Ministry of the Environment. Pre-construction conditions have been met and construction is scheduled to begin in early February 2008.

The current status of conditions is detailed on the following panels.

Stormwater Management

- Prepare a Stormwater Management Plan prior to applying for a Certificate of Approval under the *Ontario Water Resources Act*
- Include details on how the site will be drained, changes in drainage on the wetland and changes in drainage on adjacent farms
- Provide all bump-up requestors with a copy of the complete application and supporting technical documentation

Status: Stormwater Management Plan and the Certificate of Approval was sent to all bump-up requesters. This was followed by a formal submission to the Ministry of the Environment on November 28, 2007. Additional information was requested and Hydro One resubmitted the documents on December 18, 2007.

Noise

- Provide all bump-up requesters with a copy of the complete application and supporting technical documentation prior to applying for a Certificate of Approval (air and noise) under the *Environmental Protection Act*

Status: The Certificate of Approval was sent to all bump-up requesters on November 13, 2007. This was followed by a formal submission on November 16, 2007.

Landscaping and Mitigation Measures

- Address the outstanding concerns raised by Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA)
- Develop a landscape plan in consultation with relevant agencies
- Implement mitigation measures recommended by the Ministry of Natural Resources, including the use of native species that are appropriate for the soil and moisture conditions

Status: Hydro One met with the LSRCA and completed this condition through two submissions made on October 3 and December 5. Discussions with LSRCA and other relevant agencies will continue throughout the construction and landscaping process.

Distribution Lines

- Re-engage discussions with King Township regarding the future distribution station and the potential to develop the transformer and distribution station concurrently
- Implement mitigation measures to minimize the tunnel effect resulting from distribution lines on both sides of the rural roads

Status: A decision has been made to construct the distribution station at the same time as the transformer station. Landscaping will be implemented to visually screen both stations. The path of the distribution lines has been altered to reduce the tunnel effect on rural roads.

Archaeology

- Ensure a Stage 2 archaeological field assessment is conducted with respect to all proposed construction activities extending beyond present disturbed locations to minimize impacts to heritage resources. Should significant archaeological resources be encountered, Hydro One shall contact the Ministry of Culture to determine appropriate action.
- In an event that deeply buried archaeological remains or human remains are encountered, Hydro One must cease construction and contact the appropriate agencies.

Status: A Stage 2 archaeological field assessment was undertaken by Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultants Inc. No artefacts were found and the consultant recommended that the project proceed. An environmental specialist assigned to the project will ensure compliance with regulations in the event of a finding.

Tentative Construction Schedule

Begin construction	February 2008
Surface grading, foundation, station fencing	February 2008
Install Transformers	August 2008
Erect Towers	September 2008
String Lines	October 2008
Facility Testing	Winter 2008
Planned in-service date	May 2009

Consultation

Thank you for attending our third public information centre for the construction of the Holland Transformer Station and for your input in this important process. The input we have received has allowed us to modify the station location to maximize the land area available for agricultural use and further mitigate the effects on the environment and community.

Hydro One will continue to consult with King Township throughout the construction process. In an effort to keep the local community informed about the project, any important changes to the construction schedule will be posted on our website at:

www.HydroOneNetworks.com/NewProjects

If you have any inquiries throughout this process, please call us, toll free at **1-877-345-6799**.