

In Your Community

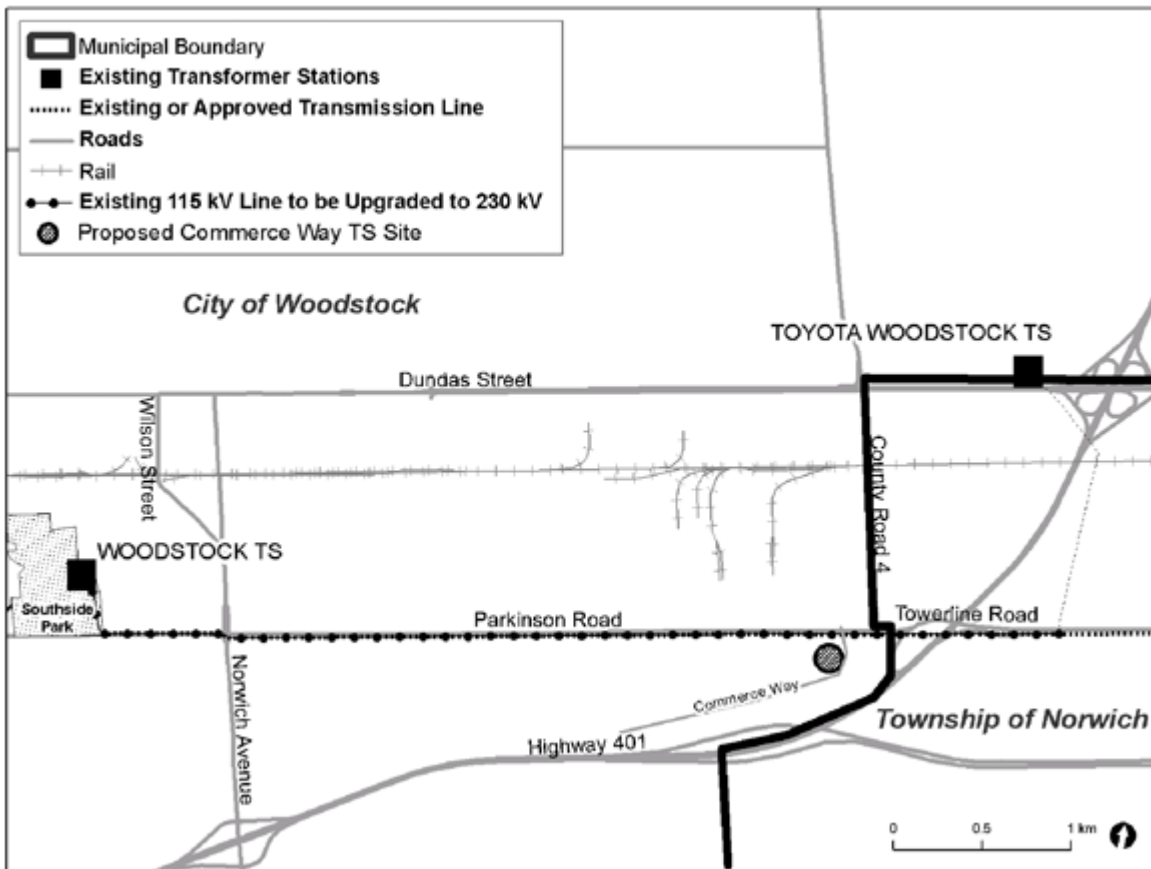
New Projects

Transmission System Projects

Commerce Way Transformer Station & Associated Transmission Line Upgrades

What's New

January 2009 — Since the initial Public Information Centre (PIC) held in February 2008, Hydro One has identified its preferred location for the new Commerce Way Transformer Station (TS), formerly referred to as Woodstock East TS. The preferred location for the new station is south of Parkinson Road and west of Commerce Way, as shown on the map below. As such, Hydro One will be holding a second PIC on **Thursday, February 5, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.** at the Woodstock Quality Inn & Suites to review its preferred transmission station site and transmission line route with the public. Details and the newspaper ad for this PIC are located in the "[Public Consultation](#)" section below.



Project Need and Description

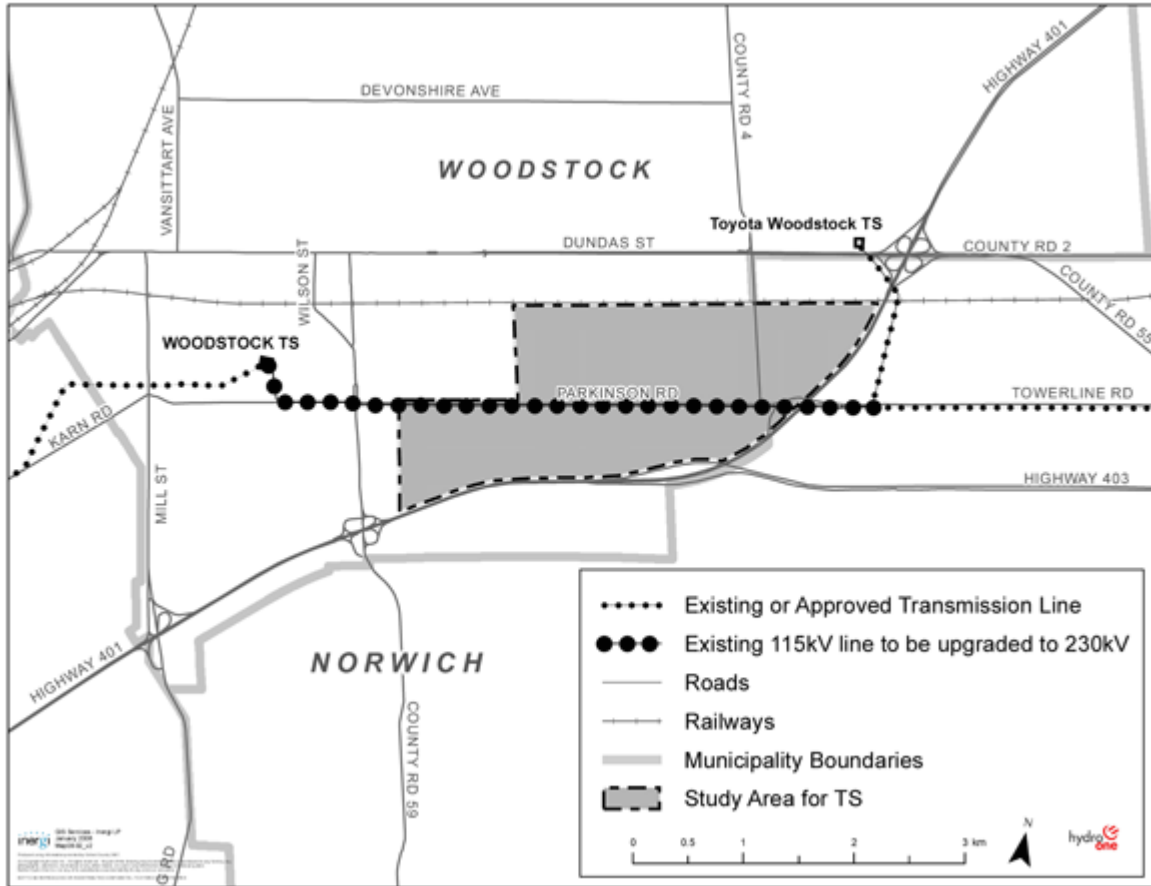
Hydro One and Woodstock Hydro have identified the need for a new electricity transformer station (TS) on the east side of Woodstock to relieve overloading at Woodstock TS on South Street, and to ensure a reliable supply of electricity for Hydro One and Woodstock Hydro customers.

Hydro One is proposing to build a new transformer station (TS) within the study area, shown on the map below, which includes parts of the City of Woodstock and Norwich Township. The proposed Commerce Way TS would have two 50/83 MVA 115 kV (kilovolt) -27.6 kV transformers and associated facilities. Hydro One is currently initiating contact with property owners within the study area to discuss property requirements for the new station.

Supply to the new Commerce Way TS would be "tapped" off the existing 115 kV transmission line that runs east-west along Parkinson Road in the City of Woodstock and Towerline Road in Norwich Township, shown as the large dotted line on the map.

In order to accommodate the new Commerce Way TS, Hydro One is proposing to rebuild the existing 115 kV single-circuit transmission line to a double-circuit line at 230 kV standards, between Woodstock TS and the tap location for the new Commerce Way TS. The transmission line would initially continue to be operated at 115 kV. However, the existing transmission towers would be replaced with taller structures to allow for future conversion to 230 kV. The transmission line upgrade and new structures would occur mainly within the existing right-of-way; however, some new property rights may be required in certain locations along the corridor, and some temporary property rights may be required during the construction phase.

Hydro One is aiming to have these new facilities in service by the Winter of 2011. Before these facilities can be energized, the new Karn TS and the transmission line upgrade between Ingersoll TS and Woodstock TS must first be completed. These facilities were approved by the Ontario Energy Board in October 2007 as the [Woodstock Area Transmission Reinforcement](#) and construction is now underway.



Project Approvals and Processes

Hydro One has initiated a Class Environmental Assessment (EA) study in accordance with the [Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities](#), in parallel with the Ontario Energy Board approvals process. The two approval processes are described below.

Environmental Approval

The Class EA process falls under the *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act* and is an effective way of ensuring that transmission projects that have a predictable range of effects are planned and carried out in a manner which is environmentally acceptable.

As part of the Class EA for this particular project, Hydro One will also seek Class EA approval to re-build the existing 115 kV transmission line along Parkinson Road/Towerline Road from the new Commerce Way TS tap to the tap which supplies the Toyota plant to accommodate any potential reliability or power quality upgrades which may be required by the auto manufacturer in the future.

Following a consultation process with members of the public, government agencies and municipalities (see [below](#)), a draft Environmental Study Report (ESR) is made available for stakeholder review and comment for a specific period of time (usually 30 or 60 days). If no concerns are expressed during the review period, the project is considered to be acceptable. The final ESR is filed with the Ministry of the Environment and approval is granted.

If concerns are expressed during the public review period, Hydro One will attempt to resolve them to complete the EA process. If Hydro One cannot satisfy all of the concerns, a stakeholder may submit a "bump-up" request for an Individual Environmental Assessment of the proposed undertaking. Hydro One would then consider whether a re-designation of the project is appropriate, and send its response, the draft ESR and the individual's

bump-up request to the Minister of the Environment for a decision as to whether or not the project requires an Individual EA or if the project should be approved as proposed.

Ontario Energy Board Approval

The transmission line is subject to a "Leave to Construct" approval from the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) under Section 92 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*.

The OEB is the regulator of Ontario's natural gas and electricity industries. The OEB's role is to review a transmission project's effect on consumers with respect to price, reliability and quality of electricity service. The OEB review process also provides an opportunity for public input. For more information on the OEB, visit www.oeb.gov.on.ca.

Public Consultation

Public consultation is an integral component of the Class EA process. Hydro One provides early notification of proposed undertakings to government agencies, municipal officials, potentially affected property owners and other local stakeholders, and maintains a project mailing list to keep interested parties informed and engaged throughout the study process. Download [presentation to Woodstock City Council](#), February 7, 2008 (PDF 3.4 MB).

To facilitate discussion with the public and seek input on proposed transmission projects, Hydro One also holds Public Information Centres (PICs) at key stages of the Class EA process. The information collected at the PICs helps Hydro One's project team determine preferred routes and/or sites for new or upgraded facilities and to address any issues or concerns associated with a proposed undertaking.

Public Information Centre #2

Thursday, February 5, 2009

4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Quality Hotel & Suites (Vansittart A Room)

580 Bruin Blvd., Woodstock, ON

» [Download Newspaper Advertisement](#) (PDF - 86 KB)

» [Download PIC #2 Panels](#) (PDF - 3.6 MB)

Public Information Centre #1

Thursday, February 21, 2008

4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Quality Hotel & Suites (Joe Boyle Room)

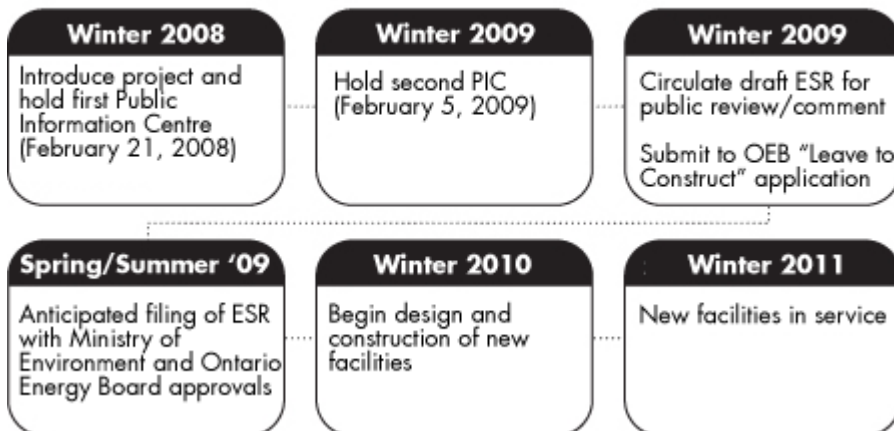
580 Bruin Blvd., Woodstock, ON

» [Download Newspaper Advertisement](#) (PDF - 93 KB)

» [Download Detailed Study Area Map](#) (PDF - 4.5 MB)

» [Download PIC Panels](#) (PDF - 3.0 MB)

Timeline - Commerce Way Transformer Station



For more information or to be added to the project mailing list, please contact:

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