

CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

FOR THE PLANNED 115 KILOVOLT TRANSMISSION LINE REFURBISHMENT (CIRCUITS A8K AND A9K)

As a follow up to Hydro One's 2018 Class Environment Assessment notice, we would like to provide you with an update on the proposed project scope and new section added to the project area. The proposed project will include refurbishing the existing 115 kV transmission infrastructure on circuits A8K and A9K which runs between Kirkland Lake Transformer Station (TS) and Ansonville TS. The project area spans across the Town of Kirkland Lake, Timiskaming District (Unorganized), Cochrane District (Unorganized), the Township of Black River-Matheson, and the Town of Iroquois Falls. Undertaking this refurbishment will ensure the continued reliability and integrity of the transmission lines and electricity supply in the region. Please see the map on the back for the proposed project area.

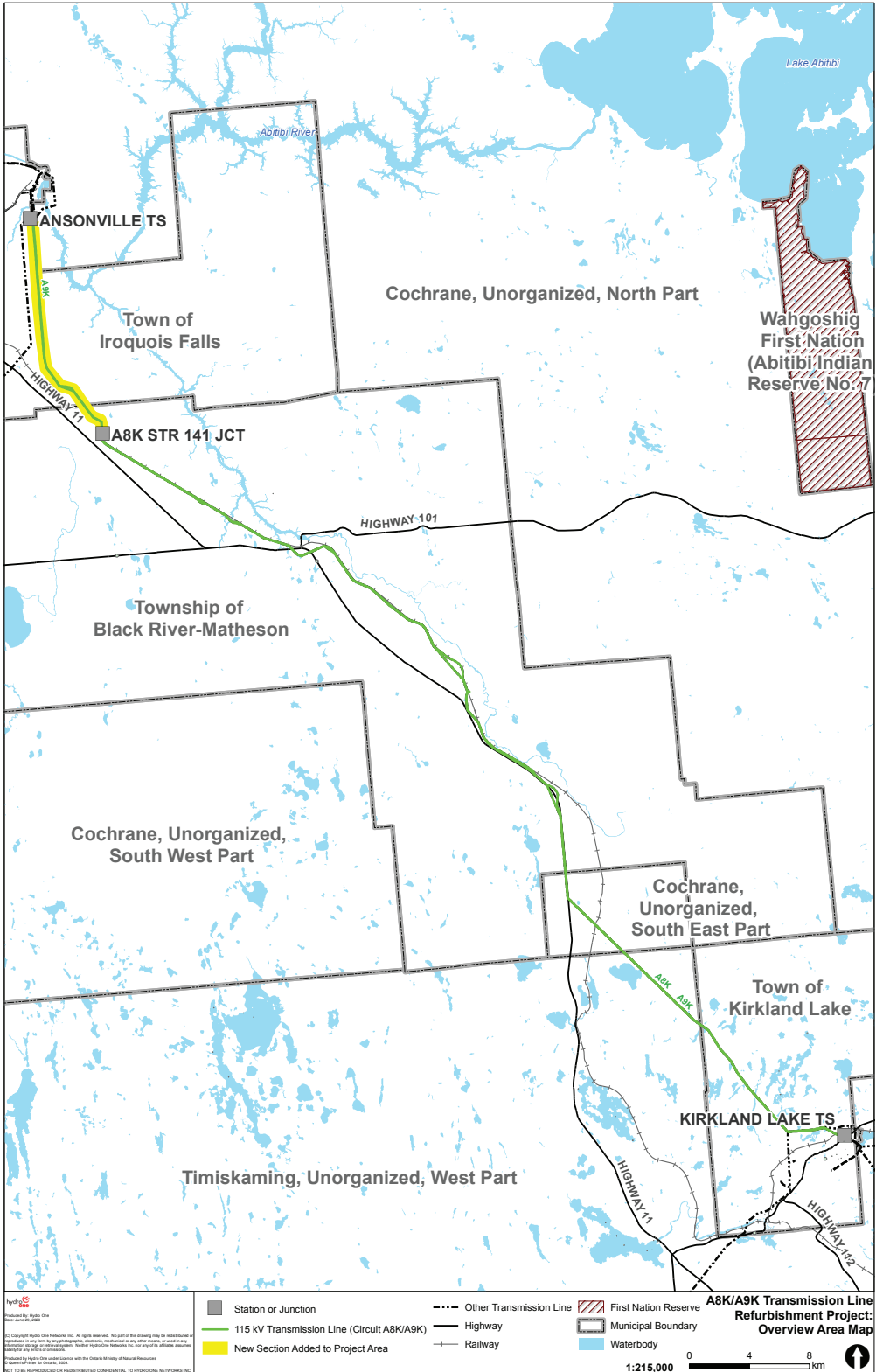
These refurbishment activities are required to replace equipment that has reached its end of life and to increased the ampacity (current) traveling through the conductors (wires). The proposed project will involve maintenance and/or modification of a number of aging and damaged wood poles and steel lattice structures, and the replacement of conductors along the existing right-of-way. In addition, the overhead shield wire will be replaced. Shield wire does not carry electricity and serves to protect the equipment from lightning strikes.

We anticipate most of this work would be carried out within the existing transmission corridor. Where possible, access to the transmission structures would be gained using existing access roads and trails.

The proposed transmission line refurbishment is subject to the Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for Minor Transmission Facilities (Hydro One, 2016), in accordance with the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. The EA is a streamlined process to ensure that transmission projects that have a predictable range of effects have feasible environmental mitigation and/or protection measures in place. The Class EA Process contains screening provisions that may apply to this project.

Contingent on the outcome of the Class EA process and Section 92 Leave to Construct approval from the Ontario Energy Board, construction could begin as early as August 2021 and be completed by September 2024.

Your input is valued and we welcome your comments regarding this project by September 15, 2020. As per the request of the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, information regarding the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* is included and can be viewed on reverse.



Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

All personal information included in a submission – such as name, address, telephone number and property location – is collected, maintained and disclosed by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for the purpose of transparency and consultation. The information is collected under the authority of the *Environmental Assessment Act* or is collected and maintained for the purpose of creating a record that is available to the general public as described in s. 37 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Personal information you submit will become part of a public record that is available to the general public unless you request that your personal information remain confidential. For more information, please contact the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks’ Freedom of Information and Privacy Coordinator at 416-327-1434.

PLEASE CONTACT US:

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