

Chatham to Lakeshore Line Project Biodiversity Initiative Letter of Interest



Submitted By

Organization:	
Contact:	
Email:	
Phone:	
Address:	

Screening Criteria

Letters of Interest (LOI) must meet the following minimum criteria:

1. Must involve the creation or enhancement of habitat.
2. Must be located on secured lands.
3. Must be feasible to conduct under budget provided, sustainable over the long term and appropriate for site conditions.
4. Hydro One support is required for the opportunity to proceed.

Proposed Opportunity General Description

Habitat Type ¹	Proposed Habitat Type (please describe)	Area (ha)	Current Land Use
Deciduous Forest			
Treed Wetland			
Marsh Wetland			
Mixed Forest			
Shrub Thicket Wetland			
Prairie/Grassland			
Meadow			
Aquatic Habitat			
Shrub Thicket			
Coniferous Forest			
Hedgerow			
Other:			

¹Habitat types are to be based off the Ecological Land Classification for Southern Ontario (Lee et al. 1998; Lee, 2008)

Other

Please describe opportunity habitat type if not captured in the table above:

Land Ownership

Please describe the ownership of the lands and how lands are secured such that habitat creation or enhancement benefits will be protected in perpetuity:

1. Proposed Opportunity Ecological Information

Provide a brief description of vegetation community diversity or other relevant ecological information (e.g., for woodlands: monoculture, deciduous, coniferous, mixed woods; for all opportunities, dominant and other vegetation species):

Is the opportunity contiguous with, and/or provide linkages to, existing habitat? (Y / N)

If yes, describe existing habitat type and size:

Does the opportunity occur on or expand a designated natural area? (Y / N)

If yes, provide description below:

**Does the opportunity have the potential to enhance existing and/or create new species at risk habitat?
(Y / N)**

If yes, provide description below:

**Does the opportunity have the potential to enhance existing and/or create new Significant Wildlife Habitat in accordance with the Significant Wildlife Habitat Criteria Schedules for Ecoregion 7E (2015)?
(Y / N)**

If yes, provide description below:

Does the opportunity have the potential to enhancement existing and/or create new aquatic habitat? (Y / N)

If yes, provide description below:

Does the opportunity involve enhancement of existing habitat through removal and control of invasive species? (Y / N)

If yes, provide description below:

2. Existing Land Use

Describe the existing land use/habitat type [ELC].

Describe the known land use history.

What is the soil type (refer to soil texture triangle).

3. Value-Added / Non-ecological Factors

Approximate distance of opportunity from the Chatham to Lakeshore Project corridor:

Please include a map showing the location of the proposed opportunity relative to the Chatham to Lakeshore Project corridor.

Will the opportunity provide public recreational benefits? (Y / N)

If yes, please provide a brief description:

Will the opportunity provide educational opportunities? (Y / N)

If yes, please provide a brief description:

Will the opportunity provide benefits to Indigenous-focused knowledge enhancement and accessibility? (Y / N)

If yes, please provide a brief description:

Does the opportunity include multiple participating partners? (Y / N)

If yes, please include participating partners:

Will the opportunity provide research opportunities? (Y / N)

If yes, please provide a brief description:

Will the opportunity contribute to an existing natural heritage system? (Y / N)

If yes, please provide a brief description:

Will the opportunity support efforts to enhance resilience against climate change? (Y / N)

If yes, please provide a brief description:

4. Funding

Are other sources of funding available, and if so, could they be leveraged as a result of Hydro One's funding? (Y / N)

If yes, please provide details below:

Opportunity costs should be sufficient to establish target habitats to a point of long-term sustainability (e.g., site preparation, planting, monitoring, tending, etc.).

Please attach your opportunity estimated cost broken down by time, task and materials. Estimated costs should be further broken down to reflect the various annual phases/tasks. This should include budget for 2024 site preparation and planting budget, funds for monitoring and tending work beginning in 2025 and extending into future years if deemed necessary, etc. Please ensure the budget accounts for getting the target habitat/vegetation community adequately established to ensure habitat success.¹

¹ All information prepared as part of an opportunity submission (e.g., maps, plans, budget) will be publicly shared as part of the Biodiversity Initiative documentation and reporting.

5. Summary

Below, please summarize the key advantages of the opportunity and its compatibility with general biodiversity principles and the Biodiversity Initiative objectives:

Recognizing that one Letter of Interest submission may include several opportunities (sites or habitat patches) within a property or area, there is the potential for distinct proposed sites/patches within a broader area to be evaluated separately. If this submission includes two or more proposed sites, please identify if you would like these to be evaluated separately. If so, please distinguish the separate sites/opportunities, either in this LOI, an accompanying map, or both. Hydro One also welcomes the submission of multiple individual Letters of Interest for different proposals, if that is deemed to be preferred by the submitting party.