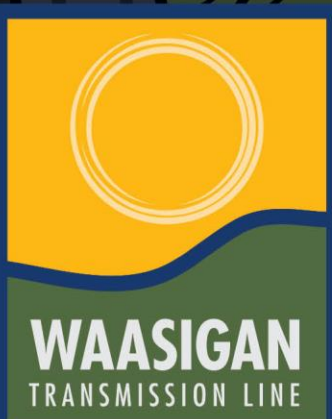




**FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

**Section 13.0 Glossary**

**November 2023**

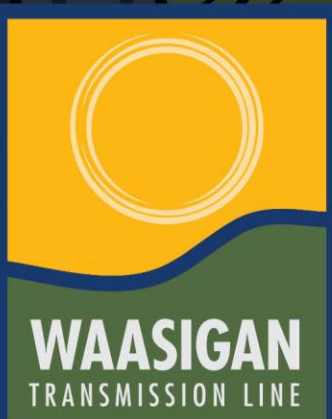




**FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

**Section 13.0 Glossary**

**November 2023**



# Glossary

Term	Description
Abiotic	A non-living part of an ecosystem that shapes its environment.
Abundance	The number of individuals in a given area or sample.
Acute	A disenable stimulus or exposure, that when induced in an aquatic organism, within a short period (e.g., less than a week) results in a rapid response.
Agricultural Lands	Land that is cultivated for crops or used for pasture.
Air Quality	The degree to which the ambient air is pollution-free, assessed by measuring a number of indicators of pollution.
Alkalinity	<p>A measure of water's capacity to neutralize an acid. It indicates the presence of carbonates, bicarbonates and hydroxides, and, less significantly, borates, silicates, phosphates and organic substances. Alkalinity is expressed as an equivalent of calcium carbonate. Its composition is affected by pH, mineral composition, temperature, and ionic strength.</p> <p>However, alkalinity is normally interpreted as a function of carbonates, bicarbonates, and hydroxides. The sum of these three components is called total alkalinity.</p>
Allochthonous Inputs	Plants and organic debris that fall into a waterbody.
Alternative Methods	Alternative methods of carrying out the proposed undertaking are different ways of doing the same activity. Alternative methods could include consideration of one or more of the following: alternative technologies; alternative methods of applying specific technologies; alternative sites for a proposed undertaking; alternative design methods; and alternative methods of operating any facilities associated with a proposed undertaking.
Alternatives	Both alternative methods and "alternatives to" a proposed undertaking. The environmental assessment (EA) for the Waasigan Transmission Line does not contain "alternatives to" the project as the province has already established the need for additional electricity supply in northwestern Ontario.
Ambient	The conditions surrounding an organism or area.
Ambient Air	The air in the surrounding atmosphere.
Ammocoetes	The larval stage of lamprey species.
Ammonium Nitrate	A white crystalline solid used as a fertilizer and as a component of some explosives.



Term	Description
Amphibians	Any of the class of cold-blooded vertebrates such as frogs, toads, and salamanders; they have gilled aquatic larva and a lung-breathing adult stage.
Anion	A negatively charged ion (e.g., chloride).
Anthropogenic	Referring to structures created by humans.
Application	An application for approval to proceed with an undertaking under subsection 5(1) of the <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i> .
Aquatic Ecosystems	An aquatic ecosystem is a group of organisms interacting and dependent upon one another and their aquatic environment. Aquatic ecosystems contain a diverse variety of aquatic organisms including, but not limited to, bacteria (i.e., microscopic single-celled organisms), fungi (i.e., eukaryotic organisms that are unicellular or multicellular), benthic invertebrates (i.e., organisms that live in or on the sediment in water bodies), phytoplankton (i.e., microscopic plants that live in the water column), zooplankton (i.e., tiny organisms that live in the water column), aquatic plants, and fish.
Aquatic Species of Conservation Concern (SOCC)	<p>For the purposes of this report, aquatic Species of Conservation Concern (SOCC) are defined as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Any freshwater fish or mussel species listed under Schedule 1 of the <i>Species at Risk Act</i> (SARA) as Special Concern;</li> <li>● Any freshwater fish or mussel species designated Threatened, Endangered, or Extirpated by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) (unless otherwise listed as SAR under SARA or the <i>Endangered Species Act</i> [ESA]);</li> <li>● Any freshwater fish or mussel species listed under the ESA as Special Concern (unless otherwise listed as SAR under SARA);</li> <li>● Any freshwater fish or mussel species with a subnational rank (SRank) of S1 – S3 or SH as designated by the NHIC/NatureServe; and/ or</li> <li>● Any freshwater fish or mussel species that have local significance (e.g., Coaster Brook Trout [<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>]).</li> </ul>
Archaeological Resources	Something made or left behind by humans in the past, primarily of value for its prehistoric, historic, cultural or scientific significance. Also referred to as archaeological site(s).
Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI)	Areas of land and water containing natural landscapes or features that have been identified as having science or earth science values related to protection, scientific study, or education.



Term	Description
A-Weighted Decibels (dBA)	Noise emissions and noise levels have an associated frequency. The human ear does not respond to all frequencies in the same way. Mid-range frequencies are most readily detected by the human ear, while low and high frequencies are harder to hear. Environmental noise levels used in this Final Environmental Assessment Report are presented as “A-weighted decibels” (or dBA), which incorporates the frequency response of the human ear.
Bait Harvesting Area (BHA)	Harvest areas used for baiting purposes of small fish and frogs.
Bankfull Width	The width of the surface of the water at the point where water just begins to overflow into the active flood plain.
Barrier	An obstacle that prevents movement or access.
Baseline	Background or reference; conditions before Project development.
Bear Management Area (BMA)	Areas of Crown land used by tourist operators licensed by the ministry to provide black bear hunting services.
Beaver Dam	A structure created by a beaver to make their habitat more favourable, creating impoundments.
Bed	The bottom of a stream, river, pond or lake or more generally, the physical confinement of the normal water within a waterbody.
Bedrock	Solid rock exposed at ground surface or underlying unconsolidated surficial sediments/deposits.
Benthic	Referring to the bottom of an aquatic system, or relating to, or occurring at the lowest level of a waterbody, including the sediment surface and sub-surface layers.
Benthic Invertebrates	Invertebrate organisms living at, in or in association with the bottom (benthic) substrate of lakes, ponds and streams. Examples of benthic invertebrates include some aquatic insect species (such as caddisfly larvae) that spend at least part of their life stages dwelling on bottom sediments in the water body.
Bioaccumulation	When an organism stores within its body a higher concentration of a substance than is found in the environment. This is not necessarily harmful. For example, freshwater fish must bioaccumulate salt to survive in intertidal waters. Many toxicants, such as arsenic, are not included among the dangerous bioaccumulative substances because they can be handled and excreted by aquatic organisms.



Term	Description
Biodiversity	The variety of plant and animal life in a particular habitat (e.g., plant community or a country). It includes all levels of organization, from genes to landscapes, and the ecological processes through which these levels are connected.
Biomass	Biological material derived from living, or recently living organisms.
Biota	Living organisms and vegetation.
Biotic	The living organisms in an ecosystem.
Boreal Forest	The forested area within the boreal zone of Canada.
Borrow Pit	Source of aggregate material used typically for access construction when suitable in situ materials are not available.
Boulder	Substrate type consisting of large stones, greater than 256 mm in diameter.
Brunisols	Any soil that has a developed B horizon but does not meet the requirements of any of the other soil orders.
Bryophyte	Non-vascular plants from the phylum Bryophyta. Species within this phylum include mosses, liverworts, and hornworts.
Built Heritage Landscape	A building, structure, monument, installation or any manufactured or constructed part or remnant that contributes to a property's cultural heritage value or interest as identified by a community, including an Indigenous community.
Canadian Shield	Also called the Laurentian Plateau, or Bouclier Canadian (French), is a large area of exposed Precambrian igneous rock and high-grade metamorphic rocks (geological shield) that forms the ancient geological core of the North American continent (the North American Craton or Laurentia).
Canopy	An overhanging cover, shelter or shade. The tallest layer of vegetation in an area.
Carbon Dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> )	A colourless, odourless gas produced by burning carbon and organic compounds and by respiration. It is naturally present in air (about 0.03 percent) and is absorbed by plants in photosynthesis. Carbon dioxide is a greenhouse gas.
Carbon dioxide equivalent (CO <sub>2</sub> e)	A measure used to compare the emissions from various greenhouse gases based on their global warming potential (see definition of global warming potential), by converting the amounts of the gases to the equivalent amount of carbon dioxide.
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	A colourless, odourless, tasteless gas that, at high concentrations, can cause adverse health effects. It is produced primarily from the incomplete combustion of fossil fuels, as well as natural sources.



Term	Description
Carbonates	A salt of the anion $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ , typically formed by reaction of carbon dioxide with bases.
Carnivore	Any of an order of mammals that feed primarily on flesh or other animal matter rather than plants.
Cation	A positively charged ion (e.g., ammonium) that can be taken up by vegetation and generally cause a net acidic effect.
Causeway	An anthropogenic section of raised road across low or wet ground.
Census Metropolitan Area	Formed by one or more adjacent municipalities centered on a population centre. It must have a total population of at least 100,000, of which 50,000 or more must live in the core.
Channel	The main component of a watercourse. It has defined bed and/or banks, whether or not water is continuously present. It is the area of the watercourse that typically has flowing water, on at least a seasonal basis, and is usually defined by the area of the stream substrate. The channel is distinguishable from the banks since it has contact with flowing water for at least a portion of each season which usually prevents establishment of permanent vegetation.
Chemical Constituents (as it pertains to surface water quality)	The various chemical elements (e.g., metals, nutrients) that represent the composition of water at a particular water body or feature.
Chronic	A stimulus or exposure that lingers or is continuous over the long-term (e.g., weeks, months, years) and results in a response when induced in an aquatic organism.
Clay	Substrate type consisting of particles less than 0.0039 mm in diameter.
Clearspan	A structure that spans the entire watercourse without any instream work required. Temporary bridge structures, steel rig mats, or other similar structures can be used to achieve a clearspan across a watercourse.
Climate Change	A change in regional climate patterns largely due to increased levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide produced through the use of fossil fuels.
Cobble	Substrate type consisting of stones between ~64 mm and ~256 mm in diameter.
Cold Water	Water with temperatures below 18°C.
Commercial Fish	Species targeted on a large scale for the purpose of commercial marketing or profit.



Term	Description
Commitment	Represents a guarantee from a proponent about a certain course of action. Proponents acknowledge these guarantees by documenting obligations and responsibilities, which they agree to follow, in environmental assessment documentation (terms of reference and environmental assessment).
Community (biology)	Group of co-existing organisms in an ecosystem.
Compatible Vegetation	A term used by Hydro One referring to vegetation which rarely grows to a height that would interfere with safe operation of a power line. A composition of vegetation generally comprised of groundcover and shrub species.
Conductivity	A measure of the ability of a solution to carry an electrical current, dependent on the total concentration of ionized substances in water.
Conductor	A wire or combination of wires not insulated from one another, designed to carry electric current. The conductor may be bare or insulated.
Coniferous	Trees and shrubs belonging to the order Coniferales, usually evergreen with cones and needle-shaped leaves.
Conservation Reserves	Areas or landforms designated to protect representative ecosystems and provincially significant elements of Ontario's natural heritage, including distinctive natural habitats and landforms, for their intrinsic value, to support scientific research and to maintain biodiversity.
Constructability	Determination of whether a project or component of a project can be constructed as planned based on technical, economic, social, environmental, and other considerations.
Construction Stage	The period spanning from the start of construction to the start of operation.





Term	Description
Consultation	<p>A two-way communication process to involve interested persons in the planning, implementation, and monitoring of a proposed undertaking. Consultation is intended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Identify concerns;</li> <li>● Identify relevant information;</li> <li>● Identify relevant guidelines, policies and standards;</li> <li>● Facilitate the development of a list of all required approvals, licences or permits;</li> <li>● Provide guidance to Hydro One (the proponent) about the preparation of various types of environmental assessment documentation;</li> <li>● Ensure that relevant information is shared about the proposed undertaking;</li> <li>● Encourage the submission of requests for further information and analysis early in the environmental assessment process; and</li> <li>● Enable the ministry to make a fair and balanced decision.</li> </ul>
Contractor	Refers to the Engineering, Procurement and Construction contractor hired by Hydro One to design and build the Project.
Cool Water	Water with temperatures between 18-25°C.
Criteria	Components of the environment that are considered to have economic, social, biological, conservation, aesthetic, Indigenous, or cultural value.
Criteria Species	A species that is used as characteristic of a criterion that, if changed as a result of the Project, may demonstrate a physical, biological, or socio-economic effect.
Critical Habitat	The habitat that is necessary for the survival or recovery of a species at risk (SAR) or species of conservation concern (SOCC) and is identified as the species' critical habitat in the recovery strategy or in an action plan for the species.
Cultural Heritage	Includes archaeological resources, built heritage resources, and cultural heritage landscapes.
Cultural Heritage Landscapes	A defined geographical area that may have been modified by human activity and is identified as having cultural heritage value or interest by a community, including an Indigenous community.
Culvert	A closed conduit or tunnel used to convey water under a road or railroad.

Term	Description
Cumulative Effects Assessment	Measures and describes the cumulative effects of the incremental changes from the Project effect assessment and reasonably foreseeable developments on the baseline characterization.
Cumulative Environmental Effects	The total effect on the environment within the defined study area from two or more projects. Sometimes the effects of more than one project can accumulate so that they reach a critical threshold, or they can be compounded so that they create an effect that is greater than the sum of the individual effects.
<i>Crown Forest Sustainability Act</i>	Outlines how forest management planning, forest resource agreements, licenses, revenue collection, and trust funds are regulated; information management; forest operations, compliance, remedies, and enforcement mechanisms; licensing of scalers (people who measure wood harvested); and regulation of independent forest audits.
Crown Land Use Policy Atlas (CLUPA)	Online tool created by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry that allows users to filter for Crown land and area-specific Crown land use policies.
Daytime	The period from 07:00 to 19:00.
Debris	Organic material (usually wood) occurring in the stream channel.
Decibels (dB)	The units of the level of a noise expressed on a logarithmic scale. Since the scale is logarithmic, a noise that is twice the noise level as another will be three decibels (3 dB) higher.
Deciduous	Trees and shrubs that seasonally shed leaves, usually in autumn.
Decommissioning	The process of safely removing infrastructure from active use, whether it be temporary or permanent.
Density	The number of individuals per unit area.
Detritivore	An organism that feeds on dead and decomposing organic matter.
Dewatering	Removal (taking) of water (groundwater or surface water) from an area.
Direct	Results of a cause and effect relationship between the project and a component of the biophysical or human environment
Dissolved Oxygen	A measure of how much oxygen is dissolved in the water and is available to living aquatic organisms.
Distribution	The pattern of dispersion of an entity within its range.



Term	Description
Disturbances	Classified as either a linear feature (e.g., roads, transmission lines and rail lines), polygon (e.g., cutblocks, urban development), or point feature (e.g., mineral exploration).
Diversity	A numerical index that incorporates evenness and richness; diversity measures the proportional distribution of organisms in the community.
Do Nothing Alternative	An alternative that is typically included in the evaluation of alternatives that identifies the implications of doing nothing to address the problem or opportunity that has been identified.
Double-Circuit Transmission Line	A line arrangement where a total of six conductors are provided to make two different transmission circuits.
Drainage Feature	A geographic low area that may convey water and has no defined bed or banks.
Duration	The period of time over which the environmental effect will be present. The amount of time between the start and end of an activity or stressor, plus the time required for the effect to be reversed. Duration and reversibility are functions of the length of time a criterion is exposed to activities.
Easement	An agreement that provides a proponent with a limited right to use property owned by another party to construct, own and operate a Project within the agreed upon area. The agreement sets out the rights and obligations of both the proponent and the party in regard to the use of the lands and will often specify restrictions on the use of the land.
Ecodistrict	An area of land and water, contained within an ecoregion, which is defined by a characteristic set of physiographic features, including bedrock and/or surficial geology and topography.
Ecological Land Classification (ELC)	A cartographical delineation or regionalization of distinct ecological areas, identified by their geology, topography, soils, vegetation, climate conditions, living species, habitats, water resources, and sometimes also anthropogenic factors.
Ecology	The study of the relationships between living organisms and their physical environment.
Ecological Integrity	A condition in which abiotic and biotic components of ecosystems and the composition and abundance of native species and biological communities are characteristics of their natural regions, and rates of change and ecosystem processes are unimpeded.
Economic Growth	The increase in the inflation-adjusted market value of the goods and services produced by an economy over time.

Term	Description
Ecoregion	Relatively homogeneous subdivisions of an ecozone, which are characterized by distinctive climatic zones or regional landforms.
Ecosite	An ecological landscape unit (ranging in resolution from thousands to hundreds of hectares) comprised of relatively uniform geology, parent materials, soils, topography, and hydrology, occupied by a consistent complex of successional-related vegetation conditions.
Ecosystem	Ecological system consisting of all the organisms in an area and the physical environment with which they interact.
Ecosystem Availability	Primarily affected by physical changes (e.g., vegetation clearing). Ecosystem availability is quantitatively measured as the amount of area (i.e., hectares) of each ecosystem type.
Ecosystem Composition	Refers to the variety of living organisms in a particular ecosystem including species richness, species abundance, and species diversity.
Ecosystem Distribution	Refers to the spatial configuration (or arrangement) and connectivity of ecosystems.
Ecosystems	Integrated and stable associations of living and non-living resources functioning within a defined physical location. A community of organisms and its environment functioning as an ecological unit.
Ecozone	Areas of the earth's surface representative of large and very generalized units characterized by interactive and adjusting abiotic and biotic factors. The ecozone lies at the top of the ecological hierarchy and defines, on a subcontinental scale, the broad mosaics formed by the interaction of macroscale climate, human activity, vegetation, soils, geological, and physiographic features of the country.
Electrofishing	A scientific method to temporarily stun and capture fish by using a direct current electricity flowing between a submerged cathode and anode.
Element Occurrence	An area of land and/or water where a species or plant community is or was present and represents important habitat for the conservation of the species or community. Indicates likely presence of critical and thus protected habitat.
Endangered	A species or ecosystem facing imminent extirpation or extinction.
Enhanced Management Areas	An enhanced management area is a Crown land use designation that is used to provide more detailed land use policy in areas of special features or values, such as those which are considered ecologically significant.

Term	Description
Environment	<p>The <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i> defines environment to mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Air, land or water;</li> <li>● Plant and animal life, including human life;</li> <li>● The social, economic and cultural conditions that influence the life of humans or a community;</li> <li>● Any building, structure, machine or other device or thing made by humans;</li> <li>● Any solid, liquid, gas, odour, heat, sound, vibration or radiation resulting directly or indirectly from human activities; or</li> <li>● Any part or combination of the foregoing and the interrelationships between any two or more of them.</li> </ul>
Environmental Assessment (EA)	<p>Environmental assessment is a study, which assesses the potential environmental effects (positive or negative) of an individual proposal. Key components of an environmental assessment include consultation with government agencies and the public; consideration and evaluation of alternatives; and the management of potential environmental effects. Conducting an environmental assessment promotes good environmental planning before decisions are made about proceeding with a proposal. This is also referred to as an “comprehensive” environmental assessment.</p>
<i>Environmental Assessment Act</i>	<p>The <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i> (and amendments and regulations thereto) is a provincial statute that sets out a planning and decision-making process to evaluate the potential environmental effects of a proposed undertaking. Proponents wishing to proceed with an undertaking must document their planning and decision-making process and submit the results from their environmental assessment to the Minister for approval.</p>
Environmental Effect	<p>The effect that a proposed undertaking or its alternatives has or could potentially have on the environment, either positive or negative, direct or indirect, short- or long-term.</p>
Ephemeral	<p>A waterbody with flow only during or after large precipitation events or snowmelt for a period of a few days to a few weeks.</p>
Equivalent Noise Level ( $L_{eq,T}$ )	<p>A logarithmic average (i.e., energy average) of the measured or predicted noise levels over a given period of time (T). An equivalent noise level measured or predicted over the nighttime period would be referred to as <math>L_{eq,night}</math>.</p>
Erosion	<p>The process by which material, such as rock or soil, is worn away or removed by wind or water.</p>



Term	Description
Evening	The period from 19:00 to 23:00.
Extirpated	A species no longer existing in the wild in Canada but exists elsewhere in the world.
Fauna	The animals of a particular region, habitat or geological period.
Fish	Fish are defined as the parts of fish, and all life stages (i.e., eggs, sperm, spawn, larvae, spat and juvenile and adult) of fish, crustaceans, shellfish and marine mammals (Canada 1985).
Fish Community Composition	The assemblage of fish species in the aquatic ecosystem that takes into account species richness, species abundance, and species diversity. Fish community compositions are altered by climate change as current populations are replaced by species that are better adapted to warm water.
Fish Habitat	Fish habitat is defined in subsection 2(1) of the <i>Fisheries Act</i> to include all waters frequented by fish and any other areas upon which fish depend directly or indirectly to carry out their life processes. The types of areas that can directly or indirectly support life processes include, but are not limited to: spawning grounds and nursery, rearing, food supply and migration areas.
Fish Management Zone (FMZ)	The geographic basis for managing, monitoring, assessing and regulating recreational fisheries for a majority of lakes and streams in a zone.
Flat	Area of channel characterized by low current velocities (relative to riffle and run cover types); non-turbulent flow character; and sand/silt substrates. Differentiated from pool habitat type on basis of high channel uniformity and lack of direct riffle/run association.
Flora	The plants of a particular region, habitat or geological period.
Fluvial	Relating to a stream or river.
Fly Yard	Designated area used for assembly of transmission line towers. Towers are flown in from the fly yard to the designated tower locations when using heli-erection techniques.
Forage	Behaviour that involves searching for food and the exploitation of food resources by an organism.
Forage Fish	Generally small fish (total lengths generally less than 200 millimetres) that may serve as food for larger predators.
Forb	A broad-leaved herb that is not a grass.



Term	Description
Forest Management Plan (FMP)	A management plan for a forest area outlining the strategic vision and commitment to protect forest values in the area under management for a period of usually 10 years. The plan determines how much/where harvesting can occur, where roads can be built, and how much forest will be renewed.
Forestry Management Unit (FMU)	A designated administrative area that depicts a forest management boundary. The area within these boundaries are used for forest resource planning and management purposes of the <i>Crown Forest Sustainability Act</i> .
Fisheries Management Zone (FMZ)	Administrative area that forms the basis for managing, monitoring, assessing and regulating recreational fisheries for a majority of lakes and streams in a zone.
Fragmentation	The process of breaking into pieces or sections. For example, dividing contiguous tracts of land into smaller and less connected sections through site clearing (e.g., for roads).
Frequency	Rate of oscillation that occurs in one second, measured in hertz, where 1 hertz equals 1 cycle per second.
Frequent (or periodic)	The effect is expected to occur intermittently.
Full Time Equivalent	A unit of measurement used to determine the number of full-time hours worked by all employees
Geographic Extent	The spatial area over which an effect will occur / can be detected (distance covered or range).
Geology	The science that deals with the earth's physical structure and substance, its history, and the processes that act on it.
Geomorphology	The science of surface landforms and their interpretation on the basis of geology and climate. That branch of science that deals with the form of the earth, the general configurations of its surface and the changes that take place in the evolution of landforms.
Geotextile	An earthworks related construction textile used to separate construction fill from deep organic soil, or reclamation material stockpiles from deep organic soils.
Glaciofluvial	Sediments or landforms produced by melt water streams originating from glaciers or ice sheets.
Glaciolacustrine (or glaciolacustrine)	Sediments that were deposited in lakes that formed at the edge of glaciers when the glaciers receded. Glaciolacustrine sediments are commonly laminar deposits of fine sand, silt and clay.
Gleysolic Soil	An order of soils that have properties indicating prolonged, intermittent or continuous saturation with water during soil development. Diagnostic horizon is either Bg or Cg.



Term	Description
Global Positioning System (GPS)	A space-based satellite navigation system that provides location and time information in all weather conditions, anywhere on or near the Earth where there is an unobstructed line of sight to four or more GPS satellites.
Global Warming Potential (GWP)	A measure of the amount of energy that the emissions of a greenhouse gas will absorb relative to the emissions of carbon dioxide. The larger the GWP, the more that the given gas warms the earth compared to carbon dioxide.
Government Review Team (GRT)	Staff from government ministries and agencies (federal; provincial, including local Conservation Authorities; and, municipal, including local Boards of Health) who contribute to the review of environmental assessment documentation (terms of reference and environmental assessment) by providing comments from their mandated areas of responsibility.
Government Transfer	All cash benefits received from federal, provincial, territorial, or municipal governments during the reference period.
Gravel	Substrate type consisting of particles between ~2 mm and ~64 mm in diameter.
Gravel Bar	An elevated region of gravel that has been deposited by the flow, lacks any rooted vegetation, and is located either between the stream banks and the wetted perimeter of the stream or entirely within the wetted perimeter of the stream.
Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program (GHGRP)	The Government of Canada's Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program (GHGRP) collects information on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions annually from facilities across Canada. Facilities that emit 10,000 tonnes of GHGs per year are mandated to report their emissions annually. Additionally, there various types of facility types are required to report their emissions regardless of whether they meet that threshold.
Greenhouse Gas (GHG)	A gas that contributes to the greenhouse effect by absorbing infrared radiation (e.g., carbon dioxide and chlorofluorocarbons).
Gross Domestic Product	The unduplicated value of goods and services produced during a period that is available for final domestic consumption, investment or export.
Ground-borne Noise	Noise generated by the ground-borne vibration such as vibrating building components may radiate sound, for example.
Groundwater	All subsurface water found underground in the cracks and spaces in soil, sand and rock.
Groundwater Discharge	The volumetric flow of groundwater from an aquifer to ground surface (springs or seeps) or a surface water body.





Term	Description
Groundwater Flow	The movement of water through openings in sediment and rock in the saturated zone.
Groundwater Protection Zone	The aquifer source area of a municipal water supply that is sensitive to potential contamination.
Groundwater Recharge	Water that enters the saturated zone by a downward movement through soil or rock and contributes to the overall volume of groundwater.
Groundwater Upwelling	Water that originates from an area with naturally occurring groundwater that rises from the bedrock or soil to become surface water (e.g., seep or spring).
Growth Plan for Northern Ontario	The Growth Plan for northern Ontario was released on March 3, 2011, and is a 25-year plan that provides guidance for provincial decision-making and investment for economic and population growth in northern Ontario.
Guy (or Guyed Wire)	A tensioned cable designed to add stability to a free-standing structure. One end of the cable is attached to the structure and the other is anchored to the ground at a distance from the structure's base. The tension in the diagonal guyed-wire combined with the compressional strength of the structure allows the structure to withstand lateral loads such as wind or the weight of the conductors.
Habitat	The place or environment where a plant or animal naturally or normally lives or occurs. Habitat provides the physical and biological elements of an ecosystem, including food, cover, and space, that create a suitable environment for plant and animal livelihood.
Harvesting	Activities related to the harvesting of plants and other materials, fish, and wildlife for heating, food, medicinal, social, or ceremonial purposes by Indigenous persons.
Hazardous Substances	Chemicals or physical agents regulated under the provisions of the Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System and the Transportation of Dangerous Goods and Regulations legislation.
Headwater	The upper tributary of a stream or river; its source; typically a first order stream.
Helipad	Designated area for safe landing and takeoff of helicopters when performing stringing activities.
Heritage Conservation	All actions or processes that are aimed at safeguarding the character-defining elements (or heritage attributes) of a cultural resource so as to retain its heritage value and extend its physical life.



Term	Description
Hibernaculum	A protective cave, covering, or structure, such as a plant bed, in which an organism remains dormant for the winter.
Historical	Refers to the period of time for which there are written records; also referred to as post-contact (i.e., the period after European contact).
Hydrocarbons	An organic compound (such as acetylene or butane) containing only carbon and hydrogen and often occurring in petroleum, natural gas, coal, and bitumen.
Hydrofluorocarbons	Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) are man-made organic compounds and are the most common type of organofluorine compounds. They are often used as refrigerants, aerosol propellants, solvents, and fire retardants, among other uses. Hydrofluorocarbons are a greenhouse gas.
Hydrogeology	The study of the factors that deal with subsurface water (groundwater) and the related geologic aspects of surface water. Groundwater, as used here, includes all water in the zone of saturation beneath the earth's surface, except water chemically combined in minerals.
Hydrology	The science of waters of the earth, their occurrence, distribution, and circulation; their physical and chemical properties; and their reaction with the environment, including living beings.
Impediment	A physical hinderance or obstruction that impedes the flow of water and/or passage of fish.
Impoundment	A body of water confined within an enclosure.
Indicator Species	An organism whose presence, absence, or abundance reflects a specific environmental condition.
Indicators	Attributes of the environment that can be used to characterize changes to criteria in a meaningful way.
Indigenous Knowledge (IK)	Indigenous Knowledge (IK) refers to the combination of traditional knowledge (TK) and traditional land and resource use (TLRU). It is a holistic system embedded in the various cultures of different Indigenous Peoples. Although there is no one universally accepted definition, Indigenous Knowledge is understood as a body of knowledge built up by a group of Indigenous people through generations of living in close contact with the land and is often used interchangeably with "Traditional Knowledge".



Term	Description
Indigenous Peoples	A collective name for the original peoples of North America and their descendants. In Canada, Indigenous peoples includes First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples. These are three distinct peoples with unique histories, languages, cultural practices and spiritual beliefs.
Indigenous Rights	Aboriginal rights (commonly referred to as Indigenous rights) are collective rights of distinctive Indigenous societies flowing from their status as the original peoples of Canada. These rights are recognized and affirmed by Section 35 of the <i>Constitution Act, 1982</i> .
Indirect	A change to one criterion and/or indicator as a result of direct effect to another criterion, such as a direct effect to water quality affecting fish habitat, for example.
Interested Persons	<p>Individuals or organizations with an interest in a particular undertaking. Persons with an interest in a particular undertaking often include neighbours and individuals, environmental groups or clubs, naturalist organizations, agricultural organizations, sports or recreational groups, organizations from the local community, municipal heritage committees, ratepayers associations, cottage associations, Aboriginal peoples and communities, Francophones and businesses.</p> <p>Interested persons are not required to demonstrate that they will personally be affected by a particular undertaking. Interested persons are often called stakeholders.</p>
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)	The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the United Nations body for assessing the science related to climate change.
Intermittent	Streams that usually flow during wet seasons and in the summer after a major rain event. Non-permanent flowing drainage feature with a defined channel and evidence of annual scour.
Introduced Species	An organism that is not native to the location where it is found and has been accidentally or deliberately transported to the location by human activity.
Invasive Species	An organism that is not indigenous, or native, to a particular area.
Invertebrate	An animal lacking a vertebral column, or backbone (i.e., spiders, worms, snails, crustaceans, and insects).
Irreversibility	Reversibility is an indicator of the potential for recovery of the criterion from an effect. A reversible effect will not impact the criterion at a predicted time in the future. For effects that are permanent, the effect is determined to be irreversible.



Term	Description
Juvenile	A young fish that has not reached sexual maturity.
Lake	A waterbody that is surrounded by land and has no discernible flow, greater than 8 ha in size.
Land Use	Use of the land for a specific type of activities. Land use assessments typically include considerations of land tenures and other registered interests, as well as consumptive and non-consumptive resource uses. Examples are recreational and tourism activities, forestry, oil and gas, activity and mining.
Large-bodied Fish	Fish (including predator fish species) that generally have fork lengths (length of a fish measured from the tip of the snout to the end of the middle caudal fin rays) greater than 200 mm when they are adults and would include species from such families as Acipenseridae (e.g., Lake Sturgeon [ <i>Acipenser fulvescens</i> ]), Salmonidae (e.g., Brook Trout [ <i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i> ]), and Catostomidae (e.g., White Sucker [ <i>Catostomus commersonii</i> ]).
Laydown Yards	Established sites along the right-of-way used to receive and temporarily store materials and equipment during construction.
Light-duty gasoline vehicles (LDGVs)	Light-duty vehicles refer to vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) less than 4,535 kilograms.
Likelihood of Occurrence	A measure of the probability that an activity will result in an environmental effect.
Limiting Factor	Anything that is the primary restriction for growth in an ecosystem.
Listed Species	Listed species are those species that are provincially or federally identified as potential species of concern.
Littoral	Relating to, or situated on or near, the shore of a waterbody.
Local Study Area (LSA)	Area outside of the Project footprint where measurable changes to the environment resulting from the proposed activities from any Project phase may be anticipated.
Local Roads Board (LRB)	A volunteer body tasked by the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) to determine work to be performed on local roads.
Local Services Board (LSB)	A volunteer organization that has the authority to deliver approved services to residents in unincorporated rural areas of northern Ontario where there is no municipal government.
Logfill	Water crossing type used for small drainage areas that allows water to move under/through the crossing structure. Consists of logs being laid in the lowest area covered by a layer of geotextile and fill material.



Term	Description
Luvisol	An order of soils that have eluvial (Ae) horizons and illuvial (Bt) horizons in which silicate clay is the main accumulation product. The soils developed under forest or forest-grassland transition in a moderate to cool climate.
Macrophytes	Aquatic plants which are large enough to be seen with the unaided eye, as opposed to phytoplanktonic organisms.
Magnitude	The intensity of the effect or a measure of the degree of change from existing (baseline) conditions expected to occur to the criterion.
Marsh	A wetland with a mineral or peat substrate inundated by nutrient-rich water and characterized by emergent vegetation.
Mean	The mean is the average of a data set. The mean is calculated by adding up all the values and then dividing the sum by the number of values.
Median Age	Age that divides the population in two parts of equal size.
Merchantable Timber	Timber that has marketable value in the forestry industry. Merchantability is usually based on the species of tree, its diameter and height. Merchantability of a species varies from one area to another.
Methane (CH <sub>4</sub> )	A colorless, odorless flammable gas that is the main constituent of natural gas. It is the simplest member of the alkane series of hydrocarbons. Methane is a greenhouse gas.
Métis	Distinctive peoples who, in addition to their mixed First Nation, Inuit and European ancestry, developed their own customs, and recognizable group identity separate from their First Nation or Inuit and European forebears. A Métis community is a group of Métis with a distinctive collective identity, living together in the same geographical area and sharing a common way of life.
Migration/migratory	The relocation of an individual or population from one area or waterbody to another. Migration often occurs in connection to spawning activity and can vary in distance depending on the species.
Minnow Trapping	The use of minnow traps to sample for fish. Minnow traps are small fish traps that typically consist of two funnel-shaped entrances at either end of a mesh box or cylinder.
Mitigation Measures	An action taken to lessen or reduce the severity of potential adverse environmental effects or enhance positive environmental effects. These measures could include construction techniques, compensation, or community enhancement.



Term	Description
Moisture Regime	The relative moisture supply at a site available for plant growth.
Monitoring	The activities carried out by the applicant after approval of an undertaking to determine the environmental effects of the undertaking (“effects monitoring”). Monitoring can also refer to those activities carried out by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks to ensure that an applicant complies with the conditions of the approval (“compliance monitoring”). Effectiveness monitoring is a third type of monitoring in which an applicant evaluates how effectively its environmental assessment is working in the planning and implementation of its mitigation measures.
Mulching	To spread a material (e.g., decaying leaves or bark) over an area.
National Inventory Report (NIR)	Canada’s National Inventory Report (NIR) documents and outlines national GHG emissions. As a signatory to United Nations Framework Convention (UNFCCC), this report is prepared and submitted annually to the UNFCCC.
Native Species	Species that are known to be historically present in a given area.
Natural Habitat	Areas composed of viable assemblages of largely native species and/or where human activity has not essentially modified an area’s primary ecological functions and species composition.
Natural Recovery	Refers to the various physical, chemical, and biological mechanisms that occur naturally in the absence of humans. Natural recovery is frequently used for rehabilitation of contaminated sediment and relies on adequate control of contaminant sources to ensure effective recovery.
Negative Environmental Effects	Negative environmental effects are the negative effects that a project has, or could potentially have, directly or indirectly on the environment at any stage in the project life cycle. Negative environmental effects may include, but are not limited to, the harmful alteration, disruption, destruction, or loss of natural features, flora or fauna and their habitat, ecological functions, natural resources, air or water quality, and cultural or heritage resources. Negative environmental effects may also include the displacement, impairment, conflict, or interference with existing land uses, businesses or economic enterprises, recreational uses or activities, cultural pursuits, social conditions, or the local economy.



Term	Description
Negligible	With regard to the magnitude or intensity of a change, it is a small change that is expected to be within the range of baseline or guideline values.
Net Effects	Environmental effects of a project and related activities that will remain after mitigation and mitigation measures have been applied.
Net-Zero	A target of completely negating the amount of greenhouse gases produced by human activity, to be achieved by reducing emissions and implementing methods of absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.
Nighttime	The period from 23:00 to 07:00.
Nil	Non-existent.
Nitrogen Dioxides (NO <sub>2</sub> )	Nitrogen oxides (NO <sub>x</sub> ) are emitted in two primary forms: nitric oxide (NO) and nitrogen dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> ). Nitric oxide reacts with ozone in the atmosphere to create nitrogen dioxide. The primary source of nitrogen oxides in the region is the combustion of fossil fuels (e.g., generators, vehicles, and haul trucks). The presence of NO <sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere has known health (e.g., lung irritation) and environmental (e.g., acid precipitation, and ground level ozone formation) effects.
Nitrous Oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O)	Nitrous oxide is an odorless, colorless, non-flammable gas. Nitrous oxide is emitted during agricultural, land use, and industrial activities; combustion of fossil fuels and solid waste; as well as during treatment of wastewater. Nitrous oxide is a greenhouse gas.
No Defined Channel	A watercourse that does not have any defined dimensions (i.e., no defined bed [depth] or banks [width]).
Noise and Vibration Receptor	Location where an assessment, measurements, or predictions of noise and vibration levels are made.
Noise Levels	Levels that can be heard or measured at a receptor.
Noise Receptor	Also referred to as a Point of Reception (POR), it refers to a location where an assessment, measurements, or predictions of noise levels are made. For the purposes of this assessment, PORs were considered sensitive land uses with human activity, including dwellings, campsites or campgrounds, sensitive institutional uses (e.g., educational, nursery, hospital, healthcare, community centre, place of worship or detention centre), or sensitive commercial uses (e.g., hotel or motel).
Not at Risk	A species or ecosystem that is not at risk of extirpation or extinction, as determined through a conservation status evaluation.

Term	Description
Noxious Weed	Any plant designated by federal, provincial, or local government officials as injurious to public health, agriculture, recreation, wildlife, or property.
Nuisance	A person, thing, or circumstance causing inconvenience or annoyance.
Nutrients	A substance that promotes growth, provides energy, and maintains life.
Occurrence	Something existing or being found in a place or under a particular set of conditions.
Oligotrophic Lakes	Oligotrophic lakes are lakes with low levels of nutrients, high dissolved oxygen levels, and typically deep areas with very cold water.
Operation and Maintenance Stage	The period from the start of operation and maintenance activities through to the end of the Project life.
Organic Soil	A soil order that has developed primarily on organic deposits. Soils containing high percentages of organic matter (fibric and humic inclusions).
Organic Substrate	A surface or material composed of natural plant matter.
Orthophotographs	An aerial photograph or image geometrically corrected ("orthorectified") such that the scale is uniform: the photo has the same lack of distortion as a map.
Outdoor Recreation	A leisure activity undertaken outside or engaging in leisure outside
Overburden	Unconsolidated material including sand, silt or clay that overlies consolidated bedrock.
Overhanging Vegetation	Riparian vegetation that directly shades or overhangs a waterbody.
Overwintering	Overwintering is a period when certain species pass through or wait out the winter season, when conditions make normal activity or even survival difficult or near impossible. Such conditions include cold or sub-zero temperatures, ice, snow and limited food supplies.
Participation Rate	Measures the total labour force (comprised of those who are employed and unemployed, combined) relative to the size of the working-age population. It is the share of the working age population that is working or looking for work.





Term	Description
Parties	Persons who are parties in a mediation or other dispute resolution process. This term normally includes the proponent, but not the mediator nor resource persons who do not have a stake in the outcome. Generally, parties should include those persons who are directly affected by the issue under discussion, those who will have responsibility for implementing the resolution of the issue and any other persons who will be affected by or otherwise need to know how the issue is proposed to be resolved.
Peak Particle Velocity (PPV)	Maximum rate of change with respect to time of the particle displacement, measured on the ground, and velocity amplitudes are given in units of mm/s from zero to peak amplitude. PPV is a vector quantity and is typically measured in three component vectors (i.e., transverse, vertical and longitudinal). The PPV correlates best with damage potential of all the tested characterizations of ground movement. Ground vibration is an elastic effect measured in units of PPV.
Pelagic	Of, relating to, living or occurring in the open water areas of a lacustrine feature or in the open ocean.
Perched Culvert	A drop at the culvert inlet or outlet, referred to as a perched or hanging culvert, that may act as a barrier for fish passage under certain or all flow conditions depending on species present and flows.
Perfluorocarbons (PFC)	A human-made group of chemicals composed of carbon and fluorine only and are used in the manufacturing of semiconductors, used as solvents in the electronic industry and as refrigerants. They are powerful greenhouse gases.
Permanent Infrastructure	Permanent infrastructure is that which is to be functional during construction and remain in place during the operation phase of the Project.
pH	Strictly defined as potential for Hydrogen. The negative log of the concentration of the hydronium ion. The pH is a measure of the acidity or alkalinity of all materials dissolved in water, expressed on a scale from 0 to 14, where 7 is neutral, values below 7 are acidic, and values over 7 are alkaline.
<i>Planning Act</i>	The <i>Planning Act</i> is provincial legislation that sets out the ground rules for land use planning in Ontario. It describes how land uses may be controlled, and who may control them.



Term	Description
Particulate Matter (PM <sub>10</sub> and PM <sub>2.5</sub> )	PM <sub>10</sub> is airborne particles nominally smaller than 10 micrometres in diameter; PM <sub>2.5</sub> is airborne particles nominally smaller than 2.5 micrometres in diameter. Emissions of PM <sub>10</sub> can result in local nuisance effects. Emissions of PM <sub>2.5</sub> can penetrate deep into the respiratory system and cause health effects.
Podzols	Soils with an ash-grey subsurface horizon, bleached by organic acids, on top of a dark accumulation horizon with brown or black illuviated humus and/or reddish iron compounds.
Polygon	The spatial area delineated on a map to define one feature unit (e.g., one type of ecosite stage).
Pond	A body of water that is surrounded by land, has no discernible flow, and is less than 8 ha in size.
Pool	Discrete portion of channel featuring increased depth and reduced velocity (downstream oriented) relative to riffle and run habitat types; formed by channel scour (i.e., removal of bed or bank material by flowing water).
Population	A group of individuals of the same species that is primarily affected by natural and human-related factors that change survival and reproduction of individuals
Portage	Portage, or portaging, is the practice of carrying water craft or cargo over land, either around an obstacle in a river or between two water bodies. A place where this carrying occurs is also called a portage.
Potential Effects	A possible effect that a proposed undertaking or its alternatives has or could potentially have on the environment, either positive or negative, direct or indirect, short- or long-term.
Predators	An animal that naturally preys on others.
Prey	An animal that is preyed upon by another.
Procurement	The process of obtaining or purchasing goods or services, or other works from an external source
Progressive Reclamation	The re-establishment of a disturbed area(s) that is no longer required for ongoing construction or operation. It is the standard best practice of "cleaning up while you work", allowing land to return to a usable state sooner.



Term	Description
Project Footprint	<p>The physical area required for Project construction and operation, which represents the area of direct disturbance. The Project footprint includes the following Project components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Typical 46 m wide transmission line right-of-way;</li> <li>● Widened 1 km of right-of-way for the separation of circuits F25A and D26A;</li> <li>● Modification of the Lakehead Transformer Station (TS), Mackenzie TS, and Dryden TS;</li> <li>● Access roads (existing and new);</li> <li>● Temporary supportive infrastructure associated with construction including fly yards, construction/stringing pads, laydown areas, construction camps, and helicopter pads; and</li> <li>● Aggregate pits.</li> </ul>
Proponent	<p>A person, agency, group, or organization (e.g., Hydro One Networks Inc.) that carries out or proposes to carry out an undertaking or is the owner or person having charge, management, or control of an undertaking.</p>
Provincial Parks	<p>Protect significant natural and cultural features in the province while supporting Ontario's economy. Regulated under the <i>Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act</i>, they are important for outdoor recreation, scientific research and environmental monitoring, and education.</p>
Provincially Significant Wetlands (PSW)	<p>Wetlands that have been evaluated using the Ontario Wetland Evaluation System by a certified wetland evaluator, that have satisfied the Ontario Wetland Evaluation System criteria for significance, and as identified by the province's Lands Information Ontario (LIO) mapping at the time of this assessment.</p>
Qualitative Assessment	<p>A type of assessment that does not use direct measurements of change. Instead, qualitative assessment is based on a professional or researcher collecting data and performing an assessment through interviews, observations, review of literature, and/or using experience on other similar projects.</p>
Quality Assurance / Quality Control (QA/QC)	<p>The combination of quality assurance (the systematic monitoring and evaluation of the various aspects of a project, service, or facility to ensure that standards of quality are being met) and quality control (an aggregate and systematic review of activities) that is designed to ensure adequate quality.</p>
Quantitative Assessment	<p>Relating to, measuring, or measured by the quantity of something to determine an effect to a criterion and/or indicator. It is often contrasted with qualitative assessment.</p>

Term	Description
Range	The geographic limits within which an organism occurs.
Rare Plant	A native plant species found in restricted areas, at the edge of its range, or in low numbers within a province, state, territory, or country.
Rare Vegetation Community	An association of plants of various species found growing together that is described as unusual, uncommon, of limited extent or encountered infrequently.
Rearing/Nursery	A habitat or set of environmental conditions that provides an optimal location for larval and juvenile fish to find the food and shelter needed for growth and survival.
Reclamation	The process of returning land to its former use or other productive uses.
Reconnaissance Survey	A preliminary survey.
Record of Consultation	A document submitted with the proposed terms of reference that describes the consultation carried out during the preparation of the terms of reference and the results of that consultation.
Recreational Fish	Species targeted recreationally for leisure or competition.
Regional Study Area (RSA)	This includes areas beyond the LSA (generally up to approximately 5 km or more from the Project footprint) used to measure broader-scale existing environment conditions and provide regional context for the maximum predicted geographic extent of direct and indirect effects from the Project (e.g., changes to downstream water quality, migratory ranges, or changes to the economy, including regional employment and incomes). Cumulative effects from the Project in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future developments are typically assessed at this larger spatial scale.
Regulatory Agency	Government ministries, agencies, authorities, or departments (e.g., MNRF) who may have an interest in and contribute to the review of documentation prepared by the proponent by providing comments based on their mandate.
Reinstate	Reinstatement refers to restoring to a previous state or to place again in a similar position. Banks will be reinstated to the similar or improved conditions and stability post construction.
Resource Availability	Refers to changes in the abundance or distribution of the underlying resources used in traditional harvesting (i.e., wildlife and wildlife habitat, fish and fish habitat, and vegetation and wetlands).



Term	Description
Restoration	The practice of renewing and restoring degraded, damaged, or destroyed ecological systems and habitats in the environment through active human intervention.
Retirement Stage	The period from the start of retirement activities through to the end of final reclamation of the Project.
Riffle	Portion of channel with increased velocity relative to run and pool habitat types; broken water surface due to effects of submerged or exposed bed materials.
Right-of-Way (ROW)	A type of easement granted or reserved over the land for the purposes of construction, operation, maintenance, inspection, alteration, removal, replacement, reconstruction, repair and/or expansion of existing services.
Riparian	Refers to terrain, vegetation or simply a position next to or associated with a stream, floodplain or standing waterbody.
Road Access Easement	Agreement reached with land rights holder to use designated area for construction access.
Root Mean-Square (RMS) Velocity	The RMS is the square root of the average of the squared values of the amplitudes at each instant of time. Human annoyance is typically assessed based on the RMS vibration velocity.
Run	Portion of channel characterized by moderate to high current velocity relative to pool and flat habitat; water surface largely unbroken. Deeper than riffle habitat type.
Sand	Substrate type consisting of particles between ~0.06 mm and 2.00 mm in diameter.
Scavengers	An animal that feeds on carrion, dead plant material, or refuse.
Scenic Quality	A measure of the overall scenic value of a view. The classification of scenic quality is based on the premise that natural landscapes with greater diversity or containing distinct features are considered as having higher scenic value than landscapes that are more homogeneous or have more common features. The scenic quality of an area is classified as high, medium, or low based on several key factors, including landform, vegetation, water, colour, influence of adjacent scenery, scarcity and cultural modifications (i.e., human-made additions to the landscape).
Scope 1 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions	Emissions occurring from sources that are owned or controlled by a proponent (e.g., generators, boilers, vehicles, process, land clearing/burning, loss of a carbon sink, and fugitive emissions).



Term	Description
Scope 2 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions	Scope 2: Indirect GHG emissions: Emissions from the generation of purchased electricity, heating, and cooling consumed by the proponent.
Scope 3 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions	Scope 3: Other indirect GHG emissions: Emissions that are a consequence of a proponent's activities but occur from sources not financially or operationally controlled by that proponent (e.g., emissions from waste, the extraction and production of purchased materials, and business travel; ISO 2006).
Seep / Spring	Water that originates from an area with naturally occurring groundwater that rises from the bedrock or soil to become surface water.
Seine Net	A long net, with or without a bag in the centre, which is used to surround a certain area and is operated with two ropes fixed to its ends (for hauling and herding the fish).
Self-Supporting Structures	Structures that stay upright without being supported by guyed wires.
Self-Sustaining	The ability to live in a healthy state (i.e., genetically robust, ecologically functional, resilient to change) without outside assistance.
Sensitive Habitats (aquatic)	Those habitats that contained any of the following identified habitats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Habitats of aquatic SAR or SOCC species</li> <li>● Lake Trout and/or Brook Trout habitats</li> <li>● Spawning and/or nursery habitats</li> </ul>
Sensitive Species	Those species which rely on specific habitat conditions that are limited in abundance, restricted in distribution, or are particularly sensitive to development.
Shrub	A perennial plant usually with a woody stem shorter than a tree and often with a multi-stemmed base.
Side Channel	Lateral channel with an axis of flow roughly parallel to the mainstream and which is fed by water from the mainstream.
Significant Wildlife Habitat (SWH)	Ecologically important habitat in terms of features, functions, representation or amount, and contributing to the quality and diversity of an identifiable geographic area or natural heritage system.
Silt	Substrate type consisting of particles between 0.004 mm and 0.06 mm diameter.
Silt Fence	A temporary device to protect water quality in water bodies from sediment in construction site runoff.



Term	Description
Sinuosity	Sinuosity is the channels meander pattern which can range from straight to tortuously meandering.
Slash	Debris left as a result of forest or other vegetation being altered by forestry practices or other land use activities (e.g., timber harvesting, road construction, right-of-way clearing). Includes material such as logs, splinters or chips, tree branches and tops, uprooted stumps, and broken or uprooted trees and shrubs.
Small-bodied Fish	Small-bodied fish, also called forage fish or baitfish, are generally small fish (total adult lengths generally less than 200 mm) that may serve as food for larger predators. Forage fish species would include families such as Leuciscidae (formerly Cyprinidae) (e.g., Lake Chub [ <i>Couesius plumbeus</i> ]) and Cottidae (e.g., Slimy Sculpin [ <i>Cottus cognatus</i> ]), as well as several others.
Socio-Economic	Relating to or concerned with the interaction of social and economic factors.
Soil Compaction	The process by which the porosity of a given form of sediment is decreased as a result of its mineral grains being squeezed together by the weight of overlying sediment or by mechanical means.
Soil Type	Subdivision of soil based on texture.
Sound Pressure Level	Physical quantity that is measured in the environment that describes sound waves quantitatively. It is a ratio of the absolute pressure relative to a reference (i.e., 20 micropascals [ $\mu\text{Pa}$ ]). This ratio of pressures is converted to a decibel scale (dB).
Spatial Configuration	The spatial pattern of landscape areas which include aspects such as size, shape, density, and connectivity.
Spawning	The process in which aquatic animals release or deposit eggs and sperm into the water.
Special Concern	A species or ecosystem that is particularly sensitive to human activities or natural events but that is not endangered or threatened. The species or ecosystem may become threatened or endangered through a combination of biological characteristics and identified threats.
Species	A group of organisms that actually or potentially interbreed and are reproductively isolated from all other such groups; a taxonomic grouping of genetically and morphologically similar individuals; the category below genus.
Species Abundance	The number of individuals of a particular species within an ecological community, landscape, or region.



Term	Description
Species at Risk (SAR)	Plant or animal species identified as being extirpated, endangered, threatened or of special concern as defined by Ontario's <i>Endangered Species Act</i> (ESA) or the federal <i>Species at Risk Act</i> (SARA).
Species Diversity	The number of species and abundance of each species that live in a particular location.
Species of Conservation Concern (SOCC)	Plants and animals the Natural Heritage Information Centre actively collects information about. This is done to track their statuses in Ontario. They include species at risk as well as rare and rapidly declining species.
Species Richness	The number of different species represented in an ecological community, landscape or region. Species richness is simply a count of species, and it does not take into account the abundances of the species or their relative abundance distributions.
Staging Areas	Key locations, often along the migratory routes of fish, where they concentrate in huge numbers to replenish the body fat and energy reserves needed for spawning.
Stand	A group of trees occupying a specific area and sufficiently uniform in composition, age, arrangement and condition so that it is distinguishable from trees in adjoining areas.
Static Groundwater Level	The "resting" level of the groundwater under normal, undisturbed, non-pumping conditions.
Stockpile	Storage yard for salvaged materials (e.g., mineral topsoil, subsoil, organic material).
Strategic Assessment of Climate Change (SACC)	The Strategic Assessment of Climate Change (SACC) describes the greenhouse gas and climate change information that project proponents need to submit at each phase of a federal impact assessment, including the methodology for calculating greenhouse gas emission associated with the project, as well as for incorporating climate change resilience into the EA. The SACC requires proponents of projects with a lifetime beyond 2050 to provide a credible plan that describes how the project will achieve net- zero emissions by 2050.





Term	Description
Structure (transmission line)	A tower used to support the conductors (wires) that are used to transport electric power. They are characterized by suspension (vertical) insulators, which support and insulate the conductors and transfer wind and weight loads to the structure. Structures can be referred to as “Guyed” (supported by Guyed wires) or “self-supporting” (not supported by Guyed wires and held in place by an anchor and foundation at the base of the tower). Structures are also classified as either “Tangent” (used on straight sections of the line where no turn or a slight turn up to 2° in the conductors is required), “Angle” (used where there is turn in the conductors is between 2° and 10°), “or “Dead end” (used where there is a turn in the conductors greater than 10°), or where the transmission line starts and ends.
Substrate	The surface or material on or from which an organism lives, grows, or obtains its nourishment.
Subsurface Flow	Any flow or movement of water below the surface of the ground.
Sulphur Dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> )	Sulphur dioxide is a colourless gas with a pungent odour, usually formed by burning sulfur. It is used in making sulfuric acid, in bleaching, as a preservative, and as a refrigerant. The presence of SO <sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere has known health (e.g., lung irritation) and environmental (e.g., acid precipitation) effects (MOECC 2015).
Sulphur Hexafluoride (SF <sub>6</sub> )	Sulfur hexafluoride (SF <sub>6</sub> ) is a synthetic inorganic compound with an extremely stable molecular structure. It is often used in the electrical industry. As the gas is emitted, it accumulates in the atmosphere in an essentially un-degraded state for many centuries. Sulfur hexafluoride is a greenhouse gas.
Surface Water	Water that collects on the surface of the ground, including storm water and water bodies such as watercourses and lakes.
Surficial Geology	Non-lithified, unconsolidated sediments occurring on the earth’s surface.
Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM)	Collectively describes airborne particles or aerosols less than 44 micrometres in size. Suspended particulate matter is commonly known as dust and results in reduced visibility.
Sustainable	Able to be maintained at a certain rate or level.
Temporal Boundaries	Temporal boundaries are generally based on planned phases of a project (e.g., construction and operation). Temporal boundaries include the duration of net effects from previous and existing developments that overlap with net effects of the Project, and the period during which the net effects from reasonably foreseeable developments will overlap with net effects from the Project.



Term	Description
Temporary Fords	Allows construction vehicles to go across a watercourse for short term seasonal use when a water crossing is not there or practical to use. Can be a human-made construct or natural.
Temporary Infrastructure	Infrastructure is that which is only required during the construction period (i.e., limited amount of time) and will be removed post-construction.
Terms of Reference (ToR)	A document prepared by the proponent and submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for approval. The Terms of Reference sets out the framework for the planning and decision-making process to be followed by the proponent during the preparation of an environmental assessment. In other words, it is the proponent's work plan for what is going to be studied. If approved, the environmental assessment must be prepared according to the Terms of Reference.
Tertiary Watershed	A polygon feature that identifies one of the 145 subdivisions of the secondary watershed divisions that comprise the entire Province of Ontario. Tertiary watersheds range in size from 700 km <sup>2</sup> to 31,000 km <sup>2</sup> .
The Project	The Hydro One Networks Inc. Waasigan Transmission Line Project.
Thermal Regime	The range and distribution of water temperature typically observed in a given water body.
Threatened	A species or ecosystem that is likely to become endangered if nothing is done to reverse the factors leading to its extirpation or extinction.
Till	Non-sorted, non-stratified sediments laid down directly by glacial ice.
Topography	The arrangement of the natural and artificial physical features of an area.
Topsoil	The uppermost layer of soil, usually the top 5 to 20 centimetres. Topsoil includes the organic layer, litter, fibric and, humic (LFH) horizon, and mineral A horizon. Topsoil has the highest concentration of organic matter and microorganisms and is where most of the biological activity occurs. Plants generally concentrate their roots in and obtain most of their nutrients from this layer.
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	The total amount of suspended substances in a water sample. Solids, found in wastewater or in a stream, which can be removed by filtration. The origin of suspended matter may be artificial or anthropogenic wastes or natural sources such as silt.



Term	Description
Traditional Knowledge (TK)	A body of knowledge, which is cumulative and dynamic, built up by a group of people through generations of living in close contact with nature. It builds upon the historic experiences of a people and adapts to social, economic, environmental, spiritual and political change. Traditional Knowledge is often used interchangeably with “Indigenous Knowledge”.
Traditional Land and Resource Use (TLRU)	The current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, as well as the exercise of treaty rights, is associated with an Indigenous group's practices, traditions or customs, which are part of an Indigenous group's distinctive culture and fundamental to their social organization and the sustainment of present and future generations.
Transect	A method of sampling snow along a path or fixed line.
Tributary	A river or stream flowing into a larger river or lake.
Turbidity	A measure of the relative clarity or cloudiness of water. It is a measurement of the amount of light that is scattered by material in the water when a light is shined through the water sample.
Undertaking	An enterprise, activity or a proposal, plan, or program that a proponent initiates or proposes to initiate.
Unemployment Rate	The number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force.
Unincorporated Rural Settlement Area	An area that does not have a local government.
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) involves 198 countries, including Canada, that have ratified the Convention to stabilize GHG concentrations in the atmosphere to preventing dangerous human interference with the climate system.
Unorganized Township	A township that does not have a local government.
Upland Ecosystem	Open, shrub, and treed communities containing mainly facultative upland (i.e., species that can grow in either upland ecosystems or other habitats) and obligate upland plant species (i.e., species that grow in upland ecosystems only). The water table is rarely above the substrate surface and vernal pooling minimal. Substrates consist of parent mineral material, mineral soil, rock, bedrock, and organic material less than 40 centimetre in depth. The moisture regime of uplands is typically moist.
Vegetation	A term to describe all plants or plant life in an area.
Vulnerability	The likelihood of biodiversity loss due to imminent threats.



Term	Description
Water Body	Areas with defined bed and/or banks, whether or not water is continuously present. A water body may be permanent, intermittent, or ephemeral. Types of water bodies include watercourses (e.g., streams, rivers), lakes, and ponds. A water body may be natural or artificial.
Water Crossing	A geographic location where proposed transmission lines or access roads are expected to cross a waterbody or drainage feature.
Water Table	The level at which ground water pressure equals atmospheric pressure; the upper surface of groundwater, above which the soil can be aerated and below which the soil is saturated.
Waterbody (Permanent)	A waterbody having year-round standing or flowing water or watercourses having a defined channel.
Waterbody (Temporary)	A waterbody, including ephemeral draws, whereby standing or flowing water are only present during wet weather events or immediately following spring snow thaw.
Watercourse	Riverine systems such as creeks, brooks, streams and rivers. A watercourse has a defined channel that may have either permanent or non-permanent (i.e., intermittent or ephemeral) flow of water throughout the year.
Watershed	The upstream land area drained by a river network.
Weeds	Plants that are defined as controlled weeds, nuisance weeds, or noxious weeds by the <i>Ontario Weeds Act</i> .
Wetland	Wetlands are land where the water table is at, near, or above the ground surface or which is saturated for a long enough period to promote such features as wet-altered soils and water tolerant vegetation. Wetlands include organic wetlands or “peatlands,” and mineral wetlands or mineral soil areas that are influenced by excess water but produce little or no peat.
Wildlife	A species, subspecies, variety, or geographically or genetically distinct population of plant or animal that is wild by nature.
Wildlife Guilds	Any group of species that exploit the same resources, or who exploit different resources in related ways. It is not necessary that the species within a guild occupy the same, or even similar, ecological niches.
Wildlife Management Units (WMUs)	Wildlife Management Units are used for a number of wildlife management purposes, like indicating the areas of Ontario where hunting open seasons and harvest quotas apply. Wildlife Management Unit boundaries are regulated under the <i>Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act - Ontario Regulation 663/98, Part 6</i> as amended.

Term	Description
Wildlife Tree	A standing dead or dying tree or a live veteran tree that is important for wildlife because it provides areas for nests, nurseries, storage, foraging, roosting, and perching.
Woody Debris	Any large piece of woody material that has a minimum diameter greater than 10 cm and a length greater than 1 m that provides cover for fish.
Zooplankton	Small aquatic microorganisms that float, drift or weakly swim in the water column.





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