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Dear Resident

January 2019

Class Environmental Assessment for the Planned 115 Kilovolt Transmission Line Refurbishment (Circuits D2H, D3H, D6T and D4) in Cochrane District

Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) is initiating a Class Environmental Assessment (EA) to refurbish its existing 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission infrastructure, circuits D2H, D3H, D6T and D4, between Hunta Switching Station (SS) and Abitibi Canyon SS. This refurbishment will ensure the continued reliability and integrity of the transmission line and electricity supply in the region. The project area, shown on the attached map, is located within Cochrane District (Unorganized, North Part).

The proposed project involves maintenance activities, such as the modification of steel lattice structure components, replacement of six wood poles and replacement of conductor (wire) along the existing right of way. In addition, the overhead shield wire will be replaced. Shield wire does not carry electricity and, in addition to housing fibre optic cables, serves to protect the equipment from lightning strikes.

We anticipate most of this work would be carried out within the existing transmission corridor with no need to acquire additional land. 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 EA for Minor Transmission Facilities (Hydro One, 2016), in accordance with the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*. The Class EA is a streamlined planning processes that has proven effective in ensuring minor 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, construction could begin as early as November 2019 and be completed by November 2022.

Your input for this proposed project is valued and would be appreciated by February 22, 2019. Please mail or email your comments to the below address. As requested by the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, information about the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* is included below.

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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.

