

DECLARATION ORDER

What is a Declaration Order?

A Declaration Order can be granted by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (the Minister) under the *Environmental Assessment Act (EA Act)*. For this project, a Declaration Order is a tool that would allow Hydro One to proceed with the project without the need to duplicate the existing EA work completed by others in areas where the Lake Superior Link route is the same as the route studied in the existing EA.

The Minister can use the Declaration Order to either exclude the project from preparing a new Individual EA or Class EA, decide the proponent only needs to comply with some of the requirements of the EA Act or set out conditions the proponent must meet. In general Declaration Orders are considered: where potential effects are well understood and can be adequately addressed, in cases of emergency and when the proposal is in the public interest.

HOW TO REQUEST A DECLARATION ORDER

To apply for the Declaration Order, Hydro One is preparing a Declaration Order Report (DOR). The DOR is intended to compile the environmental studies, effects evaluation and consultation conducted on the Project up to the time of submission of the Declaration Order request and to list commitments made. The DOR will also provide the rationale for why a Declaration Order is appropriate for the Lake Superior Link Project. This DOR will ultimately be reviewed by the Minister, who will make a decision on whether to issue the Declaration Order.

Why request a Declaration Order?

Hydro One has initiated an Individual EA, and we have been actively consulting on the Project through this process. It is important to note that Hydro One respects the preservation of the natural environment and implementing the necessary mitigation measures in large infrastructure projects, like Lake Superior Link. Our intention is to consult with Indigenous communities, and reduce the need to duplicate studies already completed by the East-West-Tie Individual EA (EWT EA).

We are requesting the use of a Declaration Order, should Hydro One be the successful proponent, so that we may utilize the studies already completed by the other proponent, in addition to the studies Hydro One has undertaken through our process and begin construction in fall 2019.

What happens to the EA process?

The Individual EA process will continue in parallel with the Declaration Order option. This is necessary to ensure that the Project and its associated benefits can commence as soon as possible.

Hydro One will still be documenting the assessment work completed and continuing consultation on the Lake Superior Link Project as part of the Declaration Order request. The Declaration Order process will be used to adopt the EA for the East-West-Tie Project currently before the Minister while addressing data gaps where the two proposed transmission line routes differ. In adopting the original EWT EA, Hydro One will assume all relevant mitigation measures, construction plans, and commitments developed in consultation with Indigenous communities, government agencies, stakeholders and the public.

Can I participate in the Declaration Order process?

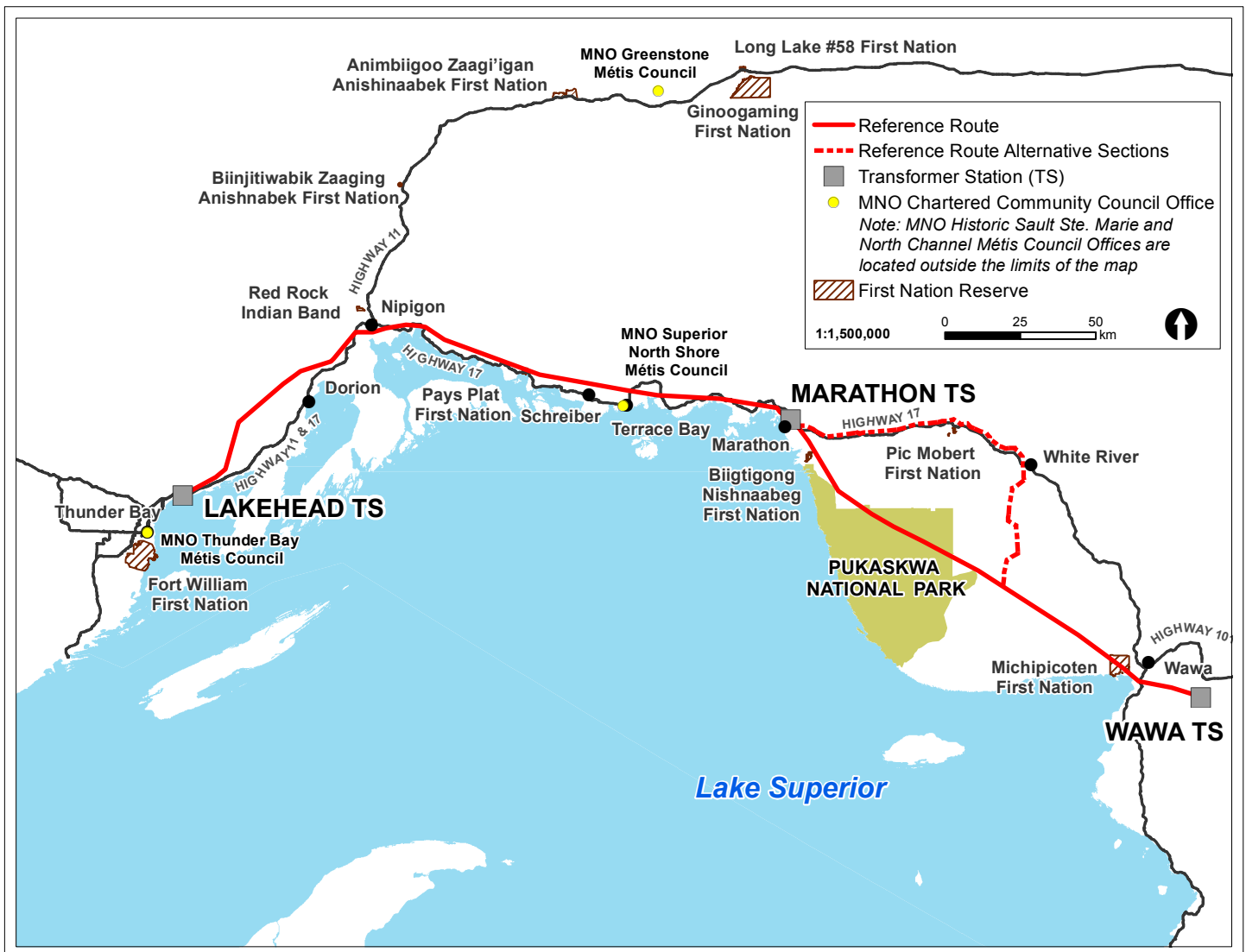
The DOR is currently being prepared for submission to the Minister and will be placed on Ontario's Environmental Registry to allow for Indigenous communities, stakeholders and the public to review and provide comments.

We want to hear from you. Please consider providing input into the process prior to the submission of the DOR by contacting us at 1-877-345-6799 or Community.Relations@HydroOne.com.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about the proposed Lake Superior Link Project and Environmental Assessment visit

www.HydroOne.com/LakeSuperiorLink



If granted Leave to Construct by the OEB Hydro One intends to submit a Declaration Order to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks to allow Hydro One to construct the reference route of the Lake Superior Link Project in a timely manner.