Hydro One Networks

Supply to Essex County Class Environmental Assessment

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Definition of Need

- Prior to starting a transmission facility study, it is important to have a defined and justifiable need
- OPA identified the needs for the Windsor Essex area and presented two alternative solutions
- Hydro One's role is to assess the alternatives, recommend a preferred alternative and obtain regulatory approvals



Supply to Essex County: Alternative Transmission Options, April 2008

hydro

Approval Requirements

Ontario Environmental Assessment (EA) Act

The facilities are subject to provincial Environmental Assessment Act approval in accordance with the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities, as a precursor to any other separate approvals.

Ontario Energy Board (OEB) Act

"Leave to Construct" approval is required under Section 92 of the OEB Act

Other

Hydro One will meet all other legislative and permitting requirements for individual projects

Environmental Planning Process

The potential effects of the two alternatives were assessed using the following broad categories:

- Natural environment
- Cultural factors
- Agricultural criteria
- Socio-economic information
- Technical and cost considerations

Key Sources of Information

- Ministry of Natural Resources
- Aboriginal communities
- Aerial photography
- Consultation with local planners and municipal official plans
- Conservation Authorities
- Fieldwork
- Local distribution companies and Ontario Power Authority
- Public consultation

Public Consultation

- In April 2008, advertisements were placed in newspapers and flyers delivered to announce the project. These described the undertaking, maps were provided and details were given with regards to the public information centres (PICs).
 - Newspaper advertisements were placed in 10 local papers
 - 8,500 flyers were delivered to residents within the study areas

Public Information Centres

Location	Date	Attendance
Woodslee: Millen Community Centre	April 16, 2008	30
Leamington: Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 84	April 17, 2008	33
Tecumseh: Tecumseh Arena	April 22, 2008	14

Transmission Alternative Preference

	Woodslee PIC	Leamington PIC	Tecumseh PIC	Total
Alternative 1	2	5	2	9
Alternative 2	6	12	1	19
No preference		2		2
Did not say		1		1

Natural Environment

Potential effects of the project were considered on the following components of the natural environment:

- Significant woodlots
- Watercourses/municipal drains
- Species at Risk

Cultural Factors

Cultural factors taken into account were:

- Built heritage
- Landscape features
- Archaeologically significant areas

Agricultural Criteria

Basic agricultural information was assessed, for example:

- Soil capability
- Greenhouse locations

Socio-Economic Information

Socio-economic data was collected and analyzed from maps, fieldwork and PICs:

- Potential effects on properties and settlement patterns
- Commercial activities (business activities close to the rights-of-way or in the study area)
- Recreational facilities
- Provincial Policy Statement
- Existing and future land use

Technical and Cost Considerations

 These considerations were taken into account as discussed by OPA

Results of the Comparison

- When all the information was analyzed and compared for both study areas, the project team agreed that Alternative 2 is the preferred option.
- As a result, we plan to move forward with:
 - a new 230 kV line on the Hydro One owned right-ofway between Sandwich Junction and Lauzon TS
 - look in the Leamington area for a new transmission right-of-way and transformer station site

Supply To Essex: Sandwich JCT to Lauzon TS



Supply To Essex: Alternatives Within the Learnington Area

