

Ministry of the Environment

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Ministère de l'Environnement

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March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Hydro One Networks Inc.  
TCT4, South Tower  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5G 2P5

Attention: Mr. McCormick, Manager, Environmental Services and Approvals

**Re: Class Environmental Assessment Draft Environmental Study Report Supply to Essex County Transmission Reinforcement Project, Dated February 2010**

Dear Mr. McCormick:

Staff of this Ministry's Noise Unit have reviewed the subject report with respect to noise concerning the proposed transmission lines and the Leamington Transformer Station.

The report has addressed the main sources of noise emissions and controls related to the construction phase of the 230 kV transmission lines. This was addressed adequately and no adverse effects are anticipated. Furthermore, there are no significant audible noise effects for consideration during the operation phase of 230 kV transmission lines.


Regarding the proposed Leamington Transformer Station it is planned for including two, 75/125 MVA units to be located within approximately 150 to 300 m from four residential receptors. The acoustic analysis presented in the separate report by Conestoga-Rovers & Associates (Appendix K of the Hydro One report) concludes that no noise abatement will be required. However, based on the type of equipment and the relatively short setbacks our estimated noise levels are predicted to exceed the applicable noise limits.

Consequently the noise report will be required to be revised and to include sufficient noise abatement measures to reduce the noise impact at these receptors.

Since the implementation of noise abatement measures are feasible means for reducing noise impact at receptors, it is expected this will be included in a revised noise report at the time with an application for a Section 9 EPA Certificate of Approval (Air/Noise) from this Ministry. At that time this ministry's Noise Unit will review again the proposed plan for the transformer station to assess its compliance with the Ministry's requirements for noise.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to give me a phone call and I will do my best to answer them.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Newton', written over the 'Yours truly,' text.

Craig Newton  
Regional Environmental Planner/EA  
Ministry of the Environment  
Southwestern Region  
(519) 873-5014.

Cc – Mr. J. Kowalewski, Sr. Review Engineer, MOE Noise Unit, EAAB Toronto  
- Ms. S. Guido, Sr. Program Coordinator, MOE EAAB, Toronto  
- Mr. D. McDougall, Supervisor, MOE Windsor Area Office

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**Brian McCormick**  
Manager, Environmental Services and Approvals

March 29, 2010

Craig Newton  
Regional Environmental Planner EA  
Ministry of the Environment  
733 Exeter Road  
London, ON N6E 1L3

**RE: Supply to Essex County Class Environmental Assessment**  
**Draft Environmental Study Report**

Dear Mr. Newton

Thank you for your letter dated March 16, 2010 with regards to the proposed Leamington Transformer Station.

In the case of Leamington TS, Hydro One has completed the acoustic assessment earlier than usual in the planning process and our consultants Conestoga Rovers & Associates, have advised us that although the noise levels are close, they are slightly under the applicable noise limits. As a result, our plans for the station have made provisions for a barrier wall if required. We will review the acoustic assessment and file an application for a Section 9 EPA Certificate of Approval (Air/Noise) once we have received the Ontario Energy Board approval and have completed the requirements of the Environmental Assessment Act for this project.

If you would like to discuss this further, please contact me at (416) 345-6597, or Patricia Staite, Environmental Specialist at (416) 345-6686.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "B. McCormick", written over a circular scribble.

**Brian McCormick**  
Manager, Environmental Services & Approvals

Cc Mr. J. Kowalewski, Sr. Review Engineer, MOE Noise Unit, EAAB Toronto  
Ms. S Guido, Sr. Program Coordinator, MOE EAAB, Toronto  
Mr. D McDougall, Supervisor, MOE Windsor Area Office  
Ms. Patricia Staite, Environment Specialist, Hydro One Networks Inc.