

September 2012

# Community Information Meeting Proposed Clarington Transformer Station Class Environmental Assessment

Providing a Project Update and an Opportunity for the Community to Seek Clarification  
and Identify Concerns

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## Meeting Proceedings

As part of its Long Term Power System Planning objective, the Ontario Power Authority (OPA) has recommended that Hydro One proceed with plans to build a new transmission facility on Hydro One owned property in the Municipality of Clarington. The station is required to ensure continued, safe and reliable power delivery in the east Greater Toronto Area (GTA).

The OPA has advised Hydro One that Pickering Nuclear Generating Station (NGS) is approaching its final years of operation and will be retired sometime between 2015 and 2020. Pickering is the largest generation facility in the GTA and supplies as much as 25 per cent of the East GTA's electricity demand. When the generating station is removed from service, its 3,000 MW of capacity must be replaced by a corresponding amount of power through Hydro One's transmission system.

The proposed Clarington Transformer Station (TS) is required to accommodate the eventual closure of Pickering NGS, and ensure that the area has the facilities necessary to ensure a safe, reliable supply of electricity to existing and future customers.

Although the exact timing of the generating facility's retirement is unknown and Ontario Power Generation is seeking to extend its operations until 2020, Hydro One must be prudent and begin the Class Environmental Assessment (EA) process immediately to ensure the station is ready to be in service as early as 2015, as recommended by the OPA.

In keeping with the requirements set out in Hydro One's *Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities* (1992), Hydro One held a Public Information Centre (PIC) at the Solina Town Hall on May 23, 2012. At the PIC, information about the project was presented and Hydro One and OPA staff was present to answer questions and provide project details. Hydro One received feedback following the PIC, and residents expressed that there was concern that the low attendance at the PIC could have been the result of miscommunication. Hydro One had previously completed a Class Environmental Assessment, in 2008, for a transformer station (Enfield TS) to serve the local distribution system from the current site, and some residents indicated that the community understood the PIC was to provide construction details on that previous project. Those in attendance at the May meeting suggested that a second meeting be organized to ensure the community was aware of the need for another proposed transformer station, to reliably serve the high voltage transmission system in the area, from the same site. In keeping with the community concerns, Hydro One held a Community Information Meeting at the Solina Town Hall on the evening of September 11<sup>th</sup>. The meeting commenced at 6:30 pm and concluded at or around 9:30 pm. The following captures the key points of discussion that emerged during the meeting.

These proceedings have been prepared for Hydro One by Planning Solutions Inc. and are being distributed to Hydro One for circulation to those in attendance at the meeting as well as others who may have an interest in the comments, questions and concerns that emerged.

It should be noted that these proceedings were not captured verbatim; rather the themes of questions and answers have been categorized and summarized below.

## **1.0 Introductory Remarks**

Denise Jamal, Manager of Public Affairs for Hydro One, welcomed all in attendance to the meeting. She thanked everyone in attendance for coming to the meeting and introduced MPP John O’Toole.

MPP O’Toole spoke about his involvement in the project and the concerns that have been expressed by members of his constituency. He noted his concern with the proposed construction of a transformer station in Clarington and made reference to the Oak Ridges Moraine and the Greenbelt Act and Plan that have been endorsed by the Province. He cited his concern and his intent to represent members of his constituency and noted the support from the community in ensuring these concerns are raised.

Randy Church, Hydro One introduced himself as the Project Development Manager for the Clarington Transformer Station project and took a few moments to introduce and to identify members of the Hydro One team including Doug Magee from Environmental Services & Approvals, Jeff Cridland from Project Management, Rob Thomson from Real Estate and Daffyd Roderick, Director of Communications. Randy also took the time to introduce Luisa Da Rocha, Manager, Stakeholder Relations and Joe Toneguzzo, Director of Transmission Integration from the OPA. As Randy noted, the OPA were in attendance to address the issue of need and to address why a transformer station is required. In addition to identifying the professional staff from the OPA and Hydro One, Randy also introduced Karen Wianecki, facilitator of the meeting.

Karen took a few moments to provide an overview of the meeting purpose and objectives. Karen noted that the meeting had been convened at the request of the community. She indicated that the meeting had been organized by Hydro One in response to concerns raised by community members and further that the meeting had been structured to provide a two-way exchange of information. Karen reviewed a number of important ground rules; key among them was the need for respectful dialogue. Karen suggested keeping the meeting informal but noted the importance of being able to hear all speakers. She noted Hydro One’s interest in listening to and learning from the community and she invited attendees to seek clarity, ask questions, make comments and share concerns.

Against that backdrop, Karen suggested the meeting would begin with a presentation from Randy Church and Hydro One. Randy’s presentation would set some important context and would describe the process and the need for the facility. Karen asked attendees to hold their questions to the end of the presentation to allow Randy to complete his presentation and made a commitment at that time to open the floor for questions.

## **2.0 Setting the Context – Randy Church**

### **2.1 An Overview of the Electricity System in Ontario**

Randy Church, Project Development Manager, began his presentation by outlining Hydro One’s commitment to work with the community, to provide an overview of the Class Environmental

Assessment process, to discuss the proposed site and alternatives considered and to listen and hear the concerns expressed by those in attendance.

An overview was provided of the electricity industry as well as the framework and structure of the industry in Ontario. Randy reviewed the role of key participants including the role and the responsibilities of Hydro One, the OPA, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO), the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) and various generation companies including Ontario Power Generation (OPG), Invenergy, TransAlta, Pristine Power Inc., to name a few.

## **2.2 The Need for a Transformer Station**

An overview of Ontario's electricity system was also provided and the need for Clarington TS was provided. As Randy noted, Pickering Nuclear Generating Station (NGS) is scheduled to close sometime between 2015 and 2020. When Pickering NGS is removed from service, there is a need to transmit power to the eastern GTA and the proposed Clarington site is optimally located to transmit that power. It was noted that the Clarington TS is not generating power but rather acting as a transmission facility to deliver electrical power to customers in the east GTA. It is a site that will bring electricity from the Province-wide 500 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Network to the local 230 kV system serving the east GTA. As much as 25% of Pickering NGS's power currently supplies the east GTA's electricity load.

As Randy explained, the OPA, with support of IESO and Hydro One, looked at a number of alternatives. This included the feasibility of Cherrywood TS and also Parkway TS. He spent some time identifying the inherent limitations associated with the Cherrywood and the Parkway sites, noting that there are technical issues with Cherrywood TS and in the case of the Parkway TS, there is no 230 kV transmission infrastructure in place. The implementation of additional circuits at Parkway TS was determined to present significant technical challenges and high costs as the site is in a highly urbanized part of Toronto.

As part of the Class EA process, other sites brought forward by residents will be considered. These sites will be assessed using the following criteria – technical requirements, economics, and environmental consideration. This will be addressed and documented in the Environmental Study Report (ESR).

## **2.3 Rationale for the Clarington Site**

The Clarington site has been identified by Hydro One as the only viable alternative for the project. This, Randy explained is the result of several key factors:

- The site is strategically important. Both the 500 kV and 230 kV lines intersect at this location
- The site is of a sufficient size to accommodate the transformer station.
- The site was acquired by Ontario Hydro in 1978 for future use as a transformer station.
- The site already has existing transmission facilities and is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement (2005) stating that “the use of existing infrastructure and public services facilities should be optimized, wherever feasible, before consideration is given to developing new infrastructure and public services facilities”.
- The site is designated “utility” and transmission facilities are of permitted use under the Municipality of Clarington Official Plan (2007), the Region of Durham Official Plan (2008), the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan (2001), and the Greenbelt Plan (2005).

## 2.4 The Class Environmental Assessment Process

Randy provided an overview of the Class Environmental Assessment (EA) process.

A second Public Information Centre is planned for sometime in the fall where the details of the project will be presented along with the proposed mitigation measures. A draft Environmental Study Report (ESR) will be prepared and the community will have an opportunity to review the draft ESR and offer comments. Consultation activities as well as issues and concerns raised by affected parties during the process will be addressed and documented in the ESR. As Randy explained, the draft ESR will be circulated for a period of 30 days and following the review period it will be finalized and filed with the Ministry of the Environment. Once the final ESR has been filed with the MOE, the project is considered to be acceptable and may proceed as described in the ESR. There is an opportunity for concerned parties to submit a Part II Order request to the Minister of the Environment to elevate the status of the project (i.e., from a Class EA project to an Individual EA project). A Part II order request would be considered by the Minister of the Environment and a decision would be made.

Randy indicated that the closure of the Pickering NGS as early as 2015 requires Hydro One to commence construction in the Spring of 2013. This timing would ensure that the station is in service for 2015. He did note that if there is a decision made by the appropriate regulatory authorities and the Pickering NGS is allowed to continue to operate beyond 2015, there could be a slowdown in the timing for construction. At this time, Hydro One is working towards a spring 2013 construction start.

## 3.0 Comments & Questions

Following Randy's presentation, Karen Wianecki opened the floor for questions. The following questions and the answers provided have been captured and grouped into themes. Please note: Q denotes a question, A denotes the answer and C denotes a comment.

### Class EA

1. *Q: Is there any connection to the previous EA that was completed for the Enfield site that suggested the site be located west of Townline?*

Hydro One Position: As part of the Enfield EA, a study area was defined where potential sites would be identified and considered. "The study area is generally centred on the Oshawa Area Jct located just east of the Oshawa-Clarington municipal boundary extending approximately 2 km east and west and 600 m north and south." (p.9 of final Enfield ESR)

2. *Q: During the previous EA, certain habitats for endangered species were noted to be protected. Is the new station going to include endangered species?*

Hydro One Position: The ESR will take into account endangered species review. Studies regarding species at risk have been undertaken and the only species identified relates to butternut trees. Hydro One is also required to consider species of concern and a thorough review has been completed.

3. *Q: The previous EA noted that the site would be protected and called for the rehabilitation of the site to allow for the potential return of Loggerhead Shrike. Will this be taken into account when the current EA is being completed?*

Hydro One Position: Loggerhead Shrike was not found on the site. The notion of rehabilitation of the site to allow for the return of this species could be taken into account. To confirm, we have access to and have reviewed all of the material from the previous EA.

4. *C - from a community member: The beginning of this project suggested that this would be a small distribution station. There are a number of environmental issues – why did the 407 not route through here? Now we are at 100 acres and that requires a full Environmental Assessment. Why this site? You have open waters – springs – they feed the moraine. It is a major recharge area. We have talked about (transformer) explosions. We only have to have one and you have contaminated miles of water. These are not creeks or streams or veins of water that run underneath. Wells will be directly impacted even if heavy equipment is used on site. There has not been anything done to convince me that this project on top of the Oak Ridges Moraine makes any sense.*

C – Denise Jamal: I would like to address the issue of communications from Hydro One’s perspective. I know there were issues around consultation with the Enfield project. When we were starting the Clarington TS Class EA, we went beyond the requirements to ensure that we reached out to the community. We did this by hand delivering project notices to the community within a 2 km radius. The first Public Information Centre (PIC) had an attendance of 19. Many members of the community suggested that folks had not attended because they simply thought the meeting was about the Enfield site. Most did not realize that a new proposal was being considered by Hydro One. This is why a second Community Information Meeting is being held. Regardless of what has taken place in the past, Hydro One is committed to working with you. We will do our very best to address your concerns.

5. *C - from a community member: We have been working on these issues for 6 years. The first indication was that notice was provided that some sites were being considered for the Enfield transformer station. Some of the meetings were held in Oshawa and only 2 people showed up. There was an overwhelming number of Hydro One staff in attendance and a realtor who happened to be at the meeting shared information and noted that at that time, 7 sites were being considered. He noted that 7:1 odds suggest this would not occur in my backyard. There was a notice provided in the Clarington Times that indicated that the first EA completed by Stantec was going to be available for review from the reference section of the library in Oshawa for anyone with an interest in seeing it. I took the time to review that document and I noted that it contained a number of errors. A meeting was convened and there were two sites to be chosen: A is the chosen site and site B was off the moraine. The off Moraine site was noted as having a problem – why was site B included if there was a problem with it in the first place? A site further to the north was identified by community members. There is another environmental assessment and I am asked to proof and edit that document which I do. This is site C. The process sounds very scientific but in reality, community members found Site C and Site A is the one that you are focusing on. The current site that you are*

*focusing on is on the Moraine and in the Greenbelt and this takes away your credibility because you have not been truthful. This is the third group we have dealt with from Hydro One. The original people should come back and deal with us.*

6. Q: *Is there anyone here from Stantec?*

Hydro One Position: Stantec is not represented here tonight. They are not involved to the same extent that they were with the Enfield site. Stantec have been retained by Hydro One to complete only the natural features inventory. There is no engineering component in this phase that is being contracted out as there was in Enfield. Hydro One is completing the engineering work.

7. Q: *Do you know who did the EA for the Mississauga gas fired plant? Do you know who did the EA for Wesleyville? The EA for the Mississauga gas fired plant was not well done and it was peer reviewed. The EA has to be accurate and done correctly and if Stantec was employed in that EA we are concerned. Can you find out who completed the EA for the Mississauga gas fired plant?*

Hydro One Position: We don't know who did the EA for the Mississauga gas fired plant. It was not a Hydro One facility. In terms of the Wesleyville site, Ontario Hydro did the EA work. We can look into the Mississauga gas fired plant EA and find out who completed that for you, yes.

<p>ACTION: HYDRO ONE TO DETERMINE WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPLETING THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR GREENFIELD SOUTH POWER PROJECT?</p> <p>“Greenfield South Power Project”, it is a generation project under the Category B Generation projects under the O.Reg 116/01. The Environmental Screening and Review Report was dated 2005.</p>
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8. Q: *This is a major project. Does a project of this magnitude not require an individual EA?*

Hydro One Position: The proposed Clarington TS project, a 500/ 230 kV transformer station, falls within the criteria defined in the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities (1992, Ontario Hydro), which was approved by the Ministry of the Environment under the Environmental Assessment Act.

## **Need and Alternatives**

Q: *We asked in the spring for you to elaborate on the Cherrywood site and a detailed assessment of why it is not a feasible site. We are still waiting for that assessment. What is the problem with upgrading the Cherrywood site, this is still not clear. Can you elaborate?*

Hydro One Position: The Cherrywood site presents a number of technical challenges. In order for Cherrywood to accommodate an additional load, the entire site would have to be upgraded and while this could be done, it would be at a huge expense and some technical limitations would still remain.

9. Q: *Whether the transformer station is in Clarington or Pickering, what is the difference?*



OPA Position and Hydro One Position: There are 500 kV lines and 230 kV lines which converge at the Clarington site. Power comes from other places in the Province through the 500 kV lines and local transformers must be used to convert the voltage to 230 kV for local transmission. There is no 500 kV system anywhere near the Pickering GS site. A new autotransformer station would have to be developed at Pickering and a new 500 kV line would have to be constructed through the middle of the municipality of Pickering. There is an added complication in that the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station is a site owned by OPG, not Hydro One. To bring a new 500 kV line to Pickering, through an urbanized municipality and do that while Pickering is still in operation would be extremely challenging

10. Q: *Why can't Pickering be refurbished? Why don't we just put generation at Pickering? No one had a problem with the Enfield station. We agreed to the Enfield distribution station but every time you come back here, there is a bigger proposal and this one is for a huge transformer station that we never agreed to.*

OPA Position: Two of the nuclear units at Pickering A have already been refurbished. However, current information from OPG indicates that rather than refurbishing units at Pickering B they have decided to pursue the continued operation work, which may result in life extension to 2020.

C – *from a community member: The transformer station should be located somewhere else. Put it somewhere near Toronto on a cement pad.*

11. C – *John O'Toole: The reason we need this station is because we are closing Pickering. Pickering will not be closed in 2015; there is an under capacity of demand. We are looking at 10-12 years out and putting this into the timing, there is a swale in supply. All of the sequencing of what is done and what replaces it, there is a supply drop which is a significant challenge on the generation side. We will leave this on the floor.*

12. Q: *What is the rush? You came here two years ago and now you are admitting that there are changes in the supply of energy. There is a demand report issued by Hydro One in 2005. This area has capped out growth as a result of the Growth Plan. We have not been allocated enough jobs. The big users of energy are dying – reference made to the manufacturing sector. We are looking at a different equation and we have to have complete confidence that this is money well spent.*

OPA Position: You are absolutely right. The phasing out of Pickering by 2015 is not a certainty but by 2020, there is a high expectation that it will be gone. The concern was that the earliest it could be closed is 2015. However, you are right, the window is somewhere between 2015 and 2020. OPA must understand all of the risks and when OPA investigated this in conjunction with the IESO, both organizations determined that not having a facility in place for 2015 would result in too much risk. When Pickering closes, there will be 6 key generators that will no longer be available to serve the local area. When Pickering closes, the loss in generation capacity will have to be secured from other sources. Those other sources of electricity will flow from the 500 kV transmission system. The issue is how will the existing system accommodate that additional electricity flowing through the 500 / 230 kV transformers at Cherrywood. The primary concern is if

one of the 500 / 230 kV transformers at Cherrywood fails there is a very real probability that the existing three transformers would be substantially overloaded. To save the other transformers from damage would require having to reject 750 MW of electrical demand power in the east GTA. This 750 MW approximately equates to all the electricity demand of Pickering, Ajax, Whitby and Oshawa. A substantial number of customers would be without power for long periods and the risk from OPA's perspective and from the perspective of the IESO is too great. For these reasons, a new transformer station must be in operation for 2015.

13. Q: *What you are saying doesn't make logical sense. You had a failure at Cherrywood in 2005 and you were able to recover. You indicated in your comments that there was a failure at Cherrywood, how many times have there been failures at Cherrywood?. Perhaps this could be addressed in a separate meeting. If 25% of the electricity from Pickering is going to the east GTA, where is the balance of the electricity going? Is it fair to say there is a problem with the Cherrywood Station that would suggest it needs to be upgraded? Wouldn't Cherrywood be a more logical and strategic site location in terms of increasing your capacity? Would that not be a more strategic point to put it? Finally, do you have transformer station on site at Pickering? Why couldn't you build an independent structure in Pickering that would take out Cherrywood's function as a transformer station?*

OPA Position and Hydro One Position: The 2003 transformer failure at Cherrywood TS did not cause electricity supply problems because Pickering NGS was available to supply power to the local area in that situation. The concern we have is that when Pickering is no longer available there will be no back up source for failures of that nature. Hydro One has statistics that could be provided related to failure rates.

ACTION:	HYDRO ONE WILL PROVIDE FAILURE STATISTICS AT OUR NEXT PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE.
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The rate of failure is very low but the statistics can be provided because we have these for Cherrywood and for the other transformer stations. We have many transformer stations across the Province. The 500 / 230 kV transformers at Cherrywood can move power from the 500 kV system to the 230 kV or they can reverse direction and supply electrical energy from the 230 kV system to the 500 kV. They are designed to enable electricity to flow to where the power is needed. The failure at Cherrywood in 2003 resulted in an oil leak and small fire. The electricity system is examined and studied in detail by the OPA and IESO to monitor for reliability problems. The work is conducted by experts in the areas of power system planning and operations. These studies are complex and require specialized computational tools.

14. Q: *The impetus for the site is the closure of Pickering and the driving force is to have this done by 2015. Why does OPG's long-term planning include outages to 2020 and therefore why is there a great need since it takes 10-12 years to build this. This doesn't need to be done right away.*

OPA Position: The closure date is somewhere between 2015 and 2020. The earliest it could be completely phased out is 2015 and the consequence to supply reliability in the area is high because, as I said before, the transformers at Cherrywood would be overloaded for a single

failure. Based on the information we currently have, we cannot roll the dice and assume that Pickering will run until 2020. When we look at the risk, the consequence of reduced reliability to customers in East GTA is very high. The prudent thing to do is to have a transformer station in place by 2015 to ensure that the electrical service to such a large area is not interrupted for the single failure of a transmission system component. We are therefore looking at a 2015 date. However, if OPG provides information indicating that they have the necessary approvals to ensure a 2020 date, Hydro One could slow down the process. Hydro One could take its foot off the accelerator. This flexibility was requested in the letter that was sent to Hydro One from the OPA recommending the project. A copy of the letter is available and it does state that Hydro One could slow down when and if OPG gives the green light for a later phase out of Pickering NGS, by indicating that required approvals are in place.

### Power Related

15. Q: *Where does the power come from to service Cherrywood?*

A: Note – answer provided by the community member posing the question and said the site is serviced from Darlington.

16. Q: *So the power would come from Darlington and would come into Cherrywood, is that correct?*

Hydro One Position and OPA Position: Power is coming from a variety of locations. It is coming from Darlington, the Bruce and other generators in the Province. The 500 kV system connected to Cherrywood enables the delivery of bulk electrical energy from major generating stations across the Province.

17. Q: *Will there be more transmission lines coming to the site from Darlington? Are you going to pile down into the soil? How far down do you expect to go?*

Hydro One Position: One more 500kV line was planned for the future. Many of the footing would go down from about 8 – 13m.

18. Q: *There were 15 instances of breakdown and a significant breakdown that occurred on December 12, 2005. Is that because the site (Cherrywood TS) is not manned? There were elements of the breakdown that referenced spillage. Is the site manned around the clock?*

Hydro One Position: It (Cherrywood TS) is a manned station in that we have people working out of that location but it is not manned on a 24 hour 7 day a week basis. There are not people there all the time. The incidence of breakdown and failure is very low.

### Spill Response

19. Q: *Where is Cherrywood located? The mention the breakdown that took place in 2003, who lives around the Cherrywood site? If there is a fire and an oil leak what do I do? I just bought a property that will overlook this new transformer station.*

Hydro One Position: Cherrywood is adjacent to a residential area. The oil leak was in October 2003. One transformer failed during that incident and there was a leak and small fire. A small amount of transformer oil left the site and went into a watercourse nearby. All oil spilled off-site was recovered. There was no damage to the environment. The transformer oil is mineral oil. The Cherrywood site is about 100 acres in size.

20. *C- from a community member: We totally dispute your data. You are mistaken about what you said. The chemical product that is in the oil – it is not mineral oil. This is a document that I received 2 weeks ago which discusses the properties of transformer oil. It says you have to use protective equipment and protective gear when handling the oil. It speaks about a number of chemical properties in the oil. It also notes that there are many unknowns about the oil - vapour pressure, vapour density is not determined; melting and freezing is not determined; VOC is not determined. When you have a failure, the chemicals change into more volatile compounds. If you have an explosion on a transformer station, the chemicals will vaporize and be everywhere.*

C – from Hydro One: There are thousands of transformers everywhere and there is a detection system that is highly complex.

21. *C – from a community member: In 2005, the detection system failed. Anything manmade can fail. What it does is put the residents at risk in terms of water contamination. We cannot replace our water supply. This is the key issue. The best technology is still resulting in accidents happening but the risk of contamination is real and high.*

22. *C – John O’Toole: If you look at the entire energy supply for Ontario, there are 3 commitments: first, that all coal will close by 2015. Where will they get power from and there is no commitment on new building and the refurbishment at Darlington is 4 years per unit. There is a real depression in the supply side. Not one coal facility has been closed. There is a lot of stuff that constituents will be pressured with in the short term. I will raise this with Minister Bentley tomorrow and get a clarification of the political direction. The experts are concerned for the window of opportunity to replace this power. Wind doesn’t blow and solar doesn’t shine all the time. Where are the gas plants being built? They are all being built on the western side of the City. Just recently, they have refurbished the Bruce. Is this a 500 kv line? It has been brought to Toronto. There is a lot here and the way we consume energy and its peaks and balances. The way power is being steered around. There is an existing station that must be upgraded. We need to back the calendar up and allow for a more fulsome review by OPA and IESO. This plant is about \$300-400 million. I would like a copy of the OPA letter to Hydro One.*

Hydro One Position: The Bruce line is a 500 kV line. A copy of the letter from the OPA to Hydro One can and will be provided, no problem. Noted that a copy of the OPA letter has been provided to community members.

<b>ACTION:</b>	COPY OF THE LETTER FROM OPA TO HYDRO ONE TO BE PROVIDED TO JOHN O’TOOLE, MPP. COMPLETED BY HYDRO ONE.
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## Resident Concerns

23. Q: *There have been many studies. What are the positive or negative effects on property values? What plans do you have in place to address the potential negative effects on property values?*

Hydro One Position: Property values are most directly affected during the construction phase. There could be impacts at that time. As the project is built and finished, there are other factors that come into play but in my opinion, most of the impacts occur during construction.

24. C – *from a community member: We are being held hostage to our properties. Our retirement investment is in our house. We checked that we could build on our property and we also checked that this was Greenbelt and that it was part of the Moraine. We bought here on the understanding that this was a protected area and our investment would be protected. It was a real shock to get this. At this stage in our life, where do we go? How can we possibly sell our property with this right in our backyard? I am frustrated.*

25. C – *from a community member: People who purchased pieces of property would not know about this site. This needs to be disclosed.*

Hydro One Position: The site and configuration that you see now is in the Clarington Official Plan. It is designated as “utility” in the Official Plan.

26. Q: *Have all of you walked the site? Are you aware of the elevation here? Do you know how many wells you will dry up and how many veins of water you will destroy? Look at the situation that emerged in Milton. They are pumping water from the lake now.*

Hydro One Position: We have walked the site and we are aware of the elevation of the property. We are aware that it is on the Moraine.

27. Q: *If the well on my property is damaged will you fix it?*

Hydro One Position: We will test before, during and after construction. If there is any damage to wells, Hydro One will fix it.

28. C – *from a community member: I am concerned about vandalism on the Clarington site. This is a site that will not be manned. Vandalism is also a concern and an issue that needs to be addressed.*

## Other Comments

29. C – *from a community member: These issues take a lot of time; a lot of personal time. If I can offer you any advice, stay strong and stand together and don't get too frustrated. Ministry Of Environment needs to take the protection of the environment strongly. If I can offer my assistance to you, I would be happy to.*

30. *C – from a community member: We like the words prevent, prohibit not mitigate which is a weasel word that means soften. There is the impression that Hydro One was intending all along to build a transformer station in Clarington and that you simply tried to pull the wool over our eyes. Your credibility is at stake here given the history of this site. I was told on the QT by a Hydro One staff person some time ago that big plans were in the works for Site A, which is the site we are currently concerned with. I want confirmation of exactly how long this project has been underway? How long has this been in the planning stages and was it not your intention to build this all along?*

OPA Position and Hydro One Position: This property was bought in 1978. The need for a transformer station at this location was included in the first Integrated Power System Plan (IPSP). This site was called Oshawa Area TS at the time because it didn't have a formal name at the time. That IPSP was issued in 2007 and it was sent to the Ontario Energy Board for formal approval. However, the IPSP process was suspended and the plan was therefore not subjected to a review by the OEB. The work by Hydro One has been underway since October of 2011 following the recommendation from the OPA. Hydro One did not have any plans for building the Clarington transformer station at the time when it presented the Enfield site to you. The needs have changed and the operating environment has changed. The better understanding of potential closure dates for Pickering requires a new transformer station to be built.

31. *C – from a community member: A petition has been prepared. Anyone who has not already signed the petition is asked to do so.*

32. *Q: Are you aware of the 2005 position of the Professional Engineers Association of Ontario and their conclusion relating to the need to reduce peak load so that additional transmission capacity would not be required? Can you speak to this?*

Hydro One Position: Yes, we are aware of the demand side management. The reference is to smart metres and the position is to use smart metres and promote a reduction in demand. This issue relates to the demand side of the electricity equation. We are dealing here with the supply side. Demand side management will not solve this problem.

## **Follow Up**

33. *C – from a community member: There are many issues that we have raised and we have not even had an opportunity to discuss alternative sites. We would request a focused meeting with Hydro One so that we can discuss the answers to our questions in more detail and also so that we can bring additional information forward. Will Hydro One commit to meeting with us separately?*

Hydro One Position: Hydro One often works with Advisory Committees and Community Panels. We would be happy to meet with you. In fact, we have expected to receive a number of alternative sites from you but to date we have not received that information. If you have suggestions for alternative sites, we would like to see that information. Yes, we can commit to meet with you.

**ACTION:** CLINT COLE TO CONTACT DENISE JAMAL TO SET UP A SEPARATE MEETING WITH TECHNICAL STAFF TO REVIEW THE QUESTIONS, PROVIDE ANSWERS AND RECEIVE SUGGESTIONS FROM THE COMMUNITY REGARDING ALTERNATIVE SITES.

34. Q: *There have been a lot of questions and a lot of answers provided, some good and some not so good. Are we going to get formal answers emailed to us?*

Hydro One Position: Yes, we can commit to providing you with a copy of the proceedings and also with a formal response to the questions that have been raised.

**ACTION:** COPY OF MEETING PROCEEDINGS TO BE FORWARDED TO PARTICIPANTS. FORMAL RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS TO BE PROVIDED TO THE COMMUNITY BY HYDRO ONE.

35. C – Hydro One: Although the community would like to see this station built elsewhere, pending the necessary approvals, this site is Hydro One’s and OPA’s preferred location for the proposed Clarington TS. In this regard, Hydro One is requesting the community to provide us with your thoughts and input on how Hydro One could make this site and the station better for you and the community.

#### **4.0 Closing Remarks**

Karen took the opportunity to thank all in attendance for coming. She expressed her thanks to all for sharing their thoughts in a forthright and candid manner and expressed her thanks to all for raising these very important and very emotional issues in a respectful manner.

Karen noted that the proceedings from the session would be prepared and shared with the community. She referenced the comment forms again and the need to ensure participants sign the sign in sheet if they wish to be kept apprised of progress.

Meeting Concluded 9:30 pm.

## Appendix A



hydro one

Hydro One Networks

# Clarington Transformer Station

Presentation to Area Residents  
September 11, 2012  
Solina Community Hall, Solina

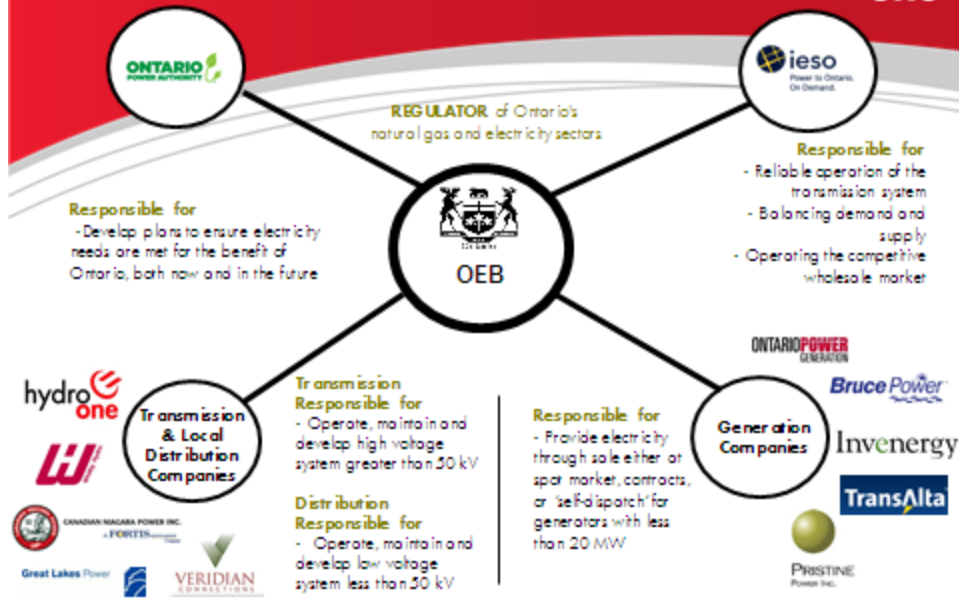


Our Purpose, Our Commitment hydro one

- Share information about the Environmental Assessment (EA) process
- Discuss proposed site and alternative sites
- Listen and hear what you have to say
- Where we go from here
- Answer questions

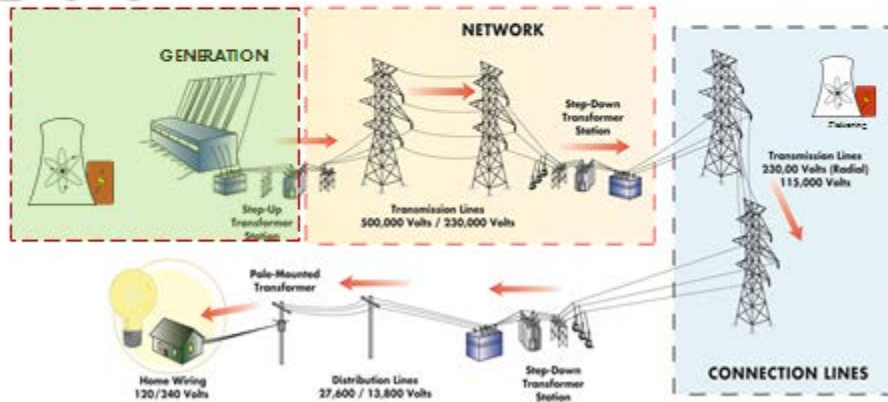


# Electricity Industry Structure



3

# Ontario's Electricity System



4

## Class EA Process



- Hydro One follows the requirements set out in the *Class EA for Minor Transmission Facilities* under the *Environmental Assessment Act*, approved by the Ministry of the Environment (MOE)
- The Class EA process ensures that transmission projects with a predictable range of effects are carried out in an environmentally acceptable manner and includes the following steps:
  - Consultation
  - Data collection
  - Draft Environmental Study Report for public review and comment
  - Resolve any outstanding issues. If dissatisfied with resolution, can write to the Minister of the Environment requesting a higher level assessment (Part II Order)
  - Final ESR filed with the MOE

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## Clarington Transformer Station



- Clarington Transformer Station (TS) will bring electricity from the Transmission Network to the Connection Network
- Needed to address the eventual closure of Pickering Nuclear Generating Station (NGS)
- Pickering NGS supplies as much as 25% of the east GTA's electricity demand
- Clarington TS will not generate electricity, it will support existing demand
- Clarington TS is required to ensure continued safe and reliable electrical supply to existing and future customers in the east GTA

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## Discuss Proposed Site And Alternative Sites



- Cherrywood TS
- Parkway TS
- Alternative Sites
- Why Clarington Site

7

## Next Steps



Public Information Centre #2	Fall 2012
Draft Environmental Study Report (ESR) Review Period	Fall 2012
Submit Final ESR to the Ministry of Environment	Winter 2012/13
Begin Construction	Spring 2013
Station In-service	Spring 2015

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## Questions & Answers

- Tel: 1-877-345-6799 or 416-345-6799
- E-Mail: [Community.Relations@HydroOne.com](mailto:Community.Relations@HydroOne.com)
- <http://www.hydroone.com/Projects>