

Hydro One Métis Nation of Ontario Engagement Session- May 13th

Responses to follow-up questions

A participant noted that Hydro One had cut down a number of trees in the North Bay area to avoid interruptions due to weather but they had not cut down the right trees.

For us to be able to follow up internally we need to know (i) the location of the “wrong trees”- and what are the trees that should have been cut down but weren't? Additionally, it may be helpful to know the timeframe (when/how long ago) did this occur. Hydro One Forestry followed up directly with the meeting guests to address this comment

If there is oil spill from a Hydro one transformer on residential property, how do we clean it up?

Hydro One dispatches a crew to investigate all potential spills that are reported by customers/property owners. The responding crew is trained to do initial containment, complete small cleanups and report internally. A 24X7 On-Call Environment Contact is notified and an Emergency Response Contractor and an Environment & Health Technician are mobilized to complete the larger cleanups, excavating impacted areas. All spills are reported internally in our EHSM data base (Internal reporting system) and external reporting is completed as legally required.

Do we notify the home owner regarding the same and provide them with details as to how we cleaned it up?

Yes, the customer/property owner is informed and the clean-up method is often discussed. Depending on the type of material spilt (pre-1985 electrical insulating oil) the property owner is sent a follow up letter with oil analysis and potentially soil confirmation analysis.

Can potential home buyer access information regarding such oil spills that may have occurred at a residential property they are considering buying?

Hydro One does not provide access to this information. We treat these types of queries on a case-by-case basis. Potential purchasers should be asking the seller for this

information, the seller should disclose. For this reason, we provide letters & lab analysis reports on potential PCB spills. Purchasers can also go down the road of a Freedom of Information request to the Ministry Of Environment and Climate Change.

What about Species at Risk legislation when it comes to cutting trees down to protect the lines?

Hydro One takes its responsibility with respect to Species at Risk (SAR) very seriously. During the planning of vegetation management on rights-of-way or line maintenance projects, Hydro One works with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) and other stakeholders to identify if there are any SAR in the work location. If a SAR is identified, we will try to avoid any effects on the species. This may be able to be done with the scheduling of work to a time of year when the work will not affect the species, avoiding accessing the area that the species is in or changing vegetation management technique. If it is not possible to avoid the impact, we will develop a plan to minimize or mitigate the effect. The plan will be registered with MNRF as required in Ontario Regulation 242/08 under the Ontario Endangered Species Act (OESA).

On larger projects, we work with MNRF, stakeholders and often hire a consultant to identify SAR or SAR habitat in the vicinity of the project. This information is taken into account during the design of the project. We will apply for any permits required under the OESA. We will also comply with the Federal Species at Risk Act, where it applies. For larger projects, we usually develop a restoration plan for post construction with biodiversity in mind depending on the surrounding land uses. Currently, we are working with OMAFRA, MNRF, the David Suzuki Foundation and other stakeholders on the creation of pollinator habitat on some of the transmission Right of Way and station sites.

We have developed materials to train our staff in the identification of Species at Risk and the processes to follow if they are identified in the work area. We have several biologists that are employed by Hydro One that advise on SAR mitigation and habitat creation.

What are wood poles treated with and could this negatively affect vegetation in the area?

The types of chemical used to treat our wood poles depend on the type of wood. Hydro One uses Copper Chromated Arsenate (CCA) for treating Cedar poles and CCA-PEG

(Polyethylene glycol) for treating Pine poles. Hydro One's poles go through a treatment fixation process which affixes the treatment to the wood and limits any leaching. There may be some minor surface leaching, but this will typically take place while the poles are still in storage, prior to installation. There are no concerns with our treatment negatively affecting vegetation in the area of where the pole is installed.

Does Hydro One have an employment coordinator that could assist them with the process of applying to apprenticeships?

All applications must be submitted online via the www.PWU.ca website. For any issues, the Power Workers Union (PWU) can be reached at: Toll Free: 1-800-958-8798. They can also email Aboriginal.Recruitment@HydroOne.com

What are some of the interview techniques used by Hydro One?

Hydro One uses a number of interview techniques – behavioural questions, scenario based questions, presentations where candidates are asked to develop and deliver a presentation on a particular topic as well as some testing for things like Excel. As part of the interview process we also conduct psychometric assessments where candidates are asked to answer a number of questions on their computer.

How does Hydro One hire for promotions- are efforts focused on internal promotions?

Hydro One must abide by the collective agreement with regards to vacancies or promotions. For all management positions, Hydro One has a robust development and performance plan that all employees are asked to participate in.

Where are Hydro One's training facilities located?

Hydro One has training facilities in Kleinberg and Orangeville.