

NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND INVITATION TO COMMUNITY INFORMATION CENTRE

Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) has initiated an Individual Environmental Assessment (EA) under the *Environmental Assessment Act* for the proposed Lake Superior Link project. The Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO) Updated Assessment of the Need for the East-West Tie Expansion, 2017 states that a new transmission line "...continues to be the recommended alternative to maintaining a reliable and cost-effective supply of electricity in Northwestern Ontario for the long term."

The EA will study the routes identified on the enclosed map for the new 400 km, double-circuit 230 kilovolt transmission line between Lakehead Transformer Station (TS) near Thunder Bay and Wawa TS near Wawa. The reference route generally parallels Hydro One's existing East-West Tie transmission corridor with the exception of a new section of corridor near Dorion and a section through Pukaskwa National Park where existing infrastructure would be modified. The reference route alternative sections generally parallel Hydro One's existing East-West Tie transmission corridor with the exception of the portion that bypasses Pukaskwa National Park and a section along the existing corridor in the Loon Lake and Dorion areas.

The Process

In September 2018, Hydro One submitted a Terms of Reference (ToR) to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (Minister) for review and decision. The ToR sets out the framework and work plan for addressing *Environmental Assessment Act* requirements when preparing the EA, including an outline of the studies and consultation activities that will be undertaken. The ToR is currently under review by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) and has not yet been approved. If approved by the Minister, the EA will proceed as outlined in the ToR.

In anticipation of a decision on Hydro One's ToR, Hydro One will be hosting a series of Community Information Centres in support of the EA as indicated in this Notice. The EA will be carried out according to the approved ToR and the requirements of the *Environmental Assessment Act*.

A draft EA will be made available for review and comment during the winter of 2019. Hydro One anticipates that the EA will be completed in early-spring 2019, at which point it will be submitted to the Minister for review and decision.

Consultation

Indigenous communities, government agencies, municipal officials, members of the public and other interested persons are encouraged to actively participate in the planning process. Consultation and engagement opportunities will be organized throughout the planning process and communicated through community newspaper advertisements, mailings and on the project website. Members of Hydro One's project team are always available to discuss the project with interested parties.

We will be hosting a round of Community Information Centres as outlined below to provide project updates and to continue discussions about delivering tangible benefits to communities in the project area.

Please join us:

Monday December 10

Schreiber

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Schreiber Municipal Gym
204 Alberta Street

Terrace Bay

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Terrace Bay Community Center
1 Selkirk Avenue

*Snow date January 7, 2019

Tuesday December 11

Nipigon

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 32
102 5th Street

Marathon

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Community Hall Gym
2 Stevens Avenue

*Snow date January 8, 2019

Wednesday December 12

Red Rock

12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Royal Canadian Legion Branch 226
41 Salls Street

Dorion

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Dorion Community Centre
175 Dorion Loop Road

White River

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 169
108 Winnipeg Street

*Snow date January 9, 2019

Thursday December 13

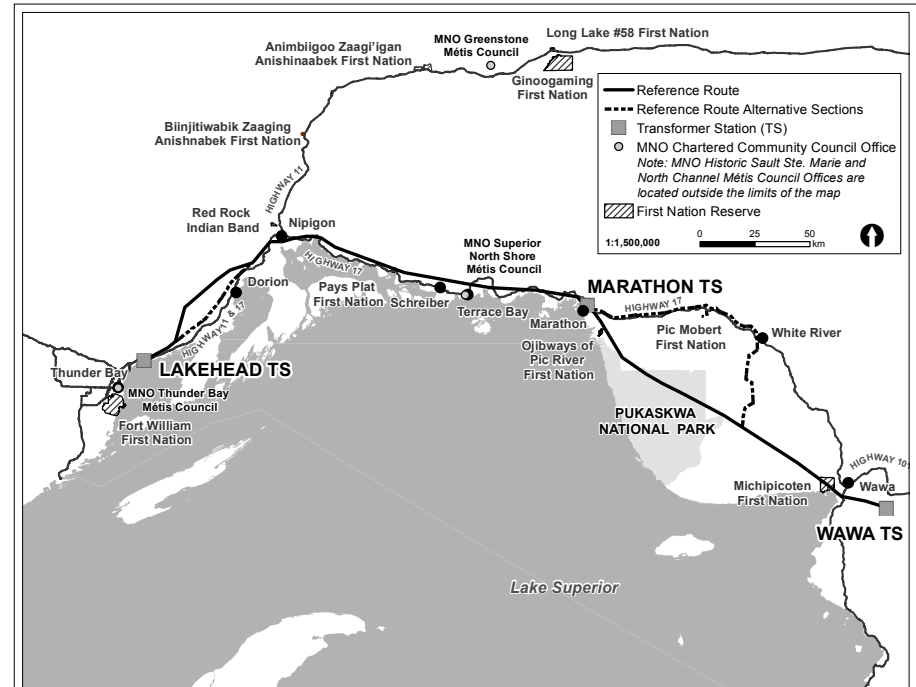
Thunder Bay

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Valhalla Inn, Ballroom 1,
1 Valhalla Inn Road

Wawa

5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 429
51 Broadway Avenue

*Snow date January 10, 2019



Information gathered at these Community Information Centres will be used to complete the EA.

For further information about this project, please contact:

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