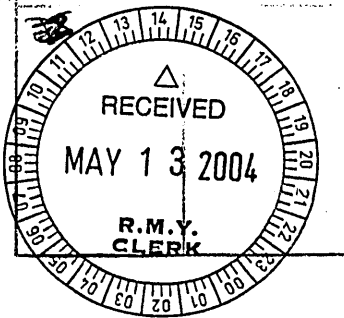




TOWNSHIP OF KING

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KING CITY, ONTARIO L7B 1A1
REGION OF YORK
CLERK'S DEPARTMENT

MAY 14 2004



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May 7th, 2004

REGION OF YORK
CLERK'S OFFICE

FILE No. - T04

→ Planning
T+W

Yuri Huminilowycza, Director, Real Estate
Hydro One Networks Inc.
483 Bay Street
North Tower, 15th Floor
15th Floor
TORONTO ON M5G 2P5

Dear Mr. Huminilowycza

RE: Hydro One Networks
Northern York Region Supply Study
Adequacy of Transmission Facilities and Transmission Supply Plan

Please find enclosed for your information and file an extract of the Committee of the Whole Report of April 19th, 2004 outlining your presentation to the Committee on the proposed transmission project to reinforce electricity supply to northern York Region which described 2 possible routes for increasing capacity by rebuilding transmission lines on existing hydro corridors.

Also enclosed is a copy of Planning Department Report P-2004-16 regarding the above-proposal and discussing a corporate position for the Township on the alternative routes, which was considered by the Committee of the Whole at its meeting on May 3rd, 2004. Council adopted the recommendations of the Report and requested that Hydro One Networks be advised that the Township of King opposes Alternative 2 as it will traverse a much broader extent of the Oak Ridges Moraine and generally will pass through more environmentally sensitive lands than Alternative 1. Council is also concerned about the affect of Alternative 2 on the adjoining rural lands, and noted that Alternative 2 is longer than and therefore would cost more to the Ontario tax-payers to construct than would Alternative 1. Council further wishes to point out that the proposed improvements do not appear to have substantial benefits to the Township of King, and should be hosted by those municipalities that will derive the benefit. An extract of the Committee of the Whole Report of May 3rd, 2004 regarding Report P-2004-16 is enclosed.

Yours truly

Chris Somerville

Chris Somerville
Township Clerk
Encls.

c.c. Carmine Marcello, Director, System Development Division Hydro-One Networks
Gary Schneider, Manager- Transmission Approvals
✓ Denis Kelly, Regional Clerk, Region of York
Hon. Greg Sorbara, Minister of Finance, MPP Vaughan-King-Aurora
Julia Munro, MPP York North

DATE: May 3, 2004
TO: Committee of the Whole
FROM: Planning Department
SUBJECT: Planning Report No. P-2004-16
Hydro One Transmission Line Project

1. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Planning Department respectfully submits the following recommendations:

- A. That Planning Report No. P-2004-16 be received as information and forwarded to Hydro One.
- B. That the Township of King advise Hydro One that the Township supports Alternative 1 as the preferred transmission line.
- C. That the Township include Notice of the Public Information Centres on the Township Website.
- D. Township staff continue to monitor the process and report back to Council as necessary.

2. **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to advise Committee and Council with respect to a need for and proposal to expand the existing transmission facilities to provide additional electricity to northern York Region and establish a corporate position with respect to the alternative routes.

3. **BACKGROUND**

The existing transmission lines and facilities delivering electricity to northern York Region are expected to reach capacity by the winter of 2005/6. In addition, the proposed line would benefit Markham, Vaughan and Richmond Hill by addressing the supply capacity. The loss of either one of the current supply lines could severely impact a wide area within each of the three municipalities. Hydro One has proposed to address the identified need through the construction of a 230kV double circuit transmission line utilizing one of the following alternative routes:

- o Alternative 1 – rebuild Hydro One’s existing transmission line between the Parkway Transformer Station in Markham to Armitage Transformer Station at the south end of Newmarket.
- o Alternative 2 – rebuild Hydro One’s existing transmission line between Clairville Transformer Station in Vaughan (Woodbridge) to Armitage Transformer Station at the south end of Newmarket.

Both of the above noted alternatives would replace an existing line on the corridor.

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The need for the project has been established by the various York Region utilities and Hydro One through a joint planning study completed in July 2003.

The above noted transmission line is subject to both an Environmental Assessment approval and Ontario Energy Board approval. The proposed line is intended to be in service by late 2006, subject to receiving all approvals and obtaining the necessary easement rights.

4. DISCUSSION

The two alternative routes are shown on Appendix 'A'. Alternative 1 is a 24 km line on an existing transmission corridor. The transmission line would travel through Markham, Whitchurch-Stouffville, Richmond Hill, and Aurora to the south end of Newmarket. The current line is 115kV and would require rebuilding the transmission line on the existing corridor to provide a 230kV double circuit line.

Alternative 2 is an approximately 44 km line also on an existing corridor. The transmission line would travel through Vaughan and King Township before making its way into Newmarket. The current line is a 230kV line and would require a new 44km 230 kV double circuit line to be constructed adjacent to the existing 230 kV circuits.

A review of the material provided to date suggests that the improvements would result in some benefit to the rural area surrounding Newmarket and Aurora, although no specifics are provided. The need appears to be necessary to respond to capacity limits due to significant growth throughout York Region from 1997 to 2002 and anticipated future growth.

At this early stage in the process the broad based issues can generally be categorized as follows: nearby landowner effects, environmental effects, easements, and cost.

Both alternative routes pass through existing and proposed residential and commercial areas. A preliminary assessment of the two routes would suggest that Alternative 2 would appear to have a longer length of the transmission lines through existing and proposed residential and commercial areas than Alternative 1.

Both alternative transmission lines would have to cross the Oak Ridges Moraine. Hydro One will have to address any effects of the project on the environment. A preliminary review indicates that Alternative 2 traverses a much broader extent of the Oak Ridges Moraine and generally more sensitive lands.

It is not clear to Township staff at this point as to the extent to which each of the existing transmission corridors are owned by Hydro One or located within easements. It will be necessary for Hydro One to assess the existing rights and need for new easement agreements. Given the varying length of the two alternative routes, it can be expected that Alternative 1 will involve fewer properties and property owners. Similarly, it is anticipated that Alternative 1 will be significantly less expensive to build than Alternative due to its significantly shorter length.

As previously noted, the proposed transmission line is subject to both an Environmental Assessment approval and Ontario Energy Board approval. The proposed line is intended to be

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in service by late 2006, subject to receiving all approvals and obtaining the necessary easement rights. The following table illustrates the Schedule proposed by Hydro One.

Schedule	Task
Mar- Apr 2004	Meetings with local utilities , Regional & municipal staff
Late Apr. 2004	Public Open House #1
Late Jun 2004	Public Open House #2
Early Jul 2004	File Class EA report
Early Aug 2004	Class EA approval
Early Aug. 2004	File OEB application
Early May 2005	OEB approval
Jun. 2005	Begin Construction
Nov. 2006	Transmission Line in service

Several Public Information Centres (PIC) are scheduled for late April and early May. Details of the location and times are shown on Appendix 'B'. One of the PIC's is scheduled to take place in the Township on May 5, 2004 at the Kettleby-Pottageville Lions Community Hall. It is recommended that the Township include notice of the May 5th PIC on the Township Website.

5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None at this time.

6. CONCLUSIONS

The existing Hydro One transmission facilities to Newmarket and surrounding area are reportedly expecting to reach capacity by the winter of 2005/6. Hydro One is proposing to address this need through the construction of a transmission line within one of two alternative existing transmission corridors. Based on a preliminary assessment it would appear that Alternative 1, through the municipalities of Markham, Whitchurch-Stouffville, Richmond Hill, Aurora and Newmarket would have the least impact on existing and proposed residential and commercial lands, least impact on the Oak Ridges Moraine, require fewer easements and is shorter and less costly to construct. Based on the above information, it is recommended that the Township of King advise Hydro One that Alternative 1 is in the opinion of the Township, the preferred route.

7. ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A – Alternative Routes

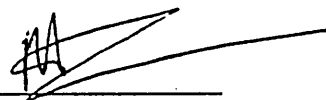
Appendix B – Public Information Centre – Schedule

Prepared and recommended by:

Reviewed and Approved by:



Stephen Kitchen, B.E.S.
Director of Planning



Bob Casselman
C.A.O.

