

PUC Transmission LP - 230 kV Transmission Project Notice of Completion of Draft Environmental Study Report and Notice of Public Information Centre #2

As the next step in the 230 kV Transmission Project, PUC Transmission LP (PUC) has completed a draft Environmental Study Report (ESR). This document outlines the Class Environmental Assessment (EA) process conducted to date and will be available for a 30-day public review and comment period, beginning on August 2nd, 2022 and ending on August 31st, 2022.

THE STUDY

In March 2022, PUC initiated a Class EA to evaluate alternatives for a double circuit 230 kilovolt (kV) line and a transformer station in the city of Sault Ste. Marie as part of an electrical supply expansion related to load increases at Algoma Steel. The 230 kV line, which will be approximately 14 km long, will start from Third Line Transformer Station (TS) in Sault Ste. Marie, and will terminate at a new transformer station, which will be located near the Algoma Steel plant.

Through this Class EA, five alternative route segments and three station options, as well as their associated variations, were evaluated. Based on environmental, social, and technical information collected, including feedback received, **Route Alternative D** and **Station Option 1-A** were selected as the preferred options for the new transmission line and station. These options are shown on the map below, and in more detail at www.PUCTransmissionLP.com.

The draft ESR summarizes the EA process, route and station alternatives, environmental information collected, consultation undertaken, route and station evaluation and selection process, potential environmental effects, and the measures proposed to mitigate the effects.

Having reached this milestone in the electricity transmission planning process, PUC will continue to work with landowners and other stakeholders as design and construction planning continues.

Next Steps and Providing Your Input:

The draft ESR will be available for comment from August 2nd to August 31st, 2022. The draft ESR can be viewed electronically on PUC's website at www.PUCTransmissionLP.com. Written comments or questions on the draft ESR must be received by the Project Team no later than **5:00PM on Wednesday, August 31st, 2022**, for consideration prior to finalizing the Class EA process.

During the review period, PUC will respond to and make best efforts to resolve any issues raised by concerned parties. Following the review period, PUC will finalize the ESR and file it with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks (MECP). The Project will then be considered acceptable to proceed as outlined in the ESR.

A request may be made to the MECP for an order requiring a higher level of study (i.e., requiring comprehensive EA approval before being able to proceed), or that conditions be imposed (e.g., require further studies); however, only on the grounds that the requested order may prevent, mitigate, or remedy adverse impacts on constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights. The MECP will not consider requests on other grounds. It should be noted that the proponent can legally proceed with the Project under the *Environmental Assessment Act* if no Part II Order requests are submitted during the comment period.

Requests should include the requester's contact information, as well as specify what kind of order is being requested (request for conditions or comprehensive EA), how an order may prevent, mitigate, or

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remedy potential adverse impacts on Aboriginal and treaty rights, and any information in support of the statements in the request. The request should be sent in writing or by email to:

Minister of Environment

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation,
and Parks
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Minister.mecp@ontario.ca

Environmental Assessment Branch

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
135 St. Clair Avenue West, 1st Floor
Toronto, ON M4V 1P5
EABDirector@ontario.ca

Requests should also be copied to PUC per the contact information provided below. Please visit the ministry's website for more information about requests for orders under section 16 of the *Environmental Assessment Act* at: www.ontario.ca/page/class-environmental-assessments-part-ii-order.

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE #2

Public input and feedback are an important part of project planning. The Class EA process provides opportunities for us to hear from you. We encourage you to attend our upcoming Public Information Centre (PIC) to learn more about the preferred route and station evaluation and selection process. Members of the Project Team will be available to discuss the approvals process, environmental studies, considerations, and mitigation measures, as well as the anticipated construction schedule.

IN-PERSON PIC #2 DETAILS* Date: August 16 th , 2022 Time: 4:30PM to 7:00PM Location: Northern Community Centre (556 Goulais Ave, Sault Ste. Marie, ON, P6C 5A7) Registration: Please sign-in at the PIC	VIRTUAL PIC #2 DETAILS Date: August 18 th , 2022 Time: 6:00PM to 7:30PM Location: To be held virtually via Zoom (Link to be provided upon registration) Registration: visit www.PUCTransmissionLP.com
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* Please note that masks are required for the in-person PIC.

To provide comments, request information, or be added to the Project mailing list, please contact either of the following Project Team members or visit our website at: www.PUCTransmissionLP.com.

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All personal information included in a submission – such as name, address, telephone number, and property location – is collected, maintained, and disclosed to the MECP for the purpose of transparency and consultation. The information is collected under the authority of the *Environmental Assessment Act* or is collected and maintained for the purpose of creating a record that is available to the general public as described in Section 37 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Personal information you submit will become part of a public record that is available to the general public unless you request that your personal information remain confidential. For more information, please contact the Ministry's Freedom of Information and Privacy Coordinator at 416-327-1434.



