

Hydro One Networks Inc.
Community Relations
483 Bay St., 6th Fl. South Tower
Toronto, ON M5G 2P5

Tel: 1-877-345-6799
416-345-6799
Community.Relations@HydroOne.com



www.HydroOne.com

March 27, 2017

Mayor Ken Antaya and Members of Council
Town of LaSalle
5950 Malden Road
LaSalle, ON N9H 1S4

**Hydro One 2017 Transmission Line Improvements and Emergency Vegetation Maintenance Work
in the Town of LaSalle**

Dear Mayor Antaya and Council:

In April, Hydro One will begin transmission line improvement work and emergency vegetation maintenance on its 230 kilovolt (kV) electricity transmission corridor in the Town of LaSalle. A map of the transmission corridor and the vegetation maintenance project area is attached for your reference.

The transmission line improvement work within the Town of LaSalle is part of a larger refurbishment project on this power line between Chatham-Kent and Windsor. This project involves replacing aging components, such as insulators, as well as cleaning and coating tower foundations and the steel towers themselves to ensure the integrity and longevity of these critical assets. Crews will begin their work in mid-April and plan to complete the project in stages, subject to the ability to de-energize the transmission line to ensure a safe working environment. This transmission line improvement project is expected to be completed in December 2017. Local residents will not experience a power interruption as a result of this work, as supply to local distribution stations will be rerouted.

As well, Hydro One has a responsibility to keep vegetation clear of power lines to ensure public and worker safety, service reliability, and compliance with industry and regulatory standards. Hydro One has assessed the vegetation conditions on this corridor and has identified some vegetation that has reached a height that poses an imminent risk to the safe, reliable operation of this important transmission line that supplies power for customers of EnWin Utilities, Essex Powerlines Corporation and Hydro One. As such, Hydro One needs to conduct emergency 'make safe' work on the corridor between LaSalle's Brunet Park and Malden Transformer Station in the City of Windsor. This emergency work will begin in early April and will take two weeks to complete. Additional vegetation maintenance will likely be required by the end of 2017 to ensure the ongoing integrity and reliability of the system.

Hydro One consults with authorities such as the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), local forestry staff and conservation authorities to identify any environmental features required for consideration in advance of executing its vegetation maintenance projects. In this area, the MNRF has indicated this corridor could include species at risk.

To that end, Hydro One has received approval from the MNRF for a two-stage approach which includes immediate emergency 'make safe' vegetation maintenance while Hydro One completes environmental field studies to develop a long-term vegetation maintenance program for this corridor. We want to reiterate that the immediate work this spring will focus only on vegetation that could potentially compromise safety and cause an unnecessary power outage if left untreated before the start of the growing season. Once the long-

term plan has been developed and discussed with local officials, the remainder of the vegetation management work would be undertaken later in 2017.

We look forward to discussing this work with Council at its meeting on March 28. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 1-877-345-6799 or by email at Community.Relations@HydroOne.com.

Best regards,



Natalie Poole-Moffatt
VP of Corporate Affairs
Hydro One Networks Inc.

Attach.

cc:

Kevin Miller, Chief Administrative Officer
Brenda Andreatta, Director of Council Services/Clerk
Neil Anderson, Hydro One Forestry Manager
Ani Bekmezian, Hydro One Community Relations Officer

