

## Memo

### Planning Services Department

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**To:** Mayor and Members of Council  
**From:** Faye Langmaid, Acting Director of Planning Services  
**Date:** August 29, 2019  
**Subject:** **Clarington Transformer**  
**File:** PLN 26.14.1

At the June 10, Council Meeting Council ratified the following resolution #C-230-19 from the June 3 Planning and Development Committee.

As indicated in an email of July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019 to Mayor and Members of Council, I had received a response from MECP and Dr. Gerber of CLOCA regarding two of the items in the resolution and was waiting for a response from Hydro One.

The email also provided an update on the drilling of the additional borehole at the Clarington Transformer MW5-14 site by G360 Group and the Oak Ridges Moraine Ground Water Monitoring Group. I requested an update from the research group on the tritium/helium sampling of the boreholes at MW5-14 (the private well sampling occurred in 2016).

I have now received responses to all of the inquires and they are outlined below

That Council receive the communication from Clint Cole Chair of the Enniskillen Environmental Association regarding Groundwater Protection Issues surrounding the Clarington Transformer Station;

That the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks be requested to re-establish a Community Liaison Committee to share new information and provide transparent, public reporting by Hydro One to the community;

Please see Attachment 1;

That Hydro One be requested to do the following:

- a) Extend the existing groundwater monitoring program for private wells beyond 2021;
- b) Participate in and facilitate the re-established Community Liaison Committee;
- c) Provide replacement wells for residents that have experienced supply and contamination issues; and

- d) Provide additional arm's length professional oversight private well of the monitoring which is being done by Hydro One's consultant.

Please see Attachment 2;

That Staff are to confirm with CLOCA the arrangements for the monitor at well MW5-14 and to clarify the monitoring by the Oak Ridges Moraine Groundwater Program and G360 drilling of the air rotary well and access to the site.

Please see Attachment 3, my email from July 17 outlining CLOCA's agreement;

The drilling was completed last month. The researchers are allowing the installations to "settle" and are monitoring groundwater levels until they stabilize. 8 monitoring ports were installed within a single borehole between depths of 170 to 300 feet below ground surface. This gives the researchers monitoring ports within the lower part of the Newmarket till that extends from ground surface, and monitoring ports within the underlying Thorncliffe Formation aquifer. The researchers are currently compiling the information collected during the drilling program and will issue an update when they are finished collating all of the data. Any groundwater sampling (such as tritium/helium sampling) and lab analysis will not occur until after the monitoring system has stabilized.

The final report from our Peer Review consultant, Steve Usher of SLR Consulting is due in October of 2019 and we anticipate that by that time there will be additional information to share from Hydro One's annual report and the work of G360 Group.

Yours truly,



Faye Langmaid, FCSLA, RPP  
Acting Director of Planning Services

/jp

cc. Enniskillen Environmental Association  
CAO and Department Heads  
G360 Group  
Steve Usher, SLR Consulting

Attachment 1, email from Celeste Dugas, MECP  
Attachment 2, letter from Daniel Levitan, Hydro One  
Attachment 3, my email from July 17 outlining CLOCA's agreement

**Langmaid, Faye**

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**From:** Dugas, Celeste (MECP) <Celeste.Dugas@ontario.ca>  
**Sent:** June 19, 2019 9:56 AM  
**To:** Langmaid, Faye  
**Subject:** RE: Request regarding Clarington Transformer

Faye,

Construction of the Clarington Transformer Station was completed in the first quarter of 2017 and the station was fully energized and operational as of October 6, 2017.

Condition 5.1 and 5.2 of the Minister's Decision state the following;

5.1 The Proponent shall be responsible for the formation of a Community Liaison Committee, should members of the public or other parties be interested in participating. The CLC shall be established by the Proponent within 6 months of the Minister's decision of the Part II Order requests for the Project. The CLC shall be established for the purposes of disseminating and exchanging information and monitoring results relevant to the project during detailed design and construction, and discussing any issues or concerns raised by CLC members.

5.2 The Proponents shall invite representative(s) of the Enniskillen Environmental Association and members of the public that expressed interest in the Project. Meetings shall be held as may be required or on an annual basis until Project operation. A notice of the CLC meeting shall be posted on the Proponent's website two weeks prior to the meeting, and sent to all CLC members

On November 9, 2017 the ministry notified Hydro One that following the last Community Liaison Committee (CLC) meeting, which was held on November 23, 2017, the requirements under Conditions 5.1 and 5.2 of the Minister's Decision were satisfied and no further CLC meetings were required.

Although Hydro One has met the requirements of the Minister's Decision and are no longer required to hold CLC meetings, Hydro One can choose to continue to engage and meet with community members and to re-establish the CLC. I understand that you will also be reaching out to Hydro One with this request for their consideration.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss further.  
Sincerely,

***Celeste Dugas***  
District Manager  
York Durham District Office

Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
230 Westney Road South, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Ajax, ON L1S 7J5  
[celeste.dugas@ontario.ca](mailto:celeste.dugas@ontario.ca)  
Phone: (905)442-3105

**From:** Langmaid, Faye <[flangmaid@clarington.net](mailto:flangmaid@clarington.net)>  
**Sent:** June-05-19 9:34 AM  
**To:** Dugas, Celeste (MECP) <Celeste.Dugas@ontario.ca>  
**Subject:** Request regarding Clarington Transformer

Hi Celeste

On Monday evening Council had a request from the Enniskillen Environmental Association that the Community Liaison Committee for the Clarington Transformer be re-established as follows:

That the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks be requested to re-establish a Community Liaison Committee to share new information and provide transparent, public reporting by Hydro One to the community;

There were also requests of Hydro One which I will be sending to them. Happy to discuss further so that you understand the context of the EEA request.

Faye Langmaid

Manager of Special Projects

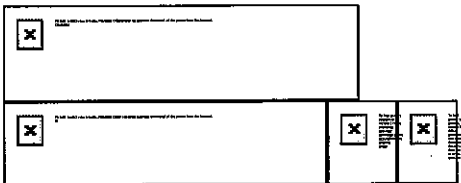
Planning Services Department

Municipality of Clarington

40 Temperance Street, Bowmanville ON L1C 3A6

905-623-3379 ext. 2407 | 1-800-563-1195

[www.clarington.net](http://www.clarington.net)



**Daniel Levitan**

Director, Government Relations and Public Affairs

Dear Mayor and Council:

August 29, 2019

On behalf of Hydro One, thank you for the opportunity to respond to the resolution brought forward by the Enniskillen Environmental Association regarding Clarington Transformer Station (TS). Please find below our responses to each of the requests outlined in the resolution.

**1) Extend the existing groundwater monitoring for private wells beyond 2021:**

For the past seven years, we have completed substantive studies and monitoring activities at Clarington TS and remain confident that no adverse effects on the shallow groundwater system or in shallow or deep private wells within 1,200 metres of the station property have occurred.

Since the beginning of the project, we have maintained our commitment to ensuring that the Clarington Transformer Station does not adversely affect well water for neighbours in the area during the construction and operation of the station. Throughout our work at the site we've demonstrated this commitment through investing in initiatives to study and obtain scientific data directly from the site.

While we are committed to voluntarily extend the private well monitoring component of the program to participating well owners until 2022, we do not believe further on-site or private well monitoring is warranted.

**2) Participate in and facilitate the re-established Community Liaison Committee:**

Following the final Community Liaison Committee (CLC) meeting in November 2017, Hydro One has remained committed to continue to communicate with the community and maintain a strong relationship with local residents. As you may recall, the Community Liaison Committee (CLC) was established for the purpose of communicating and exchanging information during the design and construction phases of the project as per the Minister's Decision and Terms of Reference for the Committee. Following the completion of construction, the conditions of this committee were satisfied.

We have remained accessible to members of the community to share information and monitoring results and address inquiries. We encourage members of the community to continue to contact our Community Relations team at [community.relations@hydroone.com](mailto:community.relations@hydroone.com) should they have additional questions.

**3) Provide replacement wells for residents that have experienced supply and contamination issues:**

Through the construction and current operation of the station, we have remained committed to protecting the local water supply through our Well Interference Response Plan. To date, Stantec's assessments have confirmed that not one of the well interference complaints received were a result of the construction or operation of the Clarington TS.

We remain confident in the Well Interference Response Process and committed to offering this resource throughout the duration of the private well monitoring program. In the unlikely event it is

determined that well interference has occurred as a result of the construction or operation of the station, Hydro One will ensure a safe water supply is provided for affected homeowners. We remain firm on this commitment.

**4) Provide additional arm's length professional oversight of private well monitoring:**

In order to conduct the Groundwater and Surface water monitoring program, Hydro One retained Stantec, a professional third party consultant who has completed all monitoring and reporting in accordance with the approved Monitoring Program. In an effort to help community members understand and interpret on-site and private monitoring results, Hydro One has also provided funding for the Municipality to retain an independent peer-reviewing hydrogeological consultant (SLR) who was selected through the Municipality's procurement process. I understand that this consultant remains available to residents.

Additionally, staff from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP; formerly the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change) were extensively involved throughout the Class Environmental Assessment process and continue to review all studies and assessments throughout the Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring Program. MECP has attended several site visits (both during hydrogeological investigations and sampling events) and continue to review all of the Annual Reports that Stantec produces as part of the Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring Program.

Our team continues to be available to discuss regarding monitoring results.

Thank you again for providing us with the opportunity to address these requests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan', followed by a stylized, cursive flourish.

Daniel Levitan  
Director, External Relations

**Langmaid, Faye**

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**From:** Langmaid, Faye  
**Sent:** July 17, 2019 8:55 AM  
**To:** Councillors Office; Mayors Office  
**Cc:** joe neal (JNeal@neallaw.ca); Allison, Andrew; Greentree, Anne  
**Subject:** Clarington Transformer Borehole  
**Attachments:** RE: Resolution on Clarington Transformer

Hello Councillors

The drilling of the additional borehole at the Clarington Transformer MW5-14 site for research purposes by G360 Group and the Oak Ridges Moraine GroundWater Monitoring group that Dr. Rick Gerber is responsible for (through CLOCA) has been underway since July 2. Rick has indicated the major drilling is complete, the set up of the monitoring and finalization of the well capping is underway. The \$25K funding that Clarington contributed towards the cost has been sent to CLOCA. There is \$5K remaining in funding for tritium/helium sampling of the boreholes at MW5-14 (the private well sampling occurred in 2016) I have a request into G360 as to when this sampling will occur and the potential dates for lab reports from the sampling.

With regard to the resolution Council passed on June 3 (attached), I have a response from the Ministry (MECP) and am awaiting a response from Hydro One. Once I have both responses I will provide Council with a memo.

Dr. Gerber has confirmed:

"[CLOCA has] an agreement (CLOCA is the legal entity) for access to MW5-14 for the duration of Hydro One's on-site monitoring program, which in the agreement was estimated at October 2021. We (CLOCA is the legal entity) also have a MOU for access to the location following the cessation of Hydro One's current monitoring program (again estimated at October 2021). The exact scope of future work is dependent on funding but is expected to at least include measurement of water levels, and periodic sampling for major ion and some isotopic analyses. When Stantec has completed their monitoring program for Hydro One I will look through all of the chemical analyses of the on-site wells and see if there are parameters that were analysed for but were never detected. So for example Stantec are doing complete organic scans for Hydro One, and to my knowledge no detects have been found (on-site). These are very expensive analyses and if not detected then I would probably not do that analysis, because of cost. Note that I am open to change pending funding, priorities, situational changes, etc.

Faye Langmaid  
 Acting Director  
 Planning Services Department  
 Municipality of Clarington  
 40 Temperance Street, Bowmanville ON L1C 3A6  
 905-623-3379 ext. 2407 | 1-800-563-1195  
[www.clarington.net](http://www.clarington.net)