



**TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON - ELECTRONIC MEETING  
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2022 - 10:00 A.M.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82528000047?pwd=RFBvU0JVMnJBSnk4N2U0eWRQZEg3UT09>

Meeting ID: 825 2800 0047

Passcode: 340896

One tap mobile

+16475580588,,82528000047#,,,,\*340896# Canada

+17789072071,,82528000047#,,,,\*340896# Canada

Dial by your location

+1 647 558 0588 Canada

+1 778 907 2071 Canada

+1 780 666 0144 Canada

+1 204 272 7920 Canada

+1 438 809 7799 Canada

+1 587 328 1099 Canada

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Meeting ID: 825 2800 0047

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**AGENDA**

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

**2. Land Acknowledgement Statement:**

We would like to begin by acknowledging that Melancthon Township recognizes the ancestral lands and treaty territories of the Tionontati (Petun/Wyandot(te)), Haudenosaunee (Six Nations), and Anishinaabe Peoples. The Township of Melancthon resides within the lands named under the Haldimand Deed of 1784 and the Lake Simcoe-Nottawasaga Treaty (Treaty 18).

These territories upon which we live and learn, are steeped in rich Indigenous history and traditions. It is with this statement that we declare to honour and respect the past and present connection of Indigenous peoples with this land, its waterways and resources.

**3. Additions/Deletions/Approval of Agenda**

Motion - Moved by \_\_\_\_\_, Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ that the Agenda be approved/amended. Carried.

**4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest or Conflict of Interest**

**5. Delegations**

**6. Approval of Draft Minutes – May 13, 2022 & May 31, 2022**

- Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ the minutes of the Environmental Sustainability Committee held on May 13, 2022 be approved as circulated. Carried.

- Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ the minutes of the Environmental Sustainability Committee held on May 31, 2022 be approved as circulated. Carried.

**7. Business Arising from the Minutes**

**8. General Business**

1. Township of Mulmur Resolution regarding Climate Emergency
2. Hydro One Amendments to Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities
3. Phragmites Mapping
4. Other/Addition(s)

**9. Confirmation of Meeting**

Motion - Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, that all actions of the Members and Officers of the Environmental Sustainability Committee with respect to every matter addressed and/or adopted by the Committee on the above date be hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed; and each motion, resolution and other actions taken by the Committee Members and Officers at the meeting held on the above date are hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed. Carried.

**10. Adjournment and Date of Next Meeting**

Motion - Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, that we adjourn the Environmental Sustainability Committee at \_\_\_\_:\_\_\_\_am to meet again on \_\_\_\_\_, 2022 at \_\_\_\_:\_\_\_\_ or at the call of the Chair. Carried.

**Denise Holmes**

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**From:** Roseann Knechtel <rknechtel@mulmur.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 13, 2022 1:52 PM  
**To:** Roseann Knechtel  
**Subject:** Climate Emergency  
**Attachments:** Climate Emergency July 6 2022.pdf

Good Afternoon,

Please see the attached resolution passed by the Council of the Township of Mulmur on July 6, 20220 regarding Climate Emergency.

Have a great day,

**Roseann Knechtel, BA, MMC | Deputy Clerk / Planning Coordinator**

*Township of Mulmur | 758070 2<sup>nd</sup> Line East | Mulmur, Ontario L9V 0G8*

*Phone 705-466-3341 ext. 223 | Fax 705-466-2922 | [rknechtel@mulmur.ca](mailto:rknechtel@mulmur.ca)*

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758070 2<sup>nd</sup> Line E  
Mulmur, Ontario  
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Local (705) 466-3341  
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July 13, 2022

## **CLIMATE EMERGENCY DECLARATION**

At the meeting held on July 6, 2022, Council of the Township of Mulmur passed the following resolution.

### **Moved by Boxem Seconded by Clark**

WHEREAS the impacts of climate change are being felt in Mulmur and will continue to intensify, posing acute and lasting risks to people, business, and natural ecosystems;

AND WHEREAS these risks include, but are not limited to, extreme weather, threats to human health and wellbeing, economic disruption, food and water insecurity, social instability and threats to all other life on earth;

AND WHEREAS Mulmur has a crucial role to play in responding to, changing and mitigating the contributions to climate change through responsible planning and budgeting;

AND WHEREAS Council's Strategic Plan identifies a priority path of "Growing a Sustainable Mulmur: being proactive in sustainable initiatives to ensure the long term well-being of Mulmur";

AND WHEREAS the Township of Mulmur's Official Plan provides a policy for growth management where land use patterns shall "minimize negative impacts to air quality and climate change, and promote energy efficiency";

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Township of Mulmur declare a Climate Emergency for the purpose of recognizing and deepening our commitment to protecting our economy, ecosystems, and community from climate change;

AND THAT, in response to this Climate Emergency, Council seeks to limit its contributions to the climate crisis, by way of the following actions:

1. That Council review the current Strategic Plan action items for "Growing a Sustainable Mulmur" to reprioritize commitments and identify additional areas to take action.
2. That Council direct staff to identify climate change options at budget time for Council consideration.
3. That Council direct staff to arrange training on climate change and climate lens adaptation to be scheduled in 2023.

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to all Ontario municipalities for their information and potential action.

**CARRIED.**

Sincerely,

*Tracey Atkinson*

Tracey Atkinson, CAO/Clerk/Planner  
Township of Mulmur

**Denise Holmes**

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**From:** EA Modernization (MECP) <EAModernization.MECP@ontario.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 12, 2022 12:10 PM  
**To:** EA Modernization (MECP)  
**Cc:** EA Modernization (MECP); Cross, Annamaria (MECP)  
**Subject:** Amendments to the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities  
**Attachments:** NoticeofAmendmentsClassEAMTF-Signed.pdf;  
MTF\_ClassEA\_AmendStakeholder\_letter2022-07-12.pdf

Greetings,

On behalf of the Director of the Environmental Assessment Branch of the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (ministry) please find an attached letter and Notice of Amendments outlining that the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities has been amended as part of the ministry's work on Environmental Assessment modernization.

Details of the approved amendments can be found in the letter, attached to this email and available on the Environmental Registry at the following link: <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-5346>.

If you have any questions, please contact the Environmental Assessment Modernization Team at [EAModernization.MECP@ontario.ca](mailto:EAModernization.MECP@ontario.ca).

Thank you,

EA Modernization Team

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ACT**

**NOTICE OF AMENDMENTS**

**Hydro One Networks Inc.'s  
Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities**

RE: Amendments to the Class Environment Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities

Proponent: Hydro One Networks Inc.

EA File No.: EA-03-03-02-02

Hydro One Networks Inc., as part of the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks' (ministry) environmental assessment modernization initiative, submitted amendments to its approved Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities for a decision under the *Environmental Assessment Act* (EAA) by the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

Section 15.4 of the EAA establishes the authority and process for making amendments to a class environmental assessment, including amendments made on the ministry's own initiative. To amend a class environmental assessment, the minister must be satisfied that the amendments are consistent with the purpose of the Act and the public interest.

The ministry consulted on the proposed amendments with Indigenous communities, members of the public, government agencies, and stakeholders. Following those consultations, the ministry has reviewed the proposed amendments and has recommended various amendments be made to the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities that address the feedback received on the consultations, potential impacts to the environment, and the purpose of the EAA. The ministry has also made various administrative amendments to update references to legislation, correct inaccuracies, and clarify text.

Having considered the amending procedures set out in section 15.4 of the EAA and the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities, the proposed amendments to the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities, the submissions on the proposed amendments and the purpose of the EAA and the public interest, I am hereby amending the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities, as attached.

## REASONS

My reasons for amending the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities are as follows:

- (1) I am satisfied that adequate public notice of the proposed amendments has been provided and members of the public have had an opportunity to comment on the proposed amendments. The public, provincial government agencies, municipalities and all Indigenous communities in Ontario had an opportunity to submit comments to the ministry during the 45-day comment period provided for the proposed amendments from July 8, 2020, until August 22, 2020. The proposal was posted on the Ontario.ca website and the Environmental Registry of Ontario during this 45-day comment period
- (2) I am also satisfied that adequate consultation with proponents of projects that that may proceed pursuant to the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities has occurred, with an appropriate opportunity provided to proponents to review the proposed substantive amendments and to provide their comments.
- (3) The ministry has directly engaged with Indigenous communities on the proposed amendments, providing communities with information, an opportunity to attend webinar sessions or individualized meetings, an opportunity to comment and raise any concerns and has considered those comments and concerns. The Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities processes provides a formal, recognized process for Indigenous communities to learn about projects and to be consulted on those projects both on an interests basis and in terms of potential impacts to existing Aboriginal and Treaty rights recognized and affirmed in section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*. Additional information was provided in response to questions or concerns from Indigenous communities and concerns about the potential impact of proposed amendments on rights was considered by the ministry in their analysis and by me in my decision.
- (4) The ministry has responded to the concerns raised with respect to the proposed amendments, including proposing changes to amendments, and proposing a new screening process to address Indigenous community concerns related to archaeological resources.
- (5) The ministry has assessed the proposed amendments based on the low-risk criteria established by the ministry and has made its recommendations based on that analysis. The ministry has demonstrated that the final amendments recommended by the ministry are consistent with current legislative requirements and planning practices and will provide for a more effective planning process to deliver electricity transmission infrastructure and servicing in a more efficient and environmentally sustainable manner.
- (6) The administrative amendments proposed by the ministry are necessary and would correct errors in the class environmental assessment, update references to Acts, regulations, ministries, etc., would update the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities to be consistent with changes made to the EAA in 2019 and 2020 and/or are necessary to clarify the existing text of the class environmental assessment.

- (7) The ministry, based on its analysis of the proposed amendments, concluded that the amendments recommended for approval are consistent with the purpose of the EAA and would be in the public interest and based on my reasons set out above, I concur with this conclusion.

Notice of my decision to amend the class environmental assessment will be posted on the registry under the *Environmental Bill of Rights, 1993* before the amendments come into effect, as required by the *Environmental Assessment Act*, providing public notice of the changes made to the Class Environmental Assessment.

Dated the 12th day of July 2022 at TORONTO.



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Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
777 Bay Street  
College Park 5th Floor  
Toronto, Ontario  
M7A 2J3



**Ministry of the Environment,  
Conservation and Parks**

Environmental Assessment  
Modernization Branch

135 St. Clair Avenue West  
4th Floor  
Toronto ON M4V 1P5

**Ministère de l'Environnement, de  
la Protection de la nature et des Parcs**

Direction de la modernisation des processus  
d'évaluation environnementale

135, avenue St. Clair Ouest  
4<sup>e</sup> étage  
Toronto ON M4V 1P5



July 12, 2022

Greetings:

I am writing to let you know that the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities has been amended as part of the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks' work on Environmental Assessment modernization.

Over the past three years, we have been working to build a strong environmental assessment program that considers the input of local communities and focuses on projects that have the highest potential to impact the environment. This includes making changes to the class environmental assessments to ensure strong environmental oversight while reducing delays on infrastructure projects that matter most to Ontario communities.

In summer 2020, we proposed changes to eight class environmental assessments, including the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities. The intent of the proposed changes was to provide process improvements to enhance clarity and increase the efficiency and timeliness of the assessment for proposed projects that are subject to the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities.

I wanted to thank all who have offered feedback on these changes, by submitting comments, participating in webinars and correspondence. We have considered all comments received during consultation, in addition to our own analysis and have made a decision on the changes to the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities. Detailed information on the approved changes can be found at <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-5346>.

The changes provide routine and low-risk refurbishments to existing transmission lines and temporary transmission line projects, such as the replacement of damaged and aging wood poles, the opportunity for exemption from requiring an environmental assessment provided that an archaeological screening process is successfully completed. Changes also clarify that responding to an emergency is exempt from the requirements of an environmental assessment, consistent with other class environmental assessments. These changes will help get these projects started sooner so communities can benefit from reliable and cost-effective electricity services. We have also made administrative updates, such as incorporating recent legislative changes and clarifying terminology. The changes are effective immediately.

The updated process for the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities provides an appropriate mechanism for addressing impacts. Projects defined within a class environmental assessment require no further environmental approval under the *Environmental Assessment Act*, provided the proponent proceeds in accordance with the class environmental assessment process. The class environmental assessment process includes requirements for consultation, including consultation with Indigenous communities, consideration of potential environmental impacts and mitigation of any such impacts before a project proceeds. The proposed projects under a class environmental assessment are considered to be routine activities which have predictable environmental effects that can be readily managed and mitigated.

If you have any questions, please contact the Environmental Assessment Modernization Team at [EAModernization.MECP@ontario.ca](mailto:EAModernization.MECP@ontario.ca).

Sincerely,



Annamaria Cross  
Director, Environmental Assessment Modernization Branch  
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks