HALTON HILLS HYDRO MUNICIPAL TRANSFORMER STATION No. 1

CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (CLASS EA)

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE

Welcome

- Please sign-in to ensure receipt of future Project mailings.
- Please complete a Comment Sheet and either deposit it in the comment box or return by mail/fax or e-mail, if you would like to provide written comments.

All information is being gathered to assist Halton Hills Hydro in the planning process for this Project. All personal information, such as name, address, and telephone number, included on the comment sheets becomes part of the public record files for the Project and can be released to any person if requested under the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, and the Environmental Assessment Act.

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Objective of Public Information Centre

- Introduce the Municipal Transformer Station (MTS) Project and the Provincial Class EA Process to the general public.

- Present the evaluation of the alternative MTS sites and the preferred location.

- Provide an opportunity for the general public to become informed and comment on Study progress to date.

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Who is Halton Hills Hydro?

Halton Hills Hydro Inc. is located at 43 Alice Street, Halton Hills (Acton) Ontario. The service area is:

Halton Hills Hydro is committed to providing safe, reliable, and economic distribution of electricity.

Our core values are:

- Safety (Employee and Public);
- Customer Service;
- Reliability; and
- Profitability (Shareholder).

Our proposed MTS Project meets our core values in the area of reliability and customer service.

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MTS #1 Project Overview

What?

- Provide an additional reliable source of power to address increased electricity demand as a result of new residential and industrial development in the Town of Halton Hills.

Where?

- Steeles Avenue corridor between Trafalgar Road and James Snow Parkway.

Why?

- Existing facilities are nearing capacity.

How?

- Design, construct, and operate a municipal transformer station that will step down voltage from a transmission level to distribution level.

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Class EA Process

A Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) for the proposed undertaking is required under Ontario Regulation 116/01 – Electricity Projects and subject to *Environmental Assessment Act* approval in accordance with the "Class EA for Minor Transmission Facilities".

Step 1

Establish Need

- Future system Condition
- Principal Considerations Determining System Adequacy
- System Analysis Methodology

System Options

- Do nothing
- Alternatives to Undertaking
- Select system options

Step 2

Define Study Area

Initial notification

Step 3

Identify and evaluate Options/ Alternatives

Environmental Inventory

Select Preferred Alternative

Public Information Centre (consultation)

Prepare Draft Environmental Study Report (ESR)

Final Notification

Step 4

30-day review period

Proceed with Undertaking

Issue Environmental Study Report (ESR)

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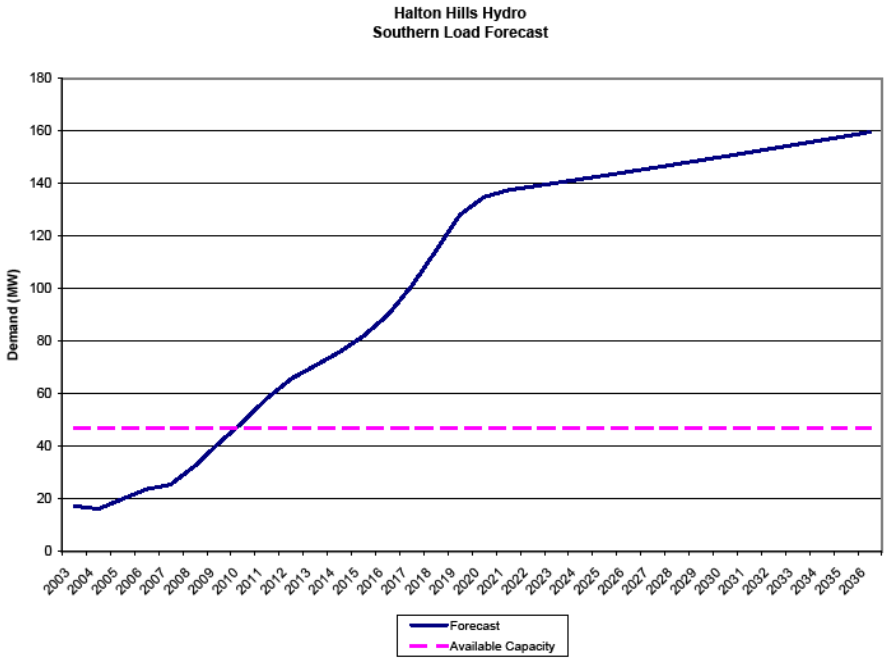
Need for Project

- Joint Planning Study initiated by Hydro One entitled “GTA West Supply Study” identified the need for additional transformer station capacity along the Steeles Avenue corridor between James Snow Parkway and Trafalgar Road to address future electricity needs.

- Study participants included:
  - Hydro One Networks Inc.;
  - Enersource (Hydro Mississauga);
  - Hydro One Brampton;
  - Milton Hydro Distribution; and,
  - Halton Hills Hydro.



Study Options to Undertaking

Three (3) study options considered:

Option 1 – Expand Halton Transformer Station (Hydro One) near Main St East and 4th Line in Milton.

Option 2 – Build a New Transformer Station.

Option 3 – Do Nothing.

Study Results

Option 1 – Unacceptable - Infrastructure limitation in area does not allow additional feeders out of Halton Transformer Station into the Halton Hills Hydro service territory.

Option 3 - Unacceptable - The existing supply will not meet the future increased electricity demand of the Halton Hills Hydro service territory.

Option 2 **- Accepted - Build a New Transformer Station was the preferred study option.**

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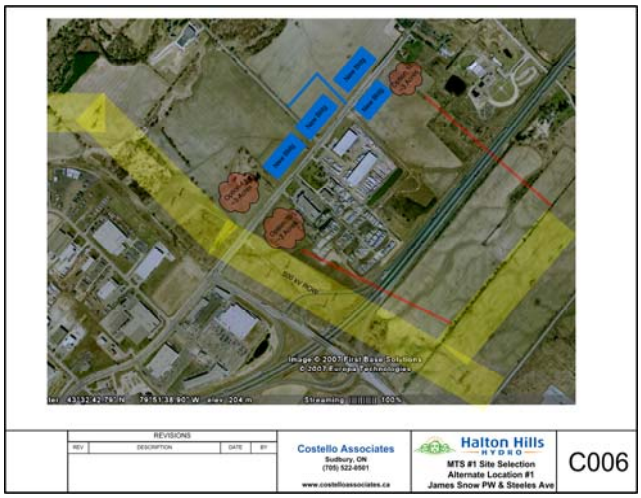
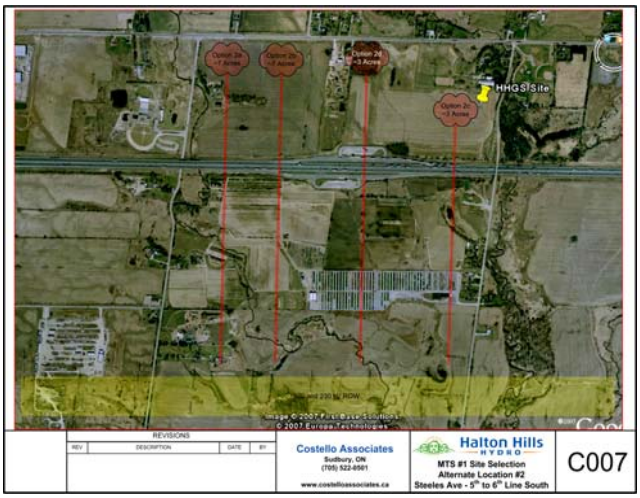
11 Alternative Site Locations

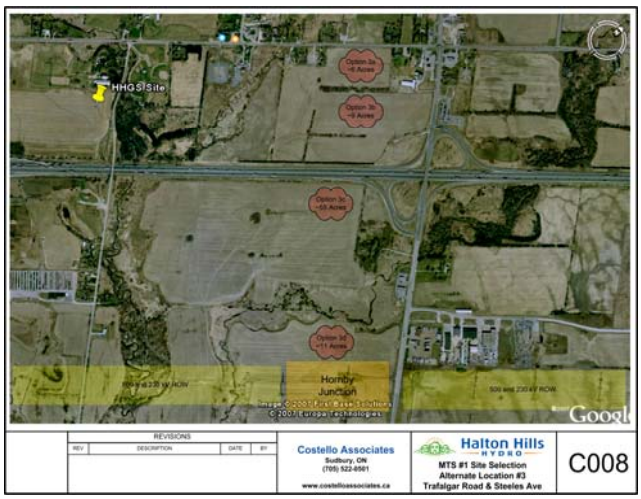
James Snow Pkwy. and Hwy 401
Sites 1a, 1b, 1c



Steeles Ave. between Fifth Line South and Sixth Line South
Sites 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d



Steeles Ave. and Trafalgar Rd.
Sites 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d



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Process for Evaluation of Alternative Sites

Evaluation Criteria

Developed based on known concerns for the following three (3) components:

- **Technical** –Related to proximity to demand and transmission connection, available land size, availability of distribution circuits.
- **Environmental (Physical and Social)** – Related to terrestrial and aquatic ecology, existing/planned land uses, and cultural heritage.
- **Economic** – Related to total cost for completion (design and build) of MTS with consideration for equipment required.

Evaluation Process

1. Assess each of the alternative site locations for the potential effects on each component.
2. Determine an overall qualitative ranking for each of the alternative sites.
3. Select a preliminary preferred site to be studied in further detail.

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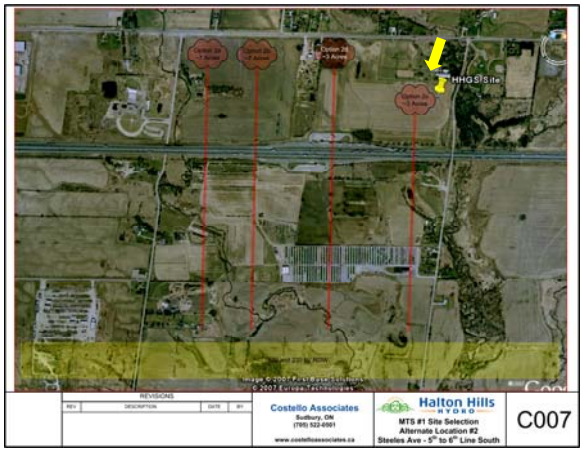
Preliminary Preferred Site Selected

Site 2C

(as highlighted on Table 1: Evaluation of Alternative Sites)



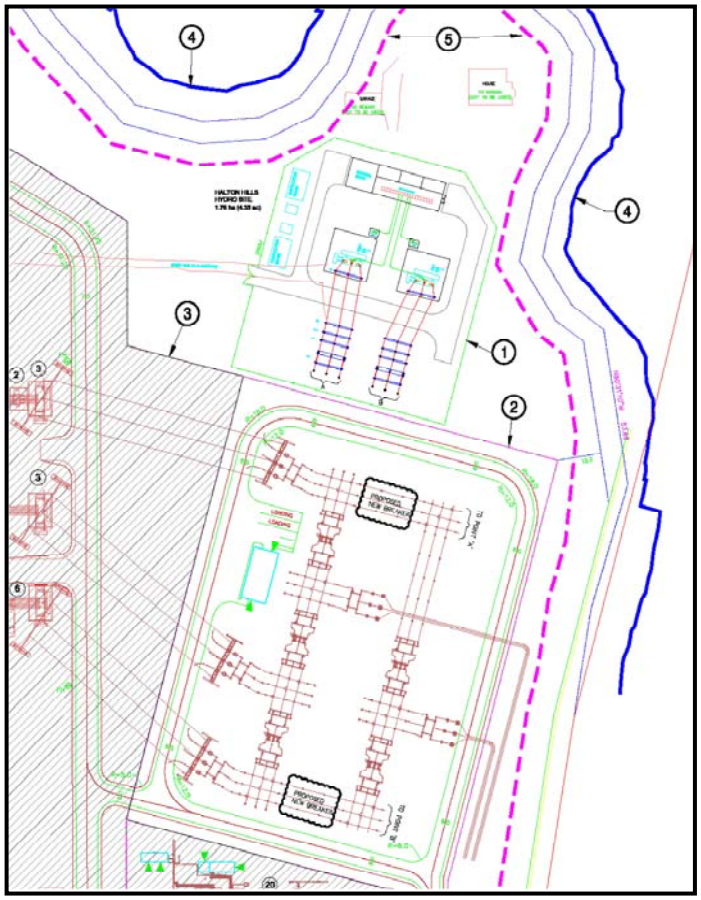
Location:

Northeast corner of Halton Hills Generating Station Site.
-southwest of Eastern Sixteen Mile Creek Tributary and century home

Land Area Required:

1.76 ha (4.35 ac)

Site Layout



Attributes of Preferred Site

- Highest overall ranking and highest ranking for each of technical, environmental, and economic components.
- Located on industrial zoned site.
- Close proximity to electricity supply.
- Close proximity to market demand.

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Details of Proposed Halton Hills Hydro MTS #1

Design, construct, and operate a municipal transformer station that will step down voltage from a transmission level to distribution level.

Construction

- **Anticipated Start Date:** March 2010
- **Construction Period:** 14 to 18 months
- **Number of Personnel:** Approximately 30

Operation

- **Commissioning:** May 2011
- **Expected Years of Operation:** 40+ years
- **Number of Permanent On-site Personnel:** 0

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Public Consultation

Public consultation is a key component of a Class EA Study which is undertaken at various stages of the Study through different media.

- Newspaper notices and direct mailings to key government agencies and directly affected landowners/stakeholders at study commencement, public information centre (PIC), and study completion.
- PIC to present study findings and seek public input to the study.
- Communication between the public and the Project Team through informal discussions, meetings, and written correspondence.
- Filing of the Environmental Study Report (ESR) for public review and comment at the end of the study.

If you would like to provide input to the study, request additional information, or have any questions related to the Project, please contact:

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Next Steps

- Receive and evaluate public comments on preferred site selection.
- Conduct detailed studies on selected Preferred Site for technical, environmental, and economic components.
- On-going consultation with public and government agencies.
- Prepare an ESR documenting the study results.
- Initiate a 30-day public review period nearing completion of the study to allow interested parties to review and comment on the ESR.

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