

EB-2007-0920

IN THE MATTER OF the *Ontario Energy Board Act 1998*,
S.O.1998, c.15, (Schedule B) (the "OEB Act");

AND IN THE MATTER OF an Application by Hydro One
Networks Inc., pursuant to section 98 of the OEB Act, for
an Interim Order granting entry onto land in connection
with the Applicant's request for leave to construct a new
transmission line between the Bruce Power Facility and the
Milton Switching Station.

BEFORE: Pamela Nowina
Vice Chair and Presiding Member

Cynthia Chaplin
Member

Ken Quesnelle
Member

DECISION AND ORDER

April 1, 2008

Background

Hydro One Networks Inc. (“Hydro One”) filed an application for entry onto land (the “Entry onto Land Application”) with the Ontario Energy Board (the “Board”) dated December 6, 2007 under section 98(1.1) of the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, S.O. 1998, c.15, Schedule B (the “Act”). This Entry onto Land Application was assigned Board File No. EB-2007-0920.

The Entry onto Land Application seeks an interim order from the Board allowing Hydro One to access certain lands in the Camp Creek and Halton Hills areas, to conduct legal and engineering surveys, soil testing, property appraisals, biological and archeological surveys and environmental investigations to fix the site for the proposed transmission line.

The Entry onto Land Application is related to an application by Hydro One filed with the Board on March 29, 2007, and amended on November 30, 2007, for leave to construct approximately 180 kilometres of double-circuit 500 Kilovolt (“kV”) electricity transmission Line (the “Amended Leave to Construct Application”). The Amended Leave to Construct Application includes proposed local route alternatives. The potential local route changes are being examined by Hydro One in response to comments it received during its ongoing consultation activities. These potential local route changes are shown on a location map as Appendix A to this Decision and Order.

Hydro One filed a similar application in March, 2007 for an interim order to enter onto land along the entire length of the original proposed route. The Board assigned Board File No. EB-2007-0051 to that application. On August 20, 2007, the Board issued a Decision and Order granting Hydro One permission to enter onto land along the original proposed route until April 1, 2009, subject to certain conditions. Those conditions of approval are attached as Appendix B to this Decision and Order. During its review of the current Entry onto Land Application dated December 6, 2007, the Board has considered whether the same conditions of approval as were applied to the prior application are appropriate for this Entry onto Land Application and/or whether revisions are required.

The list of registered intervenors is attached as Appendix C to this Decision and Order.

On December 11, 2007 the Board issued a Notice of Application and Hearing which was served by the Applicant as directed by the Board.

In Procedural Order No. 1, issued on February 6, 2008, the Board stated it would only conduct an oral hearing if an intervenor filed a request by February 19, 2008 to cross-examine the Applicant. No intervenor sent such a request and therefore the Board decided to conduct a written hearing. Procedural Order No. 2 stated that the only purpose of the Entry onto Land Application is to determine the following issues:

1. If Hydro One should be granted an interim order allowing it to enter onto land to fix the site for the possible new transmission line; and
2. If permission to enter onto land is granted, what conditions should be attached to that approval.

Procedural Order No. 2 made provisions for parties to file written submissions on the Entry onto Land Application, and the issues stated above by March 18, 2008, and for Hydro One to respond in writing to these submissions by March 25, 2008. No landowner submissions were received by the Board.

Decision

The Board finds that the entry onto land and the activities identified by Hydro One are appropriate activities to be conducted under an interim order for entry onto land and that the granting of the requested interim order is in the public interest. The activities are to the same as those being conducted under Hydro One's existing interim order, and no parties objected to the granting of this further order. The Board concludes that it is in the public interest for Hydro One to gather relevant information in respect of the potential route refinements.

The Board finds that the conditions of approval attached as Appendix B, that were applied to Hydro One's Entry onto Land Application for the entire route under Board File EB-2007-0051, are appropriate for this Entry onto Land Application as well. No party objected to these conditions; nor did any party propose alternative conditions. The Board's conclusion is that these conditions continue to be appropriate and should be applied to the current application.

The Board will require Hydro One to adhere to the conditions of approval attached as Appendix B.

Hydro One will be required to provide compensation for any damages properties resulting from entry onto their land in accordance with section 98(2) of the OEB Act. The Board does not set compensation amounts for any damages related to entry onto land. If a party is unable to reach agreement with Hydro One on issues related to compensation for any damages, then the provisions of the Expropriations Act apply, and the compensation for damages shall be determined under section 27 of that Act or by the Ontario Municipal Board.

The Board reminds participants that any cost claims must be consistent with and carried out in accordance with section 10 of the Board's Practice Direction on Cost Awards. Hydro One Networks Inc. will have an opportunity to object to any aspect of the costs claimed. In regard to this proceeding, since no submissions were received by the deadline of March 18, 2008 as specified in Procedural Order No.2, the Board does not expect any cost claim submissions for this proceeding.

THE BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. Hydro One Networks Inc. is granted an interim order pursuant to section 98 (1.1) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* to enter onto the land affected by the potential route changes in the Camp Creek and Halton Hills areas as shown in Appendix A to this Decision and Order.
2. The interim order is subject to the conditions of approval attached in Appendix B to this Decision and Order.
3. Hydro One shall pay the Board's costs incidental to this proceeding upon receipt of the Board's invoice.

DATED at Toronto, April 1, 2008

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary

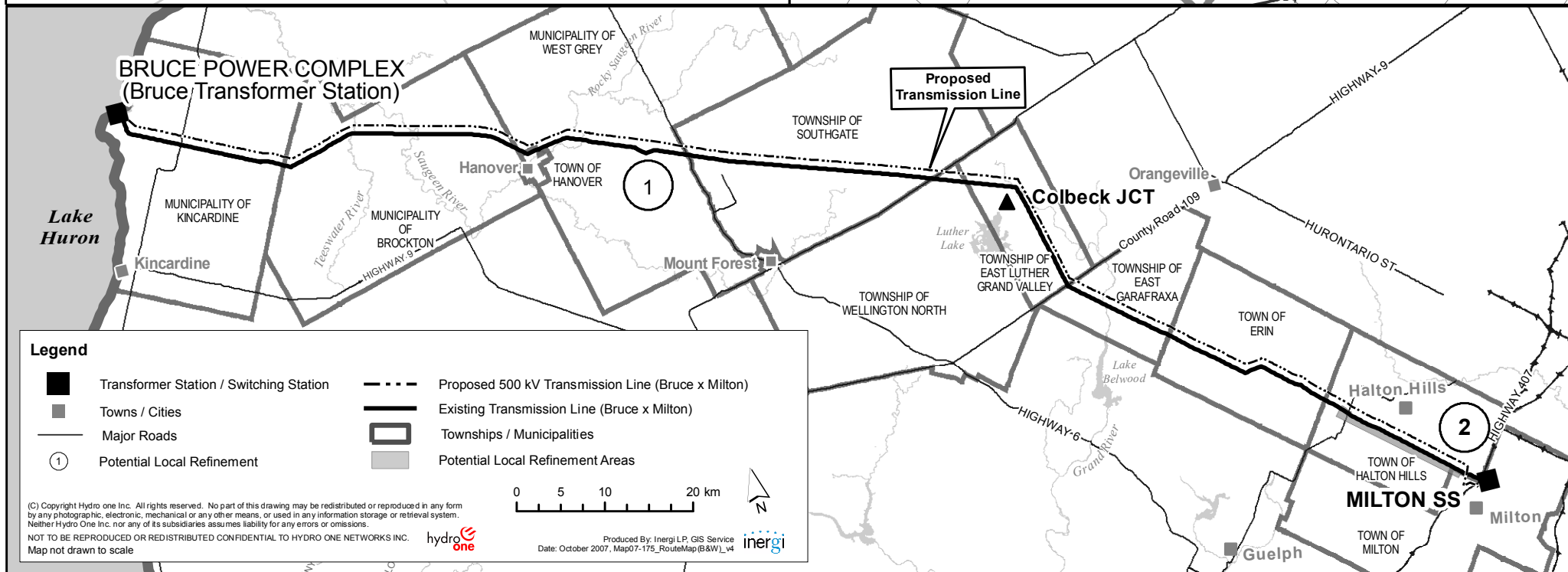
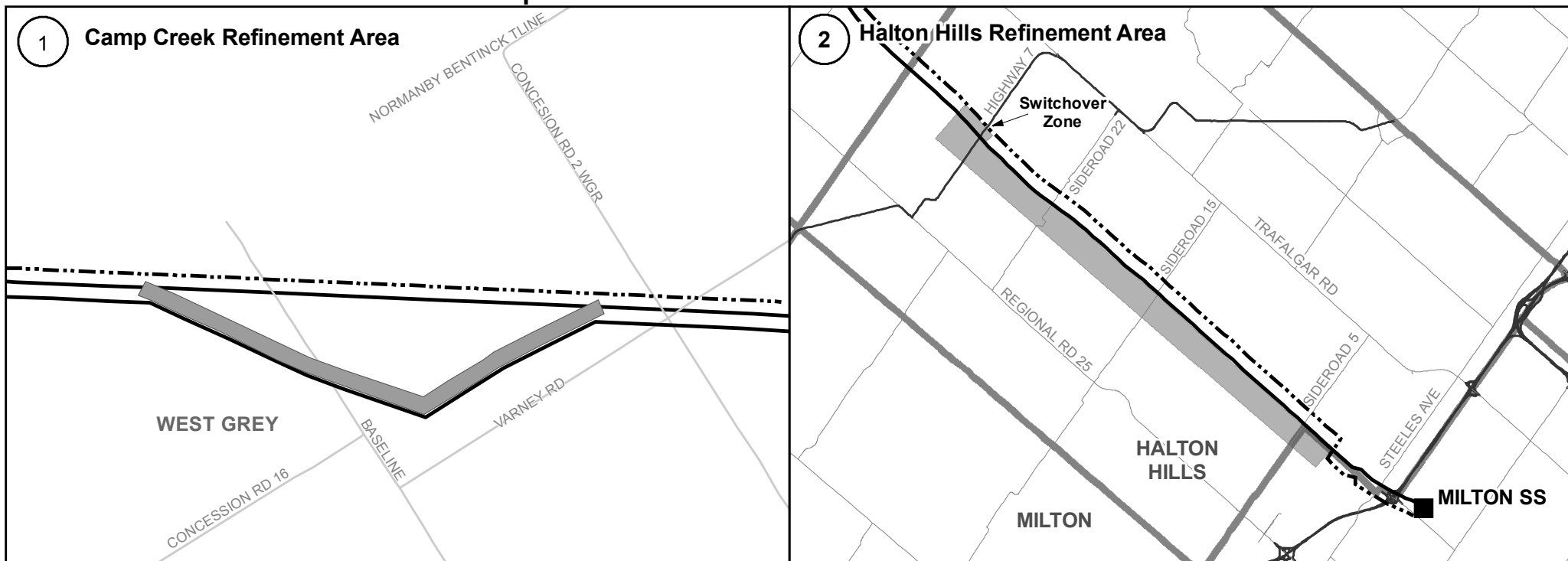
**APPENDIX A
to
Decision and Order**

**IN THE MATTER OF
Entry onto Land Application by Hydro One Networks
EB-2007- 0920
DATED April 1, 2008**

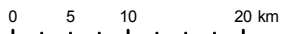
**Location Map Showing Potential Route Changes
in the Halton Hills and Camp Creek Areas**

Bruce to Milton Transmission Reinforcement Project

Camp Creek and Halton Hills Route Refinements



- Legend**
- Transformer Station / Switching Station
 - Towns / Cities
 - Major Roads
 - Potential Local Refinement
 - Proposed 500 kV Transmission Line (Bruce x Milton)
 - Existing Transmission Line (Bruce x Milton)
 - Townships / Municipalities
 - Potential Local Refinement Areas



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NOT TO BE REPRODUCED OR REDISTRIBUTED CONFIDENTIAL TO HYDRO ONE NETWORKS INC.

Map not drawn to scale



Produced By: Inergi LP, GIS Service
Date: October 2007, Map07-175_RouteMap(B&W)_v4



**APPENDIX B
to
Decision and Order**

**IN THE MATTER OF
Entry onto Land Application by Hydro One Networks
EB-2007- 0920
DATED April 1, 2008**

**Approved Conditions for Entry onto Land
[Extracted - Appendix A to the Board's Decision and Order]
(August 20, 2007)**

These conditions of approval are an integral part of the Decision and Order EB-2007-0051 issued August 20, 2007 by the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board"). They define, for Hydro One Networks Inc. ("Hydro One") and affected landowners, the conditions that Hydro One shall adhere to when entering on land pursuant to the Board's interim order under section 98 of the *Ontario EnergyBoard Act*.

APPENDIX A

to

Decision and Order

In The Matter Of

Access to Land Application by Hydro One Networks Inc.

EB-2007-0051

Dated August 20, 2007

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

**Hydro One Networks Inc.
Bruce to Milton Transmission Project**

Section 98 Interim Order Granting Access to Land

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

These conditions of approval are an integral part of the Decision and Order EB-2007-0051 issued August 20, 2007 by the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board"). They define, for Hydro One Networks Inc. ("Hydro One") and affected landowners, the conditions that Hydro One shall adhere to when entering on land pursuant to the Board's interim order under section 98 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*.

1. DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 **Proposed Corridor** – The Board's interim order authorizes Hydro One to enter only on land comprising the Proposed Corridor, being a strip of land 61 meters (200 feet) wide immediately to the north and east of the right-of-way used for Hydro One's existing transmission line from the Bruce Power nuclear generation facilities to Hydro One's Milton Switching Station.
- 1.2 **Permitted Activities** – Permitted Activities are:
- a. Legal surveys involving property staking and measuring by survey crews along the perimeter of the Proposed Corridor and along the perimeter of properties subject to buy-out;
 - b. Engineering surveys involving property staking and measuring by survey crews;
 - c. Soil testing on selected properties involving bore hole drilling using a tracked vehicle;
 - d. Property appraisals including woodlot assessments on each affected property;
 - e. Biological surveys by personnel on foot involving the collection of plant and wildlife information, habitat assessments and delineation of

wetland and Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (“ANSI”) boundaries;

- f. Archaeological surveys conducted by licensed personnel on foot in accordance with Provincial Guidelines. Work includes surface checks for items of interest in recently ploughed fields or digging of small test pits to a maximum depth of one meter should ploughing not be possible.
- g. Other environmental investigations by personnel on foot including hydrologic/water quality testing, landscape and visual assessment, cultural and built heritage assessment, landowner and business owner surveys, agricultural investigations and well water testing.

2. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- 2.1 Hydro One shall conduct the Permitted Activities in accordance with its application and evidence filed in EB-2007-0051, except as modified by the Board’s August 20, 2007 Decision and Order and these conditions of approval.
- 2.2 Unless otherwise directed by the Board, authorization for entry to land shall terminate on April 1, 2009.
- 2.3 A copy of these conditions of approval shall be attached to each written notice to landowners described in condition 3 below.
- 2.4 Hydro One shall obtain all other approvals required to conduct the Permitted Activities.

3. ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF LANDOWNERS

- 3.1 Hydro One shall use all reasonable efforts to provide oral and written notice to landowners a minimum of 48 hours prior to entry. Unless otherwise agreed upon with landowners, entry is to be limited for a subsequent five-day window in which Permitted Activities could then occur. All Permitted Activities shall only take place during weekdays and not statutory holidays and between the hours of 8 am and 5 pm. (Example: Hydro One will provide notice by Friday for a five-day entry window beginning the next Monday and until and including the following Friday; all Permitted Activities will occur during this period between the hours of 8 am and 5 pm).

- 3.2 The notification described in condition 3.1 above shall include a list of the Permitted Activities Hydro One intends to perform during the entry time-window.
- 3.3 Where Hydro One has not been able to contact a landowner prior to entry, Hydro One shall keep a record of the Permitted Activities conducted and make it available to the landowner upon request.
- 3.4 In the event of soil testing activities are planned to be conducted on lands with tracked equipment, Hydro One shall give the landowner at least five days' advance notice and shall use all reasonable efforts to consult with the landowner in advance of entry and provide a sketch depicting the access route and the location of the soil testing activities. This period of time is intended to provide landowners with the opportunity to indicate the locations of any special fixtures (such as wells, tile drainage or septic areas) that are to be avoided while soil testing activities are carried out.

4. CONDUCT OF PERMITTED ACTIVITIES

- 4.1 Unless otherwise agreed to by the landowner, Hydro One or its representatives shall not clear or remove trees having a caliper diameter of more than two inches measured at three feet above ground level.
- 4.2 Reasonable accommodation is to be made in Hydro One's schedule for landowner requests/concerns to ensure the Permitted Activities do not interfere with landowner operations. These accommodations will be determined on a site specific basis but where appropriate may include the following:
 - a. The use of temporary fencing to surround soil testing area if tracked equipment remains onsite overnight; and
 - b. The use and installation of temporary drainage (i.e. culverts) instruments on access routes to maintain drainage flows.
- 4.3 Hydro One or its agents will consult with landowners in advance of entry as to the manner in which gates/fences/entryways are to be managed while entering property. In the event landowners cannot be contacted, Hydro One shall ensure that gates/fences/entryways used by Hydro One personnel or its agents are left as found. Work sites are to be left in a safe condition overnight.
- 4.4 Landowners can be present to observe the Permitted Activities subject to Hydro One's safety policies and procedures and the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.
- 4.5 Hydro One shall keep records of the personnel attending and entering on lands, the time in which entry occurred and the locations entered.

- 4.6 Upon request, Hydro One shall provide a landowner with the results of the information collected as a result of conducting the Permitted Activities on the landowner's property (such as legal surveys and property appraisal information and the information described in 4.5 above) and biological information subject to applicable disclosure guidelines of the Ministry of Natural Resources or other agencies (e.g., with respect to species-at-risk protection). In the event biological information cannot be disclosed to a landowner, Hydro One will disclose that fact and provide to the landowner the rationale for such non-disclosure.
- 4.7 Affected areas are to be restored to their original condition to the extent possible and practicable, failing which damages shall be paid as per section 98 (2) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*.

5. COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

- 5.1 Hydro One shall establish a complaint resolution process and provide a detailed description of the process to the affected landowners. For each affected property, Hydro One shall designate a property agent as a contact person to be responsible for addressing and resolving landowner concerns and complaints. Hydro One shall notify landowners who have lodged complaints about how to escalate an issue if it is not resolved satisfactorily or on a timely basis. Hydro One shall provide to a landowner, on request, non-confidential information about complaints made by other landowners.

6. COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE BOARD

- 6.1 The Board's designated representative for the purpose of these conditions of approval shall be the Manager, Facilities.
- 6.2 Hydro One shall designate a person as project manager and shall provide the name of the individual to the Board's designated representative. The project manager will be responsible for the fulfilment of the conditions of approval on the site. Hydro One shall provide a copy of the Board's Decision and Order and these conditions of approval to the project manager, within seven days of the Board's interim order being issued.
- 6.3 Hydro One shall furnish the Board's designated representative with all reasonable assistance for ascertaining whether Hydro One has complied with the Board's interim order.

**APPENDIX C
to
Decision and Order**

**IN THE MATTER OF
Entry onto Land Application by Hydro One Networks
EB-2007- 0920**

**DATED April 1, 2008
Applicant and List of Intervenors**

**HYDRO ONE NETWORKS INC.
LEAVE TO CONSTRUCT
ACCESS TO LAND PRIOR TO APPROVAL OF LEAVE TO CONSTRUCT
EB-2007-0920
APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS**

April 1, 2008

Applicant

Rep. and Address for Service

Hydro One Networks Inc.

Glen MacDonald
Senior Advisor – Regulatory
Research and Administration
Hydro One Networks Inc.
8th Floor, South Tower
483 Bay Street
Toronto ON M5G 2P5

Tel: 416-345-5913

Fax: 416-345-5866

Email: glen.e.macdonald@HydroOne.com

Applicant's Counsel

Gord Nettleton
Osler, Hoskin and Harcourt LLP
Suite 2500, TransCanada Tower
450 First Street South West
Calgary AB T2P 5H1

Tel: 403-260-7047

Fax: 403-260-7024

Email: gnettleton@osler.com

AND

Nicole J. MacDonald
Legal Assistant
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
Suite 2500
TransCanada Tower
450 – 1st St., S.W.
Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2P 5H1

Tel 403-592-728

Fax: 403.260.7024

Email: nmacdonald@osler.com

Intervenors**Rep. And Address for Service**

Bentinck Packers Limited

(Priority Post)

Steven Lindner
Bentinck Packers Limited
381488 Concession 4 NDR
Hanover ON N4N 3B9

Tel: 519-364-3538

Fax: 519-364-0898

Emily and Jorge Botelho

(Priority Post)

Emily and Jorge Botelho
013695 Bruce Rd. #10
R.R. #3
Hanover ON N4N 3B9

Tel: 519-364-7560

Paul Garvey

Paul Garvey
381145 Line 4 NDR Bentinck Twp.
R.R. #3
Hanover ON N4N 3B9

Email: pgarvey@bmts.com

Sherwood and Gladys Hume

Sherwood and Gladys Hume
9313 4th Line
R.R. #5
Milton ON L9T 2X9

Tel: 905-878-4878

Fax: 1-888-254-6792

Email: gladyshume@wwdb.org

Manfred and Luzia Lindner

(Priority Post)

Manfred and Luzia Lindner
Lot 12 Concession 4 NDR
Hanover ON N4N 3B9

Tel: 516-364-0038

Steve and Catherine Lindner

Steve and Catherine Lindner
R.R. #3
381486 Concession 4 NDR

Hanover ON N4N 3B9

Tel: 519-364-6041

Fax: 519-364-0898

Email: lindner@log.on.ca

One Milton Trust Inc.

Priority Post

Yadvinder S. Toor

Toor Law Office

1790 Albion Road

Suite 202

Toronto ON M9V 4J8

Tel: 416-748-7775

Fax: 416-748-5553

Dieter E. and Vija M. Sebastian

Dieter E. and Vija M. Sebastian

R.R. #3 Stn. Main

381237 Conc. 4 NDR

Hanover ON N4N 3B9

Tel: 519-364-2223

Email: sebasdv@log.on.ca

Mathew and Logan Smerek

(Priority Post)

Mathew and Logan Smerek

12211 Fourth Line

R.R. #4

Acton ON L7J 2M1

Tel: 905-873-6657