# Piperville Municipal Transformer Station



Community Information Session #1

April 20, 2023

# Welcome to our community information session

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- 2. How electricity is delivered to your community
- 3. Why is a new station necessary?
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### Hydro Ottawa

Builds, owns, operates and maintains the distribution of electricity facilities to more than 354,000 homes and businesses in Ottawa and Casselman.



#### Independent Electricity System Operator

Operates the provincial electricity system, and is responsible for planning to ensure electricity needs are met both now and in the future.



### Hydro One Networks Inc.

Builds, owns, operates and maintains the electricity transmission and distribution facilities across Ontario.



### Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

The legislative authority responsible for environmental assessments in the province of Ontario.







### Why is a new station necessary?

- In March 2020, the need for a new station was identified in a twenty-year Integrated Regional Resource Plan (IRRP).
- Regional system planning ensures a reliable supply of electricity to regions across the province and considers a range of solutions including conservation, generation, transmission and distribution, as well as other resource options to ensure that electricity is available when needed.



### Why is a new station necessary? Cont'd

- A reliable source of electricity is essential to supporting community growth - powering homes, schools, businesses, hospitals and transportation.
- The Piperville Municipal Transformer Station (MTS) Project is being proposed to support projected growth in electricity demand in the southeast parts of the city of Ottawa in the coming years.
  - Existing Hydro Ottawa infrastructure in the area does not have the capacity to supply anticipated future demand in the near or long-term.



# **Community benefits**

- Improve electricity service reliability to the area and relieve strain on Hydro Ottawa's existing infrastructure that is already operating near capacity.
- Protect the electricity grid, our systems and our customers from prolonged outages caused by extreme weather-related events.
- After events like the tornadoes and derecho, Hydro Ottawa is building back stronger and investing in the grid and new technology to mitigate risks.

- Maximize the use of existing provincial infrastructure such as Hydro One's 230kV transmission line, which is consistent with good planning practices.
- The station's close proximity to the transmission system will minimize costs and the need for new land rights from public and private landowners
- Help to make the electricity system in the area as clean, reliable and resilient as possible.



# Piperville Municipal Transformer Station Anticipated Project Schedule



Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities Schedule



# What's being proposed

- To meet future electricity needs responsibly, this project proposes:
  - to construct a new 27.6kV municipal transformer station (MTS) near the intersection of Piperville Road and Farmers Way (located on the west side of Highway 417); and
  - to connect the new power station to Hydro One's existing 230 kV transmission line, also located on the west side of Highway 417.
- The new MTS is similar in design and footprint to Hydro Ottawa's recently-built Cambrian MTS in south Nepean (shown).



### What's being proposed Cont'd

- The MTS site needs to be accessible by road and close to the existing transmission line corridor.
- As part of our sustainability commitments, Hydro Ottawa intends to develop Piperville as a low-carbon substation.
- We are currently undertaking a full project review of the station's construction, including an innovative design, procurement and construction techniques that include using lower Global Warming Potential (GWP) materials, and equipment that will address embodied carbon associated with the construction and operation of the substation.



# What's being proposed

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# **Environmental Assessment**

This class environmental assessment sets out a planning process for specific minor transmission line and transmission station projects. Potential effects of the project will be examined through a number of detailed studies, taking into consideration factors relating to:

- The natural and socio-economic environments;
   cultural/heritage resources;
- recreational resources;
- existing and planned land uses;
- visual landscapes;
- technical/cost considerations; and
- the concerns and interests of local business and residential property owners, Indigenous communities, government agencies and other interested parties.



# Environmental Assessment Cont'd

A number of natural environment field studies will be undertaken in the project area as part of the Class EA process. This will include:

- Species at Risk (SAR) surveys, as required by government agencies;
- Ecological Land Classification;
- botanical and tree surveys;
- aquatic habitat assessments;
- incidental wildlife observations; and,
- potential significant wildlife habitat mapping.

Where effects on the natural environment cannot be avoided, appropriate mitigation measures will be proposed.



# **Vegetation management**

- All vegetation removal will be thoughtfully considered, along with mitigation measures, in accordance with the recommendations of the Class Environmental Assessment and input from the local community.
- We have selected a property as small as possible for the needs of the project (4 acres). While trees will need to be removed, we will only cut those which are strictly necessary.
- Preliminary assessments indicate that the birch trees and undergrowth visible from the road will need to be removed. Depending on the final setback of the station, this could also include approximately 50 metres of vegetation into the woodlot.
- Mitigation measures could include tree planting, vegetation buffers, decorative and community-friendly fencing, and/or an earth berm along the frontage of the site to visually mask the municipal transformer station and dampen operational noise.



# What happens next

Following this community information session, the project team will:

- Consider all feedback received from stakeholders and respond to inquiries in a timely manner
- Complete the Environmental Study Report (ESR)
  - > The ESR is part of the Class EA process
  - > A draft version of the ESR will be made available for review
  - > Notifications will be sent out when the draft ESR is available
- Host a second community information session about the ESR, its findings, and gather input from stakeholders





### What happens next Cont'd

- Hydro Ottawa will make every effort to resolve any concerns raised during the public review and comment period before filing the final ESR with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
- Prepare for permitting and approvals
- Contingent on if the project is approved, we will host a third information session to provide details on the upcoming construction.





## Your input is important to us

Thank you for joining us at our community information session.

We will continue to provide early, ongoing and respectful communications about the project and our plans.

Your feedback during the consultation process will be used to refine our project implementation plans and determine appropriate ways to minimize and mitigate impacts, where feasible.

Our goal is to achieve a high level of community acceptance for the project.





Join our project mailing list: piperville@hydroottawa.com



Visit our website for updates: hydroottawa.com/piperville