

LOCAL NEWS

■ ELGINBURG

Expansion means more blasting, dust, trucks

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If approved by the committee and city council, it would clear the way for Cruickshank to double its production from 500,000 tonnes a year to one million tonnes of stone.

And that means more blasting and dust and trucks.

Steve Cruickshank bought the quarry operation, including the asphalt and concrete batching plants, from a Kingston company in 1986.

His company is a major player in highway construction and maintenance across Ontario.

Some of the highest-quality limestone is found in the Kingston area.

If the additional quarrying is approved, the company will begin blasting down 25 to 30 feet to remove the "top lift" of limestone that will feed the existing site.

"I recognize anywhere in the world where there is a quarry you have opposition," Cruickshank said. "But the world needs aggregates. The lesser of evils is to get your aggregates closer to the markets where you use it."

City councillor Richard Allen, who represents the district of Countryside where the quarry is located, said that through the Elginburg case, the rest of Kingston is waking up to the issues that face rural residents.

But his vote will be only one of 13 around the council horseshoe that decides the fate of the quarry application.

"When it comes to Countryside, we feel left out of the conversation. We get stuck with solar facilities, quarries and dumps — all of the things nobody wants," said Allen.

"The primary issue is the impact of the quarry and its round-the-

clock operations. And the stream of trucks. It's pretty wild, actually. There's dust and noise and some light pollution. It's not just a quarry, it's an industrial facility."

Allen acknowledged Cruickshank Construction as "a great contributor to our community" and said he isn't "anti-economic development."

"It's about striking a balance," he said, "Finding ways for this company to do business so they're a better neighbour."

About 70 area residents sent letters to the city planning department opposing the quarry expansion.

Rahmel said they know they have an uphill battle because the province sets a high priority on resource extraction.

Yet while the provincial directive is acknowledged in Kingston's Official Plan, that document also says city officials should consider what effects mining and quarrying will have on communities, including the size and scale of the operation, traffic volumes and "the impact that increased truck traffic may have on communities or residents along those routes."

Allen said he would like to see more research into how blasting and expanding the quarry might affect household wells.

The expanded quarry is seeking a permit to use 19 million litres of water a day.

"It's a pretty risky proposition," said Allen, who has listened to residents' stories about wells drying up. "If you're going to double the water, we have a lot of anecdotal evidence of how fragile that system is out there. We need more work on water. Homeowners want to see goodwill from Cruickshank for the water, should the worst-case scenario happen. That's

going to be the longest, hardest conversation."

Cruickshank said he stands by the hydrogeology reports commissioned by his company that predict "there will be no impact to the wells in the area."

"The experts are very confident," he said. "We haven't impacted anyone's wells yet."

He said area wells dried up in 2003 when there was a severe drought across the region.

"That wasn't because of anything we were doing. We didn't have any water either," he said. "Nobody wants to have their wells impacted. I go to bed every night confident everything is good."

Allen said the company could also address neighbours' concerns by ceasing nighttime operations.

But Cruickshank said more and more the provincial transportation ministry is demanding that paving on major highways take place at night so that commuter traffic isn't disrupted.

"When they do that, we are required to pave at night," he said. "But that will only be from time to time. It's not a regular thing."

Despite these business demands, Cruickshank believes his company can "operate in a way that doesn't impact our neighbours. We try to be good neighbours."

He said there is a reality that living next to a quarry will bring truck traffic and noise.

"I understand the opposition and we'll do everything we can to work with them. I recognize nobody wants a quarry," he said. "All those people who need fire trucks and ambulances need roads to keep them safe. Those roads need crushed stone."

paul.schliesmann@sunmedia.ca



A map showing the area occupied by the limestone quarry on Unity Road.

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS OF KINGSTON HYDRO CORPORATION

Kingston Hydro Corporation has applied to change its electricity distribution rates.

Learn more. Have your say.

Kingston Hydro Corporation has applied to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) with a plan to set the amount it charges for electricity distribution in each year beginning January 1, 2016 and ending December 31, 2020. If approved, the amount Kingston Hydro Corporation charges each month for the typical residential customer using 800 kWh per month would change by the following amounts:

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
\$1.05	-\$0.74	\$0.09	-\$0.09	\$0.61

Other customers, including businesses, may be affected as well.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD IS HOLDING A PUBLIC HEARING

The OEB will hold a public hearing to consider Kingston Hydro's request. We will question the company on its case for a rate increase. We will also hear arguments from individuals and from groups that represent Kingston Hydro's customers. At the end of this hearing, the OEB will decide what, if any, increase will be allowed.

If Kingston Hydro's application is approved, the OEB's review in the years 2017 through 2020 will be limited to ensuring certain annual adjustments are made in accordance with the approved rate plan.

The OEB is an independent and impartial public agency. We make decisions that serve the public interest. Our goal is to promote a financially viable and efficient energy sector that provides you with reliable energy services at a reasonable cost.

BE INFORMED AND HAVE YOUR SAY

You have the right to information regarding this application and to be involved in the process.

- You can review Kingston Hydro's application on the OEB's website now.
- You can file a letter with your comments, which will be considered during the hearing.
- You can become an active participant (called an intervenor). Apply by **July 14, 2015** or the hearing will go ahead without you and you will not receive any further notice of the proceeding.
- At the end of the process, you can review the OEB's decision and its reasons on our website.

LEARN MORE

These proposed charges relate to Kingston Hydro's distribution services. They make up part of the Delivery line — one of the five line items on your bill. Our file number for this case is **EB-2015-0083**. To learn more about this hearing, find instructions on how to file letters or become an intervenor, or to access any document related to this case, please select the file number **EB-2015-0083** from the list on the OEB website: www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/notice. You can also phone our Consumer Relations Centre at 1-877-632-2727 with any questions.

ORAL VS. WRITTEN HEARINGS

There are two types of OEB hearings — oral and written. The OEB will determine later in the process whether to hold an oral or a written hearing in this case. If you think an oral hearing is needed, you can write to the OEB to explain why by **July 14, 2015**.

PRIVACY

If you write a letter of comment, your name and the content of your letter or the documents you file with the OEB will be put on the public record and the OEB website. However, your personal telephone number, home address and e-mail address will be removed. If you are a business, all your information will remain public. If you apply to become an intervenor, all information will be public.

This rate hearing will be held under section 78 of the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, S.O. 1998 c.15 (Schedule B).

AVIS DE LA COMMISSION DE L'ÉNERGIE DE L'ONTARIO A L'INTENTION DES CLIENTS DE KINGSTON HYDRO CORPORATION

Kingston Hydro Corporation a déposé une requête en vue de modifier ses tarifs de distribution d'électricité.

Soyez mieux renseigné. Donnez votre opinion.

Kingston Hydro Corporation a déposé une requête auprès de la Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario (CEO) pour proposer un plan visant à établir ses tarifs de distribution d'électricité pour chacune des cinq prochaines années, soit du 1^{er} janvier 2016 au 31 décembre 2020. S'il est approuvé, ce plan entraînera une hausse des taux mensuels de Kingston Hydro Corporation pour le consommateur résidentiel moyen consommant 800kWh par mois. Cette hausse correspondra aux montants suivants :

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
1,05 \$	-0,74 \$	0,09 \$	-0,09 \$	0,61 \$

D'autres clients, dont des entreprises, pourraient aussi être touchés.

LA COMMISSION DE L'ÉNERGIE DE L'ONTARIO TIENDRA UNE AUDIENCE PUBLIQUE

La CEO tiendra une audience publique en vue d'examiner la requête de Kingston Hydro. Elle interrogera l'entreprise sur son besoin d'augmenter ses tarifs. Elle entendra également les arguments des personnes et des groupes qui représentent les clients de Kingston Hydro. À la fin de cette audience, la CEO décidera si elle accordera une augmentation, le cas échéant.

Si la requête de Kingston Hydro est approuvée, l'examen de la CEO de 2017 à 2020 se limitera à assurer que certains ajustements annuels sont effectués en conformité avec le plan tarifaire approuvé.

La CEO est un organisme public indépendant et impartial. Elle rend des décisions qui servent l'intérêt public. Son but est de promouvoir un secteur d'énergie viable et rentable financièrement qui vous offre des services énergétiques fiables à un coût raisonnable.

SOYEZ RENSEIGNÉ ET DONNEZ VOTRE OPINION

Vous avez le droit de recevoir des renseignements concernant cette requête et de participer au processus.

- Vous pouvez consulter la requête de Kingston Hydro sur le site de la CEO;
- Vous pouvez présenter une lettre de commentaires qui sera examinée durant l'audience;
- Vous pouvez participer activement à l'audience (à titre d'intervenant). Inscrivez-vous d'ici le **14 juillet 2015** ou l'audience sera entamée sans votre participation et vous ne recevrez aucun autre avis concernant cette instance.
- Vous pouvez passer en revue la décision rendue par la CEO et ses justifications sur notre site Web, à la fin du processus.

SOYEZ MIEUX RENSEIGNÉ

Les frais proposés concernent les services de distribution de Kingston Hydro. Ils font partie des frais de livraison, un des cinq éléments figurant sur votre facture d'électricité. Le numéro de ce dossier est **EB-2015-0083**. Pour en savoir plus sur cette audience, sur les démarches à suivre pour présenter des lettres ou pour devenir un intervenant, ou encore pour accéder aux documents concernant ce dossier, veuillez sélectionner le numéro de dossier **EB-2015-0083** dans la liste publiée sur le site Web de la CEO : www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/notice. Vous pouvez également adresser vos questions à notre centre de relations aux consommateurs au 1 877 632-2727.

AUDIENCE ORALE OU ÉCRITE

Il existe deux types d'audience à la CEO : orale et écrite. La CEO déterminera à un stade ultérieur du processus si elle tiendra une audience orale ou une audience écrite dans le cadre de ce dossier. Si vous croyez qu'une audience orale doit avoir lieu, vous pouvez écrire à la CEO pour expliquer pourquoi au plus tard le **14 juillet 2015**.

CONFIDENTIALITÉ

Si vous présentez une lettre de commentaires, votre nom et le contenu des documents que vous allez déposer auprès de la CEO seront versés au dossier public et publiés sur le site Web de la CEO. Toutefois, votre numéro de téléphone, votre adresse et votre adresse de courriel seront supprimés. Si vous êtes une entreprise, tous vos renseignements demeureront accessibles au public. Si vous faites une requête de statut d'intervenant, tous vos renseignements seront du domaine public.

Cette audience sera tenue en vertu de l'article 78 de la Loi de 1998 sur la Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario, L.O. 1998 chap.15 (annexe B).



Ontario Energy Board / Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario