

Municipalité de
Municipality of

mATTICE-
VAL CÔTÉ

Sac postal / P.O. Bag 129, Mattice, Ont. P0L 1T0
(705) 364-6511 – Fax: (705) 364-6431



May 28th, 2018

Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Attn: Ms. Kirsten Walli, Board Secretary

Dear Madam,

Re : Board File No. : EB-2018-0098
Hydro One Networks Inc. – Kapuskasing Area Reinforcement Project

Hydro One submitted the referenced application to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) to upgrade a segment of an existing transmission line in the Kapuskasing area. The rationale for this upgrade is an assumed uncertainty of continued operations of the Calstock facility and the grid operability issues that may be created should the facility close. If approved, the transmission line work and related facilities would cost ratepayers \$21.1 million, per Hydro One's filing, simply to replace the grid operability benefits currently being provided by Atlantic Power's Calstock power plant. It would NOT provide any of the economic, social or environmental benefits that the Calstock facility currently offers our region, including:

- a significant contribution to the local economy, as it supports 20 direct jobs and injects \$5,000,000 annually in local businesses;
- financial support given to various groups and organizations in Hearst, Constance Lake First Nations (CLFN) and other surrounding communities;
- the nurturing of a business relationship with First Nations - they own a trucking company that hauls wood waste from Hearst mills to the power plant;
- a low-cost option for wood waste disposal, contributing to the economic vitality of the forest products industry, a major employer in our area (3 local mills);
- an outlet for the disposal of wood waste material from the remediation of legacy bark piles throughout the region;
- furtherance of the provincial climate change objectives by utilizing renewable biomass and waste heat as fuel and by reducing methane emissions through the diversion of wood waste that could otherwise end up in landfills;
- grid operability benefits, etc.

Rather than promoting renewable energy, this ratepayer funded project would essentially serve to replace an existing dispatchable renewable energy facility, under the presumption of the outcome of the pending design of the Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO's) planned Capacity Auction and other Market Renewal efforts.

On behalf of Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté, I hereby request that OEB ensure that the full benefits of the Calstock Power Plant are given full and proper consideration in this process. This renewable energy source promotes the policies of the Government of Ontario and must be properly valued as such. What is more, a cost comparison of all alternatives needs to be properly vetted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michel Brière". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michel" and last name "Brière" clearly distinguishable.

Michel Brière
Mayor