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Share your Thoughts: Proposed Hydroelectric Project at 4th Canadian Division Training Centre in Meaford, Ontario

From: Department of National Defence (DND)

Current status: Open

Opened on 27 May 2019 and will close to new input on 31 March 2020.

The Department of National Defence (DND) has begun a notification and meaningful consultation process with Indigenous groups who may be impacted by a hydroelectric pumped storage project proposed by TC Energy Corporation (TC Energy) at 4th Canadian Division Training Centre in Meaford. We will also be engaging with third-party stakeholders, including the local community, as well as municipal, provincial and federal partners. We will provide regular updates on the proposed project, and will engage with potentially impacted Indigenous groups to ensure that we hear and respond to Indigenous interests and concerns.

How to Participate

We want to hear from you. Please let us know if you have any comments, concerns, or questions regarding this proposed project.

Participate by e-mail

Send an e-mail to Holly King, Section Head, Directorate Real Property Services, DND, at ThirdPartyAccess@forces.gc.ca with your feedback.

Participate in person

Attend upcoming community meetings and/or town halls. Dates and locations of upcoming in-person consultation sessions will be posted under the “When and Where” section as they are scheduled.

Who is the Focus of this Consultation?

The Government of Canada will consult with:

- Indigenous communities that may be affected by the proposed project, as well as cottage associations, and municipal, provincial, and federal partners.

Discussion Guide

What is the Proposed Project?

TC Energy has approached DND with a proposal to construct and operate a hydroelectric pumped storage facility on part of DND’s 4th Canadian Division Training Centre (4 CDTC) next to Georgian Bay in Meaford, Ontario.

Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada has granted TC Energy a priority permit under the *Dominion Water Power Act* so it can begin its preliminary feasibility studies. The priority permit only gives TC Energy the right to be first in line to undertake feasibility studies for this type of project in the identified area. DND has provided TC Energy a one-

year access agreement to complete its studies. This temporary access is being carefully coordinated to ensure minimal impact to military training and operations at 4 CDTC Meaford.

This access agreement does not mean that the project has been approved. If TC Energy decides to proceed with its proposed project after it has conducted its feasibility studies, it would be subject to further government review and approvals in consultation with Indigenous groups, the Meaford community, and other interested parties.

TC Energy's proposed hydroelectric facility would consume inexpensive "off-peak" power at night to pump water from Georgian Bay into a storage reservoir located at the top of the Niagara Escarpment on 4 CDTC property. The reservoir would be emptied back into Georgian Bay during "peak" usage periods, driving hydraulic turbines to generate electricity.

TC Energy has stated that the proposed project would cost around \$3 billion to complete, and would be able to generate upwards of 1,000 megawatts of electricity.

TC Energy has stated 4 CDTC Meaford may be a unique site in Ontario for the proposed project, due to its close proximity to both Georgian Bay and the Ontario power grid. It also has an elevation of over 150 metres, and includes more than 200 hectares of land that is inaccessible to the public, allowing them to construct the major facility infrastructure above ground on the escarpment, rather than underground.

Why consult?

The Government of Canada recognizes our legal duty to ensure that meaningful consultations take place between the Crown and Indigenous communities whenever the Crown contemplates decisions or actions that

may have an adverse impact on potential or established Aboriginal or treaty rights. We will ensure that we hear and respond to Indigenous interests and concerns.

As well, we are committed to taking steps to maintain good relations with our neighbours regarding how we manage our property.

When and Where?

DND is currently engaging with Indigenous Communities and stakeholders to schedule meetings. Details will be posted here as they become available.

Upcoming community meetings include:

- [List to be updated as they occur]

Upcoming town halls include:

- [List to be updated as they occur]

What we are hearing

Summaries of meetings and feedback gathered will be posted here as they become available.

Related Information

- For more information about the technical aspects of the proposed Pumped Storage Project, please visit [TC Energy's website](#)
- [4 CDTC](#)
- [Dominion Water Power Act](#) (R.S.C., 1985, c. W-4)

Contact Us

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For further questions about TC Energy's proposed project, please contact TC Energy at, 1-844-551-0055 or energy_storage@transcanada.com.

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