Dear Mayor Bratina,

Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) has initiated a Class Environmental Assessment screening process to connect the Niagara Region Wind Corporation’s (NRWC) project to Ontario’s transmission system. Hydro One’s work is contingent on NRWC obtaining all the necessary approvals to build its wind farm. The project will involve upgrading approximately 25 kilometres of an existing 115 kV transmission line, which extends from Hydro One’s Beach Transformer Station (TS) in the City of Hamilton, to Beamsville TS in the Town of Lincoln. The line is labeled Q5G on the attached map.

To reenergize the idle transmission line, Hydro One must refurbish some of the existing towers to accommodate for the higher capacity. The upgrades will involve increasing the height of some towers, upgrades to tower cross-arms and foundations plus replacing the existing conductor (wire) with a higher capacity conductor. Details of this work will be determined closer to the start of construction, and we will provide you with an update prior to the start of construction. The project also involves the construction of four new steel lattice structures to connect NRWC to the system. The connection point is represented as a triangle on the attached map.

All work will be carried out by Hydro One crews within the existing corridor; planned access will be accomplished using existing roads/trails. The appearance of the transmission line will not change significantly after the project is complete.

This project is carried out under the Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for Minor Transmission Facilities, approved under the provincial Ontario Environmental Assessment Act. This project is also subject to approval in accordance with Section 92 (Leave to Construct) of the Ontario Energy Board Act. Contingent on the outcome of the Class EA screening process, Section 92 process, and NRWC’s required approvals, construction may begin in spring 2014 and be complete by summer 2015.

If you have any questions or concerns, I can be contacted at 1-877-345-6597 or by email at Community.Relations@HydroOne.Com

Thank you,

Marylena Stea
Public Affairs
Hydro One Networks Inc

CC: Rose Caterini, Municipal Clerk