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Mayor Maureen Cole and members of Council Municipality of South Huron 322 Main Street South Exeter, ON N0M 1S6 Via e-mail: m.cole@southhuron.ca November 9, 2017

Re: Wood Pole Replacement Program on the 115 kilovolt transmission structures (circuit L7S) in your community

Dear Mayor Cole and members of Council:

I am writing to notify you that Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) has initiated a Class Environmental Assessment (EA) in your community to refurbish approximately 47 structures along 60 kilometres of the existing 115 kilovolt transmission line (circuit L7S). The project area is shown on the attached maps.

This project was determined through Hydro One's annual wood pole testing program as some of the wood pole structures on the circuit have reached their end-of-life. Replacing damaged and aging structures would ensure the continued reliability and integrity of this transmission line and electricity supply to the area. Most work would be carried out within the existing transmission corridor, with no new corridor being required. Where possible, access would be accomplished using existing roads and trails. There would be very little noticeable difference in this transmission line after the project has been completed.

This type of project is considered routine maintenance work with relatively minor effects, and is subject to the Class EA for Minor Transmission Facilities (Hydro One, 2016), in accordance with the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act.* The Class EA is a streamlined planning process that has proven effective in ensuring that minor transmission projects that have a predictable range of effects have feasible environmental mitigation and/or protection measures in place. The Class EA Process contains screening provisions that may apply to this project.

Contingent on the outcome of the Class EA, the replacement of wood poles may begin as early as January 2018 and be completed by the end of 2018.

Hydro One has notified First Nations and Métis communities of the Class EA and the project; we will also be notifying property owners adjacent to the work areas.

We welcome your comments and feedback regarding the proposed project. Your input for this project is valued, and would be appreciated by December 7, 2017.

As per the request of the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, information regarding the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act is included and can be viewed below.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Hodsoll

Community Relations Officer Hydro One Networks Inc.

Enclosed (2)

CC: Dan Best, Chief Administrative Officer, Municipality of South Huron

Genevieve Scharback, Corporate Services Manager and Clerk, Municipality of South Huron



Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

All personal information included in a submission – such as name, address, telephone number and property location – is collected, maintained and disclosed by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change for the purpose of transparency and consultation. The information is collected under the authority of the *Environmental Assessment Act* or is collected and maintained for the purpose of creating a record that is available to the general public as described in s. 37 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Personal information you submit will become part of a public record that is available to the general public unless you request that your personal information remain confidential. For more information, please contact the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change's Freedom of Information and Privacy Coordinator at 416-327-1434.

