Notice of Commencement and Public Meetings

GO Rail Network Electrification
Transit Project Assessment Process

Metrolinx, an agency of the Province of Ontario, is upgrading its commuter rail system into Regional Express Rail. The Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) is now home to nearly 7 million people and heading towards 10 million by 2041. To address the urgent transit needs of the GTHA, the Province of Ontario committed to implement Regional Express Rail and make other improvements to the GO system. By 2025, electrified trains will be running every 15 minutes or better, all day and in both directions, within the most heavily travelled sections of the GO network.

The Process

Metrolinx and Hydro One are co-proponents, jointly carrying out the Transit Project Assessment Process (TPAP) in accordance with Ontario Regulation 231/08 - Transit Projects and Metrolinx Undertakings (made under the Environmental Assessment Act) to examine the environmental impacts of converting several GO rail corridors from diesel to electric propulsion.

The Project

As part of Regional Express Rail, Metrolinx is proposing to electrify GO-owned corridors. The GO Rail Network Electrification undertaking will entail design and implementation of a traction power supply system and power distribution components located along and within the vicinity of the rail corridors.

The Study Area (see key map) includes six GO rail corridors, as well as proposed locations for the traction power facilities (i.e., Traction Power Substations, Paralleling Stations, Switching Stations) and ancillary components:

- Union Station Rail Corridor
- Lakeshore West Corridor – West of Bathurst St. to Burlington
- Kitchener Corridor – UP Express Spur (at Highway 427) to Bramalea
- Barrie Corridor – Parkdale Junction to Allandale GO Station
- Stouffville Corridor – Scarborough Junction to Lincolnville GO Station
- Lakeshore East Corridor – Don River Layover to Oshawa GO Station

Traction Power Supply And Distribution System

Electrification of the GO Network requires a connection to the provincial electrical system. It is proposed that power be supplied from Hydro One’s existing 230 kilovolt (kV) transmission lines through the installation of five (5) Tap locations which will bring power to the traction power facilities (i.e., Traction Power Substations) and then feed into the power distribution system components adjacent to and along the rail corridors to be electrified.

Consultation

Building on the first and second rounds of public consultation meetings held in February/March 2016 and November 2016, Metrolinx and Hydro One are now formally commencing the TPAP. A third round of public consultation is planned for June/July 2017 (details below) and will present the findings of the technical/environmental studies (posted online at www.gotransit.com/electrification) undertaken for the GO Rail Network Electrification Project. Members of the public, government agencies, Indigenous communities and other interested parties are encouraged to participate in the process and/or contact the project team directly with feedback or questions. A discussion guide will be posted online at www.gotransit.com/electrification prior to the meetings to provide key information.

We invite you to join us in person at the public meeting nearest you to find out more.

Meeting times: 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. / Presentation: 7:00 p.m.

Monday, June 26, 2017
161 Lakeshore Road West
Mississauga, ON L5H 1G3
Ajax Community Centre

Wednesday, June 28, 2017
Clarence Memorial Hall
Ajax Community Centre

Thursday, June 29, 2017
Metro Hall
Toronto, ON M5V 3C6
Newmarket Community Centre

Wednesday, July 5, 2017
55 John Street
Toronto, ON M5V 2P5
200 Doug Duncan Drive

For further information on the project and studies completed to date, please visit www.gotransit.com/electrification.

If you would like to be added to our project mailing list, submit a comment or question, or to receive additional information related to the Project, please send an e-mail to the project team at: electrification@metrolinx.com or contact:

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Comments and information regarding this project are being collected to assist in meeting the requirements of the Environmental Assessment Act. All personal information included in a submission – such as name, address, telephone number, email address, 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 James Hartley (contact information above) or the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change Freedom of Information and Privacy Coordinator at 416-327-1434.

This Notice first issued on June 14, 2017.

Si vous désirez des renseignements en français, veuillez composer le 416 869-3200 ou le 1 888 GET-ON-GO (438-6646).