



### 3. STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

Consultation is a critical component of the REA process. Consultation allows for a two-way exchange of information between the project proponents and potentially affected local groups, communities, members of the public and local municipalities and government boards. It helps to ensure concerns regarding the project are identified early in the project and in a transparent manner. The following sections describe the key consultation activities that were undertaken to date and the proposed activities that are planned for the future. Comments received from aboriginal communities, agencies, stakeholders, the general public and especially landowners within the project location have significantly influenced the project design and the construction, operations and decommissioning commitments made since the beginning of the REA submission.

#### 3.1 Consultation Methodology

Since project initiation, various forms of consultation have taken place. A detailed account of these activities is outlined in the following sections and includes:

- Public notifications
- Consultation with government agencies
- Consultation with key interest groups
- Meetings with five local municipal councils and the County of Dufferin
- Consultation with Aboriginal communities and organizations
- Media releases
- Public Information Centres (PICs) and meetings.

The objectives of the DWP public, agency and aboriginal consultations are to:

- Provide interested groups with information about the project
- Obtain information that is relevant to the project from members of the public, municipalities and Aboriginal communities
- Identify concerns about the project and address the concerns by providing additional information, explanation and making changes to the project.

A number of methods have been utilized to achieve these objectives including:

- Project notices in newspapers (Shelburne Free Press, Dundalk Herald, Orangeville Citizen, Orangeville Banner and the Creemore Echo)



- Mailed notices to landowners within and adjacent to the project location
- Four Rounds Public Information Centers (13 in total)
- Meetings and presentations with municipal staff and councillors
- Meetings and consultation with Aboriginal Communities
- Consultation with interested agencies including:
  - Ministry of Environment
  - Ministry of Natural Resources
  - Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport
  - Conservation Authorities
  - Niagara Escarpment Commission
  - Navigation Canada
  - Transport Canada
- Responses to interested non-participating landowners and the general public
- Project website ([www.dufferinwindpower.ca](http://www.dufferinwindpower.ca))
- Project e-mail address
- Toll-free project phone number.

### 3.2 Contact List

A project contact list was established early on to identify stakeholders with a potential interest in the project. The contact list evolved over time with the addition of a second power line alternative, which increased the number of stakeholders as well as included the Town of Shelburne as an affected municipality. The contact list was continually updated throughout the REA process. Additions to the list occurred primarily as a result of attendance at PICs, the evolving location of project components and also through direct communication with project team members.

**Appendix A** provides two copies of the contact list, the first was used from August 2011 until February 2011, when the 69 kV power line was the primary power line option. The second was used from March 2011, until REA final submission and incorporates the adjacent landowners from the 230 kV power line and the Town of Shelburne.

For general mailings the contact list included:

- Ministry of the Environment
- County of Dufferin
- Townships of Melancthon, Amaranth and Mulmur



- Towns of Shelburne and Mono
- Landowners within 550 m of the project location
- Aboriginal Communities, listed on the MOE's Directors List.

The methodology used to develop the landowner mailing list was as follows:

- Purchase Teranet data, which includes the Parcel Identification Number (PIN)
- Undertake title searches for each PIN number to get landowner name and address.

If letter mail was returned, it was noted as returned and a search was undertaken for the proper landowner name and address. The contact list was updated accordingly. As the project contact list is not a perfect medium for notification based on the difficulty of obtaining the correct address for over 1600 landowners adjacent to the project location, ads were run in five local newspapers, notices were posted in communities and public areas and for PIC 2, advertisement notifications were made on two local radio stations to ensure as many people as possible were aware of the project and the upcoming PICs.

### **3.3 Project Notification**

Project notification was provided at various milestones through formal notices and letters. Copies of project notices and letters are included in **Appendix A**.

#### **3.3.1 Notice of Proposal to Engage in a Renewable Energy Project – March 2010**

The week of March 8, 2010, a Notice of Proposal to Engage in a Renewable Energy Project was published in the Shelburne Free Press, Dundalk Herald and the Orangeville Citizen.

Covering letters and notices were sent on March 10, 2010, to the affected municipalities, landowners within 120 metres of the project location, the Ministry of the Environment and Aboriginal communities on the Director's List.

#### **3.3.2 Notice of Proposal to Engage and Notice of Public Information Centre 1 – September 2010**

The week of August 23, 2010, a Second Notice of Proposal to Engage in a Renewable Energy Project and the First Notice of Public Meeting was published in the Shelburne Free Press, Dundalk Herald and the Orangeville Citizen.



The week of September 20, 2010, a Second Notice of First Public Meeting was published in the Shelburne Free Press, Dundalk Herald and the Orangeville Citizen.

Covering letters and notices were sent to the affected municipalities, landowners within 120 metres of the project location, the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) and Aboriginal communities on the Director's List. All letters were posted at least 30 days before the PIC.

### **3.3.3 Notice of Proposal to Engage and Notice of Public Information Centre 1 – September 2011**

Due to the change in ownership and the amount of elapsed amount of time since previous community engagement in the project, DWP published another Notice of Proposal to Engage in a Renewable Energy Project and Notice of Public Information Centre 1.

The notice of Proposal to Engage and the Notice of Public Information Centre 1 were combined onto one notice. Ads were placed in the Dundalk Herald, the Shelburne Free Press and the Orangeville Citizen the weeks of August 15 and August 29, 2011.

In addition to the notice, a letter dated August 10, 2011, was sent by mail to the County of Dufferin, the Townships of Melancthon, Amaranth, Mulmur and the Town of Mono, the MOE, Aboriginal communities, the Niagara Escarpment Commission and all landowners within 550 metres of the project location.

### **3.3.4 Notice of Draft REA Release for Municipal and Aboriginal Comment**

On February 24, 2011, DWP sent the County of Dufferin and each of the five lower tier municipalities (the 230 kV power line option is now considered part of the project location) a letter outlining the municipal draft release of the REA reports for municipal review and comment. Dufferin County and each of the five lower tier municipalities each received two sets of draft REA reports along with a DVD containing all documentation and the Municipal Consultation Form.

At this time, DWP also sent the draft REA reports to each Aboriginal Community on the Director's List.



### 3.3.5 Notice of Draft Site Plan

On April 26, 2012, DWP released a draft Site Plan for public review. On April 26, newspaper ads were placed in the Orangeville Banner, Orangeville Citizen, and Shelburne Free Press and on April 27, a newspaper ad was placed in the Creemore Echo. On May 1, 2012, an ad was placed in the Dundalk Herald to advertise the release of the draft Site Plan.

On April 25, 2012, notification letters were sent to the MOE, hand delivered to Dufferin County and each of the five lower tier municipalities, Aboriginal communities and the project contact list.

The draft site plans (one of the wind farm and one showing the proposed power line routes) were enlarged to 2 feet by 3 feet, laminated and provided to each municipal office for public review. The notice and site plans were also published on the project website, which had just been designed and brought online.

### 3.3.6 Notice of Public Information Centre 1 (230 kV Power Line) – April 2012

As the 230 kV power line option was not identified when PIC #1 was held in September 2011, a decision was made after consulting with the MOE to hold an additional set of PIC #1 meetings for the 230 kV power line option.

The week of March 12, and April 2, 2012, the First and Second Notice of Public Information Centre 1 (230 kV Power Line) was published in the Orangeville Banner, Orangeville Citizen, Dundalk Herald, Shelburne Free Press and the Creemore Echo. The notice was made available on the project website and the Clerk's office at the County of Dufferin and the five local municipalities. Project notices were posted throughout local townships in community halls, arenas and other areas frequented by community members.

In addition to the notice, a letter dated March 12, 2012, was sent by mail to the County of Dufferin, the Townships of Melancthon, Amaranth, Mulmur and the Town of Mono, the MOE, Aboriginal communities and all landowners within 550 metres of the project location.

All notifications were made available 30 days prior to PIC 1, held in April 2012. A copy of the Project Description Report was available at the local Municipal Offices for public review 30 days prior to the PICs. There was some confusion with the Township of Melancthon as to what



Reports they should allow the public to view, as they had their copies of the REA reports for municipal review. As soon as this was realized, Dillon called the Township of Melancthon to clarify the public could review the Project Description Report as part of the 30 day public review period before the PICs.

### **3.3.7 Notice of Public Information Centre 2 (July 2012) and REA Public Release (May 2012)**

The week of May 22, and July 9, 2012, a Notice of Public Information Centre 2 and REA Public Release were published in the Orangeville Banner, Orangeville Citizen, Shelburne Free Press, Dundalk Herald, and the Creemore Echo. The notice was made available on the project website and the Clerk's office at the County of Dufferin and the five local municipalities.

Radio advertisements were run from Wednesday, July 18, 2012, to Friday, July 27, 2012, on Jewel FM, based in Orangeville and on AM 740 News Radio, based out of Toronto. Over 50 project notices were posted throughout local townships in community halls, arenas and other areas frequented by community members.

In addition to the notice, a letter dated May 22, 2012, was sent by mail to the County of Dufferin, the Townships of Melancthon, Amaranth, Mulmur and the Towns of Mono and Shelburne, the MOE, Aboriginal communities and all landowners within 550 metres of the project location.

All notifications were made available 60 days prior to PIC 2, held in July 2012. A copy of the notice and letters are included in **Appendix A** of this report.

### **3.3.8 Final REA Submission Application (August 2012)**

On August 13, 2012, the final REA Submission was submitted to the Director of the Environmental Assessment and Approvals Branch (EAAB) at the Ministry of the Environment (MOE). Once the application is deemed complete by the MOE, DWP will notify all landowners within 550 metres of the project location, the County of Dufferin, the five local municipalities and Aboriginal contacts to notify them that the final REA reports can be found on the project website within five business days of the final REA posting on the Environmental Bill of Rights.

DWP is committed to consulting with the public, municipalities and Aboriginal groups beyond the REA. Future consultation commitments can be found in **Section 11**.



### 3.4 Public Information Centres

In April 2007, an open house was held, under the former approval process for the project to introduce the project and meet community members and stakeholders. In 2010, the project team initiated the formal REA process and held the first PIC in September of that year. This PIC in Melancthon presented the wind farm study area only. With the new ownership and change in power line options, a second round of PIC 1 meetings were held in September, 2011 and presented a 69 kV power line that would start at the project substation in Melancthon and cross the Townships of Mulmur, Amaranth and into the Town of Mono to interconnect with the provincial grid. Based on feedback received from some municipalities and the public, a second power line route is currently under consideration. In April 2012, a third set of PIC 1 meetings were held to present the 230 kV power line route. One final series of PIC 2 meetings were held in each of the five local municipalities to present the findings of the REA and to receive public comments.

All information panels, handouts, sign-in sheets and comments for each PIC, outlined below, can be found in **Appendix B**.

#### 3.4.1 Public Information Centre 1 – September 2010

The first PIC was held on September 29, 2010, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Horning's Mills Community Hall in the Township of Melancthon. The PIC was a walk through event with information panels introducing the project, the project proponents (401 Energy Ltd. and Farm Owned Power Melancthon), and to introduce the REA process. Project proponents and their consultants were at the PICs to answer questions.

Eighty-two individuals signed in at the PIC and eight comment sheets were filled in and returned to the project proponent.



**Table 2: Summary of Comments – Melancthon PIC 1 September 2010**

Received	Comments
September 29, 2010 at PIC	Slick presentation that says little; spreadsheets should show cost of implementation, payout to farmers; please list names of investors; property values
September 29, 2010 at PIC	I am for it
September 29, 2010 at PIC	Every household should receive compensation; solar panels should be installed as well
September 29, 2010 at PIC	Property values; damage to water table; danger to water fowl; seem to be well addressed
September 29, 2010 at PIC	Would like to know turbine sites; when will people affected by turbines be compensated; trying to pull the wool over people’s eyes. We know the facts
September 29, 2010 at PIC	Support green energy and would like turbines on my property; interested in compensation structure
September 29, 2010 at PIC	What kind of hydro poles will be used along 5th Sideroad?
September 29, 2010 at PIC	Real estate study is crap; viewshed impacts

### 3.4.2 Public Information Centre 1 – September 2011

The September 2011, PIC 1 meetings for this project were held between September 12, and September 15, 2011, at community halls in each affected lower tier municipality. The purpose of the PICs was to introduce the project and the new project proponent, Dufferin Wind Power Inc. Information was presented on the proposed project location, general information about wind energy and an overview of the formal REA process. Comments and feedback were collected during the PICs which were used to further develop the project layout and design. PIC proceedings as well as comments provided by the public are included in **Appendix B**.

The meeting was set up as a walk through event with information panels. The panels described the benefits of the project and addressed some common misconceptions regarding property values and health impacts. The panels also examined some potential environmental effects of the project. There were handouts with information about the project, and studies on property value and health effects. Project proponents and their consultants were at the PICs to answer questions.



*PIC 1 – Melancthon, September 2011*



The following sections briefly summarize of each PIC.

**3.4.2.1 Horning Mills Community Hall in Melancthon Township on September 12, 2011**

Fifty-four people signed in at the PIC and nine comment sheets were received by the proponent. Twelve comment sheets were mailed-in after the event. **Table 3** provides a summary of the comments received.

**Table 3: Summary of Comments – Melancthon PIC 1 September 2011**

Received	Comments
September 12, 2011 at PIC	Requests a copy of the PDR
September 12, 2011 at PIC	Requests a Dufferin Wind Power Project booklet with turbine placement map
September 12, 2011 at PIC	Requests a formal presentation with Question and Answer period
September 12, 2011 at PIC	Concern over health effects claimed elsewhere; meeting lacked enough info to make opinions
September 12, 2011 at PIC	Requests a turbine placement map, with an exact split of the two turbine types
September 12, 2011 at PIC	Requests maps of Site Plan, Project Location, power line route, general info, any additional info
September 12, 2011 at PIC	Requests a draft copy
September 12, 2011 at PIC	Requests info/reviews on property value, health; can T31, 40 positions be moved for neighbours
September 12, 2011 at PIC	Requests a copy of PDR, full, completed REA reports, and detailed site plans
September, 2011 by mail	Turbine 1 – 12 of 49 turbines as per your place will surround our property
September, 2011 by mail	Turbine 2 – We do not want to be surrounded by turbines
September, 2011 by mail	Turbine 3 – Our one acre property will be surrounded by 12 of the 49 turbines
September, 2011 by mail	Turbine 4 – We were totally unaware of the project and the placement of these turbines
September, 2011 by mail	Turbine 5 – We had no say whatsoever in the placement of these turbines
September, 2011 by mail	Turbine 6 – Health concerns and turbines
September, 2011 by mail	Turbine 7 – Go back to the drawing board and reallocate placing of turbines
September, 2011 by mail	Turbine 8 – We did not sign up with 401 Energy. We don't want to be surrounded by turbines
September, 2011 by mail	Turbine 9 – We will get flickers from the turbines in both the morning and at night
September, 2011 by mail	Turbine 10 – 12 of the 49 turbines will be around us
September, 2011 by mail	Turbine 11 – No say in the placement of turbines
September, 2011 by mail	Turbine 12 – we were not informed of placement



### 3.4.2.2 Amaranth Township Banquet Hall in Amaranth Township on September 13, 2011

Twenty-one people signed in at the PIC and two comment sheets were received by the proponent. **Table 4** summarizes the comments received.

Table 4: Summary of Comments – Amaranth PIC 1 September 2011	
Received	Comments
September 13, 2011 at PIC	I like this Project, if interested please phone me
September 13, 2011 at PIC	I like this Project, if interested please phone me

### 3.4.2.3 Mono Community Centre in the Town of Mono on September 14, 2011

Thirty people signed in at the PIC and nine comment sheets were received by the proponent. **Table 5** summarizes the comments received.

Table 5: Summary of Comments – Mono PIC 1 September 2011	
Received	Comments
September 14, 2011 at PIC	Requests Hydro One contact info and Hydro One info re: T-Line route for all proposals
September 14, 2011 at PIC	Requests call from J. Hammond re: zig zag route, emissions and electro fields, property values
September 14, 2011 at PIC	No comment. Contact info given for mailing list
September 14, 2011 at PIC	Underground hydro? Higher initial cost but no tree trimming; alternate route along Highway 10
September 14, 2011 at PIC	Not well thought out, poor presentation
September 14, 2011 at PIC	Current vs. future EMF; can 69 kv line be lower?; mitigation of EMFS; property values
September 14, 2011 at PIC	Hydro lines will impact my views, property value; radiation from the voltage is on the threshold
September 14, 2011 at PIC	Lines underground for maintenance/appearance, costly but cheaper long term; not opposed



### 3.4.2.4 North Dufferin Community Centre in the Township of Mulmur on September 15, 2011

Twenty-six people signed in at the PIC and seven comment sheets were received by the proponent. **Table 6** summarizes the comments received.

Table 6: Summary of Comments –Mulmur PIC 1 September 2011	
Received	Comments
September 15, 2011 at PIC	Inaccurate info; no acoustical work; misrepresentation of setbacks; need setback info; lack of notification
September 15, 2011 at PIC	Concern over tower lights, health effects; will this lower electricity bills and how?
September 15, 2011 at PIC	Concerns over premium for wind, property values, setbacks and noise; meeting lacked specifics
September 15, 2011 at PIC	Concerns over health effects, property values. Will fight project, DWP will find resistance
September 15, 2011 at PIC	Concern over property values as a rural realtor; land will lose value from now on
September 15, 2011 at PIC	Have weekend meetings, many landowners are weekenders; notify for reports and meetings
September 15, 2011 at PIC	Requests renderings of turbines; impacts on wetlands; flicker effects; noise and vibration levels

### 3.4.3 Public Information Centre 1 – 230 kV Power Line

The second round of PIC 1 meetings was held between April 17, and April 19, 2012, in Melancthon, Shelburne and Amaranth to present the 230 kV power line option to the public. The meeting was set up as a walk through event with information panels focusing on the proposed routing of the 230 kV power line. Please see **Appendix B** for sign-in sheets, information panels and comment sheets. A brief summary of each PIC is presented in the following sections.

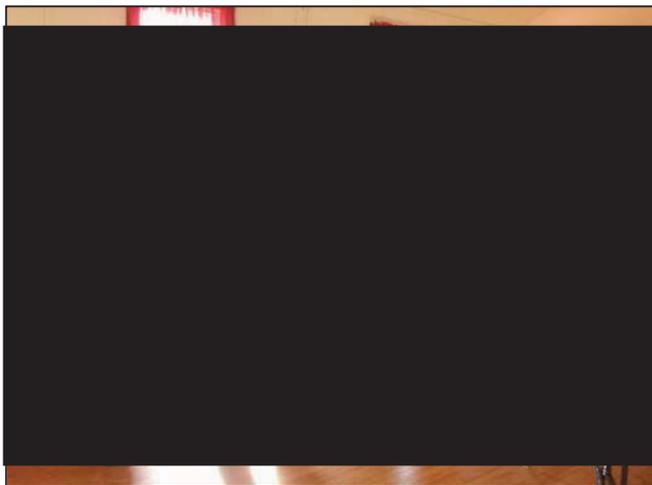
#### 3.4.3.1 Horning Mills Community Hall in Melancthon Township on April 17, 2012

Forty-seven people signed in at the PIC and seven comment sheets were received by the proponent. **Table 7** summarizes the comments received.



Table 7: Summary of Comments – Melancthon PIC 1- 230kV Line April 2012	
Received	Comments
April 17, 2012 at PIC	Option 2: place lines on properties with turbines, east of Highway 10, away from homes in Corbetton
April 17, 2012 at PIC	Avoid Corbetton and put it on land already occupied by mills
April 17, 2012 at PIC	Opposition: health, flicker, noise, municipal and public input, farmland, ugly, inefficient, setbacks
April 17, 2012 at PIC	(resubmission of prv) also: foreign ownership, birds, Ontario tax dollars
April 17, 2012 at PIC	Cell phone and wi-fi internet difficulties as turbines are built, hurts our home business
April 17, 2012 at PIC	Adherence to O.Reg 359/09 S56? No contact yet, but am being violated re: strobing, use of land
April 17, 2012 at PIC	(ext of prv) concerns on noise, stray voltage, setbacks, public input, woodlots, marshes

Note: ext prv = extension of previous comment; one person filled out multiple comment sheets



PIC 1 – Melancthon, April 2012



PIC 1 – Amaranth, April 2012

### 3.4.3.2 Amaranth Township Banquet Hall in Amaranth Township on April 18, 2012

Eighteen people signed in at the PIC and two comment sheets were received by the proponent.

**Table 8** summarizes the comments received.

Table 8: Summary of Comments – Amaranth PIC 1- 230 kV Line - April 2012	
Received	Comments
April 18, 2012 at PIC	Want lines underground, expensive but better long term; overhead will break, affects values
April 18, 2012 at PIC	Near my shop, noise, underground along my property, will see it from my back window



### 3.4.3.3 Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex in the Town of Shelburne on April 19, 2012

Thirty-five people signed in at the PIC and twelve comment sheets were received by the proponent. **Table 9** summarizes the comments received.

Table 9: Summary of Comments – Shelburne - 230 kV Line - April 2012	
Received	Comments
April 19, 2012 at PIC	Town is for people, not power lines. Don't want them near: rail corridor used by kids, wildlife
April 19, 2012 at PIC	69 kv option is more cost effective; better speaker needed for presentation
April 19, 2012 at PIC	Prefer to see power line underground if through Shelburne, suggest from 4th line to 30th sdrd
April 19, 2012 at PIC	Hydro line will hurt values, views; 230 kV too strong, too close to my house and the school
April 19, 2012 at PIC	Need study on human, animal health; concern on visuals, property values, benefit to community
April 19, 2012 at PIC	Concerns on EMF, health effects, water quality, nearby schools, radiation from hydro lines
April 19, 2012 at PIC	Want line underground from north of property to railroad line, only house that backs onto it
April 19, 2012 at PIC	Not in Shelburne's interest; concern on property value, height of poles in town, health effects
April 19, 2012 at PIC	Wanted sit down for Q&A; concern on health, property values, water quality, Aboriginal input
April 19, 2012 at PIC	(ext prv) Consider line on 124 and 2nd; rail line used for recreation; benefits from turbines
April 19, 2012 at PIC	Concern on property value, views, health; want line buried not just in Shelburne, also rural
April 19, 2012 at PIC	Concern on property value, human and livestock health, stray voltage (photo provided)

*Note: ext prv = extension of previous comment; one person filled out multiple comment sheets*

### 3.4.4 Public Information Centre 2

The final round of PICs for this project was held July 24 to July 28, 2012. A series of five meetings were held to cover each of the affected municipalities, all presenting the same information. The PICs were formatted in the following way: the first hour was a walk-through event where the public could view information panels and talk directly to the project proponents and their consultants. The following 2 hours, a formal moderated question and answer period took place, whereby the public wrote their question on an index card and the proponent or one of their consultants would reply to the question. In addition to the project



developer, the panel included the following experts to address public questions: noise, public health, natural sciences, REA approvals, engineering design and property value.

Index cards were used in all municipalities except Amaranth and Shelburne, due to the low attendance. Please see **Appendix B** for the transcript of the formal moderated question and answer period between the public and the project team and the original index cards the public used to ask their questions. The information panels and original filled-in comment forms can also be found in **Appendix B**.

Draft copies of all REA Reports and technical reports were made available to the public 60 days before the event at the five local municipal offices as well as on the project website. Copies of the reports were also available at each of the PIC events.

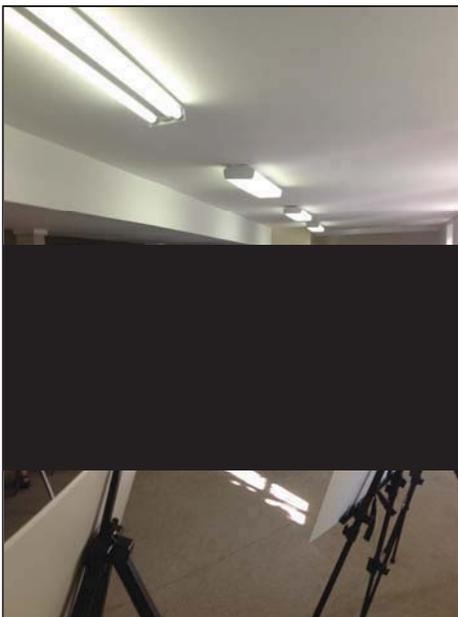
**3.4.4.1 Horning Mills Community Hall in Melancthon Township on July 24, 2012**

Twenty-nine people signed in (Security counted 70 attendees) and five comment sheets and three pictures were received. **Table 10** summarizes the comments received.

Table 10: Summary of Comments – Melancthon PIC 2 July 2012	
Received	Comments
July 24, 2012 at PIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Noise Study Receptor height and cooling fans</li> <li>– Bats</li> <li>– EMF</li> <li>– MOE Noise Guidelines</li> <li>– Effect on Property Values</li> <li>– Most people spend time outdoors not indoors</li> <li>– Who monitors substation noise</li> <li>– Light pollution from security lighting</li> <li>– Non-Significant woodlots</li> <li>– Truck frequency from spent oil and water leaks</li> </ul>
July 24, 2012 at PIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Bird and bat surveys and mortality</li> <li>– Biologist qualifications</li> <li>– Why were maximum setbacks not met</li> <li>– Raptor wintering and roosting areas</li> <li>– Meaning of ‘minimal damage’</li> <li>– Amphibian Breeding and Egg Mass surveys</li> <li>– Clarification of page 170 in DWP report</li> </ul>
July 24, 2012 at PIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Picture of transmission lines is inaccurate</li> <li>– Health info out of date and incorrect</li> </ul>
July 24, 2012 at PIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Federal government launched health study</li> <li>– Substation in woodlot</li> </ul>



Table 10: Summary of Comments – Melancthon PIC 2 July 2012	
Received	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– {Project Proponents and participating Landowners} all lied to get people to sign leases</li> <li>– Endangering the health of residents</li> <li>– Hypocrites</li> </ul>
July 24, 2012 at PIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Turbines:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Make people sick</li> <li>○ Destroy birds, bats, water fowl</li> <li>○ Degrade the environment</li> <li>○ Reduce property values</li> <li>○ They are not green</li> <li>○ Not efficient</li> </ul> </li> <li>– PICs do not provide info needed</li> <li>– No guarantees they will be removed</li> </ul>



*PIC 2 – Melancthon, July 2012*



*PIC 2 – Amaranth, July 2012*

**3.4.4.2 Amaranth Township Banquet Hall in Amaranth Township, July 25, 2012**

Fourteen people signed-in and no comment sheets were received.



### 3.4.4.3 North Dufferin Community Centre in Mulmur Township, July 26, 2012

Fifteen people signed-in and six comment sheets were received. **Table 11** summarizes the comments received.

Table 11: Summary of Comments – Mulmur PIC 2 July 2012	
Received	Comments
July 26, 2012 at PIC	Concerns on human, livestock, pet health; property values; please acknowledge
July 26, 2012 at PIC	(ext prv) please forward to governing body who can help us; property will have zero value
July 26, 2012 at PIC	(ext prv) legitimacy of paid experts
July 26, 2012 at PIC	(ext prv) PICs offer no consolation; proximity of substation; fair value for property
July 26, 2012 at PIC	Would like to see superimposed view from each lots
July 26, 2012 at PIC	Concerns on shadows, strobe, seizures from epilepsy, effects on birds

*Note: ext prv = extension of previous comment; one person filled out multiple comment sheets*



PIC 2 – Mulmur, July 2012



PIC 2 –Mono, July 2012

### 3.4.4.5 Mono Community Centre in the Town of Mono on July 27, 2012

Fifty-six people signed in. (Security counted upwards of 80 attendees) in three four comment sheets were received by the proponent. **Table 12** summarizes the comments received.

Table 12: Summary of Comments – Mono PIC 2 July 2012	
Received	Comments
July 27, 2012 at PIC	Makes much more sense to follow rail line for power than to go through populated areas
July 27, 2012 at PIC	Requests detailed info on transformer equipment; has acoustic assessment been done?
July 27, 2012 at PIC	Impact of substation and trucks on outdoor activities, horses
July 27, 2012 at PIC	Proposed route is not direct, ignores existing facility; need to preserve green space



#### 3.4.4.5 Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex in the Town of Shelburne on July 28, 2012

Ten people signed in and no written comments were received.

### 3.5 Letters of Support

There are 80 participating landowners with signed leases with Dufferin Wind Power Inc. within the Township of Melancthon. As this Project started as ten smaller projects being initiated by the landowners themselves there is a good foundation of support for this Project within the community. Many of these participants have written letters of support for the project. These letters can be found in **Appendix F**.

### 3.6 Other Public Comments

In addition to comments being received during the PIC events, comments were also provided to DWP throughout the REA study period. A record of communication with the public through various mediums, including emails, letters and meetings, was kept and is available in **Appendix E**. Please note that all comments received well in advance of the public consultation period closing date (July 23, 2012) were responded to individually. There was a large volume of comments received on or just before the public consultation closing date on the draft REA Reports. All comments received on or just before the public comment period deadline and those that were received during the PICs have all been read and considered in the final REA submission but have not been responded to individually. DWP has committed to responding to comments where specific questions have been asked. Below outlines a brief summary of the general concerns and comments received during the REA study period.

**Table 13** is organized by the individuals who made the comment, not by date (although the names of those who provided the comments are not included in the table). As shown in **Appendix E**, all correspondence with each individual is grouped, and the individuals are listed alphabetically. There was much correspondence with a handful of people, therefore the table and appendix are organized this way so the reader can get a full understanding of the issues and concerns raised by each individual and how DWP responded to them.



**Table 13: Summary of Public Comments – Addressed**

Date (mm/dd/yy)	Subject	Summary
September 1, 2011	Power Line Routing	Why on Blind Line versus a Regional Road?
April 27, 2012	Facility Location	Location of facility, power lines, relative to nearby farms
July 19, 2012	Turbine Locations	Specific locations of wind turbines
April 26, 2012	Property Access	Biologist field tasks, obstruction by power line, PIC info
July 24, 2012	Regulations	Review of Draft Reports does not meet Regulations
January 12, 2012	Turbine Locations	Requests a copy of the Project Site Plan
May 26, 2012	Impacts	Requests visual simulations of landscape with Turbines
July 24, 2012	Regulations	Review of Draft Reports does not meet Regulations
September 19, 2011	Wetlands	Requests wording clarification, and wetland mapping
March 14, 2012	Communication	Requests contact info and website address
April 26, 2012	Communication	Requests info on current and future PICs
May 27, 2012	Turbine Locations	Location of turbines relative to non-participating residents
June 30, 2012	Turbine Locations	Setbacks from residences too small; decommissioning funds
November 5, 2011	Turbine Locations	Request larger setbacks for personal health issues
October 31, 2011	Turbine Locations	Requests map of turbine locations
May 14, 2012	Turbine Locations	Site Plan not adequate, need specific on-property locations
May 28, 2012	Power Line Routing	Shift to major routes; concern for human/livestock health
March 19, 2012	Power Line Routing	Requests further info on 230 kV line, and PIC info
November 6, 2011	Impacts	Concerns over health impacts, visual and noise pollution
October 30, 2011	Turbine Locations	Concerns over setbacks, local turbine placement
March 31, 2012	Impacts	Short term gain over long term pain
April 29, 2012	Impacts	Requests receptor number, projected noise levels
June 22, 2012	Impacts	Issues with health statements on Project website
March 20, 2012	Power Line Routing	Underground versus above, biologist field tasks
April 23, 2012	Power Line Routing	DWP request to speak before Dufferin Council
May 17, 2012	Power Line Routing	Requests detailed mapping of Transmission Line Options
July 27, 2012	Impacts	Requests flicker drawings for property
June 21, 2012	Power Line Routing	Will the 230 kV line be underground or above?
July 4, 2012	Impacts	Requests visual simulations of 69 kV Transmission Line
March 25, 2012	Communication	Requests a copy of the PIC presentation
February 17, 2012	Turbine Locations	Placement of turbines and setbacks; noise effects
April 17, 2012	Communication	Requests an electronic copy of PIC 1 panels
June 20, 2012	Turbine Locations	Why say locations are not farm land when that is not likely?
September 27, 2011	Reports, Timing	Requests Land Lease appendix; surveyor scheduling
March 20, 2012	Turbine Locations	Requests map of turbine locations
May 18, 2012	Impacts	Proximity of Power Lines; EMF exposure; property values
June 28, 2012	Turbine Locations	Proximity of Turbines; other parties to contact for concern
September 12, 2011	Impacts	Noise, traffic, flicker, health effects, property values, respect
July 28, 2012	Communication	Copy letter to Dufferin County re: 69 kV Power Line
May 29, 2012	Communication	Requests copy of PIC panels
April 2, 2012	Impacts	Proximity to Power Line; concerns over EMF, property values
May 6, 2012	Communication	Dates of PICs; format of PICs; response to previous inquiries



Table 13: Summary of Public Comments – Addressed		
Date (mm/dd/yy)	Subject	Summary
September 28, 2011	Communication	Requested PDR at PIC, has not yet received
October 2, 2011	Communication	Requests more detailed Site Plans to make judgments
November 6, 2011	Reports	Why reports are not complete? Requests Turbine type map
April 8, 2012	Reports	When will REA Reports be complete?
April 21, 2012	Communication	False advertisement of REA Report availability
April 21, 2012	Impacts	Agriculture land, electricity costs, noise, vibrations
April 28, 2012	Impacts	Habitat, municipal consultation, wildlife, property values
May 21, 2012	Reports	PDR was not released 30 days prior to PIC
May 24, 2012	Communication	Requests to be contacted directly
June 7, 2012	Communication	Requests reply to prior comments
July 12, 2012	Communication	Requests update on DWP option to purchase property
December 6, 2011	Turbine Locations	Requests map, info on turbine locations
December 6, 2011	Turbine Locations	Clarification on map of turbine locations
April 29, 2012	Communication	Requests copy of PIC panels
November 2, 2011	Turbine Locations	Requests a copy of the Project Site Plan
June 22, 2012	Impacts	Rail easement, project scheduling, illegal property access
July 20, 2012	Impacts	I oppose this project
June 13, 2012	Power Line Routing	Will power line be above ground or below?
April 15, 2012	Property Access	Property access clarification
March 21, 2012	Property Access	Property access clarification

### 3.6.1 Comments Received at the End of the REA Public Consultation Period

**Table 14** lists all of the comments received on or near the end of the draft REA Reports public consultation period. These comments have not yet been replied to. Each comment has been read and was considered in the final writing of the REA documentation. DWP is committed to responding to each comment, if the comment asks a valid question that can be answered. After the final REA submission DWP will work on responding to each individual question.



**Table 14: Summary of Public Comments – To Be Addressed**

Date (mm/dd/yy)	Subject	Summary
July 23, 2012	Impacts	Stray current, noise, decommissioning funds, power lines, views
July 23, 2012	Impacts	Noise, wildlife, health effects, decommissioning, wetlands
July 24, 2012	Impacts	Health effects, noise, modeling, wildlife, setbacks, values
July 23, 2012	Impacts	Project size, turbine proximity, views, noise, property values
July 26, 2012	Impacts	Consultation, setbacks, noise, clarity, health effects
July 23, 2012	Impacts	Health effects, property values, use of property
July 5, 2012	Impacts	Setbacks, health effects, views, noise, decommissioning funds
July 31, 2012	Communication	What agency or database are you using for mail out info?
July 31, 2012	Impacts	Concerns on flickering, property values
July 31, 2012	Impacts	Health effects, property values, wildlife, tree loss, proximity
July 25, 2012	Impacts	Concerns on the effects to natural environment, wetlands
July 20, 2012	Impacts	Resubmission of all previous submitted comments
July 23, 2012	Impacts	Combined collection of public comments, below:
		– Concerns on noise report, mapping, wildlife
		– Concerns on views, regulations, setbacks, noise
		– Concerns on farm land, proximity of power line, noise
		– Concerns on flickering, noise
– Concerns on wildlife effects and breeding, noise		
July 22, 2012	Impacts	Concerns on noise, vibration, clarification of statements
July 18, 2012	Impacts	Shadows, strobing, wildlife
July 17, 2012	Impacts	230 kV route, Noise Report, Transformer placement
July 19, 2012	Power Line Routing	Improper notice, health effects, property value, wildlife
July 23, 2012	Reports	Noise Report discrepancies, adherence to guidelines
July 17, 2012	Power Line Routing	Proximity to power line and substation, views
July 19, 2012	Reports	Views, setbacks, noise, improper notice, public benefit
July 19, 2012	Impacts	Notice on health effects, noise, pollution
July 23, 2012	Impacts	Health effects, quality of life, property values, flicker
July 22, 2012	Reports	Insufficient mapping, noise calculations, tree loss
May 30, 2012	Power Line Routing	Power Line setbacks in regards to airstrip runways
July 19, 2012	Power Line Routing	Power Line will interrupt my tilling exercises and investment
June 14, 2012	Power Line Routing	Opposition only if 230 kV line is above ground
July 24, 2012	Impacts	Improper notice, construction, wildlife, noise, views, values
July 19, 2012	Communication	Notice to attendees to ask specific questions

### 3.7 Consideration of Public Comments

The comments from the public influenced many changes in the project. **Table 15** summarizes the principle issues that were heard throughout the REA process, how they were considered and the changes that were made based on these comments.

**Table 15: Principle Issues and Responses**

Principle Issue	Response and Change to REA Documentation and Project
<b>Wind Farm Principal Issues</b>	
Flicker	No change to REA documents, although a flicker study is being undertaken and the results of this study will be posted on project website when completed.
Noise Study Report/Noise Impact	DWP hired a secondary consulting firm (Zephyr North Ltd) to peer review Dillon's Noise Study Report. Noise Study Reports can be hard for the public to understand due to their technical nature, therefore the draft report was revised to make the recognized assumptions easier to understand. Comments received suggested the 40 dB sound limit is too high. DWP's position is that the MOE sets the guidelines that are safe for the public and DWP has followed the guidelines. DWP has also chosen a new serrated blade technology that is provided by the turbine manufacturer to help further reduce noise emissions. The Serrated blades (Low Noise Trailing Edge Serrations) will help to further reduce the noise output of the wind turbines.
Health Effects	It is the opinion of DWP that the government looks after the safety and well-being of its population. The REA process has some of the strictest setbacks from wind turbines to residences in North America. DWP believes that at the current setbacks, as defined in the REA process, there are no detrimental health effects from wind turbines to people or animals. DWP is committed to constructing and operating a high-quality wind farm that is well built and maintained. To address public comments on health, DWP retained a risk assessment specialist, Dr. Loren Knopper of Intrinsic Environmental Sciences, who has worked and extensively researched the field of wind energy and the potential effects to human health as well as electric and magnetic fields. Dr. Knopper was available to respond to questions at each of the five PIC 2 meetings and helps DWP respond to incoming comments related to public health.
Notification	There are over 1600 individual contacts on the project notification list. DWP understands that it is not a perfect science to obtain the correct names and addresses of such a large area. The contact list was continually updated to include new information as it was received. In order to reach out to as many people as possible, in addition to the regular landowner mailings, DWP posted Notices throughout local communities (post offices, community centres, libraries, general stores, etc.). Approximately 35 to 50 Notices were posted around communities for both PIC 1 (April 2012) and PIC 2 (July 2012). In addition, for the round of PIC 2, DWP advertised on two local radio stations (one FM and one AM station) for nine days (one week before and during the PIC events)
Visual Simulations	Visual simulations are not a required component of the REA. DWP has been consulting with the Niagara Escarpment Commission regarding the visual impact of the wind farm and 69 kV power line on important locations within the Escarpment area (i.e., public lookouts, Bruce Trail, etc.). DWP has committed to posting the results of this Visual Impact Assessment (which includes visual impact assessment maps as well as 16 visual simulations of the wind turbines) on their project website once completed. DWP completed visual simulations of both power line options and presented them at both rounds of PIC 1 meetings and PIC 2 meetings
Decommissioning Funds Required	DWP has committed to posting reasonable security for the decommissioning of the project. The Decommissioning Plan Report has been revised to outline this commitment. The security agreement will be negotiated with Dufferin County and local municipalities and DWP will post this security prior to the start of construction.
Project is too large	DWP has a 100 MW FIT Contract from the Ontario Power Authority (OPA). If DWP were using 1.5 MW wind turbines, the company would have to install up to sixty-seven (67) wind turbines to meet its contractual responsibilities. In order to minimize the impact to the local community, comply with REA noise regulations, and meet its contractual obligations, DWP opted to use a combination of GE 1.6 and GE 2.75 wind turbines which allowed a smaller project footprint and better noise compliance. This also allowed DWP to reduce the overall number of wind turbines from 67 to 49 thereby lowering the overall impact to the community and environment.
Mapping scale too large	This comment was heard early on in the REA process. This is a large project with many components and the mapping for this project is very complex. In order to address this comment, DWP provided property level site plans, which are provided in Appendix A of the Design and Operations Report. Each site plan provides a high resolution aerial photo with the project infrastructure overlaid as well as the construction footprint.
Substation in woodlot	DWP originally placed the project substation in a non-significant woodlot to reduce visual and sound impact of the transformers on surrounding properties. After repeatedly hearing from the public that they did not agree with this placement, after PIC 2 DWP relocated the project substation to an area of open agriculture, adjacent to the location of the Operations and Maintenance Building. Due to this movement, the stage 2 archaeological work is still on-going for this change in location.
Effects on Wildlife	Commitments have been made to reduce the impact on wildlife. Please refer to the Environmental Impact Study Report for the Project for more information.
Natural Environment and Wetlands	Commitments have been made to reduce the impact on the natural environment and wetlands. Please refer to the Environmental Impact Study Report for the Project for more information.
Effects on Property Values	There is no conclusive evidence that wind farms have a negative impact on property values. Studies have been undertaken in other jurisdictions and have repeatedly shown that wind farms do not impact property values in the way that a segment of the public fears. Other comments received relate to how a farm without a wind turbine will be less valuable than a neighbouring farm with a wind turbine. Requests have been made by adjacent landowners who would now like to participate in the project. Unfortunately, by the time DWP received these comments, the layout had been finalized and no more turbines could be allocated.
Turbines 1 and 2 too large	Turbines 1 and 2 are GE 2.75 MW wind turbines and are located at a higher elevation than neighbouring turbines. Some members of the public requested that they be switched to 1.6 MW turbines. DWP examined the possibility of switching these models to 1.6 MW turbines. They requested studies from their consultants whether it was feasible from a noise and energy perspective. Unfortunately the switch would not be possible for the following reasons: 1) T1 and T2 are some of the highest producers in the wind farm. Resizing of the turbines would require an expansion of the wind farm to higher grounds in Mulmur Township. DWP understands that the Mulmur community, Township, and Niagara Escarpment Commission do not support wind generation in their jurisdiction or closer to the Niagara Escarpment, 2) The height of the 2.75 wind turbines are only 5 m taller than the 1.6 wind turbine and they have similar noise characteristics. Resizing the turbines would have little effect to viewshed or noise emissions.
Format of PICs	Various members of the public did not feel a walk-through type of PIC provided enough information. Requests were made for a question and answer type of PIC. DWP formatted each of the five PIC 2 meetings as a 1 hour walk through and 2 hour formal, moderated "question and answer" event. DWP and their consultants, including health & science experts, civil & electric engineers, noise specialists, environmental and wildlife specialist, and project developers, were present and answered questions that were presented by the public. Transcripts of the Q & A of each event were posted on the project website for the public to review after the events.

**Table 15: Principle Issues and Responses**

Principle Issue	Response and Change to REA Documentation and Project
<b>230 kV Power Line Principle Issues</b>	
EMF	DWP engaged Kinectrics Inc. to undertake an EMF study of the proposed 230 kV power line through the most densely populated area, the Town of Shelburne. DWP has posted this study on its' website for people to review. The results of the study indicated that the calculated RMS magnetic flux density value on the ground surface is 37 uT (micro Tesla) directly above the trench, which is less than 50% of the allowed magnetic flux density of 83 uT according to World Health Organization guidelines. For all magnetic field calculations the highest current value was chosen to reflect the worst case scenario however, the 230 kV power line will not run continuously at full power due to the inherent intermittency of wind energy nor will it exceed the line's carrying capacity. The Kinectrics Study also showed that the RMS magnetic flux density rapidly reduces to negligible levels within just 2-3 meters away from the line. With the line proposed to be installed in a rail/utility corridor and its relatively low EMF signature, DWP believes that this line can be installed and operated safely.
Would like Power Line underground	The 230 kV power line would be installed above ground along a private easement and former rail road corridor for the majority of the 48 kilometre route, which is a standard approach for almost all high voltage power line development in Canada. The line would be installed underground to avoid environmental features. DWP has also committed to installing the line underground through a portion of the Shelburne Township. This underground portion of the line is shown in the final REA report's maps. DWP is also willing to extend the length of the underground section in Shelburne to run from 4 <sup>th</sup> Line to 30 <sup>th</sup> Sideroad subject to Township support.
Continued Recreational Use of Rail Corridor	DWP has designed the 230 kV power line to be located along the side of the rail corridor between the property line and the rail bed. The power line has been designed to be a single wood or steel mono pole line and its location will not affect the current recreational use of the corridor, including the use of ATVs, snowmobiles, hiking, mountain biking and horse riding. With the exception of possible temporary construction-related interruptions, the corridor could still be used for all recreational purposes. In addition, as per Dufferin County requirements, the design of the power line would not interfere with future rail operations in the event the rail corridor was re-commissioned for rail use in the future.
Effects to School in Shelburne	As mentioned above, DWP engaged Kinectrics Inc. to undertake an EMF study of the proposed 230 kV power line through the Town of Shelburne. DWP has posted this study on its' website for people to review. The results of the study indicated that the calculated RMS magnetic flux density value on the ground surface is 37 uT (micro Tesla) directly above the trench, which is less than 50% of the allowed magnetic flux density of 83 uT according to World Health Organization guidelines. For all magnetic field calculations the highest current value was chosen to reflect the worst case scenario however, the 230 kV power line will not run continuously at full power due to the inherent intermittency of wind energy nor will it exceed the line's carrying capacity. The line is designed to be underutilized and this will result in much less EMF radiating from the power line than if the line was fully utilized. The Kinectrics Study also showed that the RMS magnetic flux density rapidly reduces to negligible levels within just 2-3 meters away from the line. With the line proposed to be installed underground in a rail/utility corridor and its relatively low EMF signature, DWP believes that this line can be installed and operated safely.
Power Line should be located where there is existing infrastructure	From a land use planning perspective, use of the rail corridor is a superior alternative to installing the 69 kV power line along the public road right-of-way for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The 69 kV option would require the installation of several hundred new and taller poles running along the side of the road through the County and directly past over 160 households, businesses and developments</li> <li>- The 230 kV option would require a substantially less number of power poles and, for the majority of the route, passes through rural and remote areas and not along the road right-of-way</li> <li>- The rail corridor provides a more direct route to the point of interconnection thereby reducing the number of poles and infrastructure needed to be installed and allows the line to be installed farther away from local communities</li> <li>- The rail corridor is zoned for industrial development and future rail operations are anticipated. Locating the project's power line within the rail corridor has a substantially lower impact than locating it in the public right of way.</li> <li>- The rail corridor is a direct route to the point of interconnection and minimizes the number of power poles that would have to be installed</li> </ul>
<b>Dual 69 kV Power Line Principle Issues</b>	
Viewshed Impact	DWP understands that many residents would be visually impacted by the dual 69 kV power line. Through ongoing consultation with the public and local municipalities, the use of the abandoned rail line corridor has been suggested as an alternative. DWP has investigated the alternative route (i.e. use of the former rail corridor) and has determined that this route is feasible and prevents less of an impact to the community. While the 230 kV power line appears to be the preferred alternative by the vast majority of the community for the many reasons outlined above, the County of Dufferin has not yet agreed to the project's use of the rail corridor for the 230 kV power line.
Property Value	As the majority of the power line would be on Hydro One wood poles and largely involves the replacement of existing Hydro One poles, a material impact on property values is not anticipated.
Electric and Magnetic Fields	DWP is aware of the public's concern relating to EMF and the dual 69 kV power line option. The 69 kV power line would be located closer to homes than the 230 kV option. This is one of the many reasons why the community prefers the 230 kV power line and the use of the former rail corridor.
69 kV route is on local roads, should be on Main Roads. Why does it zig-zag through four municipalities?	Various routes were studied for the 69 kV power line. The routing presented in the final REA submission is based on consultation with Hydro One, environmental specialist, and the Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC's Development Control Area is located adjacent to the proposed power line). The final route was shown to have the least environmental impact and best alignment with existing Hydro One circuits and infrastructure.
Lack of Notification for some residents	DWP is aware that some properties around the Point of Interconnect (POI) Substation in Mono may have not been notified prior to PIC 2. DWP consulted with the MOE about this and is committed to working with these individuals to ensure that they have an opportunity to provide their thoughts and comments on the project. DWP is contacting all of the landowners around the POI substation again to ensure that everyone is aware of what is being proposed, the alternatives, and the overall permitting process. DWP is also offering to meet with these landowners on a one-to-one to basis to discuss the project and allow them to review the reports, ask questions, and to provide comments on the project. These consultations will be incorporated into DWP's ongoing submittals to the MOE and consultations with other provincial ministries, local governments and project stakeholders. Please see Appendix E for the correspondence to these POI landowners.
230 kV Line makes more sense	The 230 kV route appears to have substantially less impact to the community then the proposed 69 kV route. DWP is actively working with Dufferin County and local landowners to pursue this option based upon the community's requests. Use of the 230 kV route is subject to Dufferin County granting the project an easement for the use of the former rail corridor for the 230 kV pole line.
Lines should be underground	The proposed power line is considerably long at 39.6 km and it is not industry standard practice or economically viable to install such a long line underground. Understandably, many landowners still demand that the lines be placed underground regardless of the substantially higher costs. This is often times not feasible and those requests must be balanced with the same landowner's request for lower cost power. For these reasons DWP is proposing to install the 69 kV line on top of Hydro One poles in order to minimize the impact to the road right-of-way and local community.