

Summary of Feedback from LAC Members on Markham Area Needs

Agenda Item #3

February 25, 2016

Is the need clearly laid out?

- Yes
- In terms of MW, yes
- Need to ensure that analysis accurately reflects the anticipated growth in Richmond Hill
- Would be helpful to understand the medium and long-term need for Markham and the rest of the region for a greater understanding of the interrelationship of the electricity system in entire region

Which of the three approaches are feasible for Markham, given the timing and nature of the needs?

- All are probably feasible, but likely some options preferable from a financial, political or broader electrical system perspective
- Wires option, utilizing existing right-of-way and overbuild the corridor to prepare for the northern needs in the future
- Unsure – more information on costs, location, feasibility, impacts to other communities in the region is needed

Which of the three approaches are feasible for Markham, given the timing and nature of the needs? (cont'd)

- Too premature to say at this time
- Example scenarios are needed to come up with answer
- Be mindful that this shouldn't be planned in isolation from the needs and potential solutions in northern York Region and Vaughan
- None. Should be a community self sufficiency approach that works towards a 100% sustainable, low carbon, combined energy system

What criteria or objectives should be emphasized when comparing options?

- Cost
 - Capital and lifecycle
- Timeframe
- Reliability
- Longevity
 - How does it contribute to solving electricity supply long-term?)
- Community Acceptance

What criteria or objectives should be emphasized when comparing options? (cont'd)

- Environmental Impact
- Impact on Development
- Community Self-Sufficiency
 - How it can be used as a supplement?
- Long-Term Fit with Other Electricity Needs
- No Weighting System
 - Or, one option excluded over another at this stage since the objective is to narrow down options

How should the community be engaged during the development of a plan for Markham?

- Early and often; with more detail for each option
- Electrical system 101 should precede any discussion of options
- Online community forum in conjunction with in-person public meeting
- Community/business surveys, targeting different demographics and sectors to ensure proper representation
- Engage Markham and Richmond Hill Councils; including attendance at Committee of the Whole or Council meeting at appropriate time during process

How should the community be engaged during the development of a plan for Markham? (cont'd)

- In partnership with City and utilities
- Day & evening public information sessions in various locations to discuss background/need, scenarios and how they measure against the criteria
 - At outset of process
 - Once options have been identified
 - Once a decision on location is made; and
 - Throughout the time work is being completed
- IESO with LAC needs to decide what level of engagement they are prepared to support
 - Sharing information together, searching for perspective together, deciding together, acting together, supporting people.
- Web page with lots of detail
- Avoid jargon

Is there anything else you would like to tell us?

- Frequency of LAC meetings should be increased to ensure committee has the time and information necessary to make thoughtful recommendations
- Pleased to have discussion held with LAC; more information is needed prior to engaging broader community
- Consideration of encouraging more FIT contracts in Markham to start addressing the demand/supply issue
- Working Group has an opportunity of setting a new benchmark on community engagement with a topic that literally connects us all. Project staff are doing a wonderful job in working with some of the ambiguity and unknowns of the process.

Key Themes from Feedback

- Needs in the Markham area are clear; they should be referred to as the Markham/Richmond Hill needs
- Additional information is desired by LAC members
- A broad range of criteria should be used in evaluating options
- Options should be evaluated in the context of the broader regional needs to ensure there are no unintended limitations created for addressing needs in other areas
- Discussions should be undertaken in partnership with the municipalities and utilities; plans for these discussions should be based on LAC feedback