

Meeting Summary Report

Township of Nipissing	
Monday, July 13, 2015	6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Meeting Location	Nipissing Community Centre 2381 Highway 654 Nipissing, ON POH 1W0
Attendees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 community members • One councillor • One media representative • One First Nations representative • Five Registered Proponent project team members <p><i>All personal information removed in accordance with the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act, 2000.</i></p>
Overview of the Meeting	
	The meeting was open format. Community members were welcome to come at any time, view the publicly displayed material and ask questions.
Comments and Concerns	
Visual Impact	<p>Community Member #1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerned about the visual impact of the project. <p><u>Proponent's Response:</u></p> <p>Visual impact is one of the most frequent questions we receive from community members with regard to solar park development. Visual abatement is a key component of solar park development. While the park is being constructed, it is quite visible as the construction process calls for open space. However, once the construction phase is complete, we work with community members and local governments to ensure the integration of the solar park into the landscape. Using various techniques such as setbacks, land forming, strategic placement of mature trees and vegetation and fencing, the goal is to have the solar project nearly invisible to any passerby.</p>
Project Lifecycle	<p>Community Member #2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerned about project lifecycle and clean up. <p><u>Proponent's Response:</u></p>

Meeting Summary Report

	<p>As part of the Renewable Energy Approval (REA) process, the proponent is to complete a Decommissioning Plan, which must be approved as part of the REA.</p> <p>If this project is awarded a power purchase agreement (PPA) for the 20-year duration of the Large Renewable Procurement (LRP) program, SkyPower will commit to ensuring the condition of the project site is maintained. The lifespan of solar photovoltaic panels is 20 to 25 years, which coincides with the life of the project. Some panels may require replacement from time to time, however, the majority of panels will extend beyond their expected lifespan. In terms of waste material, many of the components from a solar park are recyclable, including the solar panels, racking and support structures.</p>
<p>Community Benefit</p>	<p>Community Member #3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerned about how this green energy project benefit the community. <p><u>Proponent's Response:</u></p> <p>As a member of the community who supports this project, you ensure a clean source of reliable energy from within your community for 20 years, which is free from harmful environmental side effects.</p> <p>You will belong to a forward thinking community that prioritizes the health of its citizens and supports the removal of harmful emissions from fossil fuel generation facilities. Most importantly, you and your community will be part of one solution to mitigate the effects of climate change.</p>
<p>Land Use</p>	<p>Community Member #4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerned about how does SkyPower knows it is not using agricultural land. <p><u>Proponent's Response:</u></p> <p>One of the more frequent areas of interest from community members is regarding the apparent use of agricultural land for renewable energy development. The Ontario government has put in place regulations that forbid proponents from building only on certain types of land.</p> <p>For further information regarding Canada Land Inventory, please visit: http://sis.agr.gc.ca/cansis/nsdb/cli/index.html</p>

Meeting Summary Report

	<p>For more information on the Agricultural land use, please visit: http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/landuse/</p>
<p>Increased cost of Electricity</p>	<p>Community Member #5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerned about electricity costs rising due to renewable energy sources. <p><u>Proponent's Response:</u></p> <p>Many attribute the rising cost of electricity to new renewables being built in Ontario. All new energy infrastructure, whether renewable or a traditional form of generation, costs money. Renewables are neither the sole reason nor the disproportionate one. There are several factors that contribute to the rising cost of electricity.</p> <p>Ontarians have been paying off a debt retirement charge, which had gone toward paying off billions in debt from the old Ontario Hydro utility that was broken up in the late 1990s. While the debt retirement charge is set to end January 1, 2016, the Liberal government recently introduced a low-income household rebate program, which households with an annual income over \$50,000 pay into on their hydro bills. Added to natural inflation and planned nuclear refurbishments, the price of electricity seems to constantly increase. The reality is that the government controls the electricity market rules and programs and pricing.</p>
<p>Public Meeting Notifications</p>	<p>Community Member #6:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inquired about how members of the community were notified of this project and how SkyPower will continue to notify the public of updates. <p><u>Proponent's Response:</u></p> <p>As required by the LRP I RFP, SkyPower published two advertisements in the North Bay Nipissing News to notify the community of this meeting. In addition, invites were mailed to members of the community who live within 120 metres of the project site or the proposed connection line. Project information and a copy of the public notice were sent to various members of your Township office and First Nations groups. The public advertisements included Web site information for the MagnificentLight project (http://www.magnificentlightsolar.com). The website includes the Community Engagement Plan, Site Considerations information and a copy of the Notice of Public Meeting.</p> <p>Community members are invited to send any questions or concerns</p>



Meeting Summary Report

	<p>regarding the project to the community engagement email listed on the public notice (communityengagement@skypower.com). All inquiries will be answered by SkyPower within a timely manner.</p>
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