

Preliminary Issues and Mitigation Measures

Discussions with MNR and other resource agencies have resulted in the identification of some preliminary issues that will need to be addressed during the project development and approval process. These include:

1. Sport Fishing

The Kapuskasing River reach below Big Beaver Falls is readily accessed from the Kapuskasing boat launch as well as other local launches, and is a popular sport fishing destination. Measures will be required to ensure that the project does not adversely affect the sport fish community.

2. Falls Views and Tourism

The Kapuskasing Chamber of Commerce has constructed docking facilities and trails at the base of Big Beaver Falls and operates the tour boat Kapuskasing II, which undertakes sight seeing trips to the falls area. A scenic flow regime during the summer season and a new footbridge is proposed to increase viewing opportunities in the local area.

3. Temperature Regimes and Sediment Transport

The project will increase water depth in the river reaches above each facility, which could affect water temperature and the manner in which sediment is moved within the river. Sampling and modeling will be undertaken to assess potential effects and their significance.

4. Generation and Transmission

The projects will produce power at 25kV, which is the same voltage as the existing transmission network along Cargill Road (owned and operated by Agrium) and Hydro One's network in Kapuskasing. A number of routing/interconnection options are being examined to most efficiently connect to the local networks.

5. Site Access

Access to the sites is via Cargill Road and secondary forestry roads. Agreements will be required with Agrium and Tembec to utilize/enhance existing roads. Approximately 9.4 km of new road will be required to connect the proposed sites to the existing road network.

Where do we go from here?

- Identified issues will be added to the project record
- Using existing background data, the results of field investigations and information from the Notice of Commencement and this consultation session, Hatch Acres will identify major environmental issues/values and appropriate mitigation measures
- Hydromega, with Hatch Acres input, may be required to modify the designs to eliminate or mitigate impacts to the major values
- The Environmental Screening/Water Management Plan Amendment Report will be prepared and placed for review in local libraries, municipal offices and MNR offices
- Comments on the report will be accepted for a 30-day public review period. Reviewers may request that the project be elevated to a higher level of assessment if not in agreement with the report results.
- Resolution of outstanding issues and EA approval
- Final engineering design and construction

Public Comments

Please fill in the Comment Sheet provided and return it to us either before you leave today or within the next 30 days

