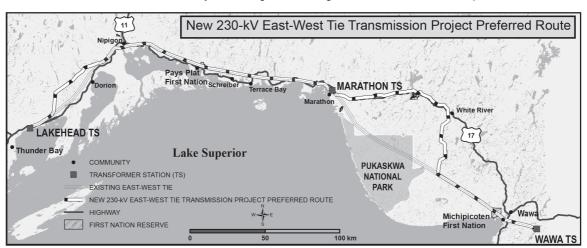
Notice of Open Houses NextBridge Infrastructure - East-West Tie Transmission Project

NextBridge Infrastructure LP (NextBridge) has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) Report to construct a new, approximately 446-kilometre double-circuit 230-kilovolt (kV) transmission line connecting the Wawa Transformer Station (TS) to the Lakehead TS in the Municipality of Shuniah near Thunder Bay, with a connection at the Marathon TS. In accordance with the Terms of Reference (ToR) approved by the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change on August 28, 2014, NextBridge has submitted the Draft EA Report to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC). As part of the submission process, interested community members, elected officials and municipal staff, agencies, property owners, interest holders, other stakeholders, and First Nations and Métis communities are encouraged to review the Draft EA Report and submit their comments to NextBridge by February 28, 2017.

The proposed new East-West Tie Transmission Project (the Project) generally parallels an existing double-circuit 230-kV transmission line corridor (the existing East-West Tie) but avoids some sensitive features crossed by the existing line, including Pukaskwa National Park. The preferred route is shown below.



Project Rationale and Target In-Service Date

The Project is required to ensure the long-term reliability of the electricity supply in northwestern Ontario (the Northwest). Industrial activities in the Northwest, particularly in the mining sector, are expected to drive electricity demand growth in the coming decades. Based on this growth, coupled with changes to the electricity supply in the area, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) has identified a need for new electricity supply to the Northwest. The IESO analyzed alternatives and recommended expansion of the East-West Tie based on technical, economic and other considerations.

By Order in Council, the Province of Ontario declared the construction of the East-West Tie is needed as a priority project on March 2, 2016 (O.C. 326/2016).

The target in-service date for the Project is 2020.

Draft EA Report Review

NextBridge commenced the EA in 2014, and it is being carried out according to the approved ToR and the requirements of the *Environmental*

NextBridge is committed to consulting with all interested stakeholders and communities in a clear and mutually respectful manner throughout the life of the Project.

In accordance with the Aboriginal Duty to Consult delegated to NextBridge by the Crown, First Nations and Métis communities are being consulted on the route and the EA. Separate and specific meetings will be held for these communities; however, we encourage everyone to attend the public Open Houses.

The Draft EA Report has been submitted to the MOECC and is available for review and comment on the Project website, www.NextBridge.ca, and at select locations throughout Ontario.

NextBridge will update the EA Report based on feedback received during the Draft EA review and comment period, as necessary, and submit the EA to the MOECC for final review and approval. NextBridge will provide public notification upon submission of the final EA to the MOECC, including locations where the EA can be reviewed.

Public Open Houses

Public Open Houses provide an opportunity to learn more about the Project. Active participation in the EA process is encouraged by contacting Project representatives with questions and comments, and by attending engagement and discussion opportunities such as public Open Houses. Information on the following items will be available during this round of public Open Houses: the EA and Leave To Construct processes, Draft EA review, results of background studies and studies which took place during the EA, routing considerations and decisions to date, maps of the preferred route and preliminary transmission

OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE

OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE	
February 6, 2017 4 p.m. – 8 p.m. Thunder Bay Current River Community Centre 450 Dewe Ave. *Snow Day Feb. 13, 2017*	February 6, 2017 4 p.m. – 8 p.m. Nipigon Royal Canadian Legion Branch #32 102 Fifth St. *Snow Day Feb. 13, 2017*
February 7, 2017 4 p.m. – 8 p.m. Dorion Dorion Community Centre 175 Dorion Loop Rd. *Snow Day Feb. 14, 2017*	February 7, 2017 4 p.m. – 8 p.m. White River Royal Canadian Legion Branch #169 108 Winnipeg St. *Snow Day Feb. 14, 2017*
February 8, 2017 4 p.m. – 8 p.m. Marathon Marathon Centre Mall 2 Hemlo Dr. *Snow Day Feb. 15, 2017*	February 8, 2017 4 p.m. – 8 p.m. Wawa Royal Canadian Legion Branch #429 51 Broadway Ave. *Snow Day Feb. 15, 2017*
February 9, 2017 4 p.m. – 8 p.m. Schreiber Schreiber Recreation Centre 100 Langworthy St. *Snow Day Feb. 16, 2017*	February 9, 2017 4 p.m. – 8 p.m. Terrace Bay Terrace Bay Cultural Centre 13 Selkirk Ave. *Snow Day Feb. 16, 2017*

*In the event of open house cancellations due to extreme weather or highway closures, alternate "Snow Days" have been arranged as listed in the above table. NextBridge will only host "Snow Day" events where the originally scheduled open house for that location has been cancelled. Please check www.NextBridge.ca for cancellation/rescheduling updates (if required).

line access and construction areas, land and property matters and next steps in the EA process. If you are unable to attend, information presented at the public Open Houses will also be made available at www.NextBridge.ca for review and comment.

Submitting Your Comments

Comments about the Draft EA must be submitted by February 28, 2017, to NextBridge:

NextBridge Infrastructure 390 Bay Street, Suite 1720, Toronto, ON M5H 2Y2 Phone: 1-888-767-3006 E-mail: info@nextbridge.ca

Fax: 416-364-2533

For further information on the proposed Project, please visit www.NextBridge.ca or call toll-free 1-888-767-3006.

NEXTBRIDGE INFRASTRUCTURE

All personal information in a submission – such as name, address, telephone number 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 (FIPPA). 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 the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change's Freedom of Information and Privacy Coordinator at 416-327-1434.