



ESS Engagement Plan

The further development of this plan will be the first task for the student employee engaged for this project. The overall purpose of engagement is to generate the widest possible public participation in the simulation process and to recognize the contribution of Hydro One to the creation of safer communities in Ontario.

Purpose and Objectives

This plan intends to

- Ensure community participation in planned meetings (8).
- Ensure that the population of (particularly) rural Ottawa is informed of meetings, the process, participant feedback and the outcomes of meetings
- Ensure that local and provincial politicians and environmental organizations are aware of the process and outcomes of meetings
- Ensure that Hydro One is recognized as a sponsor of this important community-building initiative.

Stakeholders

While the initial 2 meetings will be held in West Carleton and involve community members and their representatives, further meetings (6) will be held with community associations in Ottawa (through Community Associations for Environmental Sustainability – CAFES, of which OBEC is a member), and the process and materials involved should be useful to any community in Ontario into the future.

Communication Strategy

Stakeholders and the wider public can expect updates and opportunities to add their input through:

- Community news, such as WC Online
- Community Bulletin Board (Neighbourhood)
- Individuals and organizations in the CAFES network will be invited to become followers of the project
- Project Newsletter (a MailChimp newsletter, sent to followers of the project)
- OBEC website, Instagram and X(formerly Twitter) accounts
- Interviews with project participants at meetings covered by community newspapers and local radio and TV

Timeline

- February 2024: ESS Pilot project announced through CAFES network
- February 2024: Test meeting held and publicized in West Carleton Online
- March 2024: Revision of process and materials in light of Test meeting



- March 2024: Project launch and invitation to representatives and Hydro One to attend the launch.
- March 2024: Contacts established with local media, representatives and community associations (already in contact with WCOOnline, EnergyMix, Huntley Community Association, Ward Councillor Clarke Kelly)
- April-May 2024: Hiring of student support person to coordinate public engagement
- April 2024: Facilitator Training Meeting
- May 2024: Development of specifics of public engagement, meeting dates, etc. ; invitations to representatives and Hydro One to speak at meetings, etc.
- May – September 2024: Scheduling and holding of 8 additional meetings with community associations in Ottawa
- June – August 2024: Revisions of the process and materials in light of experience with these meetings (up to 3 revisions have been planned)
- August 2024: Reports documenting the experience of participants through the meetings, their feedback and next steps.
- September 2024 and following: Wider contact with environmental organizations and communities across Ontario, to publicize the process and materials and to help other communities and organizations to use the simulation approach in their community discussions, and to emphasize the contribution of Hydro One to this endeavour.

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