



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

December 10, 2013

HALDIMAND COUNTY COUNCIL REVIEWING HALDIMAND COUNTY UTILITIES INC. SALE PROPOSAL

December 10, 2013 – Haldimand County Council has received an offer from Hydro One to purchase Haldimand County Utilities Inc. Council will consider the sale at its December 16th, 6pm Council meeting in Cayuga.

Rick Stevens, Hydro One's Vice President of Customer Service, made a detailed presentation to Council, outlining the key elements of the proposed purchase agreement. Albert Marshall, the Chair of Haldimand County Utilities Board of Directors, and Jim Hopeson, an independent consultant, who reviewed the proposal for the County, provided comments in support of the sale.

Hydro One's proposal was initially brought forward at the December 2nd Council meeting. Key elements of the \$77 million offer includes the lowering of all residential and commercial electrical distribution rates by one percent, the creation of an advisory committee in Haldimand County and a promise to meet or exceed current service levels. All Haldimand County Hydro employees will be offered future employment and will receive a one-year location guarantee.

Haldimand County Council began exploring options for the future of Haldimand County Utilities Inc. in November 2012. This action was precipitated by a Ministry of Energy established sector panel review report which recommended a province-wide consolidation of local electricity distribution companies in an effort to improve cost-effectiveness and efficiency in the sector.

Again. Council will make a decision at its meeting of December 16th at 6pm in Cayuga. Public delegations who register in writing by contacting the County clerk by 12pm, December 16, 2013, will be entertained prior to the final vote.

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