

AECL – Ontario Environmental Assessment Requirements

- Generally, Environmental Assessment Act (EAA) requirements for electricity generation and transmission projects are set out under Ontario Regulation 116/01.
- Transmission projects may be required to complete an individual EA or Class Environmental process.
- Transmission projects **not associated** with a proposed generation facility are required to follow the process under Hydro One's *Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities*. These include:
 - Replacement, modification or upgrading existing lines operating at 115 kV and greater than 2 km in length, or
 - New line projects operating at > 115 kV and < 500 kV and > 2km and less than 50km.
- Transmission lines operating at ≥ 500 kV and ≥ 2 km require an individual EA.
- The thresholds outlined in the Regulation and Guide will be reviewed to ensure consistency.
- Hydro One is currently updating their Class EA to reflect market trends.
- Transmission facilities **associated** with certain proposed generation facilities and are 115 kV or greater are reviewed through the Environmental Screening Process. This would not apply to nuclear facilities.
- Class EA process does not require assessment of "alternatives to". These alternatives are identified and assessed at the earlier Integrated Plan stage.
- Both the Hydro One Class EA and Environmental Screening Process have mandatory public and agency consultation.