

2. City of Kanata Citizen's Task Force

i) The background of the development of alternative routes to Ontario Hydro's recommendation was outlined earlier in Ontario Hydro's response to the City of Kanata's petition. Both the City of Kanata and the Kanata Citizen's Task Force asked for the same change in the alignment of the route for basically the same reasons. The main points raised in the Citizen's Task Force petition have been addressed in Ontario Hydro's response to the City of Kanata's petition. However, some of the points raised in the petition of the Citizen's Task Force require clarification and elaboration.

ii) The existing right-of-way was purchased in 1971 before the development of the community of Bridlewood. At that time, an additional 125 foot strip (in excess of that required for the existing 230 kV circuit) was purchased by Ontario Hydro to allow for future expansion. Since then, developers proceeded to build the first phase of the Bridlewood subdivision on both sides of this right-of-way. The use of this right-of-way will allow Ontario Hydro to expand transmission facilities without acquiring any more land in the community.

iii) The Joint Board in its decision weighed carefully the advantages and disadvantages of the alternatives put forward by Ontario Hydro, Goulbourn and Kanata, and in Ontario Hydro's submission made an appropriate decision. The route selected by the Joint Board is not the route that was recommended by Ontario Hydro in the Environmental Assessment or at the hearing. However, as indicated at the hearing, each route has particular advantages which made it very difficult for Ontario Hydro to select a preference between its recommended route and the route later approved by the Joint Board.

iv) Ontario Hydro provided evidence at the hearing that there are no health effects associated with this undertaking. A letter from the Ontario Ministry of Health regarding this project was also referenced in evidence. It stated: "Scientific staff on this Branch have reviewed the research literature on the possible health impact of EHV transmission lines. They have concluded that to date no significant public health effects due to EHV transmission lines have been identified. We have therefore no objection from the public health standpoint to any of the routes for the proposed transmission corridor."

v) The existing community park in Bridlewood utilizes the right-of-way and Ontario Hydro would be pleased to see the City of Kanata continue to take advantage of the land in the future for compatible uses. However, with or without the approved transmission facilities, no school building or any other structure would be permitted on the existing right-of-way.

vi) Ontario Hydro submits that the Joint Board made a reasoned decision and respectfully asks that the petition of the Kanata Citizen's Task Force be denied.