

Six Nations - Niagara Reinforcement Line Community Engagement Report

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1. Executive Summary

The Six Nations of the Grand River Development Corporation (SNGRDC), using the Six Nations Future platform, engaged the Six Nations community regarding the proposed three-phased bundled solution for the Niagara Reinforcement Line (NRL). The 60-day community engagement process, fully funded by the Ministry of Energy (ENERGY), and Hydro One Networks (Hydro One), was led by SNGRDC staff.

From October 16th to December 15th, 2017, community members had the opportunity to attend 10 public community engagement sessions, browse the Six Nations Future website, schedule a lunch and learn, and/or provide comments about the NRL project either in person, or on-line. The engagement exercise was designed to be a qualitative analysis of comments and concerns.

The written findings are:

14% of comments/concerns that were raised were beyond the scope of the engagement re: Issues directly relating to Hydro One (eg, what happened to free hydro? Why does Hydro one not use the Haldimand Tract? Why does Hydro One not supply a profit/loss statement for projects? Why does Hydro One not give a % of the profits of NRL to fund nature education in the area of science engineering? Questions about Six Nations billing and why it is not correct?)

22% of comments were positive

12% of comments were negative

66% of comments presented no opinion

Total of 41 comments submitted (35 written, 2 blank comments, 4 online)

These findings, and all comments received at the engagement sessions were compiled into the following report and forwarded to the SNGRDC Board of Directors and Advisory Committee for independent review and recommendation for ratification to the Six Nations Elected Council.

2. Background

The Niagara Reinforcement Line is a 76KM transmission line which has been sitting near completion yet unconnected for over 10 years. The work was halted in May 2006 after a land dispute arose on a property adjacent to the transmission line site along the Highway 6 bypass. The remaining work to complete the line includes the installation of approximately 7.5km of transmission and the erection of approximately 21 towers.

The Six Nations Elected Council (SNEC) and the Six Nations of the Grand River Development Corporation (SNGRDC) attempted to pursue a mutually beneficial solution with the Province of Ontario in 2013, however, nothing substantial was achieved at the time. The discussion was reignited in 2016, when SNGRDC proposed a three-phase bundled solution to ENERGIZE,

ACQUIRE, and OPTIMIZE the NRL. The Ontario/Ministry of Energy (ENERGY) and Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) agreed to move forward on the project pending general community acceptance by the Six Nations of the Grand River. The bundled solution was presented to SNEC and was accepted for the purpose of presentation to the Community for engagement on September 19th, 2017 (ICGC#568-09/19/2017).

See the Six Nations Future Website www.snfuture.ca for the SNEC Resolution.

If General Community Acceptance was achieved the solution would:

1. ENERGIZE the NRL using the local indigenous workforce; Hydro One would commit to offering a contract opportunity to A6N to complete the remaining NRL transmission work;
2. ACQUIRE equity ownership in the line; SNGRDC would purchase and manage up to a 25% ownership in the NRL; The Province would commit to assisting SNGRDC to secure financing through an Aboriginal Loan Guarantee; and
3. OPTIMIZE the NRL transaction through securing future renewable development opportunities where the Ministry of Energy would commit to setting aside 300MW of renewable energy capacity for SNGRDC to develop within the next 15 years.

3. Qualitative Analysis Method

The NRL Community Engagement Process was carried out using a qualitative analysis method. This approach provides a mechanism to capture the independent thoughts, opinions, and drivers of opinion from the community. A quantitative method is not feasible for this type of project engagement as this approach would require a community-wide vote; should that occur, the representative sample will be limited to those that vote within the community. The final recommendations of the qualitative analysis will be assessed by the judgement of the SNGRDC Board of Directors, the SNGRDC Advisory Committee and ratified by the Six Nations Elected Council.

When determining the quality of comments, the following factors are relevant:

- Are comments within the scope of the project
- Are comments contradictory
- Are comments self-serving or motivated by personal gain
- Are comments supported by evidence
- Are comments factual or hearsay

Keeping the values of transparency and accountability at the forefront of the engagement, all written comments submitted within the 60-day engagement period are included in this document (See Appendix C for scanned comment cards).

4. Community Engagement Team

Six Nations of the Grand River Development Corporation

Matt Jamieson- President/CEO

Tabitha Curley- Manager of Communications and Stakeholder Relations (Engagement Lead)

R. Darryl Hill- Projects Manager

Nicole Kohoko- Director of Corporate Affairs

Jessica Hunt- Communications Coordinator

Hydro One

Derek Chum- VP Indigenous Relations

Christine Goulais-Senior Manager Indigenous Relations

Sara Jane Souliere- Senior Advisor

Jeffrey Smith- Director- Regulatory

Ministry of Energy

Ken Nakahara, Director

Samir Adkar- Transmission Manager

Chloe Lazakis- Indigenous Energy Policy Senior Advisor

5. Communication Strategy

The purpose of the community engagement strategy was to encourage Community participation in economic development decisions and provide an opportunity for Community members to make suggestions and/or recommendations on the proposed NRL project.

Six Nations Future Website

The Six Nations Future website (www.snfuture.ca) is a community engagement tool utilized by Six Nations Consultation and Accommodation Process Team and SNGRDC. The platform is used to seek community insights on development projects happening in and around the Six Nations territory. The website and community engagement process has been designed to educate the Six Nations community about the financial, economic, and environmental impact associated with development projects, and provides a community wide mechanism to gather feedback that will help guide current and future projects. Community members can visit the website to get more information about the project, and submit online comments.

* See Appendix A for list of materials included on the Six Nations Future Website

Online Comment Cards

In addition to in-person comment cards, community members were able to provide online comment cards. This online version could be found on the Six Nations Future website.

We received a total of 4 online comment cards via the Six Nations Future website.

*See Appendix B for online comment cards

In-Person Written Comment Cards

Community members were able to provide comment cards at any engagement session, or by physically dropping off their comments at the Six Nations Tourism Building. Anonymous comment boxes were available for people to submit their comments, or FAQ's at each engagement session by writing comments on cue cards provided or completing the lined section of the mailer.

35 comment cards filled out and returned

2 blank comment cards were submitted, (filled out personal information, but did not write any comments), for a total of 37 submitted comment cards.

*See Appendix C for scanned comment cards

*See Appendix C1 for the transcribed comment cards (transcribed from scanned comment cards)

*See Appendix C2 for blank comment cards that were submitted

Mailers

Mailers were mailed to every household on the reserve (1,940), and handed out at each engagement sessions. These full page double sided flyers, included information about the proposed three-phase bundled solution, informed people about how to submit comments/get involved, and included all ten engagement dates. It also had a section for people to write their comments on the back to submit for consideration (for purposes of this report, comments submitted on mailers at engagement session are considered a comment card and are included in Appendix C).

We received a total of 0 mailers back via mailbox/drop off at the Six Nations Tourism Building
1,940- Mailers were sent week 1 (Oct 12,2017)

*See Appendix D for a copy of the mailers.

Post Cards & Rack Cards

Two versions of postcards were created for this engagement process and mailed to every household on the reserve (1,940). The post cards provided details about where to find more information, and listed the engagement dates.

1,940- Post Cards sent week 2 (Oct 25, 2017)

1,940- Post Cards sent week 4 (Nov 10, 2017)

*See Appendix E for a copy of the post cards.

One version of the rack card was created for the engagement process and mailed to every household on the reserve (1,940). The rack card provided details about the project, engagement dates, and where to find more information.

1,940- Rack Cards sent week 7 (Dec 11, 2017)

* See Appendix F for a copy of rack cards.

Newspaper Advertisements

Each week either a full-page or half-page advertisement was put into both local papers: Turtle Island News and Two Row Times. These ads informed members about general project information, as well as directed them to the www.snfuture.com site for more information.

8- Half-page ads

3-Full-page ads

22- Total newspaper ads ran for a period of 11 weeks (Weekly on Wednesday's from Oct 18- Dec 13, 2017)

*See Appendix G for a copy of the half-page ad

*See Appendix G1 for a copy of the full-page ad

Radio

Advertisements were issued on both local radio stations CKRZ (100.3) and Jukasa (93.5) from October 16th to December 15th, 2017 there were 3 ads played daily for 7 days a week.

There was 1 Live to Air done by CKRZ for the formal presentation delivered by the SNGRDC President/CEO that took place on Tuesday Nov 21/17.

170- Radio ads played at CKRZ (100.3)

168- Radio ads played at Jukasa (93.5)

*See Appendix H & H1 for the radio ad copy played on CKRZ Radio & Jukasa Radio

Social Media

Through the use of the Six Nations of the Grand River Development Corporation's Facebook page, we were able to provide the community with information, updates, and reminders of upcoming information sessions. A Facebook Event was created for each of the 10 engagement sessions. Facebook Live was also used on Oct 19th to air the first formal presentation. This page was also used to share video updates about the NRL, as well as boost posts and events.

A NRL video was created to inform community members about the project. This video had members from SNGRDC explain the three-phased bundled solution and notify the community of the 10 community engagement sessions that they could attend.

In addition to Facebook, we used the SNGRDC's Twitter page to tweet out events and information about the NRL. We tagged other businesses when we were holding information sessions at their locations, with the hopes that their followers would see our tweets once tagged.

A total of 5,349 Impressions through social media using 20 different posts/events.

*See Appendix I for Social Media highlights

Community Engagement Sessions

*Each Session is summarized individually below

We conducted two different styles of meetings, formal presentations and information sessions.

Formal Presentations, included dinner, opening remarks, a formal presentation, and a question/comment period to follow. It has been recognized that not all members are comfortable speaking at a Town Hall style community meeting which is why two options along with anonymous comment boxes were provided.

Information Sessions were open house style meetings, which allowed community members the opportunity to have one-on-one discussions with project team members, and partner representatives.

7-Information Sessions

3-Formal Engagement Sessions

10-Total Engagement Sessions

Thursday October 19, 2017 6:00pm-8:00pm

Gathering Place by the Grand Event Center (Kick off Event- Formal Presentation)

Attendance:

- 7- Community Members
- 3- Media
- 1-Six Nations Elected Council
- 7-SNGRDC Employees
- 1-SNGRDC Board of Directors
- 1-SNGRDC Advisory Committee Member
- 5-Hydro One Representatives
- 2-Ministry of Energy Representatives
- 1-A6N Employee

General Attitude and Comments

A PowerPoint presentation was presented by President/CEO, Matt Jamieson. The venue for this style of presentation was ideal, but the live feed video was difficult to hear on a phone due to the echo that was created by the stage. A public question period followed the presentation with primarily members from the media utilizing this opportunity. Many of the community members saved their questions for the informal discussion period that took place after the formal question/answer period.

Tuesday October 24, 2017 12:00pm-2:00pm

Veterans Park (Free BBQ- Information Session)

Attendance:

- 73- Community Members
- 1-Media
- 9-SNGRDC Employees
- 2- SNGRDC Board of Directors
- 1-Hydro One Representative

General Attitude and Comments

The BBQ was very well attended with over 70 community members stopping by. The free food, being out in the public, and the sign for the free BBQ helped draw attention to the park. We did a 2-minute presentation on the NRL while people were getting their food, and provided them with take-away information about the project.

The general atmosphere at the BBQ was positive, however some people seemed generally uninterested in the project, or they didn't leave many comments.

Friday November 3, 2017 1:00pm-3:00pm

Social Services (Refreshments and Information Session)

Attendance:

4-Community Members

7-SNGRDC Employees

1- SNGRDC Advisory Committee Member

3-Hydro One Representatives

General Attitude and Comments

From the 4 community members who attended we received lots of comments and questions. Members of the community were seeking better understanding of the project to determine if it was something they would support or not. The community members also brought up a feeling of distrust regarding deals with Hydro One due to past hardships.

Thursday November 9, 2017 5:00pm-7:00pm

I.L Thomas Elementary School (Refreshment and Information Session)

Attendance:

1-Community Members

7-SNGRDC Employees

2- SNGRDC Board of Directors

General Attitude and Comments

For most of this information session we had no one in attendance. It wasn't until 6:30pm that evening that we realized a Hunter's Meeting was taking place in the library. One community member, on their way to the other meeting, did ask what we were doing there, but as we informed them about the NRL, the member expressed their frustration about the project and the access to hunting (gathering) on those lands. They chose not to leave a comment. Before

we left we brought the remaining snacks to the Hunters meeting where a different member in the meeting expressed to SNGRDC staff about a previous deal that was not followed through on in the past including Hydro One. Not enough information was provided to SNGRDC staff about this deal, and is outside the scope of the current project of engagement. We did not receive any more information about this fallen deal then what was given, despite encouraging them to submit a comment.

Monday November 13, 2017 6:00pm-8:00pm

O.M Smith Elementary School (Refreshments and Information Session)

Attendance:

3-Community Members

4-SNGRDC Employees

1- SNGRDC Board of Directors

1-Hydro One Representatives

General Attitude and Comments

This was the 5th engagement session, marking the half way point through the 60-day community engagement period. We had a community member attend who brought with them a lot of research, but it was unclear to SNGRDC staff what we were to do with the information. The information provided by the community member did not directly involve the project of discussion. The community member indicated they were against the NRL but also land development in general. They invited us to make a presentation to a community group they are personally affiliated with however, after we suggested 3 dates to host a Lunch & Learn along with SNGRDC CEO, and following up with multiple emails and texts, no response was received and no Lunch & Learn was scheduled.

In addition, a number of the questions brought up at this engagement were regarding SNGRDC's structure- so we decided to show the SNGRDC Corporate Structure Prezi video #1 & #4 to provide some clarity to the audience. These videos are available at <http://sndevcorp.ca/about/>.

Tuesday November 21, 2017 6:00pm-8:00pm

Six Nations Community Hall (Dinner and Formal Presentation)

Attendance:

6-Community Members

3-Media

1-The Consultation and Accommodation Process Team (CAP)

8-SNGRDC Employees

1- SNGRDC Advisory Committee

3-Hydro One Representatives

2-Ministry of Energy Representatives

General Attitude and Comments

This formal engagement included a live to air broadcast done by CKRZ which was advertised on the CKRZ radio and their social media platforms for the week prior to the broadcast. This provided an opportunity for Community members to hear the presentation at home or in their vehicles. Similar to the rest of the sessions, we had few community members in attendance. No one asked questions in the public platform, however a great deal of productive discussion took place during the informal discussion time slot. Through these discussions it was noted that people are confusing the proposed NRL solution with the Hydro One share offering to First Nation Communities. There was expressed concerns about lack of consultation with HCCC, staff indicated we had reached out to them several times and are open to meeting them, but received no response from our inquiries.

Thursday November 30, 2017 7:00pm-9:00pm

Iroquois Lacrosse Arena (Refreshments and Information Session)

Attendance:

4-Community

1-Six Nations Elected Councillor

7-SNGRDC Employees

1-Hydro One Representative

General Attitude and Comments

At the ILA session, we had 1 community member who was very interested in the project. She has a business background and is in favor of renewable energy projects. Overall the session was quiet, and nothing of concern was brought up.

Saturday December 2, 2017 10:00am-1:00pm

Six Nations Tourism Building-Atrium (Refreshments and Information Session)

Attendance:

3-Community

4-SNGRDC Employees

1- SNGRDC Board of Directors

2-Hydro One Representatives

General Attitude and Comments

One community member attended to learn more about the project and submit a comment. Two others stopped in to meet with someone in the building, and while they were waiting one of our staff informed them about the NRL project and provided them with take away information. Overall the session was very quiet.

Tuesday December 5, 2017 12:00pm-3:00pm

GREAT (Refreshments and Information Session)

Attendance:

6-Community Members

4- SNGRDC Employees

1-Advisory Committee

General Attitude and Comments

At the GREAT session, we had four community members stop by where staff briefed them on the project and provided them with take-away information. Later, we had one community member stop in (who had already submitted a comment online) to the session to express his concerns in person regarding pollutants (agent orange) used to keep vegetation down under transmission lines stating no one is testing for it, and advocating for a testing lab. In addition, we also had another community member stop by, who was very much in favor of the project. He indicated to staff he was illiterate and couldn't leave a comment but wanted information as his coworkers were asking his opinion on the project; SNGRDC staff read him the NRL poster boards and collateral to assist him in gathering the information he was seeking. He did say he was in agreement for the project, and we gave him rack cards (10) to hand out at his work (he is an ironworker), as he said he was going to talk to other people about the project. The discussions that took place with these individuals were very lengthy in detail.

Thursday December 14, 2017 6:00pm-8:00pm

Gathering Place by the Grand (Dinner and Formal Presentation)

Attendance:

25- Community Members

2- Media

5-Six Nations Elected Council

9-SNGRDC Employees

2- SNGRDC Board of Directors

1-SNGRDC Advisory Committee Member

2-Hydro One Representatives

2-Ministry of Energy Representatives

1-Aecon Employee

General Attitude and Comments

This was the final community info session to close off the 60-day engagement period. A formal presentation was given after dinner which included a PowerPoint slide about the financials of the project along with a handout. When the floor was open for discussion, we had many community members express their opinion on the project. Some expressed their dislike towards the project politely, others impolitely. The atmosphere was very tense throughout the engagement session, and a high volume of yelling and blaming took place during the question answer period. Some of the comments/concerns brought forth during the live question answer session were outside the scope of the engagement team, and potentially outside the scope of the project. For example, the notion of getting two councils together to talk- SNGRDC was created with the intent to separate business from politics, therefore we do not handle any political requests. People also expressed concerns about whether or not the Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council (HCCC) was consulted, which staff indicated they had reached out to them several times and are open to meeting them, but received no response back. It was made clear from this session that we still have a long way to go with the community regarding having them trust with investing in big energy projects, and understanding how the community engagement process works.

Lunch and Learns

Throughout the course of the engagement period, Six Nations Future offered to provide lunch to larger groups of people/organizations that wanted to learn more about the project. Letters to promote Lunch & Learns were dropped at the 42 community mailboxes located at Six Nations Elected Council, and advertised at each event, in print and on the website. We had a total of 2 organizations book lunch and learns, however 1 cancelled twice and never rescheduled.

Lunch and Learn Participants included the following organizations:

- GREAT

*See Appendix J for Lunch & Learn Letters

*See Appendix J1 for the 42 Community mailbox list

Wednesday November 29, 2017 12:00-1:30pm

GREAT

Attendance:

9-GREAT Employees

2-SNGRDC Employees

General Attitude and Comments

The general comments we received from this Lunch & Learn were environmentally focused. There was a concern for the land (how many trees would be disrupted versus how many trees were disrupted when this project first started back in 2006, will the birds be affected by the transmission lines going in, what is the health hazard for Six Nations people etc). Although these issues were brought up, no direct comments were written about the clearing of trees, or the effect on birds. A lot of legitimate concerns were raised during the discussion, but a large chunk of the questions and concerns posed were out of our scope. For example, environmental concerns of how things were done in the past, and the number of trees taken down back in 2004 when the project originally started, are things we cannot control or go back and change. We informed the group that we can however, focus on the future and how things can be done from here on out from the suggestions and comments provided by community members. Although we encouraged people to write their comments down, as the comments can help with definitive final agreements, we received very few.

6. Final Written Results

The results were as follows:

35 – Written comments

2 - Blank comments

4 – Online comments

41- Total comments submitted

14% of comments/concerns that were raised were beyond the scope of the engagement re: Issues directly relating to Hydro One (eg, what happened to free hydro? Why does Hydro one not use the Haldimand Tract? Why does Hydro One not supply a profit/loss statement for projects? Why does Hydro One not give a % of the profits of NRL to fund nature education in the area of science engineering? Questions about Six Nations billing and why it is not correct?)

22% of comments were positive

12% of comments were negative

66% of comments presented no opinion

7. Report of Findings

Key findings within the Scope of the Project:

1. Concerns about incurring long-term debt to acquire an equity ownership in the transmission line
2. Questions related to the possibility of receiving land lease revenue for the transmission corridor
3. General concerns regarding environmental impacts and why we are relying on a 2004 environmental assessment
4. Suggestion to seek commitment from Hydro One to fund post-secondary education
5. General concerns about the reliability of hydro within the Six Nations Community (dated lines, brown outs, etc.)
6. Concerns regarding access to corridors for traditional gathering and hunting purposes
7. Concerns regarding what occurs if a community conflict arises opposing the project

Comments outside of the Scope of the Project

We thank all community members for their comments regarding the NRL, and we value all comments, questions and suggestions brought forward through the various engagement platforms. All comments which were deemed outside of the scope of the project will be forwarded on to the Six Nations Elected Council and the Six Nations Community Planners for their information. For reference, the comments received are included in Appendix B & C. In addition, please see Frequently Asked Questions Sheets 1 & 2 posted November 22, 2017 and January 2018 on the Six Nations Future website (www.snfuture.ca).

8. Conclusion

The community engagement period came with a range of responses both positive and negative. The proximity of Douglas Creek Estates and the notion of building a transmission line near this property sparked emotion. From the beginning, it was made clear that the intent of the community engagement process was to give the community a voice, letting them know that their comments could help inform the final decision. We reiterated through various methods that no commitment had been made by Six Nations of the Grand River to proceed with the project, the final decision was contingent upon community engagement and the findings would be used to inform the final decision on how to proceed.

It is clear that many community members are still unaware of the impact their suggestions can have when it comes to final agreements and further work needs to be done to inform our community how their productive comments can influence outcomes in the community. It is important to continue to evolve our approach to community engagement in order to harness the community's voice to guide future projects.

9. Next Steps

SNGRDC has compiled this report and findings, which will be forwarded to the SNGRDC Board of Directors and Advisory Committee for independent review and recommendation for ratification from our Shareholder, Six Nations Elected Council.

Guidance will be provided on ways in which SNGRDC management feels some of the key findings may be addressed in definitive agreements

10. Index of Appendixes

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Appendix B- Online comment cards

Appendix C- Scanned comment cards

Appendix C1- Transcribed comment cards (transcribed from scanned comment cards)

Appendix C2- Blank comment cards that were submitted

Appendix D- Mailers

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Appendix I- Social Media highlights

Appendix J- Lunch & Learn Letters

Appendix J1- 42 Community mailbox list