

THE REPORT IN BRIEF

Hertel-New York Interconnection Line Project

TARGETED CONSULTATION AND INQUIRY MANDATE DECEMBER 12, 2022, TO MARCH 1, 2023



In order to supply renewable energy to New York City, Hydro-Québec wishes to build a 400 kV direct current transmission line. This line would connect the Hertel substation, located in the City of La Prairie, to the Champlain Hudson Power Express project line in the United States, mainly along Highway 15 and national and regional roads through the regional county municipalities of Roussillon, Jardins-de-Napierville and Haut-Richelieu. It would be 56.1 km underground and 1.6 km underwater. To transform the alternating current into direct current, Hydro-Québec plans to add a 1,250 MW power converter at the Hertel substation.

ISSUES IDENTIFIED IN THE MANDATE LETTER

- ▶ Protection of agricultural land and activities;
- ▶ Protection of waterways and waterway infrastructures;
- ▶ Stray voltage impacts;
- ▶ Topsoil, crops, and farm machinery traffic work impacts.

To Keep in Mind

At the conclusion of its mandate to investigate and consult on the Hertel-New York Interconnection project, the Commission has concluded that certain considerations should be pointed out.

Targeted Issues and Agricultural Community

- ▶ The agronomic monitoring program that would allow for the evaluation of farmland performance following the construction of the proposed power line should be for a seven-year-period, as recommended by the ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec. Such a period is required to verify the return to normal agricultural yields.
- ▶ The ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs should consider all of the conditions determined by the ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec to reduce soil compaction both on the surface and at depth, in its eventual recommendation on the authorization of the project.

Energy Transition Issue

- ▶ Given the climate emergency and the imminent need to increase Quebec's energy supply, energy transition should be based on planning that reconciles its supply needs with its electricity export projects. And since this transition implies important societal changes that involve more than just government responsibility, this planning would benefit from promoting active and inclusive participation of the public. This would allow for a debate from which major strategic guidelines would be determined, while obtaining insight into various sustainable development issues that such planning raises.

The Consultation in Brief

2
sessions
 to better understand the project and express opinions



5
participants
 asked questions or submitted a brief



2
briefs
 submitted

The Report Contains

78
pages

16
findings and opinions



4
chapters

The BAPE's reports are forwarded to the ministre responsable de l'Environnement. They aim to inform decision-making of the Cabinet, which is responsible to authorize or not projects.

To read the report, [CLICK HERE](#).

Citizen Participation

- ▶ The impact of construction on topsoil;
- ▶ The impact of heat from the proposed power line on crop growth and culvert integrity;
- ▶ The impact of stray voltage on livestock production and monitoring the effects of the line in agricultural environments;
- ▶ The energy transition.



INFORMER



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