

Saint-Jérôme, June 19, 2015

120-kV Grand-Brûlé–Saint-Sauveur Supply Line

Selected line route the result of a close collaboration with the community

This morning, Hydro-Québec presented the representatives of the communities in the Laurentides region with the lower-impact scenario for the Grand-Brûlé–Saint-Sauveur supply line project. The route for this 120-kV line, which is needed to meet the growing demand for electricity in the region, was developed after three years of technical and environmental studies and following a comprehensive public participation process that consisted of more than 95 meetings.

Suggestions received have improved the project

To develop the lower-impact route, Hydro-Québec worked closely with regional experts and maintained constructive exchanges with residents:

- 11 electricity supply scenarios were studied, including those proposed by the Saint-Adolphe-d'Howard advisory committee and the specialists mandated by this municipality
- 4 line route variants were subject to a comparative analysis, including one proposed by the Pays-d'en-Haut regional county municipality (MRC)
- Existing line corridors were used over more than 55% of the route's length
- A new shorter and more compact type of tower was developed
- The width of the new corridors was reduced, thereby minimizing the requisite clearing work
- Tower placement was adjusted several times
- The line's visual impact on the landscape was reduced
- The line route was modified at several locations, particularly in order to move it further away from sensitive areas

Hydro-Québec has made all of the necessary efforts to obtain input from the community and has taken this feedback into consideration to improve the initially proposed project. Moreover, the selected line route is the only one that makes it possible to avoid the built environment and the expropriation of residences.

A necessary project

The 120-kV Grand-Brûlé–Saint-Sauveur supply line must be completed in a timely manner, since several substations and lines serving the region have reached their capacity. Electricity needs in the Pays-d'en-Haut and Laurentides MRCs have grown by 20% between 2004 and 2012, and they continue to increase. The annual growth of electricity demand in the region is twice the Québec average.

The commissioning of this line is required for fall 2017 in order to secure the electricity supply of customers and to continue to support the region's economic development.

In addition, the project will generate nearly \$80 M in investments as well as \$12 M in regional economic spin-offs.

In order to obtain the necessary authorizations, the lower-impact route selected will be submitted to the relevant government authorities. This route may be viewed at the following site: www.hydroquebec.com/projects/grand-brule-saint-sauveur.html.

For any questions, call the Laurentides Info-project Line:
1 800 465-1521, ext. 6022.

Information:

Sophie Lamoureux

Advisor – Community Relations

Tel.: 450 565-2210, ext. 2385

lamoureux.sophie@hydro.qc.ca