



November 24, 2020

Newsletter

Aqueduc–Saraguay project and development of a green corridor

Hydro-Québec would like to inform you of progress to date on the power transmission system upgrade between LaSalle and Saint-Laurent and the accompanying project to develop a green corridor.

In April 2019, Hydro-Québec teamed up with its municipal partners and requested their feedback to support active transportation and greening initiatives in the transmission line right-of-way between Aqueduc and Saraguay substations, located respectively in LaSalle and Saint-Laurent.

At the time, we had suggested that such a corridor could feature a bike path and pedestrian walkway as well as landscaping and recreational facilities.

The project involves:

- Converting the existing 120-kV overhead transmission line to 315 kV over 18 km between LaSalle and Saint-Laurent
- Converting three transformer substations—Rockfield (Lachine), Hampstead (Côte-Saint-Luc) and Laurent (Saint-Laurent)—from 120 kV to 315 kV.

Since spring 2019, Hydro-Québec has taken a collaborative approach to working with each municipal partner. Various information and consultation activities—open house events, public/municipal/Hydro-Québec committees, working groups and so on—were organized in tandem with the municipalities and boroughs. These efforts focused on gathering public opinions and concerns, the better to develop the project in line with everyone's expectations. The overall aim was to define a project that could benefit the community in ways that extended beyond optimizing the power supply.

Accordingly, discussions between the partners have touched upon:

- Reconstruction of 3 substations
- Desired uses for the right-of-way
- Proposing a preliminary route for the future green corridor
- Where to position towers in the right-of-way
- The types of tower
- Property values
- Electromagnetic fields and human health
- Safety of the facilities, noise levels, etc.



The public consultation is still ongoing, although it has been slowed by the COVID-19 pandemic. We want to work together with stakeholders to develop a project that promotes biodiversity, connectivity and sustainable mobility in addition to improving living conditions.

In the coming months, information and consultation sessions will be held to present the project as envisioned by all partners. During these events, public feedback will be put toward fine-tuning the project as needed. Note that, depending on the circumstances, the sessions may need to take place via video conference.

Construction work on the future line is due to commence in 2023. The cost of rebuilding the Aqueduc–Saraguay line and the three substations is estimated at over \$500 million. The project consists in replacing aging equipment to maintain power supply reliability, meet future electricity needs and support the social and economic development of Greater Montréal.

For more information

Project website: <https://www.hydroquebec.com/aqueduc-saraguay/en/>

Hydro-Québec's Info-Project line:
514-385-8888, ext. 3462

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