

Ministry of the Environment,  
Conservation and Parks

Ministère de l'Environnement,  
de la Protection de la nature et des  
Parcs

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357-2024-350

March 7, 2024

Stephen Smith, Environmental Specialist  
Atura Power  
By email only: [Stephen.smith@aturapower.com](mailto:Stephen.smith@aturapower.com)

Dear Stephen Smith,

I am writing you today regarding the elevation request submitted for Atura Power's proposed 27 megawatt increase in name plate capacity of the Halton Hills Generating Station (the Project). During the public review period, I received one elevation request asking that Atura Power be required to prepare an individual environmental assessment for the Project.

Before discussing my decision on the elevation request, I wanted to advise you of changes that occurred to the environmental assessment program as of February 22, 2024. To implement Ontario's move to a project list approach, Part II of the *Environmental Assessment Act* (EAA) and O. Reg. 116/01 (Electricity Projects) were revoked and Part II.3 of the EAA, and O. Reg. 50/24 (Part II.3 Projects – Designations and Exemptions) and 53/24 (General and Transitional Matters) came into force. In addition, the Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects was amended and the screening process was renamed the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects. Section 10 of O. Reg. 50/24 designates your Project as a Part II.3 Project. O. Reg. 53/24 transitions your project under the new provisions without further assessment requirements.

Based on all of the information before me, I have decided to deny the request for elevation. My decision was made after careful consideration of the factors set out in section B.4.1.1 of the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects, including the concerns raised in the elevation request and Atura Power's responses, the Project documentation and consultation undertaken with Indigenous communities, the public and government agencies.

The reasons for my decision may be found in the attached letter to the requester. In the interest of transparency, I encourage you to make my letter to you available to the public on the Project website.

With this decision having been made, Atura Power can now proceed with the Project, subject to any other required permits or approvals. Atura Power must implement the Project in the manner described in the documentation, and inclusive of all mitigating measures, commitments, and environmental and other provisions therein.

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Lastly, please note that failure to comply with the Act or the provisions of the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects or failure to implement the Project in the manner described in the documentation are contraventions of the Act and may result in prosecution under section 38 of the Act.

I am confident that Atura Power recognizes the importance and value of the Act and will ensure that its requirements and those of the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects are satisfied.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andrea Khanjin", enclosed within a faint, light blue circular stamp or watermark.

Andrea Khanjin  
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Attachment

c: Kathleen O'Neill, Director, Environmental Assessment Branch, MECP,  
[Kathleen.oneill@ontario.ca](mailto:Kathleen.oneill@ontario.ca)