



Deshkan Zibiing
Chippewas of the Thames
First Nation Treaties, Lands
and Environment

320 Chippewa Road
Muncey, ON, N0L 1Y0
Tel: 519-289-5555
Fax: 519-289-2230
info@cottfn.com

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Ministry of Energy and Mines
77 Grenville Street
Toronto, ON

Re: ERO #025-0659 - Supporting Critical Transmission Infrastructure in Southwestern Ontario – The Windsor to Lakeshore Transmission Project

The proposed Windsor to Lakeshore transmission project would be located on land covered by the McKee Treaty (1790), a pre-Confederation Treaty to which Chippewas of the Thames First Nation (COTTFN) is a signatory. The land is also part of COTTFN's Traditional Territory, as recognized by Canada in the Big Bear Creek Settlement Agreement (2013). COTTFN holds ancestral connections to the lands and waters and continues to exercise stewardship and practice rights in this area.

As noted in the ERO posting, the Crown must fulfill its duty to consult with impacted Indigenous communities. As a Treaty rights-holder, COTTFN would be impacted by this project. Consultation and accommodation with Rights Holders must be early, meaningful, and include significant economic inclusion. Ultimately, the project can only proceed with COTTFN's free, prior, and informed consent. We will continue to engage with Hydro One and the Ministry on this proposed transmission line.

Consultation Unit
Treaties, Lands and Environment Dept.
Chippewas of the Thames First Nation

