

New Business Item for Council



Moved by: Councillor Stephen Jarvis
Seconded by: Councillor Peter Cooper
Meeting Date: February 12, 2024
Subject: TC Pumped Storage proposal – Meaford, Ontario

Report:

<https://thenarwhal.ca/ontario-pumped-storage-projects/>

Recommendation:

WHEREAS the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) has recommended to the Ministry of Energy (MoE) that the TC Energy Pumped Storage Project (the "Project") on Georgian Bay should not be approved because it is a very bad financial deal for Ontario; and

WHEREAS the proposed TC Energy Pumped Storage Project on Georgian Bay could cause irreparable harm to the environment and could have significant negative impacts on the local animal, plant, fish, and human populations; and

WHEREAS the Project could irreversibly alter and damage the unique ecological, cultural, and historical features of the area, putting at risk the important tourist industry, sport and commercial fishing that relies on these natural benefits; and

WHEREAS the Department of National Defense (DND) have failed to adequately remediate the environmental impacts of the military base over the years making it a brownfield site, meaning that the area is already polluted and that the proposed project would exacerbate the situation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Township of Georgian Bay opposes the TC Energy Pumped Storage Project on Georgian Bay and urges DND to immediately implement measures to remediate the military base to ensure that the area is fit for human and animal habitation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MoE cease their support of the Project, accept the IESO recommendations that the Project should not be approved, and therefore avoid placing an unnecessary financial burden on Ontario taxpayers; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to all municipalities in the Georgian Bay Basin, the IESO, DND, the Honourable Andre Khanjin Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Honourable Graydon Smith Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, Scott Aitchison, M.P. Parry Sound-Muskoka, Diane Lebouthillier Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard to request their co-operation in preventing this project from proceeding.