



URGENT

Dear Supporters of Save Georgian Bay,

Here we are with another urgent request—and a last-minute one at that. We would greatly appreciate your help in urging Owen Sound's Council not to vote in support of TC Energy's proposed Pumped Storage Project in Meaford at its next meeting this Monday, March 25th at 5:30 pm.

How Can You Help?

Two ways:

- 1) Write to Owen Sound Mayor Ian Boddy and Council members, as well as city staff (email addresses listed below), asking them to defer any vote in support of TC Energy's multi-billion-dollar project until they hear more on the issue than a one-sided deputation from TC Energy employees, as currently scheduled, and read more than the corporation's misleading promotional material.

Support Save Georgian Bay's request for a deputation to present our own studies on the project's long-term environmental threats to the Niagara Escarpment and Georgian Bay—explaining why it is not as “green” as it claims to be and how Ontario's independent electricity regulator has twice ruled that it makes no economic sense.

- 2) Show up in person to support Save Georgian Bay's request for a deferral on Monday, March 25th at Owen Sound City Hall, 802 2nd Avenue East.

Demonstrate to councilors that there is more than one side to this issue and that, in the interests of fair and informed decision-making, they ought to hear our challenges to TC Energy's claims. You can even ask a question in person or online by registering with the clerk (clerks@owensound.ca) 24 hours in advance.

Let's Save Georgian Bay!



Why?

TC Energy has persuaded Owen Sound's municipal staff to schedule this just-announced vote in support of its Pumped Storage Project based on only one side of the story: a background report that repeats virtually word for word the company's latest public relations update and a deputation from two TC Energy employees, one of them a company lobbyist.

The staff report admits there has been no other consultation—including with citizens' groups such as Save Georgian Bay, based in neighbouring Meaford, which has done extensive research on the project's potentially irreversible threats to the environment, including to the Niagara Escarpment and the freshwater resource of Georgian Bay.

Nor has Owen Sound sought to hear from any of the four municipal councils around the bay—including the nearby Town of the Blue Mountains—that have all passed resolutions opposing the project since last November.

But the most glaring omission in the staff report is any reference to two negative verdicts from the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO), the arms-length agency which manages Ontario's grid and has twice concluded that TC Energy's project fails to provide any clear economic benefit to provincial ratepayers.

That omission is all the more remarkable considering that in its latest September 29th report, the IESO points out a more cost-effective alternative to TC Energy's proposal: long-duration battery storage parks such as the Oneida Energy Storage Project currently under construction on 10 acres in Ohsweken, Ontario, and co-owned by the neighbouring Six Nations of the Grand River.

TC Energy has touted its Meaford project as a "collaboration" with the Saugeen Ojibway Nation, which will bring "shared benefits." But those shared economic benefits can come just as easily from more efficient and sustainable battery storage projects. This past June the IESO okayed seven of them for tender in Ontario, five of which boast at least 50% participation from indigenous communities, offering the same construction jobs and opportunities for reconciliation that TC Energy is promising without inflicting such damage on the land and waters for generations to come.

Let's Save Georgian Bay!



What You Can Do:

1. E-mail Owen Sound Council
General Council email: council@owensound.ca
Mayor Ian Boddy: ian.boddy@grey.ca
Deputy Mayor Scott Greig: scott.greig@grey.ca
Councillor Travis Dodd: tdodd@owensound.ca
Councillor Jon Farmer: jfarmer@owensound.ca
Councillor Brock Hamley: bhamley@owensound.ca
Councillor Marion Koepke: mkoepke@owensound.ca
Councillor Carol Merton: cmerton@owensound.ca
Councillor Melanie Middlebro: mmiddlebro@owensound.ca
Councillor Suneet Kukreja: skukreja@owensound.ca
Tim Simmonds, city manager: tsimmonds@owensound.ca
Paul McGrath, manager of community and business development:
pmcgrath@owensound.ca
Clerk: clerks@owensound.ca and bbloomfield@owensound.ca
2. Come to the March 25th Council meeting at 5:30 pm at Owen Sound City Hall, 808 Second Avenue East, Owen Sound. **Arrive early to collect your sign and show your support!**

Thank you!

Tom Buck
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website: savegeorgianbay.ca
facebook: Save Georgian Bay
Instagram: @savegeorgianbay
X: @SaveGeorgianBay

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