

## ANOTHER RALLYING CRY!

Dear Supporters of Save Georgian Bay,

We've got another opportunity to write letters and show up in force this **Thursday April 25<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. in Owen Sound** when Grey County Council will vote on a resolution—presented by Owen Sound Mayor Ian Boddy—about whether or not to endorse TC Energy's proposed Pumped Storage Project in Meaford.

### What you can do:

**Write a letter** to members of Grey County Council: **Warden Brian Milne** and the mayors and deputy mayors of each of the nine member municipalities: The Blue Mountains; Township of Chatsworth; Township of Georgian Bluffs; Municipality of Grey Highlands; Town of Hanover; Municipality of Meaford; City of Owen Sound; Township of Southgate; Municipality of West Grey (email addresses below).

### **Attend the meeting:**

**When:**           **Thursday April 25<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m.**

(But try to be there by at least 9 a.m. as the resolution is the first item of business and we want to make our presence known.)

**Where:**       **Grey County Council Chambers, Grey County Administration Building  
595 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue East, Owen Sound.**

Your letters and presence made a difference with members of Owen Sound Council last month, when we helped persuade Mayor Boddy and councillors to dilute their resolution from full support of the project to conditional support.

This time, Mayor Boddy is taking no chances: his resolution to Grey County calls for conditional support from the outset.

But Save Georgian Bay wants council to **defeat the motion or at least defer** any vote until the county has time to hear from Save Georgian Bay and other experts about the irreparable environmental harms this project risks causing to the Niagara Escarpment, a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve—and vital feature to the tourism industry of the area—as well as to the priceless fresh water resource of Georgian Bay.

**Our argument:** There are other, more efficient and cost-effective electricity storage solutions, such as long-duration battery parks, that don't cause such drastic environmental devastation. **So why take the risk?**

### **Some other points to make:**

- TC Energy and Mayor Boddy are presenting this project as a “partnership” with the Saugeen Ojibway First Nation, on whose traditional territory it is slated. But there has been **no formal vote or approval from either of the SON First Nations**, despite the fact that their chiefs appear to be backing it.

- TC Energy claims the project will create 1,000 local **jobs**. But those are short-term construction jobs and they will not be all on the site at the same time--instead shared by many different trades over four years. Now the company admits that the project will bring **only 32 full-time jobs** (earlier it told the government it would create only 12—then 20—permanent jobs).
- **The project makes no economic sense.** The pricetag for the project could reach at least \$7 billion. The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO), which manages Ontario's grid, has twice failed to okay the project, declaring it fails to provide economic benefit to provincial ratepayers. Now Energy Minister Todd Smith and TC Energy are asking the IESO to reconsider it because of its other “societal and economic benefits.”
- The IESO, on the other hand, has enthusiastically approved another electricity storage alternative: **long-duration battery parks**, such as the 10-acre Oneida Battery Storage Park at Ohshweken, Ontario, in a partnership with the Six Nations of the Grand River. Battery storage is more efficient, cost-effective and can be built faster. In fact, the IESO has awarded contracts to seven other battery installations, four of which are true **50 or 51 percent “partnerships” with First Nations.**

With thanks for your ongoing support and hopes we can bring some much-needed common sense to this debate,

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for the directors of Save Georgian Bay

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