

Province approves missing link in 500kV Hydro line

Ontario Hydro has received approval to complete the missing link in the Bradley Junction to Georgetown 500 kV power transmission line, energy minister Dennis Timbrell said last Wednesday.

In July, 1974, the government approved most of the route, except for the 30-mile section between Colbeck and Limehouse, which it referred to the environmental hearing board.

The line will carry power from the Bruce nuclear power station to Toronto.

Mr. Timbrell said the government "accepts and approves" the route recommended by the environmental hearing board, which was released Jan. 5 this year.

The line should be in service by October 1978, he said.

He promised that Hydro will co-operate with affected property owners by choosing the least environmentally disruptive exact alignment, and that they will build local "contact point" offices where people can bring their problems.

But he rejected any suggestion that new hearings will be held or alternative routes considered for the transmission lines.

Already delays caused by public participation mean "direct costs to all power users of \$25 to \$48 million," he said.

He denied being disenchanted with the public input process, but added that a "decision has to be made at some point, and the point is now."

Mr. Timbrell made a number of comments about his decision at a wide-ranging press conference at Queen's Park which spilled over into continuing discussion during lunch.

"I've probably spent more time on this issue than on any other item except oil and gas pricing since I became minister 15 months ago," he said.

He had tried to follow a "middle course," he said, when he ordered the environmental hearing board. Some of his staff weren't happy at the delays that caused, he said.

But many of the people who went to the hearing "didn't want to adjust the route, they wanted to change the destination."

Not only was that outside the board's terms of reference, but he wouldn't have approved such a change at that stage anyway.

He made that clear when the board, relayed citizen requests for expansion of the terms of reference, he said, adding that the board itself did not request any such change.

In fact, the action of the board in relaying the message, and in hearing some of the submissions it did, was probably "technically illegal," he said.

That there would be a route from Bradley to Georgetown was established when the government accepted recommendations from Dr. Solandt in July, 1974.

For system security purposes the government agreed there should be "a completely new corridor into the Toronto area," and that it would cross the escarpment at Limehouse.

That meant only adjustments to the basic line could be heard at the hearings, he said.

In an aside Mr. Timbrell and his staff pointed out that Ontario Ombudsman Arthur Maloney did not review the complaints he received about the corridor because it was out of his jurisdiction, not because of government pressure.

The Ombudsman's job is to review the implementation of government policy, not to review the policy itself. As of July, 1974, it became government policy that a 500 kV line would run from Bradley to Georgetown. Only part of the route was in question.

The minister said he understood people's objections.

"No matter what route is chosen, the reaction in any area will be to put the corridor somewhere else," he said.

Suggestions that he allow a new 90-day hearing on an alternate route be considered he called "folly" because experience in two similar instances in eastern Ontario showed the hearings lasted an average of 30 months.

"They believe you can do a study in three months. I don't believe it."

He added that more delays would run the cost to power consumers into the hundreds of millions of dollars, all of which comes out of hydro bills.

He is staff also disputed claims being made for the Bradley-Essa, Toronto-Milton route, which some people view as an alternate means of getting the power to Metro.

It is actually 40 miles longer, not shorter as reported, STAFF—said, and the existing right-of-way between Bradley and Essa cannot accommodate the line.

He also doubted whether people along the Essa route would favor the line any more than those along the Bradley-Georgetown right-of-way.

As for moving the industry to the

generator at Bruce, thus removing the need for the line, he said the Bruce County Federation of Agriculture has said there is already too much industry being attracted to the area.

"The idea that all the enquiries so far have been government-appointed and therefore fixed Mr. Timbrell objected with a shrug of his shoulders.

"You can never correct that suspicion," he said.

GDHS bowlers win All-Ontario championship

"We're Number One!" That's what Diane Marshall, Wendy Hay, Wendy Bouskill, Stephanie Gorin, Janine Prouse, Gloria Hamilton and coach Joan Archibald were saying after winning the second annual All-Ontario High School Bowling Championships on Sunday.

The girls rolled a 3,163 three-game flat total which is a new tournament record, defeating the next closest competitor Sud-

bury Secondary School by 202 pins.

Janine Prouse led all the girl bowlers in the tournament by posting a super 759 triple. Janine received a beautiful trophy for winning the high triple of the day. All the girls from Georgetown won a nice trophy. Congratulations to the girls.

Southmount Secondary School from Hamilton won the boys event—which was won by Georgetown last year—with a record 3,686 three-game flat total.



BAKER'S DAUGHTER, Karen Sykes displays delicious looking hot cross buns, a traditional Easter favorite.

the HERALD

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 1976

Home Newspaper of Halton Hills

24 Pages.

Committee recommends public not allowed in meetings

A recommendation that all meetings of Halton Hills committees of council be closed to press and public will be placed before town council next Monday night.

The suggestion comes from the town's general administration committee who, by a 2-1 vote, Monday night agreed with committee chairman Les Dubsy's belief that closing committee meetings to all but official

delegations would be "advantageous for everyone."

A suggestion that committee meetings be held on Wednesday night, after the town's weekly newspapers had been printed, was voted down.

"How the hell can you do your work when you can't say what you're feeling," commented Councillor Roy Booth as he outlined

his reasons behind supporting the motion to take all committees behind closed doors.

"If we're going to have meaningful committee meetings we should be able to sit down and not give a damn about what we or the staff are saying."

Councillor Dubsy added, "These are the working meetings of council and should, rightfully, be held in private."

Councillor Booth was the most vocal of the three councillors present for the general administration committee meeting. He based his criticism of the present committee-council system largely on recent incidents of "irresponsible reporting" particularly of items brought up at the works committee.

To Councillor Booth's criticism of press reports Councillor George Maltby—the lone

committee member to vote against closed meetings—replied that "Many irresponsible statements in the press have been put there because of irresponsible statements by councillors and staff."

Councillor Maltby suggested that closing committees to the public should be a decision of the individual committees rather than a blanket policy of council.



TALK ABOUT KICKING YOUR HEELS IN THE AIR. This group of young people took time out from the Folk Four festival at GDHS this past weekend to do a little dancing.

Feud over money possible cause of Baron shooting

Hilda Baron, 58 testified at the attempted murder trial of her husband, Horst Baron, Monday, that a marital dispute over the sale of their 112-acre farm may have prompted him to shoot her and two boarders at their rural Acton farmhouse Oct. 27.

Mr. Baron told an Ontario Supreme Court Jury that she and her husband had argued prior to the shooting incident over the amount of a settlement for the sale of the farm, which was purchased in her name.

While Mrs. Baron had insisted on a final settlement of \$55,000 as her share of the sale profits, she said, Mr. Baron had refused to let her have more than \$30,000.

According to Mrs. Baron testimony, Mr. Baron, a 50-year-old stone mason, had confronted her in the kitchen of their home Oct. 27, after she had returned from arranging the settlement at her lawyer's office.

Mrs. Baron said that her husband had shouted "I told you \$30,000 and struck her with his fist. Mrs. Baron testified that Mr. Baron had then drawn

a revolver from his pocket and had shot her, along with boarders Gunter Mayer, 45, and Mayer's nine-year old son, Wayne.

All three victims were taken to area hospitals following the incident, with wounds to the chest. According to Wayne Mayer, who testified later, Mr. Baron, himself had telephoned the police to report the shooting.

Mrs. Baron testified that her husband owned several firearms which he sometimes used for hunting. She said that Mr. Baron liked to carry the revolver used in the shooting around the house with him on his days off, sometimes tucking the gun beneath the cushion of the living room sofa while he watched television.

Often, she said, he had carried the revolver with him into their upstairs bedroom.

Mrs. Baron stated that her marriage had deteriorated after the conviction for murder in 1974 of their 24-year-old son, Manfred.

"My husband didn't like my son," she told Halton Crown Attorney James Treleven. "All he wanted from Manfred and me was work and work. He let me do everything (To help Manfred during his trial) by myself."

Mrs. Baron said that she and her husband had agreed to separate following their son's trial, when she was approached by a local bank to take over the payments on a \$10,000 loan which Manfred had negotiated, and for which she had co-signed.

She said that Manfred had used the loan to purchase two bulldozers in an attempt to establish a own heavy equipment rental business.

Mrs. Baron testified that on Oct. 28, her husband had agreed to a settlement by which \$40,000 would be retained as her share of the mortgage payment, and an additional \$40,000 would be

Cont'd page 9.

Citizens will continue to fight against the line

By Paul Dorsey

The Interested Citizens Group (ICG) will not be deterred by the provincial cabinet's decision to restrict Ontario Ombudsman Arthur Maloney from investigating the debate over the proposed Bradley to Limehouse Hydro corridor.

Chairman Bill Mann said Thursday that Energy Minister Dennis Timbrell's announcement on Wednesday would not discourage the group from continuing its four-year old battle against the proposed transmission line. ICG members will attempt to discuss the corridor issue with senior cabinet ministers beginning early this week. A letter to the ICG from one cabinet member, said Mr. Mann, contained "faculties" information about the corridor proposal which had apparently been provided by the

Premier's office.

"We want to make sure they are not misinformed," he explained.

Mr. Mann expressed his group's frustration over the energy ministry's insistence that the ombudsman not be allowed to participate in the debate, even to make recommendations on the ICG's behalf. The ministry, Mr. Mann complained, took three months to inform the ombudsman that he would not be permitted to investigate the issue. Mr. Mann termed the restriction "political interference."

"We're going to start to get dry," he warned. "We've been fighting like gentlemen in the past."

Mr. Mann said that Ontario Hydro has been expropriating property along the first leg of the Bradley to Limehouse route, between Bruce and

Colbeck. The landowners, however, "are raising hell," he pointed out.

"They're going to make it as tough as they can on Ontario Hydro," he said.

In a letter to Mr. Timbrell, Mr. Maloney expressed his reluctance in accepting the cabinet decision.

"I have come to the conclusion I do not have the jurisdiction to deal with this matter, in view of the decision of the cabinet dated May 29, 1974," said Mr. Maloney.

Mr. Maloney told Mr. Timbrell that he had hoped Monday's seven-hour meeting in his office between Deputy-Minister Malcolm Rowan and ICG representatives "would result in a compromise."

However, he said, "this did not occur."

"One could not help but be

Leachate is not serious

Leachate, a black, highly concentrated form of pollutant, continues to enter the Credit River below the landfill site on Armstrong Ave. in Georgetown, according to the ministry of the environment.

Dennis Veal, surface water evaluator for the central region of the MoE, said in an interview last week after receiving results of the second test of the river water and runoff into it that, "We feel now there is a bit of leachate going into the river."

However, the impact on the river is "nothing serious," Mr. Veal said.

Tests were first ordered in February after an MoE employee noticed from a commuter train that black runoff from the landfill site was running into the Credit River.

When the results of that first test were obtained, the figures were higher than had been expected and new tests were ordered. Samples for the new tests were taken March 12 and results became available late last week.

The highest reading obtained from the last samples was 3200 m.g. per litre of bio chemical-oxygen demand, Mr. Veal said. This was from a location taken on the boundary of the site. Lower down a reading of 1400 m.g. per litre BOD was obtained, said Mr. Veal.

What the figures mean is that in each

litre of water there are 3200 milligrams for example, of organic matter which consumes its own weight in oxygen over a five-day period before being decomposed. Water has a maximum capacity of 14 m.g. per litre of oxygen which can be used to oxidize the organic matter before having to be replenished.

"The samples did indicate that leachate is running off the site," Mr. Veal said. But the two most important test results were those from samples taken upstream and downstream of the landfill site, Mr. Veal said.

The sample taken upstream of the site is used as a kind of control figure, the Herald was told by the two MoE employees who took the samples March 12. That sample produced a figure of 4 m.g. per litre BOD Mr. Veal said.

Downstreams of the site the figure was 8 m.g. per litre of BOD, he added.

The difference in the two readings "is not significant," Mr. Veal, said. Duplicate samples could be collected at the same time and still produce different results, he said due to natural variability.

"We would not conclude that there is a change in the river," he said. What is important, said Mr. Veal is the quantity and not the quality of the runoff, "but the bit there is certainly organic."

Mr. Veal felt that the tile collecting

system was not collecting 100 percent of the leachate but did not consider that the system was inadequate, he said.

"We will have a closer look at management of the site," he said after discussions with MoE staff and Halton Region which administers the site.

It is difficult to prevent some leachate from getting into the river at this time of year, Mr. Veal said. "But both values are low, surprisingly low."

Usually when tests of this kind are made the actual amount of free oxygen in the water is needed to make the results meaningful but the two ministry of environment employees who took the samples were not equipped to determine that figure which must be done at the time of sampling.

However, Mr. Veal told the Herald that it is not critical if the actual amount of free oxygen is not known. The samples taken from the site where the readings were highest would be higher by another 14 m.g. per liter, he said, which is insignificant in light of readings obtained of 1400 and 3200 m.g. per litre.

The importance of the oxygen present in the water is related to the amount of bio chemical oxygen demanding matter also present in the water, he said.

CVCA execs give selves a \$2 raise

With Halton Hills Mayor Tom Hill leading the protests against it, members of the Credit Valley Conservation Authority last Thursday night voted themselves an increase of \$2 in their meeting stipends.

Members will now receive \$22 for every authority meeting they attend, plus mileage. Of the 18 members attending last week's meeting 11, including Halton Hills representatives Gail Maltby and Ernie Sykes and authority chairman, Grant Clarkson, voted in favor of the increase.

Seven, led by Mayor Hill, opposed the motion.

A question was brought up about whether or not the \$22 was a per day item or per meeting, Chairman Clarkson promptly noted that it was per meeting and therefore two authority members who were attending two meetings that day were to be paid \$44.

The Wednesday meeting lasted for a little over two and one-half hours and much of it was taken up with the routine handling of minutes from previous committee meetings. Three members of the authority did not speak through the entire two and one-half hour meeting.