

Union Gas pipeline gets thumbs up: committee

By RICHARD VIVIAN
The Champion

Plans for a Union Gas pipeline from Hamilton to Milton received a green light from the Halton ecological and environmental advisory committee (EEAC) last week.

In endorsing the proposal, the committee made several recommendations to Union Gas to ensure the least possible impact is made on the natural environment.

"Many of the items of concern for them (EEAC) are part of the mitigation measures that we use on a regular basis to minimize the impacts from our pipeline construction,"

Greg Payne from Union Gas told The Champion.

"We've developed these mitigation measures over a number of years with the regulating bodies — the Ministry of Natural Resources, Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the local conservation authorities."

EEAC's recommendations include undertaking water crossings at times when the disturbance is likely to be the least (low flow), re-vegetating areas where trees are removed, rehabilitating disturbed agricultural land and taking measures to re-establish a small marsh south of the Islay Lake berm.

While EEAC was approached for comment, Union Gas isn't bound by their

recommendations. Pipeline approval is required from the Ontario Energy Board (OEB).

An environmental assessment of the proposed route is currently underway and is expected to be complete sometime next month. An application to the OEB will follow.

If approved as proposed, the 17-km long pipeline would run essentially parallel to Derry Road from Hamilton to the company's tie-in line near First Line. Two Union Gas pipelines already exist along the same route.

The new line would be used to feed the Mississauga and Toronto markets.

Construction is scheduled for the summer of 2003.

Appleby Line speed limit to be reduced: committee

Travellers on Appleby Line should watch their speed, as the Town of Milton looks to lower the speed limit — between Steeles Avenue and No. 14 Sideroad — from 80 km/h to 60 km/h.

The limit reduction was approved by the Milton community services committee last week, but requires approval by the whole of town council before coming into effect.

A study of road traffic was conducted after several safety concerns were raised by Appleby Line residents.

Town staff recommended lowering the limit, stating in their report the move is needed to ensure continuity along

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the road with adjacent zones. Speed limits on either side of the affected section of road are 60 km/h.

The Town of Milton may be joining forces with Halton Region to establish a community garden at Allendale long-term-care facility.

Project approval was granted by the Milton community services committee last week, but requires town council approval before moving forward. Council is expected to address the issue Monday.

Halton regional council approved the project March 27.

Due to the Main Street reconstruction project, Sargeant Farms has been given special permission for its trucks to use Martin Street, between Mill Street and Steeles Avenue, and Millside Drive, between Martin and Main streets.

Truck traffic is otherwise banned from those roadways.

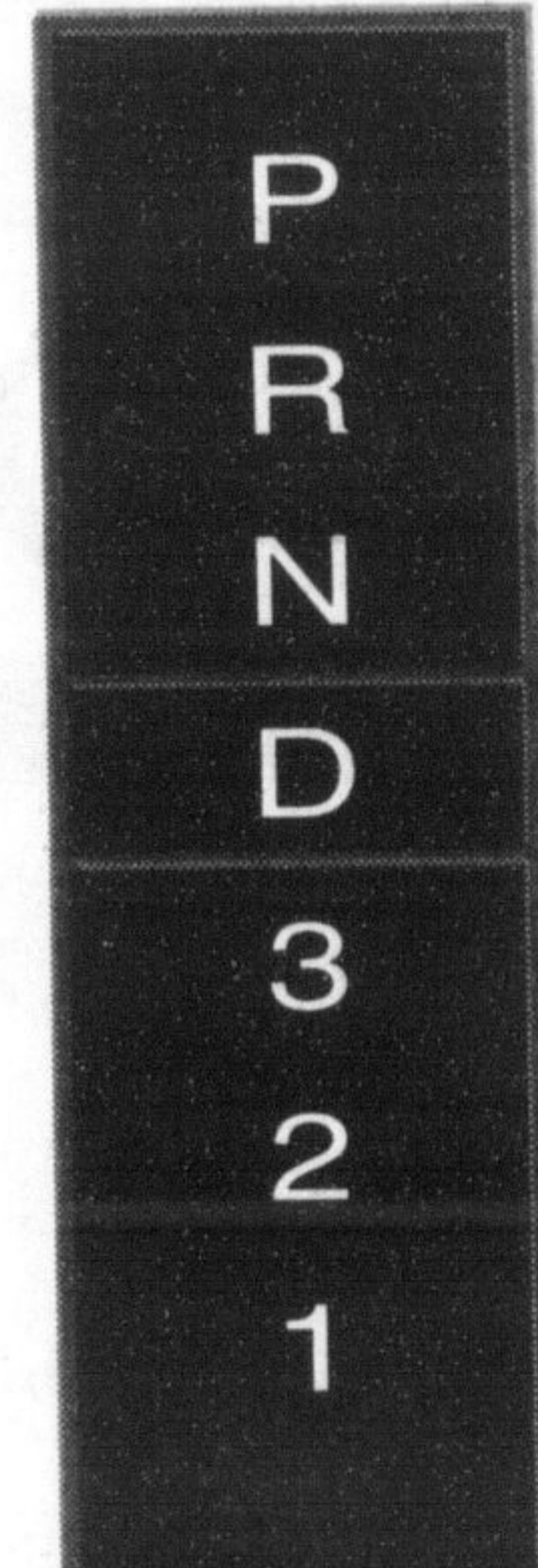
The exception was approved by the Milton community services committee last week, but still requires town council approval Monday.



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