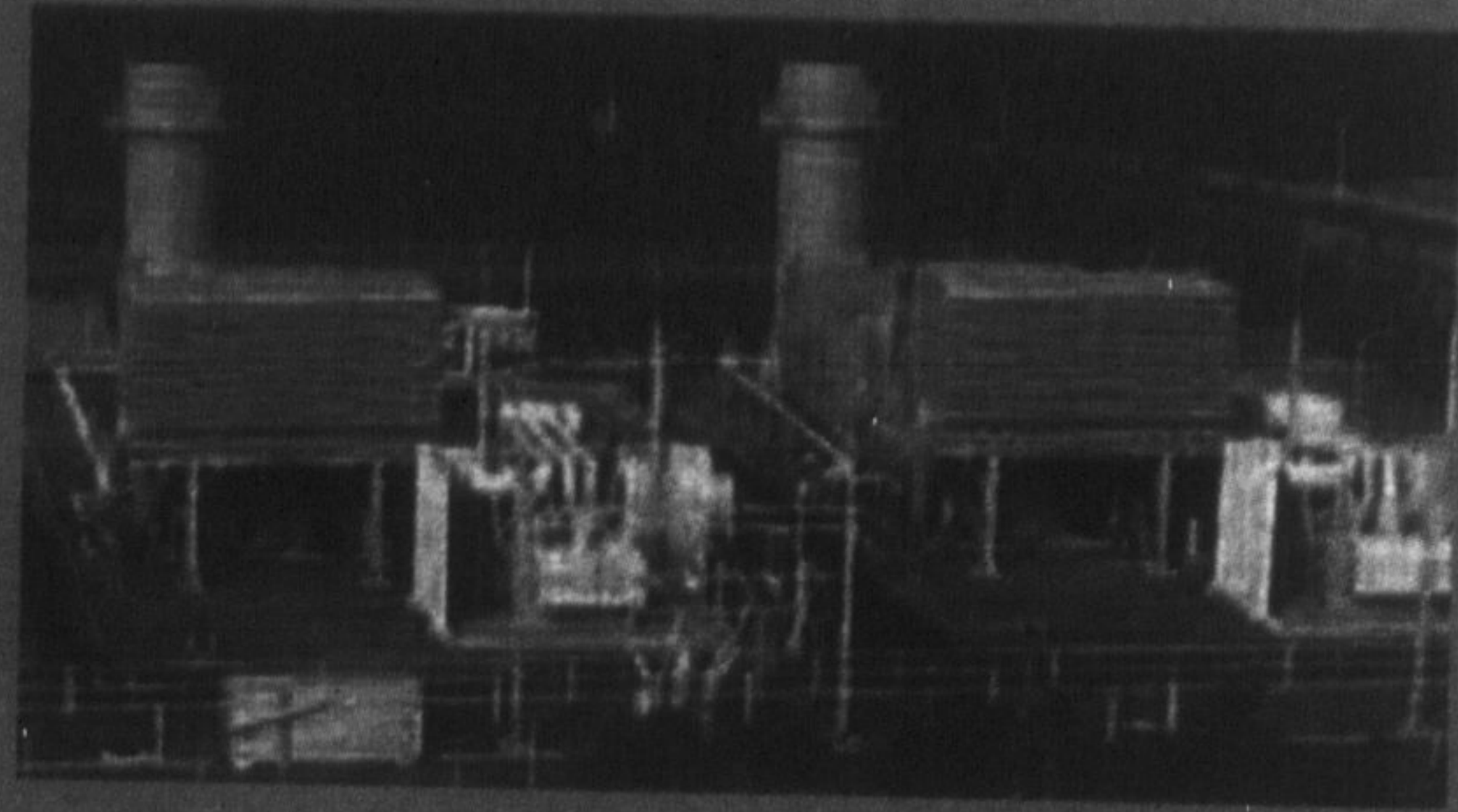


## Here are the answers ... and more

**Why does Northern York Region need additional electricity supply?**

**Northern York Region needs additional electricity supply because:**



- a) There is only one major transmission line serving the entire region (not 7 as some claim) and that line, as it comes into the region is already at its capacity – it is close to being maxed out.
- b) This means that there is a reliability issue when added demand occurs – unless more supply is available – brownouts or worse, failure.
- c) It also means that if the line fails – burns out, damaged by a windstorm, deliberate sabotage or a major problem on the supply system outside of York Region – there will be NO POWER AVAILABLE to the residents, public institutions or businesses in the region.

### **Why is a new generation plant being proposed in Northern York Region rather than a new or expanded transmission line?**

In 2005, an intensive community based assessment of the region's needs was undertaken. Municipal staff, elected representatives and community residents from Markham, Aurora, Newmarket, King, Bradford, East Gwillimbury and Whitchurch/Stouffville participated. In fact, community representatives were organized into a special working group to examine two options: transmission or generation.

A comprehensive report was completed (to see the report, go to [http://www.powerauthority.on.ca/Page.asp?PageID=122&ContentID=886&SiteNodeID=139&BL\\_ExpandID=](http://www.powerauthority.on.ca/Page.asp?PageID=122&ContentID=886&SiteNodeID=139&BL_ExpandID=)) which concluded that local generation was preferred over transmission. Among the reasons for the choice was cost, esthetics, restrictions on current line capacity and difficulty in securing a right of way.

### **But why does it have to be located in my community?**

It may not be located directly in your community – the location is yet to be decided. BUT, it does have to be located close enough to you, to ensure that you have sufficient electricity when you need it.

### **Well, why doesn't the government or somebody just say "it is going there"?**

Actually the provincial government could do that – it has the legal authority. We recognize that today, we live in a world in which citizens like to have their say and municipalities like to be consulted. As well, a competitive process with several

companies bidding to build a project means that the ratepayer – everyone who pays for electricity service – gets the most cost effective and cost efficient supply. The proponent who wins the Request For Proposal (RFP), likely issued at the end of May, will have put together the project that best meets the specific site, environmental and technical requirements and financial tests, as well as community needs.

### **Why is there more than one site and when will we know the really final site?**

Each proponent has the right to propose one or more sites as has been the case in the Request For Qualifications (RFQ) just completed. Now as proponents participate in the RFP process, the sites they think best will become clear and once the RFP closes, then the final sites will be known and it is from these proposals that the final single proponent and site will be chosen.

### **Isn't York Region being asked to solve a provincial problem?**

No. The Northern York Region is a dynamic, growing community. The region needs the electricity this project will provide. In this case, the solution ensures that both the Northern York Region and the province benefit. The region is assured of the electricity it needs, when it needs it, and the province is able to replace coal-fired generation with cleaner fuels. Replacing the coal plants is a major step in addressing public concern about "climate change".

### **Have more questions?**

Visit [www.powerauthority.on.ca](http://www.powerauthority.on.ca)