

Request for Decision United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria Council

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Friday, June 12, 2015				Report Date	Wednesday, June 3, 2015			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	X	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed

Keep Hydro Public- Report #12/06/15/1202

Subject:

Proposed Privatization of HydroOne

RECOMMENDATION:

That council support this resolution calling on the province to stop the sale of HydroOne.

WHEREAS the public electricity system in Ontario is a critical asset to the economy and vital to the living standard and well-being of all Ontarians;

AND WHEREAS it is essential that Ontarians maintain public control and public decision-making with respect to electricity;

AND WHEREAS a privatized Hydro One will no longer be subject to scrutiny by the Auditor General, the Ombudsman, the Financial Accountability Officer, or the Integrity Commissioner, and will no longer be required to provide information or service to citizens under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, the *Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act*, or the *French Language Services Act*;

AND WHEREAS the public electricity system currently generates hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue for the provincial government on an annual basis to help pay for public services we all depend on;

AND WHEREAS the sale of Hydro One will provide a short-term financial gain for the province in exchange for a much larger long-term financial loss;

AND WHEREAS the provincial government has no mandate from voters to sell any part of Hydro One;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby call on the provincial government to:

1. Halt the sale of any part of Hydro One, and Maintain Hydro One as a public asset for the long term benefit of all Ontarians;
2. Strengthen Hydro One by investing in the next generation of workers and upgrading our electricity transmission infrastructure;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Premier with copies to the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Energy, area MPPs, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be circulated for support to encourage other municipalities to express their opposition to the privatization of Hydro One.

BACKGROUND/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Although the letter and resolution are self-explanatory there is no evidence to suggest that the lines about contributing financially to Ontarians is correct. The fact is that Hydro One is costing each property owner or user a considerable amount of money monthly. Are revenues being input to offset costs? Are best business decisions being made being run as a public monopoly?

Although there are no answers to those questions readily available; I would suggest that they exist before this sale be started. Find the answers to these questions before the province sells a valuable asset and essential service for a short term financial gain.

Options/Discussion:

Financial Considerations/Budget Impact:

Policy Impact:

As per policy.

Others Consulted:

"Keep Hydro Public" group, letter and resolution attached.

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,
Municipal Clerk