

DOMINION SOLAR **Community Engagement Plan**

Renewable Energy Systems Canada Inc.
Dominion Solar LP

June 2015

Table of Contents

1.0	Introduction	1
2.0	Consultation Principles	3
3.0	Consultation During the LRP Process	4
4.0	LRP Consultation Schedule	8
5.0	Renewable Energy Approval Process	9

Figures

Figure 1: General project location	2
Figure 2: LRP consultation schedule.....	8
Figure 3: REA consultation requirements	11

Tables

Table 1: Tentative REA Schedule	12
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Appendices

A	Relevant IESO LRP RFP Definitions
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Acronyms, Abbreviations & Definitions

Aboriginal Community, a First Nation Community or Métis Community

Abuts, directly adjacent to (for detailed IESO definition see Appendix A)

CEP, Community Engagement Plan

Connection Line, the electrical line connecting the Site to the connection point with the distribution system or the IESO-controlled grid

Dominion Solar LP, the Qualified Proponent and proposed Registered Proponent for the project in the LRP process

IESO, Independent Electricity System Operator

LRP, Large Renewable Procurement process, outlined by the IESO

MOECC, Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change

MPAC, Municipal Property Assessment Corporation

MW, megawatt

PIN, property identification number

Project Community, any local municipality in whose boundaries the proposed Site or Connection Line is to be located

Qualified Applicant, an applicant whose qualifications submission has been selected and accepted by the IESO in accordance with the LRP I RFP rules

Registered Proponent, the entity who has been issued a registration confirmation from the IESO in accordance with the LRP I RFP process

REA, Renewable Energy Approval (as per Ontario Regulation 359/09)

RFP, Request for Proposals

RES Canada, means "Renewable Energy Systems Canada Inc.", the Qualified Applicant and sole shareholder of Dominion Solar LP, the project proponent

Site, the real property on, over, in or under which the large renewable energy project is to be situated (not including the connection line).

Stakeholder, a person, entity or business with an interest or concern in the project, including but not limited to members of the public, agencies, municipalities and interest groups.

Introduction

The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) in Ontario has asked proponents of renewable energy projects to submit applications (proposals) for energy contracts. In response to the IESO's Request For Proposals (RFP) under the Large Renewable Procurement (LRP) process, Dominion Solar LP is undertaking the required activities outlined in the LRP I RFP, including consultation, prior to submitting a proposal for a solar energy project. Should the project be awarded a contract, a Renewable Energy Approval (REA) will be required from the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) prior to the project being built.

Dominion Solar LP is proposing a ground mounted solar energy project, to be known as the Dominion Solar Project (the Project), located south of Dominion Drive, in the Township of Hanmer, Valley East District, in the Municipality of Greater Sudbury (see **Figure 1**). The project will have a rated capacity of up to 25 MW and will include an enclosed, fenced area containing the solar panels, a transformer substation, low-voltage electrical collector lines, access roads, and a work area. The project would be beneficial to the community, potentially providing an increase in municipal taxes, rental payments to local landowners, a benefits fund to the township, as well as jobs and the use of local service providers during construction and long term operations. These benefits will be discussed and negotiated with the local municipalities, landowners, and stakeholders.

This Community Engagement Plan (CEP) has been prepared to inform all stakeholders in a transparent manner of the consultation activities that will be undertaken for the proposed project during the LRP I RFP process. The CEP also provides a high level outline of the long-term consultation commitments should the project be awarded a contract by the IESO and be subject to the REA process. A copy of this CEP will be continuously posted on the project website.

Different communities have different expectations regarding the form, frequency and nature of consultation. As such, this CEP is intended to be a "living document" that outlines an engagement process that will likely change as a consequence of the feedback and expectations of the local community, as the project moves forward. Through this process of consultation, and working closely with all stakeholders, the focus will be on developing the best project possible in close collaboration with the host community.

The Proponent

Dominion Solar LP is the project proponent, and will submit the project proposal to the IESO. Dominion Solar LP is a project entity that is 100% owned by Renewable Energy Systems Canada Inc. (RES Canada). RES Canada is an industry leader having developed or built more than 25 large-scale renewable energy projects across Canada. Specifically in Ontario, RES Canada has developed or constructed 12 renewable projects totalling over 550 MW of wind and solar power. RES Canada brings a breadth of experience on project development that guides its planning and this CEP. More

about RES Canada and its experience, values and sustainable mission statement can be found at www.res-americas.com.

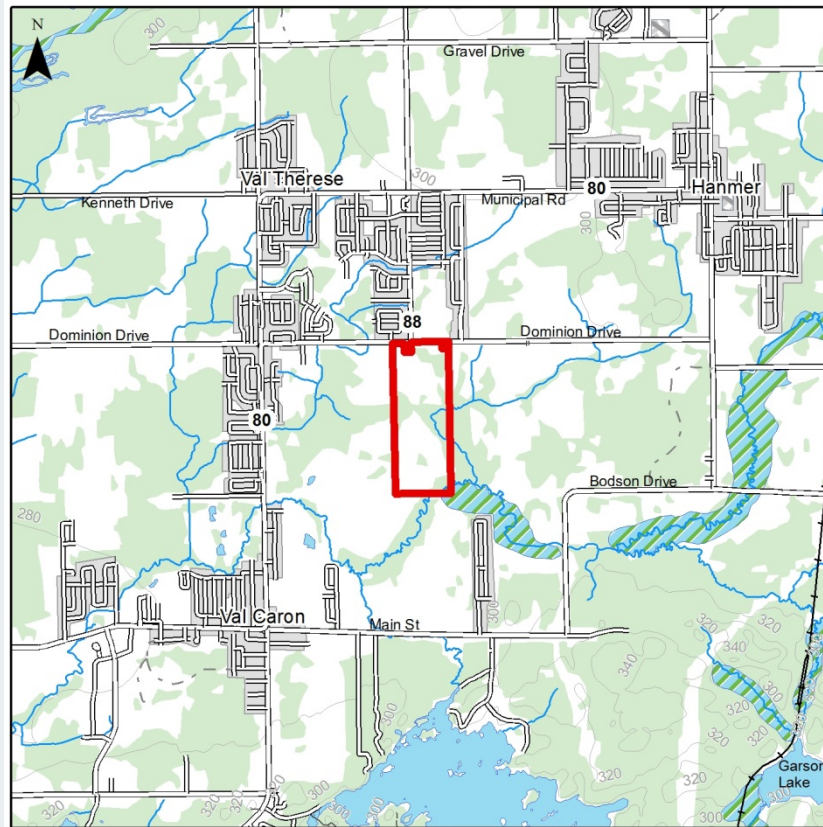


FIGURE 1: GENERAL SITE LOCATION

Contact information for Dominion Solar LP is as follows:

Qualified Applicant: Renewable Energy Systems Canada Inc.

Registered Proponent: Dominion Solar LP

Project Contact: Douglas McAlpine

Mailing Address: 300 Leo-Pariseau, Suite 2516, Montreal (QC), H2X 4B3

Phone number: 514-525-2113

Fax Number: 514-524-9669

Email: info@dominion-solar.com

Project website: www.dominion-solar.com

Your thoughts, questions, and feedback on the project are welcome. Please contact us at any time regarding the project.

Consultation Principles

Effective stakeholder consultation is vital to the success of the project. Keeping the community informed, giving stakeholders the opportunity to provide input, creating opportunities for discussion, and responding to stakeholder concerns in a timely manner are key objectives of effective consultation. Stakeholder input is highly valued and is viewed as a critical component to project planning and development. Quality consultation is needed to gain the trust of the host community and providing various opportunities for dialogue is a key to developing that trust. Ultimately, the goal is for the community to be well informed and understand the project, along with the awareness of various potential impacts and benefits. The following concepts form the basis for our proposed engagement process:

Transparent Project Information

Providing accurate, specific information in the proper context is key to allowing stakeholders to understand what is being proposed and the overall project development process. As the proponent representing the project, the aim is to be open and transparent about the project and the associated process, timelines for approvals, construction, and eventual operation of the facility.

Wide-ranging Consultation

We want to collaborate with a broad range of stakeholders and present opportunities for groups and individuals to provide feedback. If anyone has an interest in the project or has questions, we want to hear from them. Meaningful and open dialogue leads to overall improved site design, project decision-making, problem solving, issue resolution and the mitigation of impacts. We will look to consult with anyone interested and will arrange for additional consultation activities as needed.

Meaningful and Timely Responses

Responses to stakeholders will be meaningful and will answer as directly as possible the question(s) being asked. We will aim to return all phone calls and confirm receipt of every email in a timely and respectful manner. Detailed responses to emails, letters and faxes will be provided and all communications will be documented under the consultation process and taken into consideration in developing the project.

3.0

Consultation During the LRP Process

The consultation process begins under the LRP I RFP with the establishment of an initial mailing list of stakeholders. The process requires clear and deliberate notification of a public meeting within the host community, providing information on the project via a website and meeting with the municipalities and the public prior to submission of the project proposal to the IESO. A preliminary schedule for these activities is provided in **Section 4**. The sections below provide a description of the key consultation activities to be undertaken.

Consultation under the LRP I RFP process is the first step in overall project development and consultation. Should the project receive a contract from the IESO, consultation will fall under the MOECC REA process, which is a comprehensive stakeholder engagement process lasting 12 to 18 months (see **Section 5**). During this time, very detailed project information is shared on the final design and assessment of the project. During the REA process, at least two additional public meetings are held and stakeholders have further opportunity to contribute to the development of the project.

3.1

Key Project Stakeholders

We understand that a variety of individuals and groups may be interested in this project. We encourage anyone interested in the project to contact us regarding any questions, or simply to stay informed of the project's progress.

An initial mailing list will be developed for the project. Individuals on the mailing list will receive a copy of the notice of the public meeting. The following list of individuals and groups consists of LRP I RFP stakeholders applicable to this project for whom notification of a project meeting will automatically be provided:

- every assessed owner of property located within 120 metres of the properties comprising the project site;
- every assessed owner of property within 120m of the proposed connection line and connection point to the grid;
- every assessed owner of property abutting the properties or the properties themselves that constitute the project site;
- every assessed owner of property on which the proposed connection line is to be situated;
- every Aboriginal Community that may be affected by or otherwise interested in the project or connection line;
- the Clerk of the local municipality in which the project or connection line is to be situated;
- the Director of the MOECC Environmental Approval Access and Service Integration Branch;

- the secretary of every company operating an oil or natural gas pipeline, if the right of way for that pipeline is within 200m of the project of connection line; and
- the secretary-treasurer of the Nickel District Conservation Authority.

Specific definitions from the IESO's LRP I RFP may be helpful in understanding the above listed consultation requirements and are provided in **Appendix A**.

The mailing list will be maintained throughout the LRP I RFP process and should the project proceed to the REA phase, this mailing list will be carried forward and updated as needed for use in that process.

We will also consult with the local municipality to identify any special interest groups not captured in the bulleted list above which may have an interest in the project. These groups will be contacted to determine their level of interest and if desired will be added to the mailing list.

3.2 Identifying Landowners

A significant attempt will be made to accurately identify applicable landowners and obtain the most relevant and accurate mailing addresses. Specifically, the following steps will be taken:

1. Properties abutting and within the consultation zones to the project site and connection line will be mapped and the PINs will be recorded in a list.
2. The property PINs will then be matched with the publicly available property assessment roll numbers, as updated and maintained by MPAC.
3. The tax roll numbers will then be compared to the most recent annual mailing information at the municipality for the municipal tax assessments.

It is important to note, however, that if a landowner has recently moved but has not yet updated the municipality with their new address for property tax purposes, their current address will not be reflected accurately in the generated list. If this situation applies to anyone near the project, we urge you to please contact us directly to further update our mailing list and obtain the correct address.

3.3 Identifying Aboriginal Communities

To identify Aboriginal communities that may be affected by or have an interest in the project, Dominion Solar will research public information from the Ontario Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs (MAA) as well as other appropriate governmental and non-governmental agencies. These communities, as well as any other communities who express an interest in the project during the initial engagement period, will be added to the project mailing list and will be updated in the REA process, if applicable.

3.4 Meeting with Project Communities

In addition to the public community meeting, at least one meeting will be held with the project community in which the project will be located as part of the LRP I RFP

consultation process. For the Dominion Solar project, this community is the Municipality of Greater Sudbury. This first official meeting will be the culmination of several ongoing and prior discussions with municipal staff in various departments. The meeting will focus on the preliminary project design, summarizing project impacts and benefits, local concerns and sensitivities, and identifying how best to develop the project for the benefit of the community. Meeting notes will be documented and question responses and meeting minutes will be submitted to the community, as needed.

Consultation with the project community will be ongoing and collaborative. Community feedback will be taken into consideration in the project's design whenever possible.

A copy of this CEP will be provided directly to the Clerk of the project community.

3.5 Project Website

The project will have an up to date website to keep the public, and all interested stakeholders, informed of project updates and public information. The website for the project will be named: www.dominion-solar.com.

The following information will be posted on the project website:

- **Community Engagement Plan** – This CEP will be posted on the project website at least 15 days prior to the public meeting.
- **Project Information** – Mapping of the project area as well as other key information will be provided (this will be known as “site consideration information” to be consistent with LRP I RFP terminology). This will be posted on the project website at least 15 days prior to the public meeting.
- **Notice of Public Meeting** – A copy of the notice will be posted on the project website at least 15 days prior to the public meeting.
- **Meeting Summary Report** – This report will summarize the public meeting, including the information presented at the meeting and any handouts. Comments received from the public will be documented in this report. It is expected that this report will be posted on the project website within a few weeks of the public meeting.
- **Project Updates** – Key project development activities, milestones or updates will be posted on the project website.
- **Supplemental Information** – Any relevant information to address concerns or commentary would also be posted to the website. Such information could include studies or other relevant 3rd party information for stakeholders to review and consider.

In addition to the above materials, feedback opportunities will always be available and posted on our website for comments through email, mail or by phone.

3.6**Notification**

Information on the project and notification of key consultation activities will be distributed by the following means:

- **Newspaper notices** – two newspaper notices, on separate days, will be published at least 15 days prior to the first public meeting to inform the public of the planned meeting date and location and to announce the availability of project information on the project website.
- **Direct mailings** – Notices will be mailed to stakeholders on the mailing list.
- **Project website** – the project website will host and project updates or notices.

3.7**Public Community Meetings**

The public meeting will be held in the project community at a central and convenient location close to the project site. The meeting will be an "open house" style meeting to share information with the public and consult with stakeholders about issues of importance. The meeting will be held in the early evening, mid-week, to allow for maximum attendance. The format of the meeting will be casual to allow people to drop in at any point throughout the meeting to view information panels and to discuss the project directly with representatives of the project. Sufficient staff will be on hand to be able to converse with everyone who wishes to be engaged. Participants are encouraged to take the time to communicate and express any comments or concerns they might have about the project. Feedback forms will be available for attendees to complete and provide direct written feedback on the presented information as well.

The meeting will provide members of the public with an opportunity to view and discuss information about the project plans, discuss the project with other people and stakeholders in the community; and have any questions or concerns answered directly or with a later follow up. All information from the meeting will also be available on the project website.

Preliminary project information provided at the meeting will include:

- clear information on the proponent;
- details about the LRP process and associated timeline;
- descriptions of the project study area;
- preliminary environmental and social considerations;
- an overview of the REA process and other next steps; and
- any other relevant information specific to the project being proposed.

A meeting summary report will be prepared after the meeting to document and summarize the information presented, the number of attendees, and any relevant comments or questions that were raised, as well as any other relevant information. Copies of the summary report will also be posted on the project website and submitted to the municipal Clerk. Additional consultation engagements following the public meeting may also be scheduled, as needed.

4.0

LRP Consultation Schedule

An overview of the overall timeline for consultation activities during the LRP I RFP process is provided in **Figure 2**. The dates for stakeholder engagement activities are general and subject to change pending further project development following the preparation of this document, feedback from stakeholders, and other factors such as updated information from the IESO.

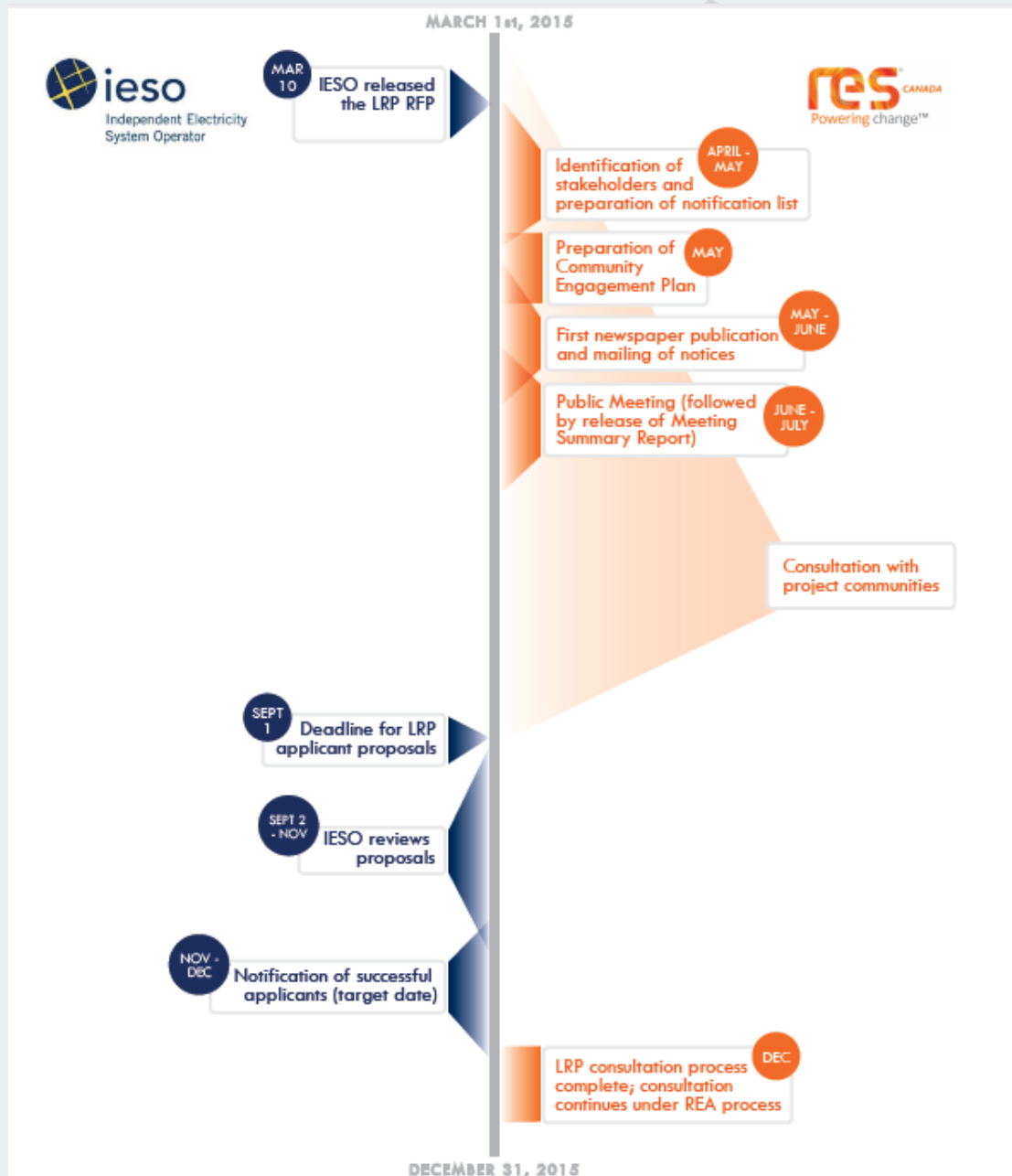


FIGURE 2: LRP CONSULTATION SCHEDULE

Renewable Energy Approval Process

If the project receives a contract from the IESO, it will move into the REA process for environmental assessment. Ontario Regulation 359/09 guides this process and specifies the reporting and consultation activities required. A REA application will be made to the MOECC, which will review the application and will ultimately make a determination on the approval of the project.

The REA process is a more exhaustive review of the final project design spanning some 12 to 18 months, and as a result, the consultation under REA is more thorough than the initial consultation conducted during the LRP process. A complete REA application submission to the MOECC includes, among other information, the following detailed reports:

- Project Description Report
- Construction Plan Report
- Design and Operations Report
- Consultation Report
- Decommissioning Plan Report
- Noise Study Report
- Natural Heritage Assessment
 - Records Review Report
 - Site Investigation Report
 - Evaluation of Significance Report (if required)
 - Environmental Impact Study (if required)
- Water Reports
 - Water Assessment Records Review Report
 - Water Assessment Site Investigation Report
 - Water Body Report (if required)
- Property Line Setback Report (if required)
- Archaeological Assessments
- Cultural Heritage Screening and/or Cultural Heritage Assessment (if required)
- Solar module Specification Report (if required)

In order to produce these reports a significant amount of data collection, fieldwork, noise modeling and consultation is undertaken to assess all potential project impacts. The project layout is then revised to minimize potential adverse impacts and appropriate mitigation and/or monitoring measures are proposed, if needed.

Stakeholder notification requirements under Ontario Regulation 359/09 are similar to those of the LRP process (as listed in **Section 3.1** above) but not identical. The consultation begun under the LRP I RFP process is expanded upon under the REA

process, and at least two more public meetings are required with ever increasingly detailed information on project development, as well as various other notifications. The MOECC, in their *Technical Guide to Renewable Energy Approvals (2013)*, provides an overview figure of the REA consultation process (see **Figure 3** below). The figure identifies the consultation timelines of the REA regulation. The detailed process ensures that stakeholders are provided with notifications and project information well in advance of the public meetings, and are given numerous opportunities for input.

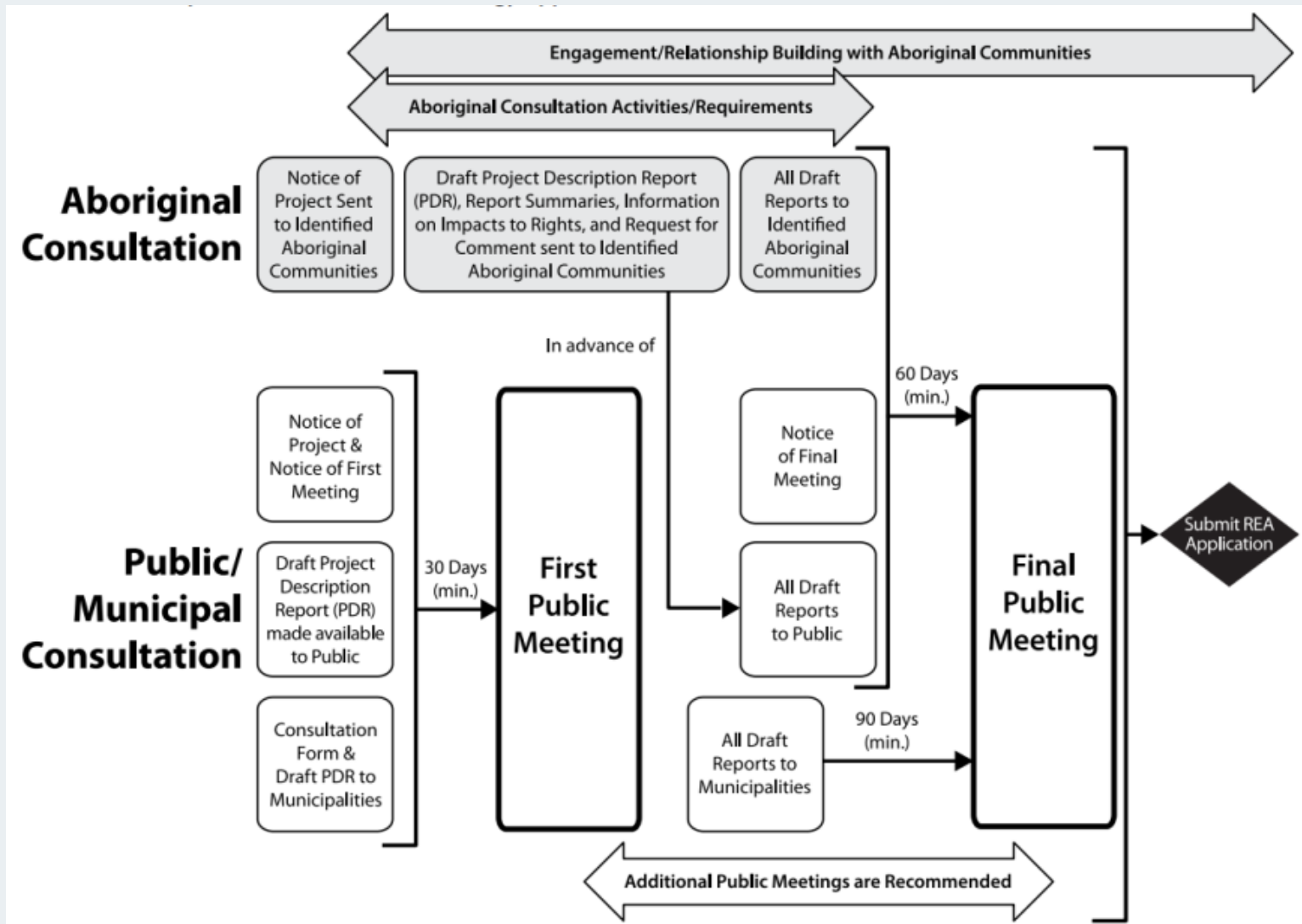
The REA consultation process begins with a mailing to stakeholders and a newspaper notice informing the public of an upcoming public meeting. At the same time a project description report is released for stakeholder review. This preliminary report provides an overview of the project details available at that time, including a more refined project boundary than that presented in the LRP process, as well as a summary of potential impacts and mitigation measures. Aboriginal and municipal consultation also continues in more detail at this stage, and continues throughout the REA process. All of these requirements will be followed and public information for the project will continue to be posted on the project website.

The first of two public meetings is held at least thirty days after the release of the project description report and presents more in depth project plans and designs as well as field studies that have been, or will be, initiated for the project. Following the first public meeting, input gathered from community members will be considered in the planning of the project and adjustments to the project development will be made.

A number of field studies will then be undertaken (such as wildlife, archaeology and natural heritage) and all of the technical reports will be prepared. A mailing to stakeholders and a newspaper notice will inform the public of a second public meeting, and that the draft REA reports are available for review. The reports will be available at the municipal office, on the project website, and at one or more additional locations of convenience to the public (e.g., local library). At least sixty days after the release of the draft reports a second public meeting will be held to present the results of all of the studies and to further engage the public on the revised design of the project based on the results of the detailed project information.

Consultation activities and feedback received from stakeholders will then be summarized in a final consultation report. This outlines how stakeholder input has influenced the project and how the proponent has fulfilled the consultation requirements under Ontario Regulation 359/09. This consultation report will be reviewed by the MOECC along with all other technical reports, which are submitted in a REA application approximately a month after the second public meeting.

FIGURE 3: REA CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS



Stakeholder consultation under the REA process will be approached with the same principles of open engagement as under the LRP I RFP process. A tentative schedule has been provided for context in **Table 1**. It is noted that the proposed project schedule below is subject to change as the process evolves and feedback is received.

TABLE 1: TENTATIVE REA SCHEDULE

Date	Activity
January 2016	REA process is expected to begin
Q1 2016	First Notice of Proposal and Notice of Public Meeting #1 is posted in the newspapers and mailed to stakeholders. The Draft Project Description Report is made available.
Q2 2016	First REA Public Meeting
Q3 2016	Completion of field studies and reporting
Q4 2016	Notice of Draft REA Documents Release and Notice of Public Meeting #2 is posted in the newspapers and mailed to stakeholders. All draft REA reports are available to the public for review.
Q1 2017	Second Public Meeting
Q1/Q2 2017	A REA application is submitted to the MOECC
Q2/Q3 2017	The REA application is deemed complete and is posted on the Environmental Bill of Rights Registry for public review. The MOECC begins a technical review.
Q3/Q4 2017	MOE technical review of REA application finishes
Q1/Q2 2018	If successful, the MOECC issues a Renewable Energy Approval
Q2/Q3 2018	All other permits are received and construction begins

Appendix A

Relevant IESO LRP RFP Definitions

LRP Terminology	LRP Definition
Aboriginal Community	A First Nation or Métis Community
Abuts	Means in respect of two (2) or more Properties, Properties that have a common border or boundary or are only separated from such common border or boundary by a right-of-way (other than a right-of-way in respect of which the owner, lessee, occupant or resident of one of such Properties has a property interest) having a width, at any point of not greater than fifteen (15) metres. For greater certainty, Properties separated by “highways” (as defined in the <i>Highway Traffic Act</i> , RSO 1990, c H.8) or “railways” (as defined in the <i>Canada Transportation Act</i> , SC 1996 c 10) do not Abut.
First Nation Community	<p>(a) a First Nation in Ontario that is a “band” as defined in the Indian Act, RSC 1985, c I-5;</p> <p>(b) a Person, other than a Natural Person, that has previously been determined by the Government of Ontario to represent the collective interests of a community that is composed of Aboriginal Natural Persons in Ontario, excluding Persons who form a Métis Community; or</p> <p>(c) a Person, other than a Natural Person, that is determined by the Government of Ontario for the purposes of this LRP I RFP to represent the collective interests of a community that is composed of Aboriginal Natural Persons in Ontario, excluding Persons who form a Métis Community.</p>
Local Municipality	Means any corporation that is a “local municipality” as defined in and for the purposes of the <i>Municipal Act</i> , 2001, SO 2001, c 25. (Note: the <i>Municipal Act</i> defines “local municipality” to mean a lower-tier or single-tier municipality).
Project Community	<p>(a) any Local Municipality in whose boundaries the Large Renewable Project or the proposed Connection Line is to be located, in whole or in part; and</p> <p>(b) any First Nation Community on whose First Nation Lands the Large Renewable Project or the proposed Connection Line is to be located, in whole or in part.</p> <p>For greater clarity, where a Project or the proposed Connection Line is to be located, in whole or in part, on one or more Property(ies) that fall within both (a) and (b) above, then each of the Local Municipality(ies) and the First Nation Community(ies) shall be considered Project Communities.</p>
Property	Means a parcel or lot of real property as identified by a Property Identification Number or, in the absence thereof, by another legal description by lot and/or parcel number or similar legal description or by other appropriate description using metes and bounds or GPS coordinates. In the case of provincial crown lands, property means a grid cell. Grid cells are grid areas of between 45 to 65 hectares each that the Province of Ontario has been divided into for the purposes of applying for wind projects located on crown land.