



February 9, 2010

VIA MAIL AND EMAIL

Mr. Harold N. Kvisle
President and CEO
TransCanada Corporation
450 - 1 Street SW
Calgary AB T2P 5H1

Dear Mr. Kvisle:

Re: Proposed Oakville Gas-Powered Electricity Generating Station ("Proposal")

As you know, C4CA is a non-profit organization that represents the interests of key stakeholders with respect to the Proposal. C4CA's members are key stakeholders, as C4CA includes residents and representatives of the residents' associations throughout the area that would be most directly impacted by the Proposal.

C4CA and its members continue to be **shocked and disappointed by the actions being taken by TransCanada to proceed as quickly as possible** with the Proposal, without proper regard for the impacts on the environment and the local communities. We hope and trust this is not being done with the support or approval of the Ontario government, particularly in light of the location of the Proposal, which is immediately adjacent to longstanding, well-established residential areas, including many schools and houses. As you know, the Proposal would be as close as 300 metres from a school and only 400 metres from houses.

In addition to the flawed process that resulted in the proposed site being selected by the Ontario Power Authority, which must be reviewed and reassessed, the size and location of the Proposal clearly requires a proper environmental assessment process to identify and assess potential environmental effects. **TransCanada has clearly indicated, including on its website, that it is committed to meeting or exceeding "all environmental regulatory requirements"**, including provincial, federal and North American standards. Clearly, this means that, at a minimum, **there must be an individual environmental assessment for the Proposal**. Proceeding quickly to maximize profits or to meet an artificial deadline is not acceptable, and would be inconsistent with TransCanada's public statements about its principles and concerns for the environment and the public.

TransCanada has also clearly stated that "stakeholder review and input are integral to the process", and that "impact to people and the environment will be vigorously studied". Despite

these words, the process that TransCanada is following and its actions to date do not respect key stakeholders, such as our members, and the impacts that will be suffered by them and the environment. We were initially concerned that there would not be proper studies and assessment of the Proposal, and our worst fears have come true. It is clear that TransCanada has no plan to have appropriate studies conducted, let alone vigorous studies. **For there to be proper studies, there must be sufficient and appropriate time, resources and public consultation to ensure the proper independent and objective assessment of the potential impacts**, particularly to the key stakeholders most directly affected. A one-sided analysis of such important issues is clearly not appropriate or acceptable.

The Proposal is far too large and complex for its potential effects to be considered as a part of a screening/environmental review process, particularly given the proposed location. This is not only obvious from a common sense perspective, but has been confirmed by the massive draft environmental review report ("ERR") that has been released by TransCanada. Although the draft ERR has likely been developed over the course of many months by dozens of consultants and TransCanada employees, TransCanada's self-assessment process provides for a 30 day review of a draft report, followed by a final ERR that would be available for review for 75 days. This is clearly not appropriate or acceptable.

Transparency and public consultation are the cornerstones of environmental assessment. There has been no transparency or public consultation to date. Instead, TransCanada has simply made available massive amounts of information, such as the draft ERR, in a very controlled manner. TransCanada has not provided the information, time, resources or public consultation that are needed to properly assess the potential impacts of the Proposal. This has been done at the same time that TransCanada and its subcontractors have made it clear in public statements that the Proposal is proceeding, which confirms that the screening/environmental review is a mere formality, which TransCanada appears intent on completing without any public consultation. As such, key stakeholders, including our members, have been forced to address this wholly unacceptable situation, despite the commitments by TransCanada referred to above.

TransCanada held two information sessions before the site was selected, which clearly do not constitute public consultation. Almost two months after the OPA's announcement that the Ford site had been selected by it, TransCanada held one closed-door, by invitation only, information session on November 24, 2009. This was clearly not public consultation. TransCanada tightly controlled the agenda, and would not allow residents or even a local member of Parliament to attend. TransCanada imposed strict rules that attendees had to accept if they wanted to attend, and despite indicating that it was taping the meeting, refused to provide a transcript.

At no time has TransCanada even attempted to consult with key stakeholders about how public consultation should occur, and no public consultation has occurred. At the November 24 meeting, representatives of C4CA stated that there must be proper public consultation, and not simply the unilateral provision of information by TransCanada. TransCanada has ignored this, and simply announced, less than a week beforehand, that there would be a "media briefing and open house" on February 10. The media advisory indicated that

TransCanada would answer questions about the draft ERR, which is an extraordinarily complex document containing almost 2000 pages that was only made available the week before.

In the circumstances, the lack of public consultation, and the incredible control being exerted by TransCanada to expedite the process, are obvious. As you know, for example, a simple request by C4CA to have a table at the February 10 open house was denied by TransCanada, which sent an email stating "Upon reflection and discussion, I confirm that we are not in a position to provide space for a table for C4CA in the main lobby at the Oakville Conference Centre". Further, we understand that TransCanada has tied up all available space at the conference centre, thereby preventing us from having space for our members. TransCanada may see this process as a game, in which it moves pieces around the board, but that is not the case. **The massive size of the Proposal and its location make this deadly serious for our members, a fact that was brought home by the explosion at an even smaller gas-powered electricity plant that occurred two days ago, and which resulted in deaths, serious injuries and property damage.**

Our members, and other key stakeholders, are extremely frustrated and disappointed by the impossible situation they have been placed in by TransCanada. Although this open house is not public consultation, our members and others have to attend, because at this time, they have no alternative. They are literally trying, against all odds, to protect the environment, and the health and safety of local residents, including those who live and attend school within a few hundred metres of the Proposal.

We trust that TransCanada will honour its commitments, including to the local communities, and engage in a proper environmental assessment with full public consultation. By copy of this letter to the Premier, the Minister of Environment, the Minister of Energy and Infrastructure, and the OPA, we hope that government of Ontario will intervene and put a stop to this unacceptable process, which otherwise would result in a very negative legacy for many decades to come.

Yours truly,



D. G. MacKenzie
President
C4CA

Cc:
Premier Dalton McGuinty
Hon. John Gerretsen, Minister of the Environment
Hon. Brad Duguid, Minister of Energy and Infrastructure
Mr. Colin Anderson, CEO OPA