



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the Committee of the Whole

From: Ken Doherty, Director of Community Services

Meeting Date: October 17, 2016

Subject: Report CSD16-026
Request for Municipal Council Support Resolution Letter for
a Hydroelectric Generating Project at Lock 19

Purpose

A report to request a Municipal Council Support Resolution Letter for a hydroelectric generating project at Lock 19.

Recommendation

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report CSD16-026 dated October 17, 2016 of the Director of Community Services, as follows:

That a by-law be passed to authorize the Mayor and the Clerk to execute a Municipal Council Support Resolution Letter, on behalf of Council, for a hydroelectric generating project Feed-In-Tariff application at Lock 19.

Budget and Financial Implications

There are no budgetary or financial implications associated with the execution of this report.

Background

Minimizing the amount of energy used while maximizing the production of local, dependable sources of renewable energy is one of the goals outlined in the Greater Peterborough Area Community Sustainability Plan. Supporting renewable energy projects within the City of Peterborough is one action that can help achieve this directive.

A further action outlined in the City of Peterborough's Climate Change Action Plan is to facilitate low carbon energy generation and local energy security. This action encourages supporting the implementation of local renewable energy generation and storage, as a means to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Supporting the generation of renewable energy can reduce the City of Peterborough's Community Sector greenhouse gas contributions by 3.8%.

Feed-In-Tariff

Council continues to encourage further development of local, renewable energy by adoption of Report CSD12-028 on September 4, 2012 and By-law 12-129 on September 10, 2012. The report and the associated by-law authorized the Mayor and the Clerk to execute Municipal Council Support Resolution Letters, on behalf of Council, for rooftop solar photovoltaic projects in the City of Peterborough. Renewable energy projects outside of rooftop solar photovoltaic are to be presented to Council for their consideration.

The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO), formerly the Ontario Power Authority (OPA) developed the Feed-In-Tariff (FIT) Program to encourage and promote renewable energy sources for electricity generation in Ontario. To facilitate a competitive and transparent process, FIT applications are required to strengthen their applications by securing priority points. The easiest method of gaining two priority points is to request the host municipality to grant a Municipal Council Support Resolution Letter for the project. The more priority points received, the higher the application jumps the queue.

Lock 19 proposal

Parks Canada plans on rebuilding Lock 19 - Scotts Mills Dam at an estimated cost of approximately \$30 million. Natel Energy Inc. has partnered with Parks Canada to include a 500 kW hydroelectric project estimated at \$5 million, during the rebuilding of Lock 19. Although the project has not yet been designed, Natel Energy Inc. must submit a FIT application to IESO in advance of the project in order to receive a contract award.

If the project is awarded a FIT contract, the hydroelectric generation design will then be incorporated into the Canadian Environmental Assessment process that Parks Canada is required to undertake for this project. The entire redesign of Lock 19, including the hydroelectric generating facility, will all be located on land currently owned by Parks Canada.

Summary

By supporting and encouraging the development of renewable energy within the City of Peterborough, Council will help to boost local economic activity and the development of local, renewable energy. These are two goals of the Greater Peterborough Area Community Sustainable Plan and actions identified in the Climate Change Action Plan to reduce our greenhouse gas reduction targets.

Submitted by,

Ken Doherty,
Director of Community Services

Contact Name:

Melanie Kawalec,
Sustainability Manager
Phone: 705-742-7777 Ext. 1441
Toll Free: 1-855-738-3755
Email: MKawalec@peterborough.ca