

## NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF A SCREENING OF THE PROPOSED NATURAL GAS-FIRED TURBINE UPGRADE PROJECT

Thorold Cogen L.P. (TCLP) is proposing to modify its existing natural gas-fired electrical generating station (the Proposed Undertaking) in Thorold, Ontario. The existing facility is located alongside the Welland Canal at 90 Allanburg Road in Thorold, Ontario (see map).

Under Ontario Regulation 116/01 (also referred to as the “Electricity Projects Regulation”), made under the *Environmental Assessment Act*, certain electricity projects must be reviewed in accordance with the Environmental Screening Process. The Proposed Undertaking has been reviewed according to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment (now the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)) *Guide to Environmental Assessment for Electricity Projects (Guide)* (January 2011), Category B Environmental Screening Process.

The Proposed Undertaking is subject to an Environmental Screening as it is categorized as a “Significant Modification” because the facility’s output will increase approximately 23 megawatts (MW), from a nominal 265 MW to 288 MW. Any natural gas-fired electrical generating facility increasing its output by more than 5 MW is subject to this Environmental Screening Process.

On a daily basis, TCLP responds to dispatch instructions it receives from the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO), operating when directed to do so and selling its energy into the provincial electricity grid. The IESO is looking to address forecasted electricity supply shortages and the Proposed Undertaking is intended to help meet that need. TCLP utilizes a General Electric (GE) gas turbine as its main combustion unit, and GE offers an upgrade package which allows the gas turbine to run more efficiently and increases its energy output. The gas turbine upgrade package involves exchanging many components (rotating vanes, burners and control software) within the engine package itself, but no other construction work is required at the site and no outdoor work is needed.

TCLP, and Northland Power Inc. as facility Manager and Operator, have retained Arcadis Canada Inc. to undertake the Environmental Screening. For more information on the TCLP Natural Gas-Fired Turbine Upgrade Project please contact:

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As required by Ontario Regulation 116/01 the Proposed Undertaking has been reviewed according to the *Guide*, Category B Environmental Screening Process and according to the MECP’s Areas of Interest, which culminated in the completion of a Project Description and Environmental Screening Report (Report). Among other issues the Report identifies that there will not be any significant environmental effects associated with the project that cannot be mitigated. The Report outlines TCLP’s plan to proceed with the proposed project and amend the facility’s Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA). In accordance with the *Guide* the proponent is to provide a 30-day inspection period of the Report. TCLP is hereby notifying the public that the Report is available for public review from August 2<sup>nd</sup> to September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 and is available at: <https://www.northlandpower.com/en/assets-and-infrastructure/thorold.aspx>.

Any outstanding environmental concerns pertaining to the proposed project must be received no later than September 4, 2023, at the address or e-mail of one or both of the two individuals identified above.

In the event that any outstanding environmental concerns cannot be resolved with TCLP during the 30-day review period the public can request a higher level of assessment on a project if they have outstanding environmental concerns. The Director of the MECP’s Environmental Assessment Branch (contact information below) must receive the elevation request no later than September 4, 2023. A copy of the request must also be sent to one or both of the individuals representing TCLP.

Director, Environmental Assessment Branch  
Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
135 St. Clair Ave. W, 1st Floor  
Toronto ON, M4V 1P5  
E-mail: [EABDirector@ontario.ca](mailto:EABDirector@ontario.ca)

For more information on the Environmental Screening Process and environmental assessment requirements for Electricity Projects, please visit the following link: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/guide-environmental-assessment-requirements-electricity-projects>.

Through the Environmental Screening Process, TCLP is committed to consulting with the respective Indigenous peoples, the public, government agencies, and other interested stakeholders about the Proposed Undertaking. Input and comments will be considered and included in the preparation of the Environmental Screening Report.

More information about the project can be obtained from the project website: <https://www.northlandpower.com/en/assets-and-infrastructure/thorold.aspx>.

The personal information that you provide to us will be used for the purpose of communicating and consulting with you about Environmental Screening Process for the Proposed Undertaking and will be used to create a public record as required by the *Environmental Assessment Act*, and as permitted under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. The public record, including your personal information, will be available to the general public unless you request that your personal information remain confidential.