

Strategies and Options Committee progress report

January 4, 2017

The committee met 10 times between August 23 and December 20, 2016 and performed the following activities:

1. Chose “Strategies and Options Committee” as the name of the committee over its original name (“Transaction Committee”), to communicate that the committee was not biased as between the buy, sell, merge and retain full ownership of Guelph Hydro options.
2. Provided committee members with context on Guelph Hydro, past and current consolidation activity in the Ontario electricity sector, and Province of Ontario and Ontario Energy Board policy with respect to consolidation of local distribution companies.
3. Monitored ongoing consolidation activity across the province as it occurred.
4. Developed a high-level phased work plan for the committee’s work including a more detailed work plan for work to be conducted over 2016 and early 2017.
5. Developed an education and stakeholder engagement plan for its work and developed stakeholder consultation materials.
6. Began implementing its education and engagement plan. Announced the work of the committee, met with Guelph Hydro employees to gather questions and comments, began advertising opportunities to learn more, ask questions and submit comments, launched energizingtomorrow.ca and began responding to questions and comments from community members.
7. Retained an experienced financial advisor to conduct indicative financial modelling on the buy, sell and merge options, in order to help assess the potential financial impacts of the options on Guelph Hydro ratepayers and the City of Guelph in its capacity as shareholder of Guelph Hydro.
8. Began to develop a report to Council outlining the committee’s findings to date on the buy, sell, merge and retain full ownership options and proposing next steps, and planned for those next steps pending Council approval.
9. Briefed the Guelph Hydro board, Guelph Hydro employees and City of Guelph Councillors on the work of the committee to date.