

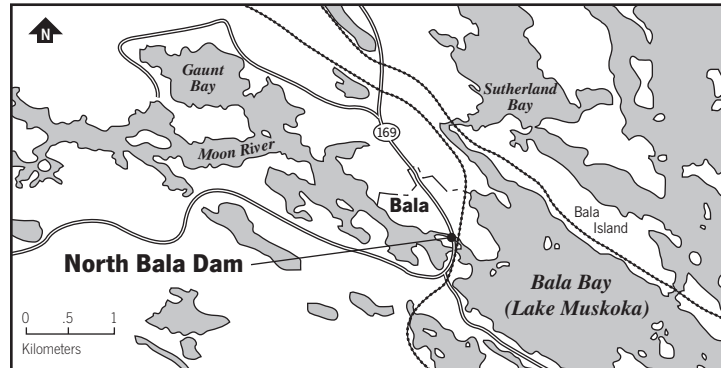
Appendix D
Consultation

D1 Notice of Commencement 2006

Notice of Commencement Environmental Screening North Bala Dam Hydroelectric Project

Swift River Energy Limited (Swift River) is proposing the construction of a 3 to 4MW run-of-the-river hydroelectric facility at the North Bala Dam. The proposed project will be governed by the existing water level rule curves for Lake Muskoka as outlined in the draft Water Management Plan for the Muskoka River System.

The map below indicates the location of the proposed development.



The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) has selected Swift River as the Applicant of Record through competitive site release under the Waterpower Site Release and Development Review Policy. The project is subject to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE) Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects required under Regulation 116/01 of the Environmental Assessment Act as well as assessment under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA). The screening process will be conducted so as to meet the substantive information and consultation requirements of the MNR's Water Management Planning Guidelines for Waterpower.

Hatch Acres has been retained by Swift River to undertake the environmental screening process for the project. Comments and/or questions concerning any aspect of the proposed project are welcomed and should be directed to:

Murray McFarlane
Hatch Acres
4342 Queen Street
P.O. Box 1001, Niagara Falls, ON
L2E 6W1
Phone: 905 374 5200 ext 5472; Fax: 905 374 1157
Email: MMcFarlane@hatchacres.com

Public Information Centres will be scheduled to be held in Bala and Toronto during the summer of 2006. The dates and venues will be published in local newspapers once the details are finalized.

Information will be collected and used in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. This material will be maintained on file for use during the study and may be included in project documentation. With the exception of personal information all comments will become part of the public record.



Hatch Acres Incorporated
4342 Queen Street, P. O. Box 1001, Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada L2E 6W1
Tel: 905-374-5200 • Fax: 905-374-1157 • www.hatchacres.com

March 8, 2006
File No.

Address

Salutation:

Subject: North Bala Dam Hydroelectric Project

Swift River Energy Limited (Swift River) is proposing the construction of a 3 - 4MW run-of-the-river hydroelectric facility at the North Bala Dam. The proposed project will be governed by the water level rule curves for Lake Muskoka as outlined in the draft Water Management Plan for the Muskoka River System.

Swift River was selected as the Applicant of Record through competitive site release under the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) Waterpower Site Release and Development Review Policy. The project is subject to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE) Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects required under Regulation 116/01 of the Environmental Assessment Act, as well as assessment under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA). The screening process will also be conducted so as to meet the substantive information and consultation requirements of the MNR's Water Management Planning Guidelines for Waterpower. The latter is a new requirement of MNR's planning policies and procedures for waterpower. Other permits and approvals will be required from various municipal, provincial and federal authorities.

Hatch Acres has been retained by Swift River to undertake the environmental screening process for the project. To assist our study, we ask that you provide us with any comments, concerns or background information relevant to this undertaking. For our records, we require a written response from your agency/organization. For your information, we have attached a copy of the 'Notice of Commencement' scheduled for publication in *Muskoka Today*, the *Bracebridge Examiner* and the *Gravenhurst Banner*.

If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned at (905) 374-0701 ext. 5472 or by email at MMcFarlane@Hatchacres.com.

Sincerely,

Murray McFarlane
Manager, Small Hydro
Hatch Acres

Initials
cc Copies to

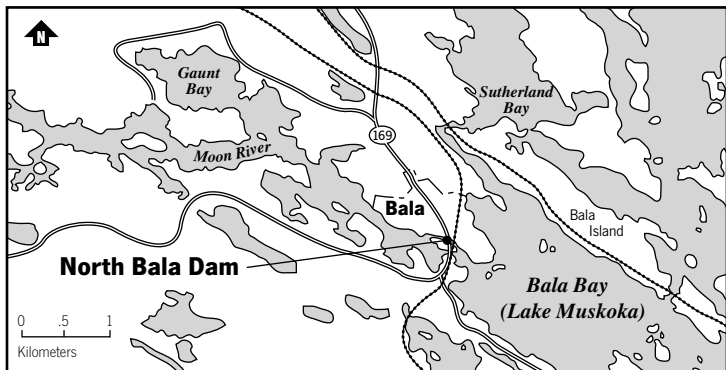
Encl/Attach

D2 Notice of Commencement 2007

Notice of Commencement Environmental Screening North Bala Dam Hydroelectric Project

Swift River Energy Limited Partnership (Swift River) is proposing the construction of a 3 to 4MW run-of-the-river hydroelectric facility at the North Bala Dam. The proposed project will be governed by the existing water level rule curves for Lake Muskoka as outlined in the Water Management Plan for the Muskoka River System.

The map below indicates the location of the proposed development.



The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) has selected Swift River as the Applicant of Record through competitive site release under the Waterpower Site Release and Development Review Policy. The project is subject to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE) Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects required under Regulation 116/01 of the Environmental Assessment Act as well as assessment under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA). The screening process will be conducted so as to meet the substantive information and consultation requirements of the MNR's Water Management Planning Guidelines for Waterpower.

Hatch Ltd. (formerly Hatch Acres) has been retained by Swift River to undertake the environmental screening process for the project. Comments and/or questions concerning any aspect of the proposed project are welcomed and should be directed to:

Trion Clarke
Hatch Ltd.
4342 Queen Street
P.O. Box 1001, Niagara Falls, ON
L2E 6W1
Phone: 905 374 5200 ext 5298; Fax: 905 374 1157
Email: tclarke@hatch.ca

Public Information Centres will be scheduled to be held in Bala in 2007. The dates and venues will be published in local newspapers once the details are finalized. A Notice of Commencement for this project originally appeared in this newspaper in March 2006.

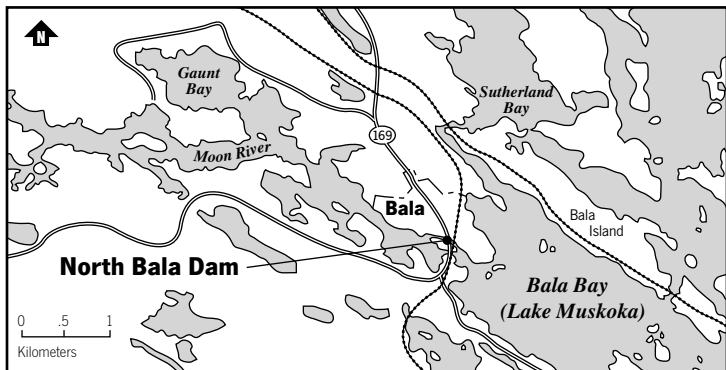
Information will be collected and used in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. This material will be maintained on file for use during the study and may be included in project documentation. With the exception of personal information all comments will become part of the public record.

**D3 Notice of Commencement
to Additional Stakeholders
December 2007**

Notice of Commencement Environmental Screening North Bala Dam Hydroelectric Project

Swift River Energy Limited Partnership (Swift River) is proposing the construction of a 3 to 4MW run-of-the-river hydroelectric facility at the North Bala Dam. The proposed project will be governed by the existing water level rule curves for Lake Muskoka as outlined in the Water Management Plan for the Muskoka River System.

The map below indicates the location of the proposed development.



The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) has selected Swift River as the Applicant of Record through competitive site release under the Waterpower Site Release and Development Review Policy. The project is subject to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE) Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects required under Regulation 116/01 of the Environmental Assessment Act as well as assessment under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA). The screening process will be conducted so as to meet the substantive information and consultation requirements of the MNR's Water Management Planning Guidelines for Waterpower.

Hatch Ltd. (formerly Hatch Acres) has been retained by Swift River to undertake the environmental screening process for the project. Comments and/or questions concerning any aspect of the proposed project are welcomed and should be directed to:

Trion Clarke
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Public Information Centres will be scheduled to be held in Bala in 2007. The dates and venues will be published in local newspapers once the details are finalized. A Notice of Commencement for this project originally appeared in this newspaper in March 2006.

Information will be collected and used in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. This material will be maintained on file for use during the study and may be included in project documentation. With the exception of personal information all comments will become part of the public record.

December 5, 2007
327078.60.01

Stakeholder
Address

Attention: Stakeholder

Dear Stakeholder:

Subject: North Bala Hydroelectric Project

Swift River Energy Limited Partnership (Swift River) is proposing the construction of a 3 to 4Megawatt (MW) run-of-the-river hydroelectric facility at the North Bala Dam. The proposed waterpower project will be governed by the existing prescribed water level ranges for Lake Muskoka as outlined in the Water Management Plan for the Muskoka River System.

Swift River was selected as the Applicant of Record through competitive site release under the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) Waterpower Site Release and Development Review Policy. The project is subject to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE) Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects required under Regulation 116/01 of the Environmental Assessment Act, as well as assessment under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA). The screening process will also be conducted so as to meet the substantive information and consultation requirements of the MNR's Water Management Planning Guidelines for Waterpower.

Hatch Energy has been retained by Swift River to undertake the environmental screening process for the project. Recent public consultation activities already conducted as part of the environmental assessment process include the re-publication of a notices of commencement in the *Bracebridge Examiner* and the *Muskoka Today* newspapers during the week of August 6, 2007 and a preliminary Public Information Centre (Open House) in Bala on August 29, 2007.

At least one additional PIC will be held when more details concerning the project are available. As the environmental assessment proceeds, we will notify you of any future consultation activities for this proposed project. There is a website (www.balafalls.ca) which is maintained by Swift River Energy, where you may obtain additional information on the proposed project.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at tclarke@hatchenergy.com or by telephone at 905-374-0701 ext 5298.

Yours very truly,



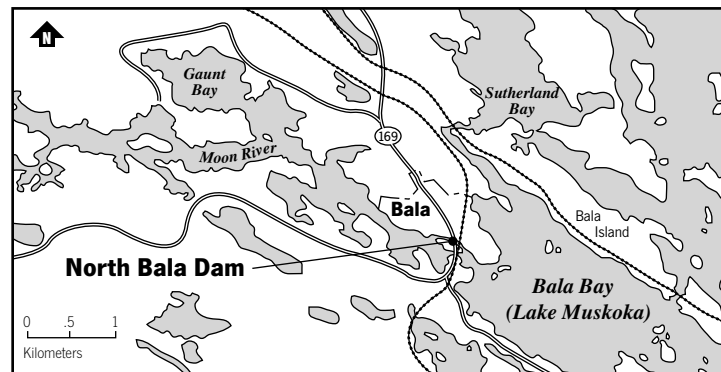
Trion Clarke
Senior Environmental Scientist

**D4 Notice of Public Information
Centre 2007**

Public Information Centre (Open House) North Bala Hydro Project

Swift River Energy Limited Partnership (Swift River) is proposing the construction of a 3 to 4MW run-of-the-river hydroelectric facility at the North Bala Dam. The proposed project will be governed by the existing water level rule curves for Lake Muskoka as outlined in the Water Management Plan for the Muskoka River System.

The map below indicates the location of the proposed development.



The project is subject to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE) Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects required under Regulation 116/01 of the Environmental Assessment Act as well as assessment under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA). The screening process will also be conducted to meet the requirements of the MNR's Water Management Planning Guidelines for Waterpower.

This Public Information Centre (Open House) is being held to provide preliminary information on the proposed project.

Date: Wednesday, August 29, 2007
Time: 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Location: Bala Community Centre

Please note that a second open house will be held later during the environmental screening phase when more project details become available.

Information will be collected and used in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, and solely for the purpose of assisting the proponent in meeting environmental assessment and local planning requirements. This material will be maintained on file for use during the study and may be included in project documentation. All comments will become part of the public record.

For more information, please contact:



Trion Clarke, Senior Environmental Scientist
Hatch Energy
4342 Queen Street, Box 1001 Niagara Falls,
Ontario L2E 6W1
Phone: 905 374 0701 ext: 5298
Fax: 905 374 1157
Email: tclarke@hatchenergy.com

August 14, 2007
327078.601.03

Subject: North Bala Hydro Project

Swift River Energy Limited Partnership (Swift River) is proposing the construction of a 3- to 4-MW run-of-the-river hydroelectric facility at the North Bala Dam. The proposed waterpower project will be governed by the existing prescribed water level ranges for Lake Muskoka as outlined in the Water Management Plan for the Muskoka River System.

Swift River was selected as the Applicant of Record through competitive site release under the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) Waterpower Site Release and Development Review Policy. The project is subject to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE) Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects required under Regulation 116/01 of the Environmental Assessment Act, as well as assessment under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA). The screening process will also be conducted so as to meet the substantive information and consultation requirements of the MNR's Water Management Planning Guidelines for Waterpower. Hatch Energy has been retained by Swift River to undertake the environmental screening process for the project. As part of the public consultation process, a preliminary Public Information Centre (PIC) will be held at the Bala Community Centre on Wednesday, August 29, 2007.

This letter serves as your invitation to attend this PIC, which will serve to introduce the proposed project. For your information, we have attached a copy of the PIC Notice which will be published in the *Bracebridge Examiner* and the *Muskoka Today* newspapers during the weeks of August 13 and 20, respectively. The notice provides further details on the PIC.

At least one additional PIC will be held when more details concerning the project are available. As the environmental assessment proceeds, we will notify you of any future consultation activities for this proposed project.

Yours very truly,



Trion Clarke
Senior Environmental Scientist
Email: tclarke@hatchenergy.com

TC:srg
Attachment

D5 Public Information Centre



North Bala

HYDRO PROJECT



Purpose of this Preliminary Public Information Centre

1. Receive comments from the public.
2. Provide opportunity for discussion with representatives of Swift River Energy and Hatch Energy.
3. Introduce project to the public prior to the end of the 2007 summer cottage season.

Please Note: This is the first of two Public Information Centres.

The second Information Centre will be held next year when more details of the project are available.



North Bala HYDRO PROJECT



The Project Team



Who is Swift River Energy?

Swift River Energy Limited (SRE) was founded in 2004 to develop new hydro facilities in Ontario. It is owned by a consortium of senior, experienced developers and financiers. SRE calls upon the expertise of its four founders who have built other power plants in Ontario, developed over 6 million square feet of office space in the Toronto commercial market, and held executive positions in a number of Ontario firms. SRE's Chief Operating Officer is currently Chairman of the Ontario Waterpower Association, and he was founder and President of the firm that built the Misema small hydro plant in Englehart, Ontario.

SRE is providing the necessary financing for this project. Its partners are cognizant of the sensitivity of the Bala area as a tourist, cottage and environmentally sensitive area. Three of its four founders are long-term area cottagers, and one has recently served as cottage association President downstream of the project. They bring a heightened awareness of the special and unique needs of this project. SRE is pleased to have selected Hatch Energy for engineering, environmental screening and project management, and have enlisted Bracebridge Generation, owners of a number of small hydro plants in the area, including the recent and successful High Falls expansion, as advisors and future operators for this plant.



Who is Hatch Energy?

Since 1924, Hatch Energy (formerly Acres International), has provided its clients with imaginative and practical engineering and management solutions in the hydroelectric field out of its Niagara Falls, Ontario office and other office locations. Hatch Energy has extensive experience in the design and construction of new waterpower facilities in addition to the redevelopment and expansion of existing ones. Recent accomplishments included design, environmental assessment and project management services for the 3-MW Misema Generating Station located in Englehart, Ontario.

These engineering services have taken many forms, tailored to satisfy clients' needs, including services required for the execution and implementation of the North Bala hydro project.

Hatch Energy previously completed the dam safety assessment of the Bala dams for MNR, and the Water Management Plan for the Muskoka River System.

Bracebridge Generation LTD.

Who is Bracebridge Generation?

Swift River Energy has entered into an understanding with Bracebridge Generation Ltd. to operate the North Bala power project, including the powerhouse and dam structure.

Bracebridge Generation Ltd. has been in operation since 1894. Bracebridge Generation Ltd., a locally owned and operated firm, is a subsidiary company of Lakeland Holding Ltd. whose shareholders include the municipalities of Bracebridge, Burk's Falls, Huntsville, Magnetawan and Sundridge. Their current assets include four hydro generation facilities in the Bracebridge area.

Bracebridge Generation's services include the generation of environmentally friendly local electricity, while maintaining a high degree of safety and operating standards.



North Bala

HYDRO PROJECT



Why Build a Waterpower Project?

- Waterpower: Ontario's natural energy source. For the past century, waterpower has been providing clean, renewable, made-in-Ontario energy - with no emissions of any kind. Today, more than one quarter of Ontario's energy supply comes from waterpower, while fully 90% of the province's potential sources of this clean, natural energy remains undeveloped.
- Hydroelectric power is a clean and renewable power source that will help reduce reliance on alternative forms of electricity.
- Most Ontario families want more waterpower. A 2004 Oracle poll showed 92% of Ontario residents have chosen clean waterpower as their preferred replacement for coal-fired plants. Waterpower ranked highest of all alternatives for renewable energy sources.
- Hydroelectric power developments can be relied on to generate power when needed by consumers, providing needed flexibility for the grid operators.
- Waterpower: efficient, cost-effective, long lasting. The average waterpower facility converts energy at a rate of 75%-95% efficiency. Once built, waterpower facilities generate the most cost-effective clean energy in Ontario. Typical generating stations last between 75 and 100 years or more.
- Hydroelectric power will have long-term benefits for generations to come.
- Waterpower means greater energy independence for Ontario. Ontario, with more than 2,000 potential hydroelectric generation sites, is a natural powerhouse for waterpower. Over the past 100 years, only 200 sites have been developed. Continued responsible development of this natural energy source will help make Ontario more energy independent.
- Hydroelectric projects offer the following benefits to the surrounding community:
 - temporary and part-time jobs are created during the construction period
 - indirect economic benefits as a result of these jobs
 - local purchase of goods and services.



North Bala

HYDRO PROJECT



Project Description and Background

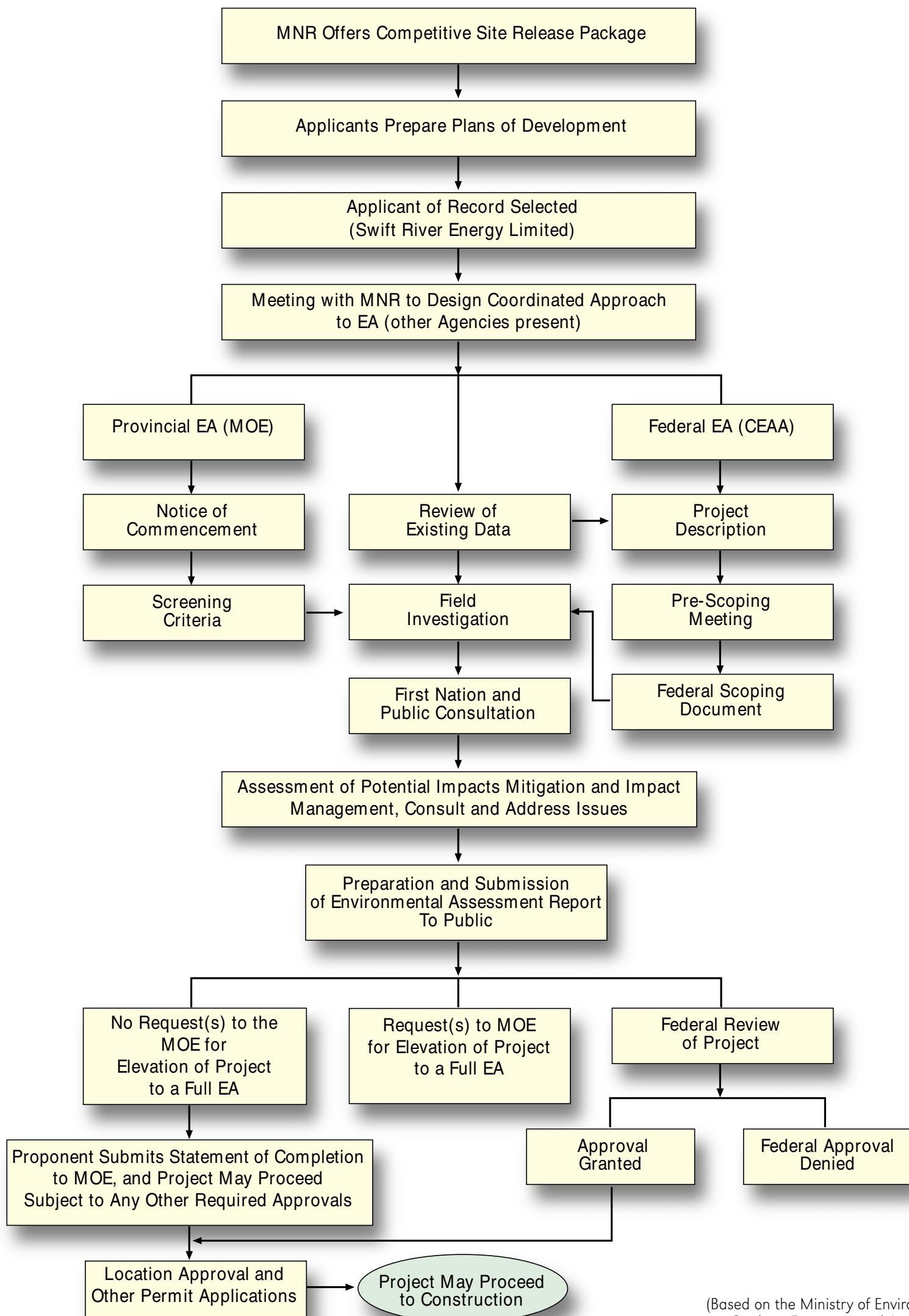
- Swift River Energy (SRE) submitted a Plan of Development to the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) in July 2005 in response to MNR's request for proposals for a hydroelectric development at the North Bala Dam site. SRE was awarded Applicant of Record status for the site by MNR in early 2006. A hydropower generating plant existed at this same site several years ago, which no longer exists.
- SRE proposes the construction of a 3 to 4 MW small hydro plant at the south end of the existing North Bala Dam.
- Preserving the attributes of the existing site, such as the falls and rocks downstream of the North Bala Dam and having a sufficient flow of water going over the dam to maintain the natural aesthetics, and safety of the public, will be priorities for SRE.
- The new hydro plant must operate within the terms of the existing Water Management Plan. The Environmental Screening will meet federal and provincial Environmental Assessment requirements.



North Bala HYDRO PROJECT



Environmental Assessment / Screening Process

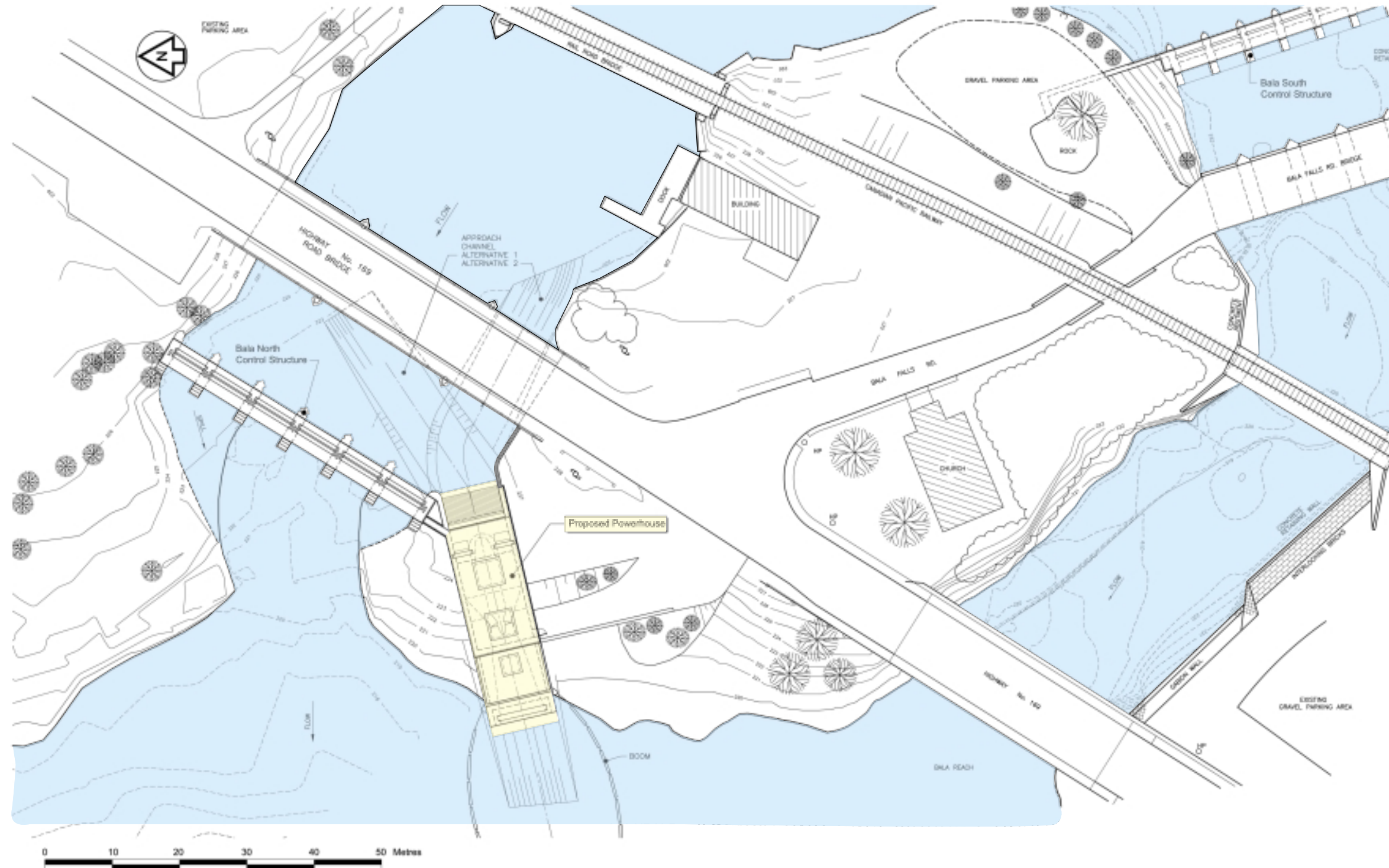


(Based on the Ministry of Environment -
Guide to Environmental Assessment
Requirements for Electricity Projects, 2001)

Plan and General Arrangement



North Bala
HYDRO PROJECT



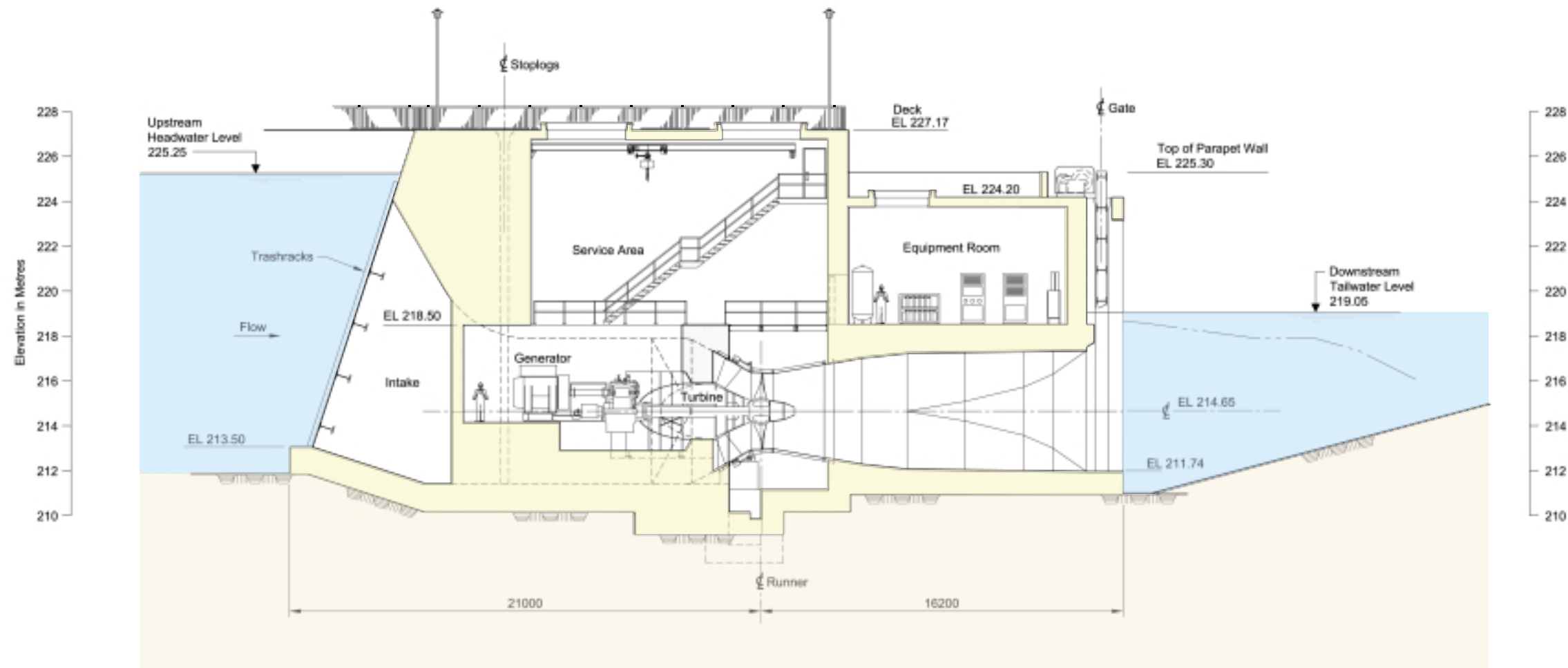
Proposed Powerhouse

Longitudinal Profile



North Bala

HYDRO PROJECT



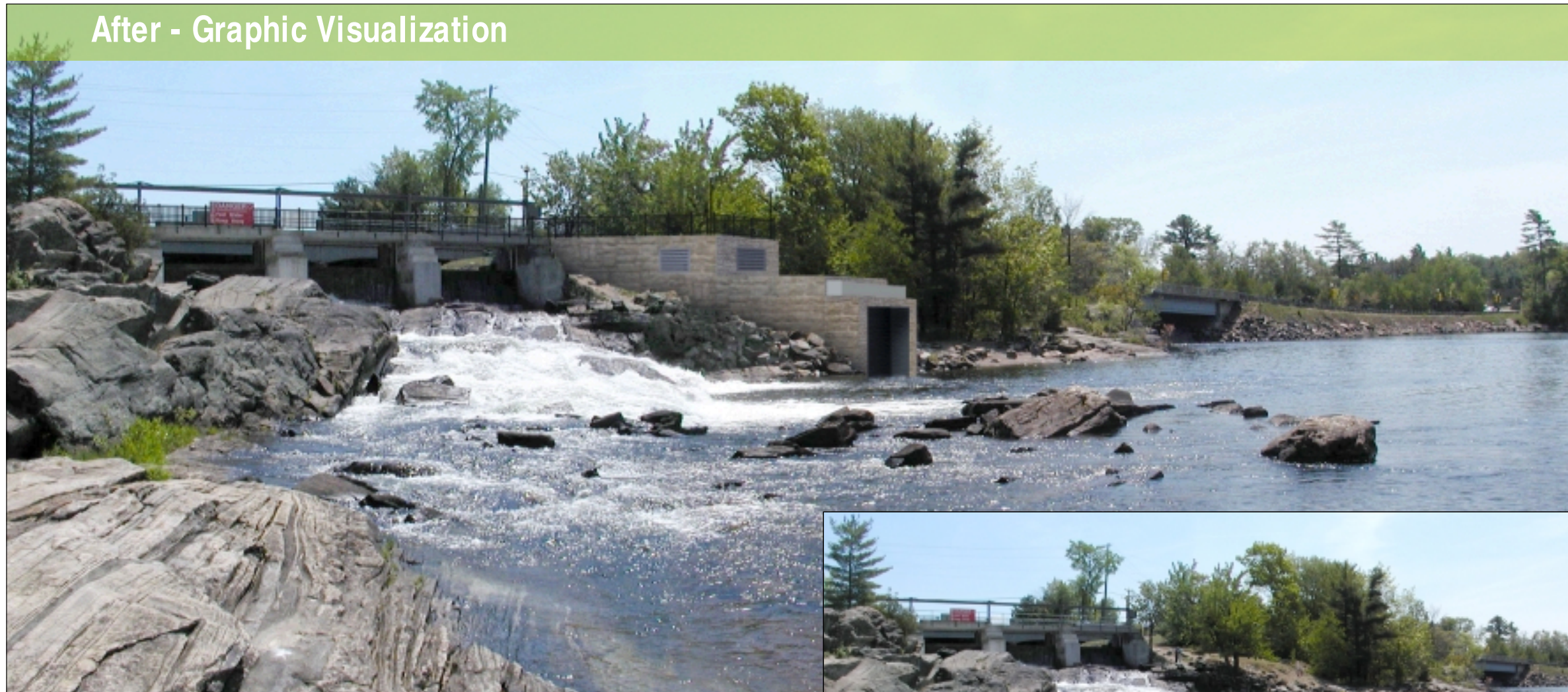
View of Powerhouse from Downstream North Bank



North Bala
HYDRO PROJECT



After - Graphic Visualization



Before

North Bala Small Hydro Project
Public Information Centre
Comment Sheet
August 29, 2007

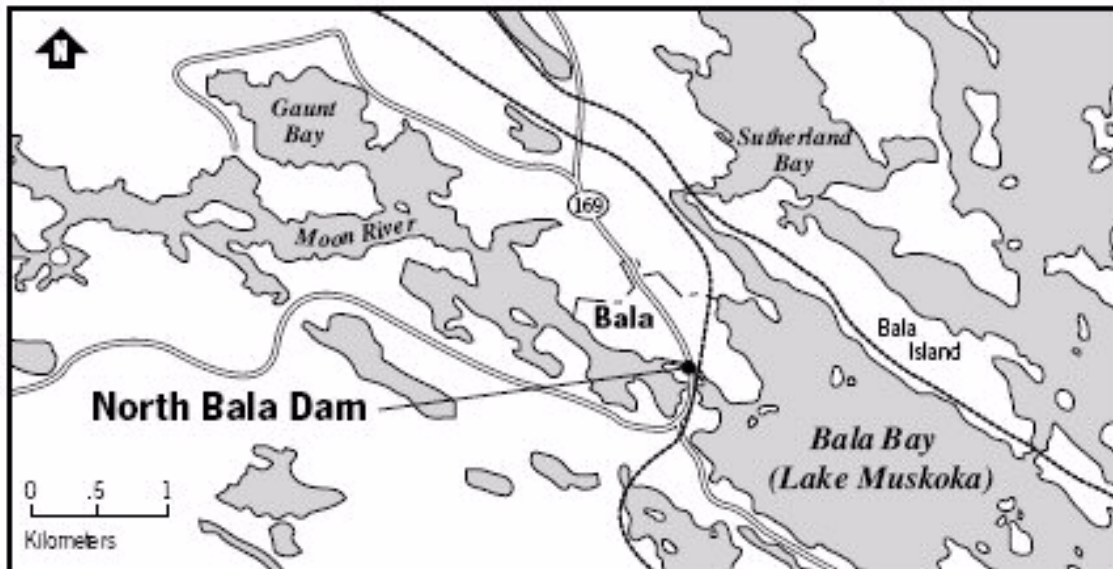


PLEASE TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

1. Are you a permanent resident of Bala? Yes No

If not, where do you permanently reside? _____

Are you a cottager? Yes No



2. Do you use the area in the vicinity of the North Bala Dam? Yes No

3. What do you use this area for? Boating Canoeing Kayaking
Fishing Seasonal residence All

Other (please specify): _____

4. Please provide details regarding your use of the area, such as a description of the activities, the frequency, season or duration of use:

ISSUES AND COMMENTS

5. Are you generally in favour of the North Bala Small Hydro Project once again supplying green power in the area? Yes No

6. Do you have any main concerns with the project? Yes No

What are your main concerns related to the project?

7. Please provide any comments, background information or suggestions which you consider relevant to the project:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ **Phone:** _____

Would you like to be included in the Project mailing list? Yes No

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION. WE WELCOME YOUR INPUT.
PLEASE COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THIS COMMENT SHEET BEFORE LEAVING, OR MAIL
TO THE ADDRESS BELOW**

Trion Clarke, Hatch Energy
4342 Queen St. P.O. Box 1001, Niagara Falls, ON, L2E 6W1
Tel: 905-374-5200; Fax: 905-374-1157; email: tclarke@hatchenergy.com

**D6 Summary of Consultation
with Public and Stakeholders
During Phase I**

Table D1
Comments Received from Industry/Stakeholder Groups During Phase One Consultations

Date	Industry/ Stakeholder Group	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s) and Concerns	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section(s) of Environmental Screening Report
June 6, 2005	Hydro One Networks Inc.	Telephone Call from HE	HE approached HONI to discuss local hydro line voltage and capacity.	HONI confirmed the voltage to be 44kV.	June 6, 2005	N/A
November 2, 2005	Muskoka Lakes Rate Payers Association	Telephone Call	Requested information on the current status of project and the MNR RFP Program. Stated the following concerns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of the project on lakes levels • Maintaining access for the public below Bala Falls • Affects of construction on tourism during construction 	Information regarding the current status of the Project and details of the MNR RFP Program was provided. Stated that concerns mentioned would be addressed during the EA process.	November 2, 2005	Hydrology – Section 6.2.2.; Public Access – Sections 5.3.1 and 6.3.1 and Figures 5.4 and 6.7; Tourism – Sections 5.3.7 and 6.3.6.
December 6, 2005	Communities in Bloom	Written Correspondence	Requested information regarding the location of the Project in relation to a small piece of Crown land adjacent to Bala Bay south falls, which Communities in Bloom are planning to improve	Confirmed that the community's proposed improvements at "Diver's Point" would be on Crown land south and upstream of the South Bala Dam.	December 20, 2005	N/A

Table D1
Comments Received from Industry/Stakeholder Groups During Phase One Consultations

Date	Industry/ Stakeholder Group	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s) and Concerns	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section(s) of Environmental Screening Report
April 3, 2006	Muskoka Lakes Association		Requested to be kept informed about public meetings and stated the following concern: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential impacts to water levels 	Stakeholder was added to mailing list and stated concerns are addressed within the ESR	N/A	Hydrology – Section 6.2.2
Sept 1, 2007	Moon River Property Owners Association	Meeting	Concerns Raised during the September 1, 2007 meeting included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety • Signage/Aesthetics • Water Levels • Impacts to Fish • Recreational Use • Tourism • Local Economy • Pollution 	SREL gave a general overview of the Project and discussed concerns with those present.	September 1, 2007	Employment and Economy – Sections 5.3.9 and 6.3.7. Hydrology – Section 6.2.2. Aesthetics – Sections 5.3.6 and 6.3.5; Figure 6.6 Public Access - Section 6.3.1. Recreation – Sections 5.3.7.2 and 6.3.6.
Sept 13, 2007	HONI		Initial comments provided in the HONI CIA dated September 13, 2007.	N/A	N/A	N/A
October 16, 2007	Laura Rexe, Generations Connections Coordinator,	Written Correspondence	Submission of two signed copies of the Study Agreement for the above named project	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table D1
Comments Received from Industry/Stakeholder Groups During Phase One Consultations

Date	Industry/ Stakeholder Group	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s) and Concerns	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section(s) of Environmental Screening Report
	System Investment Division, HONI					
November 30, 2007	Algonquin Power, Burgess Power Station – Bala	Written Correspondence from HE	Notice of Commencement mailed separately informing of recent public consultation activities including publication of the Notice of Commencement and PIC.	N/A	N/A	N/A
January 25, 2008	OPG	Written Correspondence	In response to December 5, 2007 letter the following concerns were stated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation of the Ragged Rapids GS and the affect of the Bala Project on operations • OPG’s continued ability to meet their commitments within the MRWMP • Ensuring that there are minimal impacts on generation and 	SREL is consulting with OPG to determine any potential effects to OPG operations. Consultation is ongoing.	N/A	Water Management Plan – Section 9

Table D1
Comments Received from Industry/Stakeholder Groups During Phase One Consultations

Date	Industry/ Stakeholder Group	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s) and Concerns	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section(s) of Environmental Screening Report
			operation at the Ragged Rapids GS.			
January 25, 2008	Paul Lafontaine, Asset and Technical Services/Project Manager, OPG – Evergreen Energy	Written Correspondence	Thank you for your notification of the project. The new GS at Bala will have an effect on OPG Ragged Rapids GS. Stated concerns regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flow and water level compliance with the WMP • Ensuring minimal impacts on generation and operation. • Require coordination in the operation of the two stations 	Stated concerns are addressed within the ESR	N/A	Water Management Plan – Section 9
January 25, 2008	OPG	Written Correspondence	The following concerns were expressed by OPG: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation of the Ragged Rapids GS and the affect of the Bala Project on operations • OPG’s continued ability to meet their 	N/A	N/A	Water Management Plan – Section 9

Table D1
Comments Received from Industry/Stakeholder Groups During Phase One Consultations

Date	Industry/ Stakeholder Group	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s) and Concerns	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section(s) of Environmental Screening Report
			commitments within the MRWMP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that there are minimal impacts on generation and operation at the Ragged Rapids GS. 			
February 25, 2008	Brian McElwain, VP, Muskoka Lakes Association	Email	Interested in seeing an artists rendering of the project	Stakeholder was added to mailing list and stated concerns are addressed within the ESR	N/A	Figure 6.6
February 25, 2008	Brian McElwain, VP, Muskoka Lakes Association	Email	Thanks for replying so quickly	SREL has reiterated its intention to provide landscaping and exterior design to compliment the surroundings.	February 27, 2008	Figure 6.6
February 27 2008	Brian McElwain, VP, Muskoka Lakes Association	Email	Thanks for your help and support – Muskoka and Bala Falls are very beautiful places and the final structure must be built in such a way as to be “in harmony with the environment”	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table D1
Comments Received from Industry/Stakeholder Groups During Phase One Consultations

Date	Industry/ Stakeholder Group	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s) and Concerns	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section(s) of Environmental Screening Report
April 10, 2008	Bill Purkis, Owner, Purk's Place Boat House and Marina	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can you provide an update of the project status? • When and where will work begin? • Stated concern re: impacts to his business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SREL would like to set up a meeting to discuss the project further. • SREL is completing a feasibility study to address options to address concerns raised at 2007 PIC • Conveyed that there will be no construction in 2008 • Informed Mr. Purkis that some geotechnical investigations will be conducted the following week <p>Conveyed interest in talking to him and other area stakeholders over the next month</p>	April 11, 2008 (by phone)	Construction Activities – Section 5.1; Local Businesses – Section 5.3.8
April 11, 2008	Owner of Stone Church	Phone conversation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inquired as to whether the project would encroach on his land. • The owner of the Stone Church asked if it was going to affect parking area beside Purk's Place. • Concerned if there was enough water to 	<p>SREL responded to the various queries by the owner of the Stone Church stating that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The Project would not encroach on the lands associated with the Stone Church •The use of the parking lot at Purk's Place was not 	April 11, 2008	Figure 1.2 – General Arrangement Construction Activities – Section 5.1; Local Businesses – Section 5.3.8

Table D1
Comments Received from Industry/Stakeholder Groups During Phase One Consultations

Date	Industry/ Stakeholder Group	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s) and Concerns	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section(s) of Environmental Screening Report
			generate power and if SREL were connected to the Burgess Plant	determined at this time •Ensured him that there was indeed enough water to generate electricity •SREL are not connected to the Burgess Plant •SREL conveyed that they were currently completing a feasibility study for the Project		
April 26, 2008	Peter Hemming, Chari, Communities in Bloom	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Together with the Bala Cranberry Festival, Communities in Bloom is undertaking improvement to the area between the northeast corner of Bala Falls Rd and Muskoka Road 169. • Before planning further – what are the intentions of SREL on this parcel of land where drilling has recently taken place • When can these plans be confirmed 	At the Scheduled PIC on August 13, 2008 SREL will be in a position to convey to the public the intended plans and timelines for the project.	July 30, 2008	Project Description – Section 1.2; Tourism – Sections 5.3.7 and 6.3.6.

Table D1
Comments Received from Industry/Stakeholder Groups During Phase One Consultations

Date	Industry/ Stakeholder Group	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s) and Concerns	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section(s) of Environmental Screening Report
May 7/08	SREL/Purk's Place	in-person meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rough sketches of the proposed configuration of new plan were discussed. • Purk's Place indicated that there would be implication on the business, in particular water access/docking. • Concerns regarding lack of road access during construction period were also raised. • Purk's Place agreed to get back to SREL with possible impacts and start discussions regarding mitigation/compensation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term options of locating a trailer at divers point to maintain operations throughout the construction period were suggested but rejected by Purk's Place as not being feasible. A second option of closing for the construction season and SREL providing compensation for lost revenues was also suggested. • Long term options to move the docks to "divers point" on the other side of the rail tracks were discussed as was possibly a shoreline path under the tracks to connect the docks to the building. 	May 7, 2008	Section 6.3.1: Public Access

**Table D2
Public Comments Received During Phase One Consultations**

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
August 27, 2007	Telephone Call	<p>Stated concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts to lake levels • Changes to flows, and safety • Noise from the project • Whether the project would require the erection of unsightly poles and if the generating station would interfere with radios of computers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project would operate within the WMP • Some excavation would be required for the intake channel and that safety measures such as boom installation would be taken • Noise generated by the facility would not be greater than the noise presently generated by the falls • It is expected that the facility will connect to the power line running along the road/bridge adjacent to the site and that no impact was expected to radio signals or computers 	August 27, 2007	Hydrology – Section 6.2.2. Sound Levels – Section 6.3.4; Appendix C1 – Acoustic Assessment Report. Electrical Connection and Distribution – Section 1.2.3.
August 30, 2007	Email	<p>Stated Concerns included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic impacts • Noise levels • Impacts to river and lake levels • Effects to traffic and parking, including noise and congestion • Pouring huge amounts of concrete • Location of the project at 	Stakeholder was added to mailing list and stated concerns are addressed within the ESR	N/A	Employment and Economy – Sections 5.3.9 and 6.3.7. Sound Levels – Section 6.3.4; Appendix C1 – Acoustic Assessment Report. Hydrology – Section 6.2.2. Local Traffic – Section 5.3.4; Figure 5.1. Aesthetics – Sections 5.3.6 and 6.3.5; Figure 6.6 Public Access - Section 6.3.1. Recreation –

**Table D2
Public Comments Received During Phase One Consultations**

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
		the north dam as opposed to the south dam <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aesthetics • Public access • Operation of the project during low flow periods • Effects to scuba diving • Fish habitat • Land Tenure • Control of the south dam as part of the project scope • Impacts to the Mill Stream 			Sections 5.3.7.2 and 6.3.6. Land Tenure – Section 2.2.4.2. Effects on Existing Local Hydroelectric Generation – Section 5.3.10.
August 31, 2007	Telephone Conversation	Stated questions/concerns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities for public consultation. • Reason for project location • Inquired about the SOC process and effect of the project on energy costs to the consumers • Capacity of the project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be a second PIC to provide additional information • MNR released the north Bala site in 2004 based on the available Crown land • The project will have no bearing on energy prices to consumers in Ontario • Not known at this time, 3 to 4 MW is the preliminary published potential capacity 	August 31, 2007	Agency, Public and First Nation Consultation – Section 3. Project Description – Section 1.2.
November 29, 2007	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What kind of support was received during the 2007 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PIC was attended by over 150 people 	December 10, 2007	2007 PIC – Section 3.5.3. Project Description –

**Table D2
Public Comments Received During Phase One Consultations**

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
		PIC? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How much power will be generated by the project? Stated concerns regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aesthetics Bathing at the Falls Positive benefits to Bala Residents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Various methods are being examined, drawings and artist rendering will be presented to the community during the 2008 PIC The installed capacity is expected to be between 3 and 5 MW Local benefits would include employment of suitably qualified persons, The purchase of local goods, services and rental equipment during the 12-18 month construction period 		Section 1.2. Aesthetics – Sections 5.3.6 and 6.3.5; Public Access - Section 6.3.1.
November 29, 2007	Email	Please indicate from completed surveys those in favour and opposed to the project	The PIC of August 29, 2007 was attended by over 150 persons. Statistics from this PIC and the one scheduled for 2008 will be available within the ESR.	December 10, 2008	2007 PIC – Section 3.5.3.
November 29, 2007	Email	Stated concerns regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public/tourist access o the water 	It is expected that there will always be access to the Falls, Moon River and Lake Muskoka throughout construction, but not via the construction area, during operation there will be continued access to the water, though some avenues may not be available	December 10, 2007	Public Access - Section 6.3.1.
Dec 5/07	Email	Notification that a complaint was registered with the	Suggest that they contact OWA for further background information on the	Dec 6/07	

**Table D2
Public Comments Received During Phase One Consultations**

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
		umbudsman with respect to the release of the 18 waterpower sites..	site release.		
December 9, 2007	Email	Please keep me abreast of developments	Stakeholder was added to the mailing list	May 6, 2008	N/A
December 12, 2007	Telephone Call (BALA INFO LINE MESSAGE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident of the Wahta Mohawk First Nation In favour of renewable energy initiatives 	Stakeholder was added to mailing list.	December 12, 2007	N/A
December 17, 2007	Email	Effect to flows over the south dam: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> will flows over south dam be diverted (by raising the dam?) how will this change throughout the year? 	Stakeholder was added to mailing list and stated concerns are addressed within the ESR	N/A	Hydrology – Section 6.2.2.
January 2, 2008	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would it make more sense to combine the Burgess Falls dam and proposed new dam into one larger station? How much compensation flow would continue to flow over the dam and how would this change throughout the day and season? Would there be tourist 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Burgess plant is not associated with SREL who must consider available discharge after an allowance for the diversion flow required by Burgess. The compensation flow is usually determined in consultation with regulatory agencies, and may vary seasonally or daily. It is expected that there would be access by foot to the ground level between the North Bala dam and 	January 29, 2008	Hydrology – Section 6.2.2. Public Access - Section 6.3.1. Figure 6.6.

**Table D2
Public Comments Received During Phase One Consultations**

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
		<p>access to the “ground level” at the south side of the north falls?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the PIC will the building size and orientation be final? Please provide. • Please move the dam further south to preserve the view of the falls from the north 	<p>the new powerhouse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drawings showing the proposed building size will be available at the 2008 PIC 		
January 10, 2008	Email	Has there been an independent verification of potential generation?	SREL has undertaken generation estimates based on existing hydrological data	January 29, 2008	N/A
February 2, 2008	Email	Understands that site was released to achieve goal of creating approx. 7800 MW from renewable sources.. Encourage the Township of Muskoka Lakes to seek a land swap with the province so that the development can take place on land adjacent to the south falls.	SREL has already approached the municipality regarding this type of option and they seem receptive. SREL’s goal is to leave Bala an even nicer place when the project is finished.	Feb 3/09	
February 22, 2008	Telephone Conversation	Requested information regarding the Project and stated the following concern:	Individual was added to the stakeholder mailing list and advised that minimizing disruption to the road would be a feature of the project	February 22, 2008	Local Traffic – Section 5.3.4; Figure 5.1.

Table D2
Public Comments Received During Phase One Consultations

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interruption to Muskoka Road 169, preventing passage through town. 	development.		
April 17, 2008	Email	The following concerns were stated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding above and below the damsite 	Stakeholder was added to mailing list and stated concerns are addressed within the ESR	N/A	Hydrology – Section 6.2.2.
June 5, 2008	Telephone Call	Concerned about starting construction in 2008 on land owned by Bill Purkis, and any drilling/blasting on his land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction will not be starting in 2008 • Drilling/blasting will not be conducted on Mr. Purkis' land • Indicated that SREL is very open to discussing solutions to the construction and long term issues associated with impacts to Purk's Place 	June 5, 2008	N/A

D7 Bala Strategic Plan



WEST MUSKOKA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC PLAN & URBAN DESIGN GUIDELINES Town of Bala and West Muskoka

MASTER PLAN AND URBAN DESIGN Background Report #6



Township of Muskoka Lakes

PLANSCAPE

BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH PLANNING



Prepared by:
Katherine Dugmore



May 8, 2002

West Muskoka Chamber of Commerce
Economic Development Strategic Plan & Urban Design Guidelines
Town of Bala and West Muskoka
Master Plan And Urban Design Guidelines – Report # 6

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1.0 Introduction

A place's *genius loci*, or spirit of place is what raises it above the ordinary. This sense of place is the sum of its physical characteristics – the combination of topography, vegetation, water and views, as well as the composition and arrangement of built form. In order for an area to evolve while maintaining its sense of place, it is necessary to understand the relationship of elements that create the unique ambiance that makes a place special, and to develop a plan for retaining and enhancing these special qualities. This report is intended to identify what is special about Bala, and to recommend measures for future development to ensure that the unique spirit of Bala is preserved into the future. This report focuses on design features. Opportunities related to industrial and employment land uses and planning initiatives will be addressed in a separate report.

2.0 Existing Conditions

Bala lies in the heart of the Muskoka recreation region at the confluence of Lake Muskoka (Bala Bay) and the Moon River. It is a community that is characterized by access from water, road and rail and it is indelibly stamped by its history of logging, rail, steam ships and seasonal use. The combination of these forms of access have served to set Bala apart in terms of the resulting arrangement of space, but it also tends to confuse those visiting, or new to the area, by making it difficult for them to visualize the layout of the community and to navigate to focal points within the town.

What is discussed herein are the events that created the physical form of Bala as it exists today. In years past, cottagers and seasonal tourists traveled long distances to arrive at their destination and due to their not having access to good roads and automobiles for quick, convenient travel, they relied on services provided within Bala. Because of the length of time it once took to

reach Bala, many families came and stayed for the entire summer season, further increasing the demand for locally provided, basic goods and entertainment. To say that Bala was a “hopping place” would be an understatement; but as road systems improved and access to the area became easier, cottagers no longer relied on Bala for goods, materials and services in the way that they once had.

Now one can drive to Bracebridge or Gravenhurst in relatively short order, and the expansion of goods and services in those communities parallels the decreasing services offered by Bala. This is testimony to the ability to access towns more easily, and the fact that many cottagers now only come on the weekends instead of for the entire summer, which lends itself to bringing food and other goods from home. This transition has left Bala serving a public that requires less, over a seasonal period. The seasonality of the market is one thing that has remained unchanged over the years. In many ways this lack of significant change is the Town's strength because the attractive historic features are still visible.

2.1 Analysis of Existing Conditions

Key issues arising from discussions with residents and business people are as follows:

1. A need to improve/expand parking and docking facilities (secure and otherwise);
2. A desire to enhance existing village qualities (better access, trails, parks facilities, bridges, boardwalks, docks, walkways, signage, architecture and streetscape);
3. The desire to improve recreational amenities for locals and tourists; and
4. The stated objective to encourage a unique Muskoka theme consistent with the existing character of the community.

Two criteria have been examined in order to identify those elements that are integral to the character of the community of Bala and that should be considered in the development of design guidelines for the community. They include:

1. natural physical characteristics (topography, vegetation, water, views); and
2. built form (materials, scale, style, form, massing, access, landscape, heritage).

2.1.1 Natural and Physical Characteristics

Bala lies in an area of steeply rolling topography. Glacial depressions created lakes with steeply sloped rocky shorelines that are now covered by hardwood and white pine forests. The white pine has been immortalized as the living symbol of the Georgian Bay area and the Muskoka region for its sculptural beauty and its ubiquitous presence throughout the area.

Bala itself is centred at the point where Lake Muskoka flows into the Moon River. Lake Muskoka has a highly organic shape broken into many interconnected lobes. Bala is therefore accessible by land, water and by rail.

Figure 1 illustrates the position of Bala relative to its roads, Lake Muskoka and the railroad. The combination of steep rolling topography, and the confluence of three modes of transportation have resulted in the unique layout of Bala and created strong visual patterns upon which the community is based. Both the road and rail systems open views to the water and create the skeleton for the community.

There are a number of key areas in Bala, each defined by the unique physical environment in which they exist:

1. Windsor Park/Bala Bay Inn Area;
2. Kee and Bala Falls Road;
3. The Highway 38 entrance;
4. The Shield Parking Area;
5. Bala Falls & Island Bridges (north & south);
6. Central Commercial Area and Rail lands;
7. Town/Government Dock Area; and
8. The Sports Park.

Depending on your approach to Bala, the Shield Parking Lot, Windsor Park or the Sports Park tend to intuitively form the gateways to the community. The relationship of the other key areas to these gateways is essential to how well the entire area functions for tourists who will seek access to the water, to key areas and to other amenities (washrooms, playgrounds and picnic areas).

Currently, tourists focus their activities at the falls and along District Road 169. Because there is little connection to other attractions along the water and because it is difficult to orient oneself due to the unique layout of the town, visitors may be inhibited from spending longer periods of time in the community. There is much to see in Bala and the challenge is figuring out how to logically connect key elements and to provide opportunities for visitors to stop and stay a little longer.

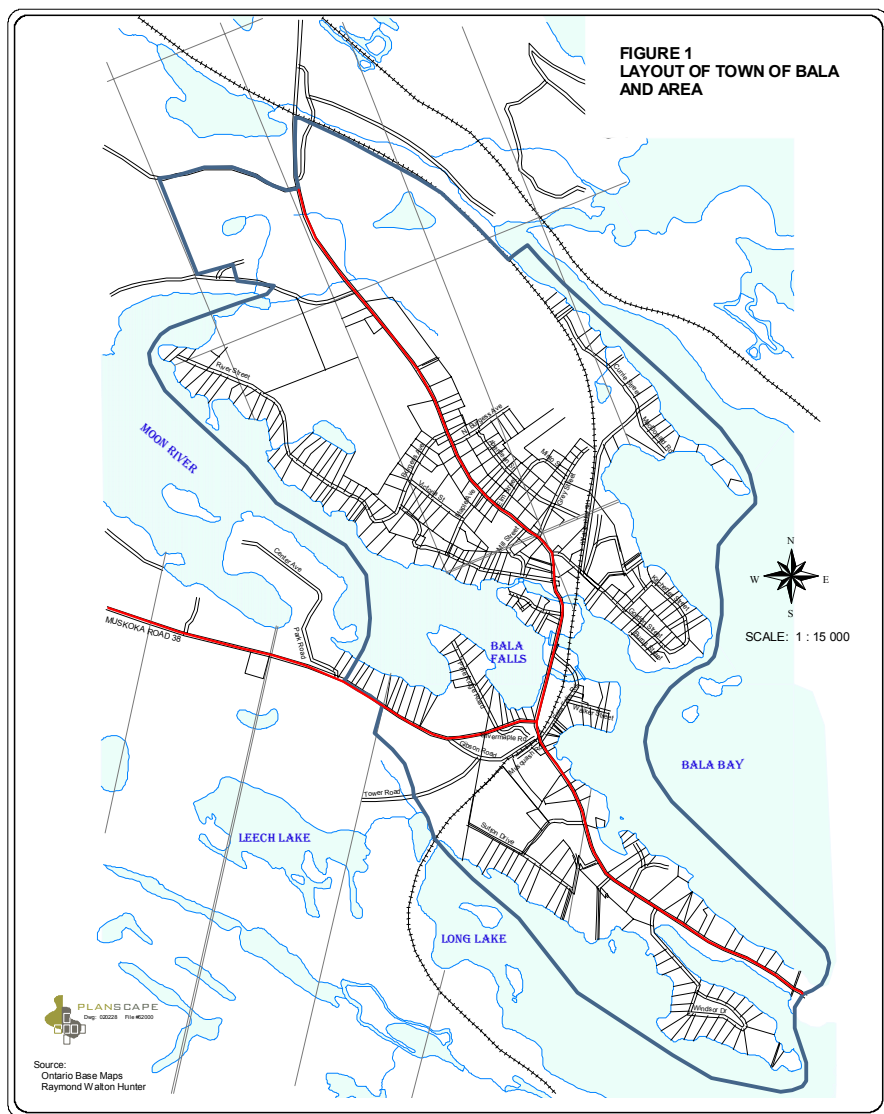


Figure 1 – Layout of Bala

Windsor Park

As one reaches Windsor Park, the landscape opens to reveal a broad expanse of water, and creates the first sense of awareness of arrival in Bala. The presence of water will be repeated as you move through the landscape. The park itself is generally open and unprogrammed, with little structure to define it. There are public washrooms, an interpretive building and parking on site. Picnic tables and a waterfront area offer other amenities. The park has been used to host Wakestock, which is an enormously popular summer event, requiring tent rental, and generating the need for more parking than is currently available. Across from the park is a classic example of cottage architecture in the form of an old inn that has subsequently been converted into a residence.

In order for the park to create a better sense of entry into Bala Windsor Park needs to be more strongly linked to the Bala Bay Inn Area, which is a little further down the road. In order to fulfill the Park's potential as a key area in Bala, the following improvements could be considered:

- improved parking and a seating/viewing area;
- a pavilion from which events would be staged;
- controlled access for ticket purchase;
- stronger signage/entrance feature;
- naturalized water front; and
- a stronger relationship to the street.

Windsor Park has been identified as a possible port for the steamships if access to Bala can be arranged. Any improvements to the park should be done with this in mind.



Photograph 1 - Windsor Park

Bala Bay Inn Area

The historic building of the Bala Bay Inn with its signage and unique symmetrical façade is a landmark in the landscape. Separated from Lake Muskoka and Windsor Park by the vast, paved surface of District Road 169, its original relationship to the commercial space around it has been compromised. This is not an area in which pedestrians would feel themselves to be a logical part of the landscape.

A stronger relationship to the street is needed in order to encourage access and to create a sense of streetscape in this area. Paving, planting, flags and signage are all elements that have been used to establish a more definitive and connected presence in the landscape, but perhaps an alley of trees to the entrance with paving that connects the street to the building would further enhance this beautiful building's relationship to the street.

The façade of the building is flat and uniform and the relationship of the building to the street could be further enhanced by a structure between the building and the street (awning, arbour, covered porch), provided that it was in keeping with the architectural style of the building itself.



Photograph 2 - Bala Bay Inn

As in other locations, the parking area at the Inn is not clearly marked and thus parking it is not as efficient as it could be. The buildings around the Inn are of a much smaller scale and tend to be located more closely to the street creating an unbalanced landscape and a weak relationship between each side of the street.

Although there are sidewalks, they abut the District road, and they are comprised of the same material as the surface intended for vehicles as well as being at the same elevation as the road. This arrangement clearly defines the environment as being for automobiles and not for pedestrians.

In an ideal world, the Inn would be located much closer to the road, with minimal, or no parking, to separate its entrance from the streetscape. Parking would be to the rear and side of the building with primarily landscaping and pedestrian areas in front of the building. Although the Inn has a history, its future is not certain, and should it be replaced, its relationship to the street should be reconsidered.

Certainly, future improvement and/or reconstruction should maintain the historical architecture of the building and thus its integrity as a major landmark in the community. Currently, the lack of year round accommodation in Bala is an impediment to expanding the tourism market and the Inn represents a significant opportunity to fill that niche if it were to be renovated or rebuilt.

The Kee Area



Photograph 3 - Bala Falls Road View to Kee

The Kee is a major landmark in Bala, and it provides the focal point for entertainment in the community for concerts, dances and galas. Bala Falls Road at this location is a vast section of pavement with

no definition and no areas that are designated solely for pedestrian use. The result is inefficient parking (because as in other unmarked areas, improper parking can waste up to 30% of the available spaces) and a poorly defined character for the street. Because District Road 169 ducks under the railway at the intersection, avoiding what used to be the main thoroughfare, the Kee area and Bala Falls road have become somewhat side-lined. Although there is planting at the intersection and the Kee is well known, there is no place that the pedestrian can claim for their own. What is needed in this location is to provide structure to the street, clearly delineating between pedestrian and traffic areas.

With the bridge dominating the intersection, there is no sense of entry onto the street and to the Kee and the commercial area on this section of Bala Falls Road. A newcomer to the area or visitor could miss historic Bala Falls Road entirely. This section of the road is dominated by paving and currently appears as a large, flat, open asphalt field. Signatures like the light standards that appear elsewhere in town do not appear until one reaches the bridge (see photograph 4). Materials and other features that define pedestrian areas more clearly would most certainly enhance the experience of this area.

There is also an opportunity to tie this area to its past with architectural elements, perhaps a music wall of fame, which has been suggested by some of the committee members. The Kee has long been the musical heart of the community and it would appear that it will continue this role in the future. This area should read more like a plaza – pedestrians first and vehicles second, with seating areas and opportunities to stage outdoor events like farmer's markets and of course, those associated with the cranberry festival. Section 3 will discuss the concept developed for this area in greater detail.

Bala Falls Road

Bala Falls Road used to be the main street through town prior to the construction of District Road 169. Beyond the Kee, Bala Falls Road climbs a slight hill to the cenotaph park, which has a lovely view over the water. Shaded by white pines, it has a couple of picnic tables, a staircase down to the falls and a monument commemorating veterans. The park is a quiet, restful place, but as in most of the other areas having access off of Bala Falls Road, one would most probably find it only by accident.

Past Walker Street, the road curves down to a pretty little bridge with reproduction lighting and flags. The railing detail of the bridge is particularly attractive and reminiscent of the rail crossings in many areas throughout the north. After the vacuous space in front of the Kee, there is certainly a sense of arrival, given the views off of the bridge, but an arrival to what?

Bala Falls Road in this section is attractive, and it draws visitors to view the falls from different aspects; but it is still designed primarily for vehicles. People stop on the bridge to photograph and view the falls, but given the width of the bridge it is not the most comfortable location in which to stop. The location of the bridge and its architecture provide the opportunity to make this area a key feature in the community if it were designed to be more pedestrian-friendly.



Photograph 4 - Bala Falls Road Bridge

The opportunities that exist to cross water are unique to Bala, and a wonderful sensory experience to pedestrians. These features should be enhanced throughout the community to become integral parts of the pedestrian network. But where the bridges lead to is just as important as the bridges themselves in this experience.

In the case of the bridge on Bala Falls Road, it provides access to Divers' Point, which is an area having tremendous potential to function as an integral part of the tourist's experience of the waterways of Bala, encouraging visitors to stop awhile longer to picnic or rest in their travels.



Photograph 5 - Diver's Point

Currently Diver's Point is a gravel parking area that looks out over the government dock and Lake Muskoka. A multi use link is proposed that would connect Diver's Point to the government dock area for pedestrians and snowmobilers. The bridge would parallel the existing rail bridge. The potential of this area is currently underutilized.

A pretty view up Lake Muskoka and a quiet place to rest and watch the activities at the government dock present the greatest opportunities on which to capitalize. Vehicle access to Diver's Point has compromised the area as a potential passive park, and restricting vehicle use should be considered as a means of creating a large park adjacent to the water and easily accessible to the Central Commercial Area.

Bala Falls (north & south) and Island Bridges

Water access to Bala is easily achieved from the Lake Muskoka side, the government docks or Divers' Point. It is less available on the Moon River side, other than at Jaspen Park. Docking for boat access at a number of locations should be considered both for its value as a means of access and because maintaining this form of access is a reflection of the history of the community.

Safe look offs are needed where pedestrians logically stop to take photographs or just to absorb views over the water. Two such areas are at the Moon River dam and at the District Road 169 bridge at the Shield Parking Area.

Docking should be provided on the Moon River side of the road for boat access and linked to the commercial areas with a walkway system. The Highway Bridge is a destination point because of the views offered down the Moon River, however this section of the road, along with all of District Road 169 with Bala is treated like a highway, not intended for pedestrian use. The administration of District Road 169 within the Town of Bala must be more flexible if Bala is to realize its full potential as a tourist destination.



Photograph 6 - Look off Area on Moon River Side at the Falls

Streetscaping and generous sidewalks along with reducing lane widths to permit parking in some locations along District Road 169 would serve two purposes: to slow traffic and to create a safer, more pedestrian-friendly environment. Many communities have faced the same challenges as their main streets become major thoroughfares. In many cases traffic-calming measure such as reducing ROW widths through key areas, one way traffic and paving changes have served to maintain or enhance the original character of the community, without unduly compromising circulation.

In terms of urban design, traffic should be considered to be secondary to the character of the community and the experience of people within that community, provided public safety is adequately addressed.

Central Commercial Area

The central commercial core is a vital and vibrant part of the community. District Road 169 arcs in a graceful curve just beyond Don's Bakery and it curves again before heading out of the main commercial area. Buildings that front on this section of the road have little setback, crowding the road and creating a somewhat cramped, but more pedestrian-friendly environment.



Photograph 7 - Central Commercial Area

Many people are drawn to this area for a bite to eat or a bit of shopping before, and after viewing the falls. The area directly in front of the Bakery that forms a parking lot, is open and does not reflect the same intimacy in the street that exists just beyond the Bakery. This area has opportunities that do not exist elsewhere in terms of the ability to serve visitors more efficiently and to create a better impression of this section of the commercial core. Reducing the lane widths through the downtown core to the general store to the west and to Windsor Park in the other direction on 169, would result in slowing traffic and creating opportunities for parallel parking in key demand areas, as well as widening the sidewalks

sufficiently to include street trees and furnishings and adequate areas for pedestrians.



Photograph 8 - Central Commercial Area

Town/Government Dock Area

The town docks provide water access to the community and tourism opportunities in terms of visitors using Bala for a staging area for explorations into adjacent parks, wilderness areas and waterways. Further, the green bridge connecting the dock area to the marina and trail system that connects the Town to areas north, provides another linkage to the Town from the water that has not been adequately developed. Although the width of this property providing the linkage is narrow and mostly taken up by a lane, paving and a stronger linkage could be created with decorative paving, architecture and planting, which would make it a pleasant place to rest and an obvious walking route.

Sports Park

As you sweep out of Town toward the north, the location of the proposed Sports Park is on your right. This location at the present time has a distinct sense of entry. Development of the Sports Park will enhance that sense of entry. Logically, as the community grows and expands along District Road 169, this “entry” point will shift because it is formed by the impression of arrival to a place. To visitors that sense of arrival is generally the point at which built form starts to dominate and for residents it can be much subtler, like a hill, a curve in the road, a group of trees, a view or even a scent. This discussion is focused on entry points as a visitor might see them.

Shield Parking and Entrance at Highway 38

Another major entry point to the Town is at the junction of Highway 38 and District Road 169. Highway 38 connects Bala to Highway 400 and the Georgian Bay area. As you arrive at the Town, you see the sign for Bala but the sense of entry is first defined at Jaspen Park, through the built form, views to the water and open space. At the junction of District Road 169, Highway 38 tees into a rock cut of Precambrian shield formed by the construction of District Road 169 or by the Railway overpass. The traveler must decide which direction to go on 169, without benefit of views or adequate signage. The existing street lamp provides some sense of streetscape and arrival into the town, but it is overshadowed by the rock face. Other visual cues including signage to orient travelers could enhance this entrance to the town.

2.1.2 Built Form and Architecture

Materials

The principal materials used for construction over time have been wood and stone and occasionally brick. The majority of the buildings in Town (with the exception of some commercial buildings), are wood frame construction types. There are few brick or block buildings in the community.

Scale

The majority of buildings in Bala are two storeys or less, which affords maximum visibility to the water. Even commercial structures having a much larger footprint than residential buildings do not exceed 2 storeys in height.

Style

Traditionally, commercial buildings in Bala tended to have flat roofs, often with a decorative cornice and/or a parapet. Pictured below is a characteristic commercial building style, with flat façade, approximately 40% window coverage and a slight decorative emphasis at the entrance. There are no significant attempts at ornamentation, and the result is an unassuming and tidy façade that is clearly differentiated from the residential structures in Town, although many former dwellings now house mixed commercial and residential uses.



Photograph 9 - Typical Commercial Building

Although many of the newer commercial structures in Bala have used similar rooflines or have incorporated decorative elements that reflect the architecture of traditional buildings, they fail to entirely capture the spirit of built form in the community. This is principally because they often are situated on their sites in such a way as to maximize parking. Traditionally, properties have had no space provided in front of the building for parking, thus having direct interface with the street and becoming defining elements of the streetscape. Newer developments have located parking spaces between the building and the street, which detracts from the streetscape by prioritizing vehicles over pedestrians. The following photographs are examples:



Photograph 10 - Pines Shopping Centre at Cranberry Festival time



Photograph 11 – Liquor Store Building

Form

The form of structures in the Town varies with the use of the building. Places of worship tend to be in stone or brick, with steeply pitched single roofs, small steeples and symmetrically arranged doors and windows.



Photograph 12 – Former Church now Antique Store

In general, the churches are austere with little in the way of decorative details. There is a strong relationship to the street and most of the properties are landscaped with parking provided for on

the street, as is typical for many older religious buildings throughout northern Ontario.

railings and porch details. Buildings with front porches tend to either be water or street oriented.



Photograph 13 - Existing Church Use

Residential buildings generally tend to be constructed out of wood and have a variety of rooflines. The porch is ubiquitous throughout the community, providing extended seasonal comfort and space out of the flies and wind. Although lot size varies, in many ways the form of housing reflects the long history of cottage and seasonal use in the area. Residential buildings are often in the form of 1 ½ to 2 storey dwellings and multiple dwelling units are rare. Rental accommodation is not readily available.

Built form tends to be spare in decorative detail although where it does appear it is often quite whimsical, and in the form of fretwork,



Photograph 14 - Residence



Photograph 15 - Residence

Massing

The majority of the lots are residential in size with the smaller being approximately 16 metres by 60 metres and larger lots being approximately 50 by 400 metres. The closer to the centre of Town, the smaller the lot size is, and greater the density. It would appear as if density ranges from approximately 5 units per acre to less than 1 unit per acre. Typically, industrial properties are significantly larger than the average lot, although many appear to be too small to significantly expand.

Access

Bala is in close proximity to Bracebridge and Gravenhurst and can be accessed by District Roads 169, 118 and 38. Although there is no longer a rail station, the train does pass through Town. The steamships used to come to Bala and the potential to restore this service is being investigated. This would bring tourists to Bala via an alternative form of transportation.

Landscape

There are no street trees or significant public landscapes with the exception of Jaspens Park and to some extent, the government dock area. What is most noteworthy of the community is the natural landscape of rocky shores and beaches, expansive views and water everywhere. Almost the entire Town is within 1700 metres of the falls; 80% of the Town is within 1000 metres of the falls. Approximately 40-50% of the properties have direct access to water and many of the waterfront properties are seasonal, particularly farther from the Town centre. Commercial properties are clustered around the Town centre as one would expect, although demands for parking and property sizes are pushing newer commercial development further from the centre.

Heritage

The heritage of the community as a bustling seasonal community and somewhat smaller year round community is apparent. Many of the homes are larger than one typically sees in the north. Some have been converted from inns to residences and some have obviously housed seasonal residents and their extended family and friends. Many of these seasonal dwellings have much more elaborate decorative details than do the year round dwellings, many of which have been converted to commercial and mixed uses along District Road 169. Commercial and industrial buildings vary in size from small retail occupying one floor of a 2 storey dwelling to the size of the Kee or Foodland or the Lumber Store in Town. In terms of heritage buildings, there is truly a “mixed bag” of architecture. Newer buildings and older structures of varying architectural form, details and scale occupy the same landscape creating the unique character of Bala. There is not a defining architectural form that gives Bala its unique sense of space. Even the 70 years or more of music that has made Bala a destination for entertainment does not define the built form.

Photographs 16-20 – Residences, Mixed Uses and Commercial



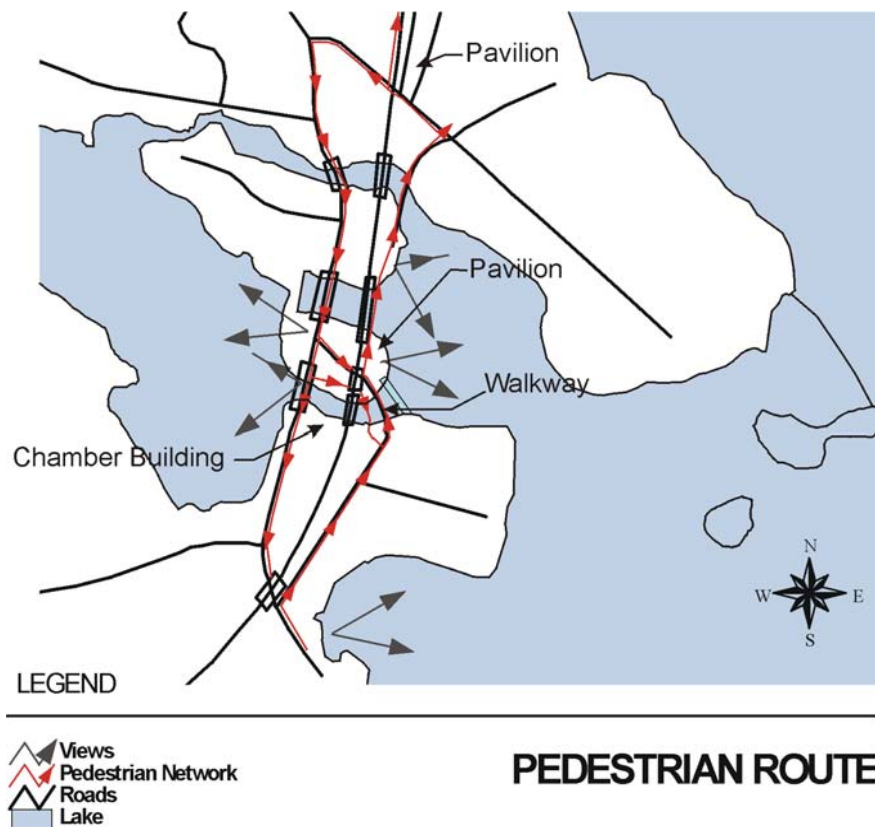


3.0 Proposed Improvement Areas

The previous chapter summarized key areas in Bala, which with some work, could be improved to better support tourism activities and local events. This chapter identifies the improvements that should be undertaken. The improvements suggested herein are prioritized, although as local initiatives and funding become available, projects of various scales can be undertaken. It should be noted that the sketches in this report are conceptual only, and further details (boundary and topographic surveys) would be required in order to develop detailed design drawings and to provide cost estimates for construction, both of which typically are required in funding applications.

It is proposed that the areas in between the project areas be defined with decorative paving, lighting and common street furnishings to link key areas and provide visual connections between spaces. The following figure delineates the main pedestrian routes that should receive this treatment. The arrows are graphic only and not indicative of the actual direction of pedestrian movement.





3.1 Windsor Park / Bala Bay Inn Area

Windsor Park is used as an event park and it also functions as a local community park. Proposed improvements to this park are suggested in order to improve its viability as an event park and to provide additional amenities for the community's use year round. The topography in the park has been utilized to separate activity

areas and control access in the concept that is illustrated on Figure 2. The parking area has been expanded by decreasing the setback from the district road and encroaching slightly into the park itself. Parking spaces are shown as being 3 metres by 5 metres with a lane of 6 metres in width. This does not accommodate trailers, the parking area would need to be substantially larger in order to do so.

Entrance to the park has been concentrated in a single location by the rock/stone wall along the parking area and a low berm (approximately 1 metre height) planted with trees along the District Road. An arbour over the paved walkway is the entry to the park and the existing kiosk has been relocated to the centre of the park to be used for tickets or refreshments at events. The park itself is divided into different areas of activity. A children's play area was proposed near the water, however based on public comment, it was determined to be preferable to have this area as seating or display.

The parking lot is hidden behind a viewing berm formed by a low seating wall and some fill. Seating could be on the wall or on the grassed area. Planting on either side of the park is intended to provide some screening to adjacent landowners. A pavilion is proposed to be located over the rock outcrop, providing a staging area and/or covered display area, which would remove the requirement for tent rental. Finally, the waterfront would be a combination of dock, boardwalk and naturalized shoreline. Furniture in the form of benches and waste receptacles would be located along the walkways and lighting concentrated at the entrance in conjunction with street lighting and paving that extended to Bala Falls Road, thus linking the Inn to the Park. A boardwalk that links the Kee to this section of District Road 169 would further enhance the experience.

3.1.1 Public Comments

The comments received on the original concept indicated that a children's play area was not required, that the shoreline was naturalized and not a beach, and that one way access to the parking area was not preferred. These changes are illustrated on Figure 2. As discussed earlier, detailed design drawings will require detailed site information not available at present.

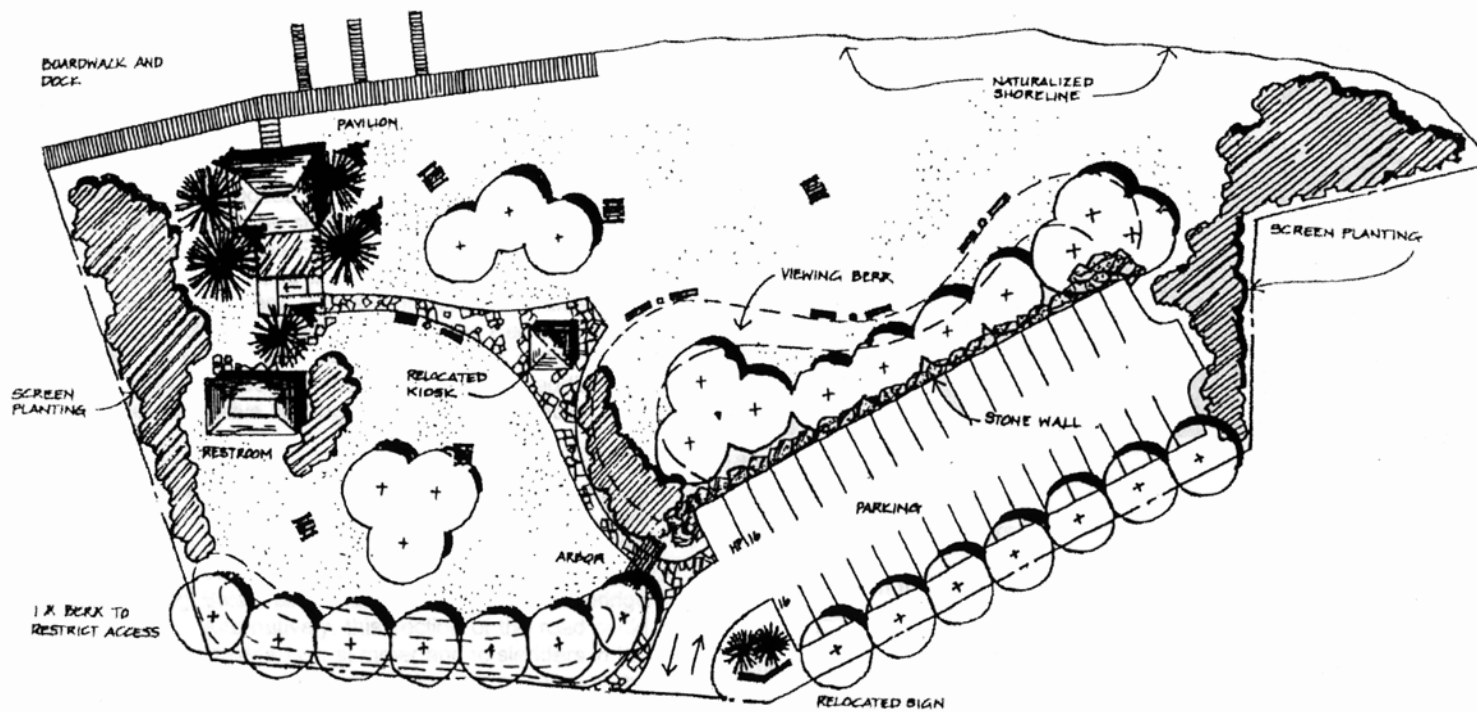


Figure 2
**WINDSOR PARK
FINAL CONCEPT**

3.2 Kee and Bala Falls Road

The Kee is a major destination point and has been for many years. Proposed improvements to this area focus on the following: improving parking in front of the Kee; highlighting the intersection of Bala Falls Road; and District Road 169 and making Bala Falls Road in its entirety more pedestrian friendly.

Figure 3 illustrates the proposed improvements suggested for this area. Street lighting and paving stones are proposed to link District Road 169 more formally to Bala Falls Road. Increased planting at the entrance to Bala Falls Road is also intended to heighten the profile of this street to travelers. Streetlights like those elsewhere in town, with banners of the Canadian flag and the Kee would also assist those seeking to visit the Kee. The location of the Music Wall of Fame relatively close to the intersection in addition to paving stones and decorative lighting will draw the eye down Bala Falls Road.

Parking on either side of the road and decorative paving throughout, will bring commerce out into the street, either in café seating or as display clearly defining pedestrian and non-pedestrian areas. This concept proposes to have a turn around at Walker Street, making Bala Falls Road one way over the bridge and under the railway. Alternatively, this section of the road could be restricted solely to pedestrians in summer and to sledders in the winter. This concept provides the opportunity to expand upon the Cenotaph Park, which is a lovely location to picnic and to view the falls and surrounding area.

Figure 4 illustrates the concept sketch for the cenotaph park which includes removing much of the vegetation obstructing the view, framing the view with a fence, enlarging the paved area around the monument and providing seating. Planting around the monument area will serve to enclose the viewing area and to frame the view.



Photograph 21 – Cenotaph Park

3.2.1 Public Comments

Comments from the public have indicated that there are favourable and negative responses to limiting through traffic on Bala Falls Road. There are no large open spaces in the centre of the community from which the public has unrestricted access to the water or where they can participate in park activities. If the section of Bala Falls Road between Purk's Place and Walker Street were restricted to pedestrian and sled use or to one way traffic, Diver's Point could be developed into a passive park with a pavilion that would serve sledders as well as tourists, by offering a place for snow machines to be parked without access by vehicle, while the sledders walked into Town. The development of the multi use link in this area will definitely create a need for some form of park programming that provides for picnicking and passive recreation.

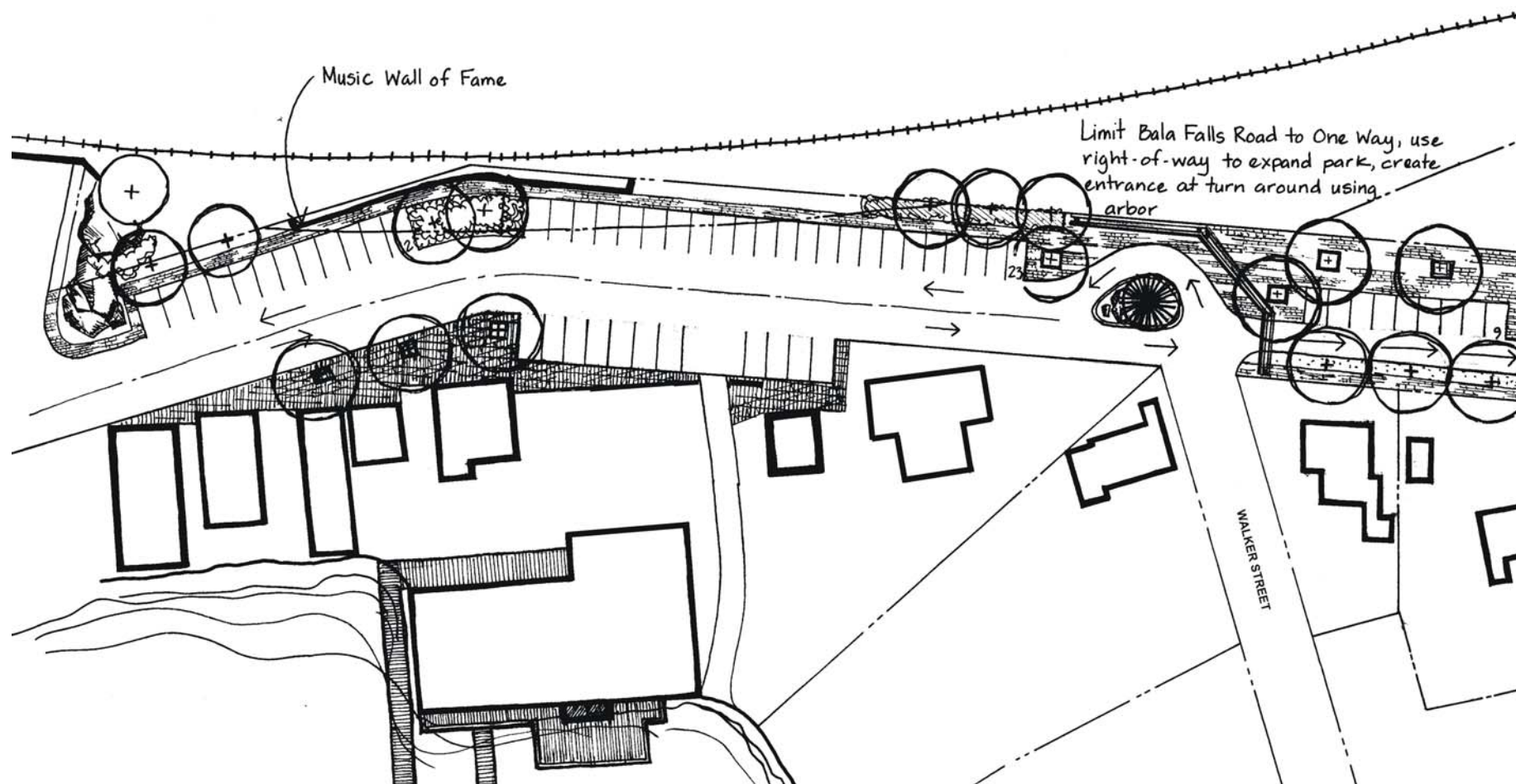


Figure 3
KEE AND BALA FALLS ROAD



Figure 4
CENOTAPH PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Figures 5 and 5a illustrate two possible scenarios for managing Bala Falls Road. Figure 5 contemplates one-way traffic between Walker Street and the Burgess Church with parking provided at Diver's Point. Figure 5a allows only pedestrian access between Walker Street and the Church with passive use of Diver's Point. Each option has advantages and disadvantages. The community needs to decide how they will proceed. As mentioned earlier in the text, there are a number of issues with respect to capitalizing on opportunities for providing amenities to tourists and other visitors to the area including:

- no large public spaces within the core of the Town;
- few viable links to the waterfront;
- poorly used parking areas; and
- improving the desirability of the Town for winter visitors.

Since delivery vehicles cannot safely go under the rail overpass and emergency access through this area could be maintained for fire, ambulance and police vehicles and because District Road

169 provides a vehicular link from one end of the Town to the other, the merits of a large central public space over that of two way vehicle access are, in the professional opinion of the writer, opportunities that are difficult to ignore.

Furthermore, the development of this area as a park with pedestrian access only, will improve safe access to the water and to viewing locations of the falls, create an outdoor space suitable for use in festivals, and offer a reasonable location for public washrooms. Public washrooms become attractions in their own right, increasing the likelihood of travelers stopping and adding to the comfort of those using the area.

In summary, the benefits of a large public open space connected to the government dock and beyond by the multi use link and to the Kee via the Bala Falls Road bridge offer tremendous, long range opportunities to increase the length of time people stay in the area. Visitors will have a central space devoted to pedestrians where they can comfortably spend time and be more likely to avail themselves of the amenities in the commercial area.

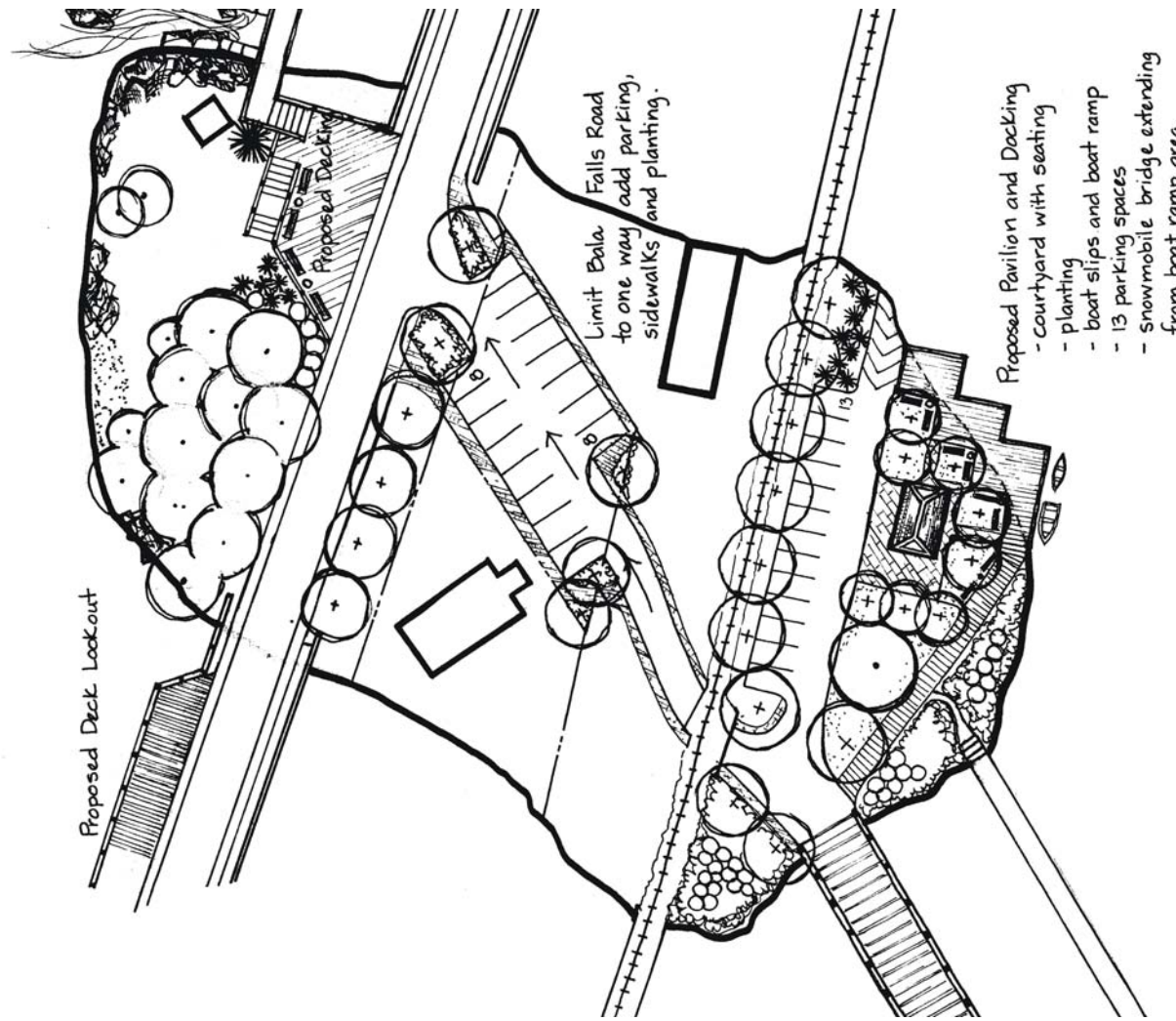


Figure 5
MOON RIVER BRIDGE
CONCEPT 1

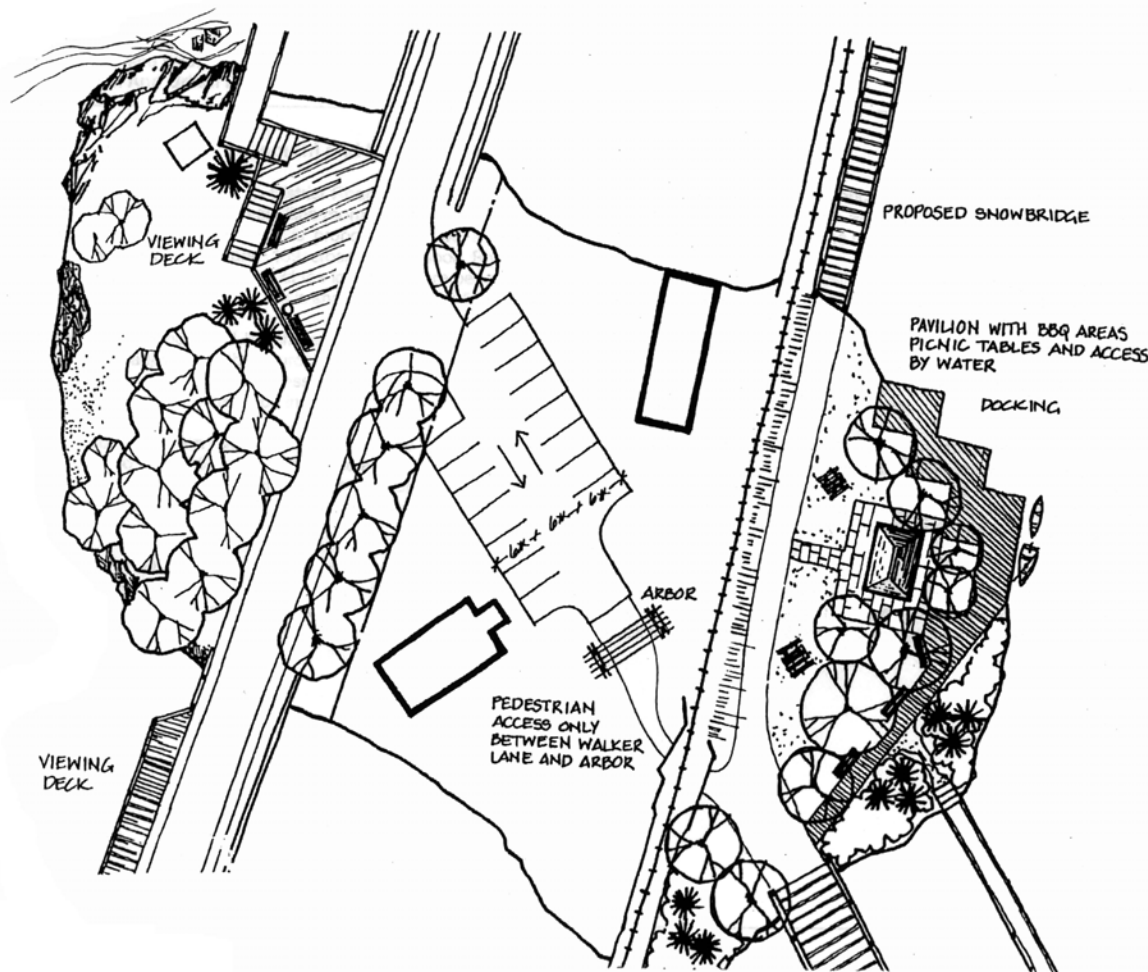


Figure 5a
MOON RIVER/DIVER'S POINT
FINAL CONCEPT

3.3 Bala Falls (north & south) and Island Bridges

The views from the bridge on District Road 169 are spectacular. The difficulty is that there is very little room for pedestrians to stop and enjoy the view. This area is proposed to have a viewing platform where District Road 169 crosses the Moon River. A large deck should be developed at the location where people walk down the slope to the water. This is shown on Figures 5 and 5a/

Viewing and seating could be offered at both of these locations and the deck adjacent to the church park could have stairs down to the water to provide safer access to the water and to minimize the extent of erosion to the slope in future.

There is some concern over the safety of people in this area and the deck could be used **to prevent** immediate access to the water and allow for the posting of signage at the top of the slope, which may give people pause for thought before they descend to the water.

Regardless of whether there is a deck there or not, people do want to reach the water. With a deck there is a better opportunity to close off access entirely should safety continue to be an issue by removing the stairs and installing a railing.

There has been significant concern about this area being used for swimming due to the rocks and currents making footing in the water and along the shoreline difficult.

There has also been the desire to capitalize on the proposed multi use link connecting the government dock area to Diver's Point on the Lake Muskoka shoreline. This bridge and the existing wooden bridge will provide access along the entire waterfront in this area. The treatment of the town dock and connection to Gordon Street via the existing wooden bridge should be considered in the planning of the area.

There is a sliver of municipal property north of the wooden bridge that could be developed to enhance a link between the waterfront and the commercial areas to the north and west. Development for this sliver of land should include paving and furnishings to indicate a connection to key project areas and to the commercial core.

Development of this area is important because it formalizes the pedestrian loop through to the proposed Sports Park and the loop back to the commercial core and the government docks.

3.4 Shield Parking Lot

The Shield Parking Lot is proposed to be the location for a two storey information centre that also functions as a multi-use building, with possibly office space or accommodation on the 2nd floor. Some concern was expressed by the public that a two storey building would compromise the view from the cenotaph park down the Moon River. Subsequent to the public meeting, that view was reassessed and it was confirmed that should the building not exceed the height of the stone church, the view will not be compromised. Clearly during the detail design of the information centre, this will form one of the major design constraints.

In addition to the information centre, which would have one floor oriented to the ground level of the parking area and the upper floor oriented to the level of the bridge, the concept shows an expansion to the paved seating area and a connection to the cenotaph park underneath the rail way. Such a connection would link the parking lot and downtown area to the Kee and provide circular walking routes that would not depend extensively on District Road 169. This is a very important component of the overall improvements proposed given that it provides a link to Divers Point and to the cenotaph park, both of which have improvement proposed that will make them key areas.

Further, the entrance to District Road 169 from Highway 38 could be improved with additional furnishings, decorative paving and signage.

3.4.1 Public Comments

The original design concept for the shield parking lot proposed one way access and two entrances as illustrated on Figure 6. Discussions with the public identified traffic concerns and suggested a single entrance/exit at the existing location, which has optimum visibility. The parking lot would thus be rearranged to have no entrance at Highway 38. Figure 6a has incorporated changes based on these comments.

Access to the lot has been restored to two way, although given the survey used as the base plan, which did not depict the rock face, one way circulation within the lot continues to maximize the available spaces by reducing the required lane width to 4 metres. Large trucks, trailers and buses require turning radii that exceed the sites ability to accommodate. Detailed surveys of this area are essential prior to finalizing the parking layout and site plan for the building.

Finally, the building should have year round accessible wash room facilities. Those located at Windsor Park and the arena are not central enough to be visible and to encourage people to stop

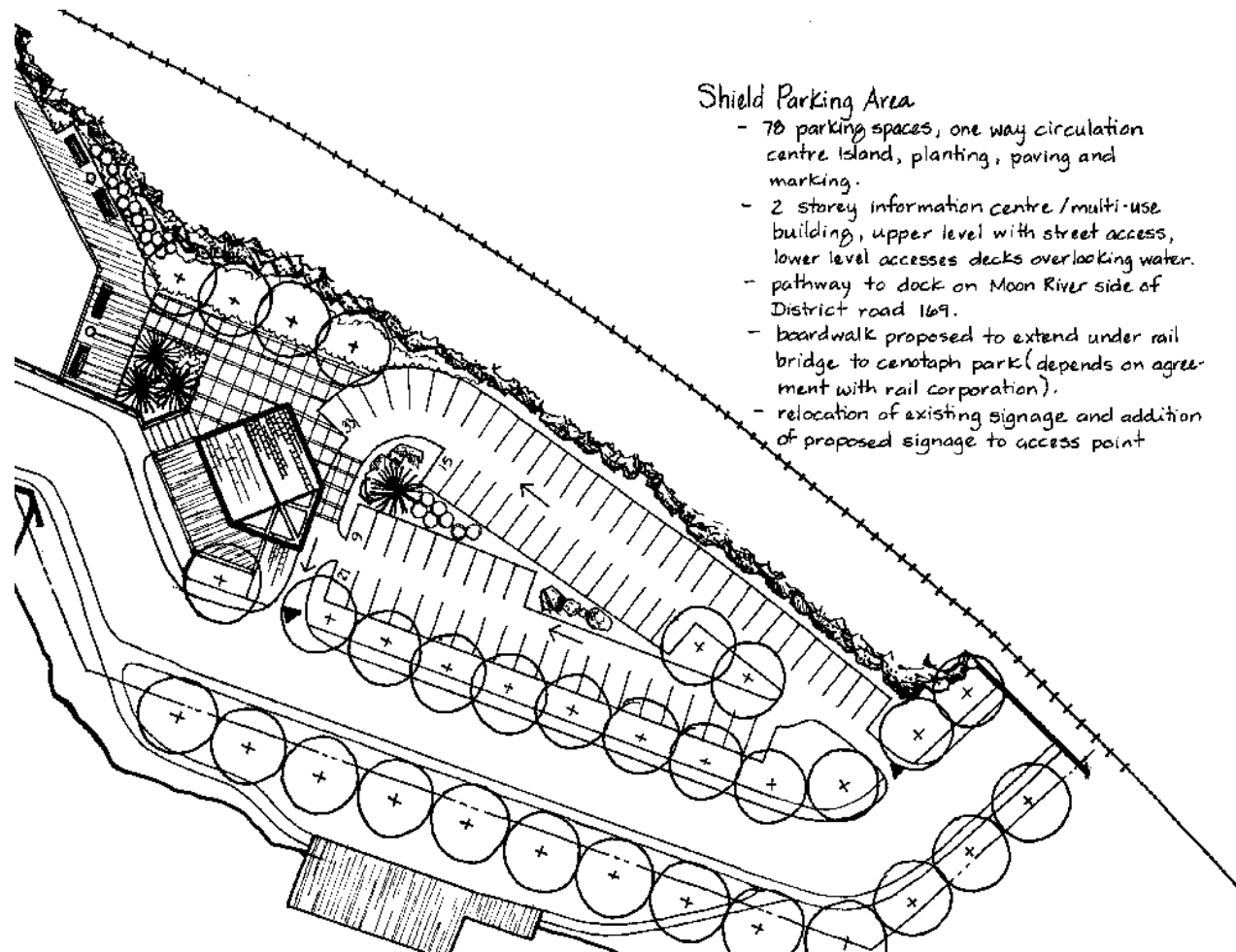


Figure 6
SHIELD PARKING AREA

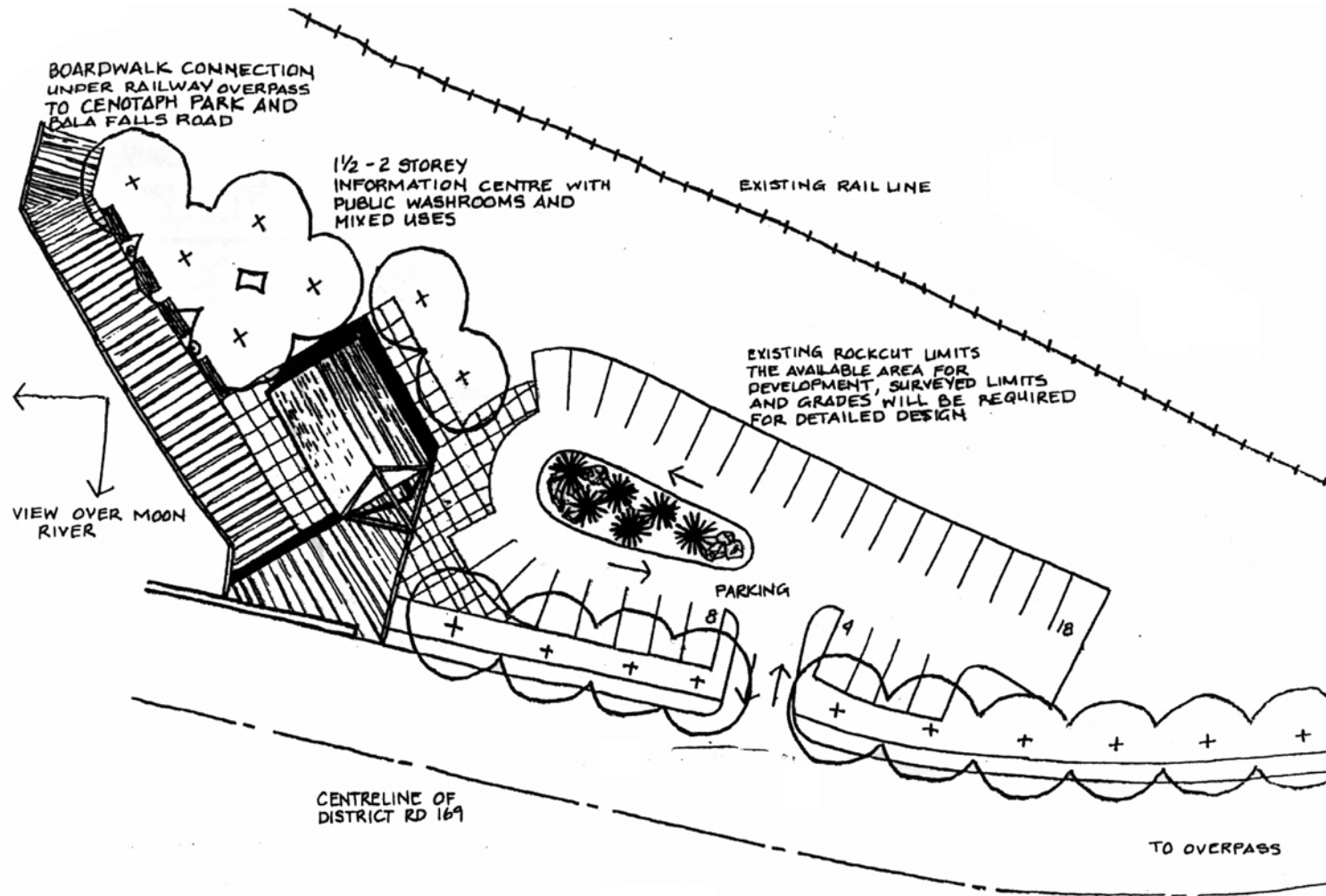


Figure 6a
SHIELD PARKING AREA
FINAL CONCEPT

3.5 Central Commercial Area

Portage Landing and its environs are the clear indications of arriving in the centre of Town. Unfortunately in this area, there is little public space for pedestrians and parking and vehicular traffic is prioritized over the comfort of pedestrians. For a successful streetscape in this area, District 169 should be narrowed and sidewalk widths increased. The parking area across from Don's could provide a more distinctive contribution to the street by providing a structural form to define that side of the street, by screening the parking from view, by providing opportunities for seating and by providing an arbor or alley of trees to frame the sidewalk and better define pedestrian space.

The addition of a fountain and signage close to the entrance will further define the walking link to the government docks and through to the snow bridge and beyond. The municipal property linking the snow bridge to Gordon Street should be treated as a paved pathway that runs under an arbor or arch of trees. If an arbor is used it can incorporate kiosk-like information boards of Bala's history as it relates to the steamship and railways. It will be a pleasant stroll during summer months to complete the circle through Town.

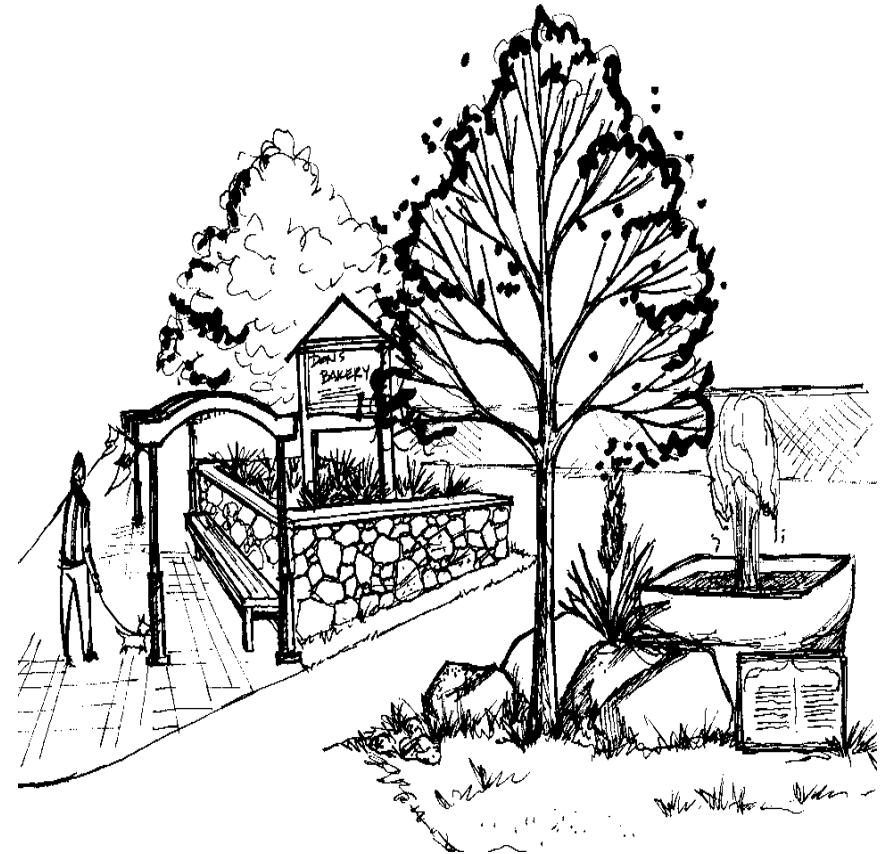


Figure 7
**CENTRAL COMMERCIAL AREA
CONCEPT**

3.6 Sports Park

The Sports Park is a logical terminus and entry point to Bala and it should be linked to the main parts of Town using lighting and paving. Although the design is not being prepared as part of this report it will be a major attraction for sporting events and it will also be an asset for event planning.

3.7 Other Recommendations

Murals

On the arena there are murals relating to the Cranberry Festival and the local history. Although these murals are somewhat small in scale in terms of the desired visibility for this form of art, they do enhance an otherwise bland façade. Careful consideration to both the content and quality of the artwork must be given in order for this form of art to be successful and for it to have the desired impact. Larger scales are essential to murals in that they are first viewed from a vehicle.

Fine examples of this type of art are visible in Gravenhurst, Midland and Pembroke, where the extent and quality of the work has enhanced otherwise blank walls and provided a means of interpreting the history of the area. Although there are facades in Bala that could benefit from this treatment, not all artists are able to paint at the scale necessary to make murals a successful contribution to the community. Ideally, a Committee in charge of managing this type of artwork would ensure consistent quality and vision in its implementation.

Communities in Bloom

Communities in Bloom is an opportunity to lend character to the street in the form of bed, container and hanging basket plantings. Many areas in the community could be enhanced in this way thus contributing to the overall appearance of Bala in the summer months. Key to successful Blooms are uniform basket and container types and concentrating the treatments in highly visible

areas that are otherwise devoid of landscape treatments. For example, the liquor store has no planting in front of the building whatsoever. If some of the parking spaces are not required in front of the building, they could be utilized for container plantings or if they are required, hanging baskets would enhance the porch treatment at the entrance to the building.

Throughout the commercial core, baskets could be hung on existing poles and future light standards could be planned to come equipped with basket arms for planters. This would lend a consistent treatment to tie together larger planting areas in key locations. Street intersections are logical areas to highlight plantings for visibility from both pedestrians and vehicles alike.

The Communities in Bloom program enhances many areas of community appearance. There is an active committee that should be aided and encouraged in the implementation of this program. It will enhance many of the community's attributes.

4.0 Urban Design Guidelines

The following guidelines are general in nature and intended to provide information to future developers in terms of the types of buildings and architectural details that would be consistent with existing built form in Bala. They are not however, intended to be a prescription for future development. Bala is unique because of its inconsistencies. To develop a program for future development to follow would be to establish a "cookie-cutter" that would ensure that everything looked the same.

In order to effect that type of control over development, a by-law would have to be passed. Such a by-law would require extensive consultation on public design preferences prior to its being accepted and endorsed by Council. The intent of this document is to provide direction to future master planning exercises and to provide general guidelines that will serve to:

- enhance pedestrian experience;
- improve the appearance and function of key areas in the community;
- improve movement through the Town; and
- establish basic design parameters for future development.

Streetscape

1. District Road 169 should be reduced in width through Bala from Windsor Park through to Burgess Avenue in order to increase the width of sidewalks and create the opportunity for streetscaping in the form of trees, plantings, lighting and furnishings.
2. Maintain and increase public access to the water.
3. Incorporate trails systems with recognizable signage throughout the Town and beyond to areas like the Cranberry Marsh and the Torrance Barrens to improve the range of activities available for tourists.
4. Entry features and plantings should be created at key locations and intersections in Town including but not limited to:
 - Bala Falls Road and District Road 169;
 - Highway 38 and District Road 169;
 - Windsor Park and District Road 169; and the future Sports Park and District Road 169.

These features should incorporate consistent signage, lighting, plantings and structures. Ideally, they would be part of local horticultural initiatives.

5. Create a large scale map of the area that includes attractions within and beyond Bala that has topographic information, trails, and camping as well as commercial attractions.

Built Form

1. Generally not to exceed 2 storeys in height.
2. To be constructed of natural versus man-made materials.
3. To reflect existing built form wherever possible (multi-paned or sash windows, steeper roof pitches, porches etc.)
4. Avoid chain store signage and typical built forms that tend to unify landscapes by making businesses recognizable by structure alone.
5. Colour palette should tend toward heritage colours with the exception of trim and decorative features.
6. Key views should be preserved particularly those opening onto the water.
7. Parking areas should be located to the rear and side of buildings with the exception of on street parking.
8. Commercial buildings should be permitted to locate less than 6 metres from the front property line, even as close as zero setback to maintain the existing relationship of buildings to the street.
9. Generally, signage for businesses should not exceed 25% of the face of the building.

5.0 Implementation

As discussed earlier in this document, this report is intended to identify key areas requiring improvement and to develop concept plans for these improvements. More detailed design using more accurate base information will be required to generate accurate cost estimates for funding applications.

With respect to urban design guidelines, what has been provided are general recommendations to guide future development.

Project Area Prioritization

The project areas have been prioritized based on the benefit derived from each project irrespective of the actual cost of the project. Depending on funding availability, government goals and objectives with respect to funding, opportunities to develop some projects, or parts of projects may be possible regardless of how they are prioritized herein.

In order to complete a master plan for the entire community, that depicts all proposed improvements, including linkage areas, a complete survey of the project areas will need to be completed. The survey will need to include property boundaries, the location of all native vegetation greater than 100 mm caliper, topography, swales, utilities, existing buildings, curbs and other structures.

At present the information available from which to construct a plan for the entire Town is not consistent, at the same scale, or to the same level of detail.

The following list summarizes the suggested prioritization of projects:

1. Shield Parking Area
 - information centre
 - walkway connection to Cenotaph Park
 - parking layout
2. Cenotaph Park

3. Divers Point (assumes that the multi use link is already built)
 - park development
4. Docking on Moon River
5. Bala Falls Road and the Kee Area
 - music wall of fame
 - waterfront boardwalk
 - streetscaping
6. Central Commercial Area
7. Parkette on Gordon Street at north end of the wooden bridge
 - pathway, planting and arbor
8. Windsor Park
9. Moon River Deck

**D8 Summary of Consultation
with Municipal Agencies
During Phase I**

**Table D3
Phase One Consultations with the Township of Muskoka Lakes and District Municipality of Muskoka**

Date	Name	Agency	Correspondence	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Sections of the ESR
March 16, 2006	John A. Cosgrove, CAO – Treasurer	The Corporation of the Township of Muskoka Lakes (TML)	Written Correspondence	<p>Forwarded comments from the Office of the Mayor which represent the comments of the Township. The letter containing comments dated January 12, 2005 requested that::</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any infrastructure necessary to generate electricity at the site is unobtrusive, that it blends into the natural environment • that it allows scenic flows of water to continue to delight residents and visitors • that it does not require major alterations to water levels on either side of the dam. <p>The mayor included a resolution (# PC-7-5/01/05)</p>	No response required	N/A	Artist Rendering – Figure 6.6; Aesthetics – Section 6.3.5; Effects on Existing Water Levels – Section 6.3.6.2.; Section 9 – Water Management Plan

**Table D3
Phase One Consultations with the Township of Muskoka Lakes and District Municipality of Muskoka**

Date	Name	Agency	Correspondence	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Sections of the ESR
April 10, 2006	Laura Mannell, Planner,	District Municipality of Muskoka	Written Correspondence	In response to the Notice of Commencement stated the following Issues to be considered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • importance of shoreline vegetation in maintaining water quality • protection of critical fish habitat • impacts to District Road 169 • impacts to local water crossings and sewage outfalls located upstream and downstream of Bala Falls 	Stakeholder was added to mailing list and stated concerns are addressed within the ESR	N/A	Effects to Terrestrial Vegetation – Section 6.2.6.; Aquatic Biota and Habitat – Section 6.2.5.; Surface Water Quality – Section 6.2.4. Traffic/ Construction Sequence – Figure 5.1; Local Traffic – Section 5.3.4.1; Cumulative Effects – Existing Projects and Activities – Section 7.1.2.; Sewage Effluent – Section 5.2.6.4.
August 27, 2007	Summer Valentine, Planner	Planning and Economic Development Department, District of Muskoka	Email	Email contained the following concerns/questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether the project will involve the construction of a new dam • What opportunities will the District of Muskoka have to provide comments? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The project will not involve construction of a new dam •Comments from public, stakeholder and agency are welcomed at any time throughout the process, and a second PIC is 	August 27, 2008	Project Description and Components – Section 1.2.

**Table D3
Phase One Consultations with the Township of Muskoka Lakes and District Municipality of Muskoka**

Date	Name	Agency	Correspondence	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Sections of the ESR
					planned for summer 2008.		
September 26, 2007	Muskoka District Solicitor	District of Muskoka	Written Correspondence	Meeting to discuss alternative plans for the Project in response to public concern for Alternative 1	Meeting was arranged fro November 16, 2007.	N/A	N/A
November 16, 2007	Muskoka District Solicitor and District Director of Roads and Waste Management	District of Muskoka	Meeting	Meeting to discuss the use of District lands for the Project.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Nov 26/07	Councillor Pat Arney	TML	Email	Please provide outline of reasons the south dam would not be considered despite obvious advantages for the local community.	Idea is not feasible, due to property/riparian ownership, technical issues including but not limited to insufficient crown land, flood control of south dam and location of rail line.	Nov 26/07	N/A
Dec 11/07	David Royston, District Solicitor	DMM	Email/letter	Thank-you for meeting with SREL, we are now working on determining impacts of construction on traffic. We have also retained a landscape architect to develop a landscape and architectural plan for the facility to compliment Bala's	N/A	N/A	Effects to Traffic: Section 5.3.4

Table D3
Phase One Consultations with the Township of Muskoka Lakes and District Municipality of Muskoka

Date	Name	Agency	Correspondence	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Sections of the ESR
				waterfront plans. Once complete, will meet with community leaders and representative to solicit comments.			
Spring 2008	Mayor Susan Pryke and Council Members	Corporation of the Township of Muskoka Lakes	In-Camera Meetings	Layout Alternatives 1 and 2.	N/A	N/A	N/A

**D9 Summary of Consultation
with Provincial Agencies
During Phase I**

**Table D4
Phase One Consultations with Provincial Agencies**

Date	Name	Agency	Correspondence	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Sections of the ESR
October 12, 2005	Various Representatives	DFO, MOE, MNR, and Bracebridge Generation	Meeting	Meeting to discuss the Bala North Dam Waterpower Proposal	No response required	N/A	N/A
March 24, 2006	Chris Hyde, Supervisor	Barrie District, MOE	Written Correspondence	In response to Notice of Commencement, the NOC Letter was forwarded to Mike Parker of the London Office (Southwest Regional Office)	No response required	N/A	N/A
May 8, 2007	Andy Heerschap, District Manager	Parry Sound District, MNR	Written Correspondence	Approved SREL's request for extension of Applicant of Record Status dated April 19, 2006. Granted a 36-month extension.	No Response Required.	N/A	N/A
August 1, 2007	Steve Taylor	MNR, Bracebridge	Meeting	Initial meeting to introduce the Project team and discuss preliminary issues.	No Response Required.	N/A	N/A
November 15, 2007	Various Representatives	MNR, Bracebridge, DFO, MOE, CEA Agency, TC (Marine)	All Agency Meeting	Kick-off meeting to discuss the Environmental Screening Process, operational considerations and consultation	No Response Required	N/A	N/A
November 15, 2007	Representative of MNR	MNR Bracebridge	Written Correspondence	Stated concerns include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reproductive success and recruitment of various fish species • Negative effects to fish populations, riparian and littoral habitat • Impacts to walleye and pike spawning • Exposure of incubating lake trout eggs and fry 	These items have been examined throughout the environmental assessment process	N/A	HE to insert Sections during final update of this column.

**Table D4
Phase One Consultations with Provincial Agencies**

Date	Name	Agency	Correspondence	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Sections of the ESR
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negative impacts to species at risk • Vulnerability of flora to changing flows and levels • Impacts to the Lower Moon River Conservation Reserve, and Moon River Conservation Reserve • Negative impacts to boating and recreational and commercial navigation • Negative effects to vehicle and pedestrian traffic • Potential impacts to north shore residents and shoreline structures as a result of higher flows through the North Dam and that generated by the Project • Significance of the North Bala Dam as a visual attractant and component of tourism • Impacts to residents' shoreline use and enjoyment due to high and low water events • Negative effects to Go Home Lake water levels • Creation of a potential safety hazard due to increased flows and velocities • Negative impacts to adjacent municipal and private property 			

**Table D4
Phase One Consultations with Provincial Agencies**

Date	Name	Agency	Correspondence	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Sections of the ESR
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential impacts to Wahta First Nation Reserve • Impacts to the generating stations belonging to OPG and Algonquin Power 			
November 16, 2007	Representative(s) of MNR	MNR, Bracebridge	Meeting	Meeting to discuss the future operation of the north and south dams	No Response Required	N/A	N/A
November 23, 2007	Craig Newton, Regional Env. Planner/EA	Ministry of the Environment	Written Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received NOC and PD and recommended that all review agencies be provided this type of information early in the process • Provided additional information regarding the Environmental Screening Process and the following issues to be considered during the environmental assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with Aboriginal communities • Noise impacts • Spill containment and waste fluids • Sewage and water services • Surface water quality • Excavated material • Near shore construction and dredging • Blasting • Dust • CofA Air • Waste disposal 	No Response Needed	N/A	First Nation Consultation – Section 3.7; Noise impacts – Sections 5.3.5, 6.3.4, and Appendix C1; Spill containment and waste fluids Sections 6.2.4.3, Surface Water Quality – Section 5.2.6 Soils – Section 5.2.2 In Stream Structures and Construction – Section 5.2.8.1; Blasting – Section 5.2.7.2 Air Quality - Section 5.2.3; Waste disposal – Section 5.3.11; Decommissioning

Table D4
Phase One Consultations with Provincial Agencies

Date	Name	Agency	Correspondence	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Sections of the ESR
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decommissioning • Emerald Ash Borer infestation 			– Section 6.6; Emerald Ash Borer infestation – Section 5.2.9
November 28, 2007	Steve Taylor, Water Resources Coordinator	MNR	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offered names and addresses of additional stakeholders taken from the Muskoka River Water Management Plan 	Names/Addresses were added to the stakeholder list for the project	N/A	N/A

**D10 Summary of Consultation
with Federal Agencies
During Phase I**

**Table D5
Phase One Consultations with Federal Agencies**

Date	Name	Agency	Correspondence	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Sections of the ESR
October 12, 2005	Various Representatives	DFO, MOE, MNR, and Bracebridge Generation	Meeting	Meeting to discuss the Bala North Dam Waterpower Proposal	No response required	N/A	N/A
August 23, 2007	Jim Chan, Senior Program Officer	CEAA	Written Correspondence	Acknowledged letter dated August 14, 2007. Advised that to determine involvement of CEA Agency, a Project Description would be required.	Project Description for the project was provided as required by CEAA.	November 12, 2007	N/A
August 28, 2007	Miranda Lesperance, Environment Officer	INAC – Ontario Region	Written Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledged letter of August 14, 2007 (NOC) • Request that proponent make efforts to identify and notify all potentially interested First Nation communities • Provided relevant information sources 	Identified First Nations and contacted	N/A	First Nation Consultation – Section 3.7
September 18, 2007	Rick Thomas, Navigable Waters Protection Officer	Transport Canada	Written Correspondence	<p>Response to August 14, 2007 correspondence (NOC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Bala dam has never received approval pursuant to the NWPA • Require approval under Section 6 (4) of the NWPA • Requested submission of six copies of the plans of the existing dam including details of any boom and signage at the site • When the plans of the conversion are finalized, submit six copies of the plans including details of any new booms and signs that are to be placed. 	<p>Letter referred to MNR. MNR contacted TC with the following result:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SREL would defer seeking NWPA approval for the north Bala dam and safety boom until final design. 	September 26, 2007	N/A

**Table D5
Phase One Consultations with Federal Agencies**

Date	Name	Agency	Correspondence	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Sections of the ESR
November 15, 2007	Various Representatives	MNR, Bracebridge, DFO, MOE, CEA Agency, TC (Marine)	All Agency Meeting	Kick-off meeting to discuss the Environmental Screening Process, operational considerations and consultation	No Response Required	N/A	N/A
November 19, 2007	Micheline Turpin, EA Information Manager EA-SPS	NRCan	Written Correspondence from NRCan to CEAA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On November 16, 2007 NRCan received a Project Description for the North Bala Hydro Project • A proponent's intent to apply to the ecoENERGY for Renewable Power Program is not sufficient for NRCan to declare itself as a Responsible Authority under CEAA • Only once and acceptance of the notice of Project Application for the project is received will NRCan be able to make a determination regarding its responsibility under Section 5 of the CEAA • In addition, the proponent should also complete the explosives questionnaire attached 	No Response Required	N/A	N/A
December 19, 2007	Jennifer McCarthy	DFO	Email from CEAA	<p>DFO requested additional information concerning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • downstream fish habitat • fish spawning areas • potential fisheries impacts • baseflow conditions during the operation of the hydrodam <p>DFO is seeking additional information to determine whether a CEAA trigger exists</p>	Stated concerns are addressed within the ESR	N/A	<p>Aquatic Habitat – Section 2.1.10; Effects to Aquatic Habitat – Section 5.2.8 and Section 6.2.5; Water Management Plan – Section 9</p>

**D11 Community Mailing
November 2007**

November 23, 2007



Letter to: Agency/Municipal Stakeholders

Jacqui Semkow
President
Muskoka Lakes Chamber of Commerce
3045 Muskoka Road 169
PO Box 536
Bala ON P0C 1A0

Dear Jacqui Semkow,

Bala Falls Small Hydro Project

As you may know, Swift River Energy Limited "relaunched" its efforts, this past summer, to pursue development of a 5 MW run-of-the-river hydropower station adjacent to Bala's North Dam. These efforts included several public meetings with the community this past August and September.

We were delighted by the turnout of more than 150 Bala residents – permanent and seasonal, business and residential – and the opportunities these meeting presented Swift River Energy to engage the community about our preliminary concept for our Bala Falls Generating Station project.

Attached you will find a letter Swift River Energy is mailing to all "owner/occupants" with a Bala postal code (POC 1A0) as well as to all those who provided contact information at those various public meetings last summer.

We realize there may be people who were unaware of those public meetings, who may not have been able to attend, or, who may not be permanent residents of Bala. In an effort to reach these people, Swift River Energy has been able to obtain the support of the Moon River Property Owners Association, the Muskoka Lakes Association and the Muskoka Lakes Chamber of Commerce who have kindly agreed to alert their respective members to this letter and our efforts to reach out to them.

If you have any questions, or, if you would like to discuss any aspects of our Bala Falls run-of-the-river power project development, please do not hesitate to contact me at 1.866.578.BALA(2252). Alternatively, you can contact Trion Clarke (905.374.0701 ext.5631), at Hatch Energy, who is coordinating the environmental screening of this project for Swift River Energy Limited.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Wildman", written over a horizontal line.

John Wildman
Vice-Chair
Swift River Energy Limited

Attachment (2 pages)

cc. Trion Clarke, Hatch Energy

2300 Yonge Street
Suite 801, P.O. Box 2300
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4



November 23, 2007

Dear Bala-area Resident,

I am writing to you as information we have indicates you own and/or occupy property in or near the Town of Bala, Ontario.

As you may know, waterpower development and water control systems have been an important part of Bala's history and development through the better part of the last century. Our plan, still in its early stages, would restore some of Bala's old glory by "re-"developing a modern, state-of-the-art 5MW "run-of-the-river" hydroelectric generating station on a site once occupied by a power generating station (built in 1924 by Bala Light and Power Company and later acquired by Ontario Hydro, until it was demolished in 1972).

Swift River Energy Limited formally announced this plan through Notices of Commencement (March 2006 and August 2007) placed in local newspapers. This project arose because of Provincial Government Policy that aims to promote the development of new clean, renewable, 'green' sources of power generation to reduce our Province's dependence on dirty, coal-fired sources of electricity. As part of a province-wide initiative, the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) identified Bala as one of a number of rivers and sites, within its jurisdiction, with a potential to provide the Province with more, clean, low cost electricity generation.

In response to MNR's competitive request for proposals (December 2004), Swift River Energy won the right to pursue development of a run-of-the-river hydroelectric generating station on those Crown lands (about 0.07 hectares) on the island, just south of Bala's North Dam.

The purpose of this letter is to share with you what we've heard through our community outreach efforts to date, and, to underscore our commitment to address community concerns to the best of our ability.

Swift River Energy's initial concept for a run-of-the-river power project beside Bala's North Dam, was presented to the community at presentations to the Township's Management and Services Committee and an open house at Bala's Community Centre (August 29, 2007), and, at the Moon River Property Owners Association's end of year meeting (September 1, 2007), where we discussed our small hydro concept and answered questions. We were delighted by the turnout of more than 150 Bala residents – permanent and seasonal, business and residential – and the opportunities these meetings presented to engage the community.

To further our community outreach, we have prepared answers to those questions and concerns that seemed to be on most peoples' minds. Most notably, the Bala community raised questions about preserving traditional access to the North Dam's waterfall, maintaining the site's natural character and scenic vistas, stabilizing water levels above and below Bala's two dams, and, how the project might affect the tourist economy on which Bala's so depends. We have posted

...2

2300 Yonge Street
Suite 801, P.O. Box 2300
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4



- 2 -

answers to these questions and others under "FAQs" on our new website www.balafalls.ca. These answers represent the best information we have available at this time.

Swift River Energy's project development team will be working through the Fall and Winter months to complete the studies and assessments required to present a definitive plan that addresses:

- the facilities design and location
- the proposed construction schedule
- the facility's expected operating characteristics (with the appropriate references/ comparisons to the Muskoka River Water Management Plan and other applicable regulations and guidelines).

We will be in a better position to provide more detailed responses once the engineering and environmental studies and stakeholder consultations, now underway, are completed (expected to be late spring '08). Swift River Energy intends to then hold another public open house (summer '08, time and location to be determined) to present, for public comment, these studies' findings and our detailed plans for our Bala Falls run-of-the-river project, including a draft of our environmental screening report.

In the meantime, if you have a particular question or concern, I invite you to contact us via our website www.balafalls.ca, by calling us at 1.866.578.BALA (2252), or, by mail or fax to the attention of:

Trion Clarke fax no: 905.374.1157
Senior Environmental Scientist
Hatch Energy
PO Box 1001, 4342 Queen Street
Niagara Falls, Ontario
L2E 6W1

I look forward to continuing our dialogue with you and the Bala community.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Wildman", with a horizontal line underneath.

John Wildman
Vice-Chair
Swift River Energy Limited

**D12 Summary of Consultation
with Public and Stakeholders
During Phase II**

**Table D6
Comments Received from Industry/Stakeholder Groups – Phase 2 Consultation Period**

Date	Industry/ Stakeholder Group	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s) and Concerns	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section(s) of Environmental Screening Report
July 4, 2008	Ayesha Sabouba, Manager, Generation Connections, HONI	Written Correspondence	Provided 2 months notice of expiry of the Project's queue position and advised completion of the Connection Cost Recovery Agreement Application Form	N/A	N/A	N/A
August 31, 2008	Moon River Property Owner's Association (MRPOA)	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requested that SREL make a presentation regarding project to members 	SREL agreed to make presentation at September 13, 2008 meeting	August 31, 2008	N/A
September 13, 2008	MRPOA	Meeting with members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SREL presented summary of Project and answered questions Why was Bala chosen? Snowmobile route would be restricted during construction Effects to businesses during construction 	SREL agreed to look into ways to satisfy snowmobile passage requirement. Business disruption would be minimal during construction and would bring additional business for workers during off season.	September 13, 2008	Section 1.1 Project Background; Tourism and Recreation: Section 5.3.7; and Local Businesses: 5.3.8
September 15 and 16, 2008	Muskoka Chamber of Commerce	Phone call from SREL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tried to clear up some misconceptions regarding blasting, construction impacts to highway 169, flows over the falls and impacts to Purk's Place 	Muskoka Chamber of Commerce agreed to arrange a meeting for SREL to present to the Chamber of Commerce board	September 15 & 16, 2008	Blasting: Section 5.1.4; Traffic: 5.3.4; Aesthetics: 6.3.5; and Local Businesses: 5.3.8
September 16, 2008	OPG	Meeting	HE presented the Project on behalf of SREL and	OPG requested clarification that the impact of the Project on	September 26, 2008	Water Management Plan

Table D6
Comments Received from Industry/Stakeholder Groups – Phase 2 Consultation Period

Date	Industry/ Stakeholder Group	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s) and Concerns	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section(s) of Environmental Screening Report
			<p>discussed the integration of the Project into the Muskoka River Water Management Plan. SREL acknowledged that the final proposed operating plan should be submitted for review and comment by both MNR and OPG. SREL also stated its intention to submit an amendment to the existing WMP to include the North Bala GS, and to identify any high or low flow indicators or triggers.</p>	<p>OPG facilities will be minimal.</p>		<p>– Section 9</p>
<p>September 16, 2008</p>	<p>OPG</p>	<p>Meeting</p>	<p>HE presented the Project on behalf of SREL and discussed the integration of the Project into the Muskoka River Water Management Plan. SREL acknowledged that the final proposed operating plan should be submitted for review and comment by both MNR and OPG. SREL also stated its</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Water Management Plan – Section 9</p>

Table D6
Comments Received from Industry/Stakeholder Groups – Phase 2 Consultation Period

Date	Industry/ Stakeholder Group	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s) and Concerns	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section(s) of Environmental Screening Report
			intention to submit an amendment to the existing WMP to include the North Bala GS, and to identify any high or low flow indicators or triggers.			
September 25, 2008	MRPOA	Email	MRPOA sent SREL a copy of communications to members, including a summary of SREL's presentation on Sep 13 th	N/A	N/A	N/A
September 26, 2008	OPG	Email	OPG requested clarification that the impact of the Project on OPG facilities will be minimal.	ESR Section 9 – Water Management Plan will provide appropriate clarification	N/A	Water Management Plan – Section 9
October 5, 2008	Muskoka Lakes Snow Trail Association	Letter	Strong concern regarding travel by snowmobilers during the closure of Bala Falls Road which is part of Trail C102D.	SREL responded that they have been discussing possible solutions regarding the snowmobile trail with the municipality, and may participate with the construction of a permanent or floating bridge along the Lake Muskoka side of the rail bridge. If not, SREL is prepared to provide the MLSTA with a trail to accommodate travel along the existing route. SREL committed to consulting with the MLSTA	October 17, 2008 by email	Recreation – Section 5.3.7.2

Table D6
Comments Received from Industry/Stakeholder Groups – Phase 2 Consultation Period

Date	Industry/ Stakeholder Group	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s) and Concerns	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section(s) of Environmental Screening Report
October 20, 2008	Muskoka Lakes Snow Trails Association	Email in response to October 17, 2008 reply from SREL	<i>Thank you...Our club can now proceed with the usual trail routing through town for this winter. In addition MLSTA asked to be added to the stakeholder mailing list and would like to discuss with SREL any decisions being made that will directly affect the group.</i>	regarding this corridor/path. <i>We will contact you next fall if not before to discuss the details of the routing for next winter.</i>	October 21, 2008	Recreation – Section 5.3.7.2
November 1, 2008	Muskoka Lakes Association (MLA)	Email from SREL	SREL responded to a MLA issued newsletter to its members re: project. Confirmed the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project is privately funded, therefore, no cost to taxpayers • Project will be paid by OPA for power produced as per Standard Offer Project contract at 11.08 cents/kWh • Project will not reduce access to falls 	N/A	N/A	Section 5.3.1 – Effect on Local Use and Access; and 6.3.1. Local Access.
November 2, 2008	Muskoka Ratepayers Association	Email	Provided address of Environmental Chair	Stakeholder added to mailing list	November 2, 2008	N/A

Table D6
Comments Received from Industry/Stakeholder Groups – Phase 2 Consultation Period

Date	Industry/ Stakeholder Group	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s) and Concerns	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section(s) of Environmental Screening Report
November 3, 2008	MLA	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Will there be a business economic assessment to determine fiscal prudence?</i> • <i>Who will be responsible for flooding properties if man-made error in operating</i> • <i>What is size of intake?</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A business economic assessment is not part of the ESR. • SREL's operator will be first contact. Contact MNR for info regarding responsibilities/liabilities. • Intake size not finalized until detail design, but will be designed to ensure fish aren't entrained 	November 3, 2008	N/A
November 25, 2008	Georgian Bay Association	Email	<i>Please note our new address and update your mail file.</i>	Stakeholder Mailing List was updated	November 25, 2008	N/A
December 4, 2008	MLA	Email from SREL	SREL respect the right of MLA to oppose the proposed project, however, SREL would like to clear up some of the misconceptions that MLA has circulated in its mailings in particular: -water levels will NOT be maintained up to 2' higher than average and thereby damage docks during freeze thaw, or cause increased shore erosion. In fact there is no planned change in lake levels.	N/A	N/A	Water Management Plan – Section 9

Table D6
Comments Received from Industry/Stakeholder Groups – Phase 2 Consultation Period

Date	Industry/ Stakeholder Group	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s) and Concerns	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section(s) of Environmental Screening Report
December 15, 2008	OPG	Teleconference	Discussion of the operations plan including water flow and level control.	N/A	N/A	Water Management Plan – Section 9
December 15, 2008	OPG and MNR	Teleconference	Discussion of the operations plan including water flow and level control.	N/A	N/A	Water Management Plan – Section 9
January 9, 2009	Go Home Lake Cottage Owners Association (GHLCOA)	Email from SREL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SREL noted that website has different address than SREL used for mailing. • Offered to meet with executive. • Asked to confirm receipt of mailing 	GHLCOA will forward information to appropriate representative.	January 9, 2008	N/A
January 12, 2009	MLA	Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inquired as to the operating plan for the facility • Other concerns included scenic flow over the south dam, improvement to electrical service in Muskoka; requirement of a performance bond; release of the ESR; economic incentives from the government; effects to local 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes of meeting were done by MLA and posted on its website. • Plant will be operated as per the WMP. • Scenic flows have not yet been determined. • SREL will not have control of distribution, instead Hydro One. • SREL is not aware any performance bond requirements. 	January 12, 2009	Water Management Plan – Section 9; Aesthetics: 6.3.5

Table D6
Comments Received from Industry/Stakeholder Groups – Phase 2 Consultation Period

Date	Industry/ Stakeholder Group	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s) and Concerns	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section(s) of Environmental Screening Report
			employment; current schedule; penalties for non-conformance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copies of ESR will be on website and available locally for review. • There should be little effect on local employment and may be some improvement. • Current schedule is for start of construction November, 2009. • Refer to MNR for penalties. 		
January 12, 2009	MLA	Email from SREL	Expressed thanks for the meeting	Indicated that they now have a better understanding of the project and SREL's responsibilities.	January 13, 2009	N/A
April 13, 2009	MRPOA	Email	They are drafting a report to the members and want help with the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can a run-of-river plant also run in peaking mode? • Are there monetary incentives that encourage operators to run in peaking mode? • If so, do these apply to SREL's proposal? • Are there penalties to address running peaking mode as opposed to run of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plant will be designed to be run of river mode at the request of regulatory agencies. • A 35% premium would be paid during peak times. • Bala will not be peaking. • SREL would violate our operating plan and be subject to penalties on the company and operator if peaking were to occur. • Ideas are still being considered as to how to best "hide" the downstream face. 	April 14, 2009	N/A

Table D6
Comments Received from Industry/Stakeholder Groups – Phase 2 Consultation Period

Date	Industry/ Stakeholder Group	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s) and Concerns	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section(s) of Environmental Screening Report
			river? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have there been revisions to the design/aesthetics of the outflow spillway to the Moon River? 			
April 22, 2009	CP Rail	Telephone call from SREL	Enquired as to whether CP Rail has issue with the project.	N/A	N/A	N/A
April 22, 2009	CP Rail	Email from SREL	Provided General Arrangement drawings of the project for information purposes.	N/A	N/A	N/A
May 14, 2009	CP Rail	Email from SREL	Requested meeting CPRail, MNR and Purks Place.	N/A	N/A	N/A
May 20 and 21, 2009	CP Rail	Email from SREL	Follow-up email to request a meeting. Provided a list of potential topics to be discussed including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline of proposed project including layout and timing 	CP Rail responded that they are not in a position to meet at this time. Will contact SREL to schedule meeting in future.	May 21, 2009	N/A

Table D6
Comments Received from Industry/Stakeholder Groups – Phase 2 Consultation Period

Date	Industry/ Stakeholder Group	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s) and Concerns	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section(s) of Environmental Screening Report
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction impacts to CPRail property and tenant's business (Purk's Place) • Long-term operational impacts to CPRail property and tenant's business • Possible mitigation and/or compensation strategies for these impacts • Next steps. 			
June 1, 2009	MRPOA	Phone call from SREL	SREL requested permission to attend a members meeting in response to scheduled presentation by project opposition.	Permission received from MRPOA.	June 5, 2009	N/A
June 6, 2009	MRPOA	Members Meeting	Discussion topics included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety • Loss of recreation use • Performance Bonds • Appearance • Want SREL to look at south dam idea • Presented to members how to request that the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No significant changes have been made since the last members meeting presentation by SREL. • ESR will be available after it is reviewed by various agencies. • South dam idea would not be considered by SREL 	June 6, 2009	Safety: Sections 5.3.2 and 6.3.2.

Table D6
Comments Received from Industry/Stakeholder Groups – Phase 2 Consultation Period

Date	Industry/ Stakeholder Group	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s) and Concerns	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section(s) of Environmental Screening Report
			project be “bumped up” in the approvals process.			
June 12, 2009	MLA	Meeting with executive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inquired as to the consideration of the south dam as a potential project location by the “Save the Bala Falls” group. • The impact of the GEA on Project. • complete landscaping plan? • When to start construction? • New jobs? • New issues? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STBF feel south dam option is a safer and provides less impact to recreation. • GEA shouldn’t affect project, may reduce some zoning control. • A landscaping plan will be completed during detailed design. • Construction delayed to fall 2010 • 50 person years, 8-10 MM in local products and services • SREL and municipality are investigating a new permanent snowmobile bridge. 	n/a	Section 5.1: Construction Activities
June 17, 2009	MLA	Email from SREL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sent MLA paper by Muskoka Watershed Foundation on Power Generation 	N/A	N/A	N/A
June 23, 2009	CP Rail	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requested meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting set for August 5, 2009 	June 23, 2009	N/A
June 25, 2009	MRPOA	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the proposed environmental approvals process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Things are clearly laid out however, it appears that if SREL does not publish NOC 	June 25, 2009	N/A

Table D6
Comments Received from Industry/Stakeholder Groups – Phase 2 Consultation Period

Date	Industry/ Stakeholder Group	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s) and Concerns	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section(s) of Environmental Screening Report
			affect the SREL project?	before the new rules are enacted they will likely fall under the new rules.		
August 5, 2009	CP Rail	Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited access for maintenance of abutments and pier with relocation of boom • Could cause additional costs for maintenance of structure • Increased scour of abutments and Pier as a result of additional flows through north channel • Blasting should be done to CP Rail standards, near structure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently the bridge and dam are below booms and they continue to be maintained • An underwater inspection will be completed by CP Rail prior to construction to determine if upgrades are required. • SREL will have contractor use CPRail blasting specs. • SREL will prepare a package for CPRail showing drawings and anticipated flows through the north channel. 	August 5, 2009	N/A
September 17, 2009	MLA	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent of false information circulating within the community regarding the project; • Provided information on water level fluctuation and management; 	N/A	N/A	Section 9 Water Management Plan

**Table D7
Public Comments Received During Phase Two Consultations**

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
July 24/08	Phone call	Requested to have SREL attend a small focus group prior to the second PIC to discuss the new plan and get an initial public reaction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SREL agreed to me a small group for August 9/08. 	July 30/09	
July 31, 2008	Email	Will there be a weekend PIC?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no weekend PIC planned • Comments and queries can be forwarded via the project website, toll free phone line, or by emailing Trion Clarke of Hatch Energy. • All material displayed at the PIC will be available via the Project website. 	July 31, 2008	N/A
August 3, 2008	Telephone Call	Stated concern regarding the Lake Muskoka Water Levels	Information regarding the Muskoka River Water Management Plan and the commitments therein were discussed	August 3, 2008	Hydrology – Section 6.2.2.
Aug 5/08	Email	Requested that meeting for Aug 13 th be added to SREL website.	Note added on website.	Aug 5/08	

**Table D7
Public Comments Received During Phase Two Consultations**

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
August 5, 2008	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requested copies of submissions for approval by the Township of Muskoka Lakes and the District of Muskoka. Stated that SREL should be making a significant monetary investment of \$2 million for community improvements to the town of Bala "I see no proof in any of your literature that there is any ROI for this community" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No submissions have been made to the Township or Districts 	August 5, 2008	N/A
August 8, 2008	Email	Expressed dissatisfaction with the Open House brochure and artistic rendering.	Expressed thanks for the comment, and indicated that the website material included an updated artists rendering for review.	September 8, 2008	N/A
August 9, 2008	Email	Deep concern regarding the proposed hydroelectric dam, stated concerns regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aesthetics Environmental Impacts 	The project will not involve the construction of a new dam Subsequent email from sender indicating delight and relief that project will not touch falls nor build upon them, still concerned about impact on water and air.	August 10, 2008	Sections 5 and 6 – Effects Assessment of the Natural and Social Environment
August 11, 2008	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental impact to water and air Use of environmentally 	Stakeholder was added to mailing list and stated concerns are addressed within the ESR	N/A	Sections 5 and 6 – Effects Assessment of the Natural and Social Environment

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Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
August 12, 2008	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clean and safe technology • What are the methods used to inform people of the PIC? • Why was a weekday selected as it is difficult for seasonal residents to attend? • Please email a copy of the PIC material 	<p>Publication of Notices in local newspapers, and advised interested local associations, sent letters to all stakeholders as well as government and interested agencies</p> <p>Residents suggested that weekends were to be avoided, and asked for the PIC to be after working hours. Posters will be available on the website after August 13, 2008.</p>	August 12, 2008	Agency, Public and First Nation Consultation – Section 3.
August 12, 2008	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interested in seeing a plan view showing location • Land tenure of project location 	Stakeholder was added to mailing list and stated concerns are addressed within the ESR	N/A	Figure 1.2. Land Tenure – Section 2.2.4.2
August 25/08	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggested SREL think long and hard about how important the falls and parks place and town docks are to their community (community?) • Expressed a profanity. 	No response	n/a	
Aug 25/08	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted that they attended open house • Requested that the latest visual rendering of the proposed dam be sent. • Also requested insight as to what will happen to water flows over falls when the 	SREL is currently revising its artist's rendering of the proposed plant to help with the perceived scale issues.	Sep 4/08	

**Table D7
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Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
		flow is at its minimum. What specific volume will be diverted and what percentage will that be of total			
August 27, 2008	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unable to locate the presentation material from the PIC on the website • Request that the information is emailed. • Artist rendition was not detailed enough 	Provided the location on the website where information requested is posted.	August 27, 2008	N/A
September 3, 2008	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requested to be included on the stakeholder mailing list • Owns a cottage on Bala Bay and is very concerned about water levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email address was added to the stakeholder mailing list • Water levels are addressed in the ESR 	September 3, 2008	Hydrology – Section 6.2.2.
September 3, 2008	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effect to the town dock for both swimming and boating 	The construction and operation of the project are not anticipated to affect velocity at the town docks; <i>except that the speed of the water will be increased slightly the closer you are to the railway bridge. We will have a boom in this location indicating that people should not be swimming or boating at or under the rail bridge.</i>	September 17, 2008	Hydrology – Section 6.2.2.Recreation – Section 5.3.7.2 and 6.3.6.
Sept 4/08	Email from SREL to author of opposition website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SREL find that many of the suppositions to be incorrect. • SREL are not in a position in 			

**Table D7
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Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
		this stage of the project to complete detailed design until after the approvals are complete.			
Sep 5/08	1 hour phone call	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussed the rendering presented at the open house 	n/a		
September 8, 2008	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expressed support for the project pending delivery on committed plans 	Stakeholder was added to mailing list.	September 8, 2008	N/A
September 8, 2008	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Described themselves as local business owners with store frontage on Bala Falls Road, not able to attend any previous meetings. Requested information regarding the impact of the project on Bala Falls Road. Specifically with respect to traffic flow, closing off the road, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conveyed the traffic management plan as presented at the 2008 PIC. 	September 9, 2008	Local Traffic – Section 5.3.4; Figure 5.1.
Sept 10/08	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Informed SREL that the opposition had planned a public meeting for Sept 12th in Bala. Offered to speak against the group but would need some further information from SREL. Indicated regatta will not be 	Provided comments and clarifications to opposition, specifically: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction period 12-18 months Reiterated traffic control proposal during road work Min. flows etc. Regatta and diving impacts. 	Sep 12/08	N/A

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Public Comments Received During Phase Two Consultations**

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
		anywhere near new intake			
September 12, 2008	Email	Commenter requested to be kept abreast of latest information	Stakeholder was added to the mailing list.	September 12, 2008	N/A
September 15, 2008	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inquired as to whether SREL could provide photographs of similar projects • Artist renderings always camouflage and eliminate what they don't want you to see... 	<p>SREL thanked commenter for their inquiry and provided <i>"some examples of projects that show you can make the plants visually acceptable in areas of public gathering"</i>...and included photos of Fenelon Falls, ON; Chaudier Falls, QC; and St. Paulin QC. SREL conveyed that <i>"from conversations with property owners, it seems that it is a desire to have this plant "disappear". Therefore, that is what we are striving for. And if it means simply restoration of the area with native plantings or a more elaborate viewing area/park, we are willing to let the public decide."</i></p>	September 15, 2008	N/A
Sept 15/08	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicated that they had attended the oppositions meeting. • Opposition was saying that rocks would be flying for 17 months and traffic would be closed for weeks, and that kids won't be able to jump off the rail bridge in the future if the project goes 			

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Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
		<p>through.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Also discussed that presenters indicated that project would increase flows into lake thereby making boating hazardous and snowmobiler wouldn't be able to go through Bala anymore. 			
Sept 15/08	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requested actual photos of previous projects similar to proposed showing the before and buried/park-like setting. Suggested that the plants over the site would die. 	<p>Don't have an example of a fully underground plant. Sent photos of Fenelon Falls, St. Paulin and Chaudiere Falls in Quebec to show possible ways to incorporate into the parks they are located in.</p>	Sep 15/08	N/A
September 16, 2008	Email	<p>Inquiry regarding the tailrace location. <i>Is the outflow indeed all under water or is there a huge steel door that goes up and down and is visible? Above the outlet is that the "lookout" and how high is it and will it be fenced?</i></p>	<p><i>When facing the plant from the Moon River you will see an approximately 15' high wall that will be approximately 25' wide ... This outer visible wall will be finished in some material that is acceptable to the public... The lookout will be in the order of 15' high. It will not be fenced....</i></p>	September 16, 2008	N/A
September 17, 2008	Additional correspondence re: September 16, 2008 Email above	<p><i>Is there a gate in the wall allowing the water to come out?</i></p>	<p><i>The outflow will occur under water...this new wall would essentially be a false wall....[for aesthetics purposes]</i></p>	September 17, 2008	N/A

**Table D7
Public Comments Received During Phase Two Consultations**

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
September 18, 2008	Phone Conversation	Inquired about <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the potential for locating the project within the south channel the material presented on the website to the MRPOA 	Provided explanation regarding the MNR site release program, and offered for the stakeholder to participate with SREL's advisory committee	September 18, 2008	N/A
September 19, 2008	Phone Conversation	Looking for information on the size/dimensions of land that SREL will be looking to lease from the MNR and the District.	SREL indicated that their website had a diagram from the last open house that delineated the parcels of land by owner.	September 19, 2008	Land Tenure – Section 2.2.4.2.
Spetember 19, 2008	Phone Conversation	Stated concerns included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety when jumping from the railway bridge Flow reduction as a result of the project over the south falls Information regarding the two lane Bailey Bridge Consultation process especially pertaining to local business owners Construction schedule 	SREL replied that while there will be a large boom located at the railway bridge, and that this practice is unsafe and illegal. Flows over the south falls would range from 60m ³ /s in April to 2.1 to 2.7 in summer. Information on the two-lane Bailey Bridge was provided. Information regarding required consultation as per the environmental screening process and additional consultation which has taken place was reiterated. The construction schedule was described as presented during the 2008 PIC	September 19, 2008	Public Safety in the Vicinity of the Project 5.3.2; Construction Site Safety – Section 5.3.3; Public Safety During Plant Operation – Section 6.3.2. Local Traffic – Section 5.3.4; Figure 5.1.Construction Activities – Section 5.1

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Public Comments Received During Phase Two Consultations**

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
September 22, 2008	Email	<i>Can you provide me with the list of the 17 sites that MNR have slated as appropriate generating sites in Ontario? Do you have information on why Bala came to the top of this list as a first site to consider?</i>	SREL provided the site release website. SREL also conveyed that <i>if there is a group that that would like to discuss its concerns with this project. SREL is willing to meet with them.</i>	September 22, 2008	N/A
Sep 22/08	Email	Inquired as to whether SREL attended the oppositions meeting on Sept 14, 2008. What would the flow rate be at the intake? Some people have the misconception that the project will increase the flow through the falls.			
September 23, 2008	Email	<i>Do you have the new artist's rendering? I'd like the renderings to include our view from the water, looking at the 15' wall.</i>	<i>Yes we are working on a new rendering for the project to take into consideration comments received from our August/08 open house. We do expect that this will include a view from the water. When it is ready, it will be posted on our website. We currently expect this to be completed by mid October. Stakeholder was subsequently contacted to advise when the artists</i>	September 25, 2008 and October 25, 2008	Figure 6.6

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Public Comments Received During Phase Two Consultations**

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
			<i>rendering was made available on the website (October 25, 2008).</i>		
Sep 28/08	Email	Would be helpful to have something visible to relate water flow to instead of just m3/s.			
September 29, 2008	Email	<i>I am in favour of your Bala Falls project... I am in favour of developing responsible green energy where possible and am very excited to see the final plans for development into a usable park setting...A park setting in this location would greatly improve continuity in the town. As a suggestion, I think statistics of actual flow rates of the existing falls at different seasons and water volume figures of projected needs to run the turbines should be distributed as soon as possible. Bala survived, if not thrived for decades with a one lane passage through town. If specific timetables of reduced traffic flows were released, the comments of \18 months of traveling over a single lane Bailey bridge\1 could be</i>	Stakeholder was thanked for his interest in the project and was added to mailing list and stated concerns are addressed within the ESR. He was also sent a copy of the SREL flyer "Setting the Record Straight" (See Appendix D)	October 25, 2008	Local Traffic – Section 5.3.4; Figure 5.1.

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Public Comments Received During Phase Two Consultations**

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
		<i>squashed...good luck and I look forward to seeing plans for future development.</i>			
October 3, 2008	Email	<p>The following statements and concerns were made/raised regarding the proposed project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefit to the community of Bala • Environmental, economical, and aesthetic impacts • Negligible benefit to the province • Economic and cultural impacts • Disruption during construction • Access • Compliance with regulatory standards 	Stakeholder was added to mailing list and stated concerns are addressed within the ESR	N/A	<p>Employment and Economy – Sections 5.3.9 and 6.3.7. Sound Levels – Section 6.3.4; Appendix C1 – Acoustic Assessment Report. Hydrology – Section 6.2.2. Local Traffic – Section 5.3.4; Figure 5.1. Aesthetics – Sections 5.3.6 and 6.3.5; Figure 6.6 Public Access - Section 6.3.1. Recreation – Sections 5.3.7.2 and 6.3.6.</p>
Oct 5/08	Email	<p>Addressed to municipality and SREL Indicated that likely that SREL would put up a sterile and contrived eyesore similar to photo attached of rock retaining wall, in order to hold up driveway. Project will remove last vegetative buffer along shoreline.</p>	<p>SRE: continue to listen to concerns and agree that the photo attached is not suitable for this location, but this was not proposed by SREL. SREL have requested that sender join an advisory committee to recommend what wall should look like. Note that this is the only sender that has expressed a desire to see the plant adjacent to the falls.</p>	Oct 10/08	N/A

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Public Comments Received During Phase Two Consultations**

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
October 5, 2008	Email	Email outlining concerns including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of environmental studies • Water levels • Access to local residences during high water • Legal recourse in the event of damage to buildings or property • Mismanagement of water flows by SREL • Impacts to local businesses • Negative effects to traffic • Emergency response during construction 	Stakeholder was added to mailing list and stated concerns are addressed within the ESR	N/A	Baseline Data Collection Program – Section 4. Employment and Economy – Sections 5.3.9 and 6.3.7. Hydrology – Section 6.2.2. Local Traffic – Section 5.3.4; Figure 5.1. Aesthetics – Sections 5.3.6 and 6.3.5; Figure 6.6 Public Access - Section 6.3.1. Recreation – Sections 5.3.7.2 and 6.3.6.
October 6, 2008	Email	Upon review of the proposed project the following concerns were submitted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aesthetics • Impacts to wildlife, tourism, and local businesses 	Stakeholder was added to mailing list and stated concerns are addressed within the ESR	N/A	Aesthetics – Sections 5.3.6 and 6.3.5; Wildlife 5.2.10 and 6.2.6; Tourism – Sections 5.3.7 and 6.3.6. Local Businesses – Section 5.3.8
October 7, 2008	Email	The following concerns were submitted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts to local businesses • Impacts to Purk’s Place • Impacts to tourism 	Stakeholder was added to mailing list and stated concerns are addressed within the ESR	N/A	Tourism – Sections 5.3.7 and 6.3.6. Local Businesses – Section 5.3.8
October 8, 2008	Email	Stated concerns with the project included:	Responded to concerns stating that the <i>project remains as viable today on the</i>	October 8, 2008	Tourism – Sections 5.3.7 and 6.3.6. Aesthetics – Sections

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Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of district lands for industrial purposes • Viability of the project • Tourism and economic impacts • Aesthetics • Loss of vegetation • Access to the water 	<p><i>original crown land site as it was when first shown to the public in August 2007. However, in response to clearly stated concerns about the impact this might have on the falls, we chose to move the plant 30 m away from the falls.</i></p> <p><i>We will respect any decision made by the council regarding our request and will build according to their wishes.</i></p> <p>SREL also invited the commenter to join the <i>architectural advisory committee to help with the aesthetics of the project.</i></p>		5.3.6 and 6.3.5; Public Access - Section 6.3.1. Vegetation – Section 5.2.9
October 9, 2008	Email	Stated the following concerns regarding the project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aesthetics • Use of District lands for the project 	Stakeholder was added to mailing list and stated concerns are addressed within the ESR	N/A	Aesthetics – Sections 5.3.6 and 6.3.5;
October 10, 2008	Email	Stated concerns regarding the project include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of waterways for hydroelectric power • Impacts to tourism and the local economy • Safety at the tailrace • Aesthetics 	Stakeholder was added to mailing list and stated concerns are addressed within the ESR	N/A	Aesthetics – Sections 5.3.6 and 6.3.5; Tourism – Sections 5.3.7 and 6.3.6. Public Safety in the Vicinity of the Project 5.3.2; Construction Site Safety – Section 5.3.3; Public Safety During Plant Operation –

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Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of the Bala Falls as a heritage site 			Section 6.3.2.
October 11, 2008	Email	<p><i>There has been, for many years, an old hydro facility in Bala – why is this not being renovated, updated and utilized?</i></p> <p><i>Are there any plans to return the land and its surroundings to its pre-dig state?</i></p> <p><i>Does the need for additional electric power outweigh the possible damage to Bala’s tourism prospects – both short and long term?</i></p>	<p><i>The old/existing facility in Bala is owned by Algonquin Power, another private developer...</i></p> <p><i>SREL has made some very significant changes to its construction schedule to limit the impacts to Bala's tourism.</i></p>	October 13, 2008	N/A
October 13, 2008	Email	<p>Submitted concerns including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • economic impact • aesthetics • public safety 	Stakeholder was added to mailing list. Some stated concerns we addressed by SREL in an email response, and will be addressed within the ESR.	October 24, 2008	Aesthetics – Sections 5.3.6 and 6.3.5; Employment and Economy – Sections 5.3.9 and 6.3.7. Public Safety in the Vicinity of the Project 5.3.2; Construction Site Safety – Section 5.3.3; Public Safety During Plant Operation – Section 6.3.2.
October 13, 2008	Email	<p>Stated concerns regarding the project including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • safety • aesthetics • economic impact • traffic 	Stakeholder was added to mailing list and stated concerns are addressed within the ESR. In a response from SREL, the proponent also address many of the stakeholder’s concerns.	October 25, 2008	Aesthetics – Sections 5.3.6 and 6.3.5; Employment and Economy – Sections 5.3.9 and 6.3.7. Public Safety in the Vicinity of the Project 5.3.2; Construction Site

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Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noise 			Safety – Section 5.3.3; Public Safety During Plant Operation – Section 6.3.2 Local Traffic – Section 5.3.4; Figure 5.1. Sound Levels – Section 6.3.4; Appendix C1 – Acoustic Assessment Report.
October 13, 2007	Email	Stated the following concerns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Bala's economic which is driven by tourism</i> • Safety • Aesthetics 	Stakeholder was added to mailing list and stated concerns are addressed within the ESR	N/A	Safety During Plant Operation – Section 6.3.2 Local Traffic – Section 5.3.4; Figure 5.1. Aesthetics – Sections 5.3.6 and 6.3.5; Employment and Economy – Sections 5.3.9 and 6.3.7.
Oct 13/08	Email	Follow-up to email of Oct 8/08 Find description of retaining wall is too faint, in the interest of full disclosure; would you be willing to make these items more visible?	Both options will be presented to District Council on Tuesday. Once we have approval for the project we will complete the detailed design of the plant.	Nov 13/08	N/A
October 14, 2008	Email	Stakeholder submitted the following concerns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequacy of the public consultation process • Negative impacts to the community of Bala • Consideration of environmental, heritage, economic and scientific 	Stakeholder was added to mailing list and stated concerns are addressed within the ESR	N/A	Sections 5 and 6 – Effects Assessment of the Natural and Social Environment

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Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
		implications			
October 16, 2008	Email	Stakeholder expressed concern with impact on Bala Falls as a focal point of the town	Stakeholder was added to mailing list and stated concerns are addressed within the ESR	N/A	N/A
October 17, 2008	Email	Enquiry regarding methods of contact for submitting questions.	Stakeholder was added to mailing list and stated concerns are addressed within the ESR	October 17, 2008	N/A
October 17, 2008	Email	Stated concerns included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety • Aesthetics • Prohibition of people jumping from the rail bridge • Consultation process regarding signage and appearance of safety features 	Stakeholder was added to mailing list and their stated concerns were addressed by SREL in some detail. SREL conveyed that there would be a public advisory committee if they would like to join.	October 24, 2008	Agency, Public and First Nation Consultation – Section 3; Safety During Plant Operation – Section 6.3.2 Local Traffic – Section 5.3.4; Figure 5.1. Aesthetics – Sections 5.3.6 and 6.3.5
October 20, 2008	Email	Stated concerns included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negative effects to Tourism 	Stakeholder was added to mailing list and stated concerns are addressed within the ESR	N/A	Tourism – Sections 5.3.7 and 6.3.6.
October 24, 2008	Email	Inquired regarding the funding of the Project	Provided information on the developer’s responsibilities and MNR’s site release process. Stakeholder was added to the mailing list.	October 24, 2008	N/A
Oct 25/08	Email	Follow-to SREL response for Sep 23 rd email Thanked SREL for new rendering Asked if Astroturf was proposed on top of building and where the hatches were.	Haven’t worked out vegetation details but it will not be Astroturf. Will be done by a landscape architect and is based on a streetscape plant that the Chamber of Commerce had done for the area.	Oct 31/08	N/A

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Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
October 27, 2008	Email	Negative effects to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aesthetics • Water flow • Safety • Tourism • Local economy • The environment • Fish and wildlife habitat 	HE thanked stakeholder for the comments related to the Project. Stakeholder was added to mailing list and stated concerns are addressed within the ESR.	October 30, 2008	Aesthetics – Sections 5.3.6 and 6.3.5; Hydrology – Section 6.2.2 and Figure 6.6; Public Safety – Section 5.3.2. and 6.3.2; Tourism – Sections 5.3.7 and 6.3.6; Employment and Economy – Sections 5.3.9 and 6.3.7; Natural Environment – Section 5.2 and 6.2.
October 27, 2008	Email	<i>I have searched your website and many other but have not found any pros to the power plant as of this moment. Can you please state a few?</i>	Stakeholder was added to mailing list to receive future notifications regarding the Project, and SREL replied to the email stating benefits of the Project including employment; construction workforce spending; renewable energy production; etc.	October 31, 2008	Table 5.4; Conclusions and Recommendations - Section 12.
October 27, 2008	Email	Expressed concern with the aesthetics of the Project	SREL responded with additional information regarding the proposed landscape design.	October 31, 2008	Aesthetics – Section 6.3.5
November 11, 2008	Email	Resort operator in the area offered accommodation services during construction of the Project.	Stakeholder was added to mailing list.	November 11, 2008	N/A
November 18, 2008	Email	Inquired as to whether the ESR had been issued for public review and requested a copy be sent to him personally.	Stakeholder was added to the Project mailing list and would therefore be informed of the 30 review period of the ESR and the appropriate locations to do so.	November 18, 2008	N/A

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Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
Nov 20/08	Email	Will the project be required to sound a siren before operation of the turbine? If so how loud, how long would it last, and how often would it go off. What is the total square footage of the proposed plant and the height above the water and above the road from the Moon River side?	Sirens will not be required or used for this modern project. No outside noise will be discernable from the plant operations The frontage will be about 25', but not sure at the moment of the square footage. This width is less than some relatively small cabins in the area.	Nov 21/08	
December 4, 2008	Email	Requested information regarding specific water levels during operation at spring break-up, summer months and during fall.	Provided the stakeholder with a copy of the Water Management Plan for the upstream and downstream water bodies, stating also that SREL is obligated to maintain water levels in this range.	January 14, 2008	Water Management Plan - Section 9
Dec 15/08	Email	Have heard that the ESR is completed and being circulated to Ministries. The guidelines suggest that it would be appropriate to a draft copy to be sent to interested parties/stakeholders in advance of its formal release. Would you send me a draft copy? What is the specific timing and will it be before or after Christmas?	SREL is currently making edits to the draft ESR. Some sections are yet to be reviewed by the various agencies for initial comments. We will be required to circulate the report to the public after the Notice of Completion is issued. A date for this has not been set and won't occur until all comments from agencies have been discussed. Upon NOC, copies will be provided at various locations around Bala for public review and posted on website for a period of 30 days.	Dec 17/08	N/A

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Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
December 17, 2008	Email	Requested to be kept abreast of Project developments. Does SREL anticipate a round of edits to ESR due to comments from Ministries which are currently reviewing it? Would there be a need to send it back to those Ministries to be sure they are happy with the modified document.	SREL confirmed that the stakeholder was on the mailing list and replied that they would be kept abreast of any developments. SREL will have to see what comments are received from the Ministries to know what the next step will be.	December 17, 2008	N/A
December 19, 2008	Written Correspondence	Stated concerns included potential impacts to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic flow • Pedestrian safety • Emergency services • Construction traffic safety • Public access • Boat access to Bala • Economic impact to local businesses • Employment during construction • Tourism • Bala Cranberry Festival • Weekly farmers market • Annual regatta at the town docks • Scuba diving 	Thank you for your comments; these will be assessed within the Environmental Screening Report. Stakeholder was added to mailing list.	January 15, 2009	Local Traffic – Section 5.3.4; Figure 5.1.; Public Safety – Section 5.3.2.; Construction Site Safety – Section 5.3.3; Recreation – Section 5.3.7.2; Employment and Economy – Sections 5.3.9 and 6.3.7. Sound Levels – Section 6.3.4; Appendix C1 – Acoustic Assessment Report. Effect on Areas for Public Use – Section 6.3.6.1; Hydrology – Section 6.2.2. Aesthetics – Sections 5.3.6 and 6.3.5; Figure 6.6 Public Access - Section 6.3.1 and 6.3.6.; Land Tenure – Section 2.2.4.2. Permits and Approvals – Section 1.9;

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Public Comments Received During Phase Two Consultations**

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisheries impacts in the Moon River and Lake Muskoka • Economic impact of the Project on the sport fishery • Effect of blasting on adjacent structures • Stakeholder Consultation • Construction noise • Boat navigation • Swimmers • Negative effects as a result of construction activities • Government funding and estimated cost of the project • Permits and approvals • Water levels • Energy output in KW and households 			Stakeholder Consultation – Section 3; Summary of Potential Effects, Proposed Mitigation and Residual Effects During the Construction Phase – Table 5.4; Economic Benefits – Section 5.3.9.2.; Employment and Economic Opportunities – Section 6.3.7.
January 11, 2009	Email	Inquired as to the study of various environmental components including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Quality • Fishing and Spawning Beds • Safety • Impact of Construction • Town and Waterfront Events (Tourism) 	Responded with some information on those specific environmental components and provided a description of the process for reviewing the Environmental Screening Report. The stakeholder was added to the mailing list for the Project.	January 11, 2009	Public Safety – Section 5.3.2.; Construction Site Safety – Section 5.3.3; Effect on Areas for Public Use – Section 6.3.6.1.

**Table D7
Public Comments Received During Phase Two Consultations**

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
Feb 15/09	Email	Indicated that had read SREL's Feb 10/09 letter to the Township of Muskoka Lakes and would like to discuss some other ideas about a south dam idea. Requested a phone conversation	Yes would be available for discussion. However, drawing that done by sender has intake located so that most of the available head at the site is lost. Also, idea would require realignment of road, a new bridge, disruption to access for two neighboring businesses, and use of CP Rail land. Would also require a new underpass under existing live rail line.	Feb 17/08	N/A
Feb 18/09	Email followed by lengthy phone conversation Follow-up email from SREL	Request meeting with SREL to discuss south channel idea. Attached a presentation made by sender to District Council	Discussed at length why the idea presented to District Council is too expensive to be feasible and that it incorporates private land that SREL does not have access to and would require CPRail to give permission to work under the live rail line. Project outlined would also have a very small fraction of the capacity of the proposed plant due to the configuration. Reviewed another idea by sender again and find that this idea reduces the flood capacity of the south dam and thereby puts the lake at risk of flooding. Also, long draft tube would require extensive blasting in the south channel to achieve submergence of the turbine.	Feb 18/09 Feb 20/09	N/A

**Table D7
Public Comments Received During Phase Two Consultations**

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
Feb 22/09	Follow-up email	<p>Wouldn't currently proposed option also reduce flood capacity of dam in north channel? How can flood capacity for south idea reduce for day-to-day operation? Doesn't agree that south idea is more expensive. Understands it may be more difficult to build in south channel and may produce less power, but why should SREL maximize profits? Understand the long draft tubes aren't the norm, but possibly another turbine could be used. Agree demolishing Bala Falls bridge could make construction more difficult, however, would need a large crane for both options. Ad would need to use temp bridge for proposed option as well. South dam idea could be designed to actually increase flow in south channel. Would like SREL to seriously consider this idea again.</p>	<p>Issues have already been discussed on phone in great detail. The key reason SREL are not pursuing south dam idea is that it would reduce flood capacity of the south dam during construction and operation. The proposed idea by sender would require extensive work to be completed in the river bed.</p>	Feb 23/09	N/A

**Table D7
Public Comments Received During Phase Two Consultations**

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
Feb 26/09	Follow-up email	Indicated that MNR had not evaluated the flood capacity for the south dam idea. But they would not endorse or accept any design that would reduce discharge capacity of either dam or adversely affect water level or flood mitigation controls. Requested accurate drawing of proposed power plant and surrounding site in advance of release of ESR so stakeholders can work cooperatively in finding a balance solution	Agree with comments about MNR's position on the south dam. SREL did look at the south dam about a year ago when suggested by a councilor. Indicated that have written letters to Township and District why south dam idea is not being pursued, and will forward them if required. Have discussed this issue not at length with the sender and will reserve further comment until the ESR is released or a presentation is made to the District.	Feb 26/09	N/A
Mar 2/09	Email	Requested meeting with board of directors of SREL	Inquired as to the agenda for the meeting.	Mar 2/09	N/A
Mar 4/09	Follow-up email	To be sure investors know that while power station in Bala is green energy it is being done in a way that isn't good for Bala and that there is an option that is.	Appreciate concern, but board has been fully briefed on sender's south dam idea including copies of presentation to township and district as media coverage with statements from sender and associates. Also confirm that one of the board members has already spoken to the sender personally. Suggested a letter to the board to be more appropriate or have co-chairman J. Wildman call to discuss further	Mar 3/09	N/A

**Table D7
Public Comments Received During Phase Two Consultations**

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
Mar 4/09	Email	Re: construction phase: Will north falls need to be shut off? Will people be allowed below north dam? What precautions need to be taken due to any possible weakening of north dam due to blasting of powerhouse?	Flows will not be modified over dams during construction. Cannot give exact locations of safety fences for construction period at this time, likely that land along south side of north falls will not be accessible, but no reason why north side would not be open Won't be touching the north dam and standard blasting practices shouldn't weaken dam.	Mar 5/09	
Mar 21/09	Email follow-up on email from SREL to MRPOA (Mar 20/09).	Entire North site is part of heritage and will have impact on community. South channel idea is preferred. Has Hatch done flooding assessment on south channel idea? Have a plan to ensure flooding is not an issue in south channel. Would like to take up offer to meet to discuss and understand points raised about idea.	Perhaps meeting is best done with MNR present. Please arrange and let us know. In follow-up email: MNR and SREL project manager have indicated that this issue has been discussed at length with the sender and associates and suggest instead to wait for issuance of the ESR.	Mar 24/09	N/A
Apr 2/09	Email	What is agency progress? How will landscaping questions regarding fencing, soil depth and mature plantings be addressed? What will downstream boom look like?	Landscaping committee fences and boom shown on design, don't expect more at this point. It is our hope that a committee can be brought together to discuss details. Mature plantings will be to sides of	Apr 3/09	N/A

**Table D7
Public Comments Received During Phase Two Consultations**

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
			structure, so not an issue for depth of soil. No boom below dam, only around outfall. Size and colour as per Transport Canada regulations. Timing: still awaiting approval to release.		
Apr 4/09	Follow-up email from SREL	Would you be interested in joining advisory committee?	Not at this time, not until after reviewing ESR.	Apr 5/09	
Apr 5/09	Follow-up email from SREL	The south dam idea has been discussed with the sender and associates several times. Suggest that further discussion be delayed until after ESR is released. Offered to meet to discuss project when in town with respect to misconceptions about design	Would very much like to have a dialogue on south channel idea.	Apr 5/09	N/A
Apr 22, 23, 27, 30, May 11, Jun 17 /09	EMAIL x 10 copies from different individuals	Site is inappropriate for a wide range of reasons: health and safety implications. Hereby request an elevation to Individual EA	Inappropriate to request elevation prior to NOC. Public will have 30 days to review and make request after NOC.	Apr 22/09	
Apr 22/09	Email	Site is inappropriate for a wide range of reasons: increased flow changes, increased current around falls, increased current in Bala Bay, fish breeding grounds, displacement of shores, old bridge and train bridge. Hereby			

**Table D7
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Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
		request an elevation to Individual EA			
Apr 24/09	Email	North falls is tourist area. Would diminish view of falls and eliminate natural aspect of land south of falls. Urge SREL to consider south channel idea.	Have looked at south dam idea and it is not feasible as we don't have rights to land, would change flood capacity of south dam and put Lake at risk of flooding.	Apr 24/09	
May 11/09	Email	Public are having a town hall meeting on Sunday regarding updates to project. When do you expect ESR to be released? What is impact of DFO interest? What is current construction schedule? Is there an updated artist's rendering?	Would be pleased to attend, but have other commitments. Will be in town on Thursday and will be meeting with some public representatives. SREL are in final stages of wrapping up ESR but don't have date for NOC yet. Will be presenting to District council during 30 day review period. Don't have a new construction sched at this time. Suggested that group nominate members to join advisory committee.	May 13/09	N/A
May 12/09	email	Why can the ESR not be released to public at same time as agencies?	It is important to get agencies comments on items they see are issues and make appropriate changes prior to getting to public.	May 13/09	N/A
May 13/09	Email follow-up to May 13 and Apr 6/09 emails	Would like to meet with SREL in Toronto or Burlington to discuss south channel, safety fences, safety boom, height of power station, exterior lighting, etc.	SREL has made a determination that the south channel is not on the table as previously discussed. Follow-up emails from senders, insist on discussing south dam idea. SREL	May 13/09	N/A

**Table D7
Public Comments Received During Phase Two Consultations**

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
			agreed to allow it on the agenda.		
May 18/09	Email	How will installation of facility effect business, tourism, economy in Bala? Has there been a study of effects? What restrictions to public access? What barriers will be used to restrict access?	Information will be explained in ESR.	May 20/09	
May 20/09	Follow-up email	30 day review will not be sufficient to address concerns about destruction of aquatic life. What studies have been performed on habitat and aeration to determine effects on ecosystem? Concerned about aquatic life going through turbines.	Studies have been completed. After the 30 day review, you may request to MOE that they compel us to do additional studies.	May 20/09	
May 21/09	Follow-up email	Concerned about long term community impact with respect to local economy, Purk's Place, fencing, access, tailrace boom requirements, South falls idea.	FAQ section of website provides many answers to these questions.	May 21/09	N/A
May 26/09	Email	Concerned regarding ichthyoplankton and zooplankton passing through turbines will be killed due to pressure changes and turbulence			

**Table D7
Public Comments Received During Phase Two Consultations**

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
		<p>similar to Nanticoke thermal facility. With Burgess plant, virtually all water entering Moon River will now pass through a turbine. This will result in most of the water being sterilized and have a detrimental effect on the ecosystem.</p>			
May 27/09	Meeting with members of Save the Bala Falls and Bala Falls Community Association as requested on Apr 6 and May 11	<p>South dam ideas Safety issues Attendees provided 27 questions to be answered and returned.</p>	<p>South dam ideas have intrinsic engineering issues as well as land ownership.</p>	N/A	N/A
May 27/09	Follow-up email	<p>Thank you for meeting with us. You have a great way of putting information into perspective and appreciated your time.</p> <p>Could Hatch provide a construction sequence for south dam idea? Powerhouse could be built at location of shield parking lot.</p>	<p>Thank-you, SREL will work through the questions, but it may take a while with 27 of them.</p>	May 27/09	N/A
May 27/09	Email	<p>Concern over endangered species in particular snapping turtles How if Federal Fisheries Act</p>	<p>ESR included an investigation into the presence of endangered species as required and will be available for</p>	May 28/09	

**Table D7
Public Comments Received During Phase Two Consultations**

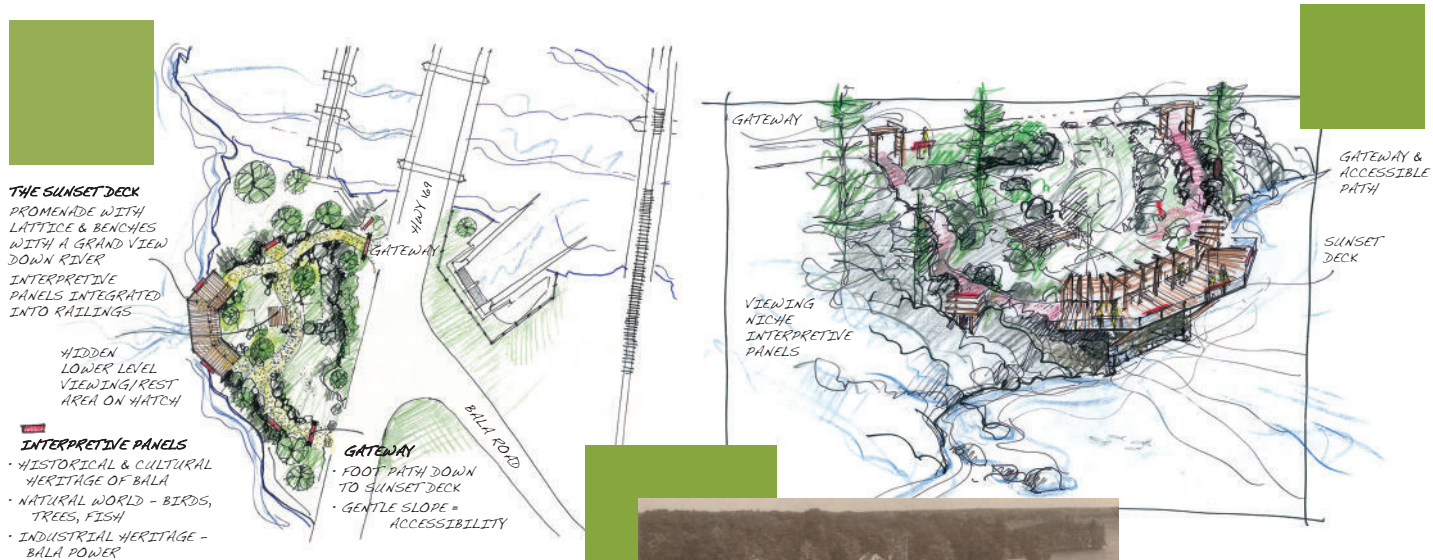
Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
		being accommodated.	public review following NOC. Will likely require a FAA from DFO prior to construction as part of the federal assessment and permitting process.		
Jul 7/09	Email	OPG/OPP running advisory ad regarding fine for fishing around a power dam. Follow-up email from sender: What happens if there is an accident?	Note that there already are two dams at the location and we will not be adding any new ones. Safety precautions, therefore, should be addressed by the public in the current conditions. We will also be adding safety measures such as safety booms, signage, fencing etc. Follow-up response: Project will be subject to all regulations of other hydro projects. We are working hard to keep the design as "public friendly" as possible, but agree dams are dangerous places with our without power plants. When ESR is published for public review, will have a chance to state objections to the agencies.	Jul 8/09 Jul 7/09	
Jul 28/09	Email	Thinks project is an excellent idea. Has cottage directly opposite falls. What is status? Should I write a letter of support?	Thanked sender for support.	Jul 30/09	N/A

**Table D7
Public Comments Received During Phase Two Consultations**

Date	Method of Communication	Summary of Stated Issue(s)	Response	Date of Response	Relevant Section of Environmental Screening Report
Sep/09	Email	Concerned project will change the look of the falls and how they are used. Also concerned about safety.	SREL have attempted to design and user friendly area with a park atop and viewing platform for sunsets. Safety issues: will provide an area to view falls safely.	Sep 3/09	
Sep 8/09	Email	Given the Aug 18 th failure of Russian Syanao-Shushenskay station and oil spill: How much oil will be contained in powerhouse? What measure to prevent spill? How much insurance to cover damages? What if log caught in turbine? What if penstock ruptures and causes oil leak downstream?	Russian plant over 6,000 times larger than proposed plant Caused by oil filled transformer explosion. We are proposing a dry transformer with no oil, therefore, no risk of spill. All other oils will be stored properly. Logs won't get to turbine as we will have trashracks to keep out large debris at intake. We don't have a penstock and our concrete culvert will not be high pressure since this is a low head plant.	Sep 9/09	N/A

**D13 August 2008 Flyer and
Distribution Map**

Our New Plan for Bala Falls



...building on
Bala's legacy



Our meetings with the community over the past year have been extremely helpful in enabling us to better understand community concerns about our small hydro project proposed for Bala Falls.

Key Features of Our New Station Layout

- + The powerhouse has been moved more than 35 metres away from the edge of the north dam's waterfall.
- + Virtually all station structures and facilities will be invisible; being either on the river bottom or below grade.
- + The existing dam structure will remain unchanged.
- + Water flows will strictly comply with the Muskoka River Water Management Plan.
- + The 18-month construction period has been specially designed to minimize and avoid, where possible, traffic disturbances during the summer tourist season (Victoria Day through Bala's Cranberry Festival).
- + Safe access to the site and surrounding area will be improved.
- + The site's traditional character and scenic beauty will be preserved and enhanced.

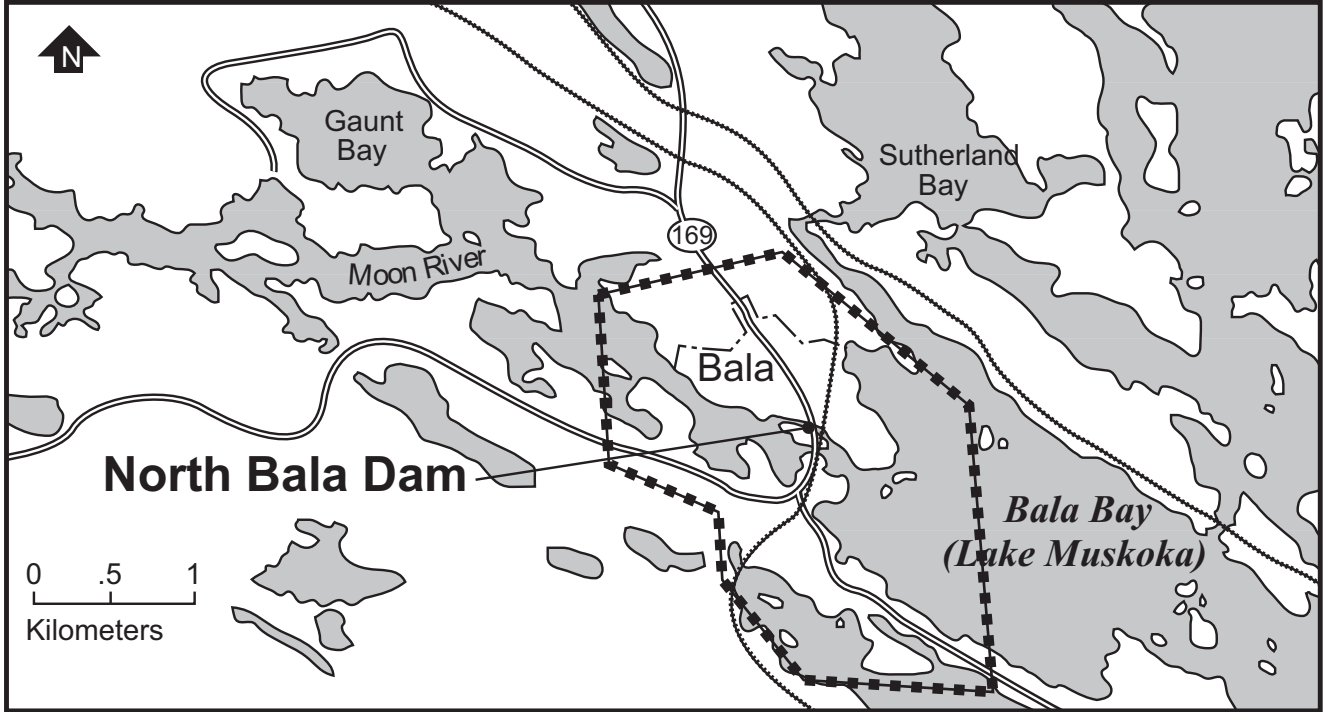
For more information,
visit our website at:
www.balafalls.ca

If you prefer we contact you via a mailing address, please send us your contact information by fax to 905.374.1157 to the attention of Trion Clarke, or, by mail to:

Trion Clarke
Senior Environmental Scientist
Hatch Energy
P.O. Box 1001, 4342 Queen Street
Niagara Falls, Ontario L2E 6W1

905.374.5200, ext. 5298
1.866.578.BALA (2252)

For more information, visit our website at:
www.balafalls.ca



----- Door to Door Delivery Area

D14 Notice of Public Information Centre 2008



4342 Queen Street P.O. Box 1001
Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada L2E 6W1
Tel. 905 374 5200 ♦ Fax: 905 374 1157 ♦ www.hatchenergy.com

Date

< Personalize to Local Officials and Agencies >

Dear :

**Bala Falls Small Hydro Project –
Open House**

I am writing to inform you of a Public Information Centre (PIC) Open House to be held to solicit public comment and feedback on Swift River Energy's plan to develop a 4.3-MW hydroelectric generating facility on the island south of Bala's north dam.

The date and time of the Open House are:

Wednesday, August 13, 2008, 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Bala Community Centre
Maple Street, Bala

Open House notices will appear in the Bracebridge Examiner (July 30, August 6 and August 13), the Muskoka Sun (July 31 and August 7), Muskoka Today (August 7) and in The Muskokan (August 7). In addition, a flyer announcing the date, time, and location of the Open House will be distributed by special door-to-door delivery to homes and businesses in the area surrounding the project site (see attached map).

This Open House is part of Swift River Energy's continuing effort to further a dialogue with the local community in an effort to ensure the ability to address any questions and concerns with respect to project plans. In addition to an array of display panels, senior members of the Project Team will be available to answer questions.

If you have any comments or questions please contact me (tclarke@hatchenergy.com) or John Wildman (jwildman2001@rogers.com) at 416-484-0431.

We look forward to seeing you at the Open House.

Respectfully,

Trion Clarke
Senior Environmental Scientist

TC:kv
Attach

Date

< Personalize letters to owners/tenants >

Dear : **Bala Falls Small Hydro Project –
Open House No. 2**

I am writing to you as our records show you expressed interest in Swift River Energy's plans to develop a 4.3-MW small hydroelectric facility on the island south of Bala's north dam.

As part of Swift River Energy's continuing effort to further a dialogue with the local community and other stakeholders, a Public Information Centre (PIC) Open House is being held to solicit comments and feedback. In addition to an array of display panels, senior members of Swift River Energy's Project Team will be available to answer questions at an Open House to be held:

Wednesday, August 13, 2008 – 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Bala Community Centre
Maple Street, Bala

We look forward to your feedback as the environmental screening for this project progresses.

If you have any comments or questions please contact me.

We look forward to seeing you at the Open House.

Respectfully,

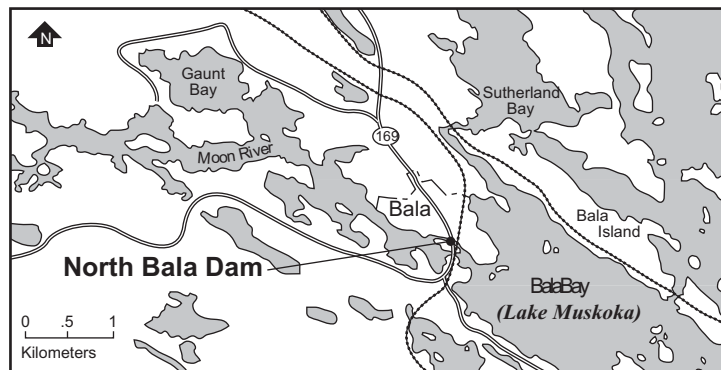
Trion Clarke
Senior Environmental Scientist

TC:kv
Attach

Public Information Centre (Open House) North Bala Hydro Project

Swift River Energy Limited Partnership (Swift River) is proposing the construction of a 4.3 MW run-of-the-river hydroelectric facility at the North Bala Dam. The proposed project will be governed by the existing water level rule curves for Lake Muskoka as outlined in the Muskoka River Water Management Plan.

The map below indicates the location of the proposed development.



The project is subject to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE) Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects required under Regulation 116/01 of the Environmental Assessment Act as well as assessment under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA). The screening process will also be conducted to meet the requirements of the MNR's Water Management Planning Guidelines for Waterpower.

This Public Information Centre (Open House) is being held to provide preliminary information on the proposed project.

Date: Wednesday, August 13, 2008
Time: 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Location: Bala Community Centre

Information will be collected and used in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, and solely for the purpose of assisting the proponent in meeting environmental assessment and local planning requirements. This material will be maintained on file for use during the study and may be included in project documentation. All comments will become part of the public record.

For more information, please contact:

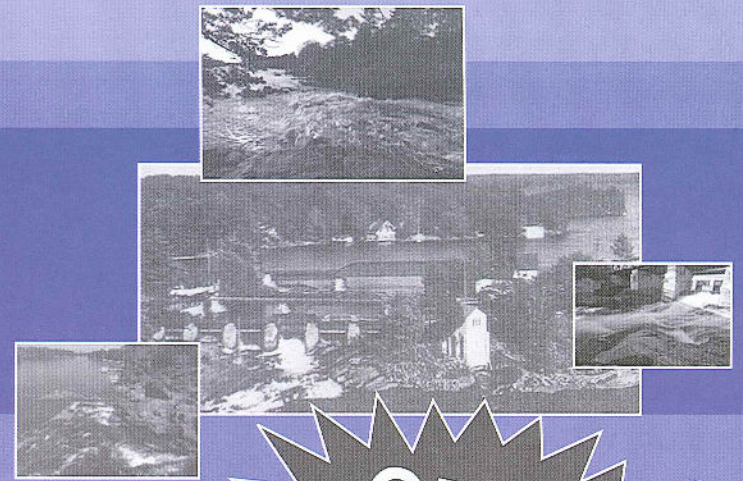


Trion Clarke, Senior Environmental Scientist
Hatch Energy
4342 Queen Street, Box 1001 Niagara Falls,
Ontario L2E 6W1
Phone: 905 374 0701 ext: 5298
Fax: 905 374 1157
Email: tclarke@hatchenergy.com



Bala Falls

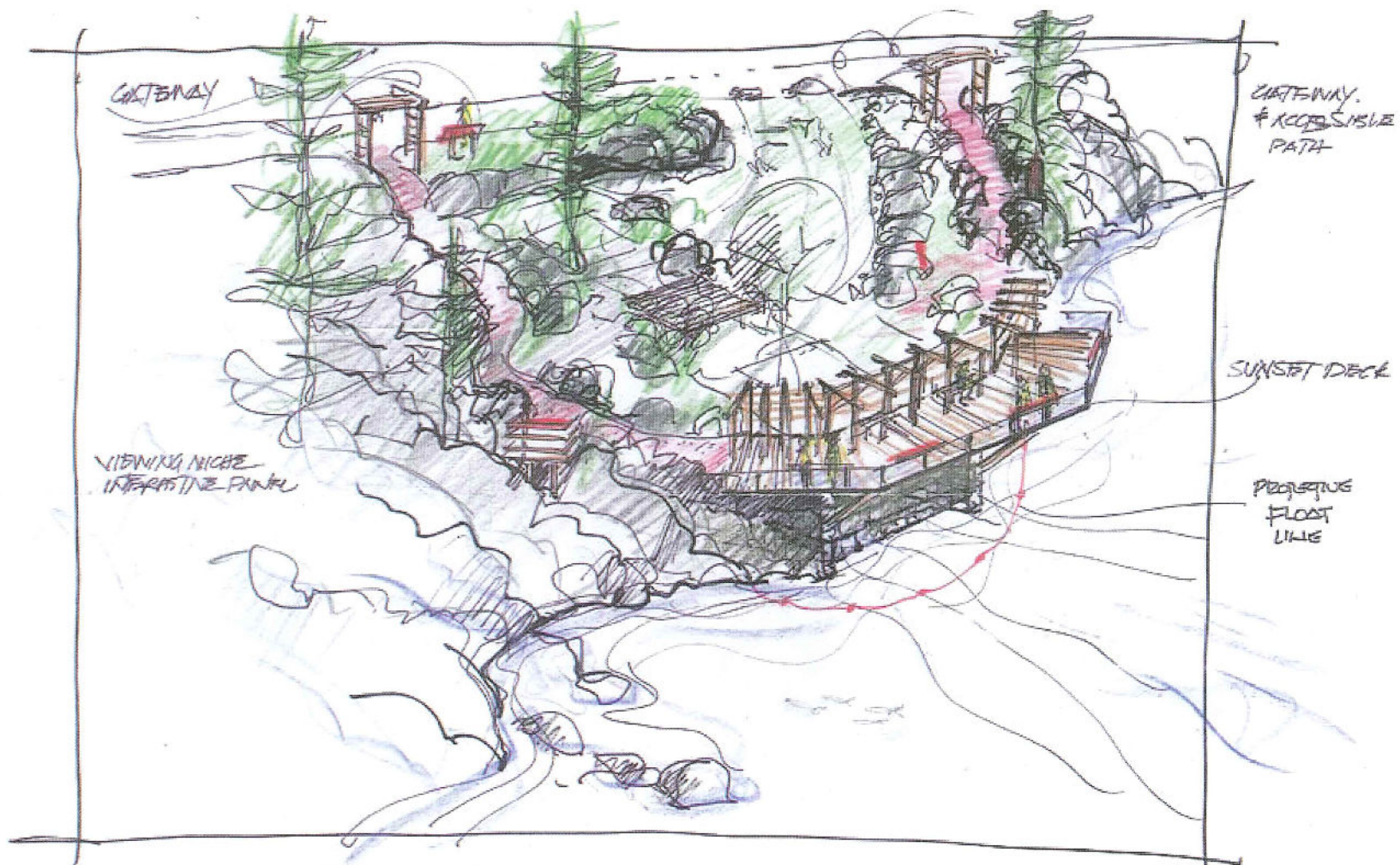
small **hydro** project



OPEN HOUSE

www.balafalls.ca

A New Plan for our Proposed Bala Falls Small Hydroelectric Facility



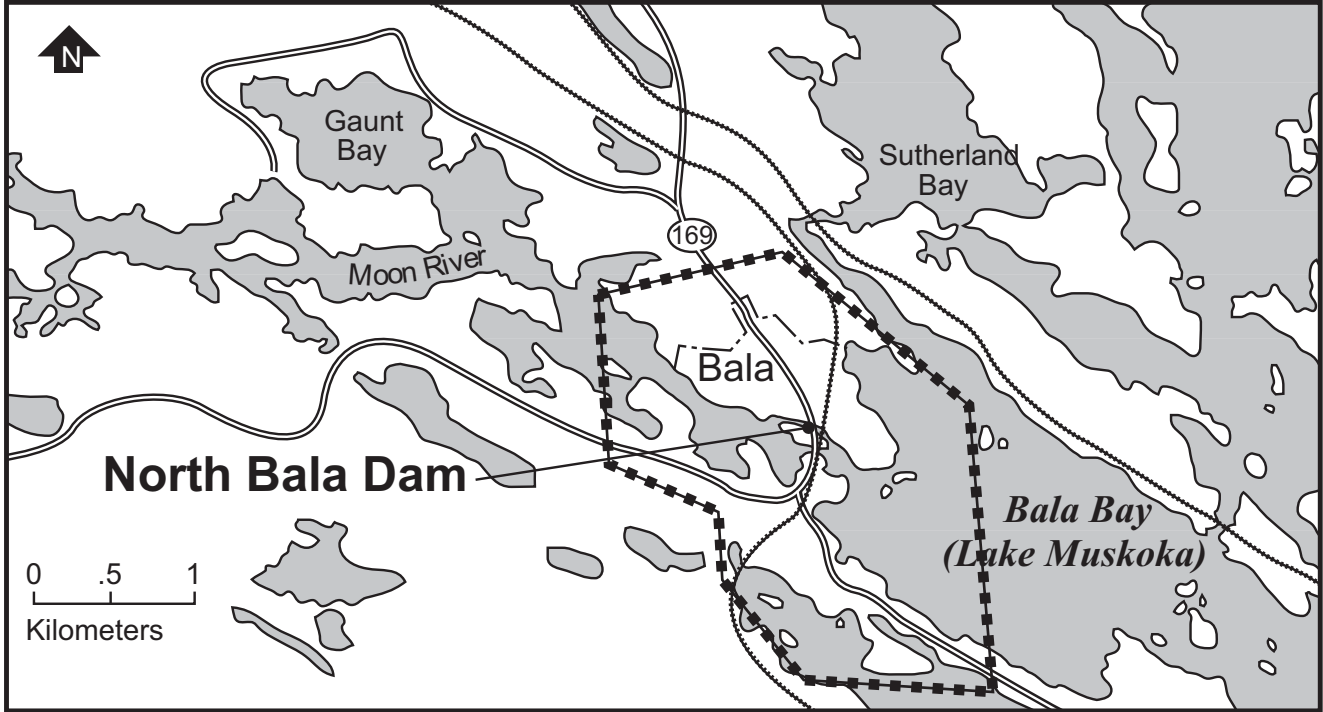
Swift River Energy Limited invites you to a second Public Information Centre where you will be able to review and comment on our new proposal to develop a state-of-the-art small hydroelectric facility adjacent to Bala's North Dam.

We have been working hard over the past several months to re-examine our initial plan in an effort to respond to the comments we've received to date. Our new plan relocates the power station some 35 metres away from the outfall of the North Dam and places virtually all of the power station's facilities below ground. With this redesign, we propose to develop a passive recreation area over top of the facility that includes paths and sitting/viewing areas to take in this site's natural and historic scenic beauty.

Bala Community Centre
Maple Street, Bala

Wednesday, August 13th, 4:00 - 9:00 PM

Back to the future
building on **Bala's** legacy



----- Door to Door Delivery Area