



March 17, 2022

Attn: Mayor David West
City of Richmond Hill
225 East Beaver Creek Rd.
Richmond Hill, ON L4B 3P4

Dear Mayor West,

At its meeting on February 23, 2022, Richmond Hill City Council (“City Council”) passed the following Motion:

- a) That staff report SRPI.22.038 be received for information purposes;
- b) That Alectra Utilities Corporation (AUC) be advised of Council’s preferred option (Option 5) with respect to the proposed hydro distribution pole line to service the Barker Business Park;
- c) That Corporate and Financial Services be directed to report back to Council on how Council’s preferred option (Option 5) could be funded;
- d) That Council request Richmond Hill MPPs and the Region of York to engage with the residents with respect to this matter;
- e) That the City undertake to reach out to residents and the Region of York to help to consider the mitigation of the visual aspect of the hydro poles by planting trees along the Region of York’s right-of-way and to request Alectra to pay for the planting of the trees.

Alectra would like to follow up on this motion with some information for your consideration.

Council’s preferred option (Option 5) is not viable given that it would delay the project for another year. There is simply no time to explore this option at this juncture. This being said, the options left on the table include Option 1 (the original design) or Option 4.

As you know, Option 4 includes the consolidation of the City’s streetlights onto Alectra’s distribution poles and was previously accepted by the City. As outlined previously, this option is best for the community and the residents, as it significantly cuts down on the overall number of

poles through the removal of the existing streetlight poles, while also decreasing the new hydro poles overall height by ten feet. This also results in less maintenance and costs for the City of Richmond Hill. Given the urgency of this matter, we are prepared to transfer the streetlights at no cost to the City.

Option 1, the original design, includes a new pole line on the west side of Leslie, while maintaining the existing 2 circuit pole line on the east side. The new poles will range between 80 and 95 feet in height in order to clear the existing streetlights.

Due to the concerns expressed by Council and the community, which we completely understand, Alectra has worked with local residents and the local ward Councillor for more than 10 months to give them every opportunity to come to an agreement that would benefit residents and the City of Richmond Hill alike. We have also reached out directly to every Councillor to request a meeting to answer questions and clarify the options that are available.

As you know, Alectra has obtained all necessary construction and road allowance approvals from York Region and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority to proceed with this work and is obligated under the Electricity Act to provide electrical service to the customer.

Alectra respectfully requests that City Council approve Option 4 at its March 23rd Council Meeting as we must resume construction the week of March 28th in order to provide electricity service to the customer for June 30th. In absence of Council's approval of Option 4, we will regrettably be forced to proceed with the Option 1 design.

Sincerely,



EVP, Asset Strategy & Operations
Alectra Inc.

cc Stephen Huycke, City Clerk, City of Richmond Hill
cc Kelvin Kwan, Commissioner, Planning & Infrastructure, City of Richmond Hill