



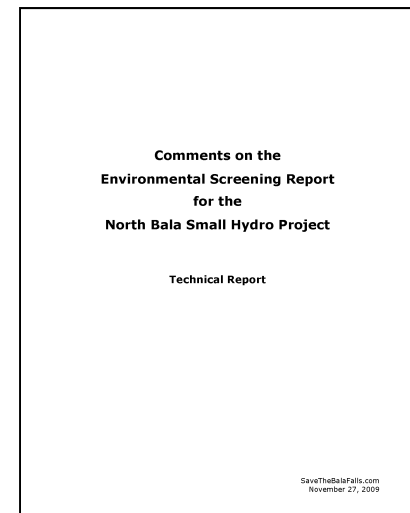
Proposed Bala Falls Power Station *Conflicting Information from the Proponent*

The Question ...

- A proposal has been offered, the question is:
 - Is this particular – and vague – proposal acceptable
 - ▶ This would be for 40-years, with no “divorce” option
 - ▶ If the proponent sold this opportunity, what obligations would a purchaser have (fencing, warning lights and sirens ...)
- We want green energy too
 - But we need to understand the whole package
 - ▶ We don't have commitments for anything important
 - ▶ The proponent is not providing answers needed
- Those that want the power station don't know what they would be getting
 - Would you buy a car without seeing it, or knowing how many people it can carry, how many wheels it has ...

The Process

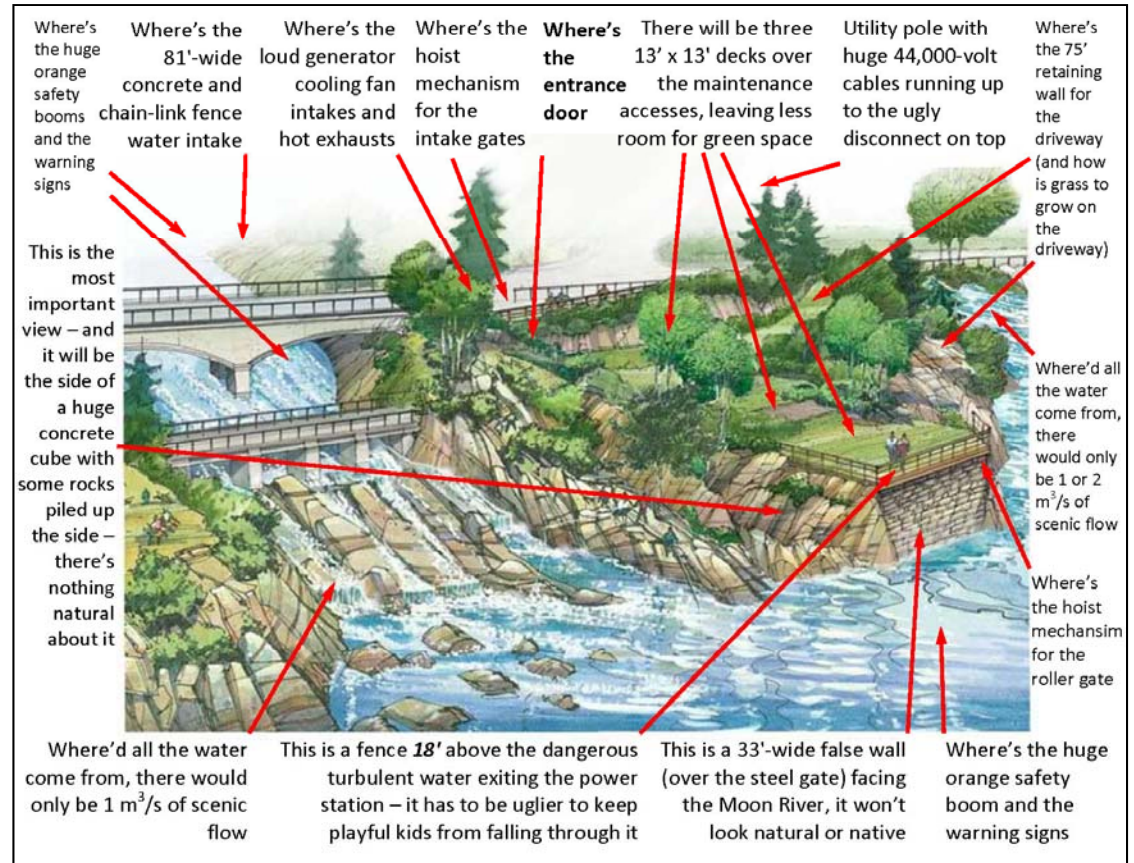
- The proponent was to respond to concerns and show acceptable mitigation in their 600-page environmental screening report
- We requested 69 major issues be addressed
 - We have received years of replies that avoid the questions or simply repeat the evasive responses
- Some of the 67 issues remaining ...



Appearance – all we know is it won't be like this ...

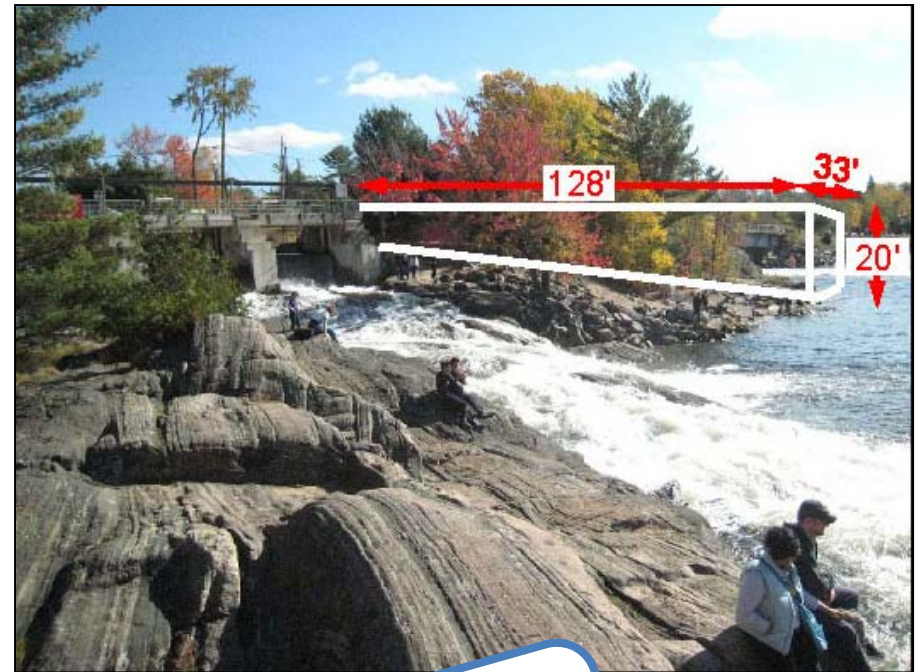
- The most prominent location in Bala and on the Moon River
 - Yet the proponent refuses to provide any information
 - ▶ After 2 years of asking

CONFLICTING INFORMATION



Would NOT be “buried” or “underground”

- The proponent repeatedly states the proposed power station would be “buried” or “underground”
 - Yet it would be a poured concrete block 20' above the Moon River, 33' wide, and 128' long
 - ▶ Like a 4-unit, 2-storey row townhouse
 - And directly in view from the most common vantage point
 - ▶ For Option 1 or Option 2

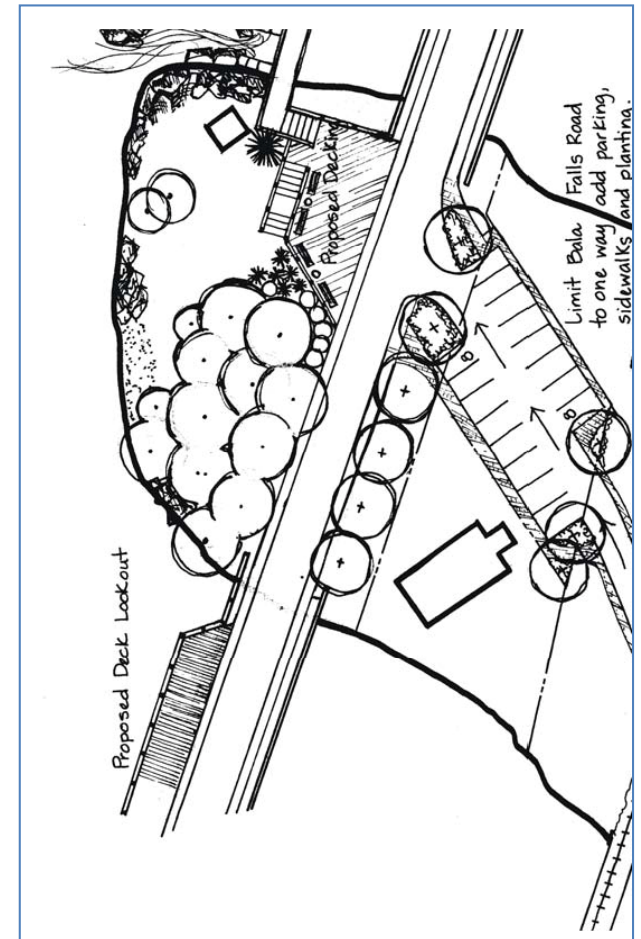
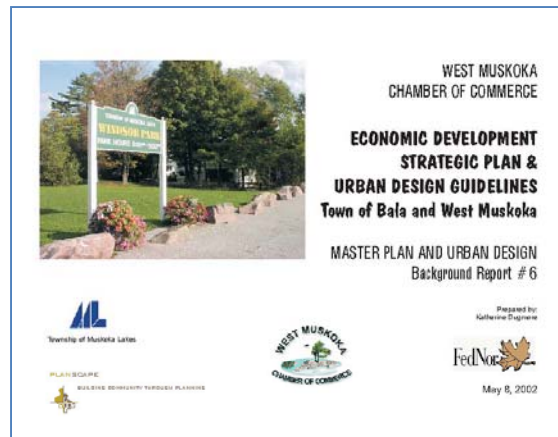


**CONFLICTING
INFORMATION**

Ruins the Area's Natural Beauty

CONFLICTING
INFORMATION

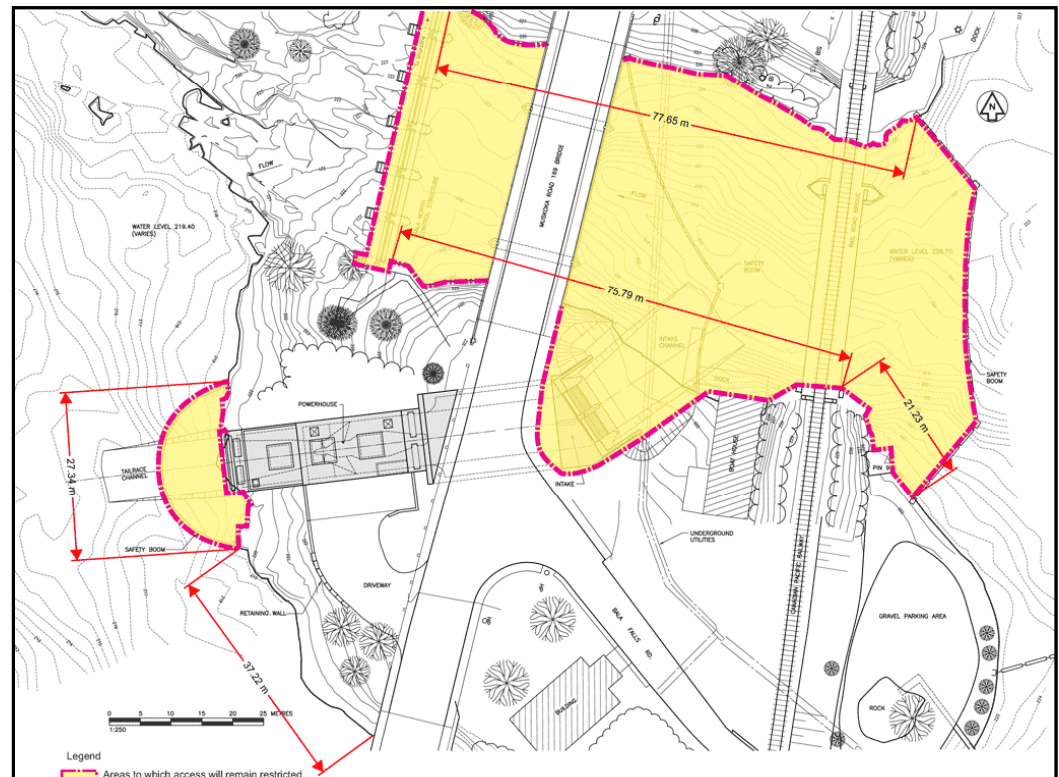
- Proponent shows this diagram from the *2002 Economic Development Strategic Plan* as justifying their viewing platform, but note actual Plan:
 - Does not make any changes at the water
 - Respects the natural beauty of the area
 - Doesn't blast a 55'-deep canyon below the highway



Shoreline too dangerous for public access

- Over 600' of the only public shoreline in the area would be too dangerous for access
 - Proponent states “there will be an abundance of shoreline in the vicinity of the project”
 - But there isn't

**CONFLICTING
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OPP/OPG's Stay Clear, Stay Safe Rules

- The proponent claims that all dams are dangerous
 - But the OPG literature specifically says it is the unannounced changing water flow that is the danger
- Proponent has repeatedly stated plant would be run-of-river
 - But their own meeting minutes confirm they would need to cycle the plant off and on daily during the summer in-water recreation times



CONFLICTING INFORMATION

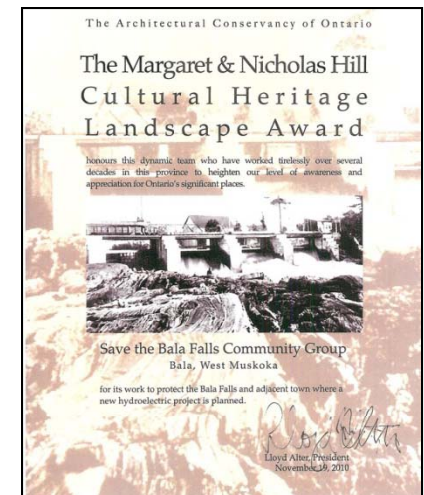
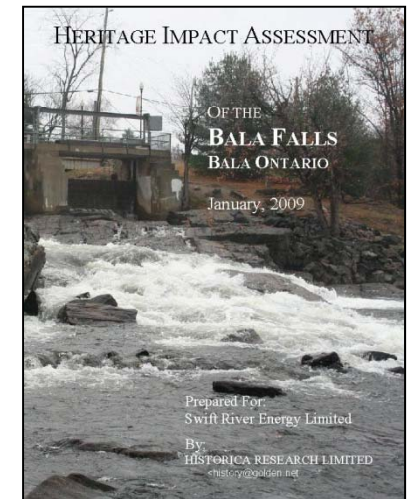
It's about the hydro-electric stations

Heritage Impact Assessment

- In October 2008, the Council of the Township of Muskoka Lakes passed a resolution that the heritage impact be assessed
- The proponent concluded there would be no heritage impact
 - Yet the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario awarded SaveTheBalaFalls the *Cultural Heritage Landscape Award* for our “work to protect the Bala Falls and adjacent town”

It's not just
about the falls

CONFLICTING
INFORMATION



Operating Noise


- Proponent states top would be “a public park constructed over the powerhouse”
- But their noise calculations:
 - Include only 2 of the 5 noise sources
 - Assumes listeners would be over 100 m away
 - ▶ The public would actually be directly on top or adjacent of over 4 million watts of machinery
 - Assume 8"-thick solid concrete walls
 - ▶ But there would be large openings for fans – which would themselves make noise



Economic Impact Study

- The proponent states “Conclusions from the study state that the project’s economic impacts will be positive”, yet the study says:
 - “...there is no information ... to indicate how many tourists visit each year, ... and how much they spend on average
 - “impacts to local business ... have not been estimated

**CONFLICTING
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NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Distribution

Independent Economic Impact Study of the North Bala Small Hydro Project concludes “Economic Benefits Of The Project Are Significant”

Toronto, ON – November 4, 2018 –The independent Economic Impact Study prepared by the Centre For Spatial Economics (CASE) is complete. This study investigated both the short and long term economic impacts of the SREL’s proposed Bala Falls Small Hydro Project, including surveying over 100 local businesses. Conclusions from the study state that the project’s economic impacts will be positive. Highlights of the Study’s conclusions include:

- Many Bala businesses are in a position to provide products or services needed during the construction phase of the project.
- Over the construction phase the District of Muskoka stands to benefit from \$3.6 million of additional labour income, 65 person years of work and \$155,000 in municipal revenues.
- Local spending in the District of Muskoka is estimated to be \$10.8 million generating an additional \$5.5 million in GDP in the region.
- Over the operational phase the District benefits from an annual increase in labour income of \$373,000, the creation of 5 new jobs and annual municipal tax gains of \$75,000.
- The Province will gain an additional \$7 million in GDP over the construction phase and an additional \$2.6 million of GDP annually over the operation phase.

“In other words the economic benefits of the project are significant”.

The study finds that there is potential for the Bala Community to share in these economic benefits both:

- Directly through participation of local businesses in supplying goods and services to SREL in both construction and operational phases of the project, and
- Indirectly through the cascading effect of this increased construction-induced business would have on other business activities in the area.

SREL would like to thank all the local businesses that participated in the survey and the Township of Muskoka Lakes and the Muskoka Lakes Chamber of Commerce for their assistance with the development of the survey and business list.

SREL remains committed to working with the community on this renewable energy project that will help Ontario realize its goals under the Green Energy Act and help to stimulate the local economy. The Green Energy Act is the single largest green house gas reduction initiative in all of North America.

Contact:
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Email: karan@srer.ca
Website: www.balafalls.ca

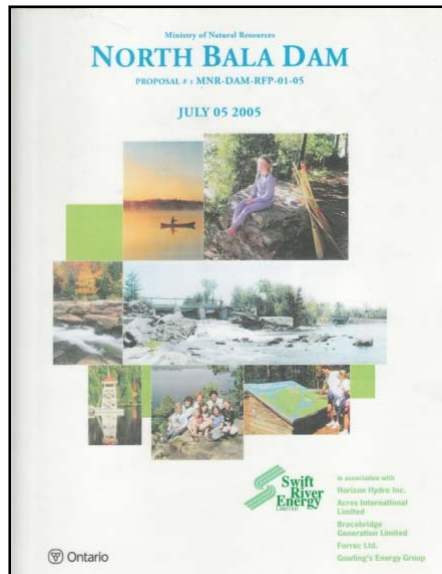
You can also view this News Release and the Study on our website at:
<http://www.balafalls.ca/>

Original Option 1 does not fit on Crown land

CONFLICTING INFORMATION

- Due to incorrect information from the proponent, the Whereas clauses of the 2008 District Council resolution to consider providing land for Option 2 stated Option 1 could be built on just the Crown land

- But the proponent's own 2005 (and later) drawings show this wasn't possible

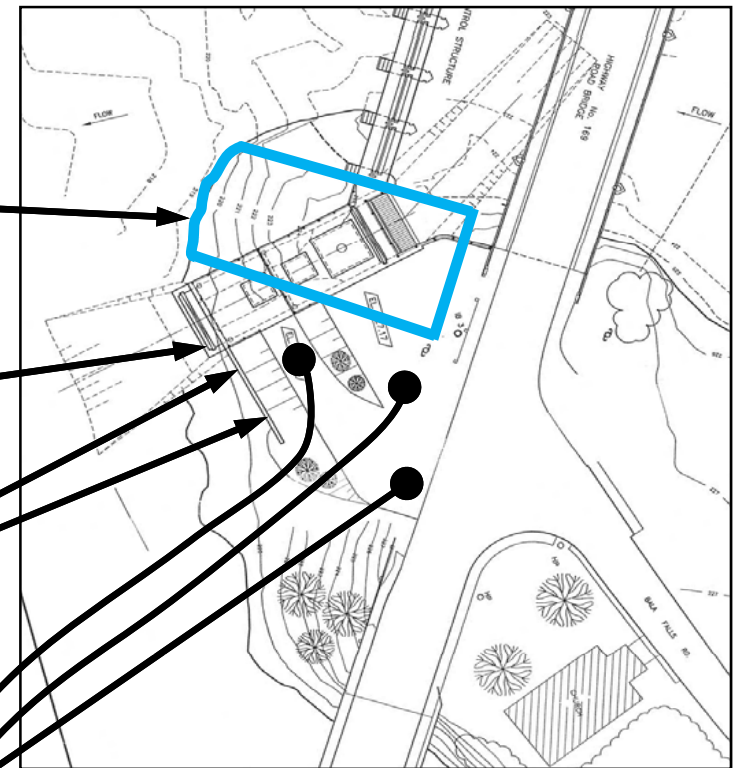


MNR Land

Plant doesn't fit

Retaining wall doesn't fit

Two-level driveway and parking doesn't fit



Thank you for your time

- These are the facts:
 - Proponent continues to avoid answering questions about public safety, tourism, and the local economy
 - ▶ Or provides information found to be conflicting
 - ▶ Only written information is binding, and we don't have ANYTHING helpful on: appearance, noise, completion bond, fencing, warning lights and sirens, economic impact, scenic flow, dangerous safety booms, cycling operation, rescue procedures, emergency shutdown, portage route, boat rental alternatives, traffic and parking ...

- Thank you for your time

- Please contact us for more details:
 - Mitchell Shnier: Info@SaveTheBalaFalls.com