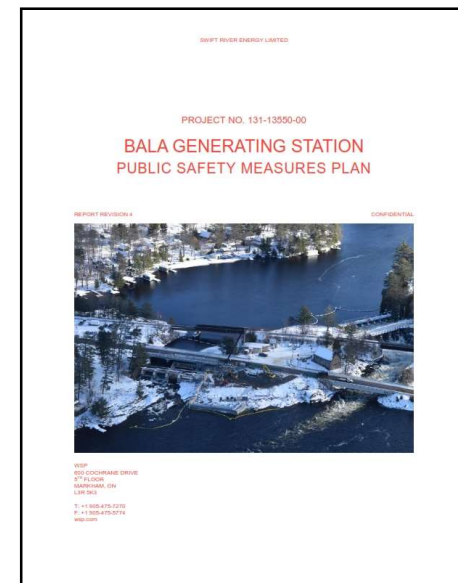
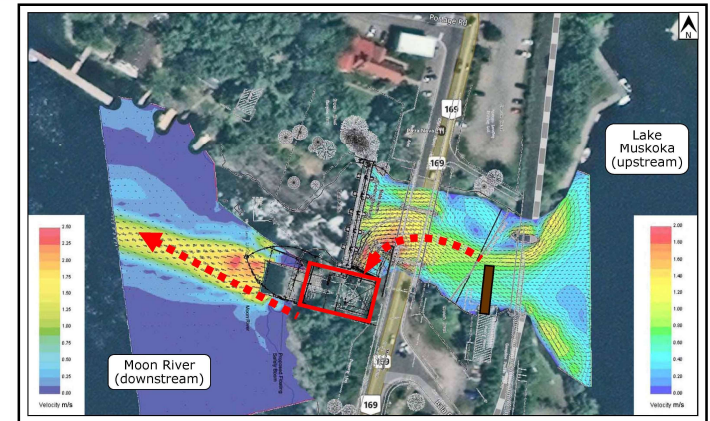


# Bala generating station: Negative economic impacts

# Negative impacts

- Last month we noted significant risks would be created by the Bala generating station
  - Asked Council to request the Province for indemnification for resulting injuries
- Another issue is obstructing boating
  - And the resulting economic impacts
  - Obstructions are shown by drawings in the proponent's *Public Safety Measures Plan* – which apparently has been approved by both the MNRF and Transport Canada

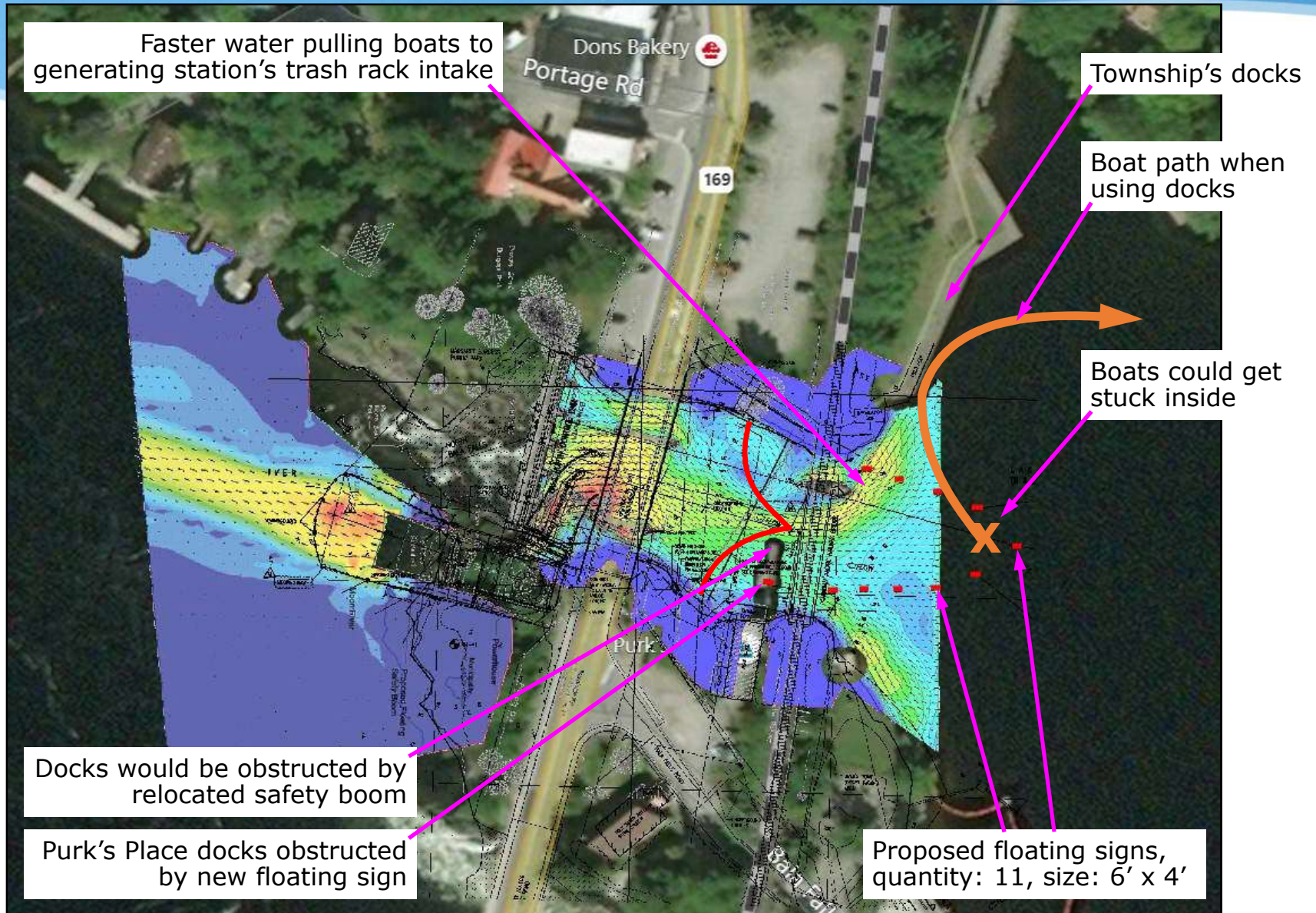


# Transport Canada

- Proponent's plans show obstructions to:
  - Boating access to the Township's docks
    - ▶ Boats inside the floating signs area due to wind or current could get stuck inside, unable to navigate between the floating signs to get out
  - Purk's Place deploying their docks
    - ▶ No docks means no boat rental
    - ▶ Impacts; fishing licenses, hiring summer students, visitors going to other area businesses – economic impacts multiply
    - ▶ Bala will already have negative impacts due to Bala Falls Road bridge
- One would expect Transport Canada's *Navigation Protection Program* to protect navigation
  - Yet their recent letter told us to contact the proponent instead



# Obstructions to boating



# The proponent's problems

- The proponent has two choices:
  - A) Leave the safety measures as they are
    - ▶ **Not safe**
  - B) Implement their proposed plans: obstructing boating and preventing the only boat rental in the area from renting out boats
    - ▶ **Unacceptable negative economic impact**
    - ▶ **And still not safe**
- Should not let them make *their* problem into *our* problem
- The only safe answer is **no operation May to October**
  - As Council already Resolved January 18, 2019

# Time for Council to take action

- Proponent has other major problems
  - Multi-million-dollar (and dangerous) facility sitting idle after they struggled for more than a decade to get it built
  - Province has still not granted at least two approvals (*Permit to Take Water*, amendments to *Muskoka River Water Management Plan*)
- It is time for Council to strongly speak up for the area's businesses and for safe tourism
  - There's no benefit to allowing the proponent to delay these letters
  - If they had any good or helpful news for the public or Council, they would be sending newsletters, updating their website, active on social media, and have already Delegated to Township Council
  - They would take 94% of the water, leaving both Bala falls dry
    - ▶ 50% of the flow of the Niagara River must go over the falls
  - They have only bad news for Bala, so have been silent



# Suggested next steps

- Indemnification is a request to the Province
  - Hydro-electric generating stations drown people that get too close, so clearly this is needed
  - Proponent has no assets or income, meaningless to ask them
- Obstructions to boating can only be as allowed by Transport Canada
  - Proponent can only do what they are allowed
- Suggested Council Resolution submitted
  - Suggests Council send letters to both MECP and Transport Canada
- No value in allowing proponent to delay these letters
  - Risks Province providing final approvals without receiving Township's input