

Burlington Hydro Inc. teams up with the City of Burlington to Produce Renewable

When it came time to plan for the final phase of the Downtown Waterfront Project, The Brant Street Pier, the City of Burlington and Burlington Hydro teamed together to explore ways to demonstrate their commitment to energy conservation in the community.

The Pier will become a signature destination on Burlington's waterfront upon completion in the fall of 2008. Extending 132 meters over Lake Ontario, it will provide breathtaking views of the lake and Burlington's shoreline.

The pier's environmental design allows free flow of water under the structure permitting natural processes such as the drifting of water to the shore and movement of fish and other marine life. Similarly, its geometry over Lake Ontario made it an ideal candidate for wind-powered generation. The City and Burlington Hydro quickly realized this

opportunity and incorporated a windmill into one of the major design elements; the beacon. This structure is located 89 meters from shore, providing a public lookout 20 meters in diameter and 4 meters above the main pier deck. Twenty two meters above that is the wind turbine, well situated to catch all but the faintest of prevailing winds.

The nearly 7 meter blades of the wind turbine will produce 10 kW of electricity which will be fed back into the grid through the Ontario

Power Authority Renewable Energy Standard Offer Program. This program is ideal for small renewable energy projects. It is designed to strike a balance between the energy available from such projects, the province's renewable energy generation targets and the value of electricity to Ontario ratepayers. A fixed price is paid to the City of Burlington for power supplied and provides stability and certainty against future energy prices. This helps protect ratepayers from fossil-fuel and other fuel price increases while allowing the City to plan this project with confidence.

to the construction of the windmill by allocating funds from its Conservation and Demand Management Program. This program is funded by the Ontario Power Authority and is designed to assist Local Distribution Companies deliver electricity conservation in Ontario.

David Collie, President and Chief Executive Officer of Burlington Hydro states; "We were able to deliver a diverse range of projects through this program which helped the homes and businesses of Burlington reduce their electricity consumption.

Through this we learned that public awareness is a key component to reducing energy use. We felt that the long-term presence of the windmill on Burlington's waterfront would reinforce that message, and, it would create an opportunity to showcase generation through renewable resources".



Artist's rendition of the Brant Street Pier, shore node.

The Brant Street Pier is a component of The Waterfront at Downtown Burlington. Other recently completed projects include an expansion to the Burlington Art Centre and an addition to Discovery Landing, incorporating an observatory, restaurant, water jets and a pond for skating and model boating. Funding for these projects came through the Canada-Ontario Infrastructure Program, Halton Region and the City of Burlington. Burlington Hydro contributed

Similarly, Mayor Cam Jackson of the City of Burlington shares the importance of the project: "The City of Burlington recognizes its responsibility to the environment and is committed to finding new energy efficiencies and investing in renewable sources of energy. This project will be a visible reminder of the importance of everyone's role in energy savings."

Construction on the Pier began in 2007 and is expected to be complete in the fall of 2008.

Energy

Several other environmental factors were taken into account through its design, such as preservation of the natural beach formation to the west of the pier, as well as construction of fish habitat compensation and enhancements in nearby Sheldon's Creek.

Projects funded by the Conservation and Demand Management Programs have resulted in significant environmental and energy related impacts:

- City-wide demand reduction of 1.5 mW,
- Annual consumption reductions of over 6,000 mWh,

- Reduction of CO2 emissions in excess of 4,000 tonnes per year.

If this electricity was produced through coal-fired generation, over 2.8 million tonnes of coal per year could remain "in the ground".

Burlington Hydro and the City of Burlington remain committed to furthering their collective energy conservation efforts. Projects under consideration under the Ontario Power Authority 2008 to 2010 programs include:

- Ongoing conversion of traffic lights to Light Emitting Diode technology,

- Parks illumination systems,
- Further lighting efficiency improvement projects.

Together, the City of Burlington and Burlington Hydro are striving to ensure that future generations are able to enjoy a sustainable future and that energy is used prudently and effectively. ■

Burlington Hydro maintains 32 substations and has almost 1,300 kilometers of low voltage distribution lines throughout the municipality of Burlington. The company serves over 54,500 residential customers, and approximately 5,500 commercial and industrial customers.

(Conceptual drawings courtesy of the City of Burlington)

BREAK THROUGH BARRIERS TO ENERGY CONSERVATION

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