

Ready to Fight?

Local Government Satisfaction in EIA

A comparison of British Columbia and Ontario, Canada

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NEWS CANADA POLITICS

CANADA

TRENDING Blue Jays | Reynolds | Duffy: Live | Alberta | Germanwings | NHL

Kinder Morgan halts drilling and readies to leave Burnaby Mountain

NP TIFFANY CRAWFORD, POSTMEDIA NEWS | November 28, 2014 11:10 PM ET
More from Postmedia News



Protest to Kinder Morgan TransMountain Pipeline, Burnaby, BC
Credit: theotherpress.ca

RESEARCH OBJECTIVE

What Factors influence:

(1) Scope of Participation

(2) Satisfaction with Participation

METHODS

Cross-Sectional Design

7 Cases Selected
(4 in BC, 3 in Ontario)

Semi-Structured Interviews

16 Local Governments
6 Proponents
1 The BC Regulator
2 Environmental Lawyers

BRITISH COLUMBIA CASE STUDIES



1

TYPE **CONFLICT** **OUTCOME**

Waste Moderate Terminated

2

Renewable Energy Low Approved

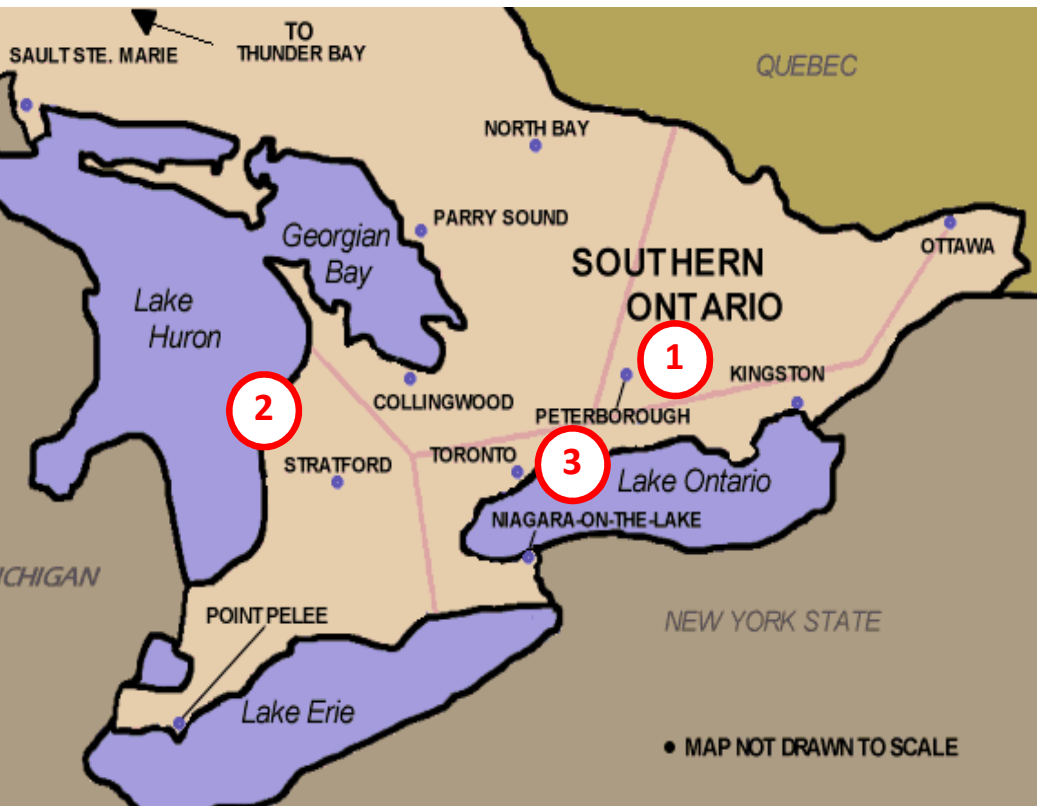
3

Non-Renewable Energy High Approved

4

Transport Moderate Approved

ONTARIO CASE STUDIES



TYPE	CONFLICT	OUTCOME
1 Waste	High	Terminated
2 Renewable Energy	High	Approved
3 Transport	Low	Approved

FACTORS FOR ANALYSIS

POLICY FRAMEWORK - i.e. Framework and Structure of Approval Process

NATURE OF PROJECT - i.e. Project Type and Impact on Community
(Rozema et al., 2012)

PARTICIPANT CHARACTERISTICS - i.e. Annual Revenue and Location
(Wang et al., 2014)

PROCESS
(Stewart & Sinclair, 2007)

6 Criteria

Information Quality/Quantity

Timing

Fairness/Inclusivity

Accessibility

Opportunity for Influence

Transparency

British Columbia Approval Process

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ACT



Wind



Solar



Hydro



Biofuel



Electricity



Transit



Waste



Mining



Industrial

*GREEN ENERGY ACT
(RENEWABLE ENERGY APPROVAL PROCESS)*

*ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ACT
(SCREENING & INDIVIDUAL EA PROCESS)*

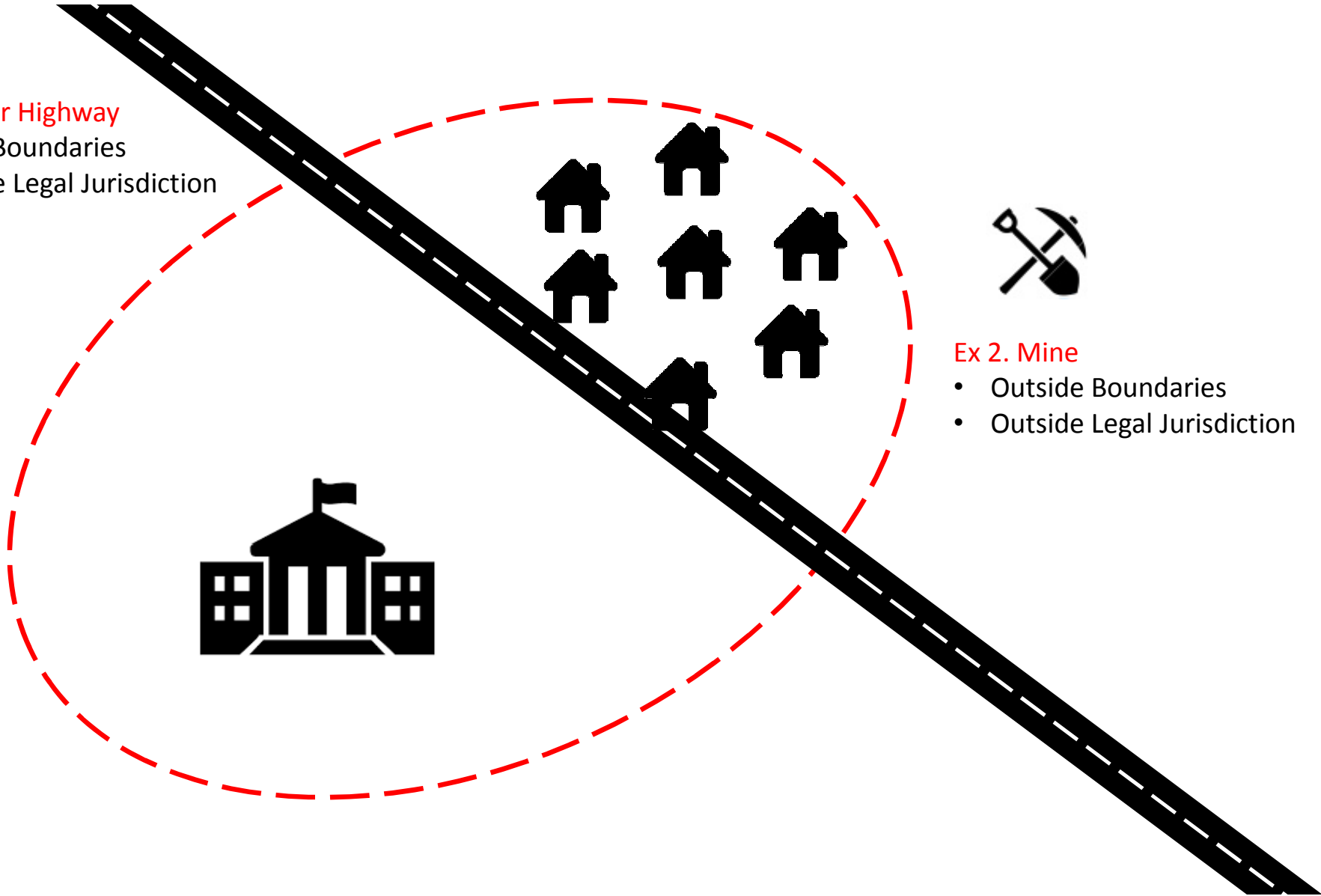
Municipal



Ontario Approval Process

Ex 1. Major Highway

- Inside Boundaries
- Outside Legal Jurisdiction



Ex 2. Mine

- Outside Boundaries
- Outside Legal Jurisdiction



FINDINGS

What Factors influence:

(1) Scope of Participation

(2) Satisfaction with Participation

1. Scope

Policy – influences opportunities for engagement

Project – influences willingness to participate

Participant – influences ability to participate

1. Scope – Project Factors

“The City of Richmond would have been the most impacted municipality in the region and they were much more involved in the assessment process and politically. Their mayor publically opposed the project.”

- Local Government Representative, British Columbia

1. Scope – Participant Factors

“There are so many processes that we are asked to get involved in ... we’re a small municipality and that participation is onerous – we have limited resources and staff to assign to participation, especially if the project might fall through... you can sit through a lot of meetings without a lot having changed by you being there”

- Local Government Representative, British Columbia

2. Satisfaction Matrix - British Columbia

	Local Government Respondent	Project	Approval Process Overall	PROCESS FACTORS					
				Information	Timing	Accessibility	Fairness	Transparency	Influence
British Columbia	1	Waste	Red	Red	Light Blue	Light Blue	Red	Red	Red
	2	Waste	Yellow	Yellow	Light Blue	Light Blue	Red	Red	Light Blue
	1	Renewable Energy	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Yellow	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue
	2	Renewable Energy	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue
	1	Non-Renewable Energy	Light Blue	Yellow	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Yellow
	2	Non-Renewable Energy	Light Blue	Light Blue	Red	Light Blue	Red	Light Blue	Light Blue
	1	Transport	Light Blue	Light Blue	Red	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue
	2	Transport	Red	Light Blue	Red	Light Blue	Red	Yellow	Red

SATISFIED

SOMEWHAT DISSATISFIED

DISSATISFIED

2. Satisfaction Matrix - Ontario

	Local Government Respondent	Project	Approval Process Overall	PROCESS FACTORS					
				Information	Timing	Accessibility	Fairness	Transparency	Influence
Ontario	1	Waste							
	2	Waste		<i>Participation Delegated to local Community Organization</i>					
	1	Renewable Energy							
	2	Renewable Energy							
	1	Transport							
	2	Transport							
	3	Transport							
	4	Transport							

SATISFIED

SOMEWHAT DISSATISFIED

DISSATISFIED

British Columbia

Local Government Respondent	Project	Approval Process	PROCESS FACTORS					Influence
			Information	Timing	Accessibility	Fairness	Transparency	
1	Waste	Red	Red	Light Blue	Light Blue	Red	Red	Red
2	Waste	Yellow	Yellow	Light Blue	Light Blue	Red	Red	Light Blue
1	Renewable Energy	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Yellow	Light Blue	Light Blue
2	Renewable Energy	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue
1	Non-Renewable Energy	Light Blue	Yellow	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Yellow
2	Non-Renewable Energy	Light Blue	Light Blue	Red	Light Blue	Red	Light Blue	Light Blue
1	Transport	Light Blue	Light Blue	Red	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue
2	Transport	Red	Light Blue	Red	Light Blue	Red	Yellow	Red

Ontario

Local Government Respondent	Project	Approval Process	PROCESS FACTORS					Influence
			Information	Timing	Accessibility	Fairness	Transparency	
1	Waste	Light Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue
2	Waste	Light Blue	<i>Participation Delegated to local Community Organization</i>					Light Blue
1	Renewable Energy	Red	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Yellow	Light Blue	Red
2	Renewable Energy	Yellow	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue
1	Transport	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue
2	Transport	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue
3	Transport	Light Blue	Yellow	Light Blue	Light Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
4	Transport	Light Blue	Yellow	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue

SATISFIED

PARTIAL

DISSATISFIED

2. Satisfaction – The Power of Influence

Participant Factor – Expectation for Influence

Process Factor – Role Definition

Policy Factor – Policy Legitimacy

2. Satisfaction – Participant Factors

“There is no middle ground – municipalities want control of the (wind turbine) installation so they can resolve community conflict – whether that means they have Planning Act control or a veto in the approval process”

- **Local Government Representative, Ontario**

2. Satisfaction – Process Factors

“It is important that local governments have the opportunity to inform the assessment methodology, such as the type of studies that are conducted, rather than just commenting on information after it has been collected”.

- Local Government Representative, British Columbia

2. Satisfaction – Policy Factors

“It’s not dissatisfaction with the process but with the legislation ...itself. In terms of engaging with staff in the (government agency), I had no issue at all because they were operating within their statutory framework”

- Local Government Representative, Ontario

Other Findings – Unique Value

Technical Local Knowledge

Long-term Visioning

Infrastructure Sharing

Public & Political Liaison

Other Findings – Unique Value

“While (EIA) is a process coordinated by the province, residents call and ask questions of the municipality. They don’t call the province”

- **Local Government Representative, Ontario**

“You want to work with municipalities who deal well with the public – they can really be your allies. Work with the staff members in the municipalities who have a good relationship with the public”

- **Local Government Representative, British Columbia**

CONCLUSIONS – FACTORS OF INFLUENCE

SCOPE OF
PARTICIPATION

BOTH

SATISFACTION
WITH PROCESS

2. Nature of the Project

1. Characteristics of Participant

3. Quality of the Process

4. Policy Framework

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