

## REA Checklist: Consideration of Potential for Heritage Resources

Applies to: Applicants for a renewable energy approval (REA) under the *Environmental Protection Act* who opt to consider the potential for heritage resources under subsection 23(2) of O. Reg. 359/09.

### Screening Question

#### Is the project location situated on a parcel of land that:

	Yes	No
1. Abuts any protected property as described in Column 1 of the Table in section 19?*	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Is included on the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport's list of provincial heritage properties?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. Is listed on a register or inventory of heritage properties maintained by the municipality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4. Is the subject of a municipal, provincial or federal plaque?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5. Is on or abutting a National Historic Site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6. Is on or abutting a known burial site or cemetery?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7. Contains structures over forty years old? (Residential structures, farm buildings and outbuildings, industrial, commercial, institutional buildings and/or engineering works, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

#### Is there Aboriginal or local knowledge or accessible documentation suggesting that the project location is situated on a parcel of land that:

	Yes	No
8. Contains or is part of a cultural heritage landscape? (Aboriginal trail, park, Canadian Heritage River, designed garden, historic road or rail corridor, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9. Is considered a landmark in the local community or contains any structures or sites that are important to defining the character of the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10. Has special association with a community, person or historical event? (Aboriginal sacred site, traditional-use areas, battlefield, birthplace of an individual of importance to the community, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

If **YES** to one or more of the above questions, there is potential for heritage resources at the project location.

If **uncertain** about the answer to one or more of the above questions, a heritage assessment is advised as additional research is required to determine whether there is potential for heritage resources at the project location.

If **NO** to all of the above questions, there is low potential for heritage resources at the project location. A summary of the information supporting the consideration of potential for heritage resources must be included in the design and operations report.

\*If the project is located on a protected property, written authorization must be obtained from the appropriate body and submitted to the Ministry of the Environment as part of complete REA application under section 19 of O. Reg. 359/09.

## REA Checklist: Consideration of Potential for Heritage Resources

### - Background -

Please refer to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS) guide *Cultural Heritage Resources: An Information Bulletin for Projects Subject to Ontario Regulation 359/09 Renewable Energy Approvals* for further information.

Regulation 359/09 requires the proponent to consult with the public, municipalities, and Aboriginal communities regarding the proposed project. Heritage and archaeological sites are of critical importance to First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities and they should be involved in the assessment process. For further guidance on engaging Aboriginal communities please refer to the Ministry of the Environment's *Draft Aboriginal Consultation Guide for Preparing a Renewable Energy Approval (REA) Application*.

1. Is the project location situated on a parcel of land that abuts any protected property as described in Column 1 of the Table in section 19?

If there are protected properties that abut the project location, a heritage assessment is required to evaluate project impacts and propose mitigation strategies.

Information about protected properties may be obtained from the Registrar at the Ontario Heritage Trust, the Local Land Registry Office, or Municipal Clerk. Please consult column 2 of the Table in section 19 to determine which authority holds the necessary information.

2. Is the project location situated on a parcel of land that is included on the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport's list of provincial heritage properties?

Provincial heritage properties are properties the Government of Ontario owns or controls that have local or provincial cultural heritage value or interest. MTCS maintains a list of all provincial heritage properties based on information provided by ministries and prescribed public bodies. As they are identified, MTCS adds properties to the list of provincial heritage properties.

Information on provincial heritage properties can be obtained by contacting the Ministry's Registrar of Provincial Heritage Properties at [registrar@mcl.gov.on.ca](mailto:registrar@mcl.gov.on.ca).

3. Is the project location situated on a parcel of land that is listed on a register or inventory of heritage properties maintained by the municipality?

Municipal registers are the official lists or record of cultural heritage properties that have been identified as being important to the community. Registers must include all properties that are designated under the Ontario Heritage Act (under Part IV or V). Municipal registers may also include properties that have not yet been formally designated, but that have been recognized by the community as having cultural heritage value or interest and may be considered for designation.

Check with the Municipal Clerk, or Heritage Planning staff to determine if a property is listed on a municipal register.

4. Is the project location situated on a parcel of land that is the subject of a municipal, provincial or federal plaque?

Heritage resources are often recognized with formal plaques or markers. Plaques may be erected by municipal, provincial or federal government, or by local non-government organizations. The municipality should be aware of whether there are any local plaque programs, or if there are any federal or provincial plaques near the project location.

Information on federal plaques can also be found on the Parks Canada website: [www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/default\\_eng.aspx](http://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/default_eng.aspx).

Information about provincial plaques is available online through the Ontario Heritage Trust (OHT) Online Plaques Guide: [www.heritagetrust.on.ca/Resources-and-Learning/Online-Plaque-Guide.aspx](http://www.heritagetrust.on.ca/Resources-and-Learning/Online-Plaque-Guide.aspx).

5. Is the project location situated on a parcel of land that is on or abutting a National Historic Site?

National Historic Sites are properties of national historic significance that are designated by the Federal Minister of the Environment, based on advice from the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada.

For more information on National Historic Sites: [www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/default\\_eng.aspx](http://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/default_eng.aspx).



6. Is the project location situated on a parcel of land that is on or abutting a known burial site or cemetery?

Information on known cemeteries and/or burial sites may be obtained from the Registrar of Cemeteries, Ministry of Consumer Services. The Cemeteries Regulation Unit maintains a database of registered cemeteries:

[www.consumerbeware.mgs.gov.on.ca/eseach/cemeterySearch.do?eformsId=0](http://www.consumerbeware.mgs.gov.on.ca/eseach/cemeterySearch.do?eformsId=0)

The Ontario Genealogical Society (OGS) has created a cemetery locator that includes records for all Ontario cemeteries, both existent and non-existent, cairns, family plots and burial registers, etc. This information is available on the OGS website: <http://ogs.andornot.com/CemLocat.aspx>

Early cemeteries may also be marked in historical atlases. Digital versions of historic atlases are available on the Canadian County Atlas Digital Project website: <http://digital.library.mcgill.ca/countyatlas/SearchMapframes.php>

7. Is the project location situated on a parcel of land that contains structures over forty years old?

(Residential structures, farm buildings and outbuildings, industrial, commercial, or institutional buildings, and/or engineering works, etc.)

A 40 year old threshold is commonly used as an indicator of potential when conducting a preliminary survey for identification of cultural heritage resources. While the presence of a built feature that is 40 or more years old does not automatically signify cultural heritage value, it does make it more likely that the property could have cultural heritage value or interest.

The property owner may have information on the age of any houses or structures on the property. The municipality or local land registry office may also have information on the history of the property or would be able to determine the approximate age of the home based on the history of the development of the area.

If these sources cannot provide an approximate age, more information on researching the age of buildings or properties can be found in MTCS' Ontario Heritage Tool Kit Guide *Heritage Property Evaluation*:

[http://www.mtc.gov.on.ca/en/publications/HPE\\_Eng\\_large.pdf](http://www.mtc.gov.on.ca/en/publications/HPE_Eng_large.pdf).

8. Is there Aboriginal or local knowledge or accessible documentation suggesting that the project location is situated on a parcel of land that contains or is part of a cultural heritage landscape?

(Aboriginal trail, park, Canadian Heritage River, designed garden, historic road or rail corridor, etc.)

Some landscapes may have cultural heritage value to a community. For instance, an Aboriginal trail, historic road or rail corridor may have been established as a key transportation or trade route and may have been important to the early settlement of an area. Parks, designed gardens or unique landforms such as waterfalls, rock faces, caverns, or mounds are areas that may have connections to a particular event, group or belief.

The Canadian Heritage Rivers System is a national river conservation program. It promotes, protects and enhances the best examples of Canada's river heritage. More information is available at <http://www.chrs.ca/en/main.php>. Questions regarding Canadian Heritage Rivers should be directed to the local Conservation Authority or municipal staff.

Information on cultural heritage landscapes could be requested during Aboriginal engagement and public and municipal consultation. Members of Aboriginal communities who hold traditional knowledge such as elders or community researchers may also have information on cultural heritage resources. Please note that Aboriginal traditional knowledge may be considered sensitive.

Municipal Heritage Committees (MHCs) or local heritage organizations may also be useful resources. A full list of MHCs is available on the MTCS website: <http://www.mtc.gov.on.ca/en/heritage/lacac.shtml>. The Ontario Historical Society's "Heritage Directory" has a list of heritage societies and organizations in the province:

[www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/en/Start\\_Browsing\\_122](http://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/en/Start_Browsing_122).

A simple internet search should determine whether there is any accessible documentation available about the landscape; for instance, historical maps, a local recognition program, historical walking tour, municipal heritage management plan, cultural heritage landscape study, or municipal cultural plan that identifies the property in question. Information specific to trails may be obtained through <http://www.ontariotrails.on.ca>.

9. Is there Aboriginal or local knowledge or accessible documentation suggesting that the project location is situated on a parcel of land that is considered a landmark in the local community or contains any structures or sites that are important to defining the character of the area?

Potential landmarks, structures or sites may include: prominent buildings or landscape features, complexes of buildings, monuments, etc.

Information on landmarks could be requested during Aboriginal engagement and public and municipal consultation. Members of Aboriginal communities who hold traditional knowledge such as elders or community researchers may also have information on cultural heritage resources. Please note that Aboriginal traditional knowledge may be considered sensitive.

Municipal Heritage Committees (MHCs) or local heritage organizations may also be useful sources of information resources. A full list of MHCs is available on the MTCS website: <http://www.mtc.gov.on.ca/en/heritage/lacac.shtml>. The Ontario Historical Society's "Heritage Directory" has a list of heritage societies and organizations in the province: [www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/en/Start\\_Browsing\\_122](http://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/en/Start_Browsing_122).

A simple internet search should determine whether there is any accessible documentation available about local landmarks; for instance, a local recognition program, historical walking tour, municipal heritage management plan, cultural heritage landscape study, or municipal cultural plan that identifies the property in question.

10. Is there Aboriginal or local knowledge or accessible documentation suggesting that the project location is situated on a parcel of land that has special association with a community, person or historical event?  
(Aboriginal sacred site, traditional-use areas, battlefield, birthplace of an individual of importance to the community, etc.)

Local knowledge may reveal that the project location is situated on a parcel of land that has a special association with a community, person or event of historic interest (for example: Aboriginal sacred site, traditional-use area, battlefield, birthplace of an individual of importance to the community, etc).

Information on sites with historical or community associations could be requested during Aboriginal engagement and public and municipal consultation. Members of Aboriginal communities who hold traditional knowledge such as elders or community researchers may also have information on cultural heritage resources. Please note that Aboriginal traditional knowledge may be considered sensitive.

Municipal Heritage Committees (MHCs) or local heritage organizations may also be useful resources. A full list of MHCs is available on the MTCS website: <http://www.mtc.gov.on.ca/en/heritage/lacac.shtml>. The Ontario Historical Society's "Heritage Directory" has a list of heritage societies and organizations in the province: [www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/en/Start\\_Browsing\\_122](http://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/en/Start_Browsing_122).

A simple internet search should determine whether there is any accessible documentation available about special historical associations with the property; for instance, historical maps, a local recognition program, historical walking tour, municipal heritage management plan, cultural heritage landscape study, or municipal cultural plan that identifies the property in question.