



EB-2015-0216

**Request by Upper Canada Transmission, Inc. for Approval of Schedule and Costs
related to the Development of the East-West Tie Transmission Line**

INVITATION TO COMMENT

July 09, 2015

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) invites the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO), AltaLink Ontario LP (AltaLink) and OEB staff to comment on the filing made by Upper Canada Transmission (UCT) on [May 15, 2015](#) and updated on [June 24, 2015](#). The filings are available on the [East-West Tie page](#) of the OEB website under the heading "Reporting by Designated Transmitter".

Background

In its decision dated August 7, 2013 in the EB-2011-0140 designation proceeding, the OEB named UCT the designated transmitter for development of the East-West Tie transmission line. AltaLink was named the runner-up. The designation gave the designated transmitter an incentive for development: UCT would be able to recover its approved budget to develop the line, whether or not the line was eventually needed (in the absence of fault on the part of UCT). In a further decision and order dated September 7, 2013, the OEB approved the development schedule filed by UCT, and approved a development cost deferral account for UCT. The development schedule presumed that the line needed to be in service by the first half of 2018.

The former Ontario Power Authority (OPA) wrote to the OEB on September 30, 2014 to recommend that the in-service date be extended to 2020, and that the development schedule be reconsidered. UCT worked with the OPA to create revised development and reporting schedules, which were filed on December 19, 2014.

In a decision dated January 22, 2015, the OEB relieved UCT of the obligation to comply with three milestones in the existing schedule and reduced the frequency of reporting from monthly to quarterly. The OEB did not approve the development schedule due to the uncertainty of the route, and required UCT to answer questions as part of its anticipated filing. The OEB also required the IESO to provide updates on the need for the East-West Tie on December 15 of 2015 and 2016, and at other times as required by the OEB.

UCT responded to the OEB's direction with a filing on May 15, 2015, and an update filed June 24, 2015. The filings asked the OEB to approve a revised development schedule consistent with the new in-service date, which was supported by the IESO. UCT also asked the OEB to approve development costs in addition to the development budget previously found reasonable in the OEB's August 7, 2013 designation decision. UCT asked that the recovery of these additional costs be approved for recovery from ratepayers on the same basis as the approved development budget, that is, to be recoverable from ratepayers even if the East-West Tie line is eventually not needed.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. If the IESO, AltaLink or OEB staff wish to comment on the filings from UCT they must file the comment with the OEB and copy the comment to UCT not later than **Tuesday July 28, 2015**.
2. If UCT wishes to respond to any comments received, it must file the response with the OEB, and copy the response to any party that filed a comment, no later than **Friday August 7, 2015**.

All filings to the OEB must quote the file number, EB-2015-0216, be made in searchable / unrestricted PDF format electronically through the OEB's web portal at <https://www.pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/>. Two paper copies must also be filed at the Board's address provided below. Filings must clearly state the sender's name, postal address and telephone number, fax number and e-mail address. Parties must use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the RESS Document Guideline found at <http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/OEB/Industry>. If the web portal is not available parties may email their documents to the address below. Those who do not have internet access are required to submit all filings on a CD in PDF format, along with two paper copies. Those who do not have computer access are required to file 7 paper copies.

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Board Secretary at the address below, and be received no later than 4:45 p.m. on the required date.

ADDRESS

Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto ON M4P 1E4
Attention: Board Secretary

E-mail: boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca
Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (Toll free)
Fax: 416-440-7656

DATED at Toronto, July 09, 2015

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary