



BY EMAIL

March 13, 2024

Grace Flood
Director of Finance and Regulatory Affairs
Essex Powerlines Corporation
2730 Highway #3
Oldcastle, ON N0R 1L0
gfflood@essexpowerlines.ca

Dear Ms. Flood:

**Re: Essex Powerlines Corporation (EPLC)
Application for New Deferral Account
Ontario Energy Board (OEB) File Number: EB-2024-0096**

EPLC filed an application on February 16, 2024, to request the OEB's approval to establish a new deferral account and sub-accounts pursuant to Section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*. The account would be used to accrue commodity costs that exceed the cost of power for any kWh procured by EPLC through its Powershare¹ project for disposition at a later time. EPLC states that its request was not made as part of EPLC's upcoming Cost of Service application for rates effective January 1, 2025, as the Powershare project is currently underway and will be running before the Cost of Service application is submitted and EPLC's 2025 rates take effect.

The OEB has considered EPLC's request and has determined that it will combine the proceedings for the current application with EPLC's pending Cost of Service application, after it has been filed. The [deadline](#) established by the OEB for Cost of Service applications for January 1, 2025 rates is April 30, 2024. Given that both applications are expected to address system planning needs, the OEB concludes it is more efficient to publish one Notice of Application that addresses both applications. The OEB appreciates EPLC's timing concerns. Within the combined proceeding, the OEB intends to establish an expedited procedural schedule to address the request for a new deferral account.

¹ On March 7, 2022, EPLC's proposed Essex Powerlines DSO Pilot Project (Powershare) qualified for funding through the IESO's Grid Innovation Fund and support from the OEB's Innovation Sandbox.

Please direct any questions relating to this application to case manager Whitney Wong, Senior Advisor, at 416-440-8107 or whitney.wong@oeb.ca.

Yours truly,

Nancy Marconi
Registrar