

DECISION AND ORDER

EB-2024-0361

Amending the Electricity Transmission Licence of Hydro One Networks Inc. to Require it to Develop and Seek Approvals for a New Transmission Line

BY DELEGATION, BEFORE: Brian Hewson

Vice President,

Consumer Protection & Industry Performance

December 23, 2024

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

Further to a directive from the Minister of Energy (Minister), the Ontario Energy Board (OEB), of its own motion, is commencing this proceeding to amend the electricity transmission licence¹ of Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) to require it to develop and seek approvals for a transmission line project.

BACKGROUND

Under section 28.6.1 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (Act), the Minister may issue directives to the OEB requiring the OEB to take such steps as are specified in the directive relating to the construction, expansion or reinforcement of transmission systems. Such a directive may, among other things, require the OEB to amend the licence conditions of a transmitter to require the transmitter to take the actions specified in the directive in relation to its transmission system. Such a directive may also specify whether the OEB is to hold a hearing for the purposes of implementing the directive.

The OEB received a directive under section 28.6.1 of the Act (Directive) from the Minister, which was approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council on November 28 2024 as Order in Council No. 1555/2024. The Order in Council accompanying the Directive states that it is critical to expand Ontario's transmission system to provide a reliable and adequate supply of electricity to Northeastern Ontario to support economic growth and electrification initiatives in the region.

The Directive requires the OEB to amend Hydro One's electricity transmission licence to require Hydro One to develop and seek approvals for a new 230 kilovolt (kV) transmission line (built to 500 kV standards) from Wawa Transformer Station to Porcupine Transformer Station, including associated station facility expansions or upgrades required at the terminal stations (Project).

The Directive also directs the OEB to require that Hydro One provide such reporting to the OEB as the OEB may consider appropriate with respect to budget, timing and risks in relation to the development of the Project.

In accordance with the Directive, the OEB is required to amend Hydro One's electricity transmission licence without a hearing.

This Decision and Order is being issued by Delegated Authority without a hearing.

¹ ET-2003-0035

DECISION

Further to the Directive, the OEB is amending Hydro One's electricity transmission licence to require it to develop and seek approvals for the Project.

Reporting requirements to enable the OEB to monitor Hydro One's progress towards the implementation of the conditions being added to its electricity transmission licence today, including budget, timing and risks, will be addressed at a later date.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- 1. Hydro One Networks Inc.'s electricity transmission licence ET-2003-0035 is amended by adding the following new condition:
 - 19.10.1 The Licensee shall develop and seek approval for a new 230 kilovolt (kV) transmission line (built to 500 kV standards) from Wawa Transformer Station to Porcupine Transformer Station, including associated station facility expansions or upgrades required at the terminal stations.

DATED at Toronto, December 23, 2024

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Brian Hewson Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance