

Hydro One Networks Inc.

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BY EMAIL AND RESS

January 13, 2025

Ms. Nancy Marconi Registrar Ontario Energy Board Suite 2700, 2300 Yonge Street P.O. Box 2319 Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Marconi,

EB-2024-0034 – Hydro One Remote Communities Inc. – 2025 IRM Application – Responses to OEB Staff Questions

In accordance with Ontario Energy Board ("OEB") Staff's email dated December 12, 2024, please find attached our responses to questions posed by OEB Staff.

An electronic copy of the Application has been submitted using the Board's Regulatory Electronic Submission System.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Burke

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OEB STAFF QUESTION - 01

1 2 3

Reference:

Application Summary, Exhibit A-4-1, Page. 4, Table 2

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Preamble:

On December 10, 2024, the OEB issued a Decision and Order approving the Settlement Proposal for Wataynikaneyap Power LP's (WPLP) 2025 transmission revenue requirement. WPLP's transmission connection costs are a direct flow-through cost for Hydro One Remote Communities Inc., which are funded through the Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection (RRRP) program. WPLP's approved 2025 revenue requirement resulting from the Settlement Proposal and the updated cost of capital parameters is summarized in Table 1 below.

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Table 1 - Summary of Change in Revenue Requirement with Cost of Capital Update

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	Revenue Requirement for Rates (\$000's)			
	Line to Pickle Lake	Remote Connection Lines	Total	
Rate Application (2024-06-28)	44,040	134,895	178,935	
Settlement Proposal & 2025 Cost of Capital Update	43,490	132,731	176,221	
Change	-550	-2,164	-2,714	
% Change	-1.2%	-1.6%	-1.5%	

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Interrogatory:

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a) Please update the RRRP using the approved Settlement Proposal with the updated cost of capital parameters to reflect WPLP's approved 2025 transmission revenue requirement.

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Response:

a) Please see Table 2 (2025 RRRP Amounts) below showing the updated amounts.

¹ EB-2024-0176, Decision and Order, issued December 10, 2024

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Table 2 - 2025 RRRP Amounts (\$000s)

Description	OEB Approved	Inflation Factor	2025 Escalated (As-Filed)	2025 Escalated (Updated)
Remotes Annual RRRP - Operating Subsidy	48,192	3.6%	49,927	49,927
Remotes Annual RRRP - WPLP Subsidy	119,237		134,895	132,731 [1]
Total Annual RRRP	167,429	-	184,822	182,658
Recovery of balance of RRRPVA	1,946 [2]	-	1,946	1,946
Total RRRP Level for 2025	169,375	-	186,768	184,604

^{[1]:} Remotes Annual RRRP – WPLP Subsidy approved 2025 transmission revenue requirement as provided in EB-2024-0176, Decision and Order, issued December 10, 2024

^{[2]:} Disposition of the December 31, 2021 audited RRRPVA total balance of \$9,732k equally over a five-year term (\$1,946k/year) as outlined in EB-2022-0041, Application, Exhibit H-01-01

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OEB STAFF QUESTION - 02

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Reference:

- 1. Custom Rate Generator Model, Proposed Tariff Schedule Tab
- 2. EB-2022-0041, Decision and Rate Order, Schedule A

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Preamble:

The Application section of the Specific Service Charges in Ref. 1 states the following:

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It should be noted that this schedule does not list any charges, assessments, or credits that are required by law to be invoiced by a distributor and that are not subject to Board approval, such as the Debt Retirement Charge, the Global Adjustment, the Ontario Clean Energy Benefit and the HST.

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This is not consistent with the wording in the Application section of the Specific Service Charges in Ref. 2:

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It should be noted that this schedule does not list any charges, assessments or credits that are required by law to be invoiced by a distributor and that are not subject to Board approval, such as the Global Adjustment and the HST.

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Interrogatory:

25 26 a) Please update the wording of the Application section of the Specific Service Charges in Ref. 1 to match the wording in Ref. 2.

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Response:

a) The wording has been updated in the Application section of the Specific Service Charges in the Custom Rate Generator Model. Please see I-01-02-01.

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OEB STAFF QUESTION - 03

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Reference:

- 1. Custom Rate Generator Model, Proposed Tariff Schedule Tab
- 2. EB-2022-0041, Decision and Rate Order, Schedule A

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Preamble:

The Non-Payment of Account section of the Specific Service Charges in Ref. 1 is presented as follows:

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Non-Payment of Account		
Late Payment – per month	%	1.50
Late Payment – per annum	%	19.56
Reconnection – if in Community	\$	65.00

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This is not consistent with the format and wording in the Non-Payment of Account section of the Specific Service Charges in Ref. 2:

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Non-Payment of Account		
Late Payment – per month (effective		
annual rate 19.56% per annum or	%	1.50
0.04896% compounded daily rate)		
Reconnection – if in Community	\$	65.00

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Interrogatory:

17 18 a) Please update the format and wording of the Non-Payment of Account section of the Specific Service Charges in Ref. 1 to match the format and wording in Ref. 2.

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Response:

21 22 a) The format and wording have been updated in the Non-Payment section of the Specific Service Charges in the Custom Rate Generator Model. Please see I-01-02-01.

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OEB STAFF QUESTION - 04

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Reference:

- 1. Customer Rate Generator Model, Summary Sheet and Proposed Tariff Schedule
- 2. OEB Letter, Review of Fixed Monthly Charge for microFIT Generator Service Classification, November 19, 2024

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Preamble:

In Ref. 1, the Proposed Rates, Summary Sheet and Proposed Tariff Schedule tabs of the Custom Rate Generator Model report the proposed microFIT service charge as \$4.55. In Ref. 2, the OEB letter established that the microFIT service charge shall increase to \$5.00 for the 2025 rate year.

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Interrogatory:

a) OEB staff has updated the Customer Rate Generator Model to reflect the updated microFIT service charge of \$5.00. Please confirm the accuracy of this update and ensure that all other tabs reflect the update, as applicable.

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Response:

a) Confirmed. This update is reflected in the Customer Rate Generator Model. Please see I-01-02-01.

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