
From: Joanne Drew
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2025 1:08 PM
To: Office of the Registrar <Registrar@oeb.ca>
Subject: WAASIGAN EXPROPRIATION

Re: Letter of Comment - Hydro One Networks Inc. Waasigan – Expropriation Application
Ontario Energy Board File Number: EB-2024-0319 – Responses to Staff Interrogatories – Submitted March 5, 2025

As a directly affected landowner in this application, I have concerns and comments after reviewing Hydro One Networks Inc.'s responses to your Staff's interrogatories.

Ms. Richardson's cover letter implies it is not a matter of **IF** the OEB will grant Hydro approval to expropriate, but **WHEN** you will grant the request. Ms. Richardson does not even contemplate a decision not in Hydro One's favour. It seems as if Hydro One Networks Inc. expects the OEB to rubber stamp their request and a hearing for permission is just theatre they must participate in. Their major concern is the procedure not causing them any delays and expediting this application.

RESPONSE TO INTERROGATORY – 01

The first condition of the approval of the Leave to Construct application was "... and **shall** obtain **all** necessary approvals, permits, licenses, certificates, agreements and rights required to **construct**, operate and maintain the project". On a linear infrastructure project is it not the duty and responsibility of the applicant to insure it has **all** the necessary agreements and rights before proceeding with construction? Hydro One Networks Inc. has blatantly disregarded an OEB order and began construction on this project before acquiring the land agreements and rights they were ordered to obtain. They are now trying to leverage the time and resources already invested in the project as a whole against the individual landowners in this proceeding by citing this fact as a reason to expropriate. This is incorrect and unethical. The extent to which the proponent of a project has already spent time and money should be immaterial to the OEB when determining an approval to expropriate individual properties.

Hydro One Networks Inc. did not actually address why they did not fulfil the agreements and rights part of the first condition. They did a masterful job of directing you to the "approvals" they have obtained, however gloss over the fact they began construction without all the necessary land agreements.

If the applicant is not held to account and the conditions of the approval for the project

enforced, it makes a total mockery of these proceedings.

RESPONSE TO INTERROGATORY – 02 (a)

The OEB has requested a complete record of the communications and negotiations between Hydro One Networks Inc. and the landowners subject to expropriation. Hydro One provided this record of consultation in Attachment 2 of their responses.

What assurance does the OEB have that Hydro One Networks Inc. has provided a complete record?

How does the OEB know with certainty that Hydro did not just release the communications favourable to them?

Negotiations are suppose to be a strategic discussion between **two** parties to resolve an issue that both would find acceptable.

Will the OEB reach out to the landowners and request their records of communications to ensure both sides are indeed represented in this decision?

I truly hope this decision is in fact unbiased and fair to all parties, and not directed by Hydro One exerting pressure on the OEB to influence the outcome of what should be a non-partisan evaluation of the merits of this application.

Yours truly,

Joanne Drew

