



# Ontario Energy Board Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario

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## DECISION AND ORDER

EB-2017-0349 & EB-2018-0006

## HYDRO ONE NETWORKS INC.

Applications for leave to sell distribution assets to Bell Canada

**BY DELEGATION, BEFORE: Brian Hewson**  
Vice President  
Consumer Protection & Industry Performance

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February 15, 2018

## Order

Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on November 14, 2017, under section 86(1)(b) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (OEB Act), for an order granting Hydro One leave to sell certain distribution system assets to Bell Canada (Bell). The OEB assigned file number EB-2017-0349 to the application. The assets that are the subject of the proposed transaction are 283 poles located in various locations in Cornwall, Ontario. The parties to the transaction agreed that the assets are being sold for the sale price of \$355,384.00 plus HST.

On January 5, 2018, Hydro One filed another application with the OEB under section 86(1)(b) of the OEB Act, for an order granting Hydro One leave to sell distribution system assets to Bell. The OEB assigned file number EB-2018-0006 to the application. The assets that are the subject of the proposed transaction are 32 poles located on three different roadways in Cornwall, Ontario. The parties to the transaction agreed that the assets are being sold for the sale price of \$22,474.00 plus HST.

The OEB combined the applications into one proceeding, pursuant to section 21(5) of the OEB Act.

The applications have been considered without holding a hearing pursuant to section 6(4) of the OEB Act.

### FINDINGS

Section 86(1)(b) of the OEB Act provides that leave of the OEB is required before a transmitter or a distributor can “sell, lease or otherwise dispose of that part of its transmission or distribution system that is necessary in serving the public.” The assets that are the subject of the proposed transactions are necessary in serving the public.

Hydro One has explained that the sale is for maintaining the ownership balance between Bell and Hydro One as per the Joint Use Agreement. After completion of the proposed transactions, Bell will own the assets and Hydro One will continue as a tenant on these poles.

The assets will continue to be used for supplying electricity to existing Hydro One customers. The applicant stated that the transactions will not adversely affect the safety, reliability, quality of service, operational flexibility or economic efficiency of Hydro One. As well, the applicant stated that there will be no impact on Hydro One’s distribution rates as a result of the assets sale.

The OEB finds that the proposed transactions are reasonable and are not anticipated to have any negative effects. It is therefore in the public interest to grant Hydro One leave to sell the assets described above to Bell.

**IT IS ORDERED THAT:**

1. Hydro One Networks Inc. is granted leave to sell 315 poles located in various locations in Cornwall, Ontario to Bell Canada.

**DATED** at Toronto February 15, 2018

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

*Original Signed By*

Brian Hewson  
Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance