

10 December 2018

Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4
Attention: Kirsten Walli, Board Secretary

Dear Kirsten Walli,

RE. LETTER TO FILE NO. EB-2018-0270

It is disturbing that Hydro One is applying, yet again, to buy out Orillia Power Distribution Corporation (Orillia Power). I ask the Board Members to nip this in the bud, now, by rejecting Hydro One's motion for an application to buy out Orillia Power.

A book could be written on why the Orillia Power sellout to Hydro One should not occur but I am streamlining this letter into 2 salient points the Board will find relevant:

1. Orillia Power cannot be legally sold without the consent of the ratepayers in the form of a proper referendum. Orillia Bylaw 557, which is still in the books and extant, puts the control of our electrical utility out of the hands of City bureaucrats and politicians, the very people trying to sell out Orillia Power.
2. It is not in the best interests of Orillia Power ratepayers to sell out to Hydro One. Indeed, the Orillia Power CEO should be impeached for not looking after the best interests of Orillia ratepayers:

Our electrical utility serves us well in Orillia, the hardware is maintained in top notch condition. We have occasional brown-outs but not the black-outs which are a matter of course in Hydro One country. We stand to lose our quality of service. Eventually, our rates will skyrocket as they have everywhere else where Hydro One has taken over. Hydro One holds a significant portion of the debt in Ontario and it's ratepayers are forced to cover that. Hydro One, now over 50% privately owned, is driven by profit. They are not interested in providing affordable electricity to our local community nor, indeed, to any other community. (And in that respect, you might want to reconsider their applications to buy out other communities such as Peterborough.)

We will lose our number one asset and legacy in Orillia if Hydro One is permitted to take over Orillia Power.

Might I point out that there seem to be elements of corruption at the City bureaucratic and political level surrounding the attempted sellout of our Orillia Power including the appointing of a Hydro One official to the important post of Economic Development Officer for the City and alleged salting of Orillia Power Distribution and Generation offices with Hydro One personnel in preparation for 'the takeover'. They have been assuming the sellout will happen. And there is no transparency. The last time Orillia Power issued an annual report was for the year 2014.

There should be a forensic investigation reaching back to the 1990's. I understand this may not be within the Board's mandate but, if it is, please do so.

Ontario Energy Board, I sincerely ask you to deny Hydro One's motion for this second application to buy out Orillia Power Distribution.

Thank you for listening.

Yours truly,

D. Morris

Dael Morris

