

8 December 2018



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

Dear Kirsten Walli,

RE. FILE NO. EB-2018-0270, Petition Letter of Introduction

Please be advised that I am resubmitting the petition to stop the sellout of Orillia Power Distribution to Hydro One. This petition totaling 510 signatures includes 271 *online* signatures plus 239 signatures on *paper*. The original of the *paper* component should still lie in your file EB-2016-0276, #20180301 (photos attached). Please pull it out so Board members have a chance to examine it properly as the attached photos do not do it justice.

This petition was created and launched by myself online the afternoon of February 6<sup>th</sup> 2018 and continued until the afternoon of February 28<sup>th</sup> 2018 for a period of 22 days. The gathering of signatures was a one person effort and the reason for pointing this out will soon become apparent.

I began a *paper* component of the petition February 13<sup>th</sup> when difficulties surrounding the *online* component became evident for several reasons:

1. People thought they had signed online but had not! I personally know 3 people who told me they had signed but on closer examination their signatures were not found listed on the petition. It turns out they had clicked the 'sign' button but didn't wait for a form to pop up, perhaps it took a long time on some computers. These were people practised using personal computers. I would venture to say that at least half of the people who think they signed, if not more, did not, and, of course, there was no way of knowing who they were in order to contact them.
2. There is a crowd of people who will not sign anything online. The seniors crowd are, in fact, taught not to. Where only one senior in an exercise class had signed online, all the rest in the class ignored the online version but signed the paper petition when it was later presented.
3. There were issues trying to reach out through Facebook.

Some signers are resident outside the Orillia area. These petition supporters were firm believers in not letting Hydro One eat up local power companies. Some were witnesses due to personal experience: there are lots of horror stories out there about Hydro One.

The paper version of the petition represents a small sampling of people in the Orillia area covering door-to-door knocking less than 2 blocks in my surrounding residential area one afternoon plus, one morning at the downtown Orillia Farmers Market plus, two 'Smart' seniors exercise classes. I found that almost everyone was glad to see it because they were opposed to the sellout of Orillia Power Distribution to Hydro One for the reasons stated in the petition and much more.

Only a handful of people would not look at the petition and it is not known if they could have been persuaded if they had more information; it was not my mission to argue with people on their front doorsteps to try to change their minds, rather to collect signatures from those already opposed to the sellout.

In this regard, the results of this sampling is even more impressive considering the bias that all of these people have been exposed to; almost 3 years of ongoing one-sided campaigning by the City of Orillia and Hydro One, a veritable snow job, to sell them the sellout. With more time and effort to cover the entire Orillia area, the vast majority of people would likely be found to be against the sellout if given half the chance to say so.

There has been no proper open discussion concerning the sellout with the people of Orillia, no proper opportunity for argument, no referendum when, by law, there should have been.

The few people approached apparently working for the City of Orillia seemed afraid to look at the petition expressing that it would be a 'conflict of interests' for them. The Orillia Public Library would not permit it to be advertised on their electronic bulletin board because they are paid through the City of Orillia.

Orilla Power consumers own the company, it should never have been thrown into the arena of politics as it has. The City politicians and bureaucrats have had no right to try to sell it out. In fact, the sequestering of the OPD dividends into the City coffers, withdrawal of greater funds assigning the debt to Orillia Power, then charging relatively high interest on the fake debt reeks of a complicated and long term scheme of corruption and fraud that should be investigated. Although the sellout to Hydro One has been denied by the OEB twice, the City of Orillia persists in spending millions of dollars of taxpayers' dollars on trying to ram the sellout through.

Ontario Energy Board, it is important that, on behalf of the people of Orillia, you deny Hydro One's second application to buy out Orillia Power Distribution.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Yours truly,

*D. Morris*

Dael Morris + 509 others