



January 3, 2019

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

Dear Ms. Kristen Walli,

I am writing to you to lend support of the Mergers, Acquisitions, Amalgamations and Divestments (MAADs) application submitted to the Ontario Power Corporation by the City of Orillia and Orillia Power Distribution Company (OPDC) as a part of a share purchase agreement between the aforementioned and Hydro One.

I believe that the acceptance of this application will be a truly transformative opportunity for the City of Orillia and to energy consumers, such as Lakehead University.

I understand that the Ontario Energy Board has received additional information from the applicants concerning the effects of cost structures beyond the ten-year period normally required for review. Based on this additional information, it would appear as though a case has been successfully argued in support of the notion that, in the contested eleventh year, former customers of the OPDC will not experience any rate increases that would not have occurred if the transaction had not been approved.

I am also encouraged to know that if the application were approved by the Ontario Energy Board, electricity customers in Orillia—such as Lakehead University—will enjoy lower distribution rates over the next eleven-year period than if we were to remain customers of the OPDC.

Additionally, the approval of this application will act as an encouragement for Hydro One to execute its plan for the construction of an Integrated Systems Operation Centre, a Regional Operations Centre, and a Provincial Warehouse on a proposed site across from the current location of the Lakehead Orillia campus.



In partnership with Georgian College, Lakehead is committed to providing programs that meet the needs of an ever-changing job market in Simcoe County, specifically in the area of engineering and computer science. This proposed project would most certainly drive transformational economic and employment growth for the City of Orillia and Simcoe County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr. Dean Jobin-Bevans".

Dr. Dean Jobin-Bevans
Principal
Lakehead University Orillia

CC Hon. Greg Rickford
Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines
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