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BY EMAIL

February 12, 2020

Ms. Jennifer Tidmarsh
Project Director
NextBridge Infrastructure, LP
290 Bay Street, Suite 1720
Toronto ON M5H 2Y2
Jennifer.Tidmarsh@nexteraenergy.com

Dear Ms. Tidmarsh:

**Re: NextBridge Infrastructure, LP
Quarterly Report on the East-West Tie Project
Board File No.: EB-2017-0182**

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) is in receipt of the quarterly report on the progress of the East-West Tie Project filed by Upper Canada Transmission Inc., operating as NextBridge Infrastructure, LP (NextBridge), on January 22, 2020 (January Progress Report).

In order to better understand the content and implications of certain portions of the January Progress Report, OEB staff would appreciate if NextBridge provides further detail as follows in relation to budget changes and delays in obtaining permits and approvals:

1. In the January Progress Report, NextBridge has reallocated budgets in various cost categories, in some cases for cost categories that were previously assigned contingency funds based on forecasted risks. Please explain, in detail, the reasons for the budget reallocations (i.e., the increases and decreases in budgets for cost categories).

2. According to the January Progress Report, permit and access approval delays have resulted in construction start-up delays, in addition to the delays identified in the previous report. Please provide more information explaining the reasons for the delays to date in receiving permit and access approvals. In addition, please provide the analysis of impacts on the East-West Tie Project's cost and schedule now. If this is not possible at this time, please explain why the analysis can only be completed following the 2020 winter construction season.
3. Please identify the impacts for the East-West Tie Project's costs and schedule under each of the following two scenarios: (i) all necessary approvals are received in February and (b) no necessary approvals are received prior to the end of the 2020 winter construction season.
4. According to the January Progress Report, there may be delays associated with finalizing acquisition with mining claim holders. Please outline the potential implications for the East-West Tie Project's cost and schedule of the Mining and Lands Tribunal hearings for the two outstanding mining claim holders.

NextBridge is asked to file responses to the above questions by February 26, 2020 through the OEB's web portal at <http://www.pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/services/> quoting file number **EB-2017-0182**. A copy of the responses should also be sent to the individuals copied on this letter below.

Please direct any questions relating to this matter to David Martinello at David.Martinello@oeb.ca or at 416-440-8142. The Board's toll-free number is 1-888-632-6273.

Yours truly,

Original Signed By

Brian Hewson
Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance

cc: Devon Huber, IESO, Sr. Manager, Regulatory Affairs
Joanne Richardson, Hydro One Networks Inc., Director, Major Projects and Partnerships