



Ontario Federation of Agriculture

Ontario AgriCentre

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MAY - 9 2007

May 4, 2007

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Board Secretary, Ontario Energy Board
Box 2319 2300 Yonge St.
Toronto Ontario M4P 1E4

Dear Sir:

I am writing on behalf of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture. Over 80% of Ontario's farmers belong voluntarily to the OFA. OFA has concerns with respect to choice of location for the proposed expanded corridor for the Bruce to Milton power line and in respect of the rules, guidelines or practices that may apply with respect to what compensation effected landowners may be offered. OFA accepts that the GTA needs more power. Nonetheless OFA has concerns which include:

- 1 should this expansion be the last line in the present corridor or should it be added to the Bruce Collingwood corridor or should it be the first line in a new corridor
- 2 has the most secure route been chosen with concern for vandalism, terrorism and weather
- 3 is it possible to replace existing lines with heavier capacity lines and use less land
- 4 if expanded capacity on existing towers is not possible, will the new towers be able to accept extra or heavier lines in the future
- 5 when if not now, will power needs in the GTA start to be met by conservation everywhere and more generation in the GTA
- 6 that each tower take the minimum possible footprint (single foundation instead of four)
- 7 that affected landowners be compensated according to a pre-agreed process and formula
- 8 as this proposed line and many lines in the past 35 years have been to serve the GTA, will the rate system be adjusted to reflect this benefit incidence

OFA has met with its Directors and Presidents from the counties through which the proposed expansion passes. The above concerns reflect concerns raised with them by farmers in the power line corridor. OFA understands that due to delays that were not of Hydro One's making that the need for this power line has become urgent. OFA will do all it can to facilitate a rapid decision. Nonetheless, the delays of officials past and present are not sufficient reason to curtail the rights of farmers and landowners or to rush through plans that with some public scrutiny and Board oversight might be much improved.

To ensure that these concerns are addressed, the Ontario Federation of Agriculture asks, one that the Board hold a written or oral enquiry prior to giving permission to construct the new line, and two that the Board include conditions on that permission sufficient to address these concerns.

Yours truly,

for 
Neil Currie
General Manager

cc - Executive Committee
Susan Franks, Hydro One

EB-2007-0050

OEB BOARD SECRETARY	
File No:	Sub File: 4
Panel	PN, CC, BR
Licensing	NH, KS, MM, DR
Other	RC, ZC, NMckay
00/04	AB