



EB-2011-0010

IN THE MATTER OF the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998, S.O. 1998, c. 15, Schedule B;

AND IN THE MATTER OF an application pursuant to section 74 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998 by Erie Thames Powerlines Corporation to amend its Electricity Distribution Licence ED-2002-0516.

By delegation, before: Jennifer Lea

DECISION AND ORDER

THE APPLICATION

Erie Thames Powerlines Corporation ("Erie Thames") filed an application on January 6, 2011, with the Ontario Energy Board under section 74 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998 for an order of the Board to amend Erie Thames's licensed service area in Schedule 1 of its electricity distribution licence ED-2002-0516. The Board assigned the application file number EB-2011-0010.

This service area amendment is required in order for Erie Thames to supply electricity and provide electricity distribution services to a new pumping station built as a part of expansion of the existing sewage lagoons located in the Town of Tavistock. The lands purchased by the County of Oxford for the purpose of expansion are currently located in Hydro One Networks Inc.'s ("Hydro One") licensed service area.

- The subject lands are described as Part Lots 34 and 35, Concession 13 (East Zorra), in the Township of Zorra-Tavistock.

FINDINGS

Based on the evidence, I find that it is in the public interest to amend Schedule 1 of Erie Thames' electricity distribution licence to include the lands described above. The following facts are relevant to this decision.

The evidence filed with the application demonstrates that it is more economically efficient for Erie Thames to serve the proposed expansion as it will provide a practical and low cost connection for the customer, the County of Oxford. The boundary expansion area is contiguous to Erie Thames' existing distribution service area and the existing sewage lagoons are currently serviced by Erie Thames. Erie Thames has an existing 27.6kV distribution system bordering the subject lands that is readily available and adequate to supply the proposed 3 phase service to the new pumping station, while Hydro One's distribution facilities in the proposed amendment area are not sufficient to supply the load without additional investment. Hydro One supports the proposed service area amendment and confirms that it would be more economically efficient for Erie Thames to connect the customer.

A letter from the County of Oxford, the owner of the Tavistock Wastewater Treatment Plant, filed with the application indicates that the customer prefers Erie Thames as a service provider. There are no existing customers in the proposed amendment area and there are no plans for any further expansion. No assets will be stranded as a result of the proposed amendment. In addition, no negative impact on rates, safety, reliability or service quality of Erie Thames or Hydro One has been identified as a result of the proposed amendment.

The applicant requested that the Board decide the application without a hearing. I have done so. All affected parties consented to the application as filed. The evidence filed with the Board demonstrated that the amendment will not produce any adverse effects on the existing customers of the distributors, and there are no prospective customers apart from the County of Oxford who may locate in the proposed amendment area.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

Erie Thames Corporation's Electricity Distribution Licence (ED-2002-0516), specifically Schedule 1 of the licence, is amended to include the lands described as:

- Part Lots 34 and 35, Concession 13 (East Zorra), in the Township of Zorra-Tavistock.

DATED at Toronto, March 17, 2011

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Jennifer Lea
Counsel, Special Projects