Ontario Energy Board Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario



EB-2011-0063

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

AND IN THE MATTER OF an Application by Grand Renewable Wind LP for an Order granting leave to construct a new transmission line and associated facilities for the Grand Renewable Energy Park to be located in Haldimand County.

AMENDED ORDER December 19, 2012

On December 8, 2011, the Board issued a Decision and Order pursuant to sections 92 and 97 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, *1998*, S.O. 1998, c.15, (Schedule B), (the "Act"), under Board File No. EB-2011-0063, granting leave to Grand Renewable Wind, LP ("GRWLP") to construct transmission facilities and granting approval of forms of easement agreements. The Board determined that the proposed transmission facilities are necessary to connect the Grand Renewable Energy Park (the "GREP"), a solar and wind generation facility located in Haldimand County, to the IESO-controlled grid.

The approved transmission facilities consist of approximately 19 kilometres of 230 kilovolt ("kV") transmission line, a collector substation consisting of two step-up transformers (34.5kV:230 kV), two transition stations to accommodate construction of an underground portion of the proposed 230 kV transmission line, and an interconnection station to connect to an existing Hydro One Networks Inc. owned 230 kV transmission line (collectively referred to as the "Transmission Facilities").

The proposed in-service date for the project was forecast for March 2013. With respect to construction of the Transmission Facilities, Condition 1.2 of the Conditions of

Approval attached to the Order specified that construction shall commence no later than December 31, 2012:

1.2 Unless otherwise ordered by the Board, authorization for Leave to Construct shall terminate December 31, 2012 unless construction of the Project has commenced prior to that date.

The Conditions of Approval also specified at Condition 1.6 that approval of the Leave to Construct application is conditional on all necessary permits and authorizations being received, including an approved Renewable Energy Approval (REA). Although two REAs exist in connection with the GREP, one related to the solar component and another associated with the wind component, only the latter REA is germane to this proceeding.

On December 7, 2012, the Board received a letter from the applicant indicating that the Renewable Energy Approval ("REA") process for Grand Renewable Wind LP has been delayed due to appeals filed with the Environmental Review Tribunal. GRWLP requested that the Board extend the date of authorization for Leave to Construct from December 31, 2012 to June 30, 2013. GRWLP also appended a revised project schedule to the letter.

Board Finding

The Board finds that the request to extend the commencement date of construction for the Transmission Facilities stems from circumstances outside of the applicant's control. In accordance with Condition 1.5 of the Conditions of Approval, GRWLP has also appropriately advised the Board of this change in the construction schedule and on obtaining an approved REA. There has been no material change to the underlying facts upon which the Board originally approved the application, and the Board finds that no person will be adversely affected by this extension. The Board therefore approves the request to extend the date of authorization for Leave to Construct from December 31, 2012 to June 30, 2013.

THE BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. Condition 1.2 of the Conditions of Approval attached as Appendix A to the Board's Order dated December 8, 2011 be replaced to read as follows "Unless otherwise ordered by the Board, authorization for Leave to Construct shall terminate June 30, 2013 unless construction of the Project has commenced prior to that date."

- 2. GRWLP shall, no later than **December 30, 2012**, provide a copy of this Order to all the parties to this proceeding.
- 3. Once the Renewable Energy Approval process is complete, GRWLP shall inform the Board and make available to all the parties to this proceeding the revised plan and schedule for the construction of the Transmission Facilities.

All filings to the Board must quote file number EB-2011-0063, be made through the Board's web portal at <u>https://www.pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/</u>, and consist of two paper copies and one electronic copy in searchable / unrestricted PDF format. Filings must clearly state the sender's name, postal address and telephone number, fax number and e-mail address. Parties shall use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the RESS Document Guideline found at <u>www.ontarioenergyboard.ca</u>.

If the web portal is not available, parties may email their documents to the address below. Those who do not have internet access are required to submit all filings on a CD in PDF format, along with two paper copies. Those who do not have computer access are required to file 7 paper copies.

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Board Secretary at the address below, and be received no later than 4:45 p.m. on the required date.

ADDRESS

Ontario Energy Board P.O. Box 2319 2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor Toronto ON M4P 1E4 Attention: Board Secretary E-mail: <u>Boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca</u> Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (toll free) Fax: 416-440-7656

DATED at Toronto, December 19, 2012

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary