**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING & REGULAR POST**

March 4, 2013

Ontario Energy Board

P.O. Box 2319

2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor

Toronto, ON

M4P 1E4

Attention: Ms. Kirsten Walli,

 Board Secretary\_

Dear Ms. Walli:

**RE: Board File Number: EB-2012-0458**

 **K2 Wind Ontario Limited Partnership**

 **Application for Leave to Construct (the “Application”)**

[Note: K2 wind Ontario Limited Partnership is referred to as “K2 Wind”]

In accordance with the OEB Procedural Order No. 1 dated February 19, 2013, the Residents Group would like to request the following information from K2 Wind:

INFORMATION REQUESTED FROM K2 WIND ONTARIO

Proposed Underground 230 KV Transmission Line

Reference:

 a) Exh. E/ Tab 1/ Sch.1/ pg 1 & 2/ Facilities Overview

 b) Exh. E/ Tab 2/ Sch.2/ pg 2 & 3/ major Transmission Equipment Ratings

 c) Exh. E/ Tab 6/ Sch .1/ Table of Applicable Codes, Standards and Regulations

 d) Exh. D/ Tab 2/ Sch. 1/ Location of Proposed Facilities

1. Provide any additional and complete construction/engineering details of the proposed 230 KV line including: specifications for cables, protection, depth of construction, and materials used surrounding the cables. Provide the source for the proposed cables. Provide the details of the proposed contractors who will construct the underground line, including their background and specific experience in installing a 230 KV underground line. Indicate if their related experience pertains to an urban or rural environment.

Provide the names of any engineers who were involved in the design of the proposed 230 KV transmission line and provide their full C.V.s with details of their experience in working on and designing 230 KV underground lines. Indicate if their related experience pertains to an urban or rural environment.

Provide the minutes or notes from any discussions or meetings held with design engineers regarding the proposed underground transmission line.

2. Provide a schematic cross-section of each of the proposed river and road crossings of the underground 230 KV line. Indicate the exact depth of each crossing.

3. What is the available ground fault current on the 230 KV circuit? What are the impedances for the K2 transformers connected to this circuit?

4. Provide copies of all applicable Ontario codes, standards and regulations specifically relating to an underground 230 KV transmission line. Indicate who will be responsible at the ESA for reviewing this high voltage installation.

5. Provide details of any fail safe/safety/backup system in the event of a failure in the transmission line.

6. Provide details of any measures that will be taken to prevent electrification of the surrounding lands in the event of a failure in the transmission line.

In the event of voltage issues/complaints associated with the K2 Wind transmission system, provide details of procedures for resolving these issues. Indicate which staff members will be responsible for resolving these issues. If outside contractors will be required, indicate which contractors will be retained.

7. Provide a copy of the K2 Wind emergency response plan for dealing with a failure in the transmission line. Provide details of the OPP and other emergency responders protocols for responding to an emergency situation involving the proposed transmission line, substation and transformer station.

Provide details of the procedure for contacting residents and neighbouring landowners in the event of an emergency situation or failure in the underground cables/transformer station and substation. Indicate who will be responsible for initiating this emergency contact. Provide information on the acceptable response time for such emergency contact.

8. Include information about the safe limits of approach to underground 230 KV transmission lines as required by the Ministry of Labour.

9. Provide information on the qualifications needed by anyone working in the vicinity of the underground 230 KV transmission line. How does this impact farmers and landowners working in the fields adjacent to the line?

Will K2 Wind staff be available and trained to provide underground locates? Alternatively, does K2 Wind intend to subscribe to “One Call”?

10. If municipal staff are working on the roadway, whether grading, ploughing, or doing ditch work, what qualifications are required under limits of approach? If municipal staff are not qualified to work in the vicinity, will K2 Wind provide qualified staff to perform any necessary work? Will K2 Wind shut the line off if unforeseen work is required? How much advance notice will be needed? How would staff working in the vicinity be informed that the line is not live?

11. Provide detailed information on how the municipal drains will be handled during construction of the proposed underground 230 KV line.

12. Provide detailed plans for procedures on dealing with ongoing municipal drainage work that may be needed on the municipal drains crossing the underground 230 KV transmission line.

13. Provide information on proposed public access/safety on the roads during construction. What alternate access routes will be provided?

14. Provide examples of other locations where this size of transmission line has been buried in Ontario and the specifications used in these circumstances. Provide the details of the locations, if any, in terms of whether or not these are located on public or private lands and in urban or rural environments.

15. How far will the underground 230 KV transmission line be located from private fence lines? Provide information on any existing fence lines intersecting the route of the proposed underground 230 KV transmission line and indicate how these will be dealt with during and after construction of the line.

16. The schematic diagrams provided do not indicate exactly where on the road allowance the proposed underground 230 KV line would be located. Residents of ACW have indicated to our group that employees associated with the K2 Wind project, have advised ACW residents that the line will likely be buried under the road bed. Confirm whether or not this is the case. Provide mapping showing the exact location of the proposed line and the exact location (co-ordinates) of the points where the line is located on the public road allowance (Segment 5 – 1.07 km). If the line is being located under the traveled portion of the road, provide details on reconstruction of the road bed. If the line is being located elsewhere in the road allowance (i.e. in the roadside ditches), provide information regarding the protection to be provided from water damage/erosion.

17. The mapping which has been provided for the proposed underground transmission line is broad and general in nature. Provide accurate and detailed maps showing the proposed transmission line and all ancillary lines. Indicate the location of all other existing utilities along the route of the proposed 230 KV underground line. Where the proposed line is located adjacent to existing above ground hydro electric transmission poles, indicate the distance from the existing poles to the underground line. Provide information regarding the impact of the proposed excavations on the stability of any existing poles.

18. Provide the co-ordinates for all splices in the proposed 230 KV line.

19. Provide details on plans for protecting splicing vaults with regard to water seepage. Where splicing vaults are located on road allowance, indicate if any portion of the vaults will be located above ground and provide details of any additional measures e.g. posts, berms, to be provided for protection from vehicular damage in the event of an accident. What protection will be in place for vaults on private property? If any portions of the vaults are located above ground, provide information on how these vaults will be marked for visibility under winter conditions.

20. Provide specifics on the soil characteristics along the length of the proposed underground 230 KV line, with particular attention to conditions required to dissipate heat from the line. Indicate how frequently the soil along the length of the line was tested, who conducted the testing and provide all results and field notes from such testing.

21.Provide the groundwater specifics along the length of the proposed underground 230 KV line. Include the locations of all test sites, all test results and all field notes in regard to such testing.

22. Outline the inspection/maintenance regime for maintaining the security and safety of the proposed underground 230 KV transmission line.

Provide specific details on the size, location and nature of any above-ground identification or markers which indicate the underground cable location.

Project Overview

Reference:

 a) Exh. C/ Tab 1/ Sch.1/ pg 1/ Project Overview

23. Provide the full and complete meteorological data on which wind energy production for K2 has been projected.

24. Please indicate whether K2 Wind or its affiliates has any connection to or has entertained any discussions with other proposed wind projects in the Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh, including but not limited to EDP Resources.

System Impact Assessment (SIA) & Customer Impact Assessment (CIA)

Reference:

 a) Exh. G/ Tab 1/ Sch.1

 b) Exh. G/ Tab 2, 3 & 4/ Schs. 1 - SIA Report, CIA Report & SIA Report Addendum

 c) Exh. G/ Tab 6/ Sch.1

 d) Exh. G/ Tab 7/ Sch. 1

25. Provide a copy of K2 Wind’s license to generate. If no license is available, indicate if and when K2 Wind plans to apply for such a license.

26. The output from the proposed wind project will be connected to a 500 KV Transmission line operated by Hydro One Networks. Provide the description, rules and regulations in regards to the 1988 registered easement for this 500 KV Transmission line. What were the maximum parameters of the 500 KV Transmission line as per the 1988 easement? Will the K2 project’s connection change the parameters of the 1988 easement?

What is the available ground fault current for the 500 KV Transmission line. Provide a copy of the parameters for ground faults for this line.

What is the size and capacity of the grounding grid at the transformer station and the substation? Is this sized to permit additional future generation?

27. Provide information of the anticipated price that will be paid to K2 Wind per KWH of generated electricity including projected cost of living increases over the lifespan of the project.

28. With regard to the proposed switchyard, indicate whether K2 Wind will be assuming the operational costs of this switchyard. Indicate who will be paying for any future upgrades to this switchyard.

Are any alterations or upgrades to the 500 KV Transmission line anticipated to allow connection of the proposed K2 Wind project? If so, what are the anticipated costs of such alterations or upgrades and is K2 Wind responsible for assuming these costs?

29. Indicate how many circuits, of a possible total number of circuits on the Bruce to Longwood Transmission corridor will this project be accessing and why this number is required.

30. Indicate how this might affect the IESO’s ability to balance the phases on this particular transmission corridor.

31. Have any upgrades been needed, are in the works or have been completed to the Bruce to Longwood corridor or any other substations or switchyards in anticipation of this and other projects and where have these costs been assessed? What are the costs of any upgrades?

32. Provide the minutes or notes from any meetings or discussions held with the IESO in regards to integration of the output of this application into the Ontario electrical grid.

33. Provide the minutes or notes from any meetings or discussions held with Hydro One Networks in regards to the connection of the proposed project to the existing 500 KV transmission line.

34. The Bruce to Longwood transmission line is the connection point from the Ontario electric grid to the Michigan electric grid making it an International Power Line (IPL). Has the National Energy Board (NEB) been advised of this new project consisting of a transmission line, substation and switchyard attaching to the Bruce to Longwood transmission line? Is the NEB involved in any way in the OEB hearing? Will K2 Wind be filing for a permit under NEB Act S.58.11 or an election certificate under NEB Act s.58.13? If neither of these permits is being sought, what is the reasoning behind not seeking the permits?

Community and Stakeholder Consultation

Reference

 a) Exh. I/ Tab 1/ Sch.1

 b) Exh. I/ Tab 3/ Sch. 1

35. Various ratepayers and residents of ACW and elsewhere in Ontario have expressed concerns related to the impact of the proposed project. Have residents provided written confirmation that K2 Wind’s response to these questions has satisfied their concerns? If so, provide a copy of these confirmations and indicate whether or not the correspondents have a material stake in the proposed project.

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It is our understanding that K2 Wind served Board staff with updated evidence on February 28, 2013. We would respectfully request the right to ask any additional questions after we have had the opportunity to review the newly filed information.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Respectfully,

(signed) Anita Frayne

On Behalf of the Residents Group

84947 Bluewater Highway

R.R. #3

Goderich, Ont.

N7A 3X9

Phone 519-529-7711

Email – ninerubies@hurontel.on.ca

Copy to: Paul Wendelgass

 Helen Newland

 Paula Lukan