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



EB-2013-0047

NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND WRITTEN HEARING

APPLICATION FOR LEAVE TO CONSTRUCT A TRANSMISSION LINE AND RELATED FACILITIES FOR - NORTHLAND POWER SOLAR EMPIRE L.P.

- NORTHLAND POWER SOLAR EMPIRE L.P.
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- NORTHLAND POWER SOLAR ABITIBI L.P.
- NORTHLAND POWER SOLAR LONG LAKE L.P.

Northland Power Solar Empire L.P., Northland Power Solar Martin's Meadows L.P., Northland Power Solar Abitibi L.P., and Northland Power Solar Long Lake L.P (collectively the "Applicant" or "Applicants") has filed an application with the Board, dated February 12, 2013, under sections 92 and 96(2) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998, S.O. 1998, c.15, Schedule B. The Applicants general partners are Northland Power Solar Empire GP Inc., Northland Power Solar Martin's Meadows GP Inc., Northland Power Solar Abitibi GP Inc., and Northland Power Solar Long Lake GP Inc., respectively, each general partner being a wholly owned subsidiary of Northland Power Inc. ("NPI"). NPI and Northland Power Limited Partner Holdings Inc. are the limited partners, holding 99.9% and 0.1% limited partner interest, respectively, in each of the Applicants.

The Applicants are in the business of developing, constructing, owning and operating renewable generation projects and related transmission facilities. The Applicants have entered into contracts with the Ontario Power Authority and are in the process of developing 40 MW of solar power generating facilities located in the vicinity of the Town of Cochrane

The Applicants have a co-ownership agreement in place for the transmission line and associated facilities, including approximately 22 kilometres of 115 kilovolt ("kV") aboveground transmission line, 500 metres of underground transmission cable, 2 115 kV transformer substations, a transition station, and a switching station (the "Transmission Facilities"), all to connect the generation sites via a single connection point, to the IESO-controlled grid. The Transmission Facilities will be entirely paid for by the Applicants.

The scope of this proceeding is limited to approving the construction of the Transmission Facilities. The consideration of any aspect of the proposed solar generation facilities is not within the Board's jurisdiction.

The work which is the subject of this application involves the construction of:

- The Main Transformer Substation;
- The Calder Transformer Substation;
- A High Voltage Transmission Line (Segment A and Segment B);
- A Transition Station;
- The Calder Switching Station ("Calder SS"); and
- An Interconnection Point to 115 kV circuit C2H owned by Hydro One Networks Inc.

The transmission line is largely contained within public right of way and some unopened road allowances that are under the control of the Crown/Ministry of Natural Resources. Some private property is required for the 115kV aboveground to underground transition station, and the Calder SS. In addition, the transmission line will cross private land along the south shore of Lower Deception Lake.

A map showing the location of the proposed facilities is included with this Notice.

NPI currently holds options for all of the land rights required for the private properties except for the Calder SS, where negotiations are ongoing. The Applicants provided forms of agreements for both an "Option to Purchase" and an "Option to Lease". The Applicant also identified 6 crossing agreements that are required with various agencies.

The Board has assigned file number **EB-2013-0047** to this application.

Board Jurisdiction

For any leave to construct application under section 92 of the Act, section 96(2) of the Act provides that when determining if a proposed work is in the public interest, the Board's jurisdiction is limited to consideration of:

- The interests of consumers with respect to prices and the reliability and quality of electricity service, and
- Where applicable and in a manner consistent with the policies of the Government of Ontario, the promotion of the use of renewable energy sources.

Environmental issues with respect to this project are considered through a separate process which is not a part of this Board proceeding.

How to see the Application

To see a copy of the application, go to the Consumer page of the Board's website and enter the case number EB-2013-0047 in the "Find an Application" box. Copies of the application and the pre-filed evidence in support of the application will also be available for public inspection at the addresses listed below and at <u>www.northlandpower.ca</u>

Written Hearing

The Board intends to proceed with this matter by way of a written hearing unless a party satisfies the Board that there is a good reason for not holding a written hearing. If you object to the Board holding a written hearing in this matter, you must provide written reasons why an oral hearing is necessary. Any submissions objecting to a written hearing must be received by the Board and copied to the Applicant within **10 days** of the publication or date of service on you of this notice.

How to Participate

Comment

If you wish to give your opinion on the proceeding to the Board Members hearing the application, you are invited to send a letter of comment to the Board no later than 30 days after the publication or date of service on you of this notice. A complete copy of your letter of comment, including your name, contact information, and the content of the letter, will be provided to the Applicant and the Board Members hearing the application.

Observe

If you do not wish to actively participate in the proceeding but you do wish to receive documents issued by the Board, you may request observer status. Your written request must be received by the Board no later than **10 days** from the publication or date of service on you of this notice.

Personal Information in Letters of Comment and Observer Requests

All letters of comment and letters requesting observer status will be placed on the public record, which means that the letters can be seen at the Board's offices and will be available on the Board's website. Before placing the letters on the public record, the Board will remove any personal (i.e. not business) contact information from the letters (i.e. the address, fax number, phone number, and e-mail address of the individual). However, the name of the individual and the content of the letter will become part of the public record. Please address your letter to the Board Secretary at the address below, and reference file number **EB-2013-0047** at the top of your letter.

Intervene

If you wish to actively participate in the proceeding (e.g., submit questions, file argument), you may request intervenor status from the Board no later than **10 days** after the publication or date of service on you of this notice. Instructions for requesting intervenor status are available on the Board's website at <u>www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/participate</u>. Everything an intervenor files with the Board, including the intervenor's name and contact information, will be placed on the public record, which can be seen at the Board's offices and will be available on the Board's website.

If you do not have internet access, please call 1-888-632-2727 to receive information about this proceeding and how to participate.

How to Contact Us

In responding to this notice, please reference Board file number **EB-2013-0047** in the subject line of your e-mail or at the top of your letter. It is also important that you provide your name, postal address and telephone number and, if available, an e-mail

address and fax number. 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.

IMPORTANT

IF YOU DO NOT FILE A WRITTEN SUBMISSION OBJECTING TO A WRITTEN HEARING OR DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE HEARING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS NOTICE, THE BOARD MAY PROCEED WITHOUT YOUR PARTICIPATION AND YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO FURTHER NOTICE IN THIS PROCEEDING.

Addresses

The Board

P.O. Box 2319 27th Floor 2300 Yonge Street Toronto ON M4P 1E4 Attention: Board Secretary Filings: www.pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/ E-mail: boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (Toll free)

Fax: 416-440-7656

The Applicants

- Northland Power Solar Empire L.P.,
- Northland Power Solar Martin's Meadows L.P.,
- Northland Power Solar Abitibi L.P., and
- Northland Power Solar Long Lake L.P.

30 St. Clair Ave. West, Suite 1700 Toronto, Ontario M4V 3A1

Attention: Robert Miller Tel: (647) 288-1066 Fax: (416) 962-6266 Email:rob.miller@northlandpower.ca

Counsel for the Applicant

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP Scotia Plaza, 40 King Street West Toronto, Ontario M5H 3Y4

Attention: James C. Sidlofsky Tel: (416) 367-6277 Fax: (416) 361-2751 jsidlofsky@blg.com **DATED** at Toronto March 7, 2013

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary

MAP OF PROPOSED TRANSMISSION LINE AND FACILITIES

