

# ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD NOTICE

## Proposal to amend the licence of the Ontario Power Authority Learn more. Have your say.

The Ontario Energy Board is commencing a proceeding to consider proposed amendments to the licence of the Ontario Power Authority (the "OPA"). The proposed amendments are intended to address the OPA's obligations in the regional planning process in Ontario.

### THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD IS HOLDING A PUBLIC HEARING

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) will hold a public hearing to consider whether the proposed licence amendments are appropriate. We will hear arguments from parties involved in the process and will decide what, if any, licence amendments are appropriate.

The OEB is an independent and impartial public agency. We make decisions that serve the public interest. Our goal is to promote a financially viable and efficient energy sector that provides you with reliable energy services at a reasonable cost.

### BE INFORMED AND HAVE YOUR SAY

You have the right to information regarding this hearing and to be involved in the process. You can:

- review this Notice and related documents on the OEB's website now.
- sign up to observe the proceeding by receiving OEB documents related to the hearing.
- file a letter with your comments, which will be provided to the OPA and considered during the hearing.
- become an active participant (called an intervenor). Apply by **June 15, 2013** or the hearing will go ahead without you and you will not receive any further notice of the proceeding.
- at the end of the process, review the OEB's decision and its reasons on our website.

### LEARN MORE

On October 18, 2012, the OEB issued a report titled [Report of the Board – A Renewed Regulatory Framework for Electricity Distributors: A Performance Based Approach](#) (the "RRFE Report"). The Province is currently divided into a number of regions, each of which includes several electric utilities. In the RRFE Report, the Board concluded that planning for transmission and distribution investments needs to be coordinated on a regional basis to ensure that regional issues and requirements are effectively integrated into the planning processes of individual utilities. The OEB also indicated that it would establish a process in order to move to a more structured approach to regional infrastructure planning. The OEB's RRFE Report further concluded that it was important for utilities to work with the OPA to identify where conservation or generation options may also represent potential solutions to address the electricity needs of a region.

The issue in this proceeding is whether the proposed amendments to the OPA licence, which are intended to reflect the OPA's obligations in the regional planning process, are appropriate. Those proposed amendments can be found at the link provided below.

- <http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/OEB/Industry/Regulatory+Proceedings/Policy+Initiatives+and+Consultations/Regional+Planning/OPA+Licence+Amendment>

Our file number for this case is EB-2013-0192. To learn more about this hearing, find instructions on how to file letters or become an intervenor, or to access any document related to this case please enter that file number at the OEB website: [www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/consumers](http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/consumers). You can also phone our Consumer Relations Centre at 1-877-632-2727 with any questions.

### ORAL VS. WRITTEN HEARINGS

There are two types of OEB hearings – oral and written. For this case, the Board intends to proceed with a written hearing. If you think an oral hearing is needed, you can write to the OEB to explain why.

### PRIVACY

*If you write a letter of comment or sign up to observe the hearing, your name and the content of the documents you file with the OEB will be put on the public record and the OEB website. However, your personal telephone number, home address and email address will be removed. If you are a business, all your information will remain public. If you apply to become an intervenor, all information will be public.*

*This hearing is being commenced on the Board's own motion under section 19(4) of the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, S.O. 1998 c.15 (Schedule B).*



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

**AND IN THE MATTER OF** a proceeding commenced on the Board's own motion to consider whether proposed amendments to the licence of the Ontario Power Authority (the "OPA") (EO-2010-0220) intended to reflect the OPA's obligations in the regional planning process, are appropriate.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **TO ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD NOTICE ISSUED ON JUNE 3, 2013**

### **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE LICENCE OF THE ONTARIO POWER AUTHORITY**

**June 3, 2013**

#### **X. Regional Planning**

X.1 For the purposes of this section X:

"Integrated Regional Resource Plan" means a document prepared by the Licensee that identifies the appropriate mix of investments in one or more of conservation, generation, transmission facilities or distribution facilities in order to address the electricity needs of a region in the near-, mid-, and long-term;

"integrated regional resource planning process" means a planning process led by the Licensee for the purpose of preparing an Integrated Regional Resource Plan for a region;

"lead transmitter" means a licensed transmitter that is leading a regional planning process in a region;

"region" means an area within which the lead transmitter's transmission system is located, in whole or in part, and that has been designated as such by the lead transmitter, in consultation with the Licensee, under section 3C.2.2(a) of the Transmission System Code, for regional planning purposes;

"Regional Infrastructure Plan" means a document prepared by the lead transmitter that identifies investments in transmission and/or distribution facilities that should be developed and implemented on a coordinated basis to meet the electricity infrastructure needs within a region;

"regional infrastructure planning process" means a planning process led by the lead transmitter in accordance with section 3C of the Transmission System Code for the purpose of preparing a Regional Infrastructure Plan for a region; and

"regional planning" means a planning process involving licensed transmitter(s), licensed distributor(s), and the Licensee for the purpose of determining whether a Regional Infrastructure Plan and/or an Integrated Regional Resource Plan is required for a region and, where required, developing or updating a Regional Infrastructure Plan and/or an Integrated Regional Resource Plan.

#### **X.2 Regional Planning Obligations**

X.2.1 The Licensee shall, in consultation with licensed transmitters and licensed distributors in a region, carry out its regional planning obligations.

X.2.2 For the purposes of section X.2.1, the Licensee shall:

- (a) Complete a scoping assessment to determine the appropriate regional planning approach, for a region, within 90 days of being notified by the lead transmitter that regional planning is necessary; specifically, whether an integrated regional resource planning process is

required first or a regional infrastructure planning process should proceed immediately. The Licensee shall provide the scoping process outcome report to all licensed distributors and licensed transmitters in the region and post it on its website upon completion;

- (b) Complete an Integrated Regional Resource Plan, within one year of determining that an integrated regional resource planning process is necessary for a region, and inform the lead transmitter of any investment in transmission and/or distribution facilities that are required to meet the electricity needs of the region. The Licensee shall provide the Integrated Regional Resource Plan to all licensed distributors and licensed transmitters in the region and post it on its website upon completion;
- (c) Notify the lead transmitter of any investment in transmission and/or distribution facilities that are necessary to meet the electricity needs of the region over the next five years, where the Licensee has not completed an Integrated Regional Resource Plan within one year, in accordance with section X.2.2(b);
- (d) Participate in the regional infrastructure planning process, as required by the lead transmitter, where a Regional Infrastructure Plan is determined to be necessary for a region;
- (e) Provide the lead transmitter with any information that the transmitter requests for regional planning purposes, within 30 days of a request or a period of time that the Licensee and the lead transmitter agree upon;
- (f) In consultation with the lead transmitter, review the boundaries of the regions in the Province no less than once every five years to determine whether they need to be modified; and
- (g) Provide an annual report to the lead transmitter, on October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, identifying the status of any investments in conservation and/or generation, for each region, in the lead transmitter's transmission system, where an Integrated Regional Resource Plan has been completed.