

September 20, 2013

**VIA RESS AND COURIER**

Ms. Kirsten Walli  
**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**  
P.O. Box 2319, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor  
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Dear Ms. Walli:

**Re: EB-2011-0140: East-West Tie Line Designation: Phase 2 Decision and Order**

**Response to AltaLink September 10, 2013 Letter**

Upper Canada Transmission Inc. (NextBridge) acknowledges the September 10, 2013 letter submitted by AltaLink in the captioned matter.

Without engaging in response to the various positions asserted by AltaLink in its correspondence, NextBridge offers the following confirmations for the assistance of the Board and other interested parties:

1. NextBridge anticipates that the monthly filings directed by the Board in ordering paragraph 2 of the August 7, 2013 Phase 2 Decision and Order (*Designation Decision*) will be filed through the Board's RESS system and publicly posted by the Board upon receipt.
2. NextBridge addressed the currently projected in-service date for the East-West Tie Line at paragraph 35 of its Reply Argument, as follows:

*NextBridge's overall planning and construction schedule will remain intact, and should remain the shortest of the 6 applicants. A third quarter designation will result in a revised projected in-service date for NextBridge's East-West Tie line in the first half of 2018. NextBridge notes that this in-service date is consistent with the updated advice provided by the OPA in its May 9, 2013 Phase 2 Submission.*

At this stage of the project, NextBridge continues to anticipate an in-service date in the first half of 2018, consistent with its Reply Argument and with the schedule filed in its designation application, taking into account the actual date of the *Designation Decision*. NextBridge understands this to be in accord with the expectations of the Board as reflected in ordering paragraph 3 of the *Designation Decision*.

3. In its August 28, 2013 compliance filing NextBridge proposed consultation milestones which included the following:

- a. In the area of *Route Selection, Land/ROW Acquisition and Community/Municipal Consultation*, NextBridge proposed a milestone that specifies commencing negotiations or discussions with all landowners and permitting agencies (Milestone 12).
- b. In the area of *Aboriginal Engagement, Consultation and Participation* NextBridge proposed a milestone that specifies completion of initial/introductory contact with all aboriginal communities identified by the Ministry of Energy (Milestone #16).

In each of these instances, the proposed proof of completion of the milestone is "confirming correspondence". The "confirming correspondence" that NextBridge has proposed as proof of progress on these, and several other, proposed development milestones is correspondence from NextBridge to the contacted party or from the contacted party to NextBridge, as occasion permits. Such would evidence both "identification of" and "contact with" each such party.

We trust that this information is of assistance.

Yours truly,



Ian A. Mondrow

- c. Gunnar Birgisson (NextEra Energy Canada)  
Oliver Romaniuk (UCT)  
Cindy Tindell (NextEra Energy Resources, LLC)  
Annesley Wallace (BEWTI)  
Ryan Farquhar (ETHI)  
Intervenors of Record