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Susan Frank

Vice President and Chief Regulatory Officer
Regulatory Affairs

BY COURIER

February 10, 2014

Ms. Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
Suite 2700,
2300 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON
M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

EB-2013-0187/0196/0198 – MAAD S86 Hydro One Networks Inc. Application to Purchase Norfolk Power Inc. – Hydro One Networks Inc. Responses to Interrogatory Questions

Please find attached an electronic copy of responses provided by Hydro One Networks Inc. to Interrogatory questions from the Decision and Order and Procedural Order No. 8.

Below is the Tab numbers for each Intervenor:

Tab	Intervenor
1	Ontario Energy Board
2	Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition
3	School Energy Coalition
4	Consumers Council of Canada
5	Essex / Bluewater / Niagara-on-the-Lake

An electronic copy of the Interrogatories, have been filed using the Board's Regulatory Electronic Submission System. Two (2) hard copies will be sent to the Board shortly.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY SUSAN FRANK

Susan Frank
Attach.

cc: Intervenor on record via email

1 **VULNERABLE ENERGY CONSUMERS COALITION (VECC)**

2 **INTERROGATORY #2 LIST 1 (REVISED)**

3
4 **INTERROGATORY**

5
6 REFERENCE: i) Exhibit A, Tab 1, Schedule 1, page 3 (lines 5-11)
7 ii) Exhibit A, Tab 2, Schedule 1, page 5 (lines 4-10)
8

9 PREAMBLE: Hydro One Networks is proposing to freeze (after the implementation of a
10 1% rate reduction) the base distribution rates for NPDI's customers. Hydro One Networks
11 submits that the net savings, after considering transaction and integration costs will more
12 than offset the impact of offering a 1% reduction relative to 2012 base distribution
13 delivery rates for five years.

14
15 a) Has Hydro One Networks undertaken any analysis as to the incremental cost of
16 serving, maintaining and operating customers in the NPDI service territory over the next
17 five years in order to assess the overall financial implications of reducing and then freezing
18 the rates in the NPDI service territory for 5 years given that these incremental costs will
19 not be recovered from Hydro One Networks' legacy customers?

- 20 • If yes please provide.
21 • If no, what is the basis for Hydro One Network's claim as set out in reference (ii)
22 and what assurance can Hydro One Networks provide that this "freeze" does not
23 come at the expense of customer interest regarding reliability and/or financial
24 viability?
25

26 **RESPONSE**

27
28 Yes, Hydro One has undertaken an analysis of the incremental costs of serving customers
29 in the NPDI service area. It has done so by forecasting the efficiency gains expected to
30 be achieved from the acquisition under various scenarios. That analysis is set out below,
31 first with a high-level categorization of the gains that are available to be achieved in a
32 typical merger, and then with a more specific description of those gains in the Norfolk
33 context.

34
35 **High-Level Categorization**

36 The efficiency gains expected to be realized in the NPDI acquisition, or in any future
37 acquisition or merger between a large contiguous distributor like Hydro One and smaller
38 adjacent LDCs, arise in three principal areas:

- 1 • Local area operating and capital savings resulting from a more efficient distribution
2 system due to the elimination of an artificial electrical border (i.e., benefits from
3 contiguity)
4
- 5 • Savings due to the elimination of redundant administrative and processing functions
6 (i.e., back office savings or scale efficiencies)
7
- 8 • Savings due to lower financing costs, both from a lower cost of debt on existing rate
9 base, and ripple effects from the capital savings over time, leading to reduced total
10 return on rate base (i.e., financing savings).
11

12 In addition to the quantitative benefits noted above achievable through an acquisition or
13 merger, there are also qualitative benefits that will be achieved. These four categories are
14 discussed in more detail below.
15

16 **Contiguity Benefits**

17 Hydro One is a natural consolidator of the electricity distribution sector in southwestern
18 Ontario, including in the Norfolk area, given that its existing service territory is
19 contiguous to and in most cases completely surrounds other distribution service areas,
20 and it already provides physical supply to many of them directly from its own distribution
21 system. This situation is shown in the attached map (Attachment 1) depicting the current
22 checkerboard pattern of the local distribution system, with small- and medium-sized
23 LDCs contiguous to or surrounded by Hydro One. The geographic advantage of
24 contiguity allows for economies of scale to be realized at the field or operational level
25 through the merger of Hydro One's local system with the geographically embedded
26 distributors'. These operational scale economies may not be available at all, or to the
27 same extent, to other would-be purchasers who do not have the same advantage of
28 contiguity.
29

30 With the elimination of an artificial electrical border between contiguous distributors,
31 operational efficiencies arise in various areas, such as the ability to: rationalize local
32 space needs through the elimination or repurposing of duplicate facilities like service
33 centres; to more efficiently schedule operating and maintenance work and dispatch crews
34 over a larger service area; and to more efficiently utilize work equipment (e.g., trucks and
35 other tools), leading to lower capital replacement needs over time. Additionally, the
36 elimination of the electrical border allows for more rational and efficient planning and
37 development of the distribution system. All of the above provide the potential to result in
38 operating and capital savings, both immediate and over time, which would provide long-
39 term benefits to ratepayers relative to the status quo. More specific detail about these
40 savings in the Norfolk context is provided further below.

1 The benefits of contiguity were recognized by the Board in RP-2003-0044. Although the
2 context for the Board's Findings in that case was in relation to Service Area Amendment
3 Applications, the principles adopted by the Board in general apply equally to merger
4 situations, as noted below:

5
6 *The promotion of economic efficiency in the distribution sector is one of*
7 *the Board's guiding objectives in the regulation of the electricity sector.*
8 *The Board is persuaded that economic efficiency should be a primary*
9 *principle in assessing the merits of a service area amendment application.*
10 *Economic efficiency would include ensuring the maintenance or*
11 *enhancement of economies of contiguity, density and scale in the*
12 *distribution network; the development of smooth, contiguous, well-defined*
13 *boundaries between distributors; the lowest incremental cost connection*
14 *of a specific customer or group of customers; optimization of use of the*
15 *existing system configuration; and ensuring that the amendment does not*
16 *result in any unnecessary duplication or investment in distribution lines*
17 *and other distribution assets and facilities. [Para. 84]*

18
19 A core difference in assessing the economic efficiency of a merger or acquisition versus a
20 service area amendment (SAA) is that in an SAA application, which typically deals with
21 a request to serve new connecting customers in an adjacent service area, the lowest
22 incremental cost to connect is a key consideration in assessing the merits of the
23 application, as noted in the excerpt from the RP-2003-0044 Decision above. Whereas, in
24 a merger or acquisition, net ratepayer and system benefits relative to the status quo, based
25 on the no-harm test, rather than lowest incremental cost to serve, is one of the key factors
26 in determining whether the transaction is in the public interest.

27
28 **Savings from Economies of Scale**

29 A larger customer base resulting from the creation of larger regional distributor leads to
30 costs for processing systems, such as billing, customer care, human resources and
31 financial, being spread over a larger group of customers. Consolidation of these
32 functions results in efficiency benefits as duplicate systems and staff positions are
33 eliminated, leading to lower capital and operating costs over time, as noted in the Sector
34 Review Panel Report at page 14. In addition to that, there are administrative savings
35 arising from the elimination of redundant senior management and administrative
36 functions.

37
38 As well, Hydro One's cost of borrowing is typically lower than that of local LDCs,
39 leading to savings in financing costs over time. These savings arise in two respects:

- 1 • Lower overall debt costs on the acquired LDC's existing rate base, relative to the
2 status quo, assuming Hydro One refinances higher-cost debt assumed in the
3 transaction
4 • Ripple effects from expected capital savings over time, leading to a reduced rate base
5 and hence lower debt and equity return costs relative to the status quo.
6

7 Scale economies such as contiguity benefits, and back office and administrative savings
8 arising from the consolidation of local distribution companies were cited by the EDA and
9 noted by the Panel in the Sector Review Panel Report at page 28: Significant savings
10 from consolidation were also noted in the Drummond Report at page 331.
11

12 **Qualitative Benefits**

13 Qualitative benefits able to be realized in an acquisition between Hydro One and smaller
14 LDCs include the following:
15

- 16 • Continued employment for all staff of acquired LDCs - Although redundant staffing
17 functions will be eliminated as part of the integration process, leading to efficiency
18 gains, Hydro One, due to its size and current staff retirement profile, is able to offer
19 continued employment to staff of acquired LDCs. This is a benefit that smaller
20 would-be acquirers may not be able to offer.
21 • Enhanced call centre service to customers – Hydro One has a sophisticated call-centre
22 operation which typically offers longer hours of service and web access than do
23 smaller LDCs. In addition, Hydro One has launched a highly successful smart-phone
24 application for real-time outage management that customers can download to their
25 devices, allowing instant access to outage information and estimated restoration time.
26 • Savings in recruitment, training, and staff development costs associated with the
27 acquisition of trained and experienced utility staff that will be available to fill
28 positions within Hydro One that will be available through expected retirements and
29 other attrition.
30 • Industry benefits will begin to accrue to various agencies within the Ontario energy
31 industry. For example, the costs to regulate and administer the sector will be reduced
32 as this and further acquisitions are complete. The Ontario Power Authority (OPA),
33 the Independent Electric System Operator (IESO), the Ontario Energy Board (OEB),
34 and Ministry of Energy can achieve potential savings through reduced regulatory
35 burden and industry oversight. Further, enhanced regional planning efficiencies could
36 also be achieved by having fewer distribution companies planning for larger areas
37 where capital can be deployed more efficiently than with the current fragmented
38 approach.

1 **Efficiency and Qualitative Savings in the Norfolk Context**

2 Specific to NPDI, Hydro One has an operating centre located less than 2 km from the
3 NPDI operating centre. Hydro One crews travel the same roads and drive by the same
4 facilities as the existing line crews from NPDI. Every day staff in the Hydro One Field
5 Business Centre in Dundas answer calls from local businesses and customers for
6 operational services within the area of Norfolk County served by Hydro One. NPDI has
7 customer service representatives that carry out similar functions for their neighbouring
8 customers within Norfolk County. Rationalizing these functions over a larger service
9 area will yield efficiency savings.

10
11 Contiguity savings will also be realized through more rational and efficient system
12 planning by the elimination of the artificial electrical border between Hydro One's and
13 NPDI's service areas.

14
15 In addition to the contiguity benefits noted above, the integration of Hydro One and
16 NPDI will allow for efficiency gains to be realized through eliminating duplication in
17 administrative and transaction-processing functions. For example, Hydro One processes
18 financial, human resource, information technology, and work management transactions
19 for work being conducted within its existing service area in Norfolk County. NPDI
20 processes very similar transactions for its own service area in Norfolk County. This
21 means that should the transaction proceed, Hydro One has the opportunity to eliminate
22 these sources of duplication. For example, the Norfolk Power Board of Directors is no
23 longer necessary (an estimated governance cost savings of \$70,000 annually) as are the
24 functions of the Senior Management Team, and there is an opportunity to reduce the
25 number of regulatory filings, CDM program administration costs, vehicle fleet and
26 information technology costs, and the use of: external consultants and contractors. With
27 respect to staff within NPDI, as noted previously Hydro One is able to offer continued
28 employment within the broader corporation to all affected staff, thereby reducing
29 recruitment, training and development costs and retaining key industry knowledge and
30 expertise.

31
32 Financing savings are expected to be achieved due to the acquisition, as a result of both a
33 lower Hydro One cost of debt upon refinancing of some or all of the debt assumed in the
34 transaction, and lower capital replacement needs over time.

35
36 These savings have not been quantified due to uncertainty related to the timing of
37 refinancing, and of the size of the spread that will prevail when refinancing occurs.

38
39 **Qualitative Benefits**

40
41 The qualitative benefits arising from the Norfolk acquisition are typical of those noted
42 previously – i.e., continued employment and opportunities for advancement for all

1 acquired staff, enhanced call centre and customer service, reduced training and
2 development costs, as well as industry benefits.

3
4 Comparative Cost Savings Forecast: Acquisition versus Status Quo

5
6 Table 1 below is a forecast of the quantitative savings expected to be achieved through
7 the acquisition compared to the status quo. As is typical for the development of
8 acquisition plans, a range of outcomes has been portrayed that considers a reasonable
9 range of potential outcomes. Three scenarios are presented in Table 1 with respect to the
10 efficiency savings associated with Hydro One operating the NP Service Territory under
11 the proposed acquisition. The high, medium and low scenarios are relative to the status
12 quo of NPDI continuing operations. The high and low scenarios illustrate a plus/minus
13 20% variation in cost savings from the medium case scenario.

14
15 The quantitative factors that have been described in the sections above have been
16 factored into the projections of OM&A and Capital expenditures developed for Table 1.

Table 1: Projected Norfolk Acquisition OM&A and Capital Expenditure Savings

Low Case Scenario

(Low case scenario based on a 20% reduction in savings from medium scenario)

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
NPDI Mgmt Forecast	-20%										
OM&A	\$ 4.6	\$ 4.6	\$ 4.7	\$ 4.8	\$ 4.9	\$ 5.0	\$ 5.0	\$ 5.0	\$ 5.0	\$ 5.0	\$ 5.0
Capex	\$ 4.0	\$ 3.7	\$ 3.7	\$ 3.5	\$ 3.6	\$ 3.7	\$ 3.7	\$ 3.7	\$ 3.7	\$ 3.7	\$ 3.7
Total	\$ 8.6	\$ 8.4	\$ 8.4	\$ 8.3	\$ 8.5	\$ 8.6	\$ 8.6	\$ 8.6	\$ 8.6	\$ 8.6	\$ 8.6
Hydro One Forecast	-20%										
OM&A	\$ 4.6	\$ 2.1	\$ 2.1	\$ 2.2	\$ 2.2	\$ 2.2	\$ 2.3	\$ 2.3	\$ 2.4	\$ 2.4	\$ 2.4
Capex	\$ 2.5	\$ 2.3	\$ 2.3	\$ 2.4	\$ 2.5	\$ 1.9	\$ 1.9	\$ 2.0	\$ 2.0	\$ 2.0	\$ 2.0
Total	\$ 7.1	\$ 4.4	\$ 4.5	\$ 4.5	\$ 4.7	\$ 4.2	\$ 4.2	\$ 4.3	\$ 4.4	\$ 4.4	\$ 4.4
Projected Savings (OM&A and Capex)											
Scenario: Low Forecast	\$ 1.4	\$ 3.9	\$ 3.9	\$ 3.8	\$ 3.8	\$ 4.4	\$ 4.4	\$ 4.3	\$ 4.3	\$ 4.2	\$ 38.5

Medium Case Scenario

NPDI Mgmt Forecast (Status Quo)											
OM&A	\$ 5.7	\$ 5.8	\$ 5.9	\$ 6.0	\$ 6.1	\$ 6.2	\$ 6.2	\$ 6.2	\$ 6.2	\$ 6.2	\$ 6.2
Capex	\$ 5.0	\$ 4.7	\$ 4.6	\$ 4.4	\$ 4.5	\$ 4.6	\$ 4.6	\$ 4.6	\$ 4.6	\$ 4.6	\$ 4.6
Total	\$ 10.7	\$ 10.5	\$ 10.5	\$ 10.4	\$ 10.6	\$ 10.8	\$ 10.8	\$ 10.8	\$ 10.8	\$ 10.8	\$ 10.8
Hydro One Forecast											
OM&A	\$ 5.8	\$ 2.6	\$ 2.7	\$ 2.7	\$ 2.8	\$ 2.8	\$ 2.8	\$ 2.9	\$ 2.9	\$ 3.0	\$ 3.0
Capex	\$ 3.1	\$ 2.9	\$ 2.9	\$ 3.0	\$ 3.1	\$ 2.4	\$ 2.4	\$ 2.5	\$ 2.5	\$ 2.6	\$ 2.6
Total	\$ 8.9	\$ 5.6	\$ 5.6	\$ 5.7	\$ 5.8	\$ 5.2	\$ 5.3	\$ 5.4	\$ 5.5	\$ 5.5	\$ 5.5
Projected Savings (OM&A and Capex)											
Scenario: Medium Forecast	\$ 1.8	\$ 4.9	\$ 4.9	\$ 4.7	\$ 4.8	\$ 5.5	\$ 5.5	\$ 5.4	\$ 5.3	\$ 5.2	\$ 48.1

High Case Scenario

(High case scenario based on a 20% increase in savings from medium scenario)

NPDI Mgmt Forecast											
20%											
OM&A	\$ 6.8	\$ 7.0	\$ 7.1	\$ 7.2	\$ 7.3	\$ 7.4	\$ 7.4	\$ 7.4	\$ 7.4	\$ 7.4	\$ 7.4
Capex	\$ 6.0	\$ 5.6	\$ 5.5	\$ 5.3	\$ 5.4	\$ 5.5	\$ 5.5	\$ 5.5	\$ 5.5	\$ 5.5	\$ 5.5
Total	\$ 12.8	\$ 12.6	\$ 12.6	\$ 12.5	\$ 12.7	\$ 12.9	\$ 12.9	\$ 12.9	\$ 12.9	\$ 12.9	\$ 12.9
Hydro One Forecast											
20%											
OM&A	\$ 7.0	\$ 3.1	\$ 3.2	\$ 3.2	\$ 3.3	\$ 3.4	\$ 3.4	\$ 3.5	\$ 3.5	\$ 3.6	\$ 3.6
Capex	\$ 3.7	\$ 3.5	\$ 3.5	\$ 3.6	\$ 3.7	\$ 2.9	\$ 2.9	\$ 3.0	\$ 3.0	\$ 3.1	\$ 3.1
Total	\$ 10.7	\$ 6.7	\$ 6.7	\$ 6.8	\$ 7.0	\$ 6.3	\$ 6.3	\$ 6.4	\$ 6.5	\$ 6.7	\$ 6.7
Projected Savings (OM&A and Capex)											
Scenario: High Forecast	\$ 2.2	\$ 5.9	\$ 5.9	\$ 5.7	\$ 5.7	\$ 6.7	\$ 6.6	\$ 6.5	\$ 6.4	\$ 6.3	\$ 57.7

1 Results and Conclusion

2
3 The results in Table 1 show under all scenarios that significant synergy savings are
4 available as a result of the proposed transaction and that these savings will be more than
5 sufficient to offset the costs associated with integration, the 1% distribution rate reduction
6 and the proposed 5 year rate freeze. The savings forecast to occur prior to rebasing will
7 accrue to the shareholder to help recover the costs of the acquisition, and post rebasing
8 the projected savings will accrue to ratepayers.

9
10 Specifically in years 1 through 5, NPDI ratepayers receive a 1% distribution rate
11 reduction relative to the status quo and in years 6 and beyond the projected cost savings
12 shown in Table 1 will be to the account of ratepayers, which cost savings would not
13 otherwise materialize without the transaction.

Date: January 22, 2013

Subject: Opportunity for Investment

Submitted by:

Approved for Submission to the Board by:

Rick Stevens
Vice President, Customer Service

Carmine Marcello
President and Chief Executive Officer

and

Sandy Struthers
Chief Financial Officer

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board of Directors of Hydro One Inc. approve the submission of a bid in accordance with the terms outlined herein and the delegation of authority to the President and CEO to submit the final proposal and negotiate with the County of Norfolk.

A Request for Proposal has been issued by Borden Ladner Gervais (BLG), on behalf of Norfolk County December 11, 2012, with an offer submission deadline of February 1, 2013. Hydro One management will continue to work with its financial advisor on the valuation right up to the time of the Board Meeting. The attached material provides an overview of the deal and the factors being considered in the valuation and proposal. Management will request a Board resolution at the meeting to approve the Internal Rate of Return and multiple of Rate Base that will govern the bid envelope for the President and CEO to work within.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Hydro One management is preparing a proposal and conditional offer to submit to BLG on February 1, 2013. Valuation and due diligence work is still underway. The following documents are attached to provide the Board with background information regarding the opportunity:

- a) Norfolk due diligence specifics and overview of the proposal
- b) Background information on the Intrinsic Valuation of Norfolk Power Distribution Inc. and Norfolk Energy Inc. prepared by our advisor National Bank Financial.

Hydro One's proposal includes the following key elements:

- An offer to purchase 100% of the shares of Norfolk Power Distribution Inc. – the electric distribution subsidiary of Norfolk Power Inc.
- An offer to purchase 100% of the assets of Norfolk Energy Inc. – the telecom centric services subsidiary of Norfolk Power Inc.
- Key conditions of our proposal will include further technical due diligence and the completion of an acceptable Sale Purchase Agreement with appropriate representations and warranties
- Significant benefits to our offer will include a price freeze for a predetermined time, relocation of staff to the County, access to key Hydro One staff on any post transaction issues and service levels that meet or exceed current conditions.

Hydro One management will present the following information at the Board Meeting:

- an updated set of comparable transactions and market multiples
- breakdown of the sources of value
- sensitivity analysis of key assumptions
- bid sheet showing pricing information associated with changes in the cost of capital and terminal multiples; and
- summary of the value proposition to the vendor
- Hydro One management also requests that the final authority to release Hydro One's conditional offer and right to complete the purchase within the bid envelope be delegated to the President and CEO.

This Board Memorandum and the accompanying slides were reviewed and approved for submission to the Board of Directors of Hydro One Inc. by the Audit and Finance Committee at its meeting on January 22, 2013.

1 **CONSUMERS COUNCIL OF CANADA (CCC)**
2 **INTERROGATORY #9 LIST 1 (REVISED)**

3
4 **INTERROGATORY**

5
6 Reference: Exhibit A, Tab 1, Schedule 1, Page 2:

7
8 (Exhibit A/T1/S1/p. 2)

9
10 The purchase price \$93 million. In light of the fact this approximately is 70% above the
11 net book value of Norfolk Hydro, why is this transaction, at this price, in the best
12 interests of HON's current customers? Can HON demonstrate that the costs to serve
13 Norfolk's customers under a consolidated approach will be less than under the current
14 system. Please explain.

15
16 **RESPONSE**

17
18 The proposed transaction is in the best interests of both Hydro One and NPDI's
19 customers. The premium over net book value is not proposed to be recovered from rate
20 payers.

21
22 Efficiency savings are expected to accrue to the benefit of both Hydro One and NPDI
23 ratepayers. Please refer to the revised response to Exhibit I, Tab 2, Schedule 2 for a
24 discussion and quantification of these forecast comparative cost savings.

1 **ESSEX / BLUEWATER / NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE (EBN)**

2 **INTERROGATORY #2 LIST 1 (REVISED)**

3
4 **INTERROGATORY**

5
6 Prior to the proposed acquisition of NP, what was the forecasted capital distribution
7 spending by customer for the next five years (i.e. 2013- 2018) for both HONI and NP?
8 Have these forecasts changed as a result of the proposed acquisition of NP? If so, please
9 provide a detailed explanation.

10
11 **RESPONSE**

12
13 Please refer to the table below for the requested information on distribution capital
14 spending per customer. Please note that the cost per customer per year for Hydro One is
15 for Hydro One's entire service area across the province which includes low-density,
16 higher cost to serve areas in difficult terrain, compared with the urban and semi-urban
17 and less environmentally harsh NPDI service area.

18
19 **Forecast Distribution Plant Capital Expenditure / Customer / Year**
20 **Status Quo Scenario**

Distributor	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Hydro One	\$398.50	\$384.74	\$419.63	\$430.34	\$420.40	\$430.54
NPDI	\$181.26	\$211.36	\$181.26	\$211.36	N/A	N/A

21
22 NB: NPDI has not completed a capital expenditure forecast post 2016.

1 **ESSEX / BLUEWATER / NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE (EBN)**

2 **INTERROGATORY #13 LIST 1 (REVISED)**

3
4 **INTERROGATORY**

5
6 The 2012 OEB Electricity Yearbook lists HONI's OM&A at \$439.77/customer whereas
7 Norfolk is at \$333.43/customer, for a difference of \$106.34/customer. The Application
8 indicates that HONI plans to completely implement its operating structure (CIS,
9 Customer Service, etc.) in NP. Please provide a detailed explanation as to how HONI will
10 find efficiencies in the annual amount of approximately \$2,020,460 (19,000 customers x
11 \$106.34). Please provide a detailed buildup budget or breakdown of the forecast
12 efficiencies/savings anticipated by HONI.

13
14 **RESPONSE**

15
16 The numbers in the 2012 OEB Electricity Yearbook represent system average OM&A
17 costs across Hydro One's entire service territory. Hydro One serves the largely rural
18 areas of the Province of Ontario as well as semi-urban and urban areas. The cost to serve
19 any given geographic grouping of customers within Hydro One's service territory will
20 differ based on many different factors, including density, tree-cover, geology, and
21 climate.

22
23 Hydro One's current OM&A forecast to serve customers in its high and medium density
24 residential rate classes (UR and R1) is considerably lower than the \$439.77 "system
25 average" Hydro One OM&A cost shown in the 2012 OEB yearbook. As shown in the
26 2015 Cost Allocation model output Sheet O1, provided in Exhibit G2, Tab 1, Schedule 2
27 of Hydro One's recently filed 2015-2019 Distribution Application EB-2013-0416, the
28 OM&A cost to serve the 209,756 high density UR rate class customers is \$37.9M. This
29 results in an average annual cost of \$181/customer. Similarly, the OM&A cost to serve
30 the 438,731 medium density R1 rate class customers is \$120.5M. This works out to an
31 average annual cost of \$275/customer. Both of these numbers are lower than Norfolk's
32 operating cost per customer quoted in the preamble above of \$333.43/customer annually.
33 Hydro One's other main residential rate class is low density (R2) which applies to
34 customers in rural and remote areas who qualify for Rural and Remote Rate Protection.

35
36 The fact that Hydro One's cost of serving high and medium density residential customers
37 is lower than NPDI's average cost of \$333.43/customer highlights some of the economic
38 efficiencies that result from this transaction.

1 Hydro One also notes that the cost per customer values reflect the average cost of serving
2 all customers within the specified rate class. It is anticipated that due to the geographic
3 factors noted in the first paragraph above, the cost of serving southern Ontario customers
4 will be lower than Northern and North-central customers, in which case it could be
5 expected that the per customer cost of serving Norfolk customers would be lower than the
6 averages shown.

1 **ESSEX / BLUEWATER / NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE (EBN)**

2 **INTERROGATORY #14 LIST 1 (REVISED)**

3
4 **INTERROGATORY**

5
6 **HONI:** Please provide a detailed build up budget showing the nature of and value of all
7 anticipated efficiencies/savings that will be gained as a result of the NP acquisition.
8 Please also advise and the particulars of:

- 9 a) How the efficiencies will be realized;
10 b) a timeline of when the efficiencies will be gained;
11 c) what, if any, effect these efficiencies will have on rates if successful;
12 d) what, if any, effect these efficiencies will have on rates if unsuccessful; and
13 e) any costs, including both operating costs and capital costs, which may be associated
14 with anticipated efficiencies.

15
16 **RESPONSE**

17
18 a) Efficiencies will be realized by consolidating the ongoing affairs of NPDI and Hydro
19 One. Please refer to the revised response to Exhibit I, Tab 2, Schedule 2 for a
20 discussion of comparative forecast cost savings associated with and without the
21 proposed transaction.

22
23 b) Efficiencies are expected to be realized over the forecast period shown in Table 1 to
24 the revised response to Exhibit I, Tab 2, Schedule 2. Additional cost savings are
25 possible beyond the forecast period; however, Hydro One has not taken steps to
26 examine this period in detail.

27
28 c) Prior to rebasing, rates charged to NPDI customers will not be affected regardless of
29 whether or not cost saving efficiencies are achieved. Similarly, Hydro One customers
30 will not be affected regardless of whether or not forecast cost savings efficiencies are
31 achieved prior to rebasing.

32
33 After rebasing, the effect of achieved cost efficiencies will be reflected in lower cost
34 of service levels that pertain to the rates charged by Hydro One. Lower prospective
35 costs to provide service are expected to reduce rates as compared to the rates that
36 would otherwise be charged for services provided by Hydro One and NPDI if the
37 transaction did not proceed (status quo). Please refer to Table 1 found in the revised
38 response to Exhibit I, Tab 2, Schedule 2 for an analysis of the forecast comparative
39 cost savings relative to “with” and “without” the transaction proceeding.

- 1 d) If the forecast efficiencies are not achieved as planned, in the first 5 years there would
2 be no impact to NPDI customers as rates are proposed to be frozen for this period nor
3 would there be any impact to the rates of existing Hydro One distribution customers.
4 Upon rebasing in 2020, the prudence of any costs will be reviewed in a cost of
5 service application before the OEB. Changes in forecast costs to be incurred for the
6 provision of regulated services that arise from Hydro One not being able to achieve
7 efficiencies, would presumably be an area of consideration in future cost of service
8 hearings established to consider the justness and reasonableness of the costs Hydro
9 One would be applying to recover in rates.
- 10
11 e) Please refer to Table 1 of the revised response to Exhibit I, Tab 2, Schedule 2.

1 **ESSEX / BLUEWATER / NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE (EBN)**
2 **INTERROGATORY #15 LIST 1 (REVISED)**

3
4 **INTERROGATORY**

5
6 Reference: Ex. A/T3/S1, p. 12, ss. 1.6.7

7 HONI identifies incremental costs associated with the transaction but does not state the
8 amount. Please provide HONI's forecast of the amounts of incremental costs referenced
9 at Subsection 1.6.7 and a breakdown in respect of these costs by their nature. Please also
10 provide, if not provided in response to the above interrogatory, a detailed breakdown of
11 HONI's forecast productivity gains that will "finance" these costs. Please include in your
12 response all activities undertaken to date to generate these productivity gains, the status
13 of such work, and the timeframe over which the steps leading to these productivity gains
14 will be implemented?

15
16 **RESPONSE**

17
18 Incremental costs associated with the transaction are estimated to be in the range of \$2.5
19 to \$4 million. All of these costs are expected to be incurred before 2020 and will be
20 funded and/or recovered through the productivity gains projected to be achieved within
21 this time period.

22
23 A breakdown of the forecast incremental costs is as follows:

- 24
25 • Third party advisory costs (legal, regulatory, environmental, financial): \$750k to
26 \$1M;
27 • System integration and transition costs: \$1.5M - \$2.5M; and
28 • Initial costs to bring equipment up to Hydro One's standards: \$250k-\$500k.

29
30 Please refer to the revised response to Exhibit I, Tab 2, Schedule 2 for the productivity
31 gains that will fund the incremental transition costs noted above.

1 **ESSEX / BLUEWATER / NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE (EBN)**

2 **INTERROGATORY #16 LIST 1 (REVISED)**

3
4 **INTERROGATORY**

5
6 NP shares a Sensus AMI 'smart meter' system ("AMI system") and operation costs with
7 eight neighbouring LDCs. Does HONI plan to replace the NP system with its own AMI
8 network? If so, what are the estimated costs of converting? Will HONI continue to
9 contribute to the AMI system's costs in future? If so, for how long? What is the forecast
10 amount of HONI's continued contributions to the AMI system in future, if any, stated on
11 an annual basis? Will NP AMI assets be written off and if so, when and how much?

12
13 **RESPONSE**

14
15 NPDI does not share a Sensus AMI 'smart meter' system ("AMI system") with
16 neighbouring LDCs. NPDI acquired its own AMI system and obtained the best possible
17 price by coordinating the request with several other LDCs. Each LDC operates its own
18 AMI system. There is no sharing of operations costs with other LDCs.

19
20 Hydro One operates multiple smart metering systems (e.g. Trilliant, SmartSynch and
21 MV90). Hydro One's long term strategy is to utilize the evolving Trilliant smart meter
22 system for the bulk of its metering requirements. Upon acquiring the AMI system it will
23 be managed as part of the smart meter portfolio. Within the longer term strategy the AMI
24 system will continue to be operated until an assessment is made for it to be cost
25 efficiently decommissioned and the end points migrated onto the Trilliant platform.

1 **ESSEX / BLUEWATER / NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE (EBN)**

2 **INTERROGATORY #20 LIST 1 (REVISED)**

3
4 **INTERROGATORY**

5
6 HONI: Reference: Ex. A/T2/S1, p. 4, s. 1.3 -Incremental Transaction Costs- Please
7 produce a copy of all studies, reports and analyses which set out the productivity gains
8 that HONI will achieve which will finance the transaction costs that will necessarily be
9 incurred in respect of the proposed acquisition of NP. Does HONI propose to only apply
10 revenues generated from the former NP power customers to satisfy these incremental
11 transaction costs? Please provide a breakdown of all of the anticipated one-time
12 transaction costs that will be incurred.

13
14 **RESPONSE**

15
16 In light of the Board’s Motion Ruling, Hydro One has included its forecast cost savings
17 comparative analysis for the “with” and “without” transaction scenario basis. Please
18 refer to the revised response to Exhibit I, Tab 2, Schedule 2. Other studies and reports
19 that consider expected productivity gains associated with the LDC sector consolidation
20 include: the report of the Ontario Distribution Sector Review Panel *Renewing Ontario’s*
21 *Electricity Distribution Sector: Putting the Consumer First*, as well as the *Commission on*
22 *the Reform of Ontario’s Public Services: A Path to Sustainability and Excellence* (“the
23 Drummond Report”). These reports are publicly available and well known to market
24 participants.

25
26 Some of the incremental transaction costs relate to changes to Hydro One’s billing,
27 customer care and financial systems to integrate former NPDI customers into Hydro
28 One’s suite of applications, as noted in the revised response to Exhibit I, Tab 5, Schedule
29 15. The costs of these system changes will be recovered through Hydro One’s current
30 rates and productivity gains. Other transaction costs, such as the costs to bring equipment
31 up to Hydro One standards, will be recovered through revenues from former NPDI
32 customers as well as productivity savings.

33
34 However, both Hydro One and former NPDI customers will be better off in the long run
35 as the transaction, including incremental transactions costs, will yield a lower combined
36 revenue requirement than under the status quo “no transaction” scenario, based on the
37 expected productivity savings shown in Table 1 of the revised response to Exhibit I, Tab
38 2, Schedule 2.

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Exhibit I
Tab 5
Schedule 20
Page 2 of 2

- 1 For more information on incremental transaction costs, please refer to the revised
- 2 response to Exhibit I, Tab 5, Schedule 15. As these costs are expected to be incurred
- 3 during the first 5 year period when the proposed rate freeze is in effect, they may
- 4 effectively be considered as “one time” costs arising from the transaction.

1 **ESSEX / BLUEWATER / NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE (EBN)**

2 **INTERROGATORY #21 LIST 1 (REVISED)**

3
4 **INTERROGATORY**

5
6 Reference: Ex. A/T2/S1, p. 5 - HONI states that it expects to realize operating synergies
7 once it integrates the operation of NP into HONI and that the savings will offset the
8 impact of the 1 percent reduction and rate freeze for former NP customers. Please
9 produce all reports, studies and analyses which detail the cost savings and efficiency
10 gains that will be realized which will offset the rate reduction and rate freeze. Please
11 provide a summary table setting out the total cost savings annually for the number of
12 years necessary for HONI to fully recover the costs of the 1 percent reduction and rate
13 freeze at a reasonable discount rate.

14
15 **RESPONSE**

16
17 Table 1 of the revised interrogatory response to Exhibit I, Tab 2, Schedule 2 demonstrates
18 the anticipated timing and amount for the savings in OM&A and capital expenditures
19 over a ten year period as compared to the projected costs if Norfolk Power remained in
20 operation and shows three scenarios representing high, low, and medium cases. This
21 table demonstrates that the projected savings are sufficient to finance the cost of
22 providing the rate reduction and five year rate freeze. As discussed in the revised
23 response to Exhibit I, Tab 3, Schedule 7, the annual cost of the rate reduction is estimated
24 to be approximately \$115,000 per year.

1 **ESSEX / BLUEWATER / NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE (EBN)**

2 **INTERROGATORY #22 LIST 1 (REVISED)**

3
4 **INTERROGATORY**

5
6 Reference: Ex. A/T3/S1, p. 11, ss. 1.6.2

7
8 HONI states that customers of NP will benefit in the long term from HONI's economies
9 of scale. Please provide all studies, analyses or reports which detail the economies of
10 scale which the current NP customers will benefit from in future.

11
12 **RESPONSE**

13
14 Please refer to the revised responses to Exhibit I, Tab 2, Schedule 2 and Exhibit I, Tab 5,
15 Schedule 20.

1 **ESSEX / BLUEWATER / NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE (EBN)**

2 **INTERROGATORY #24 LIST 1 (REVISED)**

3
4 **INTERROGATORY**

5
6 Please outline how many positions will be eliminated once the transaction is fully
7 complete.

8
9 **RESPONSE**

10
11 Hydro One anticipates operating the NPDI assets with 30 fewer staff positions resulting
12 in annual compensation savings of approximately \$2 million per year. Hydro One
13 expects to redeploy all NPDI staff to other existing positions within the Hydro One
14 organization. This redeployment creates both efficiencies for the operation of the NPDI
15 assets and provides knowledgeable staff to fill positions within the Hydro One workforce.

1 **ESSEX / BLUEWATER / NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE (EBN)**

2 **INTERROGATORY #25 LIST 1 (REVISED)**

3
4 **INTERROGATORY**

5
6 Please provide an estimate of the number of employment positions based in NP that
7 HONI plans to maintain beyond the three-year transition plan. For each position or
8 category of position, please indicate whether the duties of the position are planned to be:
9 (a) solely for operation and customer service in the NP service territory;
10 (b) performing a function that will serve customers both within the existing NP service
11 territory and in the present HONI service territories; or
12 (c) a mixture of NP service functions and shared functions.

13
14 **RESPONSE**

15
16 Please refer to the revised response to Exhibit I, Tab 5, Schedule 26.

1 **ESSEX / BLUEWATER / NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE (EBN)**

2 **INTERROGATORY #26 LIST 1 (REVISED)**

3
4 **INTERROGATORY**

5
6 Please provide an organization chart for the Operations Department at NP and for HONI
7 (in the service area that will include NP in future). Please provide the total compensation
8 costs for each of the positions identified in the organization chart for the years 2010-
9 2012, the total number of full-time employees in each of these positions and the
10 applicable salary ranges.

11
12 **RESPONSE**

13
14 Please refer to Attachment 1 for the organizational chart for the operations department at
15 NPDI. Hydro One does not have an organizational chart at the level of detail requested
16 for the service areas that will include NPDI post-acquisition.

17
18 Aggregate salary information has been provided to ensure personal and confidential
19 information is protected.

20
21 As discussed in the revised response to Exhibit I, Tab 5, Schedule 24, Hydro One expects
22 to eliminate 30 of the 46 positions currently required to operate NPDI. As Hydro One
23 already has an operating organization in place that provides the same functions, such as
24 senior management, professional, and some union staff, certain positions will no longer
25 be required. The NPDI personnel currently in these roles will have the opportunity to
26 transition to other positions within Hydro One.

27
28 Figure 1 below shows Hydro One's projection, by staff category, of the number of staff
29 that currently are employed by NPDI and their respective aggregate salaries. NPDI direct
30 staff will be transitioned to Hydro One's Simcoe Operating Centre and will become part
31 of the centre's pool of resources working on everything within the larger service area
32 encompassing NPDI's current service territory. Indirect staff, as noted above, are those
33 staff that are expected to move to other positions within Hydro One once integration is
34 complete. The left side of the Figure 1 breaks down the current staff between direct and
35 indirect positions and shows the total salary paid by NPDI. The right hand side of Figure
36 1 illustrates the anticipated level of staffing and salaries required to operate the current
37 NPDI service territory once acquired by Hydro One and operating as the NP business
38 segment.

1

Figure 1

	NPDI Staffing and Salaries			Proposed HONI NP Staffing and Salaries	
Staff Category	Direct	Indirect	Salary(\$)	Direct	Salary (\$)
Management		7	699,400		
Professional		8	637,400		
Inside Union	3	13	955,718	3	267,034
Outside Union	13	2	1,094,683	13	1,157,149
Total	16	30	3,387,202	16	1,424,184
Projected Salary Savings	\$1,963,018				

2

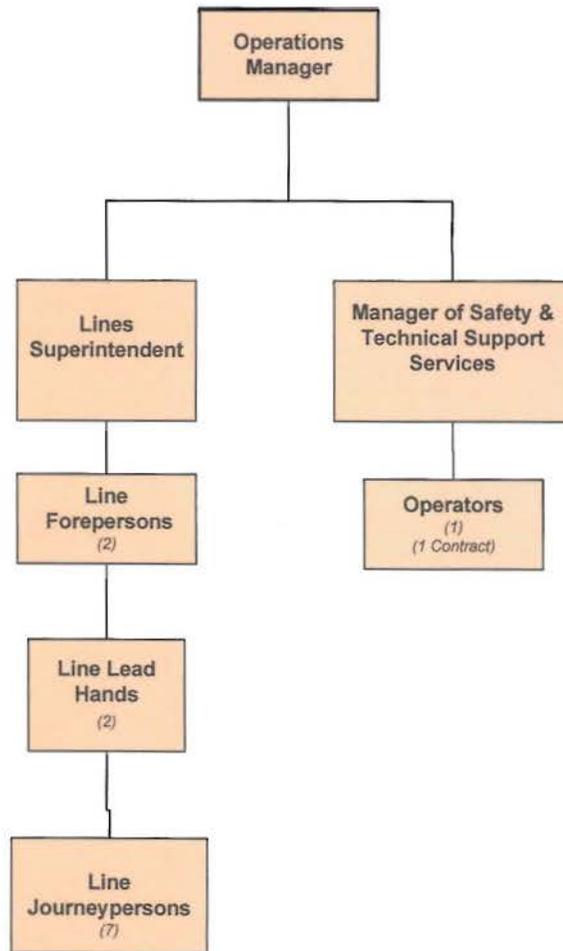
3

4

5

Figure 1 demonstrates that Hydro One anticipates an overall savings on salaries of approximately \$2M annually, after accounting for differences between salary levels between NPDI and Hydro One.

NORFOLK POWER INC.
Operations Department October 2013



1 **ESSEX / BLUEWATER / NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE (EBN)**

2 **INTERROGATORY #27 LIST 1 (REVISED)**

3
4 **INTERROGATORY**

5
6 In estimating the efficiencies that HONI will be able to realize to recover the costs of
7 acquiring NP, please indicate whether HONI has assumed that present NP staff will take
8 over the function of current HONI staff who retire, thus allowing HONI an offsetting cost
9 reduction. If so, please provide the number of positions and estimated total compensation
10 savings involved.

11
12 **RESPONSE**

13
14 Please refer to the revised response to Exhibit I, Tab 5, Schedule 26 for the number of
15 positions that are expected to be absorbed into Hydro One. Hydro One's plan is to
16 integrate acquired NPDI staff into Hydro One's combined workforce, thus providing
17 broader career opportunities and allowing for the renewal of Hydro One's workforce as
18 staff retire. Salary information, and therefore the related compensation impact for the
19 staff that are expected to transition to Hydro One, is not available at this time as the
20 integration plan is still under development.

1 **ESSEX / BLUEWATER / NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE (EBN)**

2 **INTERROGATORY #30 LIST 1 (REVISED)**

3
4 **INTERROGATORY**

5
6 A study commissioned by HONI in 2011 (Mercer Report) concluded that HONI
7 employee compensation levels are on average 13% higher than the industry market
8 median. It is expected that current NP employees will be elevated to equivalent HONI
9 compensation rates if this Application is approved. In NP's rate application (EB-2011-
10 0272), NP estimated its total 2012 employee compensation at \$4,085,472,
11 Ex.4/T2/S4, Table 2.19, p. 3 of 10). Should the 13% increase occur, the operating cost of
12 NP would increase approximately \$531 ,000/year. Will existing HONI customers not be
13 required to absorb this additional expense given that there will be no increase in rates for
14 NP customers for the next several years? What specific plans will HONI undertake to
15 achieve efficiencies and cost savings that it would not have undertaken had it not been
16 the successful bidder for NP? For clarity, please specifically identify all steps HONI
17 intends to undertake to achieve efficiencies and cost savings as a result of the acquisition
18 of NP which are the result of the acquisition.

19
20 **RESPONSE**

21
22 Please refer to the revised response to Exhibit I, Tab 5, Schedule 26. As noted in that
23 response, existing NPDI staff will be either absorbed into Hydro One legacy distribution
24 operation to fill expected retirement vacancies, or they will be assigned to the Hydro One
25 Simcoe Operating Centre to provide service to the larger area, including the service area
26 of the former NPDI. As the staff being absorbed into the Hydro One legacy business will
27 assume existing vacated positions, there will be no incremental impact on Hydro One's
28 compensation costs. As a result, as indicated on Table 1 of the revised response to
29 Exhibit I, Tab 5, Schedule 26, there will be a net decrease in compensation costs and
30 staffing levels due to the transaction.

31
32 As noted above, the staff not required to operate and maintain the NPDI Service Territory
33 will fill vacant positions created through retirement and other attrition which will provide
34 a further source of savings to Hydro One by providing highly trained and experienced
35 staff to take on roles in Hydro One. This will generate savings to Hydro One in
36 recruitment, training and development costs. These savings have not been estimated or
37 included in the projected efficiency savings.

38
39 Please see the revised response to Exhibit I, Tab 2, Schedule 2 for information regarding
40 how Hydro One intends to achieve efficiency savings from this transaction.

1 **ESSEX / BLUEWATER / NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE (EBN)**
2 **INTERROGATORY #32 LIST 1 (REVISED)**

3
4 **INTERROGATORY**

5
6 Please provide a breakdown in Table format and copies of all internal documents which
7 refer to or forecast costs related to the acquisition of NP, including but not limited to all
8 transition costs, labour cost increases, revenue deficiencies as a result of NP's 1% rate
9 reduction request, financing costs, and HONI opportunity costs.
10

11 **RESPONSE**

12
13 Hydro One's revised response takes into consideration the determination of the Board
14 that the applicants provide the Board and parties with information that will allow for the
15 comparative analysis of the cost structure that will be introduced as a result of the transfer
16 transaction as it relates to the existing cost structure along with any related non-financial
17 impacts.
18

19 Please refer to the revised response to Exhibit I, Tab 2, Schedule 2 for a comparative cost
20 forecast that considers a "with" and "without" transaction analysis. Please refer to the
21 revised responses to Exhibit I, Tab 5, Schedule 15 and Exhibit I, Tab 5, Schedule 26 for
22 more detailed information regarding incremental transition costs, and labour costs.

1 **ESSEX / BLUEWATER / NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE (EBN)**

2 **INTERROGATORY #44 LIST 1 (REVISED)**

3
4 **INTERROGATORY**

5
6 Reference: Ex. A/T2/S1, p. 2

7
8 HONI is proposing to move its Dundas Field Business Centre functions from the City of
9 Hamilton to the Town of Simcoe, over a 3- year period. What operations are currently
10 undertaken at the Dundas Field Business Centre? What are the one-time forecast costs
11 associated with the move (including any lease breakage penalties or termination fee)?
12 Please provide a cost benefit analysis which compares the costs of HONI remaining in
13 Hamilton versus the Town of Simcoe?

14
15 To the extent that any distribution repair and maintenance activities are currently being
16 operated out of the Dundas Field Business Centre. and will be moved to the Town of
17 Simcoe, please provide an analysis as to the impact of the move on HONI customers in
18 the vicinity of the Dundas Field Business Centre. What is the anticipated impact on
19 outage response times?

20
21 **RESPONSE**

22
23 Please refer to the revised response to Exhibit I, Tab 1, Schedule 4. Please note, there is
24 no expected impact on outage response time due to the relocation of the Field Business
25 Centre as the centre provides technical, scheduling and administrative support not
26 operating functions.

1 **ESSEX / BLUEWATER / NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE (EBN)**

2 **INTERROGATORY #45 LIST 1 (REVISED)**

3
4 **INTERROGATORY**

5
6 Reference: Ex. A/T3/S1, p. 11, ss. 1.6.3

7
8 HONI states that HONI states that Section 6.6 of the Share Purchase Agreement (SPA)
9 outlines an agreed capital expenditure budget and forecast for NP for 2013-2017.
10 Schedule 6.6 of the SPA contains CAPEX figures for years 2013 - 2017, which vary
11 between \$3.2 and 3.4 million. Please provide a breakdown for each of these years as to
12 the capital expenditures anticipated for each of these years. Please also provide a Table
13 which sets out the actual capital expenditures made by NP for the years 2007 - 2012 and
14 its forecast capital expenditures for 2013 and its 2013 YTD actual expenditures.

15
16 **RESPONSE**

17
18 Please refer to the revised response to Exhibit I, Tab 2, Schedule 2 for a comparison of
19 proposed capital expenditures under Hydro One operations for the years 2013 – 2017
20 versus the expected operations under the existing NPDI, under three scenarios, low,
21 medium and high. An average breakdown of capital additions over the years 2013-2017
22 by category, assuming the acquisition occurs, is shown in the table below:

23
24
25 **Table 1 - Breakdown of Capital Expenditures**

	HONI NP	Average Imputed Cost* (\$M)
Sustaining (e.g. Wood Poles)	19%	\$0.6
Demand (e.g. Trouble Calls, New Connects)	39%	\$1.3
Station Upgrades	6%	\$0.2
System Reinforcement (e.g. voltage conversions)	27%	\$0.9
Other	9%	\$0.3
Total	100%	\$3.3

26 **Based on annual \$3.3 million capital expenditure.*

1 Table 2 below provides the actual expenditures for NPDI for the years 2007 to 2013
2 (excluding smart meter capital of \$2.3 million).

3
4

Table 2 – NPDI Actual Capital Expenditures (\$)

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013 Forecast
Net Capital Expenditures	5,464,405	3,945,182	9,068,354	3,433,608	3,715,158	4,130,762	3,470,500

5

6 Please note the 2013 total is the year end forecast containing actuals to year end inclusive
7 of an accrual for minor outstanding invoices.

1 **ESSEX / BLUEWATER / NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE (EBN)**
2 **INTERROGATORY #46 LIST 1 (REVISED)**

3
4 **INTERROGATORY**

5
6 Reference: Ex. A/T3/S1, p. 14, ss. 1.8.1

7
8 HONI states that it used the commercial value of underlying assets in determining the
9 value of NP. Please explain the term "commercial value" as used by HONI in this
10 statement, noting whether "commercial value" is considered to arise from business cash
11 flows, the market for system component equipment, other considerations, or a
12 combination. HONI states that it also considered other components of the financial
13 statements as well as cash flow projections, an assessment of asset condition, and one-
14 time costs of integration of potential efficiency gains. Please produce all studies, reports,
15 business plans and financial analyses which HONI used for the purposes of valuing NP.
16 Without limiting the generality of this question, please provide a copy of the cash flow
17 projections, any asset condition reports, and any other documentation relied upon by
18 HONI for the purposes of its valuation of NP.

19
20 **RESPONSE**

21
22 Hydro One's revised response takes into consideration the determination of the Board
23 that the applicants provide the Board and parties with information that will allow for the
24 comparative analysis of the cost structure that will be introduced as a result of the transfer
25 transaction as it relates to the existing cost structure along with any related non-financial
26 impacts.

27
28 Table 1 of Hydro One's revised response to Exhibit I, Tab 2, Schedule 2 demonstrates the
29 anticipated timing and amount for the savings in OM&A and capital expenditures over a
30 ten year period as compared to the projected costs if NPDI remained in operation and
31 shows three scenarios representing high, medium, and low cases. This table
32 demonstrates that the projected savings are sufficient to finance the incremental costs that
33 are associated with the acquisition along with the 1% distribution rate decrease and five
34 year rate freeze.

1 **ESSEX / BLUEWATER / NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE (EBN)**

2 **INTERROGATORY #54 LIST 1 (REVISED)**

3
4 **INTERROGATORY**

5
6 Please provide a copy of any HONI Board of Directors communication/approvals relative
7 to the acquisition.

8
9 **RESPONSE**

10
11 Please refer to the revised response to Exhibit I, Tab 4, Schedule 6.