



February 14, 2014

Ms. Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

**Re: Hydro One Network Inc 2015-2019 Distribution Rates (EB-2013-0416)
- Notice of Intervention**

Dear Ms. Walli,

On February 5, 2014, the Ontario Energy Board (“OEB”) issued a notice concerning an application filed by Hydro One Networks Inc. (“HONI”) for 2015-2019 rates. In accordance with the OEB’s notice, the Sustainable Infrastructure Alliance of Ontario (the “SIA”) applies for intervenor status in this proceeding.

The SIA is a public interest group whose mission is to raise awareness and advocate for sustainable, prudent, cost effective, and equitably financed investment in public infrastructure. Our membership consists of citizens and ratepayers of varying backgrounds concerned with the future reliability and sustainability of infrastructure in Ontario. While our interests extend beyond the energy industry, a majority of our efforts are directed specifically towards the operations of gas and electric utilities. Through participation in public forums, the SIA advocates for policies that will ensure reliable and financially sustainable infrastructure for current and future generations. We are predominantly located in the GTA area, but our involvement extends to communities throughout Ontario.

Power supply failures, especially major ones such as the flood related outages in Toronto last July and the ice storm outages in December, have an extensive impact on the citizens of Ontario and appear to be occurring with increasing frequency. A number of our members, many within HONI’s service territory, are severely affected by a disruption to their power supply, and accordingly are very concerned and have a significant interest in ensuring that HONI provides them with a reliable and affordable supply of electricity.

Through its intervention in this proceeding, the SIA hopes to assist the OEB by exploring appropriate, cost effective, equitably financed, and sustainable investments by HONI in its electrical infrastructure. The SIA's intervention will be primarily focussed on HONI's capital investment plans and the regulatory mechanisms available to ensure that available funding is efficiently allocated and prudently spent. To a limited extent, the SIA may also explore other areas concerning prudent and efficient electric utility management, particularly as it relates to general cost effectiveness and cost efficiency, as well as system reliability and disaster preparedness. The SIA will endeavour to be particularly sensitive and focussed in the areas it addresses, and will diligently undertake to avoid any unnecessary duplication of topic areas already covered by other intervening parties.

The SIA intends to apply for recovery of its reasonably incurred costs in the course of its intervention in this proceeding and believes that, as a group representing the direct interests of customers of HONI and the public at large, it meets the eligibility criteria set out in the OEB's Rules of Practice and Procedure and Practice Direction on Cost Awards. Notably, the SIA is not ineligible for cost awards by reason of any of the criteria contained in section 3.05 of the Practice Direction on Cost Awards.

The SIA is currently in the process of selecting a consultant with engineering expertise to represent its interests before the OEB during this proceeding. The SIA will notify the OEB once its selection is finalized, and forward to all parties the relevant contact information.

The SIA appreciates the opportunity to voice its concerns, and looks forward to aiding the OEB in ensuring that HONI's expenditures and investments in its infrastructure are prudent and effective in meeting the needs of its ratepayers and the citizens of Ontario.

Sincerely,

[original signed by]

Robert Sutton
Director, Sustainable Infrastructure Alliance of Ontario