

Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers 32 Seneca Road Leamington, Ontario N8H 5H7 (519) 326-2604 / 1-800-265-6926 (519) 326-7842 Fax www.ontariogreenhouse.com

VIA E-MAIL & MAIL

March 13, 2014

Ontario Energy Board Attn: Kirsten Walli, Board Secretary P.O. Box 2319 27th Floor, 2300 Yonge Street Toronto ON M4P 1E4

RE: EB-2013-0416 - Hydro One Networks Inc. - Distribution Custom Rate Application for 2015-2019

Dear Ms. Walli,

I am writing on behalf of the Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers (OGVG) to request observer status to the aforementioned application hearing. We recognize that the deadline for requesting intervener status has passed and we ask for your leniency on this matter.

The Ontario greenhouse vegetable sector is a major contributor to the Ontario economy, generating over \$700 million in farmgate receipts and accounting for 12,000 jobs annually. OGVG represents all 218 greenhouse pepper, tomato and cucumber farmers across the province, responsible for 2,398 acres of production. Given the nature of greenhouse production, the sector is heavily reliant on energy. Currently, one third of production costs are attributed to energy. With the growing appetite for 12-month production through supplemental lighting strategies it is expected that the demand for electricity will increase in the upcoming years.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

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Don Taylor Chair, OGVG dtaylor@ontariogreenhouse.com