

**Ontario Energy  
Board**  
P.O. Box 2319  
27th. Floor  
2300 Yonge Street  
Toronto ON M4P 1E4  
Telephone: 416- 481-1967  
Facsimile: 416- 440-7656  
Toll free: 1-888-632-6273

**Commission de l'énergie  
de l'Ontario**  
C.P. 2319  
27e étage  
2300, rue Yonge  
Toronto ON M4P 1E4  
Téléphone: 416-481-1967  
Télécopieur: 416-440-7656  
Numéro sans frais: 1-888-632-6273



**BY E-MAIL**

March 19, 2014

Ms. Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary  
Ontario Energy Board  
Suite 2700, 2300 Yonge Street  
P.O. Box 2319  
Toronto, ON.  
M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

**Re: Board Staff Interrogatories  
wpd White Pines Wind Incorporated  
Application for Leave to Construct Transmission Facilities  
Board File No. EB-2013-0339**

Pursuant to Procedural Order No. 1 dated March 6, 2014, please find enclosed Board Staff's interrogatories to the Applicant in this proceeding.

Yours truly,

*Original signed by*

Robert Caputo  
Project Advisor, Applications

c. All Parties in EB-2013-0339

Encl.

March 19, 2014

## **BOARD STAFF INTERROGATORIES**

### **wpd WHITE PINES WIND INCORPORATED: APPLICATION FOR LEAVE TO CONSTRUCT TRANSMISSION FACILITIES TO CONNECT A WIND GENERATION PROJECT TO THE ONTARIO TRANSMISSION SYSTEM EB-2013-0339**

## **RENEWABLE ENERGY APPROVAL**

### **Interrogatory 1**

References:

- (1) Exh. B, Tab 4, Sch. 1, p. 2-5*
- (2) Exh. E, Tab 2, Sch. 1*

Reference (1) states that on September 14, 2012, the Applicant submitted a REA application to the MOE for review based on an overhead transmission line and joint use of HONI's distribution poles together with Gilead Power. The reference further states that subsequently, HONI advised the Applicant that it would not enter into a joint use agreement for a 69 kV line on its distribution poles as it was no longer considering joint use of its distribution poles for lines with voltages in excess of 50 kV.

Reference (1) further states that the Applicant then considered other alternatives for connecting the wind project and selected the alternative to run an underground 69 kV transmission line along the municipal road allowance in Prince Edward County.

Reference (2) states that an addendum to the Applicant's REA application was filed on August 2, 2013 based on placing the entire transmission line underground within the municipal road allowance with the exception of two bridge crossings where conduits would be attached to the sides of the bridges and be used to carry the transmission line.

**Questions / Requests**

- (a) Please provide an update on the status of the Renewable Energy Approval (REA).
- (b) When is approval of the REA expected?
- (c) Please provide a copy of the REA approval along with a copy of the REA documentation when approval is granted.

**TRANSMISSION RATE IMPACT ASSESSMENT****Interrogatory 2**

Reference: *Exh. B, Tab 1, Sch. 1, p. 2*

The reference states that

*The Applicant will not charge a price for the transmission of any electricity generated by the Wind Project; therefore, pursuant to section 4.02(1)(d) of Ontario Regulation 161/99, the Applicant is exempt from the requirement under section 57(b) of the OEB Act to obtain a licence to own or operate transmission facilities.*

*The Applicant will finance the development and construction of the Transmission Project. The Transmission Project will not have any adverse impact on electricity transmission rates in Ontario.*

**Questions / Requests**

- (a) Please confirm that the Applicant will be responsible for the total cost of the facilities proposed in this application including any modifications required on the HONI transmission system needed to accommodate the proposed facilities.
- (b) For any costs in (a) not payable by the Applicant, please describe the facilities/work required, costs of these and cost responsibility including any ongoing operation and maintenance costs.

## LAND - RELATED MATTERS & OTHER APPROVALS

### Interrogatory 3

#### Private Lands

##### References:

- (1) *Exh. F, Tab 1, Sch. 1*
- (2) *Exh. F, Tab 1, Sch. 2*

Reference (1) states that “The Collector Substation, portions of the Transmission Line, and the Interconnection Substation will be located on private property”.

Reference (1) further states that “The Applicant has acquired rights to the privately-owned lands required for the Transmission Project”.

Reference (2) contains the form of the License and Option to Lease Agreements offered to the owners of privately held lands.

#### Questions / Requests

- (a) Please confirm that the Applicant has received final and complete licenses/agreements/approvals for land rights needed for all construction, maintenance and operating activities associated with all privately held land needed for the Transmission Project including portions of the transmission line, the collector substation and the interconnection substation.
- (b) Has each of the affected landowners been presented with the form of agreement shown in Reference (2)? If not, does the Applicant intend to do so and when?
- (c) Please provide a list of any and all outstanding approvals and permits needed to complete construction of the proposed facilities within the private lands, including the status and expected dates for obtaining such approvals and permits.

### Interrogatory 4

#### Municipal Road Allowance

##### References:

- (1) *Exh. F, Tab 1, Sch. 1*
- (2) *Letter to the Board from County of Prince Edward dated January 25, 2014*
- (3) *Exh. F, Tab 1, Sch. 2*

Reference (1) states that “the 28 km Transmission Line will be built underground within the municipal road allowance with the exception of two existing bridge crossings, where the Transmission Line will be mounted in conduits attached to the sides of the bridges”.

Reference (1) further states that “The Applicant is currently negotiating with the Municipality for a lease or a license agreement charting the terms under which the Municipality will permit the construction and operation of the portions of the Transmission Line that will be located within the municipal road allowance. The discussions with the Municipality have been ongoing since April 2012, but to date no agreement has been reached”.

Reference (2) states that “We wish to inform of the Board and stress in the strongest possible terms that the Applicant met **once** many months ago with the County and provided only very generalized sketches. The County identified its concerns but there has been no response from the Applicant. The County summarized its concerns in a letter dated November 21, 2013 addressed to the Board with a copy to the applicant”.

### **Questions / Requests**

- (a) What is the status of any negotiations/approvals/agreements with the County of Prince Edward with respect to the placement of the transmission line underground on municipal road allowances?
- (b) What is the status of any negotiations/approvals/agreements with the County of Prince Edward, and/or any other party(ies) involved, with respect to attaching the transmission line to the sides of the bridges?

### **Interrogatory 5**

#### **Land Required on a Temporary Basis**

References:

- (1) *Exh. F, Tab 1, Sch. 1*

(2) *Exh. F, Tab 1, Sch. 2*

Reference (1) states that “In addition to the land rights required for the construction, operation and maintenance of the Transmission Project, certain temporary working rights may be required to allow the Applicant to engage in these activities. These include road crossing, water crossings, construction access, delivery truck turnaround areas and equipment or staging areas on portions of the road bed or shoulder”.

Reference (1) further states that “To the extent such rights are required, the Applicant will rely on the land rights provided for in the Option Agreements included at Exhibit F, Tab 1, Schedule 2, as well as the rights provided for in any lease or license agreement negotiated with the Municipality or, in the alternative, its rights under section 101 of the OEB Act. Following construction of the Transmission Project, all temporary work locations will be restored to the pre-construction conditions”.

**Questions / Requests**

- (a) Please provide a list of the parties from which temporary working rights described in Reference (1) will be required and the nature of their interest.
- (b) What is the status of any negotiations/approvals/agreements with the parties involved, with respect to the Applicant’s requirement for temporary working rights described in Reference (1)?
- (c) Has the Applicant presented the Option Agreements included at Exhibit F, Tab 1, Schedule 2 to the parties involved? If not, does the Applicant intend to do so and when?

**SYSTEM IMPACT ASSESSMENT (SIA) AND  
CUSTOMER IMPACT ASSESSMNT (CIA)**

**Interrogatory 6**

*References:*

- (1) *Exh. H, Tab 1, Sch. 1*
- (2) *System Impact Assessment Report, CAA ID: 2011-447, dated October 26, 2011*

(3) *Customer Impact Assessment dated October 21, 2011*

Reference (1) states that:

- the SIA and CIA reports (Reference 2 and 3) were prepared with respect to the 69 k V overhead transmission line originally proposed by the Applicant, and which was proposed to be constructed pursuant to a joint use agreement with HONI.
- the above-noted SIA concluded that the connection of the Wind Project to the system will not result in any material adverse effects and issued a Notification of Conditional Approval of Connection Proposal to WPD Whites Pines on October 26, 2011, which conditionally approved the Wind Project for connection subject to the completion of certain requirements identified in the SIA.
- the above-noted CIA concluded that no adverse impacts to transmission customers were expected. (The CIA report concludes that fault levels at low voltage and high voltage buses are in accordance with the Transmission System Code Requirement and states that all customers are required to check to ensure that the equipment and grounding system at their stations meet the expected increase in fault level.)
- on July 24, 2013 the Applicant applied to the IESO for an amended SIA based on the use of the now proposed underground transmission line and that the IESO has advised that it will notify HONI in the event that an amendment to the CIA is required.
- an addendum to the SIA and a potential addendum to the CIA are expected in December 2013 and will be filed with the Board following their completion by the IESO and HONI.

**Questions / Requests**

- (a) Please provide the status and expected completion date of the amended SIA based on the use of the now proposed underground transmission line.
- (b) Please file copies of the amended SIA (or addendum) report and the Notification of Conditional Approval of Connection Proposal as soon as they are available.

- (c) Does the Applicant plan to implement all of the IESO's connection requirements contained in the SIA report, amended SIA or addendum report and any further updates to these documents?
- (d) Please provide the status and expected completion date of the amended CIA (if required) based on the use of the now proposed underground transmission line.
- (e) Please file a copy of the amended CIA report (or addendum) as soon as it is available.
- (f) Does the Applicant plan to implement all of the IESO's connection requirements contained in the SIA report, amended SIA or addendum report and any further updates to these documents?
- (g) Does the Applicant plan to implement all of the connection requirements contained in the CIA report, amended CIA or addendum report and any further updates to these documents?
- (h) Please provide verification that Hydro One Networks Inc. intends to carry out the transmitter requirements outlined in the SIA report, amended SIA or addendum report and any further updates to these documents.
- (i) Please provide verification that Hydro One Networks Inc. intends to carry out any transmitter requirements outlined in the CIA report, amended CIA or addendum report and any further updates to these documents.
- (j) Please confirm that the affected customers have been notified of the need (from CIA report) to ensure that the equipment and grounding system at their stations meet the expected increase in fault level and how it will be ensured that this requirement will be carried out.

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