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May 26, 2016

Filed on RESS and Sent via Courier

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

Dear Ms. Walli:

Re: Application for Approval of Consolidation – Enersource Hydro Mississauga Inc., Horizon Utilities Corporation, PowerStream Inc. and Hydro One Brampton Networks Inc. Board File No. EB-2016-0025

We are counsel to the Electrical Contractors Association of Ontario ("ECAO"). Please find enclosed ECAO's Notice of Intervention requesting intervenor status and cost eligibility in the above-noted proceeding.

Yours very truly,

Lisa (Elisabeth) DeMarco

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, c.15 (Schedule B) ss. 86 and 18;

AND IN THE MATTER OF an application for the relief necessary to effect the consolidation of Enersource Hydro Mississauga Inc., Horizon Utilities Corporation, PowerStream Inc. and Hydro One Brampton Networks Inc.

EB-2016-0025

NOTICE OF INTERVENTION

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO (ECAO)

May 26, 2016

A. ECAO and its Interest in the Proceeding

- 1. ECAO is a non-profit corporation established to represent electrical contractors across Ontario. ECAO's 850 member contractors provide a broad range of electrical services in the institutional, commercial, industrial, residential and electrical utility construction and maintenance marketplace. The services provided include: planning, siting, construction and maintenance of power lines, poles and transformers; construction and maintenance of substations; construction and maintenance of power generation equipment and facilities (powerhouses and all related inside and interconnection wiring); and construction and maintenance of interconnection facilities.
- Applications in this EB-2016-0025 matter are seeking the Board's approval and all relief necessary to amalgamate Enersource Hydro Mississauga Inc., Horizon Utilities Corporation, PowerStream Inc. and the purchase and subsequent amalgamation of Hydro One Brampton Networks Inc. into a single local distribution company (LDC) that will serve over 960,000 customers.
- 3. ECAO represents the interests of the electrical contracting industry in Ontario and is committed to ensuring that the interests of energy consumers are served through competition in all competitive electricity services. ECAO members will be directly affected by the amalgamation of the parties and wish to ensure that the amalgamation does not adversely affect ECAO members and the LDC's compliance with the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, as amended, the *Electricity Act, 1998*, as amended, and relevant Codes, Rules, and Guidelines. In the absence of competitive services and competitive pricing for services, LDC customers are likely to be subject to higher costs and costs that are not borne out by the market.

B. Nature and Scope of ECAO's Intended Participation

4. ECAO intends to be an active participant in this proceeding, and will act responsibly to coordinate with other intervenors where common issues may arise and be otherwise addressed. ECAO intends to participate to request information, participate in any requisite motions, test evidence through the stipulated processes, submit written interrogatories and provide argument. Subject to the development of the record in this matter, ECAO may also submit evidence.

C. Costs

- 5. In accordance with s. 3.03(b) of the Board's Practice Direction on Cost Awards, ECAO is eligible to seek an award of costs from the Parties, as ECAO is a party that primarily represents an interest or policy perspective relevant to the Board's mandate and to the proceeding.
- 6. ECAO represents the interests of the electrical contracting industry in Ontario and is committed to ensuring that the interests of energy consumers are served through competition in all competitive electricity services. ECAO's members constitute a distinct stakeholder group with a direct interest in the cost of service and competitiveness implications of utility expenditures, revenues, and activities. ECAO welcomes the opportunity to provide the Board with its perspective on issues including price, adequacy, reliability, and quality of electricity service. The protection of competition and efficiency in the electricity industry is central to the Board's mandate and to EB-2016-0025.
- 7. The Board has deemed ECAO an intervenor eligible for costs in previous proceedings. These proceedings include: RRFE Consultation Distribution Network Investment Planning (EB-2010-0377), RRFE Consultation Defining and Measuring the Performance of Electricity Transmitters and Distributors (EB-2010-0379) (RRFE Consultation Proceedings), and Proposed Amendments to the Distribution System Code (EB-2010-0038) (Amendment Proceedings).
- 8. In the RRFE Consultation Proceedings, the Board found that "ECAO represents a public interest that is relevant to the Board's mandate because access to competitive services, as an alternative to utility provided services, is an important component of ensuring efficient outcomes for ratepayers."¹
- 9. In the Amendment Proceedings, the Board found that "ECAO represents a public interest relevant to the Board's mandate, as referred to in section 3.03(b) of the Practice Direction, and is in a position to contribute to specialized knowledge to this consultation." The Board determined that ECAO is eligible for an award of costs.²
- 10. ECAO submits that it is appropriate for the Board to award ECAO costs in the context of this proceeding as well, and hereby requests cost eligibility.

¹ February 1, 2011 Decision on Cost Eligibility.

² April 1, 2010 Decision on Cost Eligibility.

D. ECAO's Representatives

11. If ECAO is granted intervenor status by the Board, ECAO requests that further communications with respect to this proceeding be sent to the following:

Electrical Contractors Association of Ontario

10 Carlson Court Suite 702 Toronto, ON M9W 6L2

Attention:Jeff Koller, Executive DirectorTelephone:416-675-3226 x 311Facsimile:416-675-7736Email:JKoller@ecao.org

AND TO ITS COUNSEL

DeMarco Allan LLP

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Attention:	Jonathan McGillivray
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ALL OF WHICH IS RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED THIS 26th day of May, 2016

Lisa (Elisabeth) DeMarco DeMarco Allan LLP Counsel for ECAO