



# **Ontario Energy Board Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario**

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## **DECISION AND ORDER**

**EB-2016-0337**

**HYDRO ONE NETWORKS INC.**

**ENTEGRUS POWERLINES INC.**

**Joint Application for Elimination of Load Transfer Arrangements**

**BY DELEGATION, BEFORE: Brian Hewson**  
Vice President  
Consumer Protection and Industry Performance

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**February 16, 2017**

## INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) and Entegrus Powerlines Inc. (Entegrus) have jointly applied to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) for approval to amend the service areas of both distributors such that all existing load transfer arrangements between the two distributors are eliminated. A load transfer arrangement is a situation in which an electricity consumer located in the licensed service area of one distributor (the geographic distributor) is physically served by another distributor (the physical distributor).

The application is granted, as set out in this Decision and Order.

## THE PROCESS

This Decision and Order is being issued without a hearing by Delegated Authority, pursuant to Section 6(4) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (the Act).

## THE APPLICATION

Hydro One and Entegrus (collectively, the Applicants) filed a joint application on November 25, 2016 under sections 74 and 86(1)(b) of the Act.

The application was filed pursuant to the Distribution System Code (DSC) amendments made in the OEB proceeding EB-2015-0006 and in accordance with the OEB's filing guidelines for combined service area amendments and sale of assets. In the EB-2015-0006 proceeding, the OEB set out its policy on the elimination of load transfer arrangements between electricity distributors in Ontario. On December 21, 2015, the DSC was amended in order to facilitate distributors' compliance with the policy. In particular, section 6.5.3 of the DSC now requires distributors to eliminate all load transfer arrangements by June 21, 2017, and section 6.5.6 prohibits distributors from entering into any new load transfer arrangements.

Through the application, Hydro One seeks to transfer 73 specific customers of various rate classes to Entegrus. Of these customers, 67 are "Residential", 5 are "General Service" customers and 1 is a "Sentinel Light". Hydro One also requests OEB's approval to sell the distribution assets servicing these customers to Entegrus for \$50,897.25 plus applicable taxes.

Entegrus seeks to transfer 27 specific customers of various rate classes to Hydro One. Of these customers, 18 are “Residential” and 9 are “General Service” customers. Entegrus also requests OEB’s approval to sell the distribution assets servicing these customers to Hydro One for \$19,130 plus applicable taxes.

The application notes that there are currently joint use attachments on Hydro One poles that are to be sold to Entegrus. These joint use partners also have attachments on Entegrus’ poles that are to be sold to Hydro One; therefore, no new agreements will be necessary. The joint use partners will have to modify their existing permits to include the new poles. The Applicants state that no assets will be stranded if the application is approved.

## **FINDINGS**

I find it to be in the public interest to approve the service area amendments and sale of assets as proposed by the Applicants in order to eliminate the load transfer arrangements between Hydro One and Entegrus. Hydro One and Entegrus’ licences will be amended to reflect the proposed transfer of affected customers.

As prescribed in section 6.5.4 of the DSC, the affected customers moving from Entegrus to Hydro One shall receive a monthly bill credit to offset the increase in delivery charges. The credit shall be calculated using each customer’s average monthly consumption over the most recent 12 months from the application filing date with the OEB. The credit shall be fixed at this calculated level and remain in place as long as the customer remains the account holder.

The affected customers being transferred from Hydro One to Entegrus will see a reduction in their monthly delivery charges and, therefore, no credits are required for these customers.

Hydro One requested a deferral account to record lost revenue resulting from the rate impact mitigation plan as well as any costs involved in the set-up of such a plan. The OEB will allow Hydro One to track these costs in a deferral account. Hydro One shall record these costs in account 1508, Other Regulatory Assets, Sub-account LTLT Rate Impact Mitigation. Consideration of the disposition of the deferral account will occur in the normal manner in the rate setting process.

Hydro One and Entegrus are reminded that both geographic and physical distributors shall ensure that all relevant consumer information including, but not limited to, information regarding security deposits and consumption is properly transferred to the physical distributor to allow for the continuous billing of consumers and the continuous application of Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP) rate assistance to the bills of eligible consumers.

An itemized list of assets authorized for transfer between Hydro One and Entegrus is set out in Schedule A of this Decision and Order.

**IT IS ORDERED THAT:**

1. Schedule 1 (Appendix B, Tab 4) of Hydro One Networks Inc.'s Electricity Distribution Licence (ED-2003-0043) is amended. The amended licence is attached to this Decision and Order.
2. Schedule 1 of Entegrus Powerlines Inc.'s Electricity Distribution Licence (ED-2002-0563) is amended. The amended licence is attached to this Decision and Order.
3. Hydro One Networks Inc. is granted leave to sell assets listed in Schedule A (Table 1) to Entegrus Powerlines Inc.
4. Entegrus Powerlines Inc. is granted leave to sell assets listed in Schedule A (Table 2) to Hydro One Networks Inc.

**DATED** at Toronto February 16, 2017

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

*Original signed by*

Brian Hewson  
Vice President, Consumer Protection and Industry Performance

**SCHEDULE A**

List of assets being transferred between Hydro One and Entegrus:

Table 1 - List of assets being sold by Hydro One to Entegrus

Asset Type	Count
Poles	33
Transformers	23
Primary Wire and Neutral (m)	40
Secondary Buss (m)	-
Secondary O/H Wire (m)	3,110
Secondary U/G Wire (m)	1,386
Current Transformers	5
Sentinel Lights	1
Easements	-
<b>Total (\$) before applicable taxes</b>	<b>\$50,897.25</b>

Table 2 - List of assets being sold by Entegrus to Hydro One

Asset Type	Count
Poles	6
Transformers	1
Primary Wire and Neutral (m)	80
Secondary Buss (m)	-
Secondary O/H Wire (m)	710
Secondary U/G Wire (m)	945
Current Transformers	-
Sentinel Lights	-
Easements	-
<b>Total (\$) before applicable taxes</b>	<b>\$19,130</b>