



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

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## **DECISION AND ORDER**

**EB-2017-0209**

**HYDRO ONE NETWORKS INC.**

**CHAPLEAU PUBLIC UTILITIES CORPORATION**

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

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

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**June 15, 2017**

## INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) and Chapleau Public Utilities Corporation (Chapleau) have jointly applied to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) for approval to amend the service areas of both distributors such that load transfer arrangements between the two distributors are eliminated. A load transfer arrangement is a situation in which a customer 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 Chapleau (collectively, the Applicants) filed a joint application on May 18, 2017 under sections 74 and 86(1)(b) of the Act.

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

Through the application, Chapleau seeks to transfer one "General Service" customer to Hydro One. There are no customers being transferred from Hydro One to Chapleau, as part of this application.

Chapleau also requests the OEB's approval to sell the distribution assets servicing the affected customer to Hydro One for \$2,016 plus applicable taxes. The Applicants submit

that there are no third parties impacted by this sale and no assets will be stranded, if the application is approved.

## **FINDINGS**

The OEB finds 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 Chapleau. Hydro One and Chapleau's licences will be amended to reflect the proposed transfer of the affected customers.

As prescribed in section 6.5.4 of the DSC, the affected General Service customer moving from Chapleau to Hydro One shall receive a monthly bill credit to offset the increase in delivery charges. The credit shall be calculated using the 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.

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. The disposition of the deferral account will be subject to an OEB determination of prudence, which will occur in the rate setting process.

Hydro One and Chapleau are reminded that both geographic and physical distributors shall ensure that all relevant customer information including, but not limited to, information regarding security deposit and consumption is properly transferred to the physical distributor to allow for the continuous billing of the affected customer.

## **IT IS ORDERED THAT:**

1. Schedule 1 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 Chapleau Public Utilities Corporation's Electricity Distribution Licence (ED-2002-0528) is amended. The amended licence is attached to this Decision and Order.
3. Chapleau Public Utilities Corporation is granted leave to sell assets listed in Schedule A (Table 1) to Hydro One Networks Inc.

**DATED** at Toronto June 15, 2017

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

*Original Signed By*

Brian Hewson  
Vice President, Consumer Protection and Industry Performance

**SCHEDULE A**

The assets being transferred between Hydro One and Chapleau are listed below:

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

<b>Asset Type</b>	<b>Count</b>
Poles	-
Transformers	-
Primary Wire and Neutral (m)	-
Secondary Buss (spans)	-
Secondary O/H Wire (m)	-
Secondary U/G Wire (m)	-
Current Transformers	2
Sentinel Lights	-
Easements	-
<b>Total (\$) before applicable taxes</b>	<b>\$2,016</b>