



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

DECISION AND ORDER

EB-2017-0244

OAKVILLE HYDRO ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION INC. BURLINGTON HYDRO INC.

Joint Application for Elimination of Load Transfer Arrangements

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

June 29, 2017

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

Oakville Hydro Electricity Distribution Inc. (Oakville Hydro) and Burlington Hydro Inc. (Burlington Hydro) 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

Oakville Hydro and Burlington Hydro (collectively, the Applicants) filed a joint application on June 20, 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, Oakville Hydro seeks to transfer six "Residential" and two "General Service" customers to Burlington Hydro. Oakville Hydro also requests the OEB's approval to sell the distribution assets servicing these customers to Burlington Hydro for \$4,347 plus applicable taxes.

The Applicants submit that no customers are being transferred from Burlington Hydro to Oakville Hydro, as part of this application.

The application notes that no assets will be stranded or become redundant and no third parties will be impacted, 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 Oakville Hydro and Burlington Hydro. Oakville Hydro and Burlington Hydro's licences will be amended to reflect the proposed transfer of the affected customers.

The Residential and General Service customers being transferred from Oakville Hydro to Burlington Hydro will see a reduction in their monthly delivery charges and, therefore, no credits are required for these customers.

Oakville Hydro and Burlington Hydro are reminded that both geographic and physical distributors shall ensure that all relevant customer 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 customers and the continuous application of Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP) rate assistance to the bills of eligible customers.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. Schedule 1 of Oakville Hydro Electricity Distribution Inc.'s Electricity Distribution Licence (ED-2003-0135) is amended. The amended licence is attached to this Decision and Order.
2. Schedule 1 of Burlington Hydro Inc.'s Electricity Distribution Licence (ED-2003-0004) is amended. The amended licence is attached to this Decision and Order.
3. Oakville Hydro Electricity Distribution Inc. is granted leave to sell assets listed in Schedule A (Table 1) to Burlington Hydro Inc.

DATED at Toronto June 29, 2017

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Brian Hewson
Vice President, Consumer Protection and Industry Performance

SCHEDULE A

The assets being transferred between Oakville Hydro and Burlington Hydro are listed below:

Table 1 - List of assets being sold by Oakville Hydro to Burlington Hydro

Asset Type	Count
Poles	-
Transformers	2
Primary Wire and Neutral (m)	80
Secondary Buss	180
Secondary O/H Wire (m)	500
Secondary U/G Wire (m)	-
Current Transformers	3
Sentinel Lights	-
Easements	-
Total (\$) before applicable taxes	\$4,347