



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

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## **DECISION AND ORDER**

**EB-2017-0230**

**ALECTRA UTILITIES CORPORATION**

**VERIDIAN CONNECTIONS 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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**August 31, 2017**

## INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

Alectra Utilities Corporation (Alectra) and Veridian Connections Inc. (Veridian) 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

Alectra and Veridian (collectively, the Applicants) filed a joint application on June 9, 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, Alectra seeks to transfer seven specific customers to Veridian. Of these customers, five are "Residential" and the remaining two belong to "General Service" and "Streetlight" rate classes. Alectra also requests the OEB's approval to sell the distribution assets servicing these customers to Veridian for \$10,522 plus applicable taxes. As stated in the application, no customers will be transferred from Veridian to Alectra, 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 Alectra and Veridian. Alectra and Veridian's licences will be amended to reflect the proposed transfer of the affected customers.

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

Alectra and Veridian 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 Alectra Utilities Corporation's Electricity Distribution Licence (ED-2016-0360) is amended. The amended licence is attached to this Decision and Order.
2. Schedule 1 of Veridian Connections Inc.'s Electricity Distribution Licence (ED-2002-0503) is amended. The amended licence is attached to this Decision and Order.
3. Alectra Utilities Corporation is granted leave to sell assets listed in Schedule A (Table 1) to Veridian Connections Inc.

**DATED** at Toronto August 31, 2017

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

*Original Signed By*

Brian Hewson  
Vice President, Consumer Protection and Industry Performance

**SCHEDULE A**

The assets being transferred between Alectra and Veridian are listed below:

Table 1 - List of assets being sold by Alectra to Veridian

<b>Asset Type</b>	<b>Count</b>
Poles	6
Transformers	6
Primary Wire (m)	60
Secondary Buss (span)	-
Secondary O/H Wire (m)	80
Secondary U/G Wire (m)	-
Current Transformers	-
Sentinel Lights	-
Easements	-
<b>Total (\$) before applicable taxes</b>	<b>\$10,522</b>