

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

# **DECISION AND ORDER**

### EB-2017-0304

## ENWIN UTILITIES LTD.

### **ESSEX POWERLINES CORPORATION**

Joint Application for Elimination of Load Transfer Arrangement

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

October 26, 2017

#### INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

ENWIN Utilities Ltd. (ENWIN) and Essex Powerlines Corporation (Essex Powerlines) have jointly applied to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) for approval to amend the service areas of both distributors such that the load transfer arrangement between the two distributors is 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

ENWIN and Essex Powerlines (collectively, the Applicants) filed a joint application on September 27, 2017 under section 74 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 Amendment and Asset Transfer Application. 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. On June 19, 2017, ENWIN requested a temporary exemption from section 6.5.3 of the DSC until September 30, 2017, in order to prepare the load transfer elimination application filing.

Through the application, ENWIN seeks to transfer one residential customer (single family home) to Essex Powerlines. The Application is brought with the consent of Essex Powerlines as well as the affected residential customer. The Applicants submit that no assets will be stranded, transferred 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 as proposed by the Applicants in order to eliminate the load transfer arrangement between ENWIN and Essex Powerlines. ENWIN and Essex Powerlines licences will be amended to reflect the proposed transfer of the affected customer.

The customer being transferred from ENWIN to Essex Powerlines will see a reduction in its monthly delivery and total bill and, therefore, no credits are required for this customer.

ENWIN and Essex Powerlines 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 customer and the continuous application of Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP) rate assistance to the bill of eligible customers.

#### IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- 1. Schedule 1 of ENWIN Utilities Ltd.'s Electricity Distribution Licence (ED-2002-0527) is amended. The amended licence is attached to this Decision and Order.
- Schedule 1 of Essex Powerlines Corporation's Electricity Distribution Licence (ED-2002-0499) is amended. The amended licence is attached to this Decision and Order.

DATED at Toronto October 26, 2017

#### ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Brian Hewson Vice President, Consumer Protection and Industry Performance