

# AIRD BERLIS

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## VIA RESS, EMAIL AND COURIER

February 27, 2018

Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary  
Ontario Energy Board  
P.O. Box 2319  
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor  
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Mr. Walli:

**Re: EB-2017-0182 – Upper Canada Transmission, Inc. (UCT or NextBridge)  
Application for Leave to Construct a Transmission Line  
Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) – Lake Superior Link Project Leave  
to Construct Application**

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On February 15, 2018, Hydro One filed with the Ontario Energy Board (“OEB” or the “Board”), under Board docket number EB-2017-0364, a leave to construct (“LTC”) application to construct the Lake Superior Link Project. Hydro One’s proposed in-service date for the Lake Superior Link Project is December 2021.<sup>1</sup> Thus, NextBridge’s LTC application for the East-West Tie line project remains the only application currently before the OEB that meets the March 2, 2016, Order in Council declaring, pursuant to section 96.1 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, the EWT Project with an in service date of 2020 to be a priority project. On December 1, 2017, the Independent Electricity System Operator (the “IESO”) confirmed its recommendation of a 2020 in-service date for the EWT Tie Line.<sup>2</sup>

NextBridge respectfully requests that the Board move ahead expeditiously with consideration of the NextBridge LTC application so as not to jeopardize the timing of the only transmission project in front of the Board that is capable of meeting the recommended 2020 in-service date. As indicated in a recent interrogatory response, NextBridge requires a decision approving its Leave to Construct from the OEB by the

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<sup>1</sup> Hydro One Lake Superior Link Project Leave to Construct Application, Exhibit B, Tab 1, Schedule 1, at p.8.

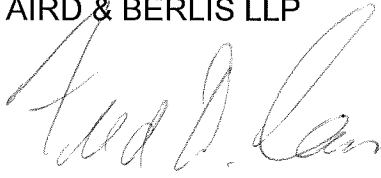
<sup>2</sup> IESO Updated Assessment of the Need for the East-West Tie Expansion, December 1, 2017, at p.19.

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end of July 2018 in order to commence construction as proposed, and achieve an in-service date by the end of 2020.

Yours truly,

AIRD & BERLIS LLP

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Fred D. Cass".

Fred D. Cass