



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

DECISION AND ORDER

EB-2018-0202

EB-2018-0203

ENTEGRUS POWERLINES INC.

Application for a Service Area Amendment

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

July 19, 2018

DECISION AND ORDER

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

Entegrus Powerlines Inc. (EPI) filed two applications on June 12, 2018 with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) under section 74 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (OEB Act) for an order to amend EPI's service area as described in Schedule 1 of its distribution licence ED-2002-0563. Schedule 1 of the licence sets out the service area within which EPI is authorized to provide electricity distribution services.

The applications have been considered by the Delegated Authority without holding a hearing pursuant to section 6(4) of the OEB Act. Since the two applications address a similar matter, the OEB combined them into one proceeding pursuant to section 21(5) of the OEB Act.

THE APPLICATIONS

In one application (EB-2018-0202), EPI has requested that its service area be amended to include certain lands owned by St. Clair College in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent (Service Area 1). In the other application (EB-2018-0203), EPI has requested that the land described as Phase 2A of the Harvest Run subdivision in the City of St. Thomas (Service Area 2) be included within EPI's service area. The subject lands are currently within the licensed service area of Hydro One Networks Inc. (HONI). Both applications noted that the requested changes are for lands that are adjacent to EPI's service area. EPI submitted that the proposed service area amendments will allow EPI to provide electricity distribution services to the two properties.

With respect to Service Area 1, EPI stated that it is more economically efficient for it to connect the facility as EPI can provide the lowest cost of connection. In its application, EPI stated that St. Clair College requested a three-phase 120/208V 400A commercial service for a new National Powerline Training Facility it is building. The evidence shows that EPI's three phase 27.6kV distribution circuit is located 52 meters away from the point of connection. As stated in the application, the only additional infrastructure required by EPI to service the St. Clair College location is an additional three phase transformer bank and the secondary service wire, whereas HONI would need to build a 2.8 km line to connect the facility.

With respect to Service Area 2, the applicant noted that Phase 2A of the Harvest Run development is contiguous to the licensed service area of EPI and lies along EPI's distribution system. EPI stated that the OEB had previously approved an amendment to the former St. Thomas Energy Inc.'s licence to include Phase 1 of the Harvest Run subdivision in Schedule 1 of its licence. EPI and St. Thomas Energy Inc. received approval from the OEB on March 15, 2018 in EB-2017-0212 to amalgamate, including the transfer of the service area formerly served by St. Thomas Energy to EPI. The applicant stated that following discussions between EPI and HONI, the parties concluded that EPI's fully allocated connection costs to service the development are less than the equivalent costs of HONI.

HONI, the incumbent distributor, has confirmed its support of the applications through two separate consent letters filed as part of each application. In addition, St. Clair College and the developer of Harvest Run Phase 2A, Doug Tarry Limited, have indicated in their respective letters filed as part of each application that they prefer EPI to be their electrical service provider.

EPI has stated that no assets will be stranded as a result of the proposed amendments. EPI has further submitted that the rates of both distributors will be unaffected and there will be no effect on safety, reliability or service quality.

FINDINGS

The evidence filed with the applications demonstrates that it is more economically efficient for EPI to serve the new connection at St. Clair College and the proposed development of Harvest Run Phase 2A.

Based on the evidence, the OEB finds it to be in the public interest to approve the service area amendments as proposed by EPI in the applications. The OEB also finds that HONI's distribution licence ED-2003-0043 does not need to be amended given the manner in which Schedule 1 of the licence is presented.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

Entegrus Powerlines Inc.'s electricity distribution licence (ED-2002-0563), is amended to add the following to Schedule 1:

- The Entegrus Powerlines Inc. Rate Zone:
17. Premise specific municipal address 23508 Bear Line Rd., Chatham, Ontario.
- The St. Thomas Energy Inc. Rate Zone:
9. Harvest Run Phase 2A consisting of all of Block 117 and Parts of Blocks 105, 118 and 119 Registered Plan 11M-216 in the City of St. Thomas.

The amended licence is attached to this Decision and Order.

DATED at Toronto July 19, 2018

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Brian Hewson
Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance