

[REDACTED]  
January 4, 2019

Ontario Energy Board  
P.O. Box 2319  
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Toronto ON M4P 1E4

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ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Re: Application EB-2018-0242

I wish to comment of the subject application to the Board.

I have been a customer of Peterborough Distribution and its forerunners for 57 years and during that time have experienced only a few outages of no significant duration. Even the heavy flooding of 2004 did not interrupt my local service.

The cost of power has not been an issue over the years in the local context and, given that we have been served by a public power generation monopoly for most of those years, I have been content with that state.

The application of Peterborough Distribution and Hydro One Networks must be examined from the viewpoint of public interest, which should be based on power delivery to all their clients. Thus I will present my assessment of the two parties.

#### **Peterborough Distribution (PDI) strengths**

Public ownership places the organization under the supervision of its customers as a responsibility through elected municipal representatives.

It is attuned to the local needs of its market and is aware of changes that may influence demand in existing and future developments. It can establish and maintain clear objectives.

Its management bureaucracy is not overly extended, which permits efficient communication between functions.

#### **PDI weaknesses**

It is limited in its access to capital funding compared with a larger organization.  
(However, larger projects should involve upper levels of government)

## **Hydro One Networks (HON) strengths**

Varied sources of financing in the open market.

## **HON weaknesses**

Corporate priority is to shareholders. This changes the focus of allocation of revenues to the disadvantage of stability in consumer rates.

Large bureaucracy with lesser response to local concerns.

Not fully attuned to local needs and ability to develop local policies.

Less response to individual clients.

Uncertain future – Its present situation is unstable and will not be simple to resolve. HON control through share holdings is vulnerable to political action/inaction.

Its attempts to enlarge its interest beyond Canada's borders have had negative reactions, and raised the question of cross-border influence on HON activities in its home territory.

In summary, I do not believe that the subject application will be in the long term interest of the citizens of Ontario. Our electrical supply and distribution system has been a public asset since the inauguration of Ontario Hydro. I do not believe that it should be replaced by a private incorporated organization operating a monopoly enterprise

Yours truly,



Ivan L Bateman

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