Ontario Energy Board

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**BY EMAIL** 

March 11, 2019

Ms. Kirsten Walli Board Secretary Ontario Energy Board 2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor Toronto ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

Re: Hydro One Sault Ste. Marie LP 2019 Electricity Transmission Rate Application Request for Extension to Filing of Interrogatories Responses Related to the Expert Evidence of Pacific Economics Group Research LLC OEB File No. EB-2018-0218

In accordance with the Ontario Energy Board's (OEB's) Decision on Request for Confidential Documents and Procedural Order No. 4 (P.O. 4), issued February 15, 2019, OEB staff is due to file the responses of OEB staff's expert consultant and witness, Pacific Economics Group LLC (PEG), to interrogatories from Hydro One Sault Ste. Marie LP (Hydro One SSM) and registered intervenors (collectively, the Parties) by March 14, 2019. The interrogatories pertain to PEG's expert evidence filed on February 4, 2019, entitled *Empirical Research for Incentive Regulation of Transmission*.<sup>1</sup>

On February 26, 2019, Energy Probe Research Foundation (Energy Probe) requested an extension for the filing of interrogatories on PEG's evidence, from February 26, 2019 to February 28, 2019. By way of a letter issued on February 26, 2019, the OEB granted the extension for the date of filing of interrogatories by all Parties on PEG's evidence to February 28, 2019. The OEB did not grant an extension to the date for filing the responses, but advised that, should OEB staff require "additional time, a request should be made to the OEB by the March 14, 2019 due date."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Exhibit M1

PEG is responding to a number of interrogatories from Hydro One SSM and several intervenors. Many of these are multi-part and highly technical in nature. PEG has advised OEB staff that it is endeavoring to provide responses but requests additional time to provide complete and accurate responses. OEB staff, on behalf of PEG, requests an extension for filing of responses to interrogatories by two business days to March 18, 2019. OEB staff submits that, as the OEB has not established procedural steps beyond the filing of responses on PEG's evidence (in P.O. 4), this extension will not unduly affect or delay the processing of this application.

Yours truly,

Original signed by

Keith C. Ritchie Project Advisor, Application Policy and Climate Change

cc: Hydro One Sault Ste. Marie LP All registered parties to EB-2018-0218