

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

EB-2019-0082

Hydro One Networks Inc.

Application for electricity transmission rates for the period from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2022

PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 3 August 21, 2019

Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One Networks) filed a custom incentive rate-setting application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on March 21, 2019 under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, *1998*, S.O. 1998, c. 15, (Schedule B), seeking approval for changes to the rates that Hydro One Networks charges for electricity transmission, to be effective January 1, 2020 and for each following year through to December 31, 2022.

On May 30, 2019, the OEB issued Procedural Order No. 1, which set out certain procedural steps, among other items, leading up to the filing of expert evidence. A Decision on the Filing of Expert Evidence was issued on July 19, 2019, in which the OEB permitted OEB staff (with respect to Pacific Economics Group Research LLC (PEG) evidence) and Anwaatin Inc. to file expert evidence. This evidence is due by August 22, 2019.

In a letter dated August 20, 2019, OEB staff requested a two week extension to the August 22, 2019 filing deadline for the PEG evidence. OEB staff also proposed similar extensions for the filing of interrogatories on PEG's evidence and the responses to those interrogatories.

OEB staff noted that certain questions with respect to the comparison between Hydro One Networks' data against that of U.S. transmission utilities were raised during the interrogatory stage. Hydro One Networks was not in a position at the time to provide the information but noted that it would be willing to do so once the information became available. OEB staff stated that it had followed up during the technical conference with Hydro One Networks, held on August 12 and 13, 2019, and obtained an undertaking from Hydro One to provide the information previously requested. Hydro One Networks delivered the information on August 19, 2019. OEB staff stated in its letter that the additional time is needed in order to conduct a proper review of the information and to incorporate it into its evidence to allow for better comparability which will result in better evidence.

The OEB has determined that it will grant the extension in order to have complete expert evidence on the record. The OEB agrees with OEB staff that this extension can be accommodated without affecting the timing of the overall process of the application.

The OEB has established an oral hearing schedule along with remaining procedural steps in the case. It is necessary to make provision for the following matters related to this proceeding.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

Expert Evidence

- 1. OEB staff and any intervenors permitted to file expert evidence shall file such evidence with the OEB, and provide a copy to Hydro One Networks and intervenors no later than **September 5, 2019**
- OEB staff, intervenors or Hydro One Networks shall request any relevant information and documentation regarding filed OEB staff and intervenor evidence by written interrogatories filed with the OEB and served on all parties by September 19, 2019.
- 3. Intervenors and OEB staff that filed evidence shall file with the OEB complete written responses to the interrogatories and serve them on Hydro One Networks, all intervenors and OEB staff by **October 3, 2019.**

Oral Hearing

 The OEB will hold an oral hearing at its premises, 2300 Yonge St., 25th floor Toronto commencing on October 21, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. The oral hearing will continue as necessary on the following days: October 22, October 24-25, October 28-29, October 31 and November 1, November 4-5 and November 7-8, 2019.

Argument

- 5. Hydro One Networks shall file its argument-in-chief with the OEB and forward it to all parties by **November 22, 2019**.
- 6. OEB staff shall file any submissions with the OEB and forward them to all parties by **December 11, 2019.**
- 7. Intervenors shall file any submissions with the OEB and forward them to all parties by **December 16, 2019**.
- 8. Hydro One Networks shall file its reply argument with the OEB and forward it to all parties by **January 17, 2020**.

All filings to the OEB must quote the file number, EB-2019-0082, be made in searchable/unrestricted PDF format electronically through the OEB's web portal at <u>https://pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice</u>. Two paper copies must also be filed at the OEB's address provided below. Filings must clearly state the sender's name, postal address and telephone number, fax number and e-mail address. Parties must use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the RESS Document Guideline found at <u>https://www.oeb.ca/industry</u>. If the web portal is not available parties may email their documents to the address below. Those who do not have internet access are required to submit all filings on a USB memory stick in PDF format, along with two paper copies.

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Registrar at the address below, and be received no later than 4:45 p.m. on the required date.

With respect to distribution lists for all electronic correspondence and materials related to this proceeding, parties must include the Case Manager, Martin Davies at <u>Martin.Davies@oeb.ca</u>, and OEB Counsel, James Sidlofsky at <u>James.Sidlofsky@oeb.ca</u> and Ljuba Djurdjevic at <u>Ljuba.Djurdjevic@oeb.ca</u>.

ADDRESS

Ontario Energy Board P.O. Box 2319 2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor Toronto ON M4P 1E4 Attention: Registrar

Email: <u>boardsec@oeb.ca</u> Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (Toll free) Fax: 416-440-7656

DATED at Toronto, August 21, 2019

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary