



By RESS and Email

July 24, 2020

Ms. Christine E. Long
Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
PO Box 2319
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto, ON, M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Long:

**Subject: Hydro Ottawa Limited (“Hydro Ottawa”)
Custom Incentive Rate-Setting (“Custom IR”) Application for 2021-2025 Electricity
Distribution Rates and Charges – Submission on Confidentiality**

On July 7, 2020, the Ontario Energy Board (“OEB”) issued Procedural Order No. 4, which provided OEB Staff and intervenors in EB-2019-0261 an opportunity to file written submissions related to Hydro Ottawa’s June 23, 2020 request for confidentiality on two particular interrogatory responses, namely Attachments EPRF(A) through (G) and OEB-117(A) and (B). Pursuant to the OEB’s *Rules of Practice and Procedure* and *Practice Direction on Confidential Filings* (“Practice Direction”), Hydro Ottawa submitted that the aforementioned attachments contain commercially sensitive and physical security related matters related to Hydro Ottawa’s new facilities. These two interrogatory responses are summarized as follows:

- EPRF-112 - Attached to this response were monthly status reports as presented to the utility’s Executive Management Team (“EMT”), and quarterly updates as presented to the Strategic Initiatives Oversight Committee (“SIOC”) which is a standing sub-committee of the Board of Directors. These documents have been redacted in Attachments EPRF-112(A) through (G) to remove commercially sensitive and security related matters related to the utility’s new facilities.
- OEB-117 - Attached to this response was Attachment OEB-117(A): Class B Estimate and Attachment OEB-117(B): Class C Estimate. Minor items were redacted for physical security reasons related to the new facilities.

On July 10, 2020, Energy Probe submitted a response that it had no objections to Hydro Ottawa’s confidentiality request. No other intervenors provided submissions on Hydro Ottawa’s confidentiality request. On July 15, 2020, OEB Staff submitted a response that they reviewed unredacted versions of the documents and broadly sorted each redacted item into one one of the following five categories:

Contaminated Soil, Information Technology (“IT”) Systems, Property Disposal & Severance, Site Plan and Floor Plan information and Miscellaneous.

OEB Staff agreed that the redactions in the Property Disposal & Severance and IT Systems categories are appropriate and are consistent with the type of information the OEB has afforded confidential treatment in the past pursuant to the OEB’s Practice Direction. Under the Site Plan and Floor Plan category, OEB staff noted that page 6 of EPRF-112(A) does not contain any specific or explicit reference to Hydro Ottawa’s IT systems and pose no apparent security risk, and therefore should be made public. However the remaining items under this category should remain confidential.

Under the Contaminated Soil Category, OEB Staff submitted that none of the redacted information merit confidentiality under the Practice Direction, and should therefore be placed on the public record in its entirety. OEB Staff further noted an additional four miscellaneous redactions, which staff did not see any compelling reason as to why any of the four items should be made confidential.

Upon review of the OEB Staff Submission on Confidentiality, and upon further consideration, Hydro Ottawa has updated Attachments EPRF-112(A), EPRF-112(B) and EPRF-112(F) as per OEB Staff direction. However, please note that there are two suggested updates in the OEB Staff Submission for which Hydro Ottawa respectfully disagrees and has kept redacted:

1. Under the Site Plan and Floor Plan category, OEB staff point to page 6 of Attachment EPRF-112(A), which Hydro Ottawa interprets to include pages 5-9, and states this “*does not contain any specific or explicit references to Hydro Ottawa IT systems.*” These plans do provide numerous and various aspects of the design of Hydro Ottawa properties, including locations of mechanical rooms and reference to the location of Hydro Ottawa’s control centre. As the Local Distribution Company to the Nation’s Capital, Hydro Ottawa considers physical security of paramount importance and will not place any such information on the public record.
2. Under the Miscellaneous category, OEB staff point to pages 16 and 38 of EPRF-112(E) and state this “*provides information related to the plan for the Bank Street Facility.*” In fact, both references relate to a sensitive Labour Relations matter that cannot be placed on the public record.

A summary of the changes to the redactions in EPRF-112(A), (B) and (F) can be found in Table A below.

Table A - Redacted Items in EPRF-112

IRR #	Reference	Leave Redaction or not
Contaminated Soil		
EPRF-112(A)	p. 35	Unredacted
EPRF-112(A)	p. 41	Unredacted
EPRF-112(A)	p. 47	Unredacted
EPRF-112(A)	p. 50	Unredacted
Miscellaneous		
EPRF-112(B)	p. 1	Unredacted
EPRF-112(B)	p. 29, 50	Information on solar arrays Unredacted; Site Plan information remains Redacted
EPRF-112(E)	p. 16, 38	Remains Redacted
EPRF-112(F)	p. 31	Unredacted

Therefore, please find attached to this letter updated versions of Attachments EPRF-112(A), EPRF-112(B) and EPRF-112(F).

Yours truly,

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Gregory Van Dusen

Director, Regulatory Affairs

Directeur, Affaires réglementaires

GregoryVanDusen@hydroottawa.com

Tel./tél.: 613 738-5499 | ext./poste 7472

Cell.: 613 806-1001

cc: All registered parties to EB-2019-0261