



Ontario
Energy
Board | Commission
de l'énergie
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DECISION AND ORDER

EB-2020-0309

Amending the Electricity Transmission Licence of Hydro One Networks Inc. to Require it to Develop and Seek Approvals for a New Transmission Line

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

December 23, 2020

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

Further to a directive from the Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines (Minister), the Ontario Energy Board (OEB), of its own motion, is commencing this proceeding to amend the electricity transmission licence¹ of Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) to develop and seek approvals for a new transmission line from the existing Chatham Switching Station to a new Lakeshore Transformer Station to be located at Leamington Junction (Chatham to Lakeshore Line).

BACKGROUND

Under section 28.6.1 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (Act), the Minister may issue directives to the OEB requiring the OEB to take such steps as are specified in the directive relating to the construction, expansion or reinforcement of transmission systems. Such a directive may, among other things, require the OEB to amend the licence conditions of a transmitter to require the transmitter to take the actions specified in the directive in relation to its transmission system. Such a directive may also specify whether the OEB is to hold a hearing for the purposes of implementing the directive.

On December 17, 2020, the OEB received a [directive](#) under section 28.6.1 of the Act (Directive) under cover of a letter from the Minister. The Directive was approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council on November 5, 2020 as Order in Council No. 1499/2020. The Directive requires the OEB to amend Hydro One's electricity transmission licence to require Hydro One to develop and seek approvals for a new 230 kilovolt double-circuit Chatham to Lakeshore Line, including associated station facilities. The Directive describes the purpose of the Chatham to Lakeshore Line as being to provide a reliable and adequate supply of electricity to the Kingsville-Leamington area in the near to mid-term to meet forecast load growth, to permit the resources and bulk facilities in the region to operate efficiently and to maintain the existing interchange capability of the Ontario-Michigan interconnection. The Directive also requires that the development of the Chatham to Lakeshore Line accord with the project scope and timing recommended by the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO).

The Directive further directs the OEB to require that Hydro One provide such reporting to the OEB as the OEB may consider appropriate with respect to budget, timing and risks in relation to the development of the Chatham to Lakeshore Line.

In accordance with the Directive, the OEB is required to amend Hydro One's electricity transmission licence without a hearing.

¹ ET-2003-0035

This Decision and Order is being issued by Delegated Authority without a hearing.

DECISION

Further to the Directive, the OEB is amending Hydro One's electricity transmission licence to require it to develop and seek approvals for the Chatham to Lakeshore Line, and to develop the Chatham to Lakeshore Line in accordance with the project scope and timing recommended by the IESO.

With respect to reporting requirements, as an initial step the OEB is requiring Hydro One to file a copy of any recommendations received from the IESO related to the scope and timing of the development of the Chatham to Lakeshore Line. Further reporting requirements to enable the OEB to monitor Hydro One's progress towards the implementation of the condition being added to its electricity transmission licence today, including budget and risks, will be addressed at a later date.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. Hydro One Networks Inc.'s electricity transmission licence ET-2003-0035 is amended by adding the following new condition:
 - 19.7 The Licensee shall develop and seek approvals for a new 230 kilovolt double-circuit transmission line from the existing Chatham Switching Station to the new Lakeshore Transformer Station to be located at Leamington Junction (Chatham to Lakeshore Line), including associated station facilities to connect the Chatham to Lakeshore Line at the terminal stations. Development of the Chatham to Lakeshore Line shall accord with the project scope and timing recommended by the Independent Electricity System Operator.
2. Hydro One shall, no later than January 29, 2021, file with the OEB a copy of any recommendations received from the Independent Electricity System Operator related to the scope and timing of the development of the Chatham to Lakeshore Line.

DATED at Toronto, December 23, 2020

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Brian Hewson
Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance