

## Hydro One Networks Inc.

483 Bay Street, South Tower, 8th Floor  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
M5G 2P5



### LAW

Michael Engelberg, Assistant General Counsel  
Telephone: (416) 345-6305  
Fax: (416) 345-6972  
E-mail: [mengelberg@HydroOne.com](mailto:mengelberg@HydroOne.com)

---

February 12, 2021

Ms. Christine Long  
Registrar and Board Secretary  
Ontario Energy Board  
P. O. Box 2319, 27th Floor  
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Long:

### **Re: Upper Canada Transmission, Inc. (NextBridge) EB-2020-0150 – Settlement Conference**

Hydro One Networks Inc. (“Hydro One”) responds as follows to the letter sent at 3:16 PM today by Mr. Vegh on behalf of the Applicant.

Hydro One submits that NextBridge’s request to circumscribe Hydro One’s participation in the manner delineated in Mr. Vegh’s letter should be rejected by the Board.

Hydro One responds that its interest in this proceeding, as previously expressed, is clearly broader than the narrow interest proposed and described by NextBridge, as shown by Hydro One’s previous letter today and by the following extract from Hydro One’s much earlier letter seeking intervenor status in this Application (status which was granted by the Board):

Hydro One owns and operates extensive electricity transmission and distribution facilities throughout Ontario and is a major stakeholder in the Ontario energy sector and a regulated Ontario electricity distributor and transmitter. The East-West Tie line will connect to transmission assets and facilities owned and operated by Hydro One. Hydro One is upgrading associated transmission stations to accommodate the line. Hydro One is also in negotiations to be a service provider to NextBridge. These, together with the Application’s impact on Uniform Transmission Rates result in Hydro One having significant interest in this Application.

Hydro One submits that Settlement Conferences are not designed to limit the interests of involved parties, including those with intervenor status, and Nextbridge’s request to do so is inappropriate and not in keeping with the existing practice in such matters previously involving Hydro One and other intervenors.

Moreover, in addition to Hydro One’s interest as expressed above in its request for intervenor status upon the commencement of this Application, Hydro One disagrees with Nextbridge’s

characterization of Hydro One's interest. For example, in its evidence, NextBridge has repeatedly compared its project to those of B2M and NLRP, and there are numerous scenarios where acceptance of certain NextBridge requests in a settlement would have deleterious impacts on Hydro One, its customers, and its management of those partnerships now and in the future. Hydro One therefore has a profound interest in the conditions of any settlement.

Hydro One hopes that the Board will permit Hydro One's full participation in the Settlement Conference in the hope that a fair and prompt settlement can be reached. Although Hydro One would have the right under s. 30.04 of the Board's Practices and Procedures to file evidence and to cross-examine on any settlement with which it does not agree, Hydro One would prefer to be a party to a settlement resulting from the Settlement Conference.

Hydro One respectfully submits that it would be in the best interests of this proceeding and Ontario ratepayers that Hydro One be allowed to fully participate in the Settlement Conference, free of the narrow and inappropriate restrictions requested by NextBridge.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Engelberg". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Michael Engelberg

cc: The Applicant and all intervenors