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Joanne Richardson Director – Major Projects and Partnerships Regulatory Affairs

## BY EMAIL AND RESS

July 12, 2021

Ms. Christine E. Long, Registrar Ontario Energy Board Suite 2700, 2300 Yonge Street P.O. Box 2319 Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Long:

## EB-2021-0134 - Wataynikaneyap Power GP Inc. - Hydro One Remote Communities Inc. Interrogatories to Applicant

As directed in the Ontario Energy Board's ("OEB") Procedural Order No. 1 issued June 24, 2021, Hydro One Remote Communities Inc. ("HORCI") is filing the enclosed Interrogatories for Wataynikaneyap Power GP Inc.

An electronic copy of the interrogatories has been submitted using the Board's Regulatory Electronic Submission System.

Sincerely,

Joanne Richardson

1	Н	YDRO ONE REMOTE COMMUNITIES INC. INTERROGATORIES	
2	WATAYNIKANEYAP POWER LP		
3	APP	LICATION FOR ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION RATES AND OTHER	
4		CHARGES	
5		JULY 12, 2021	
6			
7	<u>Reference:</u>		
8	Exhibit B/Tab 1/Schedule 1 – Project Routing & Substation Locations		
9			
10	Interrogatory 1:		
11			
12	a)	During the project development and planning process the Watay project has	
13		undergone various routing changes. Is Wataynikaneyap Power LP ("WPLP")	
14		aware of any other possible changes to the project route or substation locations?	
15	b)	If so, will these future changes have a significant impact on the expected project	
16		schedule or cost?	
17			
18	References:		
19		Exhibit B/Tab 1/Schedule 3 – Project Schedule	
20			
21	Interrogatory 2:		
22			
23	a)	Are there any material changes to the schedule as filed in the Application?	
24		Specifically, are there any changes to the proposed community connection dates?	
25	b)	If so, please provide an updated project schedule and general explanation of the	
26		changes.	
27	c)	Please provide a general status update on community readiness for all connecting	
28		communities and the supporting structure in place to ensure success.	
29	d)	Please provide a detailed status update of the six proposed new communities	
30		(Independent Power Authorities/IPA's) not currently serviced by Hydro One	
31		Remote Communities Inc. ("HORCI") against pre-connection requirements.	
32	e)	Does WPLP foresee any schedule difference between IPA readiness and the	
33		Watay grid energization dates?	

## **Reference:** 1 Exhibit B/Tab 1/Schedule 4 – Project Organization & Execution 2 3 **Interrogatory 3:** 4 5 a) Have there been any notable changes to the operations and maintenance 6 resources, organizational structure, plan or strategy since the filing of the 7 Application? 8 b) What key tasks are currently being done to ensure sufficient operations and 9 maintenance capacity for both new and existing communities? 10 c) Please provide an update on the Interim O&M strategy? Specifically, the control 11 room and field/trouble services. 12 d) Have any agreements been formalized with suppliers, contractors, partners to 13 ensure reliable operations going forward? 14 e) Have transportation contracts (i.e. planes/helicopters) been formalized? 15 f) What is the shelf-life of the Interim O&M strategy? How long is it expected to be 16 an interim strategy? 17 g) What does the desired post-Interim O&M strategy look like? 18 19 **Reference:** 20 Exhibit E/Tab 1/Schedule 1 – Load & Revenue Forecast 21 22 **Interrogatory 4:** 23 24 a) Why did WPLP use load and revenue data from a 2018 back-up report instead of 25 receiving more current information from community partners? 26 b) Has any work been done to confirm or verify the peak loads in the communities 27 (IPA's) not currently served by Hydro One Remotes? 28 c) Why did WPLP use data from Sioux Lookout Hydro instead of Hydro One 29 Remotes for its monthly trending? 30

1	Reference:			
2	Exhibi	Exhibit F/Tab 3/Schedule 1- Program Delivery Costs with Variance Analysis - Table 2:		
3	Employee Compensation Breakdown			
4	1			
5	Interr	ogatory 5:		
6	meen			
7	a)	Please provide an update on the current staffing numbers?		
/	<i>a)</i>			
8	b)	Please provide a description of the roles added in 2021?		
9	c)	What other types of roles are expected to be added in the latter part of 2021 and		
10		2022?		
11	d)	As a ratio, the management to non-management structure is different than that		
12		seen in other more traditional utilities. Please provide an explanation of why this		
13		structure is necessary and efficient?		
14				
	Roford	anco.		
15	Reference:			
16	Exhibi	t I/Tab 3/Schedule 2 -Monthly Fixed Charge to Hydro One Remotes		
17				
18	Interrogatory 6:			
19				
20	a)	Does WPLP expect to file an application with the OEB in 2022 to establish the		
21		2023 monthly fixed charge to HORCI? If not, how will this amount be		
22		determined?		
23	b)	Based on current project costs, timing, etc. what is a reasonable estimate on the		
	5)			
24		total monthly charge to HORCI beginning in 2023?		