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**Joanne Richardson**  
Director – Major Projects and Partnerships  
Regulatory Affairs

BY RESS AND EMAIL

July 22, 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:

**Re: Letter from Gwayakocchigewin L.P. on Hydro One's Waasigan Transmission Project –  
Alleged Risk of Imprudently Incurred Costs**

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Hydro One is writing to the Ontario Energy Board (the “Board”) in response to a letter dated July 20, 2021, sent to the Board by Mr. Tom Johnson on behalf of Gwayakocchigenin L.P. (“GLP”) and its partner First Nations.

GLP has expressed concerns that Hydro One Networks Inc. (“Hydro One”) is advancing environmental assessment (“EA”) work and other project activities prior to approval of the EA Terms of Reference, specifically the commencement of field studies to support the Waasigan Transmission Line Project. GLP believes this may result in imprudent incremental development and capital costs that may not qualify for rate recovery.

Hydro One has sent a Project notice to potentially impacted communities to ensure that opportunities are made available for Indigenous communities to meaningfully participate in the field survey planning for the Project. Field surveys are an important aspect of the EA and will be implemented at several stages of the assessment over the next few years. For all field surveys, Hydro One will work proactively with Indigenous communities to maximize input into the field work planning and to promote employment opportunities. This initial outreach is preparatory work for upcoming field surveys, and it is noted that these field surveys

have not yet commenced. By sending out the Project notice at this time, Hydro One is proactively engaging communities on the Project's activities to receive their input into the work plans.

The nature of EA work is that updates and additional studies may be required as any project proceeds. Any comments or concerns received by Hydro One at a future date will be reviewed and acted upon. Hydro One is confident that all work performed now and in the future is necessary, and hence any Project costs incurred will be prudent. Hydro One will be prepared to demonstrate this in future applications to the Board.

An electronic copy of this has been filed through the Ontario Energy Board's Regulatory Electronic Submission System (RESS).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joanne Richardson", with a stylized, cursive-like script.

Joanne Richardson