

DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS EB-2021-0169

HYDRO ONE NETWORKS INC.

Application for an accounting order to establish a new regulatory account effective May 28, 2021

BEFORE: Pankaj Sardana

Presiding Commissioner

Emad ElsayedCommissioner

November 3, 2021

OVERVIEW

This is a decision of the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on cost claims filed with respect to a Hydro One Networks Inc. proceeding.

Hydro One filed an application with the OEB on May 28, 2021 for an accounting order authorizing Hydro One to establish a new regulatory account, referred to as the Affiliate Transmission Projects Account.

The OEB granted the Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario (AMPCO), Energy Probe Research Foundation (Energy Probe), Gwayakocchigewin Limited Partnership (GLP), School Energy Coalition (SEC) and Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation (CKSPFN) as represented by Southwind Corporate Development Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of CKSPFN (Southwind), intervenor status and cost award eligibility.

On October 7, 2021, the OEB issued its Decision and Order in which it set out the process for intervenors to file their cost claims; for Hydro One to raise any objections to the claims; and for intervenors to respond to any objections raised by Hydro One.

The OEB received cost claims from AMPCO, Energy Probe, GLP, SEC and Southwind. No objection to the cost claims was received from Hydro One.

Findings

The OEB has reviewed the claims filed to ensure that they are compliant with the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

The OEB approves all cost claims as filed with the exception of the Southwind claim.

The OEB finds that Southwind's cost claim is excessive and not commensurate with its contribution to this proceeding. Southwind was a late intervenor and, unlike other intervenors, did not participate in the interrogatory process. Nevertheless, Southwind's cost claim is approximately 87% higher than the next highest cost claim.

The OEB will reduce Southwind's cost claim from \$10,842.92 to \$4,800.00 which is the average of the cost claims of the other four intervenors.

The OEB finds that the cost claims of AMPCO, Energy Probe, GLP and SEC are reasonable, as is the adjusted claim of Southwind, and each of these cost claims shall be reimbursed by Hydro One.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, Hydro One Networks Inc. shall immediately pay the following amounts to the intervenors for their costs:

•	Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario	\$3,915.45
•	Energy Probe Research Foundation	\$5,804.25
•	Gwayakocchigewin Limited Partnership	\$5,503.10
•	School Energy Coalition	\$3,969.69
•	Southwind Corporate Development Inc.	\$4,800.00

2. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, Hydro One Networks Inc. shall pay the OEB's costs of, and incidental to, this proceeding immediately upon receipt of the OEB's invoice.

DATED at Toronto November 3, 2021

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Christine E. Long Registrar