

Ontario | Commission Energy | de l'énergie Board | de l'Ontario

January 18, 2022

BY EMAIL

Kathleen Burke Director, Applications Delivery Regulatory Affairs Hydro One Networks Inc. 483 Bay Street Toronto Ontario M5G 2P5

Dear Ms. Burke:

Re: Motions Hearing Hydro One Networks Inc.'s 2023-2027 Application for Transmission and Distribution Rates (JRAP) Ontario Energy Board File (OEB) Number: EB-2021-0110

This letter is in response to your letter dated January 17, 2022, stating that at motions day, which is to take place tomorrow January 19, 2022, Hydro One intends to seek clarification of the possible schedule following the settlement conference, particularly as it relates to the "blue page" update.

The issue of the "blue page" update is beyond the scope of the motions hearing which is defined in Procedural Order No. 1.¹

In addition, the OEB stated in its previous letter related to the "blue page" update² that:

The OEB was clear in its Decision³ that its expectations are that Hydro One "will provide the most up-to-date financial information at each step of the process." This would include, but is not limited to, the interrogatory responses, the technical conference undertakings, the results of any financial audits, as well as any other material updates in advance of the settlement conference. The OEB expects Hydro One to disclose, in a timely matter, any material changes it

¹ September 17, 2021

² December 2, 2021

³ Decision on Blue Page Update, Confidentiality Request and Reply on Expert Evidence and Procedural Order No. 2, October 25, 2021.

becomes aware of arising from the audited financial statements that will be released in February 2022.

Based on the above expectations, <u>the OEB is not currently requiring Hydro One</u> to file a blue page update in April 2022 (emphasis added). However, the OEB may order Hydro One to file financial updates at any time during this proceeding if deemed to be necessary.

The OEB's position in this regard is clear and remains unchanged. The OEB does not intend to further clarify or revisit its position on a blue page update at the motions hearing.

With regard to your request for confirmation of the oral hearing start date, in your letter, you observed that under the current schedule, the hearing will commence on March 28, 2022 if a partial settlement is achieved, and on February 22, 2022 if a settlement is not achieved.

Your understanding is correct. At page 3 of its October 25, 2021 *Decision on Blue Page Update, Confidentiality Request and Reply on Expert Evidence and Procedural Order No. 2*, the OEB found that "it will proceed assuming that a blue page update is not needed at this time (Illustrative Hearing Schedule D in Procedural Order No. 1)". Illustrative Hearing Schedule D contains an illustrative timeline for each of three scenarios: full settlement (Scenario 1); substantial but incomplete settlement (Scenario 2); and limited partial settlement or no settlement (Scenario 3).

The March 28th and February 22nd dates you refer to can be found in the illustrative timelines corresponding to Scenarios 2 and 3. Events in this proceeding to date have followed the schedule set out by the OEB in its Procedural Orders, and Hydro One filed undertaking responses (the OEB is not commenting on the completeness or adequacy of those responses, but simply to their timing) on January 5, 2022, which is consistent with the filing date contemplated in the Schedule D illustrative timelines. Accordingly, at this time, the OEB has no reason to change the March 28th and February 22nd anticipated start dates set out in Schedule D.

Yours truly,

Nancy Marconi Acting Registrar

c. All Parties in EB-2021-0110