



Ontario  
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BY EMAIL  
RegulatoryAffairs@hydroone.com

**April 8, 2022**

Pasquale Catalano  
Regulatory Analyst  
Hydro One Remote Communities Inc.  
483 Bay Street  
8th Floor - South Tower  
Toronto ON M5G 2P5

Dear Mr. Catalano:

**Re: Hydro One Remote Communities Inc. (HORCI)  
Application for Service Area Amendment and Licence Exemptions  
OEB File Number EB-2022-0083**

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) received HORCI's application for service area amendment and licence exemptions on January 27, 2022. The OEB has assigned file number EB-2022-0073 to the application. The application will be decided by an employee of the OEB who has been delegated this authority pursuant to section 6 of the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998 (Delegated Authority). The Delegated Authority intends to make a decision on the application without holding a hearing.

OEB staff has conducted a review of the application and has identified additional information that is required.

***1. Support Letter from Wawakapewin First Nation***

Attachment 1 to the application is a letter from Wawakapewin First Nation to the Ministry of Energy dated March 14, 2017. Please summarize the communications that took place between Wawakapewin First Nation and HORCI between that date and the filing of the application and provide evidence of Wawakapewin First Nation's general support for the application (or provide an explanation if there is none) and more specifically, its support of the "Long Term Modified Service Framework" set out in Attachment 2 (or

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provide an explanation if there is none). This document is described as a “preliminary framework”, is labelled “Draft”, and is dated August 9, 2021. Does HORCI plan to file a more current or executed version of the framework document in this proceeding? If not, can HORCI explain the status of any updates to the framework document?

## **2. System Reliability Indicators, Event Reporting and Billing Accuracy**

With respect to attachment 4 to the application, please explain what factors about serving Wawakapewin First Nation are unique such that HORCI requires an exemption from each of the following sections, whereas it has not required the exemption for the other remote communities that it serves. Section 2.1.4.2 of the Reporting and Record Keeping Requirements (RRR) and section 7.9 of DSC and RRR section 2.1.4.9.

## **3. Regulations**

OEB staff notes that the application does not reference O. Reg. 199/02 (Hydro One Inc.), made under the Electricity Act, 1998 or O. Reg. 442/01 (Rural Or Remote Electricity Rate Protection), made under the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998.

Accordingly, please confirm HORCI’s understanding that:

*i)* Wawakapewin First Nation is, in accordance with subsection 1. (1) of O. Reg. 199/02, a community prescribed by the Province for the purposes of section 48.1 (1) of the Electricity Act, 1998;

*ii)* In accordance with subsection 1. (2) of O. Reg. 199/02, Hydro One Inc. shall not, directly or through a subsidiary, operate a distribution system in, or distribute electricity within, Wawakapewin First Nation until the OEB has issued an order amending HORCI’s licence to include that community within its service area; and,

*iii)* Upon HORCI’s license being amended by the OEB to include the Wawakapewin First Nation service area, HORCI will, in accordance with O. Reg. 442/01, be authorized to provide residential consumers in the community with funding under the Province’s Rural and Remote Rate Protection (RRRP) plan.

Please provide a response by **April 14, 2022**.

Any questions relating to this letter or your application should be directed to Hussein Yusufali, Advisor at Hussein.Yusufali@oeb.ca. Please refer to the OEB file number noted above in all future correspondence to the OEB regarding your application.

Yours truly,

John Pickernell  
Manager, Applications Administration