



Hydro One Networks Inc.

**Application for electricity transmission and distribution
rates and other charges for the period from January 1,
2023 to December 31, 2027**

**PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 6
June 2, 2022**

Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) filed an application dated August 5, 2021, with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, seeking approval for changes to the rates that it charges for electricity transmission and distribution, beginning January 1, 2023 and for each following year through to December 31, 2027.

In Procedural Order No. 1, issued September 17, 2021, and letters accepting late intervention requests¹, the OEB determined that the following intervenors are eligible to apply for an award of costs in this proceeding under the OEB's [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#) (Practice Direction):

- Anwaatin Inc.
- Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario
- Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters
- Consumer Council of Canada
- Distributed Resource Coalition
- Energy Probe Research Foundation
- Environmental Defence
- London Property Management Association
- Michipicoten First Nation
- Ontario Federation of Agriculture
- Ontario Sustainable Energy Association
- Pollution Probe
- Quinte Manufacturers Association
- School Energy Coalition
- Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition

¹ By letters dated September 24, 2021, October 4, 2021, and October 25, 2021, Environmental Defence, Michipicoten First Nation, and Ontario Sustainable Energy Association, respectively, were accepted as late intervenors and granted cost eligibility.

In its Decision and Procedural Order No. 4 on Settlement Conference Adjournment, the OEB, among other things, placed Hydro One's application in abeyance, effective February 4, 2022. The application was placed in abeyance in response to Hydro One's request that the scheduled settlement conference be postponed to allow Hydro One to update its application to reflect changes in capital and OM&A expenditures that, according to Hydro One, are material and result from unprecedented inflationary pressures being incurred, and expected to be incurred, throughout 2022 and into the proposed rate period.

Hydro One filed two updates to the application, relating first to inflation and load forecast, and then to 2021 actuals for capital, in-service additions, and OM&A, on March 31, 2022 and April 8, 2022, respectively. On April 14, 2022, the application was taken out of abeyance, and the OEB established new procedural steps to ensure an efficient, transparent, and fair proceeding (referred to below as PO 5).²

In Procedural Order No. 1 (PO 1),³ the OEB provided illustrative hearing schedules to assist parties in understanding key steps in the proceeding and when the proceeding might conclude. Schedule D to PO 1, which contained illustrative schedules based on a "blue page update" not being required, contemplated decision dates ranging from May 12, 2022 in the event of a complete settlement, to September 1, 2022 where full, or substantial but incomplete, settlement was not achievable (with the preparation of draft and final rate orders following the decision). In establishing the new procedural steps in PO 5, the OEB provided similar illustrative schedules that incorporated the effects of Hydro One's extension request on the timeline for the proceeding. The new illustrative schedules show a tentative decision date of March 28, 2023 in scenarios where no settlement, or only partial settlement, can be reached.

In a typical proceeding, cost claims would be filed with the OEB at the conclusion of the proceeding. In the current case, given that the extended timeline for the proceeding could take the parties well into 2023, the OEB will permit cost eligible intervenors to file interim cost claims for the period through to the end of the Technical Conference established by PO 5.

The interim cost claims are to be filed in accordance with the OEB's Practice Direction. The OEB does not intend to conduct a detailed review of the claims at this time, and does not require responding submissions from Hydro One. OEB staff will review the accuracy of the calculations in the claims, and the OEB will determine any amount to be awarded on an interim basis.

² Decision on Confidentiality Requests and Procedural Order No. 5 / April 14, 2022 / pp. 5 and 19-21.

³ Procedural Order No. 1 / September 17, 2021 / Schedules D and E.

The OEB will conduct a complete review of all cost claims at the conclusion of the proceeding pursuant to the Practice Direction. An intervenor claiming costs will be required to submit a cost claim for the entire proceeding, with any amount received as an interim award applied as a credit against the total claimed. Hydro One will have an opportunity to file objections at that time, and intervenors whose claims were subject to objections will have an opportunity to reply. The OEB will then determine an intervenor's entitlement to a cost award, including any amount received as an interim award, and interim awards of costs may be subject to adjustment at that time.

It is necessary to make provision for the following matters related to this proceeding. Further procedural orders may be issued by the OEB.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:

1. Cost eligible intervenors shall file their cost claims for costs incurred to the end of the Technical Conference on Hydro One's March 31, 2022 and April 8, 2022 evidentiary updates by **June 16, 2022**. A copy of each claim must be filed with the OEB and delivered to Hydro One.

Parties are responsible for ensuring that any documents they file with the OEB, such as applicant and intervenor evidence, interrogatories and responses to interrogatories or any other type of document, **do not include personal information** (as that phrase is defined in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*), unless filed in accordance with rule 9A of the OEB's [Rules of Practice and Procedure](#).

Please quote file number, **EB-2021-0110** for all materials filed and submit them in searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the [OEB's online filing portal](#).

- Filings should clearly state the sender's name, postal address, telephone number and e-mail address.
- Please use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the [Regulatory Electronic Submission System \(RESS\) Document Guidelines](#) found at the [File documents online page](#) on the OEB's website.
- Parties are encouraged to use RESS. Those who have not yet [set up an account](#), or require assistance using the online filing portal can contact registrar@oeb.ca for assistance.
- Cost claims are filed through the OEB's online filing portal. Please visit the [File documents online page](#) of the OEB's website for more information. All

participants shall download a copy of their submitted cost claim and serve it on all required parties as per the [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#).

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Registrar and be received by end of business, 4:45 p.m., on the required date.

With respect to distribution lists for all electronic correspondence and materials related to this proceeding, parties must include the Case Managers, Martin Davies at Martin.Davies@oeb.ca and Tracy Garner at Tracy.Garner@oeb.ca and OEB Counsel, James Sidlofsky at James.Sidlofsky@oeb.ca.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca

Tel: 1-877-632-2727 (Toll free)

DATED at Toronto, **June 2, 2022**

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Nancy Marconi
Registrar