

# **DECISION AND ORDER**

EB-2022-0208

## HYDRO ONE NETWORKS INC.

Application for leave to sell distribution assets to Bell Canada

BY DELEGATION, BEFORE: Brian Hewson

Vice President

Consumer Protection & Industry Performance

#### **DECISION AND ORDER**

Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on July 20, 2022 under section 86(1)(b) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998 (OEB Act), for an order granting Hydro One leave to sell distribution system assets to Bell Canada. The assets that are the subject of the proposed transaction are 25 poles, as described in Attachment 1, located along County Road 27 and 5<sup>th</sup> Line in Bradford, Ontario.

This Decision and Order is being issued by the Delegated Authority, without holding a hearing, pursuant to Section 6(4) of the OEB Act.

Section 86(1)(b) of the Act provides that leave of the OEB is required before a transmitter or a distributor can "sell, lease or otherwise dispose of that part of its transmission or distribution system that is necessary in serving the public." The assets that are the subject of this transaction are necessary in serving the public.

The sale is for the purposes of maintaining the ownership balance between Bell Canada and Hydro One as per the Joint Use Agreement. The Joint Use Agreement stipulates that in case Bell Canada wishes to do any work in Bell Canada's prime exchange areas, it must hold ownership of the poles. After completion of the proposed transaction, Bell will own the assets and Hydro One will continue as a tenant on these poles. The assets will continue to be used for supplying electrical load to existing Hydro One customers. The applicant stated that the transaction will not adversely affect the safety, reliability, quality of service, operational flexibility or economic efficiency of Hydro One. As well, the applicant stated that there will be no impact on Hydro One's distribution rates as a result of the assets sale.

This is a cash sale. The parties to the transaction agreed that the assets are being sold on an "as is, where is" basis for the sale price of \$60,508.11 inclusive of HST. The sale price represents the value of the assets based on the residual value tables in the Joint Use Agreement. The residual value has been modified to deduct the cost of removing the poles.

The OEB finds that the proposed transaction is reasonable and is not anticipated to have any negative effects. It is therefore in the public interest to grant Hydro One leave to sell the assets described above to Bell Canada.

#### IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. Hydro One Networks Inc. is granted leave to sell 25 poles described in the Attachment to this Order and which are located in Bradford, Ontario to Bell Canada.

**DATED** at Toronto August 30, 2022

#### **ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

Original Signed By

Brian Hewson Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance

Attachment 1: Asset List

### Attachment 1-Asset Listing

Location	Barcode	Vintage Year	Height	Sale Price
North of 5 <sup>th</sup> Line	ADPSPR	1958	35'	\$1
	BEFFRA	1954	30'	\$1
	ADPSUQ	1962	35'	\$1
	ADPSTL	1962	35'	<b>\$</b> 1
	ADPTHH	1962	35'	<b>\$</b> 1
	D5C9EA	2020	45'	\$2,571
	D5CA5E	2020	50'	\$2,937
	D5CAKK	2019	55'	\$3,871
	D5C9WM	2020	50'	\$2,937
	D5CA3U	2019	50'	\$2,878
	D3RK9B	2020	40'	\$2,282
	D5C9JZ	2019	50'	\$2,878
	D5C9GK	2019	50'	\$2,878
	D5C9ZB	2020	40'	\$2,282
East of CR 27	D5DWUV	2019	50'	\$2,878
	D3RKCZ	2019	50'	\$2,878
	D3RKFP	2020	40'	\$2,282
	D3RKAP	2020	45'	\$2,571
	D3RKDE	2020	40'	\$2,282
	D5DWWF	2020	45'	\$2,571
	D3RKEJ	2020	40'	\$2,282
	D5DWXK	2020	45'	\$2,571
	D5DWYP	2020	45'	\$2,571
	D5DWZU	2020	45'	\$2,571
	D3RKBU	2020	45'	\$2,571
			Total	\$ 53,547.00