

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

# **DECISION AND ORDER**

## EB-2022-0211

## 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

September 1, 2022

#### **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 27 poles, as described in Attachment 1, located along Nakoma Road, Seminole Road, Wilson Street, Manitou Way and Floresta Court in Ancaster, 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 \$161.59 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 27 poles described in the Attachment to this Order and which are located in Ancaster, Ontario to Bell Canada.

**DATED** at Toronto September 1, 2022

#### ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Brian Hewson Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance

Attachment 1: Asset List

Location	Barcode	Pole Age in Years	Height	Sale Price
Nakoma Rd, Seminole Rd, Wilson Street, Manitou Way, Floresta Court	<b>B6NBAX</b>	50+	35	\$1
	B6NBBC	45	35	\$117
	B6NBCH	50+	35	\$1
	<b>B6NBDM</b>	50+	35	\$1
	<b>B6NBER</b>	50+	35	\$1
	<b>B6NBFW</b>	50+	35	\$1
	B6NBJQ	50+	35	\$1
	<b>B6NBFW</b>	50+	35	\$1
	B6NBHG	50+	40	\$1
	B6NBGB	50+	35	\$1
	B43HWU	50+	35	\$1
	B43HVP	50+	35	\$1
	B43HAP	50+	35	\$1
	B43HEJ	50+	35	\$1
	B43HFN	50+	35	\$1
	B43HGS	50+	35	\$1
	B43HHX	50+	35	\$1
	B43HJH	50+	35	\$1
	B43HKM	50+	35	\$1
	B43HLR	50+	35	\$1
	B43G5C	50+	35	\$1
	B43G3S	50+	35	\$1
	B43G2N	50+	35	\$1
	B43GNX	50+	35	\$1
	B43GMS	50+	35	\$1
	B43GKJ	50+	35	\$1
	B43GLN	50+	35	\$1

### Attachment 1-Asset Listing

