

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

DECISION AND ORDER

EB-2023-0097

ONEIDA ENERGY STORAGE LP

Application to transfer electricity storage licence ES-2021-0071 from Oneida Energy Storage LP to Oneida Storage LP

BY DELEGATION, BEFORE: Brian Hewson

Brian Hewson Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance

March 28, 2023

DECISION AND ORDER

On February 28, 2023, Oneida Energy Storage LP (Oneida Energy) applied for leave of the Ontario Energy Board (OEB), pursuant to section 74 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (OEB Act), to amend electricity storage licence ES-2021-0071.

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

Currently, Oneida Energy is authorized to own and operate the Oneida Energy battery storage facility, which, when completed, will have an installed capacity of 250 MW. The battery storage facility, which will be located at 95 Concession 2, in Walpole, Nanticoke, Ontario will operate under an Energy Storage Proposed Facility Agreement (ESFA) with the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO). Oneida Energy and the IESO entered into a contract for services, in respect of the battery storage facility pursuant to a <u>Directive</u> by the Minister of Energy on April 14, 2022.

On December 21, 2022, the IESO and Oneida Energy entered into an agreement to transfer the ESFA from Oneida Energy to Oneida Storage LP (Oneida Storage). The application sought an amendment to Oneida Energy's electricity storage licence to authorize Oneida Storage to own and operate the proposed battery storage facility. Upon OEB staff enquiry, Oneida Energy clarified that it was requesting a licence transfer pursuant to section 18(2) of the OEB Act, to permit the transfer of electricity storage licence ES-2021-0071 from Oneida Energy to Oneida Storage to reflect the transfer of the EFSA.

The applicant states that Northland Power Inc. is the majority owner of Oneida Storage. Northland Power Inc., an OEB licensed electricity generator (EG-2003-0103), is a developer and owner of clean and green power facilities since 1987 and currently operates 13 solar facilities, two wind farms and two thermal generating facilities in Ontario.

The evidence filed with the application states that, following the closing of the transaction, Oneida Storage will hold 100% ownership of the battery storage facility and will be responsible for all ongoing business activities of the battery storage facility, including the ESFA.

The applicant has stated that the ESFA transfer to Oneida Storage is complete, however, the commercial transaction is anticipated to be completed on March 31, 2023.

On May 6, 2022, the OEB issued a <u>Decision and Order</u>, which granted Hydro One Networks Inc. (HONI) an exemption to Sections 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 of the Transmission System Code^{1.} The OEB confirms that the change in ownership of the battery storage facility, will not impact the exemptions granted to HONI (ET-2003-0035).

Based on the evidence, the OEB finds it to be in the public interest to approve the application to transfer electricity storage licence ES-2021-0071 from Oneida Energy to Oneida Storage. As the transaction has not yet closed, the transfer of the licence will not take effect until the Oneida Energy files with the OEB written confirmation of the closing of the commercial transaction.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

The application to transfer the authority from Oneida Energy Storage LP under electricity storage licence ES-2021-0071 to Oneida Storage LP is granted. The transfer of the licence will become effective once Oneida Energy Storage LP files with the OEB written confirmation that the transaction has closed.

DATED at Toronto March 28, 2023

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Brian Hewson Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance

¹ The exemption granted to HONI was for the for the purpose of entering into a Transmission Connection Agreement with Oneida Energy Storage LP for the connection of a 250MW battery energy storage facility to Hydro One Networks Inc.'s transmission system.