



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

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## **DECISION AND ORDER**

**EB-2023-0084**

### **TRANSMISSION INFRASTRUCTURE PARTNERSHIPS 1 LIMITED**

**Application for an Electricity Transmission Licence**

**BY DELEGATION, BEFORE: Brian Hewson**  
Vice President  
Consumer Protection & Industry Performance

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**April 20, 2023**

## INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

Transmission Infrastructure Partnerships 1 Limited (TIP1) has applied to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) for an electricity transmission licence. TIP1 intends to construct, own and operate transmission facilities in the vicinity of Timmins, Ontario.

This Decision and Order is being issued by the Delegated Authority without a hearing, pursuant to section 6(4) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (OEB Act).

TIP1's application for an electricity transmission licence is approved. The scope of the OEB's review in this proceeding is limited to the question of whether TIP1 meets the relevant criteria for being licensed as an electricity transmitter. The OEB's approval of this application should not be construed as providing a view on other regulatory requirements that TIP1 may need to comply with in the future.

## APPLICATION

TIP1 filed an application on February 9, 2023, under section 60 of the OEB Act. The application is for an electricity transmission licence only. TIP1 does not currently own or operate transmission assets in Ontario. TIP1 is planning to construct, own and operate a new transmission line in Northeastern Ontario and to have the line operational by the second quarter of 2027 (the Project).

TIP1 explained that, based on the best information that it has at this time, the Project will consist of approximately 42 km of 230 kV transmission line connected to a switching station, to be constructed, owned and operated by TIP1 at the Crawford Mine, in the vicinity of Crawford, Ontario. The Project will connect to Hydro One Network Inc.'s Porcupine substation in Timmins, Ontario.

TIP1 stated that the Project will be an integral component of the Crawford Mine, which is owned by the Canada Nickel Company (CNC) and has been identified as necessary for the mine's intended net zero carbon operations. TIP1 stated that it has discussed its plans with the Independent Electricity System Operator and Hydro One Networks Inc. and the proposed transmission line is consistent with the regional plan for Northeast Ontario. TIP1 acknowledged that it will require leave from the OEB to construct the Project and plans to file an application for that authorization in the near future.

On March 5, 2023, Michipicoten First Nation submitted a letter of support for TIP1 and stated that Michipicoten First Nation will provide technical assistance to TIP1 as the

Project develops. The OEB acknowledges Michipicoten First Nation's letter and their support for the application.

TIP1 submitted that, together with its affiliates, it possesses significant experience in asset management, operations and maintenance of transmission and distribution assets. TIP1 filed evidence that, through its affiliates, it has the financial feasibility and security to plan, develop, construct, own, operate and maintain electricity transmission facilities in Ontario.

## FINDINGS

The key areas reviewed by the OEB in a licence application are the financial position, technical capability and conduct of an applicant. Furthermore, the OEB's decision in proceeding EB-2009-0164 identified two threshold tests for transmission licence applications, namely:

1. Whether there is a specific project which underpins the application; and,
2. In the absence of a specific project, whether the applicant is engaged in transmission activity elsewhere and whether it has the necessary technical and financial expertise to undertake transmission activity in Ontario.

While it does not yet own or operate a transmission system in Ontario, TIP1 has filed information pertaining to a specific project that underpins its application for a transmission licence. TIP1 has also provided sufficient information on its technical and financial expertise to demonstrate that it has the qualifications and expertise to undertake transmission activity in Ontario. TIP1 also provided a commitment to meet all applicable regulatory requirements once licensed.

The OEB finds that TIP1 has demonstrated that it meets the criteria for holding a transmission licence. The OEB therefore approves TIP1's application for a transmission licence. However, the OEB is mindful that TIP1 does not currently own or operate a transmission system in Ontario and that its proposed transmission facilities are not expected to be operational for at least another four years. For these reasons, the OEB is approving the application, and will reserve issuance of the licence until TIP1 has received approval by the OEB, for the leave to construct application that it has indicated it will file for the proposed transmission facilities, at which time TIP1 will be able to file with the OEB a complete description of the facilities to be included in schedule 1 of the licence.

TIP1 is further advised that this Decision should not be construed as providing any views or being determinative of any other regulatory approvals that TIP1 may need to obtain in the future in relation to the Project such as, for example, leave to construct from the OEB.

**IT IS ORDERED THAT:**

1. Transmission Infrastructure Partnerships 1 Limited's application for an electricity transmission licence is approved, and its licence shall be issued and take effect on the date on which it files a description of its approved transmission facilities to be included in schedule 1 of the licence with the OEB.

**DATED** at Toronto April 20, 2023

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

Brian Hewson  
Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance