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January 11, 2024

**BY EMAIL AND RESS**

Ms. Nancy Marconi  
Registrar  
Ontario Energy Board  
Suite 2700, 2300 Yonge Street  
P.O. Box 2319  
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Marconi:

**Re: Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) Application for Leave to Construct –  
Waasigan Project Ontario Energy Board File Number: EB-2023-0198**

We are counsel to Hydro One in the above matter. Yesterday, Hydro One received unsolicited comments from intervener Mr. Larry Richard regarding certain interrogatory responses Hydro One has filed in this proceeding. A copy of Mr. Richard's email is enclosed.

Based on our review of Mr. Richard's comments, these would normally be submitted during the final argument stage of the hearing process. As such, and subject to any specific directions which the OEB may make, we write to advise that Hydro One intends to address the content of Mr. Richard's January 10, 2024 email in argument and in accordance with the procedure that the OEB establishes for the balance of this proceeding.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. Nettleton", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Per:  
Gordon M. Nettleton  
Partner | Associé

Encl.

c: Reena Goyal, McCarthy Tétrault LLP  
Joanne Richardson, Hydro One  
Andrew Flannery, Hydro One

**From:** Larry Richard <lrich@eastlink.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 10, 2024 11:31 AM  
**To:** REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
**Cc:** Office of the Registrar; Vithooshan Ganesanathan; Ljuba.Djurdjevic@oeb.ca; omaclaren@oktlaw.com; Ggroux@oktlaw.com; pboileau; tom.johnson@bellnet.ca; cguirguis@oktlaw.com; Andrew.Bishop@IESO.ca; regulatoryaffairs@ieso.ca; kamorganics@aol.com; EE@ESQUEGALAW.COM; Quentin Snider; David Mackett; Anthony Maunula; BonnieB@metisnation.org; roc.n.robin@hotmail.com; hamer@tbaytel.net; michellerosetta108@gmail.com; bryne.lamarche@gmail.com; sadko@tbaytel.net; skorbyck@gmail.com; steve.zebrowski@opg.com; matthew.kirk@opg.com; BURKE Kathleen; RICHARDSON Joanne; CACERES Monica; Nettleton, Gordon M.; Goyal, Reena  
**Subject:** [EXT] Re: EB-2023-0198 – Hydro One Networks Inc. Leave to Construct Application – Waasigan Project – Interrogatory Responses

This in response to Hydro One's Interrogatory Response to my questions in Tab 5:

Tab 5, Schedule1 Response a) Hydro One declines to respond to my question as it relates to pesticide use, but given that your EA does not describe why a vacant corridor is not considered, it certainly does affect the price of the corridor to the rate payer, nor does Hydro Ones response in the EA detail why an already cleared route is not used for the preferred route with respect to cost. Habitat fragmentation should not be a consideration for the OEB and if fact if the Steep Rock Corridor were chosen there would be fewer crossovers than the chosen route so reliability would be increased given that the Steep Rock corridor follows the existing 230 KV corridor for a large portion between Shebandowan and Atikokan, the infrastructure is already there. Little reforestation of the brown field has occurred and given the lack of intrusion to property owners and the costs associated with buying out these property owners, Hydro One needs to fully disclose why this cheaper more reliable option wasn't chosen.

Tab 5 Schedule 2 Response a) Hydro One states that they did not use this tool kit, however page 79 of the tool kit specifically uses Hydro One as an example of the Bruce to Milton Biodiversity Initiative used to construct that corridor. In that case study ,Hydro One identified that the transmission line would affect 280 hectares of forest and would reforest an equivalent amount. It appears that Hydro One has applied their own biodiversity initiative to this project under a different name. As requested Schedule 2 b) What are the costs Hydro One is applying to this project as this cost would not be as significant less if the already constructed brownfield were chosen.

Tab 5 Schedule 3 Response a),b), c),d),f),g) I disagree with the assessment provided in Section 6 and will be included in the EA review, however how can Hydro One issue a contract for a fixed price when the assessment of the value of the ecosystems have not been provided. Further, given that inadequate riparian barrier at the end of Three Mile bay is non existent and the requirement for additional riparian barrier due to construction on slope (particularly at Three Mile Bay, nor the assessment of the high levels of phosphorus in the Kaministiquia watershed being exacerbated by deforestation have not been included in the assessment, how can a fixed price contract be issued with inadequate assessments.

Tab 5 Schedule 3 Response e) Section 7.4 only used a very small number of viewpoints and on Lake Shebandowan only VP5 only identifies the aesthetics from a cottage from a far, why hasn't the EA included areas where the visual and noise effects will be horrendous such as the property owners along three Mile Bay

where ROW will be within approximately 35 metres from the property lines. No mitigating actions presented will repair the damage done. Hydro One should include the contingency for the law suites for reduced property values and loss of quality of life as a result of the transmission line being constructed as planned.

Sincerely,

Larry Richard

On Dec 19, 2023, at 1:00 PM, REGULATORY AFFAIRS <[RegulatoryAffairs@hydroone.com](mailto:RegulatoryAffairs@hydroone.com)> wrote:

Good afternoon,

Please find attached Hydro One Networks Inc. Interrogatory Responses to its Leave to Construct Application – Waasigan Project.

An electronic copy of the interrogatory responses has been submitted using the Board's Regulatory Electronic Submission System.

Sincerely,

**Julie Lee**

Senior Regulatory Coordinator | Regulatory Affairs

Hydro One Networks Inc.  
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Toronto, ON, M5G 2P5  
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<HONI\_s92\_Waasigan\_IRRs\_20231219.pdf><Mail Attachment.eml>

**External Email:** Exercise caution before clicking links or opening attachments | **Courriel externe:** Soyez prudent avant de cliquer sur des liens ou d'ouvrir des pièces jointes