

OEB Staff Interrogatories

**Amended Leave to Construct Application
for
CREC Wolfe Island Wind Farm
(File No. EB-2007-0034)**

Note:

Questions A-1 through A-14 are identical to those submitted for the original application. Please indicate, for each interrogatory question and for each sub-question whether or not it is affected by the amendments introduced or by any other change, and where there is any change, provide full details. Where there is no change it is sufficient to indicate "No change".
Questions A-15 onward are new questions.

A-1. Reference: Exhibit A, Tab 2, page 1

Preamble:

The application indicates that Canadian Hydro owns and operates numerous hydroelectric and wind power facilities.

Question/request:

Please indicate:

- a) What corporate organization capabilities exist to complete the applied for Transmission Line project (including transformer and switching station); and/or
- b) If the company intends to make use of contractors, please identify what their capabilities are or would be and provide an indication of their experience.

For each of a) and b) above, please provide this information with respect to:

- a) Project management
- b) Design
- c) Construction
- d) Operation and maintenance
- e) Examples of similar projects that have been undertaken

A-2. Reference: Exhibit A, Tab 2, Page 2, section 2.1

Preamble: The basic components of the project include Siemens Mark II wind turbine generators.

Question/request: Please indicate experience with these machines in installations in Ontario and elsewhere in Canada.

A-3. Reference: Exhibit A, tab 2, page 26, paragraph 7.0

Preamble: The IESO has provided a version 1.0 (unsigned) SIA document and it is indicated that a revised version is expected.

Question/Request:

Please provide a finalized signed SIA document.

A-4. Reference: Exhibit A, tab 2, page 3, paragraph 10

Preamble: Hydro One has provided an unsigned CIA document and it is indicated that a revised version is expected.

Question/Request: Please provide a finalized signed CIA document.

A-5. Reference: Exhibit A, tab 2, page 27, paragraph 9.0 and page 29, line 1

Preamble: The References indicate that an Environmental Review Report is being completed and that a notice will be published.

Question/Request: Please:

- a) Provide a copy of the report referred to; and
- b) provide an update on the current status and schedule of the environmental review processes, including Federal and
- c) Provincial processes.

A-6. Reference: Exhibit B Tab 2 Page 3

Preamble:

Question/Request:

- a) Please indicate the relevant standards for design and construction of the transmission facilities.
- b) Please indicate the voltage and nature of the existing facilities in the Hydro One right-of-way
- c) Please indicate installation procedure for the 230kV cable in relation to continuing operation of the existing facilities in the right-of-way.
- d) Please indicate design and construction standards and procedures, relating to high voltage and other electromagnetic effects, which will protect pre-existing facilities and personnel from direct and induced currents and voltages. Include in your discussion corrosion protection, cable location identification, and grounding for safety.

A-7. Reference: Exhibit B Tab 2 Page 7, Line 1

Preamble: Staff is interested in the reliability of the submarine cable.

Question/Request: Please indicate:

- a) the design mean time between failure of the submarine cable
- b) experience of CREC and other operators with similar installations
- c) the procedure for repair of a cable fault including it would be secured against leakage at the point of repair
- d) the estimated time to repair a fault in the cable in the summer
- e) the estimated time to repair a fault in the winter.

A-8. Reference: Exhibit B, Tab 6, page 14, at line 17.

Preamble: Teleprotection is provided through fibre optic cable within the main cable.

Question/Request:

- a) Please indicate how duplicate and independent channels are achieved for protection

and communication purposes.

- b) Please indicate if all the transmission line protection equipment, batteries, and communications is duplicated consistent with grid protection standards, or
- c) Indicate those areas where the protection is not duplicated, and to what standard the protection is designed.

A-9. Reference: Exhibit B, Tab 18, page 2

Preamble: The System Impact Assessment identifies recommendations and requirements for incorporation of the wind generator station. CREC agrees to accommodate these, at exhibit A Tab 2 page 27 line 1.

Question/Request: Please

- a) Provide or indicate the status of the finalized signed version of the SIA document
- b) Indicate the progress to date and/or the plan for accommodating each of the four recommendations and eleven requirements of the SIA.

A-10. Reference: Exhibit A, Tab 19, Customer Impact Assessment, a) general and b) at page 11, paragraph 5.0

Preamble: Numerous requirements are indicated for Wolfe Island Connection

Question/Request:

- a) Please provide a finalized signed off copy of the Customer Impact Assessment document.
- b) For each of the requirements for connection (5.1, 5.2, and 5.3) please indicate how the requirements are to be met, or how they are being accommodated.

A-11. Reference: Exhibit B, tab 21

Preamble: Some aspects of the scheduling may have changed since the application was made.

Question/Request: Please provide a schedule update as required by circumstances.

A-12. Reference: None

Preamble: A complete list is required of permits and approvals which are necessary for commencement of the transmission line project (including transformer stations and customer switching stations).

Question/Request:

- a) Please identify all permits and approvals that will be required prior to commencement of the proposed project construction;
- b) Indicate the current status and the time-line for obtaining each permit and approval.

A-13. Reference a) Exhibit A, Tab2, page 16, paragraph 5.0

Reference b) Exhibit A, Tab 2, page 11, lines 9-12

Preamble: At line 20 it is indicated that "Favourable negotiations have been finalized

with the majority of the landowners along this route". An update is requested for the status of land and land rights acquisition.

Question/Request:

- a) Regarding ref a) please indicate the status in securing land and land rights for the Project for each of the Landowners including those on Wolfe Island and on the mainland.
- b) Regarding reference b) please indicate the status of the zoning appeals which have been made to the OMB, and which it is indicated could affect the Wolfe Island TS.
- c) In the event that expropriation becomes necessary, what will be the anticipated process and time-line to complete the expropriation proceedings?
- d) Please indicate what authority is required to commence laying of the submarine cable, and indicate the status of securing permission.

A-14. References: a) Exhibit B, Tab 13, Page 8; b) Exhibit B, Tab 20, Appendix B section 8.0 Aboriginal

Preamble: It is mentioned at reference a) that early consultations have occurred with First Nations and at reference b) there are no known First Nations or Aboriginal communities within the study area.

Question/Request: Please provide a status update on consultations with First Nations communities with regard to the following points:

- a) Identify all of the Aboriginal groups that have been contacted in respect of this application.
- b) Indicate:
 - i) how the Aboriginal groups were identified;
 - ii) when contact was first initiated;
 - iii) the individuals within the Aboriginal group who were contacted, and their position in or representative role for the group;
 - iv) a listing, including the dates, of any phone calls, meetings and other means that may have been used to provide information about the project and hear any interests or concerns of Aboriginal groups with respect to the project.
- b) Provide relevant information gathered from or about the Aboriginals as to their treaty rights, or any filed and outstanding claims or litigation concerning their treaty rights or treaty land entitlement or aboriginal title or rights, which may potentially be impacted by the project.
- c) Provide any relevant written documentation regarding consultations, such as notes or minutes that may have been taken at meetings or from phone calls, or letters received from, or sent to, Aboriginal groups.
- d) Identify any specific issues or concerns that have been raised by Aboriginal groups in respect of the project and, where applicable, how those issues or

concerns will be mitigated or accommodated.

- e) Explain whether any of the concerns raised by Aboriginal groups with respect to the applied-for project have been discussed with any government department or agencies, and if so, identify when contacts were made and who was contacted.
- f) If any of the Aboriginal groups who were contacted either support the application or have no objection to the project proceeding, identify those groups and provide any available written documentation of their position. Also, indicate if their positions are final or preliminary or conditional in nature.
- g) Provide details of any know Crown involvement in consultations with Aboriginal groups in respect of the applied-for project.

A-15. Reference: Answers to Interrogatories April 18, 2007(original application), interrogatory question 14 e), second bullet

Preamble: The answer indicated that: “the MBQ have noted in their opinion that the Project is within their traditional territory and as such they are due economic accommodation”.

Question/request: Bearing in mind the draft OEB policy on consultation with First Nations available on the Board website at (http://www.oeb.gov.on.ca/html/en/industryrelations/ongoingprojects_aboriginal-consultation-policy.htm), please indicate how CREC intends to deal with the position taken by MBQ.

A-16. Reference: Letter from Utilities Kingston April 5, 2007

Preamble: Utilities Kingston requested a Pipeline Interference Study, and in part B of their Answers to Interrogatories on April 18, 2007,CREC advised that mitigation work will be done during the detailed design stage of the project.

Question/Request:

- a) Please indicate when the “detailed design stage” will occur;
- b) Is the “study” requested by Utilities Kingston a separate activity preceding the “mitigation work” to be done during design, and will there be a report indicating the results?;
- c) Has the information CREC requested of Utilities Kingston and required for the study been received by CREC?