



PUC (Transmission) LP and Hydro One Sault Ste. Marie

**Application for Leave to Construct Transmission Lines
and Station Facilities and Associated Approvals in the
City of Sault Ste. Marie**

DECISION ON ISSUES LIST

April 16, 2024

PUC (Transmission) LP (PUC Transmission) and Hydro One Sault Ste. Marie (HOSSM) applied to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on January 2, 2024 under sections 74, 78, 92 and 97 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, for various approvals to build high-voltage transmission facilities in Sault Ste. Marie.

On March 28, 2024, the OEB issued Procedural Order No. 1 that, among other things, made provision for parties to develop a proposed Issues List for the OEB's consideration.

OEB staff filed a proposed Issues List on April 12, 2024, and indicated that the parties had agreed on it. In addition, OEB staff's letter requested that the OEB waive the requirement under Rule 26.02(e)(ii) of the *Rules of Practice and Procedure* that interrogatories correspond to the issues list as parties may want to file interrogatories according to the exhibit numbers in the application.

Findings

The OEB has reviewed the proposed Issues List and approves it for the purposes of this proceeding. The OEB has also considered the request to file interrogatories according to exhibit numbers and approves that request as well for this proceeding.

The OEB may update the Issues List as necessary to further define the scope of the proceeding.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. The issues list attached as Schedule A is approved.

DATED at Toronto, **April 16, 2024**

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Nancy Marconi
Registrar

SCHEDULE A

APPROVED ISSUES LIST

PUC (TRANSMISSION) LP AND HYDRO ONE SAULT STE. MARIE

EB-2023-0360

APRIL 16, 2024

Approved Issues List

EB-2023-0360

PUC (Transmission) LP (PUC Transmission) and Hydro One Sault Ste. Marie (HOSSM)

Application for Leave to Construct and Related Matters

[Section 92 Leave to Construct Issues List]

1.0: Prices: Need for the Project

1.1: Has the application demonstrated that the project is needed or would be beneficial in the case of discretionary projects? What factor(s) are driving the need – e.g. new customer demand, increased system capacity requirement, reliability, sustainment, system resilience, etc.?

1.2: Is the project consistent with any relevant power system plan (e.g., regional plan)?

2.0: Prices: Project Alternatives

2.1: Has the application demonstrated that the proposed project is the preferred option to address the need, as opposed to implementing a different transmission solution, a distribution solution, a non-wires solution, or some other solution?

3.0: Prices: Project Cost

3.1: Has the application provided sufficient information to demonstrate that the estimates of the project cost are reasonable? Are comparable projects selected by the applicant (as required by the filing requirements) sufficient and appropriate proxies for the proposed project?

3.2: Has the application adequately identified and described any risks associated with the proposed project? Is the proposed contingency budget appropriate and consistent with these identified risks?

3.3: Has HOSSM adequately demonstrated that the eligibility criteria of Causation, Materiality, and Prudence have been met for the establishment of a new deferral account?

4.0: Prices: Customer Impacts

4.1: Has the application correctly determined the need for and the amount of any capital contributions that are required for the project?

4.2: Are the projected transmission rate impacts that will result from the project reasonable given the need(s) it satisfies and the benefit(s) it provides?

5.0: Reliability and Quality of Electricity Service

5.1: Has the application established that the project will maintain or improve reliability?

5.2: Has a final System Impact Assessment (SIA) been provided? Does the final SIA conclude that the project will not have a material adverse impact on the reliability of the integrated power system?

5.3: Has a final Customer Impact Assessment (CIA) been provided? Does the final CIA conclude that the project will not have an adverse impact on customers, with respect to reliability and quality of electricity service?

6.0: Route Map and Form of Landowner Agreements

6.1: Are any proposed forms of landowner agreements under section 97 of the OEB Act appropriate and consistent with OEB requirements?

6.2: Does the route map provided pursuant to section 94 of the OEB Act show the general location of the proposed project and the municipalities, highways, railways, utility lines and navigable waters through, under, over, upon or across which the proposed project is to pass.

7.0: Conditions of Approval

7.1: The OEB's standard conditions of approval are attached as Schedule 1. If the OEB approves the proposed project, what additional or revised conditions, if any, are appropriate?

8.0: Other

8.1: Is HOSSM's request for an exemption from section 11.2.1 of the Transmission System Code (TSC) which would require Algoma Steel Inc. to pay bypass compensation to HOSSM, appropriate?

Schedule 1:

**Standard Conditions of Approval for Electricity
Leave to Construct Applications**

1. [The Applicant] shall fulfill any requirements of the SIA and the CIA, and shall obtain all necessary approvals, permits, licences, certificates, agreements and rights required to construct, operate and maintain the project.
2. Unless otherwise ordered by the OEB, authorization for leave to construct shall terminate 12 months from the date of the Decision and Order, unless construction has commenced prior to that date.
3. [The Applicant] shall advise the OEB of any proposed material change in the project, including but not limited to changes in: the proposed route, construction schedule, necessary environmental assessment approvals, and all other approvals, permits, licences, certificates and rights required to construct the project.
4. [The Applicant] shall submit to the OEB written confirmation of the completion of the project construction. This written confirmation shall be provided within one month of the completion of construction.
5. [The Applicant] shall designate one of their employees as project manager who will be the point of contact for these conditions, and shall provide the employee's name and contact information to the OEB and to all affected landowners, and shall clearly post the project manager's contact information in a prominent place at the construction site.