



Ontario
Energy
Board

Commission
de l'énergie
de l'Ontario

DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS

EB-2023-0198

HYDRO ONE NETWORKS INC.

Leave to Construct Application - Waasigan Project

BEFORE: **Allison Duff**
 Presiding Commissioner

Emad Elsayed
Commissioner

Robert Dodds
Commissioner

June 11, 2024

OVERVIEW

Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) applied to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on July 31, 2023, under sections 92 and 97 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, for an order granting leave to construct approximately 360 kilometres of electricity transmission line and associated facilities in the regions of Thunder Bay, Rainy River and Kenora, Ontario (Project). The proposed electricity transmission line would extend between the Lakehead Transformer Station and the Mackenzie Transformer Station, and between the Mackenzie Transformer Station and the Dryden Transformer Station. Hydro One states that the Project is required to increase long-term transmission capacity in northwest Ontario.

The OEB granted Gwayakocchigewin Limited Partnership (GLP), Kurt Krause, Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation (LDMLFN), Larry Richard, Neighbours on the Line (NOTL), Northwestern Ontario Metis Community and Region 2 of the Metis Nation of Ontario (MNO) intervenor status and cost award eligibility.

On April 16, 2024, the OEB issued its Decision and Order in which it set out the process for cost claims. On May 3, 2024, the OEB issued a letter revising the deadline for filing the cost claims after MNO requested an extension.

The OEB received cost claims from GLP, LDMLFN and MNO. No objections to the cost claims were received from Hydro One.

The OEB did not receive cost claims from Kurt Krause, Larry Richard, or NOTL.

Findings

The OEB has reviewed the claims filed to ensure that they are compliant with the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

The OEB finds that the cost claims filed by LDMLFN and MNO are reasonable and shall be reimbursed by Hydro One.

The OEB finds that the cost claim from GLP has not been justified. GLP's contribution to this proceeding was very limited. GLP did not file interrogatories to Hydro One, nor make a submission regarding its position on this application. The OEB finds that the 86.8 hours claimed by GLP, mostly in the areas of "read & research", "interrogatory review", "submission", and "other attendance" to be unsupported. Four individuals submitted claims on behalf of GLP, each at different hourly rates. Using an average of \$250 per hour, the OEB denies 40 hours. Based on these reasons, GLP's cost award is

reduced to \$10,669.46. This reduction includes a minor reduction of \$389.85 resulting from ineligible office and administration expenses.

Pursuant to section 3.08 of the [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#), the OEB may, in appropriate circumstances, award an honorarium in such amount as it determines appropriate recognizing individual efforts in preparing and presenting an intervention, submission or written comments. The OEB is awarding an honorarium of \$2,000.00 to each of Kurt Krause, Larry Richard, and NOTL for their contribution to the proceeding.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, Hydro One shall immediately pay the following amounts to the intervenors for their costs:

| | |
|---|-------------|
| • Gwayakocchigewin Limited Partnership | \$10,669.46 |
| • Kurt Krause | \$2,000.00 |
| • Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation | \$4,727.00 |
| • Larry Richard | \$2,000.00 |
| • Neighbours on the Line | \$2,000.00 |
| • Northwestern Ontario Metis Community and Region 2 of the Metis Nation of Ontario | \$23,063.30 |

DATED at Toronto June 11, 2024

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Nancy Marconi
Registrar