

DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS

EB-2023-0360

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

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

BEFORE: Fred Cass Presiding Commissioner

> Emad Elsayed Commissioner

Patrick Moran Commissioner

October 28, 2024

OVERVIEW

PUC (Transmission) LP (PUC Transmission) and Hydro One Sault Ste. Marie LP (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. Batchewana First Nation (BFN) and Essar Power Canada Limited (EPC) were granted intervenor status. BFN was granted cost eligibility.

On August 27, 2024, the OEB issued a Decision and Order which, among other things, outlined the process for cost awards. BFN was required to file its cost claim by September 10, 2024.

BFN submitted its cost claim to the OEB on September 19, 2024, after experiencing delays caused by scheduling and filing issues with the OEB's cost claim portal.

Procedural Order No. 4, issued on September 20, 2024, extended the deadlines for PUC Transmission and HOSSM to file objections to BFN's cost claim and for BFN to respond to any objections.

On September 27, 2024, PUC Transmission filed a letter indicating no objections to BFN's cost claim.

Findings

The OEB has reviewed the claim to ensure compliance with its <u>*Practice Direction on*</u> <u>*Cost Awards*</u>.

The OEB finds that the cost claim is reasonable and shall be reimbursed by PUC Transmission and HOSSM. In the absence of any agreement to the contrary between the applicants, each applicant shall be responsible for one-half of the costs.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

 Pursuant to section 30 of the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, PUC Transmission and HOSSM shall each immediately pay BFN \$4,412 for BFN's costs. DATED at Toronto October 28, 2024

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Nancy Marconi Registrar