



Ontario
Energy
Board | Commission
de l'énergie
de l'Ontario

DECISION AND ORDER

EB-2024-0353

HYDRO ONE REMOTE COMMUNITIES INC.

Application for an Electricity Distribution Licence Amendment

BY DELEGATION, BEFORE: Brian Hewson
Vice President
Consumer Protection & Industry Performance

February 6, 2025

DECISION AND ORDER

Hydro One Remote Communities Inc. (HORCI) filed an application on December 12, 2024, with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) pursuant to section 74 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (OEB Act) to amend Schedule 1 of its electricity distribution licence, ED-2003-0037, to include North Spirit Lake First Nation.

This Decision and Order is being issued by the Delegated Authority pursuant to section 6 of the OEB Act. The Delegated Authority has considered the application without holding a hearing pursuant to section 6(4) of the OEB Act.

As set out in O. Reg. 199/02 (Hydro One Inc.), made under the Electricity Act, 1998, HORCI requires a service area amendment to its electricity distribution licence to include North Spirit Lake First Nation before it can provide the community with service.¹

On January 29, 2025, HORCI informed the OEB that North Spirit Lake First Nation has been connected to the Independent Electricity System Operator-controlled grid by way of Wataynikaneyap Power GP. Upon being authorized by the OEB to serve North Spirit Lake First Nation, HORCI will also be able to provide residents of the community with Rural and Remote rate Protection funding, in accordance with O. Reg. 442/01 (Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection), made under the OEB Act.²

The OEB grants the application to amend HORCI's electricity distribution licence to include the community of North Spirit Lake First Nation within its licensed service area.

¹ Section 1. (2) of O. Reg. 199/02 provides that Hydro One Inc. shall not, directly or through a subsidiary, own or operate generation facilities and distribution systems in and shall not distribute electricity within North Spirit Lake First Nation unless, after the OEB has received an application for a licence amendment from HORCI, the OEB has issued an order amending the licence to include that community within its service area.

² Section 2.3.1 of O. Reg. 442/01 provides that once the OEB has issued an order amending HORCI's licence to include North Spirit Lake First Nation within its service area, HORCI will be authorized to provide consumers who occupy residential premises in the community with rate protection under section 79 of the OEB Act, as it is one of the remote communities named in Schedule 3 of the regulation.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. Hydro One Remote Communities Inc.'s electricity distribution licence ED-2003-0037, specifically Schedule 1 of the licence, shall be amended to include North Spirit Lake First Nation.

DATED at Toronto February 6, 2025

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Brian Hewson
Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance