

May 16, 2025

VIA EMAIL AND PORTAL

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File 04327.00018

Nancy Marconi Ontario Energy Board 2300 Yonge Street, 27th floor P.O. Box 2319 Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Marconi:

Re: Hydro One Networks Inc. Application for Expropriation Near City of Port Colborne (EB-2024-0142)

The Corporation of the City of Port Colborne

Letter of Comment

We represent the Corporation of the City of Port Colborne (the "City") in the above-noted matter. The City is filing this letter of comment as it has an interest in the lands that Hydro One Networks Inc. ("HONI") proposes to expropriate. The City intends to follow this proceeding and requests that the OEB include Gary Long (Gary.Long@portcolborne.ca) and me (asinclair@weirfoulds.com) on the distribution list for all filings related to the proceeding.

As a result of certain agreements registered on title, the City has an "apparent interest" and is a "registered owner" of a portion of the subject lands within the meaning of section 99(3) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act* and section 1(1) of the *Expropriations Act*, respectively.

The City supports HONI's application to expropriate the identified property interests. Adequate supply of electricity is essential to support anticipated demand from new residential, commercial and industrial growth in the City and surrounding area. Likewise a safe and reliable electricity supply is required for economic development.

The City, along with Niagara Region, the provincial and federal governments provided significant tax and financial incentives to attract Asahi Kasei Battery Separator Canada Corporation ("Asahi Kasei"), which now owns part of the lands HONI proposes to expropriate and is making significant investments to develop a lithium-ion battery separator manufacturing facility. The continued operation and maintenance of existing HONI's transmission infrastructure is vital to development projects and manufacturing like that planned by Asahi Kasei and in turn to create jobs and economic activity that is in the public interest.

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Please do not hesitate to contact me if any further information is required.

Yours truly,

WeirFoulds LLP

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