

EB-2025-0093

Hydro One Networks Inc.

Application for approval to expropriate interests in lands in St. Clair Township and the Municipality of Chatham-Kent in Ontario

PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 2 June 10, 2025

On April 4, 2025, Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) applied to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) under section 99 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998, S.O. 1998, c. 15, (Schedule B) (OEB Act), for an order granting approval to expropriate certain interests in lands in St. Clair Township and the Municipality of Chatham-Kent. Hydro One stated that the authorization is needed to facilitate the construction and operation of a new 230-kilovolt double-circuit electricity transmission line (Project). The OEB granted Hydro One leave to construct the Project in an earlier proceeding. The anticipated in-service date for the Project is December 2028.

On April 22, 2025, Hydro One filed an updated application that removed 16 properties for which it no longer requires expropriation relief due to the closing of voluntary agreements since the original date of filing the original application.

The OEB issued a Notice of Hearing on April 23, 2025.² In accordance with the OEB's Letter of Direction, Hydro One served the Notice on affected property owners, registered interest holders, or their legal representatives.

On May 23, 2025, Hydro One filed an updated application that removed an additional 13 properties for which it no longer requires expropriation relief due to the closing of voluntary agreements since the original date of filing the original application.

The OEB issued Procedural Order No. 1 (PO1) on May 29, 2025,³ which set out a schedule for various steps in this proceeding. Among other items, PO1 noted that OEB staff would develop a draft Issues List and canvass parties for any unique issues that warrant revisions to the draft Issues List. If parties recommended and agreed to the

¹ EB-2024-0155 Decision and Order issued (December 10, 2024)

² EB-2025-0093 Notice of Hearing

³ EB-2025-0093 Procedural Order 1

revisions, OEB staff would file a revised draft Issues List with the OEB. Alternatively, OEB staff would advise the OEB in writing that the parties were unable to reach an agreement on a draft Issues List. PO1 also approved the intervention request of the Siskinds Firm Group (a group of landowners represented by the law firm of Siskinds LLP) that applied for intervenor status.

On June 3, 2025, OEB staff advised the OEB that the parties have been unable to reach agreement on a draft Issues List.

The OEB is therefore making provision for written submissions on the draft Issues List circulated by OEB staff. The draft issues proposed by OEB staff are as follows:

- 1. Is the proposed expropriation in the public interest?
- 2. Has Hydro One requested expropriation of the minimum amount of land needed for the project, and the minimum legal interest required for that land?
- 3. What conditions, if any, should be attached to the OEB's Order in this proceeding?

In proposing additional issues, parties should provide justification and give consideration to whether the item is already included under one of the proposed issues. Similarly, parties proposing to remove, change or limit the scope of an issue on the draft Issues List should provide justification.

It is necessary to make provision for the following matters related to this proceeding. Further procedural orders may be issued by the OEB.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. Hydro One and the Siskinds Firm Group may make submissions on the draft issues list appended as Schedule A to this Procedural Order and shall file any submissions with the OEB and deliver them to all parties no later than **June 13**, **2025**.

Parties are responsible for ensuring that any documents they file with the OEB, such as applicant and intervenor evidence, interrogatories and responses to interrogatories or any other type of document, **do not include personal information** (as that phrase is defined in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*), unless filed in accordance with rule 9A of the OEB's <u>Rules of Practice and Procedure</u>.

Please quote file number, **EB-2025-0093** for all materials filed and submit them in searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the <u>OEB's online</u> filing portal.

- Filings should clearly state the sender's name, postal address, telephone number and e-mail address.
- Please use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the <u>Regulatory Electronic Submission System (RESS)</u> <u>Document Guidelines</u> found at the <u>File documents online page</u> on the OEB's website.
- Parties are encouraged to use RESS. Those who have not yet <u>set up an account</u>, or require assistance using the online filing portal can contact registrar@oeb.ca for assistance.
- Cost claims are filed through the OEB's online filing portal. Please visit the <u>File</u> documents online page of the OEB's website for more information. All participants shall download a copy of their submitted cost claim and serve it on all required parties as per the <u>Practice Direction on Cost Awards</u>.

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Registrar and be received by end of business, 4:45 p.m., on the required date.

With respect to distribution lists for all electronic correspondence and materials related to this proceeding, parties must include the Case Manager, Abla Nur at Abla.Nur@oeb.ca and OEB Counsel, Ljuba Djurdjevic at Ljuba.Djurdjevic@oeb.ca.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca

Tel: 1-877-632-2727 (Toll free)

DATED at Toronto, June 10, 2025

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Ritchie Murray Acting Registrar

ISSUES LIST

PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 2

HYDRO ONE NETWORKS INC.

EB-2025-0093

DATED: JUNE 10, 2025

Proposed Issues List EB-2025-0093

Hydro One Networks Inc.

St. Clair Project - Application for Expropriation

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- 2. Has Hydro One requested expropriation of the minimum amount of land needed for the project, and the minimum legal interest required for that land?
- 3. What conditions, if any, should be attached to the OEB's Order in this proceeding?