



Hydro One Networks Inc.

**Application for approval to expropriate certain lands in
northwestern Ontario**

PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 1

June 24, 2025

BEFORE:

Patrick Moran
Presiding Commissioner

Robert Dodds
Commissioner

Shahrzad Rahbar
Commissioner

On April 24, 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 interests in certain lands between the Town of Atikokan and the Town of Dryden in Ontario that are needed to facilitate the second phase of an electricity transmission project (Project).

The Project consists of two phases. Phase 1 consists of constructing a new 230 kilovolt (kV) double-circuit transmission line between Lakehead Transformer Station (TS) and Mackenzie TS. Phase 2 consists of constructing a new 230 kV single-circuit transmission line spanning approximately 170 km from the existing Mackenzie TS to the existing Dryden TS. The OEB granted Hydro One leave to construct and operate the Project (Leave to Construct Decision).¹ The anticipated in-service date for Phase 1 is December 2025, while Phase 2 is expected to be in-service by December 2027.

The OEB granted Hydro One authority to expropriate permanent corridor easements on 13 parcels of land related to Phase 1 of the project.² Phase 2 of the Project impacts approximately 78 private properties and 59 landowners along the route. As of April 24, 2025 (the date of original filing of the application), Hydro One required permanent easements over 16 privately held properties.

On May 22, 2025, Hydro One filed an updated application which removed four properties for which it no longer requires expropriation relief due to the signing of

¹ EB-2023-0198, Decision and Order, issued April 16, 2024

² EB-2023-0319, Decision and Order, issued June 10, 2025

several voluntary agreements since the original filing of the application. In a letter filed on June 5, 2025, Hydro One noted that it continued to prioritize voluntary land acquisition and had successfully reached agreements with two additional landowners and will no longer seek expropriation authority over these two properties.

The OEB issued a Notice of Hearing on May 20, 2025.³ 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. The OEB did not receive any intervention requests.

Regulatory Framework

Under section 99 of the OEB Act, any person who has received leave to construct approval from the OEB may apply for expropriation where they have been unable to reach an agreement with an affected landowner and the OEB can authorize the expropriation of land if it is in the public interest.

As part of the Leave to Construct Decision, the OEB approved the form of landowner agreements that Hydro One has offered or will offer to landowners affected by the routing and construction of the Project (collectively the Landowner Agreements).

The OEB does not, in the context of an expropriation application, determine the specific compensation, the principles that are applied to determine compensation, the process through which those principles were developed, the application of those principles in determining compensation, or the reasonableness of compensation offers.⁴

Section 100 of the OEB Act provides that, if the applicant and affected landowners cannot agree on compensation for expropriation, the compensation is determined by the Ontario Land Tribunal under the *Expropriations Act*.

Issues List

In the letter filed on June 5, 2025, Hydro One filed a proposed Issues List. Hydro One proposed to adopt the same Issues List that was approved by the OEB in the Phase 1 expropriation proceeding⁵ for the Project.

³ [EB-2025-0130](#), Notice of Hearing

⁴ [OEB Filing Requirements for Electricity Transmission Applications, Chapter 4: Leave to Construct and Related Matters under Part VI of the Ontario Energy Board Act, updated March 16, 2023](#)

⁵ EB-2024-0319

Interrogatories and Submissions

At this time, provision is being made for written interrogatories and submissions.

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

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. OEB staff shall file a written submission on Hydro One's proposed Issues List and serve it on Hydro One by **June 26, 2025**.
2. OEB staff shall request any relevant information and documentation from Hydro One that is in addition to the evidence already filed, by written interrogatories filed with the OEB and served on Hydro One by **July 10, 2025**.
3. Hydro One shall file with the OEB complete written responses to all interrogatories and serve them on OEB staff by **July 22, 2025**.
4. Any written submissions from OEB staff, shall be filed with the OEB and served on Hydro One by **August 1, 2025**.
5. Any written reply submissions from Hydro One shall be filed with the OEB and served on OEB staff by **August 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 [Rules of Practice and Procedure](#).

Please quote file number, **EB-2025-0130** for all materials filed and submit them in searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the [OEB's online 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 [Regulatory Electronic Submission System \(RESS\) Document Guidelines](#) found at the [File documents online page](#) on the OEB's website.

- Parties are encouraged to use RESS. Those who have not yet [set up an account](#), 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 [File 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 [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#).

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, Katherine Wang at Katherine.Wang@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 24, 2025**

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

By delegation, before: Ritchie Murray

Ritchie Murray
Acting Registrar