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**BY E-MAIL**

July 10, 2025

Ritchie Murray  
Acting Registrar  
Ontario Energy Board  
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor  
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Mr. Murray:

**Re: Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) – Waasigan Project Phase 2  
Expropriation Application  
OEB File No. EB-2025-0130  
OEB Staff Interrogatories to Applicant**

In accordance with Procedural Order No. 1, please find attached the OEB staff interrogatories for the above proceeding. The applicant and intervenors have been copied on this filing.

Hydro One's responses to interrogatories are due by July 22, 2025.

Any questions relating to this letter should be directed to Katherine Wang at [Katherine.Wang@oeb.ca](mailto:Katherine.Wang@oeb.ca) or at 416-440-7619.

Yours truly,

Katherine Wang  
Senior Advisor, Generation & Transmission

**Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One)**

**Waasigan Project Phase 2 Expropriation Application  
EB-2025-0130**

**OEB STAFF INTERROGATORIES**

Please note, Hydro One is responsible for ensuring that all documents it files with the OEB, including responses to OEB staff questions and any other supporting documentation, 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*.

**Staff-1**

**Reference 1:** EB-2025-0130, Updated Application filed on May 22, 2025, Exhibit A, Tab 1, Schedule 1

**Reference 2:** EB-2023-0198, Decision and Order, Leave to Construct – Waasigan Project, Schedule B: Standard Conditions of Approval for Electricity Leave to Construct Applications

**Questions**

- a) Please confirm whether Hydro One has currently fulfilled all conditions of approval listed in Reference 2, including obtaining “all necessary approvals, permits, licences, certificates, agreements and rights required to construct, operate and maintain the project.” If any conditions have not been fulfilled, please explain why, explain how Hydro One plans to fulfill them, and provide an estimate of the date Hydro One expects to fulfill them.
- b) In Reference 1, Hydro One noted that the anticipated in-service date for Phase 2 of the Project is expected by December 2027, and Hydro One needs to maximize construction activities (such as line clearing and forestry) during the optimal seasonal periods that include Q3/Q4 2025. Hydro One also noted that approval (of this application) prior to September 2025 aligns with current scheduling of the project activities.

What is Hydro One's current planned start date for construction of Phase 2 of the Project? Please provide a high-level current schedule of the construction activities for Phase 2 of the Project. If such an estimate is not available, please explain why.

- c) Based on information provided in Hydro One's response to part b) of this question, is

there any update to the timing of a decision on this application that Hydro One requires? Please discuss Hydro One's view regarding how this timing of a decision would impact project activities.

## **Staff-2**

**Reference 1:** EB-2025-0130, Updated Application filed on May 22, 2025, Exhibit A, Tab 1, Schedule 1

**Reference 2:** EB-2025-0130, Hydro One's Letter dated June 5, Exhibit A – Revised Appendix 4 of the Application: Description of Lands and Specific Interests in Lands

## **Preamble**

At Reference 1, Hydro One stated that it “notified all directly affected landowners impacted by the Project of its intention to present offers to voluntarily acquire required land interests required for the Project.” Hydro One stated that “all voluntary offers presented to landowners were consistent with Hydro One's Waasigan Project Land Acquisition Compensation Principles”.

In the letter noted in Reference 2, Hydro One stated that it had reached voluntary land acquisition agreements with two additional landowners and provided a revised Appendix 4 Table (Description of Lands and Specific Interests in Lands) to reflect the change. Hydro One also noted that it “continues to prioritize voluntary land acquisition”.

## **Questions**

- a) Please provide an update on negotiations with the registered landowners of the subject properties. Hydro One may use the same format as Appendix 4 Table (and insert any necessary columns of information) to reflect the current status of Hydro One's efforts to acquire Phase 2 land rights.

For each of the subject properties listed in the updated Appendix 4 Table (as required above), please provide a complete description of communication and negotiations between Hydro One and the landowners from the start, including a record of communication dates and form (i.e. phone call, personal visit, e-mail), a brief description of the nature and content of the information exchanges with the landowners, outcomes of communication and planned follow-ups.

- b) At Reference 1, Hydro One stated that Phase 2 of the Project impacts approximately 78 private properties (and 59 unique landowners) along the route, and as of May 22, 2025, discussions were continuing with the landowners of 12 privately held properties that Hydro One requires permanent easements over – and this number was further reduced to 10 properties based on information provided in Reference 2. The difference between the total 78 impacted private properties and the 10 remaining subject private properties is 68. Please confirm that Hydro One has reached voluntary land acquisition agreements with landowners of the 68 private properties. If not, please provide explanations.

### **Staff-3**

**Reference 1:** EB-2025-0130, Updated Application filed on May 22, 2025, Exhibit A, Tab 1, Schedule 1

**Reference 2:** EB-2025-0130, Hydro One's Letter dated June 5, Exhibit A – Revised Appendix 4 of the Application: Description of Lands and Specific Interests in Lands

**Reference 3:** EB-2025-0130, Updated Application filed on May 22, 2025, Appendix 5: Reference Plans

**Reference 4:** EB-2024-0319, Updated Application filed on December 5, 2024, Appendix 5: Ortho-rectified Aerial Maps and Draft Reference Plans

### **Preamble**

At Reference 1, Hydro One stated that new permanent easement interests in land are required for the construction and ongoing operation of Phase 2 of the Project. To accommodate the overhead transmission line and supporting structures, new permanent easements will be up to 46 metres in width.

### **Questions**

- a) For each of the properties identified in Reference 2, please explain the criteria and standards that Hydro One applied to determine the size of the Right-of-Way.
- b) On what basis does Hydro One establish that it seeks the minimum amount of land rights necessary to implement the transmission project?
- c) For each of the properties identified in Reference 2, please provide the aerial maps (similar to how the maps were prepared and provided in Reference 4).

### **Staff-4**

**Reference 1:** EB-2025-0130, Updated Application filed on May 22, 2025, Exhibit A, Tab 1, Schedule 1

**Reference 2:** Ontario Energy Board Act, s.23

**Reference 3:** EB-2024-0319, Decision and Order issued on June 10, 2025, Schedule B: Conditions of Approval

### **Preamble**

Hydro One applied for an order granting it the authorization to expropriate certain rights for certain lands pursuant to section 99 of the OEB Act. Reference 2 permits the OEB, when making an order, to "impose such conditions as it considers proper".

### **Questions**

- a) As required in condition #6 of the Conditions of Approval that were established in the Waasigan Phase 1 Expropriation proceeding (EB-2024-0319) (Reference 3), Hydro One filed a summary of general record keeping requirements for project lands on June 27, 2025. Please provide a summary of general record keeping requirements for the Waasigan Phase 2 project lands. If this cannot be provided, please explain why.
- b) OEB staff proposes to adopt the same Conditions of Approval that were established by the OEB in the Decision and Order for the Waasigan Phase 1 Expropriation application (EB-2024-0319). Please note that condition #6 is only applicable when the summary of general record keeping requirements has not been provided in Hydro One's response to part a) of this question. Therefore, OEB staff has prepared the following draft Conditions of Approval. If Hydro One does not agree to any of the draft conditions of approval noted below, please identify the specific conditions that Hydro One disagrees with and explain why. For conditions in respect of which Hydro One would like to recommend changes, please provide the proposed changes and explanation of the changes.

**Phase 2 of Waasigan Project – Expropriation  
Application**

**Section 99 Order Granting Authority to  
Expropriate Interests in Certain Lands**

**DRAFT CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL**

1. Hydro One shall notify the OEB in writing in the event that, after this Decision and Order has been issued, a negotiated settlement is reached and expropriation is no longer necessary. This notice shall be filed with the OEB within ten days of the settlement.
2. Hydro One shall use all reasonable efforts to provide oral and written notice to the landowners a minimum of 48 hours prior to the initial entry onto the land.
3. Hydro One will reasonably attempt to accommodate landowner or tenant property operations when Project construction activities take place, subject to the Project's health, safety and security policies and procedures and the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.
4. Hydro One or its agents will consult with the landowner in advance of entry as to the manner in which existing gates / fences / entryways are to be managed while entering property. In the event the landowner cannot be contacted, Hydro One shall ensure that gates / fences / entryways used by Hydro One personnel or its agents are left as found.
5. Upon providing Hydro One with reasonable prior notice, the landowner(s) and tenant(s) can be present to observe the transmission facilities' construction and associated activities subject to the Project's health, safety and security policies and procedures and the Occupational Health and Safety Act.
6. No later than [14 days after the issuance of this Decision and Order], Hydro One shall file a summary of the general record keeping requirements it will implement for all project lands, ensuring that the requirements are consistent for land interests acquired through both voluntary agreements and expropriation, excluding any special record keeping requirements that may have been agreed to in an individual agreement. [Note: This condition is to be deleted when Hydro One provides the summary of general record keeping requirements for project lands in its response to part a) of this interrogatory.]
7. Hydro One shall designate one of its employees as project manager who will be responsible for the fulfillment of these conditions, and shall provide the employee's name and contact information to the OEB and to the landowners and tenants, and shall ensure that this information is clearly posted on Hydro One's construction site office. The project manager will be responsible for the fulfilment of the conditions of

approval on the site.

8. Hydro One shall furnish the OEB's designated representative with all reasonable assistance for ascertaining whether Hydro One has complied with these conditions of approval.