

DECISION AND ORDER

EB-2025-0193

PUC (TRANSMISSION) LP BY ITS GENERAL PARTNER PUC (TRANSMISSION) GP INC.

Application for the approval of security deposit procedure

BY DELEGATION,

BEFORE: Brian Hewson

Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance

August 19, 2025

INTRODUCTION

On June 9, 2025, PUC (Transmission) LP by its general partner PUC Transmission GP Inc. (PUC Transmission) filed a request for approval of a security deposit procedure in accordance with the provisions of the Transmission System Code (TSC), including section 6.3.11. On July 24, 2025, PUC Transmission submitted a revised version of its security deposit procedure in response to a request for clarification by OEB staff.

This Decision and Order is being issued by the Delegated Authority without a hearing pursuant to section 6 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998.

THE APPLICATION

PUC (Transmission) holds an electricity transmission licence (<u>ET-2021-0088</u>) issued on April 10, 2025, for the purpose of owning and operating a transmission system consisting of the facilities described in Schedule 1 of its electricity transmission licence.

Section 6.1.3 of the TSC requires a transmitter to have OEB-approved connection procedures for processing requests to connect to its transmission system. PUC Transmission does not currently have OEB-approved connection procedures. Schedule 2 of PUC Transmission's transmission licence includes a temporary exemption as follows:

"The Licensee is exempt from section 6.1.3 of the Transmission System Code as per the Board's Decision and Order in EB-2025-0094. This exemption expires on December 31, 2025 or on the date that the Board approves the Licensee's Transmission Connection Procedures, whichever is earlier."

Section 6.3.10 of the TSC requires a transmitter to collect a reasonable security deposit from its customer for construction of new or modified network or connection facilities as a result of a connection application from that customer. It then refers to section 6.3.11 of the TSC which requires a transmitter to establish a security deposit procedure in its connection procedures according to the stated requirements.

In its Leave to Construct granted by the OEB, PUC Transmission allocated the costs of a network facility investment to its customer, Algoma Steel Inc, pursuant to section 6.3.5 of the TSC¹. However, in the absence of an OEB-approved security deposit procedure,

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¹ EB-2023-0360, <u>Decision and Order</u>, August 27, 2024. p.15-17

PUC Transmission is unable to collect a reasonable security deposit from its customer as required in section 6.3.10 of the TSC.

Accordingly, PUC Transmission filed a standalone security deposit procedure for approval under its transmission licence. The security deposit procedure is intended to enable PUC Transmission to collect security deposits from connection applicants to mitigate financial risk during the construction of new or modified transmission facilities. The security deposit procedure is comprehensive and includes protocols that are required in section 6.3.11 of the TSC. PUC Transmission states that the security deposit procedure is in accordance with the provisions of the TSC, including section 6.3.11. PUC Transmission noted in the application that:

"Approving the Security Deposit Procedure at this stage will streamline the OEB's future review of PUC Transmission full set of transmission connection procedures in accordance with Section 2 of the Transmission Licence. It removes an outstanding issue now, allowing for a more efficient and focused consideration of the remaining elements later."

DECISION

The OEB approves the security deposit procedure as filed by PUC Transmission. The OEB notes that PUC Transmission's proposed security deposit procedure is largely similar, in terms of document format and substance, to that of Hydro One Networks Inc.'s OEB-approved version². In the past, the OEB has allowed transmitters to have connection procedures that are substantively similar and noted in its Decision on May 6, 2025, regarding Upper Canada Transmission 2, Inc.'s connection procedures that³:

"The OEB finds ... it appropriate and efficient for transmitters to have connection procedures that are substantively similar, as it may reduce potential barriers for connecting customers."

The OEB finds it to be consistent with the requirements of the TSC, including section 6.3.11. The OEB expects PUC Transmission to ensure that its security deposit procedure remains compliant with all future amendments to the TSC.

² Hydro One Transmission Connection Procedures, revised November 18, 2015; p. 18-25

³ EB-2024-0231; Decision and Order dated May 6, 2025; p. 1

The OEB reminds PUC Transmission that its security deposit procedure, as approved, must be posted on its website as required by section 6.1.3 of the TSC.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The document entitled "Security Deposit Procedure" filed by PUC Transmission on July 24, 2025, is approved.

DATED at Toronto, August 19, 2025

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Brian Hewson Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance