



Hydro One Networks Inc.

**Application for leave to construct a new electricity
transmission line between the Longwood Transformer
Station and the Lakeshore Transformer Station in
southwestern Ontario**

PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 1

July 23, 2026

Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One Networks) applied to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on May 19, 2026, under sections 92 and 97 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (OEB Act), for an order granting leave to construct approximately 117 kilometres of electricity transmission line and associated facilities in Southwestern Ontario. The proposed electricity transmission line will connect the Longwood Transformer Station and the Lakeshore Transformer Station (Project). This transmission line has been designated as a priority project under section 96.1 of the OEB Act by [Order in Council 876/2022](#).

Hydro One Networks has also applied to the OEB for approval of the form of land-use agreements it offers to landowners for the routing and construction of the project.

The application will be heard by Commissioners: Allison Duff (presiding), Julia McNally, and James Sidlofsky.

A Notice of Hearing was issued on June 9, 2026.

Requests for Intervenor Status and Cost Eligibility

Each of the Corporation of the County of Middlesex (County of Middlesex), the Corporation of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex (Municipality of Southwest Middlesex), Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas), Janice and Lonnie Little (represented by Michael Nemanic Law), and The Ross Firm Group (RFG) applied for intervenor status.

The County of Middlesex, the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex, Janice and Lonnie Little (represented by Michael Nemanic Law), and RFG also applied for cost eligibility.

Hydro One Networks advised that it accepted the registered intervenors, but it had comments on the RFG intervention and cost eligibility requests. Hydro One noted that it appears that only 86 clients of the 94 identified in the RFG requests are impacted

landowners and/or encumbrancers with respect to the relief sought in Hydro One's application. Hydro One submitted that any determination of status and cost eligibility should be limited to those parties directly affected by the Project as noted in the application.

The County of Middlesex, the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex, Enbridge Gas, Janice and Lonnie Little (represented by Michael Nemanic Law), and RFG are approved as intervenors. The list of parties in this proceeding is attached as Schedule A to this Procedural Order.

Janice and Lonnie Little (represented by Michael Nemanic Law) and RFG are eligible to apply for an award of costs under the OEB's [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#). The County of Middlesex and the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex are not eligible for an award of costs under section 3.05(h) of the OEB's Practice Direction on Cost Awards.

Cost eligible intervenors should be aware that the OEB will not generally allow the recovery of costs for the attendance of more than one representative of any party unless a compelling reason is provided when cost claims are filed.

The OEB has considered Hydro One's comments regarding the RFG requests. The OEB will not exclude individual RFG members at this time. However, the OEB reminds all parties that it expects their participation to address only matters that are relevant, material and within the scope of the proceeding, as defined by the issues list (discussed below). Moreover, consistent with the OEB's Practice Direction on Cost Awards, in determining the amount of a cost award, the OEB considers whether the cost eligible party has demonstrated it has made reasonable efforts to: (a) combine its intervention with that of one or more similarly interested parties and to co-operate with all other parties, and (b) ensure that its participation was not unduly repetitive and was focused on relevant and material issues.

Being eligible to apply for recovery of costs is not a guarantee of recovery of any costs claimed. Cost awards are made by way of OEB order at the end of a hearing.

Issues List

The OEB has established a standard issues list for transmission Leave to Construct applications. The standard issues list is intended to ensure that the OEB's review is focused and aligned with its mandate.

The OEB will use the standard issues list excluding the standard issues relating to need and the consideration of alternatives (see Schedule B). This is because, by an Order in Council (OIC) dated March 31, 2022, the Lieutenant Governor in Council declared the Project as a priority project under section 96.1 of the OEB Act. In accordance with

section 96.1(2) of the OEB Act, the OEB accepts that construction of the Project is needed. Further, it is a condition of Hydro One Networks' electricity transmission licence to develop and seek approvals related to the Project and that development of the Project accord with the project scope and timing recommended by the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO).

Issues related to the Environmental Assessment process and the Duty to Consult are not reviewed by the OEB unless they are relevant to the interests of consumers with respect to price, reliability, and quality of service.

Interrogatories

Provision is being made for written interrogatories. Parties should not engage in detailed exploration of items that do not appear to be material. In making its decision on cost awards, the OEB will consider whether intervenors made reasonable efforts to ensure that their participation in the hearing was focused on material issues.

Parties should consult sections 26 and 27 of the OEB's [Rules of Practice and Procedure](#) regarding required naming and numbering conventions and other matters related to interrogatories.

Limits on Interrogatories and Submissions

The OEB may impose a limit on the number of interrogatories (or sub-parts of interrogatories) that may be filed by a party or on the length of a submission. If the OEB imposes limits, details will be provided through future Procedural Orders as may the consequences for failure to adhere to the limits.

Hearing Type

Hydro One Networks has requested a written hearing for the proceeding. No objection was received from the Intervenors. The OEB will make its determination on the type of hearing later.

The OEB is making provision for the following related to this proceeding. Further procedural orders may be issued by the OEB.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. Intervenors and OEB staff shall request any relevant information and documentation from Hydro One Networks that is in addition to the evidence already filed, by written interrogatories filed with the OEB and served on all parties by **August 6, 2026**.

2. Hydro One Networks shall file with the OEB complete written responses to all interrogatories and serve them on all parties by **August 20, 2026**.

Direction for preparing materials

- 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](#).
- Filings should clearly state the filing date and the sender's name, postal address, telephone number and e-mail address.
- Other than for applications or as otherwise required or directed by the OEB, parties are not required to submit a cover letter for materials that are self-evident (e.g., interrogatories, submissions) unless the cover letter includes a request or additional information not included in the materials themselves.
- Parties are strongly encouraged to use bookmarks in their filings to aid in navigation.
- Parties should not append to their evidence entire OEB documents (e.g., decisions, policy documents, guidelines). Rather, parties should provide citations to the documents and a clear and concise summary of the relevant part(s) of the document. Parties are encouraged to use hyperlinks for complete, permanent, and publicly available versions of the documents, when possible.
- Parties should refrain from quoting material from documents unless it is essential to support their interrogatories or arguments.
- Parties are not required to provide a summary of the procedural history of a proceeding but may refer to that history where and to the extent needed for context to orient an issue or discussion.
- Parties must: (a) disclose where generative artificial intelligence was used to generate content included in a filing, and (b) confirm that the accuracy of the portion of the filing generated by generative artificial intelligence has been verified by the party or its representative without the assistance of generative artificial intelligence.

How to file documents with the OEB

- Parties are required to quote file number (i.e., **EB-2026-0128**) for all materials filed and submit them in **searchable/unrestricted PDF format** (i.e., no printing or copying restrictions) with a digital signature through the [OEB's online filing portal](#).

- Parties should 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. Parties are encouraged to visit the [File documents online page](#) of the OEB's website for more information. Parties that are eligible for a cost award and that do not currently have an account in the cost claim portal should create an account as soon as their cost award eligibility has been confirmed by the OEB. All parties shall download a copy of their submitted cost claim for the purposes of service on the party(ies) paying cost awards as per the OEB's [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#).
- All communications should be directed to the attention of the Registrar and be received by **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, Harout Manougian at Harout.Manougian@oeb.ca and OEB Counsel, Faye Kidman at Faye.Kidman@oeb.ca.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca

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

DATED at Toronto, **July 23, 2026**

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Ritchie Murray
Registrar

Schedule A

Hydro One Networks Inc.

EB-2026-0128

Applicant and List of Intervenors

July 23, 2026

Hydro One Networks Inc.
EB-2026-0128

APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS

July 23, 2026

APPLICANT	Rep. and Contact Information for Service
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APPLICANT COUNSEL	Gordon Nettleton Partner McCarthy Tétrault LLP Tel: 416-601-7509 gnettleton@mccarthy.ca Ljuba Djurdjevic Counsel McCarthy Tétrault LLP Tel: 416-601-8852 ldjurdjevic@mccarthy.ca Laura Brazil Assistant General Counsel Hydro One Networks Inc. Tel: 416-345-5913 laura.brazil@hydroone.com
INTERVENORS	Rep. and Contact Information for Service

Hydro One Networks Inc.
EB-2026-0128

APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS

July 23, 2026

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APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS

July 23, 2026

**The Corporation of the
Municipality of Southwest
Middlesex**

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**The Ross Firm Professional
Corporation**

Quinn Ross

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Schedule B

Hydro One Networks Inc.

EB-2026-0128

Issues List

July 23, 2026

Schedule B:

Issues List

1.0: Prices: Project Cost

- 1.1:** Has the applicant provided sufficient information to demonstrate that the estimates of the project cost are reasonable? Are comparable projects selected by the applicant (as required by the filing requirements) sufficient and appropriate proxies for the proposed project?
- 1.2:** Has the applicant adequately identified and described any risks associated with the proposed project? Is the proposed contingency budget appropriate and consistent with these identified risks?
- 1.3:** If the applicant has requested that deferral accounts be established, has the applicant adequately demonstrated that the eligibility criteria of Causation, Materiality, and Prudence have been met?

2.0: Prices: Customer Impacts

- 2.1:** Has the applicant correctly determined the need for and the amount of any capital contributions that are required for the project?
- 2.2:** Are the projected transmission rate impacts that will result from the project reasonable given the need(s) it satisfies and the benefit(s) it provides?

3.0: Reliability and Quality of Electricity Service

- 3.1:** Has the applicant established that the project will maintain or improve reliability?
- 3.2:** Has the applicant provided a final System Impact Assessment (SIA)? Does the final SIA conclude that the project will not have a material adverse impact on the reliability of the integrated power system?
- 3.3:** Has the applicant provided a final Customer Impact Assessment (CIA)? Does the final CIA conclude that the project will not have an adverse impact on customers, with respect to reliability and quality of electricity service?

4.0: Economic Growth

- 4.1:** Where the applicant claims that a proposed project will support economic growth in a manner consistent with the policies of the Government of Ontario, has the applicant substantiated this claim?

5.0: Route Map and Form of Landowner Agreements

- 5.1:** Are any proposed forms of landowner agreements under section 97 of the OEB Act appropriate and consistent with OEB requirements?
- 5.2:** Does the route map provided pursuant to section 94 of the OEB Act show the general location of the proposed project and the municipalities, highways, railways, utility lines and navigable waters through, under, over, upon or across which the proposed project is to pass.

6.0: Conditions of Approval

- 6.1:** The OEB's standard conditions of approval are attached as Attachment 1. If the OEB approves the proposed project, what additional or revised conditions, if any, are appropriate?

Schedule B, Attachment 1:

Standard Conditions of Approval for Electricity Leave to Construct Applications

1. [The Applicant] shall fulfill any requirements of the SIA and the CIA, and shall obtain all necessary approvals, permits, licences, certificates, agreements and rights required to construct, operate and maintain the project.
2. Unless otherwise ordered by the OEB, authorization for leave to construct shall terminate 12 months from the date of the Decision and Order, unless construction has commenced prior to that date.
3. [The Applicant] shall advise the OEB of any proposed material change in the project, including but not limited to changes in: the proposed route, construction schedule, necessary environmental assessment approvals, and all other approvals, permits, licences, certificates and rights required to construct the project.
4. [The Applicant] shall submit to the OEB written confirmation of the completion of the project construction. This written confirmation shall be provided within one month of the completion of construction.
5. [The Applicant] shall designate one of their employees as project manager who will be the point of contact for these conditions, and shall provide the employee's name and contact information to the OEB and to all affected landowners, and shall clearly post the project manager's contact information in a prominent place at the construction site.