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Commission de l'Énergie de l'Ontario
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May 25, 2007

Dear Landowner:

RE: Hydro One Networks Inc. Applications for Access to Land and for Leave to Construct - Bruce to Milton Project

The Ontario Energy Board is sending you this letter to help clarify our role with respect to the two applications that have been made by Hydro One Networks Inc. and to explain the Board's process for these applications.

The Applications

Hydro One filed two applications with the Board at the end of March. One of the applications is for construction of a new transmission line between the Bruce Power Facility and the Milton Switching Station. We call this **the Leave to Construct Application**. The other application is for permission to access the land along the proposed route before the Board makes a decision on the Leave to Construct Application. We call this **the Access to Land Application**.

In April you received an Ontario Energy Board "Notice of Application" for the Leave to Construct Application and a "Notice of Application and Written Hearing" for the Access to Land Application. The Board required Hydro One to provide you with these Notices. Although these applications relate to the same project, they are separate applications, and the Board will deal with each one separately.

The Leave to Construct Application (EB-2007-0050)

The Board regulates Hydro One, and Hydro One cannot construct a major transmission line unless it has received the Board's approval. The proposed Bruce to Milton project is one such proposal.

The Board has already received many letters concerning this application in response to the Notice you received. One of the concerns was the amount of time parties had to respond if they wanted to participate. **The Board has decided that it will accept intervention requests, requests for observer status and letters of comment for the**

Leave to Construct Application beyond the deadline stated in the Notice. If you have already made a request for intervention, or observer status you do not need to do so again, and the Board will be sending you a separate letter to indicate the status of that request. If you have not yet received your letter, you will receive it shortly.

In reviewing the Leave to Construct Application the Board can only consider the interests of consumers with respect to prices and the adequacy, reliability and quality of electricity service. This limitation is set out in our legislation. The Board cannot consider the environmental impacts related to the project. Environmental impacts will be the subject of an Environmental Assessment that must be conducted by Hydro One under the Environmental Assessment Act. The Board does not have authority over that process.

The Access to Land Application (EB-2007-0051)

In the Access to Land Application, Hydro One is seeking permission for its employees and representatives to conduct surveys or examinations along the proposed route before completing the Leave to Construct Application. If the Access to Land Application is granted, it does not mean the Board has approved the construction of the transmission line. On the other hand, if the Access to Land Application is denied, the Board will still consider the Leave to Construct Application.

If you have already sent a written submission to the Board indicating your concerns with the Access to Land Application, the Board will consider your submission. You will automatically receive information about any further proceedings related to the Access to Land Application. If you have requested Observer Status or Intervenor Status in the Leave to Construct Application, you will also receive this information. **If you want to take part in the Access to Land Application and you have not already contacted the Board, you must contact us as soon as possible so that we can send you the relevant information.** Please copy Hydro One with any correspondence sent to the Board. The Board's contact information and that of Hydro One are listed below.

If your participation in the Access to Land Application results in your having to incur costs, you will be eligible to recover some of these costs. If you would like more detail on the Board's cost award policy please see the section below on How to Get Answers to Your Questions.

How Compensation Is Set

The Board does not set compensation amounts related to the Access to Land Application or the Leave to Construct Application. If you are unable to reach agreement with Hydro One on issues related to compensation on either of these applications then the provisions of the *Expropriations Act* apply and the compensation shall be determined under section 27 of that Act or by the Ontario Municipal Board.

How to Get Answers to your Questions

For information on the Board's cost award policies or the review procedures related to either Access to Land Application or the Leave to Construct Application you can call the Ontario Energy Board's Consumer Relations Centre toll free at 1-877-632-2727. You can also visit our web site – look for the “Bruce to Milton Transmission Proceeding ” on our home page at www.oeb.gov.on.ca and it will provide you with links to documents on our process and procedures.

Yours truly,

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary

- c. All Intervenors – EB-2007-0050
Ministry of Energy
Ministry of Environment
Hydro One Networks Inc.

Addresses

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**Attn: Glen MacDonald
Sr. Advisor – Regulatory**