ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD | COMMISSION DE L'ÉNERGIE DE L'ONTARIO

BACKGROUNDER

DECISION AND ORDER
EB-2024-0142
HYDRO ONE NETWORKS INC.

Decision on Hydro One's Application to Expropriate Lands Near the City of Port Colborne

On October 27, 2026, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued its Decision and Order, finding that Hydro One already possessed the rights required to access, operate and maintain transmission lines on certain lands near the City of Port Colborne. Accordingly, the OEB denied Hydro One's application under section 99 of the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998 (OEB Act) for authority to expropriate those lands.

FAST FACTS

- Hydro One sought approval to expropriate certain lands near the City of Port Colborne to support the operation and maintenance of existing transmission facilities.
- The transmission lines are part of Ontario's electricity transmission system and serve approximately 37,000 residential and commercial customers in the Port Colborne and Welland areas.
- The OEB found that Hydro One already had the necessary rights required to access, operate and maintain the transmission lines and therefore denied the application.

OEB REVIEW

The OEB reviewed Hydro One's application under section 99 of the *OEB Act*, which permits certain parties to seek authority to expropriate land where the OEB determines the expropriation is in the public interest. The OEB found that Hydro One owns the transmission lines and already has the rights necessary to access, operate and maintain them. As a result, the OEB concluded that expropriation was not necessary and denied the application.

ABOUT THE OEB

The OEB is the independent regulator of Ontario's electricity and natural gas sectors. We protect the interests of consumers and enable the delivery of clean, reliable, secure and affordable energy that supports economic growth across the province. This includes ensuring that the people and businesses of Ontario pay rates that are reasonable while allowing for needed investments in an energy system that sustains our economy.

A key part of how we deliver on this mandate is through independent adjudication. When an application comes before us, the OEB applies a rigorous, impartial review that balances our legislated objectives and is free from interference.

Learn more at oeb.ca.

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Ce document est aussi disponible en français.

This Backgrounder was prepared by OEB staff to inform Ontario's energy consumers about the OEB's decision and is not for use in legal or regulatory proceedings. It is not part of the OEB's reasons for decision; those may be found in the Decision and Order issued October 27, 2026, which is the official OEB document.