

## Decision on Hydro One's Leave to Construct Application - St. Clair Transmission Line Project

On December 10, 2024, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued its [Decision and Order](#) approving Hydro One Network Inc.'s (Hydro One) application to build approximately 64 kilometres of high-voltage electricity transmission line and associated facilities in the Township of St. Clair, Municipality of Wallaceburg and the Chatham-Kent areas (the Project).

### BACKGROUND

This transmission line was designated a [priority transmission project](#)<sup>1</sup> under section 96.1 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* by [Order in Council 876/2022](#) dated March 31, 2022.

The OEB found Hydro One's application to be in the public interest based on an examination of the impact of the Project on consumers with respect to prices and the reliability and quality of electricity service. Consequently, the OEB has granted Hydro One leave to construct the Project, subject to the OEB's [standard conditions](#) of approval for transmission Leave to Construct applications.

The OEB was satisfied with the landowner consultation undertaken by Hydro One and approved the forms of land use agreements it has offered or will offer to those affected by the routing and construction of the Project.

Once built, the transmission line will extend from Lambton Transformer Station, connecting Wallaceburg Transformer Station, and terminate at Chatham Switching Station.

### KEY FINDINGS

Key findings in the OEB's decision to approve Hydro One's application include:

- The estimated capital cost of the Project of \$471.9 million, consisting of \$334.5 million for line work and \$137.4 million for station work, is reasonable.
- The projected consumer bill impacts of the Project are reasonable. Hydro One estimates the Project will decrease the typical residential customer's monthly bill by \$0.14 or 0.09%.
- The Project will not negatively affect the power system's reliability as long as all requirements are met and will also improve supply reliability for connected customers.

### INTERVENORS

Intervenors are individuals or groups who have permission to participate in a hearing before the OEB because they have a substantial interest in the proceeding. Intervenors in this proceeding were:

<sup>1</sup> Priority project designation means that the OEB is required to accept that the transmission line is needed when deciding whether to grant leave to construct the project.

Enbridge Gas Inc., the IESO, Kevin Jakubec, the Ross Firm Group, the Siskinds Firm Group and Vector Pipeline Inc. The focus of most of the interventions was in relation to land matters.

## ABOUT THE OEB

The OEB is the independent regulator of Ontario's electricity and natural gas sectors. It protects the interests of consumers and supports the delivery of clean, reliable and affordable energy for the people, farms and businesses of Ontario. Its goal is to deliver public value through prudent regulation and independent adjudicative decision-making which contributes to Ontario's economic, social and environmental development. You can learn more about the OEB at [oeb.ca](http://oeb.ca).

Independence in the hearing and determination of matters is a key element of the OEB's mandate, established through legislative structures, the [Memorandum of Understanding](#) between the Minister of Energy and Electrification and the Chair of the OEB, and by-laws that set out clear lines of communication between government and the OEB. Commissioner panels hear and determine matters independently, with legislative protections and other instruments to ensure decisions are free from interference by the CEO, the Board of Directors and government. This also includes the Chief Commissioner when not assigned to the specific case.

## Contact Us

### Media Inquiries

Phone: 416-544-5171  
Email: [oebmedia@oeb.ca](mailto:oebmedia@oeb.ca)

### Consumer Inquiries

416-314-2455/1-877-632-2727

*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 December 10, 2024, which is the official OEB document.*