

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD NOTICE

Hydro One Sault Ste. Marie Limited Partnership has applied to the Ontario Energy Board to refurbish a high-voltage transmission line.

Learn more.

Hydro One Sault Ste. Marie Limited Partnership is asking the Ontario Energy Board for permission to refurbish approximately 90.5 kilometers of an existing 115 kilovolt electricity transmission line between Third Line Transmission Station and Mackay Transmission Station that connects the Montreal River area with the Sault Ste. Marie area.

Hydro One Sault Ste. Marie Limited Partnership states that the existing transmission line is nearing end-of-life and that refurbishment is needed to ensure reliable supply. Hydro One Sault Ste. Marie Limited Partnership is also taking the opportunity to increase the conductor size during refurbishment to reduce line losses.

Hydro One Sault Ste. Marie Limited Partnership states that new permanent property rights will not be required because the transmission line will utilize the existing 115 kV transmission corridor. Temporary rights for access or construction staging areas may be required for the duration of the construction period so Hydro One Sault Ste. Marie Limited Partnership is asking the Ontario Energy Board to approve the form of agreement it offers to affected landowners.

A map of the proposed route for the transmission line is provided below.



THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING

The OEB is an independent and impartial public agency. It will hold a public hearing to consider Hydro One Sault Ste. Marie Limited Partnership's (HOSSM) requests. During the hearing, which could be a written or oral hearing, the OEB will consider evidence and arguments by HOSSM and by participants (individuals, municipalities and others whose interests would be affected) that have registered to participate in the hearing (called intervenors).

SCOPE OF THE OEB'S HEARING

The scope of the OEB's legislative authority with respect to applications seeking leave to construct electricity transmission lines is set out in sections 92, 96, and 96.1 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*. When determining whether the proposed project is in the public interest, the *Ontario Energy Board Act* states that the OEB shall only consider the interests of consumers with respect to prices and the reliability and quality of electricity service. As required under section 97 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, the OEB also considers matters related to the form of agreement that is offered to landowners affected by the route or location of the transmission line.

It is important to note that the OEB's hearing is not the only approval process required before a transmission line is built. Environmental issues, or issues related to the Crown's duty to consult Indigenous peoples, are not part of the OEB's review unless there is a direct impact on price and the reliability and quality of electricity service.

More information on the types of issues that the OEB may consider in this hearing are provided on the OEB's website in the form of a standard issues list: <https://www.oeb.ca/sites/default/files/issues-list-LTC-electricity.pdf>.

Parties to the proceeding are required to limit their participation to areas that fall within the OEB's legislative mandate, as described above.

BE INFORMED AND HAVE YOUR SAY

You have the right to information regarding HOSSM's application. You can read HOSSM's application on the OEB's website now.

If you would be affected by the proposed project, you may want to take a more active role in the hearing.

- You can send the OEB a letter with your comments, which will be considered during the hearing; OR
- You can ask the OEB for permission to be an intervenor in the hearing. As an intervenor, you can ask questions about HOSSM's application and make arguments on whether the OEB should approve HOSSM's request. To be an intervenor, a party must be affected by the project in a way that relates directly to the issues the OEB will consider. If you wish to be an intervenor, the OEB must receive your request by **August 8, 2023**.

LEARN MORE

Our file number for this case is **EB-2023-0061**. To learn more about this hearing, find instructions on how to file a letter with your comments or become an intervenor, or to access the documents related to this case, please select the file number **EB-2023-0061** from the list on the OEB website: www.oeb.ca/noticeltc. You can also phone Vithooshan Ganesanathan at 1-888-632-2727.

ORAL VS. WRITTEN HEARINGS

There are three types of OEB hearings – oral, electronic and written. The OEB will determine the format of the hearing later in the process. If you have a preference with respect to the format of the hearing, you can write to the OEB to explain why by **August 8, 2023**.

PRIVACY

If you write a letter with your comments, your name and the content of your letter will be put on the OEB's public record and the OEB website. However, your personal telephone number, home address and email address will be removed. If you are a business, all your information will be public. If you apply to become an intervenor, all your information will be public.

This application was filed under sections 92 and 97 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, S.O. 1998, c.15, Schedule B*.

Ontario Energy Board
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Attention: Registrar
Filings: <https://p-pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/PivotalUX/>.
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Ontario Energy Board | Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario