

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD NOTICE

Upper Canada Transmission, Inc. has applied to the Ontario Energy Board to build a high-voltage transmission line and Hydro One Networks Inc. has applied to the Ontario Energy Board to upgrade associated station facilities.

Learn More.

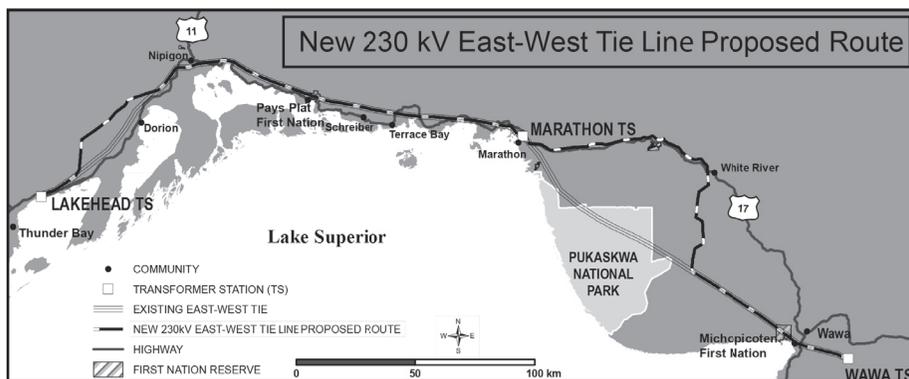
Upper Canada Transmission, Inc. is asking the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) for permission to expand the electricity transmission network in the area between Wawa and Thunder Bay. This involves the construction of approximately 450 kilometres of 230 kilovolt electricity overhead transmission line connecting Wawa TS with Lakehead TS (the East-West Tie Line Project). **Hydro One Networks Inc.** is asking the OEB for permission to upgrade the associated station facilities.

The applicants are also asking the OEB to approve the forms of agreement they offer to landowners to use their land for routing or construction of the proposed line and station facilities. In addition, Upper Canada Transmission, Inc. is asking the OEB to establish a Construction Work in Progress deferral account.

In 2013, the OEB designated Upper Canada Transmission, Inc. as the electricity transmitter to undertake development work for the East-West Tie Line Project. The Minister of Energy subsequently advised the OEB that the Lieutenant Governor in Council made an order effective March 4, 2016 declaring that the construction of the East-West Tie Line Project is needed as a priority project (Priority Project Designation). Important documents related to the OEB's review of these applications, including the designation process and subsequent correspondence from the Minister can be found on the OEB's website: : <https://www.oeb.ca/industry/applications-oeb/priority-leave-construct/east-west-tie-leave-construct>

Upper Canada Transmission, Inc. and Hydro One Networks Inc. have filed separate applications with the OEB. The OEB will hear these applications together.

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



THE OEB IS HOLDING A PUBLIC HEARING

The OEB will hold a public hearing to consider the requests of Upper Canada Transmission, Inc. and Hydro One Networks Inc. During this hearing, the OEB will consider evidence and arguments by the applicants and by individuals, municipalities and others whose interests would be affected.

The OEB hearing will consider specific issues determined by law. The Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998 (the Act) specifies the issues the OEB is to consider in making its decision. If you wish to participate in the OEB hearing, it is important for you to understand what these issues are.

As required by the Act, the OEB will consider three issues:

- The interests of consumers with respect to prices and the reliability and quality of electricity service
- The promotion of the use of renewable energy sources in a manner consistent with the policies of the Government of Ontario
- The forms of agreement offered by the applicants to landowners affected by the route or location of the transmission line and station facilities

It is important to note that the existing Priority Project Designation affects the OEB's review of an application for leave to construct an electricity transmission line. In particular, the OEB is required to accept that the construction is needed when it considers the three issues listed above.

The OEB hearing is not the only approval process required before the line is built. The Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) is required to approve the Environmental Assessment filed by Upper Canada Transmission, Inc. with the MOECC. The OEB's review will only address the three issues outlined above and will not address other matters, such as, environmental, health, aesthetics or property value impacts.

The OEB is an independent and impartial public agency. We make decisions that serve the public interest. Our goal is to promote a financially viable and efficient energy sector that provides you with reliable energy services at a reasonable cost.

BE INFORMED AND HAVE YOUR SAY

You have the right to information regarding these applications and to be involved in the process.

- You can review these applications and further information related to these applications on the OEB's website now.
- You can file a letter with your comments, which will be considered during the hearing.
- You can ask the OEB for permission to be an active participant in the hearing (an intervenor). Intervenors can provide evidence, argue their positions and submit relevant questions to be answered by the applicants (interrogatories). To be an intervenor, a party must be affected by the transmission line or station facilities 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 **October 30, 2017**.
- At the end of the process, you can review the OEB's decision and its reasons on our website.

LEARN MORE

Our file numbers for this combined case are **EB-2017-0182/EB-2017-0194**. To learn more about this hearing, find instructions on how to file letters or become an intervenor, or to read the documents related to this case, please select the File Nos. **EB-2017-0182/EB-2017-0194** from the list on the OEB website: www.oeb.ca/notice. You can also phone our Consumer Relations Centre at 1-877-632-2727 with any questions.

ORAL VS. WRITTEN HEARINGS

There are two types of OEB hearings – oral and written. The applicants have requested a written hearing. The OEB is considering this request. If you think an oral hearing is needed, you can write to the OEB to explain why by **October 30, 2017**.

PRIVACY

If you write a letter with your comments, your name and the content of your letter will be put on the public record and the OEB website. However, your personal telephone number, 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.

The hearing will be held under sections 21(5), 78, 92 and 97 of the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998 S.O. 1998, c.15, (Schedule B).



Ontario

Ontario Energy Board / Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario