

# Core Capital and OM&A Work Program

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### Purpose of the DSP



- The Distribution System Plan (DSP)
  represents Hydro One's view of where
  customer needs and preferences, customer
  rates, and asset needs are aligned
- The Customer Engagement process was extremely helpful in informing the DSP and OM&A work programs and helping to shape the company's activities

### Customers Preferences

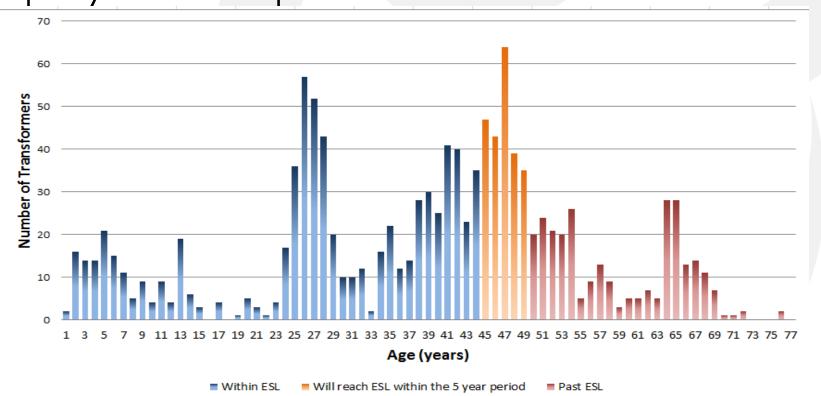


- Keeping Costs Low
   Keep costs as low as possible is customers' top priority
- Maintain Reliable Service
   Maintaining reliable electricity service is consistently second priority to cost
- Large Customers
   Large customers are more concerned with reliability and capacity
- Manage Rate Impacts
   Willingness to accept a rate increase to improve service level is limited

### **Asset Needs**



- Much of the distribution system was built in 1950s & 1960s
- Many assets approaching or beyond expected service life
- Replacement decisions based on asset condition, but age is a proxy for future replacements



### Work Program Strategy



 Centered on sound investment to ensure safe and reliable electricity distribution in a manner that produces the greatest value for customers



- Hydro One has implemented a number of productivity initiatives to reduce unit and operating costs
- Executing on identified productivity and efficiency enhancements to change and reduce cost structure



### Move to Mobile



### Paper to Tablets

- Elimination of ~40 forms
- Reduction in work completion processing time
- · Visibility of crews
- Real-time status indicators



### Upgraded Tool

- Increased efficiency for Field Business Centers
- Auto-scheduling and auto-leveling of crews
- Improved Customer interactions



### Applicable to all LOBs

- Solutions are scalable for ease of application
- Leverages past SAP & GIS enterprise system investments



### Vegetation Management

- Use lower cost temporary workers to complete lowskilled work
- Targeted clearing frequency commensurate with reliability risk





### Cable Locates

- Outsource work at lower cost
- Part of Locate Alliance
   Consortium enabling
   single contractor to
   perform locates for many
   utilities simultaneously –
   make 1 trip instead of
   many



### Capital Work Programs

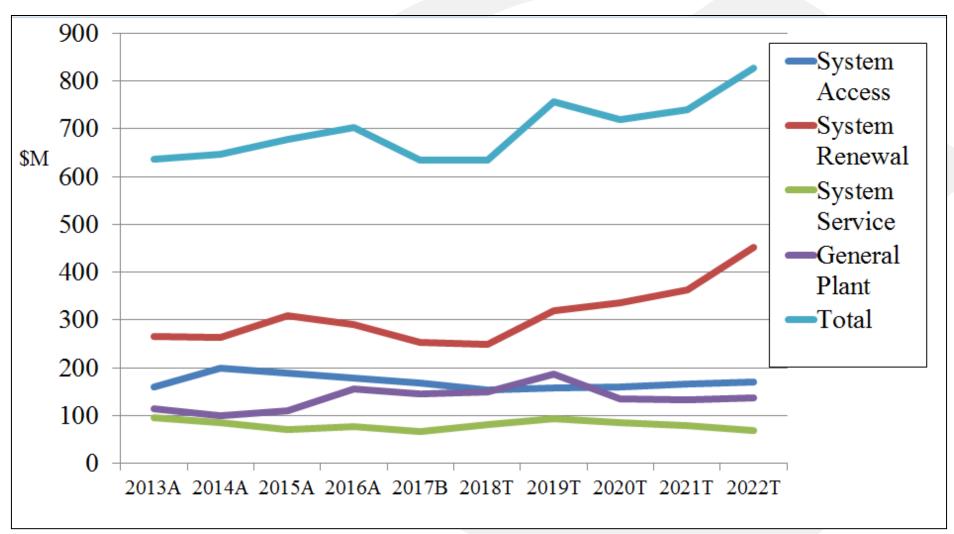


### Managing Rate Impacts

- Paced investments to manage rate impacts and offset effects of reduced load forecast
- Asset replacement rates reduced for a short but manageable period, accepting limited and short term reliability impacts to defer capital spending

### Capital Work Programs





## Capital Work Programs: System Access



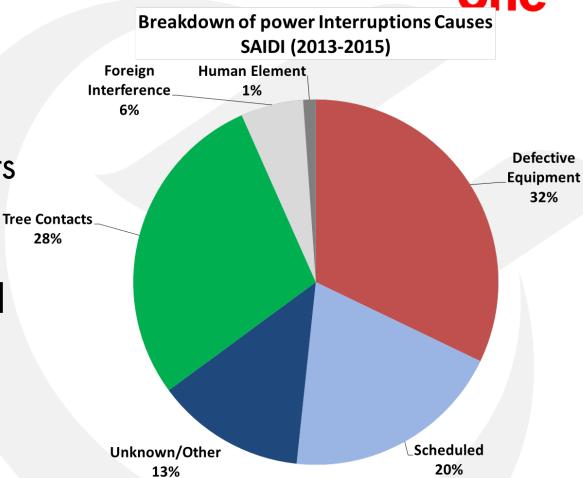
- System Access investment costs are projected to decline in 2017:
  - Completion of the metering CDMA replacement project
  - Decrease in distributed generation connections
- 2018-2022 cost increases in line with inflation:
  - New connections, line relocations, and service upgrades make up bulk of activities

### **Asset Performance**



 Hydro One is making highly targeted investments to improve Reliability Outliers, Power Quality, and Capacity for Large Customers

28%



### Capital Work Programs: System Renewal



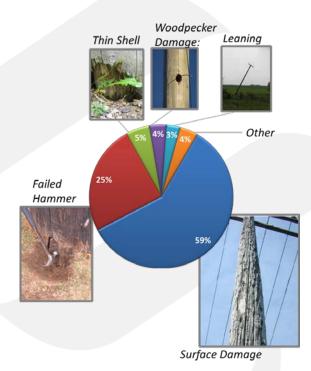
- System Renewal investment costs projected to increase by an average of 12.3% annually from 2017 to 2022
  - Storm damage restoration costs expected to remain flat
  - Pole replacements expected to increase until 2020 to address poles that will reach end of useful life, then level off
  - Station refurbishments expected to increase over time to reflect the growing number of assets expected to reach end of useful life
  - Line Sustainment and Life Cycle Optimization investments increase together with the increase in assets reaching end useful life
  - PCB line equipment replacement increase to meet 2025 deadline
     2022 significant increased projected spending
  - Anticipated commencement of smart meter replacement, as population reaches expected service life

## System Renewal Focus Areas:



- Pole Replacement
- Station Refurbishments
- Lines Sustainment Projects
- Smart Meters
- Power Quality
   Improvement





## Capital Work Programs: System Service



- While System Service investment costs are projected to fall slightly over the Distribution System Plan period, Hydro One expects variability from year-to-year based on specific investment needs
- Most of these investments accommodate increases in pockets of load growth which will constrain the system's ability to provide consistent service. To alleviate this constraint, a number of investments are planned to upgrade capacity of Hydro One's distribution assets
- Notable change is the new Worst Performing Feeders targeted at improving system reliability for poorly performing supply feeders

### Capital Work Programs: General Plant



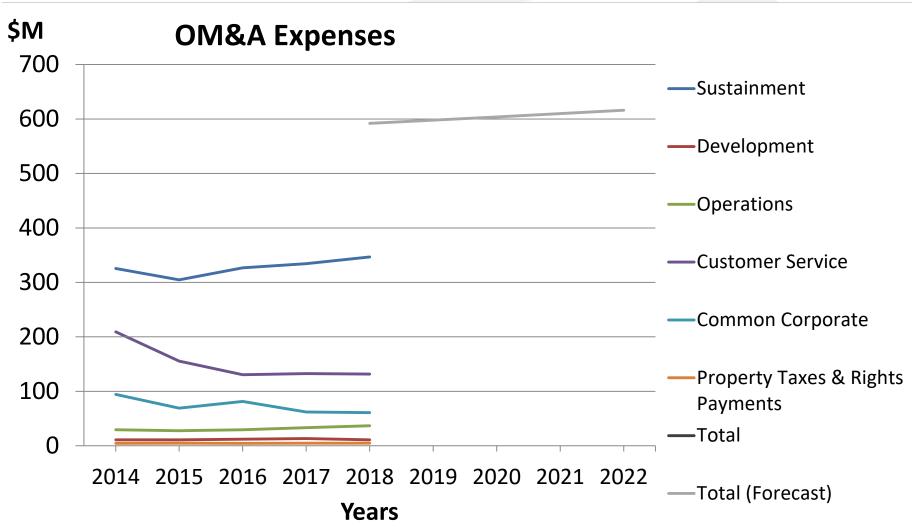
- General Plant: expected to decline modestly over plan
- Largest portion: transport and work equipment investments Second largest: accommodation facility improvements



- Significant forecasted increase in General Plant spending between the years 2017 to 2020
  - Integrated System Operations Centre, replacing existing backup power system control and telecommunications centers and a new security operations center

## OM&A Expenditures: Summary hydro





## OM&A Expenditures: Sustaining



Sustainment OM&A expenditures are required to maintain existing components of the distribution system to ensure they will continue to function as designed

## OM&A Expenditures: Sustaining



- <u>Stations</u> work required to inspect, repair or maintain distribution stations or station components and carry out remedial work to reduce environmental site contamination
- <u>Lines</u> work required to inspect, repair or maintain distribution line sections or individual line components
- Meters, Telecom, Control work required to inspect, repair and maintain metering and control equipment, perform meter verification, and telecommunication leasing costs
- <u>Vegetation Management</u> work required to keep assets clear of unwanted vegetation

## OM&A Expenditures: Development



- Engineering and Technical Studies;
- Distributed Generation Connections;
- Distribution Standards & Technology;
- Research Development & Documentation;
   and
- Customer Power Quality Program.

## OM&A Expenditures: Operations



- Coordinates and dispatches crews as required
- Plans for and reacts to system contingencies
- Schedules and coordinates planned outages
- Provides customer notifications
- Monitors and reports on the performance of the distribution electricity system.
- Ontario Grid Control Centre (OGCC) monitors the distribution system at the transformers for voltage, power quality, equipment loading, and equipment alarms

# OM&A Expenditures: Customer Service



Customer-facing activities for distribution system customers:

- call center
- obtain meter readings
- issue timely and accurate bills
- process customer payments
- manage a collections program to recover revenue
- financial assistance to low-income customers through Low-Income Energy Assistance

### OM&A Expenditures: Common Corporate Costs



Common corporate functions and services, asset management planning, information technology, cost of sales for external work, and other OM&A expenses.

## OM&A Focus Area: Vegetation Management



- Restructured vegetation management plan
- Sub-transmission feeders will be cleared on fixed frequency cycle
- All other feeders will be managed according to reliability performance and criticality



### OM&A Focus Area: Station Maintenance



Will continue to be needs based

- Conditions that cause concern result in more frequent testing and increased maintenance program spending
- Stations in good condition require low frequency testing



## Plan Aligns with Customer Preferences



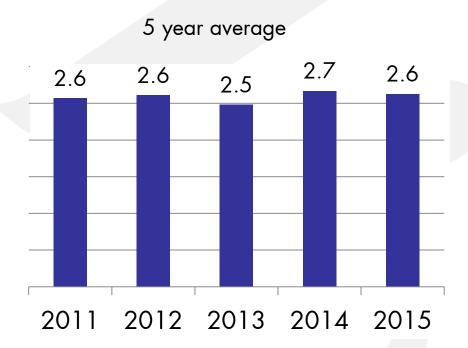
- Keeping Costs Low
   Greater fiscal management before asking for rate increases
- Maintain Reliable Service
   Implement Investments to maintain reliability
- Large Customers
   Targeted investments to improve reliability and capacity
- Manage Rate Impacts
   Paced investment plan to manage rate increases

### Plan Meets Asset Needs



 Hydro One's overall business plan was optimized such that asset condition and reliability will not deteriorate

#### **LDC Scorecard SAIFI**



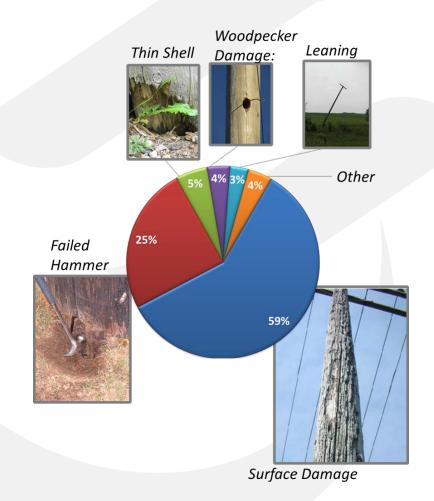


## Appendix: Investment Focus Area Details

# System Renewal: Pole Replacements



- 1.6 million poles
- Currently 106,000 poles in poor condition
- Replacing about 14,000 poles/year
- Pole population in poor condition is expected to remain constant or slightly decrease by 2022



## System Renewal: Refurbishments



- 16 distribution station transformer failures per year
- Refurbishing 15 stations per year
- Station condition and reliability to remain stable



### System Renewal: Line Sustainment Projects



- Looks at performance of all large customer feeders and determines outliers
- Root cause analysis, not just Vegetation Management
- Investments targeted at mitigating root cause



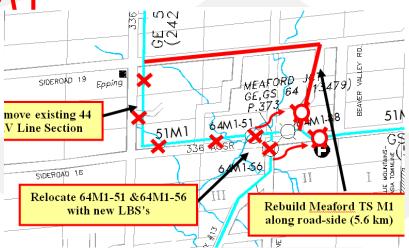
Tree outage – April 13, 2011 (caused by Beaver)

System Renewal: Line Sustainment Projects Example – Meaford M1

 Moving line to road side improves reliability, response time, lowers cost



Off-road line in a Swamp



hydro



Rebuilt Line on Roadside

## System Renewal: Smart Meters



• Smart meters at customers' homes will be coming to end of life and will need to be replaced with new units. This large expenditure will be paced over a 10 year period beginning in 2021 to manage customer rate impacts.



# System Renewal:

Storm Response

• Storm response capital is budgeted based on a 5 year historical average and are historical average and on average represents 10% of the provincial lines distribution capital program.



# System Renewal and OM&A: Power Quality



- OM&A program assisting Large Distribution Accounts with investigations
- Capital power quality program installing power quality meters, surge arresters, or improve grounding



# OM&A: Demand Driven Activities



- Demand driven activities such as trouble calls, customer locates & disconnect/reconnects funding have been set based off historical data and unit costs that include efficiency savings
- Line maintenance and repair will focus on the high risk of failure activities to preserve reliability
- The line inspection program will also review the opportunity to use new pole testing and maintenance technologies