

ONTARIO ENERGY ASSOCIATION

**SUPPORTING CRITICAL TRANSMISSION
INFRASTRUCTURE IN SOUTHWESTERN
ONTARIO: ERO 019-4926
SUBMISSION**

MARCH 7, 2022

To shape our energy future for a stronger Ontario.



Ontario Energy Association

ABOUT

The Ontario Energy Association (OEA) is the credible and trusted voice of the energy sector. We earn our reputation by being an integral and influential part of energy policy development and decision making in Ontario. We represent Ontario's energy leaders that span the full diversity of the energy industry.

OEA takes a grassroots approach to policy development by combining thorough evidence based research with executive interviews and member polling. This unique approach ensures our policies are not only grounded in rigorous research, but represent the views of the majority of our members. This sound policy foundation allows us to advocate directly with government decision makers to tackle issues of strategic importance to our members.

The recommendations contained in OEA papers represent the advice of the OEA as an organization. They are not meant to represent the positions or opinions of individual OEA members, OEA Board members, or their organizations. The OEA has a broad range of members, and there may not always be a 100 percent consensus on all positions and recommendations. Accordingly, the positions and opinions of individual members and their organizations may not be reflected in this document.

The Ontario Energy Association (OEA) is pleased to provide this response to the Ministry of Energy's (the Ministry) proposal to facilitate the timely development of key electricity transmission projects in Southwestern Ontario to ensure critical infrastructure is built on time to support Ontario's economic recovery (ERO: 019-4926).

COMMENTS

The OEA has reviewed the summary proposal which states that the Ministry is seeking to (1) support planned transmission projects to be built on time and cost-effectively to aid Ontario's economic recovery and meet the rapid pace of development in the region, making Ontario more competitive in attracting and retaining investment; and (2) expand the use of Ontario's low-carbon electricity system.

Further, the Ministry states that the proposed actions are intended to: (1) prioritize certain transmission projects; (2) designate Hydro One as transmitter of priority projects; and (3) require Hydro One to undertake early development work on future projects

The OEA is encouraged that the Ministry is taking initiative to expedite and streamline regulatory processes to ensure that critical transmission infrastructure is built in a timely manner. This is especially the case for electricity transmission projects given the long lead times required for new infrastructure and the need to expand the electricity system to be able to meet the significant increase in demand for electricity expected from decarbonization and electrification objectives.

Investments in transmission infrastructure are also pivotal to supporting Ontario's economy, as well as enabling generation and distributed energy resources.

The OEA supports the regulatory proposal and believes they will reduce the regulatory burden on Hydro One, ratepayers and the OEB as well as enhance partnerships with Indigenous communities and stakeholders. This proposal will also help provide certainty to businesses and the electricity sector.

energyontario.ca

CONTACT

121 Richmond Street West
Suite 202

Toronto, Ontario M5H 2K1

416.961.2339

oea@energyontario.ca

 [@energyontario](https://twitter.com/energyontario)

energyontario.ca



Ontario Energy Association

Let's unravel complex energy challenges, together.