

Ministry of Energy Press Release – April 16, 2015

Hydro One Brampton Merger

April 16, 2015 11:42 A.M.

Ministry of Energy

In accepting the recommendation of the Premier's Advisory Council on Government Assets, the province intends to proceed with a merger of Enersource Corporation, Horizon Utilities, Hydro One Brampton Networks Inc. and PowerStream Holdings Inc. to ensure value for the province and to help catalyze Local Distribution Company (LDC) consolidation for the benefit of ratepayers.

Together, the merger of these three strong performing utilities with Hydro One Brampton will create the second-largest electricity distributor in Ontario by number of customers. The merged entity would deliver efficiencies and economies of scale while continuing to provide safe, reliable and clean electricity. This represents a major step forward in promoting LDC consolidation in Ontario, in line with the recommendations made in the 2012 Ontario Distribution Sector Review Panel Report.

The municipalities that own the three partner LDCs have all expressed support for this merger.

Enersource

Enersource Corporation serves over 200,000 residential and commercial customers across Mississauga. It is a diversified energy and technologies company that serves customers through the distribution of electricity and the delivery of services related to the design, operation and maintenance of electrical systems. Ninety per cent of Enersource Corporation is owned by the City of Mississauga, and 10 percent is owned by BPC Energy Corporation (Borealis), which is part of the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System (OMERS).

Horizon Utilities

Horizon Utilities Corporation provides electricity and related utility services to over 240,000 customers in Hamilton and St. Catharines. Horizon Utilities is wholly owned by Horizon Holdings Inc., a company jointly owned by the cities of Hamilton and St. Catharines through their holding companies Hamilton Utilities Corporation and St. Catharines Hydro Inc.

Hydro One Brampton

Hydro One Brampton Networks Inc. was acquired by Hydro One from the City of Brampton in 2001. It has more than 150,000 residential, commercial and industrial customers and serves an area of 300 square kilometers. In order to meet the growth of the community and needs of its customers, Hydro One Brampton continues to work with the City of Brampton and other organizations to improve Brampton's infrastructure and distribution system.

PowerStream

PowerStream Holdings Inc. is a municipally owned energy company providing power and related services to more than 375,000 customers primarily residing or owning a business in communities located immediately north of Toronto and in Central Ontario. It is jointly owned by the Cities of Barrie, Markham and Vaughan through their respective holding companies, Barrie Hydro Holdings Inc., Markham Enterprises Corporation and Vaughan Holdings Inc.

Process for Merger

Details of the merger agreement are anticipated to be finalized by early summer 2015, with definitive agreements to follow shortly thereafter. The three partners will have until July 31, 2015 to determine whether to issue shares in the newly merged company or pay cash to the province for its interest in Hydro One Brampton.

Media Contacts

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Benefits of Hydro One Brampton Transaction

The proposed Hydro One Brampton merger represents a major step forward in driving LDC consolidation in Ontario by creating the second-largest LDC in the Province by customer size and a platform for further LDC consolidation. The public interest benefits of greater LDC consolidation include: improved efficiency and ratepayer savings, strengthened service and reliability, and modernization of the distribution system.

TBD, Minister's Office, XXX-XXX-XXXX
TBD, Communications Branch, XXX-XXX-XXXX

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