

May 12, 2022

Independent Electricity System Operator
1600-120 Adelaide Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 1T1

Re: Wassigan Transmission Line Project

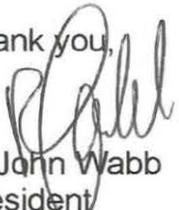
The Members of Canadian Union of Skilled Workers (CUSW) are responding to the recent recommendation by the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) to take a phased approach to the construction of the Waasigan Transmission Line project in Northwestern Ontario. Our participation on the Waasigan Community Roundtable has provided us with insight into the need and local support for the project. Many of our Members have gained valuable experience and employment opportunities on the East-West Tie Transmission Line and Wataynikaneyap Transmission Project, they are hoping to continue their careers on local infrastructure projects including this project. For many years, Hydro One has been vocal in their efforts to advocate for the need for this new transmission line to support planned economic growth in Northwestern Ontario. We do not agree with the phased approach and are supporting Hydro One's formal submission to the IESO.

We agree with Hydro One that the phased approach to construction of Waasigan would create:

- Investment uncertainty for industry;
- Limited ability for regional growth;
- Lack of stakeholder visibility to the "big picture";
- Increased and prolonged impacts and disturbance to public infrastructure/spaces;
- Increased risk of conflicting with future infrastructure projects;
- Increased risks to overall project;
- Increased risks to continuity of training, employment and procurement;
- Increased risk of competition for resources from future projects in the region; and
- Consultation and construction fatigue.

In addition, full benefits to Indigenous partners and communities can only be realized through building the whole line between Shuniah, Atikokan and Dryden.

Thank you,



R. John Wabb
President
Canadian Union of Skilled Workers