

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS OF ESPANOLA REGIONAL HYDRO DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION AND NORTH BAY HYDRO DISTRIBUTION LTD.

North Bay (Espanola) Acquisition Inc. (an affiliate of North Bay Hydro Distribution Ltd.) has applied for approval to acquire Espanola Regional Hydro Distribution Corporation and Espanola Regional Hydro Holdings Corporation and amalgamate the three companies under the name of Espanola Regional Hydro Distribution Corporation.

Learn more. Have your say.

North Bay (Espanola) Acquisition Inc. (an affiliate of North Bay Hydro Distribution Ltd.) has applied to the Ontario Energy Board for approval of the first phase of a two-phase transaction, necessary to effect the amalgamation of North Bay Hydro Distribution Ltd. and Espanola Regional Hydro Distribution Corporation.

As part of the first phase, North Bay (Espanola) Acquisition Inc. is asking the Ontario Energy Board for the following approvals:

- To acquire 100% of the issued and outstanding common shares of Espanola Regional Hydro Holdings Corporation
- To acquire 100% of the issued and outstanding special shares of Espanola Regional Hydro Distribution Corporation
- To amalgamate North Bay (Espanola) Acquisition Inc. with Espanola Regional Hydro Holdings Corporation and Espanola Regional Hydro Distribution Corporation, with the amalgamated entity continuing under the name Espanola Regional Hydro Distribution Corporation.

North Bay (Espanola) Acquisition Inc. has also applied for approval of a rate framework under which North Bay Hydro Distribution Ltd. and Espanola Regional Hydro Distribution Corporation will continue to operate as independent utilities until 2022 and will file their respective rate rebasing applications for rates effective in 2020 and 2021.

In 2022 and as part of the second phase of the transaction, North Bay Hydro Distribution Ltd. will file an application with the Ontario Energy Board seeking approval to amalgamate Espanola Regional Hydro Distribution Corporation with North Bay Hydro Distribution Ltd. and to operate as a single electricity distribution company under the name North Bay Hydro Distribution Ltd.

For a full list of the approvals requested, please carefully review the application.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD IS HOLDING A PUBLIC HEARING

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) will hold a public hearing to consider the application. We will question the companies on the case. We will also hear arguments from individuals and from groups that represent the customers of both North Bay Hydro Distribution Ltd. and Espanola Regional Hydro Distribution Corporation. At the end of this hearing, the OEB will decide whether to approve the application.

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 the application and to be involved in the process.

- You can review the application on the OEB's website now.
- You can file a letter with your comments, which will be considered during the hearing.
- You can become an active participant (called an intervenor). Apply by **March 18, 2019** or the hearing will go ahead without you and you will not receive any further notice of the proceeding.
- At the end of the process, you can review the OEB's decision and its reasons on our website.

LEARN MORE

Our file number for this case is **EB-2019-0015**. To learn more about this hearing, find instructions on how to file letters or become an intervenor, or to access any document related to this case, please enter the file number **EB-2019-0015** on the OEB website: www.oeb.ca/participate. 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 **March 18, 2019**.

PRIVACY

If you write a letter of comment, your name and the content of your letter will be put on the public record and the OEB website. However, your personal telephone number, home address and email address will be removed. If you are a business, all your information will remain public. If you apply to become an intervenor, all information will be public.

This hearing will be held under sections 86(1)(c), 86(2)(b) and 78 of the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, S.O. 1998 c.15 (Schedule B).

