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For immediate release

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OEB Grants Leave to Construct

Toronto – Today, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a Decision and Order granting Greenfield Energy Limited Partnership (Greenfield) leave to construct 3.5 km of 230 kV transmission circuits to connect the Greenfield Energy Centre to the transmission facilities of Hydro One Networks Inc. in the Township of St. Clair.

In making its Decision, the Board considered a number of issues including:

- Whether the need for the proposed facilities had been demonstrated
- Whether the Board should review the environmental and socio-economic aspects of the proposed facilities and of the generating station
- What impact the proposed facilities will have on reliability of supply

The Board noted that over the last few years significant attention has been paid by Government, industry and the public, to adequacy of available generation to maintain electrical supply to Ontario consumers. The Board is satisfied that the need for the proposed transmission facilities has been demonstrated.

With respect to whether the Board should review the environmental and socio-economic aspects of the proposed facilities and of the generating station, the Board noted its mandate and the OEB Act which specifically requires the Board consider only the interests of consumers with respect to prices and the reliability and quality of electricity service. Citing its ruling in previous Board proceedings, the Board concluded that its mandate does not include a review of any environmental issues, or perceived or potential adverse environmental effects associated with the electricity transmission line or the plant.

The Board also indicated it was satisfied with the evidence contained in the System Impact Assessment and the draft Customer Impact Assessment reports, that the proposed facilities will have no detrimental effect on the reliability of the grid system and that there will be no inappropriate adverse impact on transmission rates.

The Ontario Energy Board regulates the province's electricity and natural gas sectors in the public interest. It envisions a healthy and efficient energy sector with informed consumers, and works towards this vision through regulatory processes that are effective, fair and transparent.

For more information on the Board, please visit our Web site at www.oeb.gov.on.ca or contact the Consumer Relations Centre at 416-314-2455 or toll-free at 1-877-632-2727.

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