**Ministry of Energy** 

Office of the Minister

4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Hearst Block 900 Bay Street Toronto ON M7A 2E1 Tel.: 416-327-6758 Fax: 416-327-6754

APR 1 3 2016

His Worship Fred Eisenberger Mayor City of Hamilton Hamilton City Hall 71 Main Street West Hamilton ON L8P 4Y5

Dear Mayor Eisenberger: Fred

It was a pleasure to join you at the March 24, 2016 event in Hamilton to celebrate progress in the merger of Hydro One Brampton with PowerStream, Enersource and Horizon. As you know, the merger will create the second-largest electricity distributor in Ontario.

Ministère de l'Énergie

4<sup>e</sup> étage, édifice Hearst

Tél.: 416 327-6758 Téléc. : 416 327-6754

Bureau du ministre

900, rue Bay Toronto ON M7A 2E1

I appreciate that the City of Hamilton supported proceeding with the merger. An improved company would be better positioned to serve its customers, by delivering efficiencies and economies of scale while continuing to provide safe, reliable and affordable electricity, which could also lead to increased revenues to fund local priorities. For example, the new company has forecast a downward pressure on electricity rates of \$40 per year for an average customer. Ontarians will also benefit from the net revenue gains from the sale which will be dedicated to the Trillium Trust to fund infrastructure projects that create jobs and strengthen the economy.

The merger represents a major step forward in promoting local distribution company consolidation in Ontario, in line with the recommendations of the 2012 Ontario Distribution Sector Review Panel Report.

The Province has now executed a Share Purchase Agreement with the three purchasers. Going forward, the transaction and the creation of the new company are subject to certain closing conditions, including Competition Bureau and Ontario Energy Board approval.

I look forward to the value that the new company will bring to consumers while continuing to provide safe, reliable and affordable electricity.

Sincerely,

Bob Chiarelli Minister

Chris Murray, City Manager, City of Hamilton C:



MC-2015-2610