

# **DECISION AND ORDER**

EB-2023-0129

## **B2M LIMITED PARTNERSHIP**

Application for electricity transmission revenue requirement to be effective January 1, 2024

BY DELEGATION, BEFORE: Theodore Antonopoulos

Vice-President Applications

#### 1 OVERVIEW

Through this Decision and Order, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) approves changes to the transmission revenue requirement of B2M Limited Partnership (B2M LP), effective January 1, 2024. B2M LP's approved 2024 revenue requirement is \$36,395,939, representing an increase of 4.8% from the revenue requirement of \$34,728,950 approved for 2023.

As a result of this Decision, there will be an estimated 0.08% increase to average transmission rates and a 0.010% increase to the average monthly bill for a transmission-connected customer. The total estimated bill impact on the average monthly bill of a medium density residential customer<sup>1</sup> consuming 750 kWh will be an increase of \$0.02 (0.015%). The total estimated bill impact on the average monthly bill of a general service customer<sup>2</sup> consuming 2,000 kWh monthly and having a monthly demand of less than 50 kW will be an increase of \$0.04 (0.010%).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Hydro One R1 customer

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Hydro One GSe < 50 kW customer

#### 2 CONTEXT AND PROCESS

B2M LP is an OEB-licensed and rate-regulated electricity transmitter that owns and operates a 176 km 500 kV double circuit transmission line that connects the Bruce nuclear complex to the Milton switching station. B2M LP is seeking the OEB's approval of its annual revenue requirement to transmit electricity, as is required of licensed and rate-regulated transmitters in Ontario.

The OEB sets rates for rate-regulated electricity transmitters in Ontario by approving a revenue requirement for each transmitter. These individual transmission revenue requirements are incorporated into the Uniform Transmission Rates (UTRs) that are recovered from ratepayers across the province.

In the OEB's Decision and Order on B2M LP's 2020 transmission revenue requirement and related matters<sup>3</sup> (2020 Application), the OEB approved the proposed Revenue Cap Incentive Rate-setting (Revenue Cap IR) methodology and determined that this framework would be used to determine B2M LP's transmission revenue requirement for the years 2021 through 2024. The framework adjusts B2M LP's revenue requirement by a revenue cap index comprised of inflation, less a productivity factor, stretch factor and a settlement capital adjustment factor.

B2M LP filed its 2024 Revenue Cap IR application on July 17, 2023 under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* and in accordance with <u>Chapter 2</u> of the OEB's *Filing Requirements for Electricity Transmission Applications.* This is the fourth application filed by B2M LP for an adjustment to its revenue requirement using the Revenue Cap IR methodology approved by the OEB in the 2020 Application.

The application was supported by pre-filed written evidence.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> EB-2019-0178, Decision and Order, January 16, 2020

#### 3 REVENUE CAP IR ADJUSTMENT

B2M LP's application requested OEB approval of an adjustment to its base revenue requirement, determined using an OEB-approved Revenue Cap IR methodology, in which the base revenue requirement for the prospective rate year is equal to the base revenue requirement in the year preceding the prospective rate year inflated by a Revenue Cap Index (RCI).

The RCI approved by the OEB for B2M LP through its decision on the 2020 Application includes an inflation factor ("I"), a productivity factor ("X"), which includes a stretch factor, and a Settlement Capital Adjustment Factor ("SCAF"). The RCI is expressed as:

$$RCI = I - X - SCAF$$

The inflation factor is updated annually by the OEB. The OEB-approved industry-specific inflation rate for electricity transmission rate applications for the 2024 rate year is 5.4%.<sup>4</sup>

In B2M LP's 2020 Application, the OEB approved a productivity factor of 0.0% and a SCAF of 0.6% for use between 2021 and 2024.

The components of the Revenue Cap IR adjustment formula applicable to B2M LP for the 2024 rate year are set out in Table 1. They result in a total RCI of 4.80%.

Table 1: Revenue Cap IR Adjustment Formula

| Com   | Value        |       |
|---|--------------|-------|
| Inflation Factor (I)                        | 5.40%        |       |
| Productivity Factor (X)                     | Productivity | 0.00% |
|   | Stretch      | 0.00% |
| Settlement Capital Adjustment Factor (SCAF) |              | 0.60% |
| Revenue Cap Index (RCI) = I - X - S         | 4.80%        |       |

B2M LP's base revenue requirement for the 2024 rate year is then determined by applying the RCI of 4.8% to B2M LP's 2023 base revenue requirement. The result is a 2024 base revenue requirement of \$36,395,939, as shown in Table 2.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> OEB Letter re: <u>2024 Inflation Parameters</u>, June 29, 2023

Table 2: Base Revenue Requirement by Year

| Year | Formula   | Base Revenue<br>Requirement (\$) |
|------|---|----------------------------------|
| 2023 | OEB-Approved Base Revenue Requirement                           | 34,728,9505                      |
| 2024 | 2023 Base Revenue Requirement x 2024 RCI = \$34,728,950 x 1.048 | 36,395,939                       |

B2M LP has not requested approval to dispose any deferral and variance account balances in this proceeding. Accordingly, B2M LP's total revenue requirement for 2024 is equal to its base revenue requirement for 2024, as adjusted by the RCI.

B2M LP's requested revenue requirement is a contributor to the total revenue requirement to be collected from the provincial UTRs.

B2M LP's revenue requirement is allocated to the provincial Network rate pool only, as all its assets serve the transmission network with no transformation or individual customer services. Table 3 summarizes B2M LP's 2024 revenue requirement by transmission rate pool.

Table 3: 2024 Revenue Requirement by Transmission Rate Pool (\$)

| Network    | Line<br>Connection | Transformation Connection | Total      |
|------------|--------------------|---------------------------|------------|
| 36,395,939 | -                  | -                         | 36,395,939 |

As it does not have any customer delivery points supplied directly from its assets, B2M LP does not have charge determinants for setting UTRs.

B2M LP's 2024 revenue requirement represents approximately 1.7% of the total revenue requirement across all transmitters, based on the OEB-approved 2023 UTRs.

B2M LP estimated that its proposed 2024 revenue requirement would result in a 0.08% increase to average transmission rates and a 0.010% increase to the average monthly bill for a transmission-connected customer.

B2M LP further estimated that its proposed 2024 revenue requirement would result in an increase of \$0.02 (0.015%) to the average monthly bill of a medium density

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> EB-2022-0190, Decision and Order, November 24, 2022

residential customer<sup>6</sup> consuming 750 kWh, and an increase of \$0.04 (0.010%) to the average monthly bill of a general service customer<sup>7</sup> consuming 2,000 kWh monthly and having a monthly demand of less than 50 kW.

#### **Findings**

B2M LP's request for a 4.8% increase to its base revenue requirement for 2024 is in accordance with the methodology and parameters set by the OEB in the 2020 Application. The OEB approves a 2024 revenue requirement of \$36,395,939 with an effective date of January 1, 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Hydro One R1 customer

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Hydro One GSe < 50 kW customer

### **4 IMPLEMENTATION AND ORDER**

#### IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The 2024 revenue requirement of \$36,395,939 for B2M Limited Partnership is approved, with an effective date of January 1, 2024. B2M Limited Partnership's 2024 revenue requirement will be included in the OEB's determination of the 2024 Uniform Transmission Rates for Ontario.

**DATED** at Toronto, September 7, 2023

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD** 

Nancy Marconi Registrar