
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE APPROVAL

NUMBER A-500-7359404338

Version: 1.0

Issue Date: November 17, 2025

Pursuant to section 20.3 of the *Environmental Protection Act*, Revised Statutes of Ontario (R.S.O.) 1990, c. E. 19 and subject to all other applicable Acts or regulations this Environmental Compliance Approval is issued to:

HYDRO ONE NETWORKS INC

483 BAY STREET ,FLOOR 14
TORONTO ONTARIO
M5G 2P5
.....

For the following site:

Palermo Transmission Station
4145 Regional Road 25
Oakville, ON L6M 4J4
.....

You have applied under section 20.2 of Part II.1 of the *Environmental Protection Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. E. 19 (*Environmental Protection Act*) for approval of:

establishment of sewage works for the collection, transmission, treatment and disposal of stormwater as well as spill containment drainage at the Palermo Transmission station, consisting of the following Works:

Proposed Works:

Spill Containment Facilities

Transformer 3T5 and 3T6:

- two (2) rectangular-shaped spill containment areas (one per transformer), to be located underneath and around transformers 3T5 and 3T6, with each of the transformers having an oil storage volume of approximately 53.1 cubic metres, and each spill containment area having a minimum containment volume of approximately 78.8 cubic metres equipped with "Sorb'N'Seal" containment system, each comprised of:

- An earthen perimeter to support the liner with minimum surface dimensions of approximately 16 metre wide by 15.25 metre long;
- Geo-synthetic impermeable liner around all intrusions;
- A 150 mm wick drain in a 50 mm sand layer, overlaid by;
- An oilmat (Smart membrane) that will self-seal when in contact with spilled or leaked oil from equipment, overlaid by;
- Oil-adsorbent material (SAM) layer, overlaid by;
- 50 mm sand layer, overlaid by;
- A semi-permeable woven geotextile layer, overlaid by;
- 1.15 m fire quenching stone layer, overlaid by;
- Station surface stone to surrounding grade.

with both spill containments area drained by one (1) 150 millimetre wick drain system each constructed below the secondary containment system, discharging towards two (2) sampling manholes and ultimately via 200 millimetre diameter outlet pipe to an existing ditch at the south side of the station.

all other controls, electrical equipment, instrumentation, piping, pumps, valves and appurtenances essential for the proper operation of the aforementioned Works.

all in accordance with supporting documents listed in Schedule 1.

DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this environmental compliance approval, the following definitions apply:

1. "Approval" means this entire Environmental Compliance Approval and any Schedules attached to it;
2. "Director" means a person appointed by the Minister pursuant to section 5 of the EPA for the purposes of Part II.1 of the EPA;
3. "District Manager" means the District Manager of the appropriate local District Office of the Ministry, where the Works are geographically located;
4. "EPA" means the *Environmental Protection Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.E.19, as amended;
5. "Equivalent Equipment" means alternate piece(s) of equipment that meets the design requirements and performance specifications of the piece(s) of equipment to be

substituted;

6. "Grab Sample" means an individual sample of at least 1000 millilitres collected in an appropriate container at a randomly selected time over a period of time not exceeding 15 minutes;
7. "Licensed Engineering Practitioner" means a person who holds a licence, limited licence or temporary licence under the *Professional Engineers Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.28;
8. "Limited Operational Flexibility" (LOF) means the conditions that the Owner shall follow in order to undertake any modification that is pre-authorized as part of this Approval;
9. "mg/L" means milligrams per litre;
10. "µg/L" means micrograms per litre
11. "Ministry" means the ministry of the government of Ontario responsible for the EPA and OWRA and includes all officials, employees or other persons acting on its behalf;
12. "Monthly" means once every month;
13. "Notice of Modifications" means the form titled "Notice of Modifications to Sewage Works";
14. "Owner" means Hydro One Networks Inc. and its successors and assignees;
15. "OWRA" means the *Ontario Water Resources Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.40, as amended;
16. "Proposed Works" means those portions of the Works included in the Approval that are under construction or to be constructed;
17. "Quarterly" means four times over a year, relatively evenly spaced where possible, commencing with the start-up of the Works;
18. "Works" means the approved sewage works, and includes Proposed Works and modifications made under Limited Operational Flexibility.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

You are hereby notified that this environmental compliance approval is issued to you subject to the terms and conditions outlined below:

1. GENERAL CONDITION

1. The Owner shall ensure that any person authorized to carry out work on or operate any aspect of the Works is notified of this Approval and the terms and conditions herein and shall take all reasonable measures to ensure any such person complies with the same.

2. The Owner shall design, construct, operate and maintain the Works in accordance with the conditions of this Approval.
3. Where there is a conflict between a provision of any document referred to in this Approval and the conditions of this Approval, the conditions in this Approval shall take precedence.
4. The issuance of, and compliance with the conditions of, this Approval does not:
 - a. relieve any person of any obligation to comply with any provision of any applicable statute, regulation or other legal requirement, including, but not limited to, the obligation to obtain approval from the local conservation authority necessary to construct or operate the Works; or
 - b. limit in any way the authority of the Ministry to require certain steps be taken to require the Owner to furnish any further information related to compliance with this Approval.

2. EXPIRY OF APPROVAL

1. This Approval will cease to apply to those parts of the Works which have not been constructed within **five (5) years** of the date of this Approval.
2. In the event that completion and commissioning of any portion of the Works is anticipated to be more than five (5) years, the Owner shall submit an application for extension at least twelve (12) months prior to the end of the five (5) years from the day of issuance of this Approval. The application shall include the reason(s) for the delay, whether there is any design change(s) and a review of whether the standards applicable at the time of Approval of the Works are still applicable at the time of request for extension, to ensure the ongoing protection of the environment.

3. CHANGE OF OWNER

1. The Owner shall notify the District Manager and the Director, in writing, of any of the following changes within thirty (30) days of the change occurring:
 - a. change of address of Owner;
 - b. change of Owner, including address of new owner;
 - c. change of partners where the Owner is or at any time becomes a partnership, and a copy of the most recent declaration filed under the *Business Names Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. B.17 shall be included in the notification; or
 - d. change of name of the corporation, and a copy of the most current information filed under the *Corporations Information Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. C39 shall be included in the notification.

2. In the event of any change in ownership of the Works, the Owner shall notify in writing the succeeding owner of the existence of this Approval, and a copy of such notice shall be forwarded to the District Manager and the Director.
3. The Owner shall ensure that all communications made pursuant to this condition refer to the number of this Approval.

4. CONSTRUCTION OF PROPOSED WORKS

1. The Owner shall ensure that the design and construction of the Works is supervised by a Licensed Engineering Practitioner.
2. Upon the construction of the Works, the Owner shall prepare a statement, certified by a Licensed Engineering Practitioner, that the Works are constructed in accordance with this Approval, and upon request, shall make the written statement available for inspection by Ministry personnel.
3. Within **six (6) months** of the construction of the Proposed Works, a set of as-built drawings showing the Works "as constructed" shall be prepared. These drawings shall be kept up to date through revisions undertaken from time to time and a copy shall be retained for the operational life of the Works.

5. Operation and Maintenance

1. The Owner shall ensure that the Works and related equipment and appurtenances which are installed or used to achieve compliance with this Approval are properly operated and maintained. The Owner shall check the Works on a monthly basis, as a minimum, and keep a record of the inspections in a log-book at the Station. Upon the request of the Owner, the District Manager may reduce the frequency of inspection, in writing.
2. The Owner shall use best efforts to immediately identify and clean up all losses of oil from the transformers.
3. The Owner shall, upon identification of oil loss, take appropriate action to prevent the further occurrence of such loss.
4. In furtherance of, but without limiting the generality of, the obligation imposed by Subsection (1), the Owner shall ensure that equipment and material for the containment, clean-up and disposal of oil and materials contaminated with oil are kept on hand and in good repair for immediate use in the event of:
 - a. operating procedures for routine operation of the Works and for periodic self-monitoring of the transformer spill containment effluents;
 - b. a spill within the meaning of Part X of the EPA; or
 - c. the identification of an abnormal amount of oil in the spill containment areas, sampling manholes, or any drainage outlets.

5. The Owner shall ensure that any oil that is used in all transformers is free from Polychlorinated Biphenyls.

6. OPERATIONS MANUAL

1. In furtherance of, but without limiting the generality of the obligation imposed by Condition 5, the Owner shall prepare an operations manual prior to the commencement of the operation of the Works.
2. The Owner shall ensure that the manual includes, but is not necessarily limited to, the following information:
 - a. operating procedures for routine operation of the Works and for periodic self-monitoring of the transformer spill containment effluents;
 - b. inspection programs, including frequency of inspection, for the Works and the methods or tests employed to detect when maintenance is necessary;
 - c. repair and maintenance programs, including the frequency of repair and maintenance, for the Works;
 - d. a spill prevention, control and countermeasures plan to address loss of oil from the transformers and oil discharge offsite, including procedures for notifying the District Manager; and
 - e. procedures for receiving, responding and recording public complaints, including recording any follow-up actions taken.
3. The Owner shall maintain an up to date operations manual and make the manual readily accessible for reference at the Works for the operational life of the Works. Upon request, the Owner shall make the manual available to Ministry staff.

7. EFFLUENT OBJECTIVES

1. The Owner shall use best efforts to design, construct and operate the Works with the objective that the concentrations of the materials named as effluent parameters in the Effluent Objectives Table listed in Schedule 2 are not exceeded in the effluent from the Works
2. In the event of an exceedance of the objectives set out in Subsection (1), the Owner shall,
 - a. notify the District Manager as soon as possible during normal working hours
 - b. take immediate action to identify the source of contamination, and
 - c. take immediate action to prevent further exceedance.

8. EFFLUENT - VISUAL OBSERVATIONS

1. Notwithstanding any other Condition in this Approval, the Owner shall ensure that the effluent from the Works is essentially free of floating and settleable solids and does not contain oil or any other substance in amounts sufficient to create a visible film, sheen, foam or discolouration on the final receiver.

9. SAMPLES AND MEASUREMENTS

1. The Owner shall ensure that samples and measurements taken for the purposes of this Approval are taken at a time and in a location characteristic of the quality of the effluent stream over the time period being monitored.

10. EFFLUENT QUALITY MONITORING

1. The Owner shall, upon commencement of operation of the proposed Works, carry out a **routine monitoring program of the proposed works**, and all samples and measurements taken for the purposes of this Approval are to be taken at a time and in a location characteristic of the quality and quantity of the effluent stream over the time period being monitored.
2. Samples shall be collected and analyzed at the following sampling point(s), at the sampling frequencies and using the sample type specified for each parameter listed in the effluent monitoring table in Schedule 2.
3. Ministry staff may enter the site of the Works at any reasonable time to inspect the Works which can include, but not be limited to, the taking of samples and copying of monitoring information from the station record, and
4. The Owner shall carry out the following **additional** effluent monitoring program **immediately after a spill** as defined under Condition 5, Subsection (4)(b):
 - a. The effluent from the spill affected containment areas and/or holding tanks shall be sampled at the **designated outlet**, in accordance with the monitoring frequency and sample type specified for each parameter listed in the Effluent Monitoring Table included in Schedule 2, unless otherwise required in writing by this Approval or by the District Manager.
 - b. In the event of an exceedance of the objective set out in Condition 7, Subsection (1), the Owner shall increase the frequency of sampling of the affected effluent from the spill affected containment area to once per month for each month that discharge occurs until it is demonstrated to the District Manager that the effluent complies with the said objective.
5. The methods and protocols for sampling, analysis and recording shall conform, in order of precedence, to the methods and protocols specified in the following:

- a. Ministry of the Environment publication "Protocol for the Sampling and Analysis of Industrial/Municipal Wastewater", January 2016, as amended from time to time by more recently published editions.
 - b. the publication "Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater", 21st edition, 2005, as amended from time to time by more recently published editions.
6. The measurement frequencies related to routine monitoring specified in subsection (1) in respect of any parameter specified in the effluent monitoring table in Schedule B are minimum requirements which may, after 24 months of monitoring in accordance with this Condition, be modified by the Director in writing from time to time.
 7. The Owner shall retain for a minimum of **five (5) years** from the date of their creation, or longer if requested in writing by the District Manager, all records and information related to, or resulting from, the monitoring, inspection and maintenance activities required by this Approval.

11. LIMITED OPERATIONAL FLEXIBILITY

1. The Owner may make modifications to the Works in accordance with the Terms and Conditions of this Approval and subject to the Ministry's "Limited Operational Flexibility Criteria for Modifications to Works ", included under Schedule 3 of this Approval, as amended.
2. Works proposed under Limited Operational Flexibility shall adhere to the design guidelines contained within the Ministry's publication "Stormwater Management Planning and Design Manual, 2003" and the "IEEE Guide for Containment and Control of Oil Spills in Substations" (IEEE Standard 980-2013), as amended, and engineering best practices.
3. The Owner shall ensure at all times, that the Works, related equipment and appurtenances which are installed or used to achieve compliance are operated in accordance with all Terms and Conditions of this Approval.
4. For greater certainty, the following are not permitted as part of Limited Operational Flexibility:
 - a. modifications to the Works that may adversely affect the approved effluent quality criteria or the location of the discharge/outfall;
 - b. modifications to the type of treatment process technology of the Works, or modifications that alter the treatment train process design;
 - c. modifications to activities mentioned in sub-section 9(1) of the EPA; and
 - d. modifications to the Works pursuant to an order issued by the Ministry.

5. Implementation of Limited Operational Flexibility is not intended to be used for piecemeal measures that result in major alterations or expansions.
6. If the implementation of Limited Operational Flexibility requires changes to be made to the Emergency Response, Spill Reporting and Contingency Plan, the Owner shall, as deemed necessary in consultation with the District Manager, provide a revised copy of this plan to the local fire services authority prior to implementing Limited Operational Flexibility.
7. For greater certainty, any modification made under the Limited Operational Flexibility may only be carried out after other legal obligations have been complied with, including those arising from the *Environmental Protection Act*, *Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act*, *Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Act*, *Lake Simcoe Protection Act* and *Greenbelt Act*.
8. At least thirty (30) days prior to implementing Limited Operational Flexibility, the Owner shall complete a Notice of Modifications describing any proposed modifications to the Works and submit it to the District Manager.
9. In the event that at least one Notice of Modifications was submitted for this Approval, the Approval shall be amended for renewal within ten (10) years from the date of issuance of the Approval. The Owner shall submit to the Director an application to amend this Approval six (6) months prior to the renewal deadline. The renewal application shall include, at minimum, the following information:
 - a. the most current description of the Works;
 - b. copies of all Notices of Modifications that were submitted to the District Manager since the issuance of the Approval; and
 - c. a performance report on the operation and maintenance of the Works, including any exceedances of effluent criteria that occurred during the ten-year period since the issuance of the Approval.

12. REPORTING

1. One (1) week prior to the start-up of the operation of the Works, the Owner shall notify the District Manager (in writing) of the pending start-up date.
2. The Owner shall report to the District Manager or designate, any exceedance of any parameter specified in Condition 7 orally, as soon as reasonably possible, and in writing within **seven (7) days** of the exceedance.
3. The Owner shall, upon request, make all reports, manuals, plans, records, data, procedures and supporting documentation available to Ministry staff.
In addition to the obligations under Part X of the EPA and O. Reg. 675/98 (Classification and Exemption of Spills and Reporting of Discharges) made under the EPA, the Owner shall, within fifteen (15) days of the occurrence of any reportable spill

as provided in Part X of the EPA and O. Reg. 675/98, submit a full written report of the occurrence to the District Manager describing the cause and discovery of the spill, clean-up and recovery measures taken, preventative measures to be taken and a schedule of implementation.

4. The Owner shall prepare performance reports on a calendar year basis and submit to the District Manager by March 31 of the calendar year following the period being reported upon. The reports shall contain, but shall not be limited to, the following information pertaining to the reporting period:
 - a. a summary and interpretation of all monitoring data and a comparison to the effluent objectives outlined in Condition 7, including an overview of the success and adequacy of the Works;
 - b. a description of any operating problems encountered and corrective actions taken;
 - c. a summary of all maintenance carried out on any major structure, equipment, apparatus, mechanism or thing forming part of the Works, including an estimate of the quantity of any materials removed from the Works;
 - d. a summary of the calibration and maintenance carried out on all effluent monitoring equipment;
 - e. a summary of any effluent quality assurance or control measures undertaken in the reporting period;
 - f. a copy of all Notice of Modifications submitted to the District Manager as a result of Schedule 3, Section 1, with a status report on the implementation of each modification;
 - g. a report summarizing all modifications completed as a result of Schedule 3, Section 3;
 - h. a summary of any complaints received during the reporting period and any steps taken to address the complaints;
 - i. a summary of all spill or abnormal discharge events; and
 - j. any other information the District Manager requires from time to time.

REASONS

The reasons for the imposition of these terms and conditions are as follows:

1. Condition 1 is imposed to ensure that the Works are built and operated in the manner in which they were described for review and upon which approval was granted. This

condition is also included to emphasize the precedence of Conditions in the Approval and the practice that the Approval is based on the most current document, if several conflicting documents are submitted for review. Condition 1.(4) is included to emphasize that the issuance of this Approval does not diminish any other statutory and regulatory obligations to which the Owner is subject in the construction, maintenance and operation of the Works. The Condition specifically highlights the need to obtain any necessary conservation authority approvals. The Condition also emphasizes the fact that this Approval doesn't limit the authority of the Ministry to require further information.

2. Condition 2 is included to ensure that, when the Works are constructed, the Works will meet the standards that apply at the time of construction to ensure the ongoing protection of the environment.
3. Condition 3 is included to ensure that the Ministry records are kept accurate and current with respect to approved Works and to ensure that subsequent owners of the Works are made aware of the Approval and continue to operate the Works in compliance with it.
4. Condition 4 is included to ensure that the Works are constructed in accordance with the approval and that record drawings of the Works "as constructed" are maintained for future references.
5. Condition 5 is included to ensure that the Works will be operated and maintained in a manner enabling compliance with the terms and conditions of this Approval, such that the environment is protected and deterioration, loss, injury or damage to any person or property is minimized and/or prevented.
6. Condition 6 is included to ensure that an operations manual governing all significant areas of operation, maintenance and repair is prepared, implemented and kept current by the Owner and made available to the Ministry, upon request. Such a manual is an integral part of the operation of the Works. Its compilation and use should assist the Owner in staff training and in identifying and planning for contingencies during possible abnormal conditions. The manual will also act as a bench-mark for Ministry staff when reviewing the Owner's operation of the Works.
7. Condition 7 is imposed to establish non-enforceable effluent quality objectives which the Owner is obligated to use best efforts to meet on an ongoing basis. Also imposed are procedures to be followed to minimize environmental impact in the event the objectives are exceeded.
8. Condition 8 is imposed to ensure that the effluent discharged from the Works meets the Ministry's effluent quality requirements, as specified, on a continuous basis, thus minimizing environmental impact on the receiver.
9. Conditions 9 and 10 are related to sampling, monitoring and record keeping. They have been imposed to require the Owner to demonstrate, when required, that the performance of the Works is at a level consistent with the design and effluent objectives specified in the Approval, that it does not cause any impairment to the receiving areas and that required

operational information is available for review.

10. Condition 11 is included to ensure that the Works are operated in accordance with the application and supporting documentation submitted by the Owner, and not in a manner which the Director has not been asked to consider. These conditions are also included to ensure that a Licensed Engineering Practitioner has reviewed the proposed Modifications and attests that the Modifications are in line with that of Limited Operational Flexibility and provide assurance that the proposed Modifications comply with the Ministry's requirements stipulated in the terms and conditions of this Approval, Ministry policies, guidelines, and industry engineering standards and best management practices.
11. Condition 12 is included to provide a performance record for future references, to ensure that the Ministry is made aware of problems as they arise, and to provide a compliance record for all the terms and conditions outlined in this Approval, so that the Ministry can work with the Owner in resolving any problems in a timely manner.

APPEAL PROVISIONS

In accordance with Section 139 of the *Environmental Protection Act*, you may by written notice served upon me and the Ontario Land Tribunal, within 15 days after the service of this notice, require a hearing by the Tribunal. You must also provide notice to, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks in accordance with Section 47 of the *Environmental Bill of Rights*, 1993 who will place notice of your appeal on the Environmental Registry. Section 142 of the *Environmental Protection Act* provides that the notice requiring the hearing ("the Notice") shall state:

1. The portions of the environmental compliance approval or each term or condition in the environmental compliance approval in respect of which the hearing is required, and;
2. The grounds on which you intend to rely at the hearing in relation to each portion appealed.

The Notice should also include:

1. The name of the appellant;
2. The address of the appellant;
3. The environmental compliance approval number;
4. The date of the environmental compliance approval;
5. The name of the Director, and;
6. The municipality or municipalities within which the project is to be engaged in.

And the Notice should be signed and dated by the appellant.

This Notice must be served upon:

Registrar*
Ontario Land Tribunal
655 Bay Street, Suite 1500
Toronto, Ontario
M5G 1E5
OLT.Registrar@ontario.ca

and

The Minister of
the Environment,
Conservation and
Parks
777 Bay Street,
5th Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2J3

and

The Director appointed for the
purposes of Part II.1 of the
Environmental Protection Act
Ministry of the Environment,
Conservation and Parks
135 St. Clair Avenue West, 1st
Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M4V 1P5

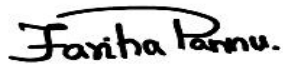
*** Further information on the Ontario Land Tribunal's requirements for an appeal can be**

obtained directly from the Tribunal at: Tel: (416) 212-6349 or 1 (866) 448-2248, or [Ontario Land Tribunal's](#)

This instrument is subject to Section 38 of the *Environmental Bill of Rights*, 1993, that allows residents of Ontario to seek leave to appeal the decision on this instrument. Residents of Ontario may seek leave to appeal within 15 days from the date this decision is placed on the Environmental Registry. By accessing the Environmental Registry at [Environmental Registry of Ontario](#), you can determine when the leave to appeal period ends.

The above noted activity is approved under s.20.3 of Part II.1 of the *Environmental Protection Act*.

Dated at Toronto this 17th day of November, 2025



Fariha Pannu

Director

appointed for the purposes of Part II.1 of the *Environmental Protection Act*

c: Karola TOTH, HYDRO ONE NETWORKS INC

Aaron Curtis, Hydro One Inc

The following schedules are a part of this environmental compliance approval:

SCHEDULE 1

1. Environmental Compliance Approval Application for Industrial Sewage Works submitted by Hydro One Networks Inc., dated and received May 23, 2025, certified by Aaron Curtis of Hydro One Networks Inc. and all supporting documentation and information.
2. Design Brief "SorbNSeal System for Palermo TS", dated April 25, 2025 including calculations and engineering drawings, prepared by Albarrie GeoComposites Ltd.

SCHEDULE 2

Effluent Objectives Table

Effluent Parameter	Concentration Objective (milligrams per litre unless otherwise indicated)
Oil and Grease	15 mg/L
Phenol	20 ug/L
Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB)	0.05 ug/L

Routine Effluent Monitoring Table in accordance with condition 10.1

Samples shall be collected and analyzed at MH2 (outlet side)

Parameters	Frequency	Sample Type
Oil and Grease	Quarterly	Grab
Phenol	Quarterly	Grab
Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB)	Quarterly	Grab

Post-Spill Effluent Monitoring Table in accordance with condition 10.4

Samples shall be collected and analyzed at any spill-affected containment area outlet:

3T6: MH1

3T5: MH2

Parameters	Frequency	Sample Type
Oil and Grease	Quarterly	Grab
Phenol	Quarterly	Grab
Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB)	Quarterly	Grab