



September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Attention: Julia Black, Policy Advisor, Transmission Policy  
Ministry of Energy  
77 Grenville Street, 6th Floor  
Toronto, ON, M7A 2C1  
Canada

Submitted via the Environmental Registry of Ontario: ERO Notice 019-9007

**Re: Supporting Critical Transmission Infrastructure in Northeastern Ontario**

To whom it may concern,

The Ontario Mining Association (OMA) appreciates the opportunity to offer our comments regarding the prioritization of the Wawa to Porcupine transmission project. As one of the longest serving trade organizations in Canada, the OMA is committed to advancing the mining industry in Ontario through collaboration with governments, communities and affiliated stakeholders. The OMA currently represents more than 80 members situated throughout the province who aim to foster sustainable growth and development by playing a vital role in powering decarbonization efforts while partnering with Indigenous communities to ensure that their projects provide economic benefits, community development and reconciliation.

The mining industry is an intensive energy user in the province converting its energy usage into compounding economic value by supporting the province's electric vehicle supply chain and driving the clean energy transition. As such, we applaud the government's action to address the growing energy demand in Northeastern Ontario. The Wawa to Porcupine transmission line is critical to support the projected growth and energy demand for the mining industry. The OMA supports the prioritization this transmission project that enables current and future mining projects in the region, as well as providing its expected economic benefits such as job creation and strengthened partnerships with indigenous communities in the region. For transmission service from Wawa to Porcupine line to be available for mining projects by 2030, critical infrastructure improvements and construction on the line must begin immediately. In addition, the OMA strongly supports the government and Hydro One in their prioritization to advance reconciliation effects and improve community partnerships throughout this process.

As outlined in [Ontario's Critical Mineral Strategy](#), the demand for critical minerals is expected to increase as the world shifts to a greener, more connected and more technology driven economy. Ontario is uniquely situated to meet the growing demand to support the many applications of the metals and minerals situated across the province. However, to meet this demand we require a more energy for current and future mining projects in a cost-effective and timely manner. Prioritizing the Wawa to porcupine transmission line to be in service by 2030 provides the mining industry the required reliable, affordable, and stable power to advance electrification and decarbonization efforts as well as meet the targets set out provincially and federally.

To sustain future growth, mining companies in the region are eager to collaborate with the government, Indigenous communities and affiliated stakeholders to coordinate planning efforts for

the long-term usage. This includes but is not limited to future construction, capacity planning for future power loads, expansion opportunities and economic community partnerships. This is beneficial as integrated planning allows for information to be effectively communicated during permitting, and construction processes and facilitates efficient work site planning for all players. The OMA and its members are committed to collaborating with the Ontario government, Hydro One and affiliated stakeholders to work towards increased energy capacity in Northern Ontario.

Transmission policy decisions made today will greatly impact current and future mining projects. The OMA looks forward to our continued constructive collaboration on making Ontario a global leader in mining. Thank you for considering our comments presented in this submission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kankshi Amin', with a stylized, cursive script.

Kankshi Amin