



Utility Advisory Council Members

ULDC/Owner-Operator

Alectra Utilities	Vicky Khamar
Burlington Hydro	
Elexicon Energy Incorporated	Arthur Berdichevsky
Festival Hydro	Jeff Graham
Hydro One	Darren Desrosiers
Hydro One - Transmission	
Hydro Ottawa	Kyle Smith
Kitchener-Wilmot Hydro	Greig Cameron
London Hydro	Greg Sheil
Newmarket-Tay Power Distribution Ltd.	Gaye-Donna Young
Orillia Power	
Toronto Hydro	Hani Taki

Government/Regulatory

CSA Group	Mark Humphries
IHSA	Dean Dunn
Ontario Energy Board	Stephen Cain

General Interest

Bell Canada/Telecom Industry	Tony Pereira
Consumer Advisory Council	Sandy Manners
OACETT	
ORCGA/Excavating Industry	
Power Workers Union	Patrick Fee

Other Attendees

Sharmilla Uruthiranandasivam (MGCS), Ryan Zade (Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines), Lori Gallagher (Utilities Standards Forum), Gary Thompson (Toronto Hydro), Chris Kleberg (Hydro One), Rob Koekkoek (Orangeville Hydro), Tim Kennedy (Entegrus Powerlines)

ESA Attendees

Nansy Hanna, Jason Hrycyshyn, Patrick Falzon, Allison Hawkins, Aisling O'Doherty, Esau Habibulla



1 Notice & Quorum

- The meeting had quorum

2 Minutes of UAC Meeting

The following motion was carried:

Motion: To accept the minutes of the June 4, 2020 meeting

Motioned by: Arthur Berdichevsky

Second: Vicky Khamar

Motion carried.

3 Open Action Items

2019-02-03 LDC Using Measurements Canada Meter Drawings and Compliance with Regulation 22/04

Defer

2019-02-04 Measurements Canada Meter Drawing Signed by a Professional Engineer

Defer

2020-01-02 Reasonable Locate Information

The Guideline for Excavation in the vicinity of Utility Lines will be reviewed by Working Group October - December 2020.

2020-02-02 The UAC has asked that ESA look into updating the Terms of Reference to remove the forced rotation of LDCs from the council

Update on the agenda

2020-02-03 Working Group to look at the use of meterbase socket adapters to restore power in emergency situations

Working Group will be meeting October to December 2020.

2020-02-04 ESA will produce materials that can be provided to a customer that owns high voltage equipment and put it in the LDC Toolkit for LDCs to access

Draft materials are being reviewed.

4 Update: 3-Phase, 3-Wire, Solidly-Grounded Wye Customer Services – Jason Hrycyshyn (presentation)

- ESA sent a reminder to LDCs who had not responded to ESA in accordance with their action plans
- A few of these LDCs did not respond to ESA, so ESA will be following up with these LDCs
- Approximately 800 transformers were removed off the watchlist since June 2020



- 31 LDCs have confirmed this configuration of concern no longer exists on their system, up 5 LDC from June 2020
- ESA still has concerns with this type of installation and will be keeping this program at the forefront until they have been removed from the province

Action 2020-03-01: ESA will follow-up with LDCs that have not responded in accordance with their action plan with an update on the 3-Phase 3-Wire Solidly-Grounded Wye Installations. – Jason Hrycyshyn

5 Federal and Provincial Initiatives and ESA Regulations – Jason Hrycyshyn (presentation)

1. Recent Legislative Review Panel Report Access to Passive Infrastructure
 2. Up to Speed: Ontario's Broadband and Cellular Action Plan
 3. Building Transit Faster Act
- ESA is continuing to monitor the above 3 items
 - Concerns were raised about 3rd Party Attachments trying to have LDCs give a blanket approval for their installations citing the attachments are materially insignificant
 - o Utilities Standards Forum had a Working Group to look specifically at this issue
 - Utilities Standards Forum had a working group to look specifically at this issue and the answer was that each pole is different based on what is already on the pole
 - The LDC Engineers were not prepared to give a blanket approval as there are many factors that affect each pole individually
 - ESA requested LDCs provide advice to ESA with regards to the "materially insignificant" bulletin

6 Update on Regulation 22/04 Items – Jason Hrycyshyn (Presentation)

1. Meter Socket Working Group
 2. Excavation Working Group
 3. DDI Training
 4. Auditor Debrief
 5. Guideline review plan
- The Meter Socket working group and the Excavation Guideline Working Group have meetings set for October – December 2020
 - ESA will be holding training session for the inspectors performing DDI Inspections
 - The Auditor Debrief session is scheduled for November 2020



- ESA is currently not on track to meet the 5 year guideline review
 - o The Excavation Working Group will meet in 2020

7 Swimming pools under or near existing overhead powerlines – Patrick Falzon (presentation)

- ESA has seen an increase in the number of Public Safety Concerns being sent to LDCs related to pools being placed in close proximity to overhead and underground powerlines
- OESC Rule around service attachment points
 - o 6-112 2) d) requires the point of attachment to be in compliance with the LDC's requirements
 - o 6-112 3) - The point of attachment of supply or consumer service conductors shall be not less than 4.5 m nor more than 9 m above sidewalk or grade.
 - o The LDC should specify the height of the attachment point so when the conductors are installed they at least meet the minimum clearance requirements
- There are many issues with structures, including pools, being built too close to overhead and underground powerlines
 - o The Ontario Building Code (OBC) 3.1.19 addresses new buildings and existing overhead powerlines
 - o The OBC does not have any provisions that address pools and powerlines
 - Municipal by-laws do address the setback of pools from lot lines
- ESA has had discussions with the Ontario Building Officials Association (OBOA) and various building departments about the requirements of OBC 3.1.19
- ESA has also discussed with various building departments about the addition of requirements around the proximity of powerlines to pools
 - o The feedback received by ESA was that this would be very challenging to accomplish
- ESA has reached out to the AMO about adding this to their annual meeting agenda and there was not much interest from the AMO to discuss this topic
- The suggestion was made for ESA to look at a powerline safety campaign targeting pool installers
 - o ESA had published an article in the pool installers magazine
 - o ESA will discuss internally the options for communication with the pool industry about the hazards associated with install pools in close proximity to powerlines



- The CEA has indicated they would be interested in partnering with ESA in this initiative

Action 2020-03-02: ESA will review internally what options are available for a powerline safety campaign targeting pool installers. – Patrick Falzon

8 Copper Theft Trends – Patrick Falzon (presentation)

- ESA asked LDCs if they have seen an increase in copper theft
- Some LDCs indicated they had seen an increase
- ESA to communicate with LDCs on the UAC about copper theft to have some proper trending analysis ready for the February 2021 UAC meeting

9 Terms of Reference – Nancy Hanna (presentation)

- ESA is reviewing the Terms of Reference and is looking to balance continuity of the council with refreshing the membership
- A Draft will be reviewed internally at ESA then with the Chair and Vice Chair before being circulated to the UAC before the February meeting
- Depending on the feedback from the UAC the council will vote in either February or June 2021 on the updated Terms of Reference

10 UAC Council Survey – Allison Hawkins

- The survey will be sent out to members via Survey Monkey before the end of October
- The survey result will be ready to present in February 2021

11 Auditor General's Report – Allison Hawkins

- ESA has undergone an audit from the Auditor General
- ESA will have more details to share with the council in February 2021

12 Public Electrical Safety Award Winners – Allison Hawkins (presentation)

- Winners for the 2020 Public Electrical Safety Awards include
 - o Lori Gallagher for Powerline Safety
 - o PUC Distribution Inc. for Worker Safety
 - o Hydro One Networks Inc. for Consumer and Home Safety
- More information about the award winners can be found on the [ESA Website](#)



13 Festival Hydro Meter Incidents – Jeff Graham of Festival Hydro

- Festival Hydro has experienced issues with a meter used in 600V installations
- The council agreed that ESA should send a survey to all LDCs inquiring about this meter, its use and what types of failures if any they experienced.

Action 2020-03-04: ESA will survey LDCs to determine which LDCs have a specific meter and what types of failures, if any, they have experienced. – Patrick Falzon

14 ESA Request For Information process: Location of EV Chargers – Gary Thompson of Toronto Hydro (presentation)

- Toronto Hydro submitted a Request for Information (RFI) to ESA looking for the location of EV chargers installed in their service territory
- ESA was able to provide a list of addresses where EV charger outlets were installed
- Discussions are ongoing as to what information ESA has available to provide with future requests of this nature
- ESA is able to provide this information through a RFI to other LDCs
 - o ESA would require the postal codes to perform this search

15 Financial Update – Esau Habibulla (presentation)

- There are no proposed changes to the formula used to calculate the 2021 Regulatory Oversight Cost Recovery for the Electrical Distribution Safety Regulation (Ontario Regulation 22/04)

16 Meter Bases – Manufacturer’s Product Withdrawal – Jason Hrycyshyn (presentation)

- Meter bases were manufactured using non-compliant bell nuts
- Alectra provided the letter from the manufacturer to ESA to distribute to the UAC for feedback
 - o The Council discussed if other LDCs received this notice

17 DER Guideline – Jason Hrycyshyn (presentation)

- The Council agreed to review the [Guideline for Distributed Energy Resources \(DER\)](#) on an annual basis due to the rapid advancements in DERs
- ESA is not proposing any changes to the Guideline
- ESA has reviewed the OEB Staff Bulletin regarding “[Ownership and operation of behind-the-meter energy storage assets for remediating reliability of service](#)” and feels a discussion about this bulletin is valuable



- The Guideline says if you are installing a DER behind the meter then the Ontario Electrical Safety Code (OESC) requirements apply
 - o ESA has a deviation process where ESA would review requests to deviate from the OESC. These requests are reviewed to make sure the installation meets safety standards
- The Council was asked to submit any proposals for revision

18 Reporting of Serious Electrical Incidents – Jason Hrycyshyn (presentation)

- Base on 2 findings in an external audit of Utility Regulations ESA is looking to make 2 changes to the form for Reporting of Serious Electrical Incidents
 - o Add 2 fields for the Date and time the LDC was made aware of an incident to better document the 48 hour window for reporting
 - o Add the word description to Section D
 - Section D: Provide details of incident (Please provide a description and attach a sketch and/or photos of the incident (if available))

19 Process Changes related to COVID-19 – Jason Hrycyshyn (presentation)

- For the 2019 Audit the timelines were pushed back to assist LDCs in obtaining their audit during COVID-19
- For the 2020 Audit period ESA proposed returning to the staggered submission timelines
 - o The Council agreed to return to the staggered submission timelines
- ESA will continue to allow Remote Audits for the 2020 audit period

20 New Business

- ESA was asked what they have in store for next year's powerline safety campaign
 - o ESA will have someone from Communications come to the February 2021 meeting to update on Powerline Safety campaign

21 2021 UAC Meeting Dates

- February 4, 2021
- June 10, 2021
- October 7, 2021

Motion: To adjourn the meeting

Motioned by: Hani Taki

Second: Dean Dunn