



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

December 17, 2013

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### **HALDIMAND COUNTY COUNCIL RATIFIES SALE OF HALDIMAND COUNTY UTILITIES INC. TO HYDRO ONE**

December 17, 2013 – Haldimand County Council has voted to accept a sale proposal from Hydro One to purchase Haldimand County Utilities Inc., the County’s local electricity distributor.

Council made the decision following a discussion and comments from local citizens and public groups at its December 16 council meeting.

“On behalf of Hydro One and all its employees, I would like to welcome our new customers and Haldimand County Hydro employees,” said Carm Marcello, President and CEO, Hydro One Inc. “We were pleased that Haldimand County Council found our offer to be in the best interest of the customers, the employees and the economic development of their community.”

The \$77 million offer includes the lowering of all residential and commercial electrical distribution rates by one percent, a five year freeze on distribution rates, the creation of an advisory committee in Haldimand County, the building of a satellite operations facility in Dunnville and a promise to meet or exceed current service levels. All Haldimand County Hydro employees will maintain their employment and will receive a one-year location guarantee.

“On behalf of Haldimand County, we welcome the new relationship with Hydro One,” said Haldimand County Mayor Ken Hewitt. “We look forward to them being an integral part of our growth and their continued efforts in providing safe, reliable and affordable electricity to the residents and businesses of Haldimand County.”

Hydro One's proposal will now be vetted through legal representation before it is sent to the Ontario Energy Board for ratification. Haldimand County Utilities Inc. was formed in 2000 following amalgamation activities. Presently, it serves more than 21,200 customers stretching across an area of 1,252 square kilometres with approximately 1,739 circuit kilometres of overhead and 96 circuit kilometres of underground distribution lines.

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