



EB-2009-0229

IN THE MATTER OF the *Ontario Energy Board Act*,
1998, S.O. 1998, c.15 (Schedule B);

AND IN THE MATTER OF an application by Hydro 2000
Inc. for an order or orders approving or fixing just and
reasonable distribution rates and other charges, to be
effective May 1, 2010.

BEFORE: Paul Vlahos
Presiding Member

DECISION AND ORDER

Introduction

Hydro 2000 Inc. ("Hydro 2000"), a licensed distributor of electricity, filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") for an order or orders approving or fixing just and reasonable rates for the distribution of electricity and other charges, to be effective May 1, 2010.

Hydro 2000 is one of about 80 electricity distributors in Ontario that are regulated by the Board. In 2008, the Board announced the establishment of a new multi-year electricity distribution rate-setting plan, the 3rd Generation Incentive Rate Mechanism ("IRM") process, that will be used to adjust electricity distribution rates starting in 2009 for those distributors whose 2008 rates were rebased through a cost of service review.

As part of the plan, Hydro 2000 is one of the electricity distributors that will have its rates adjusted for 2010 on the basis of the IRM process, which provides for a mechanistic and formulaic adjustment to distribution rates and charges between cost of service applications.

To streamline the process for the approval of distribution rates and charges for distributors, the Board issued its *Report of the Board on 3rd Generation Incentive Regulation for Ontario's Electricity Distributors* on July 14, 2008, its *Supplemental Report of the Board on 3rd Generation Incentive Regulation for Ontario's Electricity Distributors* on September 17, 2008, and its *Addendum to the Supplemental Report of the Board on 3rd Generation Incentive Regulation for Ontario's Electricity Distributors* on January 28, 2009 (together the "Reports"). Among other things, the Reports contained the relevant guidelines for 2010 rate adjustments (the "Guidelines") for distributors applying for distribution rate adjustments pursuant to the IRM process. On July 22, 2009 the Board issued an update to Chapter 3 of the Board's "Filing Requirements for Transmission and Distribution Applications" (the "Filing Requirements"), which outlined the filing requirements for IRM applications by electricity distributors.

Notice of Hydro 2000's rate application was given through newspaper publication in Hydro 2000's service area advising interested parties where the rate application could be viewed and advising how they could intervene in the proceeding or comment on the application. There were no intervention requests. One letter of comment was received from The Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition ("VECC") relating to Hydro 2000's proposed revenue-to-cost ratio adjustments, which is dealt with in this decision. Board staff participated in the proceeding. The Board proceeded by way of a written hearing.

Board staff made several submissions. In reply, Hydro 2000 stated that it accepts all of Board staff's recommendations.

While the Board has considered the entire record in this rate application, it has made reference only to such evidence as is necessary to provide context to its findings. The following issues are addressed in this Decision and Order:

- Price Cap Index Adjustment;
- Changes in the Federal and Provincial Income Tax Rates;
- Harmonized Sales Tax;
- Smart Meter Funding Adder;
- Revenue-to-Cost Ratios;
- Retail Transmission Service Rates;
- Review and Disposition of Group 1 Deferral and Variance Accounts; and
- Introduction of MicroFIT Generator Service Classification and Rate.

Price Cap Index Adjustment

Hydro 2000's rate application was filed on the basis of the Guidelines. In fixing new distribution rates and charges for Hydro 2000, the Board has applied the policies described in the Reports.

As outlined in the Reports, distribution rates under the 3rd Generation IRM are to be adjusted by a price escalator less a productivity factor (X-factor) of 0.72% and Hydro 2000's utility specific stretch factor of 0.2%. Based on the final 2009 data published by Statistics Canada, the Board has established the price escalator to be 1.3%. The resulting price cap index adjustment is therefore 0.38%. The Board has adjusted the rate model to reflect the newly calculated price cap index adjustment. The price cap index adjustment applies to distribution rates (fixed and variable charges) uniformly across all customer classes. An adjustment for the transition to a common deemed capital structure of 60% debt and 40% equity was also effected.

The price cap index adjustment will not apply to the following components of distribution rates:

- Rate Riders;
- Rate Adders;
- Low Voltage Service Charges;
- Retail Transmission Service Rates;
- Wholesale Market Service Rate;
- Rural Rate Protection Charge;
- Standard Supply service – Administrative Charge;
- Transformation and Primary Metering Allowances;
- Loss Factors;
- Specific Service Charges; and
- Retail Service Charges.

Changes in the Federal and Provincial Income Tax Rates

On December 13, 2007, the Ontario government introduced its 2007 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review (the "Fiscal Review"). The enabling legislation received Royal Assent on May 14, 2008. Included in this Fiscal Review were changes to the

Ontario capital tax provisions¹, and an increase in the small business income limit from \$400,000 to \$500,000 effective January 1, 2007.

The Federal Budget which was presented on January 27, 2009 and received Royal Assent on March 12, 2009 included an increase in the small business income limit from \$400,000 to \$500,000 effective January 1, 2009.

On March 26, 2009, the Ontario provincial budget was presented and Bill 218, the enabling legislation, received Royal Assent on December 15, 2009. For corporations, the basic income tax rates will decrease in stages from 14% to 10% by July 1, 2013, while on July 1, 2010, the small business rate will drop from 5.5% to 4.5%, after the small business deduction is made where applicable. A provincial small business surtax claws back the benefit of the small business deduction when taxable income of associated corporations exceeds \$500,000 and eliminates the benefit completely once taxable income, on an associated basis, reaches \$1,500,000. The surtax will be eliminated on July 1, 2010.

The following table summarizes past, current and impending tax changes.

¹ The Ontario capital tax rate decreased from 0.285% to 0.225% effective January 1, 2007. The Ontario capital tax deduction also increased from \$10 million to \$12.5 million effective January 1, 2007, and from \$12.5 million to \$15 million effective January 1, 2008.

Tax Rates Federal & Provincial As of December 15, 2009	Effective January 1, 2009	Effective January 1, 2010	Effective January 1, 2011	Effective January 1, 2012	Effective January 1, 2013	Effective January 1, 2014
Federal income tax						
General corporate rate	38.00%	38.00%	38.00%	38.00%	38.00%	38.00%
Federal tax abatement	-10.00%	-10.00%	-10.00%	-10.00%	-10.00%	-10.00%
Adjusted federal rate	<u>28.00%</u>	<u>28.00%</u>	<u>28.00%</u>	<u>28.00%</u>	<u>28.00%</u>	<u>28.00%</u>
Surtax (4% of line 3)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
	<u>28.00%</u>	<u>28.00%</u>	<u>28.00%</u>	<u>28.00%</u>	<u>28.00%</u>	<u>28.00%</u>
Rate reduction	-9.00%	-10.00%	-11.50%	-13.00%	-13.00%	-13.00%
	<u>19.00%</u>	<u>18.00%</u>	<u>16.50%</u>	<u>15.00%</u>	<u>15.00%</u>	<u>15.00%</u>
Ontario income tax	<u>14.00%</u>	<u>13.00%</u>	<u>11.75%</u>	<u>11.25%</u>	<u>10.50%</u>	<u>10.00%</u>
Combined federal and Ontario	<u>33.00%</u>	<u>31.00%</u>	<u>28.25%</u>	<u>26.25%</u>	<u>25.50%</u>	<u>25.00%</u>
Federal & Ontario Small Business						
Federal small business threshold	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Ontario Small Business Threshold	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Federal small business rate	11.00%	11.00%	11.00%	11.00%	11.00%	11.00%
Ontario small business rate	5.50%	5.00%	4.50%	4.50%	4.50%	4.50%
Ontario surtax claw-back of 4.25% (eliminated July 1, 2010) starts at \$500,000 and eliminates the SBC at \$1,500,000.						
Ontario surtax	4.25%	2.125%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Ontario Capital Tax						
Capital deduction	<u>15,000,000</u>	<u>15,000,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Capital tax rate	0.225%	0.075%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
OCT will be eliminated on July 1, 2010 but tax will be prorated for the first 6 months in 2010.						

The Board is of the view that these tax changes when combined could be material and should be passed on to ratepayers using a 50/50 sharing as determined by the Board in the Reports.

Using the Boards rate model, Hydro 2000's tax sharing amount is a refund of \$89. This amount when unitized using Hydro 2000's volumetric billing determinants results in \$(0.0000) energy-based kWh rate riders when rounded to four decimal places and \$(0.00) demand-based kW rate riders when rounded to two decimal places. Consistent with Board findings in similar cases, the Board orders Hydro 2000 to record the tax sharing refund amount of \$89 in variance account 1595 for disposition in a future rate setting process.

Harmonized Sales Tax

The 8% Ontario provincial sales tax ("PST") and the 5% Federal goods and services tax ("GST") will be harmonized effective July 1, 2010, at 13%, pursuant to Ontario Bill 218 which received Royal Assent on December 15, 2009.

The PST is currently included in a distributor's OM&A expenses and capital expenditures. The PST is therefore included in the distributor's revenue requirement and is recovered from ratepayers through distribution rates.

When the PST and GST are harmonized, distributors will pay the HST on purchased goods and services but will claim an input tax credit ("ITC") for the PST portion. Therefore, the distributor will no longer incur that portion of the tax that was formerly applied as PST.

Board staff submitted that the Board may wish to consider the establishment of a deferral account to record the amounts, after July 1, 2010 and until Hydro 2000's next cost-of-service rebasing application, that were formerly incorporated as the 8% PST on capital expenditures and expenses incurred, but which will now be eligible for an ITC. This account would track the incremental change due to the introduction of the HST that incorporates an increased ITC from the current 5% to a 13% level.

In response to an interrogatory from Board staff, Hydro 2000 commented that it would agree to the establishment of a deferral account but suggested that the Board might await until Hydro 2000's next cost of service application before taking any actions. In its reply submission, Hydro 2000 submitted that it accepted Board staff's submission.

The Board finds that it would not be incrementally onerous for distributors to track the ITC amounts as the distributor will need to file ITC information in GST/HST returns and go through the quantification process to satisfy the requirements by the tax authorities and that the final amounts will be confirmed by the tax authorities. In regulatory parlance, what Staff is suggesting is in the nature of a deferral account, not a variance account, and as such there is no need to compare these amounts with any reference to PST levels reflected in existing rates.

Rather, the issue in the Board's view is whether a distributor's cost reductions arising from the implementation of the HST should be returned to the ratepayers. In that

regard, the Board notes that to do so would be consistent with what the Board has done with tax changes in second and third generation IRMs. In second generation IRM, the Board treated 100 % of the tax changes as a Z factor. In the third generation IRM, the Board determined that tax changes would be shared equally between ratepayers and the shareholder. The 50% was considered appropriate as the changes in input prices will flow through the GDP-IPI over time to some degree. The same rationale applies in the case of the HST.

The Board therefore directs that, beginning July 1, 2010, Hydro 2000 shall record in deferral account 1592 (PILs and Tax Variances, Sub-account HST / OVAT Input Tax Credits (ITCs)), the incremental ITC it receives on distribution revenue requirement items that were previously subject to PST and become subject to HST. Tracking of these amounts will continue in the deferral account until the effective date of Hydro 2000's next cost of service rate order. 50 % of the confirmed balances in the account shall be returnable to the ratepayers.

The Board may issue more detailed accounting guidance in the future. In that event, the Applicant should make the appropriate accounting entries, if and as applicable.

Smart Meter Funding Adder

On October 22, 2008 the Board issued a Guideline for Smart Meter Funding and Cost Recovery ("Smart Meter Guideline") which sets out the Board's filing requirements in relation to the funding of, and the recovery of costs associated with, smart meter activities conducted by electricity distributors.

As set out in the Smart Meter Guideline, a distributor that plans to implement smart meters in the rate year must include, as part of the application, evidence that the distributor is authorized to conduct smart meter activities in accordance with applicable law. Hydro 2000 is authorized to conduct smart meter activities because it is covered by paragraph 8 of section 1(1) of O. Reg. 427/06.

Hydro 2000 requested the continuation of its standard smart meter funding adder of \$1.00 per metered customer per month. The Board approves the funding adder as proposed by Hydro 2000. This funding adder will be reflected in the Tariff of Rates and Charges. Hydro 2000's variance accounts for smart meter program implementation costs, previously authorized by the Board, shall also be continued.

The Board notes that the smart meter funding adder of \$1.00 per metered customer per month is intended to provide funding for Hydro 2000's smart metering activities in the 2010 rate year. The Board has not made any finding on the prudence of the proposed smart meter activities, including any costs for smart meters or advanced metering infrastructure whose functionality exceeds the minimum functionality adopted in O. Reg. 425/06, or costs associated with functions for which the Smart Metering Entity has the exclusive authority to carry out pursuant to O. Reg. 393/07. Such costs will be considered at the time that Hydro 2000 applies for the recovery of these costs.

Revenue-to-Cost Ratios

Revenue-to-cost ratios measure the relationship between the revenues expected from a class of customers and the level of costs allocated to that class. The Board has established target Ratio ranges (the "Target Ranges") for Ontario electricity distributors in its report *Application of Cost Allocation for Electricity Distributors*, dated November 28, 2007.

The Board's Decision (EB-2007-0704) for Hydro 2000's 2008 cost of service rate application prescribed the adjustment to Hydro 2000's revenue-to-cost ratios in that year. The Board's Decision (EB-2008-0184) for Hydro 2000's 2009 IRM3 rate application indicated that Hydro 2000 was not required to make any further revenue cost ratio adjustments in that year.

In this application, Hydro 2000 proposed to increase the revenue to cost ratios for both the Residential and the GS>50 classes relative to those approved for 2008. In its letter of comment, VECC submitted that these increases are inconsistent with the Board's EB-2007-0704 Decision (pages 12-13) since Hydro 2000 was directed to adopt certain revenue to cost ratios for 2008. VECC further noted that there was no direction provided in the Decision to alter the revenue to cost ratios for any of the classes in the subsequent years. VECC requested that the Board direct Hydro 2000 to maintain the revenue to cost ratio (and therefore the relative revenue allocation by customer class) at the same values as approved for 2008 rates for purposes of setting 2010 rates.

The Board concurs with VECC. Hydro 2000's proposed deviations from the revenue-to-cost ratios previously approved by the Board are not substantiated. The Board therefore denies Hydro 2000's proposed revenue-to-cost ratio adjustments. The Board will incorporate in the draft Rate Order the same values as previously approved by the Board.

Retail Transmission Service Rates

Electricity distributors are charged the Ontario Uniform Transmission Rates (“UTRs”) at the wholesale level and subsequently pass these charges on to their distribution customers through the Retail Transmission Service Rates (“RTSRs”). There are two RTSRs, whereas there are three UTRs. The two RTSRs are for network and connection. The wholesale line and transformation connection rates are combined into one retail connection service charge. Deferral accounts are used to capture timing differences and differences in the rate that a distributor pays for wholesale transmission service compared to the retail rate that the distributor is authorized to charge when billing its customers (i.e., deferral accounts 1584 and 1586).

On May 28, 2009, the Board issued its Decision and Rate Order in proceeding EB-2008-0272, which set new UTRs for Ontario transmitters, effective July 1, 2009. The new UTRs effective July 1, 2009 were as follows:

- Network Service Rate was increased from \$2.57 to \$2.66 per kW per month, a 3.5% increase;
- Line Connection Service Rate remained unchanged at \$0.70 per kW per month; and
- Transformation Connection Service Rate was decreased from \$1.62 to \$1.57 per kW per month, for a combined Line and Transformation Connection Service Rates reduction of 2.2%.

On July 22, 2009 the Board issued an amended “Guideline for *Electricity Distribution Retail Transmission Service Rates*” (“RTSR Guideline”), which provided electricity distributors with instructions on the evidence needed, and the process to be used, to adjust RTSRs to reflect the changes in the UTRs effective July 1, 2009. The Board set as a proxy at that time an increase of 3.5% for the Network Service Rate and reduction of 2.2% for the combined Line and Transformation Connection Service Rates. The Board also noted that there would be further changes to the UTRs in January 2010. The objective of resetting the rates is to minimize the prospective balances in deferral accounts 1584 and 1586.

On January 21, 2010, the Board approved new UTRs effective January 1, 2010. The new UTRs were as follows:

- Network Service Rate has increased from \$2.66 to \$2.97 per kW per month, an 11.7% increase over the July 1, 2009 level or 15.6% over the rate in effect prior to July 1, 2009;
- Line Connection Service Rate has increased from \$0.70 to \$0.73 per kW per month; and
- Transformation Connection Service Rate has increased from \$1.57 to \$1.71 per kW per month, for a combined Line and Transformation Connection Service Rates increase of 7.5% over the July 1, 2009 level or 5.2% over the rate in effect prior to July 1, 2009.

Hydro 2000 proposed to change the existing RTS rates by the same proportions as the changes in the UTRs noted above effective July 1, 2009. Therefore, Hydro 2000 has proposed to increase all of its RTS Network Rates by 3.5%, and decrease all of its RTS Connection Rates by 2.2%. Board staff suggested that RTSR rates should reflect the January 1, 2010 UTRs.

The Board notes that very few distributors, including Hydro 2000, included in their 2009 rates the July 1, 2009 level of UTRs since for most of them distribution rates would have been implemented on May 1, 2009. The Board also notes that Hydro 2000 agreed to reflect the January 1, 2010 UTRs. Therefore, in accordance with the July 22, 2009 RTSR Guideline, the Board finds that the revisions to the RTSRs ought to reflect the changes from the current level (i.e. rate in effect prior to July 1, 2009) over the to the January 1, 2010 level. This represents an increase of about 15.6% to the RTSR Network Service rate, and an increase of about 5.2% to the RTSR Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate. The Board will reflect these findings in Hydro 2000's draft Rate Order.

Review and Disposition of Group 1 Deferral and Variance Accounts

The *Report of the Board on Electricity Distributors' Deferral and Variance Account Review Report* (the "EDDVAR Report") provides that, during the IRM plan term, the distributor's Group 1 account balances will be reviewed and disposed of if the preset disposition threshold of \$0.001 per kWh (debit or credit) is exceeded. The onus is on the distributor to justify why any account balance in excess of the threshold should not be disposed of.

With respect to the disposition period, the EDDVAR Report states that the default position would be one year.

(i) Balances

Hydro 2000 has requested that the Board review and approve the disposition of the December 31, 2008 Group 1 account balances as defined by the EDDVAR Report since the preset disposition threshold of \$0.001, per kWh was exceeded. The combined total of Group 1 account balance is a debit of \$85,697 which includes a debit balance of \$523 in the 1588 global adjustment sub-account. (Credit balances are amounts payable to customers and debit balances are amounts recoverable from customers). Hydro 2000 has included interest on these account balances using the Board's prescribed interest rates to April 30, 2010. Hydro 2000's account balances as at December 31, 2008, plus projected carrying charges to April 30, 2010, are shown below.

Account Description	Account Number	Principal Amounts A	Interest Amounts B	Total Claim C = A + B
LV Variance Account	1550	54,289	1,058	55,348
RSVA - Wholesale Market Service Charge	1580	1,063	1,549	2,612
RSVA - Retail Transmission Network Charge	1584	(29,584)	(3,503)	(33,087)
RSVA - Retail Transmission Connection Charge	1586	(35,555)	1,537	(34,018)
RSVA - Power (Excluding Global Adjustment)	1588	(78,157)	(11,530)	(89,688)
RSVA - Power (Global Adjustment Sub-account)	1588	473	50	523
Recovery of Regulatory Asset Balances	1590	74,703	109,304	184,008
		<u>(12,768)</u>	<u>98,465</u>	<u>85,697</u>

In response to an interrogatory from Board staff, Hydro 2000 stated that it had reviewed the Regulatory Audit & Accounting Bulletin 200901 and confirmed that it had accounted for its Account 1588 RSVA power and global adjustment sub-account in accordance with this Bulletin.

In its submission, Board staff noted that the differences between the applied for account balances and the previously audited balances were material. Board staff suggested that, if the Board had any concerns about the proposed balances, the Board might consider declaring the disposition rate riders to be interim until the revised balance can be supported by a third party audit in a future application.

The Board is concerned about the difference between the amount sought for disposition and the balances reported by Hydro 2000's as part of the Reporting and Record-keeping Requirements ("RRR"). The Board will approve the disposition of the December 31, 2008 balances and projected interest to April 30, 2010 as reported by

Hydro 2000 but not on a final basis. Any adjustment to the 2008 Group 1 account balances shall be brought forward to the Board in Hydro 2000's next rate proceeding. For accounting purposes, the respective balance in each of the Group 1 accounts shall be transferred to account 1595 as soon as possible but no later than June 30, 2010 so that the RRR data reported in the second quarter of 2010 reflect these adjustments.

(ii) *Disposition*

The EDDVAR Report includes guidelines on the cost allocation methodology and the rate rider derivation for the disposition of deferral and variance account balances. The Board notes that Hydro 2000 followed the guidelines outlined in the EDDVAR Report and approves Hydro 2000's proposals except for the treatment of global adjustment sub-account balance.

The EDDVAR Report adopted an allocation of the global adjustment sub-account balance based on kWh for non-RPP customers by rate class. Traditionally, this allocation would then be combined with all other allocated variance account balances by rate class. The combined balance by rate class would be divided by the volumetric billing determinants from the most recent audited year-end or Board-approved forecast, if available. This approach spreads the recovery or refund of the allocated account balances to all customers in the affected rate class.

This method was based on two premises. First, the recovery/refund of a variance unique to a subset of customers within a rate class would not be unfair to the rate class as a whole. Second, the distributors' existing billing system may not be capable of billing a subset of customers within a rate class.

Subsequent to the issuance of the EDDVAR Report, exogenous events have resulted in increased balances in the global adjustment sub-account for most electricity distributors. Board staff suggested that as a matter of principle, the Board may wish to consider establishing a separate rate rider for the disposition of the global adjustment sub-account balance enabling the prospective recovery solely from non-RPP customers, as this would be more reflective of cost causality since it was that group of customers that was undercharged by the distributor in the first place. Board staff however noted that the balance in Hydro 2000's global adjustment sub-account is negligible and suggested that the Board may wish to consider the recovery of the allocated global adjustment sub-account balance from all customers in the affected rate class. This approach would

recognize the customer migration that might occur both away from the non-RPP customer group and into the non-RPP customer group.

In response to Board staff interrogatory, Hydro 2000 agreed in principle with Board staff that the establishment of a separate rate rider that would be prospectively applied to non-RPP customers would be more reflective of cost causality. However, Hydro 2000 noted that customer migration remains an issue, and that the balance in the global adjustment sub-account (debit balance of \$523) is not worth spending time and money to accommodate a separate rate rider that would be applicable to non-RPP customers. Hydro 2000 agreed with Board staff's suggestion to recover the allocated global adjustment sub-account balance from all customers in each affected rate class.

The Board agrees in principle with Board staff that a separate rate rider should apply to non-RPP customers to dispose of the global adjustment sub-account balance. However, the Board concurs with Hydro 2000 and Board staff that the balance in the global adjustment sub-account is negligible, and that it would not be cost effective to direct Hydro 2000 to implement a separate rate rider to dispose of this balance at this time. The Board will therefore approve the recovery of the allocated global adjustment sub-account balance from all customers in each affected rate class.

Hydro 2000 requested the disposition of its Group 1 account balance over a one year period. Board staff agreed with Hydro 2000's proposal. The Board accepts the disposition period of one year proposed by Hydro 2000.

Introduction of MicroFit Generator Service Classification and Rate

Ontario's Feed-In Tariff (FIT) program for renewable energy generation was established in the *Green Energy and Green Economy Act, 2009*. The program includes a stream called Micro FIT, which is designed to encourage homeowners, businesses and others to generate renewable energy with projects of 10 kilowatts (kW) or less.

In its EB-2009-0326 Decision and Order, issued February 23, 2010, the Board approved the following service classification definition, which is to be used by all licensed distributors:

microFIT Generator

This classification applies to an electricity generation facility contracted under the Ontario Power Authority's microFIT program and connected to the distributor's distribution system.

On March 17, 2010, the Board approved a province-wide fixed service charge of \$5.25 per month for all electricity distributors effective September 21, 2009.

The microFIT Generator service classification and the service charge will be included in the Tariffs of Rates and Charges.

Rate Model

The Board is providing Hydro 2000 with a rate model (spreadsheet) and a draft Tariff of Rates and Charges (Appendix A) that reflects the elements of this Decision. The Board also reviewed the entries in the rate model to ensure that they were in accordance with the 2009 Board approved Tariff of Rates and Charges and the rate model was adjusted, where applicable, to correct any discrepancies.

The Board Orders That:

1. Hydro 2000's new distribution rates shall be effective May 1, 2010.
2. Hydro 2000 shall review the draft Tariff of Rates and Charges set out in Appendix A. Hydro 2000 shall file with the Board a written confirmation assessing the completeness and accuracy of the draft Tariff of Rates and Charges, or provide a detailed explanation of any inaccuracies or missing information, within seven (7) calendar days of the date of this Decision and Order.

If the Board does not receive a submission by Hydro 2000 to the effect that inaccuracies were found or information was missing pursuant to item 1 of this Decision and Order:

3. The draft Tariff of Rates and Charges set out in Appendix A of this order will become final, effective May 1, 2010, and will apply to electricity consumed or estimated to have been consumed on and after May 1, 2010.

If the Board receives a submission by Hydro 2000 to the effect that inaccuracies were

found or information was missing pursuant to item 1 of this Decision and Order, the Board will consider the submission of Hydro 2000 and will issue a final Tariff of Rates and Charges.

4. Hydro 2000 shall notify its customers of the rate changes no later than with the first bill reflecting the new rates.
5. Pursuant to section 30 of the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, Hydro 2000 shall pay the Board's costs of and incidental to, this proceeding immediately upon receipt of the Board's invoice.

DATED at Toronto, April 12, 2010

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary

Appendix A
To Decision and Order
EB-2009-0229
April 12, 2010

Hydro 2000 Inc.
TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES
Effective and Implementation Date May 1, 2010
except for the microFIT Generator Class effective date of September 21, 2009

**This schedule supersedes and replaces all previously
approved schedules of Rates, Charges and Loss Factors**

EB-2009-0229

RESIDENTIAL SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification refers to an account taking electricity at 750 volts or less where the electricity is used exclusively by residential customers residing in detached, semi-detached or townhouse dwelling units. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

APPLICATION

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of the Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

No rates and charges for the distribution of electricity and charges to meet the costs of any work or service done or furnished for the purpose of the distribution of electricity shall be made except as permitted by this schedule, unless required by the Distributor's Licence or a Code or Order of the Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Board, or as specified herein.

Unless specifically noted, this schedule does not contain any charges for the electricity commodity, be it under the Regulated Price Plan, a contract with a retailer or the wholesale market price, as applicable.

It should be noted that this schedule does not list any charges or assessments that are required by law to be charged by a distributor and that are not subject to Board approval, such as the Debt Retirement Charge, charges for Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure Conservation and Renewable Energy Program, the Provincial Benefit and any applicable taxes.

MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES – Delivery Component

Service Charge	\$	8.50
Smart Meter Funding Adder	\$	1.00
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0060
Low Voltage Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0055
Rate Rider for Deferral/Variance Account Disposition (2009) – effective until April 30, 2011	\$/kWh	0.0010
Rate Rider for Deferral/Variance Account Disposition (2010) – effective until April 30, 2011	\$/kWh	0.0039
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0060
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0047

MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES – Regulatory Component

Wholesale Market Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0052
Rural Rate Protection Charge	\$/kWh	0.0013
Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Hydro 2000 Inc.
TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES
Effective and Implementation Date May 1, 2010
except for the microFIT Generator Class effective date of September 21, 2009

**This schedule supersedes and replaces all previously
approved schedules of Rates, Charges and Loss Factors**

EB-2009-0229

GENERAL SERVICE LESS THAN 50 kW SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification refers to a non residential account taking electricity at 750 volts or less whose average monthly average peak demand is less than, or is forecast to be less than, 50 kW. This section shall include small apartment buildings, stacked townhouses, and smaller commercial, industrial and institutional developments. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

APPLICATION

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of the Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

No rates and charges for the distribution of electricity and charges to meet the costs of any work or service done or furnished for the purpose of the distribution of electricity shall be made except as permitted by this schedule, unless required by the Distributor's Licence or a Code or Order of the Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Board, or as specified herein.

Unless specifically noted, this schedule does not contain any charges for the electricity commodity, be it under the Regulated Price Plan, a contract with a retailer or the wholesale market price, as applicable.

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MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES – Delivery Component

Service Charge	\$	24.52
Smart Meter Funding Adder	\$	1.00
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0081
Low Voltage Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0051
Rate Rider for Deferral/Variance Account Disposition (2009) – effective until April 30, 2011	\$/kWh	0.0010
Rate Rider for Deferral/Variance Account Disposition (2010) – effective until April 30, 2011	\$/kWh	0.0032
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0055
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0047

MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES – Regulatory Component

Wholesale Market Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0052
Rural Rate Protection Charge	\$/kWh	0.0013
Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Hydro 2000 Inc.
TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES
Effective and Implementation Date May 1, 2010
except for the microFIT Generator Class effective date of September 21, 2009

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EB-2009-0229

GENERAL SERVICE 50 to 4,999 kW SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification refers to a non residential account whose monthly average peak demand is equal to or greater than, or is forecast to be equal to or greater than, 50 kW but less than 5,000 kW. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

APPLICATION

The application of these rates and charges shall be in accordance with the Licence of the Distributor and any Code or Order of the Board, and amendments thereto as approved by the Board, which may be applicable to the administration of this schedule.

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MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES – Delivery Component

Service Charge	\$	120.27
Smart Meter Funding Adder	\$	1.00
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	0.9844
Low Voltage Service Rate	\$/kW	1.9755
Rate Rider for Deferral/Variance Account Disposition (2009) – effective until April 30, 2011	\$/kW	0.4188
Rate Rider for Deferral/Variance Account Disposition (2010) – effective until April 30, 2011	\$/kW	0.7882
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kW	2.2378
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kW	1.8846

MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES – Regulatory Component

Wholesale Market Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0052
Rural Rate Protection Charge	\$/kWh	0.0013
Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Hydro 2000 Inc.
TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES
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EB-2009-0229

UNMETERED SCATTERED LOAD SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification refers to an account taking electricity at 750 volts or less whose monthly average peak demand is less than, or is forecast to be less than, 50 kW and the consumption is unmetered. Such connections include cable TV power packs, bus shelters, telephone booths, traffic lights, railway crossings, etc. The customer will provide detailed manufacturer information/ documentation with regard to electrical demand/consumption of the proposed unmetered load. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

APPLICATION

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MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES – Delivery Component

Service Charge (per connection)	\$	12.26
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0081
Low Voltage Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0050
Rate Rider for Deferral/Variance Account Disposition (2009) – effective until April 30, 2011	\$/kWh	0.0010
Rate Rider for Deferral/Variance Account Disposition (2010) – effective until April 30, 2011	\$/kWh	0.0027
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0055
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0047

MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES – Regulatory Component

Wholesale Market Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0052
Rural Rate Protection Charge	\$/kWh	0.0013
Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Hydro 2000 Inc.
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STREET LIGHTING SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification refers to an account for roadway lighting with a Municipality, Regional Municipality, Ministry of Transportation and private roadway lighting operation, controlled by photo cells. The consumption for these customers will be based on the calculated connected load times the required lighting times established in the approved OEB street lighting load shape template. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

APPLICATION

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MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES – Delivery Component

Service Charge (per connection)	\$	0.05
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	7.1320
Low Voltage Service Rate	\$/kW	1.5279
Rate Rider for Deferral/Variance Account Disposition (2009) – effective until April 30, 2011	\$/kW	0.3866
Rate Rider for Deferral/Variance Account Disposition (2010) – effective until April 30, 2011	\$/kW	(0.0995)
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kW	1.6875
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kW	1.4569

MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES – Regulatory Component

Wholesale Market Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0052
Rural Rate Protection Charge	\$/kWh	0.0013
Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Hydro 2000 Inc.
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EB-2009-0229

microFIT GENERATOR SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification applies to an electricity generation facility contracted under the Ontario Power Authority's microFIT program and connected to the distributor's distribution system. Further servicing details are available in the distributor's Conditions of Service.

APPLICATION

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MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES – Delivery Component – effective September 21, 2009

Service Charge	\$	5.25
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ALLOWANCES

Transformer Allowance for Ownership - per kW of billing demand/month	\$	(0.60)
Primary Metering Allowance for transformer losses – applied to measured demand and energy	%	(1.00)

Hydro 2000 Inc.
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SPECIFIC SERVICE CHARGES

APPLICATION

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Customer Administration		
Arrears certificate	\$	15.00
Statement of Account	\$	15.00
Pulling post dated cheques	\$	9.00
Duplicate invoices for previous billing	\$	15.00
Request for other billing information	\$	15.00
Easement letter	\$	15.00
Income Tax letter	\$	15.00
Notification charge	\$	15.00
Account history	\$	15.00
Credit reference/credit check (plus credit agency costs)	\$	25.00
Returned cheque charge (plus bank charges)	\$	15.00
Charge to certify cheque	\$	15.00
Legal letter charge	\$	15.00
Account set up charge/change of occupancy charge (plus credit agency costs if applicable)	\$	15.00
Special meter reads	\$	30.00
Meter dispute charge plus Measurement Canada fees (if meter found correct)	\$	30.00
Non-Payment of Account		
Late Payment - per month	%	1.50
Late Payment - per annum	%	19.56
Collection of account charge – no disconnection	\$	20.00
Collection of account charge – no disconnection – after regular hours	\$	50.00
Disconnect/Reconnect at meter – during regular hours	\$	25.00
Disconnect/Reconnect at meter – after regular hours	\$	50.00
Disconnect/Reconnect at pole – during regular hours	\$	185.00
Disconnect/Reconnect at pole – after regular hours	\$	415.00
Install/Remove load control device – during regular hours	\$	25.00
Install/Remove load control device – after regular hours	\$	50.00
Service call – customer-owned equipment	\$	30.00
Service call – after regular hours	\$	165.00
Temporary service install & remove – overhead – no transformer	\$	500.00
Temporary service install & remove – underground – no transformer	\$	300.00
Temporary service install & remove – overhead – with transformer	\$	1,000.00
Specific Charge for Access to the Power Poles \$/pole/year	\$	22.35

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EB-2009-0229

RETAIL SERVICE CHARGES (if applicable)

APPLICATION

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Retail Service Charges refer to services provided by a distributor to retailers or customers related to the supply of competitive electricity

One-time charge, per retailer, to establish the service agreement between the distributor and the retailer	\$	100.00
Monthly Fixed Charge, per retailer	\$	20.00
Monthly Variable Charge, per customer, per retailer	\$/cust.	0.50
Distributor-consolidated billing charge, per customer, per retailer	\$/cust.	0.30
Retailer-consolidated billing credit, per customer, per retailer	\$/cust.	(0.30)
Service Transaction Requests (STR)		
Request fee, per request, applied to the requesting party	\$	0.25
Processing fee, per request, applied to the requesting party	\$	0.50
Request for customer information as outlined in Section 10.6.3 and Chapter 11 of the Retail Settlement Code directly to retailers and customers, if not delivered electronically through the Electronic Business Transaction (EBT) system, applied to the requesting party		
Up to twice a year		no charge
More than twice a year, per request (plus incremental delivery costs)	\$	2.00

LOSS FACTORS

If the distributor is not capable of prorating changed loss factors jointly with distribution rates, the revised loss factors will be implemented upon the first subsequent billing for each billing cycle.

Total Loss Factor – Secondary Metered Customer < 5,000 kW	1.0660
Total Loss Factor – Secondary Metered Customer > 5,000 kW	N/A
Total Loss Factor – Primary Metered Customer < 5,000 kW	1.0553
Total Loss Factor – Primary Metered Customer > 5,000 kW	N/A