



**EB-2009-0214**

**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 Brantford  
Power 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**

Brantford Power Inc. ("Brantford Power"), 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.

Brantford Power 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, Brantford Power 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation Incentive Regulation for Ontario's Electricity Distributors* on July 14, 2008, its *Supplemental Report of the Board on 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation Incentive Regulation for Ontario's Electricity Distributors* on September 17, 2008, and its *Addendum to the Supplemental Report of the Board on 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 Brantford Power's rate application was given through newspaper publication in Brantford Power'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 and no comments were received. Board staff participated in the proceeding. The Board proceeded by way of a written hearing.

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**

Brantford Power's rate application was filed on the basis of the Guidelines. In fixing

new distribution rates and charges for Brantford Power, 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 Brantford Power's utility specific stretch factor of 0.4%. 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 0.18%. 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 provisions<sup>1</sup>, 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.

<b>Tax Rates Federal &amp; Provincial As of December 15, 2009</b>	<b>Effective January 1, 2009</b>	<b>Effective January 1, 2010</b>	<b>Effective January 1, 2011</b>	<b>Effective January 1, 2012</b>	<b>Effective January 1, 2013</b>	<b>Effective January 1, 2014</b>
<b>Federal income tax</b>						
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	28.00%	28.00%	28.00%	28.00%	28.00%	28.00%
Surtax (4% of line 3)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
	28.00%	28.00%	28.00%	28.00%	28.00%	28.00%
Rate reduction	-9.00%	-10.00%	-11.50%	-13.00%	-13.00%	-13.00%
	19.00%	18.00%	16.50%	15.00%	15.00%	15.00%
<b>Ontario income tax</b>	14.00%	13.00%	11.75%	11.25%	10.50%	10.00%
<b>Combined federal and Ontario</b>	<b>33.00%</b>	<b>31.00%</b>	<b>28.25%</b>	<b>26.25%</b>	<b>25.50%</b>	<b>25.00%</b>
<b>Federal &amp; Ontario Small Business</b>						
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%
<b>Ontario Capital Tax</b>						
Capital deduction	15,000,000	15,000,000	0	0	0	0
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.						

<sup>1</sup> 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.

The Board is of the view that these tax changes when combined could be material and should be reflected in rates using a 50/50 sharing as determined by the Board in the Reports. Therefore the incentive regulation rate model shall be adjusted accordingly.

Using the Boards rate model, Brantford Power's tax sharing amount is a refund of \$108,117. In its submission, Board staff noted that the amount of tax sharing, when unitized using Brantford Power's volumetric billing determinants, results in energy-based kWh rate riders of \$(0.0000) when rounded to the fourth decimal place and demand-based kW rate riders of \$(0.00) when rounded to the second decimal place. As a result, Board staff suggested that the Board may wish to consider directing Brantford Power to record the tax sharing refund amount in variance account 1595 for disposition in a future rate setting. In its reply submission, Brantford Power did not provide comments on Board staff's suggestion. The Board agrees with Board staff and orders Brantford Power to record the tax sharing refund amount of \$108,117 in variance account 1595.

### **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 Brantford Power'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.

Brantford Power commented that this process would be administratively onerous, and that this change is just one of many changes that distributors experience on a regular basis.

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, Brantford Power 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 Brantford Power'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. Brantford Power is authorized conduct smart meter activities because it is covered by paragraph 8 of section 1(1) of O. Reg. 427/06.

Brantford Power requested to change its standard smart meter funding adder of \$1.00 per metered customer per month to a utility specific smart meter funding adder of \$2.07 per metered customer per month. The Board approves the funding adder of \$2.07 per metered customer per month as proposed by Brantford Power. This new funding adder is reflected in the Tariff of Rates and Charges that is appended to this Decision and Order. Brantford Power’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 \$2.07 per metered customer per month is intended to provide funding for Brantford Power’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 Brantford Power 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-2007-0698) for Brantford Power's 2008 cost of service rate application prescribed a phase-in period to adjust its revenue-to-cost ratios.

Brantford Power proposed to adjust its revenue-to-cost ratios as shown in Column 2 in the table below.

**Brantford Power's Revenue-to-Cost Ratios (%)**

<b>Rate Class</b>	<b>2009 Ratio</b> Column 1	<b>Proposed 2010 Ratio</b> Column 2	<b>Target Range</b> Column 3
Residential	93.54	95.37	85 - 115
General Service Less Than 50 kW	87.52	89.63	80 - 120
General Service 50 to 4,999 kW	130.47	124.12	80 - 180
Unmetered Scattered Load	111.06	111.06	80 - 120
Sentinel Lighting	40.00	70.00	70 - 120
Street Lighting	55.51	70.17	70 - 120
Standby Power	115.73	115.73	n/a

The Board finds that the proposed revenue-to-cost ratios are in accordance with the Board's findings in the decision referenced above. The Board therefore approves the proposed revenue-to-cost ratios.

**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.

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

The Board notes that very few distributors, including Brantford Power, 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 Brantford Power 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 Rates, and an increase of about 5.2% to the RTSR Line and Transformation Connection Service Rates. The Board will reflect these findings in Brantford Power'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**

Brantford Power 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 credit of \$7,595,490, which includes a debit balance of \$749,789 in the 1588 global adjustment sub-account. (Credit balances are amounts payable to customers and debit balances are amounts recoverable from customers). Brantford Power has included interest on these account balances using the Board's prescribed interest rates to April 30, 2010. Brantford Power'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	(30,554 )	(3,141 )	(33,695 )
RSVA - Wholesale Market Service Charge	1580	(2,636,409 )	(256,900 )	(2,893,309 )
RSVA - Retail Transmission Network Charge	1584	(559,908 )	(15,757 )	(575,665 )
RSVA - Retail Transmission Connection Charge	1586	(1,748,519 )	(119,848 )	(1,868,367 )
RSVA - Power (Excluding Global Adjustment)	1588	(1,222,307 )	(468,038 )	(1,690,345 )
RSVA - Power (Global Adjustment Sub-account)	1588	705,850	43,939	749,789
Recovery of Regulatory Asset Balances	1590	(3,183,714 )	1,899,816	(1,283,898 )
		<u>(8,675,561 )</u>	<u>1,080,071</u>	<u>(7,595,490 )</u>

In response to an interrogatory from Board staff, Brantford Power stated that it had reviewed the Regulatory Audit & Accounting Bulletin 200901 (“Bulletin”) and determined that the global adjustment sub-account was overstated by \$54,642.47 (including carrying charges) since that amount was related to the global adjustment for RPP customers. Board staff noted that the proposed balances for disposition may no longer reconcile with previously audited balances nor with Brantford Power’s Reporting and Record-keeping Requirements (“RRR”) filings. Board staff indicated that its review of the balances showed that the differences between the applied for account balances and the previously audited balances were not material.

The Board is concerned about Brantford Power reporting a balance attributable to the global adjustment for RPP customers in account 1588 - Cost of Power since according to the Accounting Procedure Handbook Article 490, page 21, the global adjustment attributable to RPP customers is to be captured in a variance account held by the Ontario Power Authority. Accordingly, the Board will disallow the inclusion of \$54,642.47 in the account 1588 - Cost of Power. The Board will approve the disposition of the adjusted December 31, 2008 balances and projected interest to April 30, 2010 but not on a final basis. The Board will reflect this finding in Brantford Power’s draft Rate Order.

Any further adjustment to the adjusted 2008 Group 1 account balances shall be brought forward to the Board in Brantford Power’s next rate proceeding. For accounting purposes, the respective approved 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 Brantford Power followed the guidelines outlined in the EDDVAR Report and approves Brantford Power'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 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. Alternatively, Board staff suggested that the Board may wish to consider the recovery of the allocated global adjustment sub-account balance from all customers in each class, as 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.

Brantford Power 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.

In response to Board staff interrogatory, Brantford Power indicated that its current billing system could not readily accommodate a separate rate rider that would apply prospectively to non-RPP customers to dispose of the global adjustment sub-account. In its reply submission, Brantford Power stated that in accordance with the OEB's Decision and Order in proceeding EB-2009-0405, Brantford Power's billing system could accommodate the implementation of a separate rate rider applicable to non-RPP customers, excluding MUSH customers, through an adjustment to the Provincial Benefit line item on the bill.

The Board will adopt the proposal of Board staff that a separate rate rider be established to dispose of the global adjustment sub-account. The rate rider would apply prospectively to non-RPP customers and would exclude MUSH customers. The Board is of the view that it is appropriate to dispose of this account balance from the customer group that caused the variance (i.e. non-RPP customers). While customer migration makes this an imperfect solution, a separate rate rider applicable to non-RPP customers would result in enhanced cost causality compared to a disposition that would apply to all customers in the affected rate classes.

Subsection 3(4)(3) of Regulation 429/04 of the Electricity Act, 1998 specifies the information a distributor must set out in an invoice to a consumer who is not a regulated consumer, when that invoice is adjusted to give a credit or add a charge. Pursuant to the Regulation, Brantford Power shall ensure the rate rider necessary to dispose of the global adjustment sub-account balance is clearly identified as a separate line on the customer's bill.

Brantford Power requested the disposition of its Group 1 account balance over a four year period. Board staff submitted that a disposition period no longer than one year would be appropriate for all Group 1 account since these balances have been accumulating over the last four year period and to delay any immediate action would not be in the interest of all parties. In its reply submission, Brantford Power submitted that although customers will benefit from a one year disposition period in the year that the Group 1 account balances are refunded to customers, those same customers will experience a negative impact when the rate riders are removed in the subsequent year. Brantford Power also submitted that the disposition of Group 1 account balances over a two or three year period would strike a balance between reducing intergenerational inequities and mitigating rate increases when the rate riders are removed.

The Board accepts in principle Board staff's rationale for a disposition period of one year and adopts it subject to any substantiated evidence that the disposition period should be lengthened. The Board finds that Brantford Power's rationale for proposing to extend the disposition has some merit. The Board approves a disposition period of two years in this case.

### **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 Brantford Power 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. Brantford Power's new distribution rates shall be effective May 1, 2010.
2. Brantford Power shall review the draft Tariff of Rates and Charges set out in Appendix A. Brantford Power 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 Brantford Power 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 Brantford Power 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 Brantford Power and will issue a final Tariff of Rates and Charges.

4. Brantford Power shall notify its customers of the rate changes no later than with the first bill reflecting the new rates.

**DATED** at Toronto, April 12, 2010

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

*Original signed by*

Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary

Appendix A

To Decision and Order

EB-2009-0214

April 12, 2010

**Brantford Power 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-2009-0214

## RESIDENTIAL SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification refers to an account taking electricity at 750 volts or less where the electricity is used exclusively in a separately metered living accommodation. Customers shall be residing in single-dwelling units that consist of a detached house or one unit of a semi-detached, duplex, triplex or quadruplex house, with a residential zoning. Separately metered dwellings within a town house complex or apartment building also qualify as residential customers. 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 – Electricity Component

Rate Rider for Global Adjustment Sub-Account Disposition – effective until April 30, 2012 Applicable only for Non-RPP Customers	\$/kWh	0.0006
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### MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES – Delivery Component

Service Charge	\$	11.34
Smart Meter Funding Adder	\$	2.07
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0137
Rate Rider for Deferral/Variance Account Disposition (2010) – effective until April 30, 2012	\$/kWh	(0.0044)
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0075
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0057

### 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

**Brantford Power Inc.**  
**TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES**  
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EB-2009-0214

## GENERAL SERVICE LESS THAN 50 kW SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification refers to a non residential 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. 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 – Electricity Component

Rate Rider for Global Adjustment Sub-Account Disposition – effective until April 30, 2012 Applicable only for Non-RPP Customers	\$/kWh	0.0006
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### MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES – Delivery Component

Service Charge	\$	24.54
Smart Meter Funding Adder	\$	2.07
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0064
Rate Rider for Deferral/Variance Account Disposition (2010) – effective until April 30, 2012	\$/kWh	(0.0041)
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0067
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0051

### 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

**Brantford Power Inc.**  
**TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES**  
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EB-2009-0214

## GENERAL SERVICE 50 to 4,999 kW SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification applies to a non residential account whose average monthly maximum demand used for billing purposes 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 – Electricity Component

Rate Rider for Global Adjustment Sub-Account Disposition – effective until April 30, 2012 Applicable only for Non-RPP Customers	\$/kWh	0.0006
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### MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES – Delivery Component

Service Charge	\$	290.63
Smart Meter Funding Adder	\$	2.07
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	2.5770
Rate Rider for Deferral/Variance Account Disposition (2010) – effective until April 30, 2012	\$/kW	(1.4642)
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kW	2.2939
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kW	1.7255

### 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

**Brantford Power Inc.**  
**TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES**  
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EB-2009-0214

## 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 boots, 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

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.

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### MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES – Electricity Component

Rate Rider for Global Adjustment Sub-Account Disposition – effective until April 30, 2012 Applicable only for Non-RPP Customers	\$/kWh	0.0006
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### MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES – Delivery Component

Service Charge (per connection)	\$	11.93
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0071
Rate Rider for Deferral/Variance Account Disposition (2010) – effective until April 30, 2012	\$/kWh	(0.0044)
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0067
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0051

### 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

**Brantford Power Inc.**  
**TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES**  
**Effective and Implementation Date May 1, 2010**  
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EB-2009-0214

## **STANDBY POWER SERVICE CLASSIFICATION**

This classification refers to an account that has Load Displacement Generation and requires the distributor to provide back-up service. 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.

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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 – APPROVED ON AN INTERIM BASIS**

Standby Charge – for a month where standby power is not provided. The charge is applied to the contracted amount (e.g. nameplate rating of generation facility).

Rate Rider for Deferral/Variance Account Disposition (2010) – effective until April 30, 2012

\$/kW	1.6553
\$/kW	(0.2576)

**Brantford Power Inc.**  
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EB-2009-0214

## SENTINEL LIGHTING SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification refers to accounts that are an unmetered lighting load supplied to a sentinel light. 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.

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### MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES – Electricity Component

Rate Rider for Global Adjustment Sub-Account Disposition – effective until April 30, 2012 Applicable only for Non-RPP Customers	\$/kWh	0.0006
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### MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES – Delivery Component

Service Charge (per connection)	\$	2.30
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	11.0060
Rate Rider for Deferral/Variance Account Disposition (2010) – effective until April 30, 2012	\$/kW	(1.4468)
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kW	2.1421
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kW	1.6116

### 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

**Brantford Power Inc.**  
**TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES**  
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EB-2009-0214

## **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 photocells. The consumption for these customers will be based on the calculated 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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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.

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### **MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES – Electricity Component**

Rate Rider for Global Adjustment Sub-Account Disposition – effective until April 30, 2012 Applicable only for Non-RPP Customers	\$/kWh	0.0006
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### **MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES – Delivery Component**

Service Charge (per connection)	\$	0.64
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	2.6842
Rate Rider for Deferral/Variance Account Disposition (2010) – effective until April 30, 2012	\$/kW	(1.0663)
Retail Transmission Rate – Network Service Rate	\$/kW	2.1174
Retail Transmission Rate – Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kW	1.5929

### **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

**Brantford Power Inc.**  
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EB-2009-0214

## **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**

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.

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

Service Charge	\$	5.25
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**Brantford Power Inc.**  
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EB-2009-0214

**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)

**SPECIFIC SERVICE CHARGES****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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**Customer Administration**

Arrears certificate	\$	15.00
Easement letter	\$	15.00
Credit reference/credit check (plus credit agency costs)	\$	15.00
Returned cheque charge (plus bank charges)	\$	15.00
Account set up charge/change of occupancy charge (plus credit agency costs if applicable)	\$	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	\$	30.00
Disconnect/Reconnect charge - At Meter – during regular hours	\$	65.00
Disconnect/Reconnect charge - At Meter – after regular hours	\$	185.00
Disconnect/Reconnect charge - At Pole - during regular hours	\$	185.00
Disconnect/Reconnect charge - At Pole - after regular hours	\$	415.00

Install/Remove load control device - during regular hours	\$	65.00
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	\$	1000.00
Specific Charge for Access to the Power Poles – per pole/year	\$	22.35

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## RETAIL SERVICE CHARGES (if applicable)

### 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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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	1.0420
Total Loss Factor – Secondary Metered Customer > 5,000 kW	N/A
Total Loss Factor – Primary Metered Customer < 5,000 kW	1.0316
Total Loss Factor – Primary Metered Customer > 5,000 kW	N/A