



EB-2014-0110

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 Renfrew Hydro
Inc. for an order approving just and reasonable rates and
other charges for electricity distribution to be effective May 1,
2015.

By Delegation, Before: Lynne Anderson

DECISION and RATE ORDER

March 19, 2015

Renfrew Hydro Inc. (“Renfrew Hydro”) filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (the “Board”) on October 29, 2014 under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, seeking approval for changes to the rates that Renfrew Hydro charges for electricity distribution, effective May 1, 2015 (the “Application”).

Renfrew Hydro last appeared before the Board with a cost of service application for the 2010 rate year in the EB-2009-0146 proceeding. To adjust its 2015 rates, Renfrew Hydro selected the Annual Incentive Rate-setting (“Annual IR”) Index option, which provides for a mechanistic and formulaic adjustment to distribution rates and charges. The Application met the Board’s filing requirements¹ for filings by rate-regulated electricity distributors (“distributors”) applying for annual rate adjustments under the Annual IR Index.

¹ Report of the Board: Renewed Regulatory Framework for Electricity Distributors: A Performance-Based Approach (October 18, 2012); and Filing Requirements for Electricity Distribution Rate Applications (July 25, 2014)

While the entire record in this proceeding has been considered by me, this decision will make reference only to such information as is necessary to provide context to my conclusions. The following issues are addressed in this Decision and Rate Order:

- Price Cap Index Adjustment;
- Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge;
- Shared Tax Savings Adjustments;
- Retail Transmission Service Rates; and
- Review and Disposition of Group 1 Deferral and Variance Account Balances.

Price Cap Index Adjustment

The Price Cap IR option is a streamlined regulatory process designed to provide distributors with sufficient revenue to cover cost increases due to inflation while providing an incentive structure to drive productivity improvements.

Under the Price Cap IR option², distribution rates are adjusted by an inflation factor, less the sum of a productivity factor and a stretch factor. Based on its established method³, the Board has set the inflation factor for 2015 rates at 1.6% and the productivity factor remains zero percent. The Board also determined that the stretch factor can range from 0.0% to 0.6%, assigned based on a distributor's cost evaluation ranking. The stretch factor is 0.6% for distributors selecting the Annual IR Index option regardless of their cost evaluation ranking.

As a result, the net price cap index adjustment for Renfrew Hydro is 1.00% (i.e. 1.6 % - (0% + 0.6%)). The price cap index adjustment applies to distribution rates (fixed and variable charges) uniformly across all customer classes. The price cap index adjustment does not apply to the components of delivery rates set out in the list below:

- Rate Riders;
- Rate Adders;
- Low Voltage Service Charges;
- Retail Transmission Service Rates;
- Wholesale Market Service Rate;

² Report on Rate Setting Parameters and Benchmarking under the Renewed Regulatory Framework for Ontario's Electricity Distributors (December 4, 2013)

³ As outlined in the Report cited at footnote 2 above.

- Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge;
- Standard Supply Service – Administrative Charge;
- Transformation and Primary Metering Allowances;
- Loss Factors;
- Specific Service Charges;
- MicroFit Charge; and
- Retail Service Charges.

Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge

The Board has determined that the Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection (“RRRP”) benefit and charge for 2015 shall remain \$0.0013 per kWh⁴. The Tariff of Rates and Charges flowing from this Decision and Rate Order reflects this RRRP charge.

Shared Tax Savings Adjustments

The Board has determined that a 50/50 sharing of the impact of legislated tax changes between shareholders and ratepayers is appropriate and that the tax reduction will be allocated to customer rate classes on the basis of the Board-approved distribution revenue from an applicant’s last cost of service proceeding⁵.

The Application, as originally filed, included a tax sharing credit of \$2,387. Renfrew Hydro noted that the calculation of rate riders for the Residential and General Service <50kW classes are immaterial when rounded to the fourth decimal place. Renfrew Hydro requested the Board authorize the recording of this amount in variance Account 1595 for disposition in a future application given the associated rate riders are negligible.

I agree with Renfrew Hydro’s request. Accordingly, I direct Renfrew Hydro to record the tax sharing refund of \$2,387 in variance Account 1595 by June 30, 2015 for disposition at a future date.

⁴ Decision with Reasons and Rate Order, EB-2014-0347

⁵ Supplemental Report of the Board on 3rd Generation Incentive Regulation for Ontario’s Electricity Distributors (September 17, 2008)

Retail Transmission Service Rates

Electricity distributors are charged for transmission costs at the wholesale level and then pass on these charges to their distribution customers through their Retail Transmission Service Rates (“RTSRs”). Variance accounts 1584 and 1586 are used to capture differences in the rate that a distributor pays for wholesale transmission service relative to the retail rate that the distributor is authorized to charge when billing its customers.

The Board has issued guidelines⁶ which outline the information that the Board requires electricity distributors to file in order to adjust their RTSRs for 2015. The RTSR guideline requires electricity distributors to adjust their RTSRs based on a comparison of historical transmission costs adjusted for the new Uniform Transmission Rates (“UTR”) and the revenues generated under existing RTSRs. Similarly, embedded distributors, such as Renfrew Hydro, must adjust their RTSRs to reflect any changes to the applicable RTSRs of their host distributor, which in this case is Hydro One Networks Inc.

The Board has not yet established Hydro One’s sub-transmission class rates for 2015, including the retail transmission service rates for this class. I will therefore approve the RTSRs as adjusted in this Application so that they reflect those which currently apply to this class, as shown in the following table. The differences arising from the new 2015 rates, once approved, will be captured in Accounts 1584 and 1586 for future disposition.

2014 Sub-Transmission RTSRs

Network Service Rate	\$3.23 per kW
<u>Connection Service Rates</u>	
Line Connection Service Rate	\$0.65 per kW
Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$1.62 per kW

I conclude that these 2014 Sub-Transmission class RTSRs are to be incorporated into the filing module to adjust the RTSRs that Renfrew Hydro will charge its customers accordingly.

⁶ Guideline G-2008-0001 - Electricity Distribution Retail Transmission Service Rates, revision 4.0 (June 28, 2012)

Review and Disposition of Group 1 Deferral and Variance Account Balances

The Board's policy on deferral and variance accounts⁷ provides that, during the IRM plan term, the distributor's Group 1 account balances will be reviewed and disposed if the preset disposition threshold of \$0.001 per kWh, whether in the form of a 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. If the balances are below this threshold, the distributor may propose to dispose of balances.

Renfrew Hydro's 2013 actual year-end total balance for Group 1 accounts including interest projected to April 30, 2015 is a credit of \$98,409. This amount results in a total credit claim of \$0.0011 per kWh, which exceeds the preset disposition threshold. Renfrew Hydro proposes to dispose of this credit amount over a one-year period.

The balances proposed for disposition are the same as the amounts reported as part of the Board's *Reporting and Record-Keeping Requirements*. I approve the disposition of a credit balance of \$98,409 as of December 31, 2013, including interest projected to April 30, 2015 for Group 1 accounts. These balances are to be disposed over a one-year period from May 1, 2015 to April 30, 2016.

The table below identifies the principal and interest amounts which the Board approves for disposition.

⁷ Report of the Board on Electricity Distributors' Deferral and Variance Account Review Initiative (July 31, 2009)

Group 1 Deferral and Variance Account Balances

Account Name	Account Number	Principal Balance A	Interest Balance B	Total Claim C = A + B
LV Variance Account	1550	\$191,629	\$6,985	\$198,614
Smart Meter Entity Variance Charge	1551	0	0	0
RSVA - Wholesale Market Service Charge	1580	(\$387,917)	(\$15,708)	(\$403,624)
RSVA - Retail Transmission Network Charge	1584	\$59,312	\$1,644	\$60,956
RSVA - Retail Transmission Connection Charge	1586	\$36,353	\$1,179	\$37,532
RSVA - Power	1588	\$20,279	\$7,621	\$27,900
RSVA - Global Adjustment	1589	\$128,546	\$14,739	\$143,285
Recovery of Regulatory Asset Balances	1590	0	0	0
Disposition and Recovery of Regulatory Balances (2010)	1595	(\$159,615)	(\$3,457)	(\$163,072)
Total Group 1 Excluding Global Adjustment – Account 1589		(\$239,958)	(\$1,736)	(\$241,695)
Total Group 1		(\$111,412)	\$13,003	(\$98,409)

The balance of each Group 1 account approved for disposition shall be transferred to the applicable principal and interest carrying charge sub-accounts of Account 1595. Such transfer shall be pursuant to the requirements specified in Article 220, Account Descriptions, of the *Accounting Procedures Handbook for Electricity Distributors*, effective January 1, 2012. The date of the transfer must be the same as the effective date for the associated rates, which is, generally, the start of the rate year. Renfrew Hydro should ensure these adjustments are included in the reporting period ending June 30, 2015 (Quarter 2).

Total Loss Factor

Board staff noted that the Total Loss Factor applicable to Primary Metered Customers as shown on Renfrew Hydro's current Tariff of Rates and Charges had been incorrectly recorded as 1.0802, an error which had been carried forward on all tariff sheets since December 1, 2010. Renfrew Hydro confirmed that the correct value for this Total Loss

Factor should be 1.0702, however as Renfrew Hydro did not have any Primary Metered customers during this period, the incorrect value had not been applied to any customer's bills. The Tariff of Rates and Charges flowing from this Decision and Rate Order reflects the corrected Total Loss Factor of 1.0702 for Primary Metered Customers.

Rate Model

With this Decision and Rate Order are a rate model, applicable supporting models and a Tariff of Rates and Charges (Appendix A). Entries in the rate model were reviewed to ensure that they were in accordance with the 2014 Board-approved Tariff of Rates and Charges. The rate model was adjusted, where applicable, to correct any discrepancies.

DATED at Toronto, March 19, 2015

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary

Appendix A

To Decision and Rate Order

Tariff of Rates and Charges

Board File No: EB-2014-0110

DATED: March 19, 2015

Renfrew Hydro Inc.

TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES

Effective and Implementation Date May 1, 2015

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

EB-2014-0110

RESIDENTIAL SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification applies to an account taking electricity at 750 volts or less where the electricity is used exclusively in a separate 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. In addition, the charges in the MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES – Regulatory Component of this schedule do not apply to a customer that is an embedded wholesale market participant.

It should be noted that this schedule does not list any charges, assessments or credits that are required by law to be invoiced by a distributor and that are not subject to Board approval, such as the Debt Retirement Charge, the Global Adjustment, the Ontario Clean Energy Benefit and the HST.

MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Delivery Component

Service Charge	\$	13.97
Rate Rider for Smart Metering Entity Charge - effective until October 31, 2018	\$	0.79
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0145
Low Voltage Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0011
Rate Rider for Disposition of Deferral/Variance Accounts (2015) - effective until April 30, 2016	\$/kWh	(0.0026)
Rate Rider for Disposition of Global Adjustment Account (2015) - effective until April 30, 2016		
Applicable only for Non RPP Customers	\$/kWh	0.0028
Retail Transmission Rate - Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0064
Retail Transmission Rate - Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0033

MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component

Wholesale Market Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0044
Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge (RRRP)	\$/kWh	0.0013
Standard Supply Service - Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Renfrew Hydro Inc.

TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES

Effective and Implementation Date May 1, 2015

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EB-2014-0110

GENERAL SERVICE LESS THAN 50 KW SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification applies to a non residential account taking electricity at 750 volts or less whose average monthly maximum 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.

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MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Delivery Component

Service Charge	\$	31.25
Rate Rider for Smart Metering Entity Charge - effective until October 31, 2018	\$	0.79
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0137
Low Voltage Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0010
Rate Rider for Disposition of Deferral/Variance Accounts (2015) - effective until April 30, 2016	\$/kWh	(0.0028)
Rate Rider for Disposition of Global Adjustment Account (2015) - effective until April 30, 2016 Applicable only for Non RPP Customers	\$/kWh	0.0028
Retail Transmission Rate - Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0058
Retail Transmission Rate - Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0031

MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component

Wholesale Market Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0044
Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge (RRRP)	\$/kWh	0.0013
Standard Supply Service - Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Renfrew Hydro Inc.

TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES

Effective and Implementation Date May 1, 2015

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EB-2014-0110

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 - Delivery Component

Service Charge	\$	189.27
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	2.5331
Low Voltage Service Rate	\$/kW	0.3564
Rate Rider for Disposition of Deferral/Variance Accounts (2015) - effective until April 30, 2016	\$/kW	(1.0933)
Rate Rider for Disposition of Global Adjustment Account (2015) - effective until April 30, 2016 Applicable only for Non RPP Customers	\$/kW	1.0496
Retail Transmission Rate - Network Service Rate	\$/kW	2.3668
Retail Transmission Rate - Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kW	1.1566

MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component

Wholesale Market Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0044
Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge (RRRP)	\$/kWh	0.0013
Standard Supply Service - Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Renfrew Hydro Inc.

TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES

Effective and Implementation Date May 1, 2015

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EB-2014-0110

UNMETERED SCATTERED LOAD SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification applies to an account taking electricity at 750 volts or less whose average monthly maximum 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 consumption of the 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.

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MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Delivery Component

Service Charge (per customer)	\$	43.63
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kWh	0.0099
Low Voltage Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0010
Rate Rider for Disposition of Deferral/Variance Accounts (2015) - effective until April 30, 2016	\$/kWh	(0.0024)
Rate Rider for Disposition of Global Adjustment Account (2015) - effective until April 30, 2016 Applicable only for Non RPP Customers	\$/kWh	0.0028
Retail Transmission Rate - Network Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0058
Retail Transmission Rate - Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0031

MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component

Wholesale Market Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0044
Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge (RRRP)	\$/kWh	0.0013
Standard Supply Service - Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Renfrew Hydro Inc.

TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES

Effective and Implementation Date May 1, 2015

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EB-2014-0110

STREET LIGHTING SERVICE CLASSIFICATION

This classification applies to an account for roadway lighting with a Municipality, Regional Municipality, Ministry of Transportation and private roadway lighting, 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

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 (per connection)	\$	2.95
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$/kW	7.2483
Low Voltage Service Rate	\$/kW	0.2754
Rate Rider for Disposition of Deferral/Variance Accounts (2015) - effective until April 30, 2016	\$/kW	(0.9231)
Rate Rider for Disposition of Global Adjustment Account (2015) - effective until April 30, 2016 Applicable only for Non RPP Customers	\$/kW	0.9930
Retail Transmission Rate - Network Service Rate	\$/kW	1.7849
Retail Transmission Rate - Line and Transformation Connection Service Rate	\$/kW	0.8941

MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Regulatory Component

Wholesale Market Service Rate	\$/kWh	0.0044
Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection Charge (RRRP)	\$/kWh	0.0013
Standard Supply Service - Administrative Charge (if applicable)	\$	0.25

Renfrew Hydro Inc.
TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES
Effective and Implementation Date May 1, 2015

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

EB-2014-0110

microFIT 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.

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MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES - Delivery Component

Service Charge	\$	5.40
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Renfrew Hydro Inc.

TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES

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EB-2014-0110

ALLOWANCES

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

SPECIFIC SERVICE CHARGES

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

Easement Letter	\$	15.00
Account History	\$	15.00
Arrears Certificate	\$	15.00
Account Set Up Charge/Change of Occupancy Charge (plus credit agency costs if applicable)	\$	30.00
Returned Cheque Charge (plus bank charges)	\$	15.00

Non-Payment of Account

Late Payment Charge – per month	%	1.50
Late Payment Charge – per annum	%	19.56
Collection of Account Charge – no disconnection	\$	30.00
Disconnect/Reconnect at meter – during regular hours	\$	65.00

Other

Specific Charge for Access to the Power Poles - per pole/year	\$	22.35
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Renfrew Hydro Inc.

TARIFF OF RATES AND CHARGES

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RETAIL SERVICE CHARGES (if applicable)

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 monthly charge, per customer, per retailer	\$/cust.	0.30
Retailer-consolidated billing monthly 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	1.0810
Total Loss Factor – Primary Metered Customer < 5,000 kW	1.0702