



December 1, 2017

Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M4P 1E4

Attn: Kirsten Walli, Board Secretary

Dear Ms. Walli:

Re: EB-2017-0290 - IESO Smart Meter Entity – NOTL Hydro Interrogatories

Attached please find our interrogatories for the above proceeding.

Yours truly,

Tim Curtis
President
Niagara-on-the-Lake Hydro Inc.

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF subsections 78(2.1), (3.01), (3.02) and (3.03) of the *Ontario energy Board Act, 1998*;

AND IN THE MATTER OF subsection 53.8(8) of the *Electricity Act, 1998*;

AND IN THE MATTER OF Ontario Regulation 453/06 made under the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*;

AND IN THE MATTER OF an Application by the Independent Electricity System Operator, designated as the Smart Metering Entity, for an Order approving a Smart Metering Charge for the period January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2022

INTERROGATORIES ON BEHALF OF

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE HYDRO INC.

Issue 1:

1. Has the SME looked at outsourcing the SME services to see if a third party could provide the same services at a lower cost? If so, please provide the results of the Request for Proposals.

Issue 2:

2. The SME has been given exclusive authority to carry out certain functions under Ontario Regulation 393/07. Will the SME allow a Local Distribution Company (LDC), or a group of LDCs, to undertake these functions, either by themselves or through a third party, for that LDC or group of LDCs, if the LDCs will commit to providing that service at a rate lower than \$0.59 per smart meter per month? It is recognized that the LDC or group of LDCs would require Ontario Energy Board approval for the lower rate.
3. The SME has now been operational for close to ten years. If regulatory approval can be obtained, will the SME consent to allow competitors to offer the same services to LDCs as an alternative to the SME? The competitors would be paid from the \$0.59 per smart meter per month.

4. Would the SME response to questions 2 and 3 above be different if the SME was allowed a one-time charge to all smart meter accounts to pay off the remaining Smart Metering Debt?

Issue 13:

5. Did the SME prepare a business case and/or a cost benefit analysis for the planned Third Party Access prior to its development? If so please provide.
6. Did the SME prepare an estimate of the costs of the LDCs to comply with the expanded Data Collection for the Third Party Access and, if so, did it compare actual compliance costs with this estimate?

Respectfully submitted on behalf of Niagara-on-the-Lake Hydro this December 1, 2017



Tim Curtis
President