

Essex Powerlines Corporation

Application for electricity distribution rates beginning May 1, 2018

PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 2 May 3, 2018

Essex Powerlines Corporation (Essex Powerlines) filed a cost of service application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on August 28, 2017 under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, c. 15, (Schedule B), seeking approval for changes to the rates that Essex Powerlines charges for electricity distribution, to be effective May 1, 2018.

The OEB issued a Notice of Hearing on December 6, 2017. The School Energy Coalition (SEC), Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC) and Hydro One Networks Inc. (HONI) applied for, and were granted, intervenor status.

The OEB held a settlement conference on March 13 and 14, 2018. Essex Powerlines, SEC, VECC, and HONI (collectively the parties) reached a partial settlement and filed a settlement proposal with the OEB on April 13, 2018 (settlement proposal).

The parties were able to reach complete settlement on all issues with the exception of one. The unsettled issue (identified as issue 4.2.1 in the settlement proposal) pertains to the interim recovery of a net amount of \$1.8 million from customers as identified in an OEB audit. The parties proposed that the process to resolve the unsettled issue should include:

- a) an opportunity for Essex Powerlines to provide a written summary of the chronological events regarding the unsettled issue including references to past decisions, and evidentiary records

- b) an opportunity for intervenors and OEB staff to make information requests of Essex Powerlines on the unsettled issue
- c) an opportunity for all parties to file written submissions on the unsettled issue

OEB staff filed a submission in support of the settlement proposal and the proposed process.

The OEB accepts the parties' proposed process for filing additional evidence and interrogatories to address the unsettled issue. The OEB will decide on the appropriate next steps in the proceeding, based on the additional evidence filed.

The OEB declared Essex Powerlines' current rates interim as of May 1, 2018. The OEB indicated that it would not be in a position to render a final decision in time to implement new rates on the proposed date of May 1, 2018.

The OEB makes provision for the following matters related to this proceeding. Further procedural orders may be issued by the OEB.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. Essex Powerlines shall file with the OEB evidence pertaining to the unsettled issue and serve it on all intervenors and OEB staff by **May 17, 2018**.
2. OEB staff and intervenors shall request any relevant information and documentation from Essex Powerlines that is in addition to the evidence already filed, by written interrogatories filed with the OEB and served on all parties by **May 24, 2018**.
3. Essex Powerlines shall file with the OEB complete written responses to all interrogatories and serve them on all intervenors and OEB staff by **June 7, 2018**.

All filings to the OEB must quote the file number, EB-2017-0039, be made in searchable / unrestricted PDF format electronically through the OEB's web portal at <https://pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/>. Two paper copies must also be filed at the OEB's address provided below. Filings must clearly state the sender's name, postal address and telephone number, fax number and e-mail address. Parties must use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the RESS Document Guideline found at <http://www.oeb.ca/OEB/Industry>. If the web portal

is not available parties may email their documents to the address below. Those who do not have internet access are required to submit all filings on a CD in PDF format, along with two paper copies. Those who do not have computer access are required to file 7 paper copies.

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Board Secretary at the address below, and be received no later than 4:45 p.m. on the required date.

With respect to distribution lists for all electronic correspondence and materials related to this proceeding, parties must include the Case Manager, Donald Lau at donald.lau@oeb.ca and OEB Counsel, James Sidlofsky at james.sidlofsky@oeb.ca.

ADDRESS

Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto ON M4P 1E4
Attention: Board Secretary

E-mail: boardsec@oeb.ca
Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (Toll free)
Fax: 416-440-7656

DATED at Toronto, **May 3, 2018**

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary