

May 17, 2018

**VIA RESS AND COURIER**

Ms. Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary  
Ontario Energy Board  
2300 Yonge Street  
26th Floor, Box 2319  
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli;

**Re: APPLICATION BY ALECTRA UTILITIES CORPORATION FOR DISTRIBUTION RATES  
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2018 (EB-2017-0024) – COST CLAIMS**

On July 7, 2017, Alectra Utilities Corporation (“Alectra”) filed its first Electricity Distribution Rate (“EDR”) Application with the Ontario Energy Board (“OEB” or the “Board”), for rates effective January 1, 2018. The application also included incremental capital module (“ICM”) requests for three rate zones.

The following parties were granted intervenor status in this proceeding by the Board and all but the Power Workers Union were found to be eligible for cost awards:

- Association of Major Power Consumers of Ontario (“AMPCO”);
- Building Owners and Managers Association (“BOMA”);
- City of Hamilton;
- Consumers Council of Canada (“CCC”);
- School Energy Coalition (“SEC”); and
- Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (“VECC”).

On April 5, 2018, the OEB issued its Decision and Order in this proceeding, which determined the final parameters that should be used to calculate Alectra’s 2018 rates. Alectra filed a Draft Rate Order that included detailed supporting information showing the calculation of final rates.

On May 3, 2018, the Board issued its Decision and Final Rate Order. The Board ordered eligible intervenors to file their cost claims by May 10, 2018. The Board also ordered Alectra to file any objections to cost claims by May 17, 2018.

Alectra received cost claims from all eligible parties by May 10, 2018, and from CCC by May 16, 2018. No claim for an award of costs was received from the City of Hamilton. Alectra has reviewed the cost claims it has received, and offers submissions only with respect to the BOMA cost claim.

## **BOMA Cost Claim**

BOMA has claimed a total of \$95,289.95 in fees, inclusive of HST, in this proceeding. Alectra is concerned about the costs claimed in two specific areas, as follows:

1. BOMA has claimed \$3,393.39 under the Oral Hearing category. However, no Oral Hearing was held as part of this proceeding and no other intervenors filed claims in this regard. Alectra submits that this claim should be revoked as there is no basis for this claim.
2. The average number of hours claimed for preparation for the ADR Settlement Conference was 8.42 among the four other intervening parties. BOMA claimed 29.5 hours for preparation, which represents more than three times the average number of hours claimed by other intervenors. Alectra submits that a reduction in the number of hours claimed for preparation for the ADR Settlement Conference is warranted and should be set at the same amount as the next highest claim, i.e., 11 hours, as claimed by AMPCO.

## **Revised BOMA Cost Award**

Alectra respectfully submits that the BOMA cost award should therefore be set at \$75,219.39 plus HST of \$9,778.52, totaling \$84,997.91. This reflects the reduction of and includes disbursements.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,

*Original signed by Indy Butany-DeSouza*

Indy J. Butany-DeSouza, MBA  
Vice-President, Regulatory Affairs  
Alectra Utilities Corporation