

EB-2008-0222 EB-2008-0223 EB-2008-0224

IN THE MATTER OF the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, c. 15, (Schedule B);

AND IN THE MATTER OF applications by Canadian Niagara Power Inc. – Eastern Ontario Power, Canadian Niagara Power Inc. – Fort Erie and Canadian Niagara Power Inc. – Port Colborne for an order approving just and reasonable rates and other charges for electricity distribution to be effective May 1, 2009.

INTERIM RATE ORDER

Canadian Niagara Power Inc. – Eastern Ontario Power (CNPI – EOP), Canadian Niagara Power Inc. – Fort Erie (CNPI – FE) and Canadian Niagara Power Inc. – Port Colborne (CNPI – PC) (collectively CNPI or the Applicant) filed applications with the Ontario Energy Board, received on August 18, 2008, under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998, (the Act), seeking approval for changes to the rates that CNPI – EOP, CNPI – FE and CNPI – PC charges for electricity distribution, to be effective May 1, 2009. The Board has assigned the CNPI – EOP application File Number EB-2008-0222, the CNPI – FE application File Number EB-2008-0223 and the CNPI – PC application File Number EB-2008-0224.

The Board issued Notices of Application and Hearing for each of the applications, Procedural Order No. 1 on October 1, 2008, Procedural Order No. 2 on October 21, 2008, Procedural Order No. 3 on December 19, 2008, Procedural Order No. 4 on January 26, 2009, Decision and Procedural Order No. 5 on March 4, 2009 and Procedural Order No. 6 on March 20, 2009.

In Procedural Order No. 6, the Board decided that the three applications would be examined at the same time by means of an oral hearing. The oral hearing is to begin on Monday April 20, 2009 at the Board's offices at 2300 Yonge Street on the 25th Floor

starting at 9:30 a.m. The Board indicated that it would not sit on Wednesday April 22, 2009 and if the hearing was not completed by Tuesday April 21, it will re-convene on Thursday April 23, 2009.

In light of the time constraints in this proceeding, the Board will not be able to conclude its review of the application in order to set rates to be implemented May 1, 2009. Pending the issuance of final rates for 2009, the Board declares the Applicant's current rates for its three service areas interim, effective May 1, 2009.

In declaring the Applicant's rates interim, the Board emphasizes that this interim rate order should not be construed as predictive, in any way whatsoever, of the final determination of these applications with regards to the effective date.

THE BOARD ORDERS THAT:

The currently approved rates for the Applicant's three service areas are declared interim as of May 1, 2009 and until such time as a final rate order is issued by the Board.

DATED at Toronto, April 2, 2009

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary