



EB-2008-0248

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 West Coast
Huron Energy Inc. for an order or orders approving or fixing
just and reasonable distribution rates and other charges,
effective May 1, 2009.

BEFORE: Cathy Spoel
Presiding Member

Pamela Nowina
Vice Chair and Member

INTERIM RATE ORDER

West Coast Huron Energy Inc. ("West Coast Huron" or the "Applicant") filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board, received on September 11, 2008 under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, seeking approval for changes to the rates that West Coast Huron charges for electricity distribution, to be effective May 1, 2009. The Board has assigned the application File Number EB-2008-0248. The Board issued a Notice of Application and Hearing dated September 26, 2008.

In Procedural Order No. 1, issued on October 31, 2008, the Board made provision for a phased approach to the discovery process, with the first phase consisting of written interrogatories and the possibility of a technical conference at the option of the Applicant. The Applicant chose not to have a technical conference.

On December 19, 2008, the Applicant filed responses to the interrogatories from parties.

The Board issued Procedural Order No. 2 on January 5, 2009, seeking the views of the Applicant and all parties regarding the need for additional procedural steps in this proceeding.

The Board considered the submissions of the parties and Procedural Order No. 3 was issued on January 21, 2009 making provision for a second round of written interrogatories. West Coast Huron filed responses on February 2, 2009.

On February 6, 2009 the Board issued Procedural Order No. 4 seeking the views of the Applicant and all parties regarding the need for additional procedural steps. On February 20, 2009 a conference call was held with Board staff, VECC and the Applicant to address a number of outstanding items not fully addressed in the second round of interrogatories. On February 27, 2009 the Applicant filed updated interrogatory responses to address these issues.

Procedural Order No. 5 was issued on March 3, 2009 where the Board indicated that a settlement conference is not required in this proceeding that the application would be decided by way of a written hearing process.

As the processing of West Coast Huron's application is not yet concluded, and pending the issuance of final rates for 2009, the Board declares the current rates interim effective May 1, 2009.

In declaring West Coast Huron's rates interim, the Board emphasizes that this interim order should not be construed as predictive, in any way whatsoever, of the final determination of this Application.

THE BOARD ORDERS THAT:

The currently approved rates of West Coast Huron Energy Inc. 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 24, 2009

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary