



**EB-2008-0234**

**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 Lakeland  
Power Distribution Ltd. 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**

**Lakeland Power Distribution Ltd.** ("Lakeland" or the "Applicant") filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board, received on September 15, 2008 under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, seeking approval for changes to the rates that Lakeland charges for electricity distribution, to be effective May 1, 2009. The Board has assigned the application File Number EB-2008-0234. The Board issued a Notice of Application and Hearing dated September 26, 2008.

In Procedural Order No. 1, issued on November 5, 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. VECC, SEC, Energy Probe and Board staff filed supplemental interrogatories. Lakeland filed responses on January 29, 2009.

In Procedural Order No. 3, the Board also decided to proceed by way of a written hearing. Procedural Order No. 4 was issued on February 5, 2009 and set the dates for submissions by Board staff and Intervenor, as well as the date for reply submissions from the Applicant. Procedural Order No. 5 was issued on March 9, 2009 amending the date for Lakeland's reply submissions.

As the processing of Lakeland'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 Lakeland'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 Lakeland Power Distribution Ltd. 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