



PUBLIC INTEREST ADVOCACY CENTRE
LE CENTRE POUR LA DEFENSE DE L'INTERET PUBLIC

ONE Nicholas Street, Suite 1204, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1N 7B7

Tel: (613) 562-4002. Fax: (613) 562-0007. e-mail: piac@piac.ca. <http://www.piac.ca>

Michael Buonaguro
Counsel for VECC
(416) 767-1666

October 11, 2007

VIA MAIL and E-MAIL

Ms. Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
2300 Yonge St.
Toronto, ON
M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

Re: Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC)
Notice of Intervention: EB-2007-0713
Hydro Ottawa Limited – 2008 Electricity Distribution Rate Application

Please find enclosed the Notice of Intervention of the Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC) in the above-noted proceeding. We have also be directed a copy of the same to the Applicant.

Thank you.

Yours truly,

Michael Buonaguro
Counsel for VECC
Encl.

cc: Lynne Anderson
Hydro Ottawa Limited

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, c. 15, Sch.B, as amended;

AND IN THE MATTER OF an Application by Hydro Ottawa Limited pursuant to section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act* for an Order or Orders approving just and reasonable rates for the delivery and distribution of electricity.

NOTICE OF INTERVENTION

OF

VULNERABLE ENERGY CONSUMERS COALITION (VECC)

To: Ms. Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary

And to: Hydro Ottawa Limited
Attn: Lynn Anderson

1. The Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC) hereby expresses its intention to intervene and participate in the above-mentioned proceeding. VECC consists of the following organizations:
 - (a) The Federation of Metro Tenants Association
 - (b) The Ontario Coalition of Senior Citizens' Organizations (OCSCO)

2. The Federation of the Metro Tenants Association is a non-profit corporation composed of over ninety-two affiliated tenants associations, individual tenants, housing organizations, and members of non-profit housing co-ops. In addition to encouraging the organization of tenants and the promotion of decent and affordable housing, the Federation provides general information, advice, and assistance to tenants. The address is:

500-27 Carlton Street
Toronto, ON
M5B 1L2

3. The Ontario Coalition of Senior Citizens' Organizations (OCSCO) is a coalition of over 120 senior groups as well as individual members across Ontario. OCSCO represents the concerns of over 500,000 senior citizens through its group and individual members. OCSCO's mission is to improve the quality of life for Ontario's seniors. OCSCO's address is:

500-3101 Bathurst Street
Toronto, ON
M6A 2A6

4. The name and address of the agent authorized to receive documents on behalf of VECC is:

Mr. Michael Buonaguro
Counsel
c/o Public Interest Advocacy Centre
34 King Street East, Suite 1102
Toronto, Ontario
M5C 2X8
(416) 767-1666 (office)
(416) 348-0641 (fax)
mbonaguro@piac.ca

5. VECC would request that all correspondence and documentation also be copied to VECC's consultant:

Mr. Bill Harper
Econalysis Consulting Services
34 King Street East, Suite 1102
Toronto, Ontario
M5C 2X8
(416) 348-0193 (office)
(416) 348-0641 (fax)
bharper@econalysis.ca

6. VECC requests that copies of the Application and any additional supporting materials be forwarded to each of the two parties named above.
7. VECC is intervening in order to ensure that consumer interests and in particular the interests of the low-income and vulnerable users of electricity are fully represented in the determination of just and reasonable rates for 2008.
8. VECC notes that the 2008 deficiency in distribution revenues represents an increase of more than 20% over 2007 base distribution revenues. Based on a preliminary review, this appears to be driven by increases in OM&A (primarily due to a change in overhead capitalization policy) and increases in rate base. In addition, Hydro Ottawa is seeking approval for a capital adjustment mechanism that would apply in establishing its 2009 and 2010 rates. Given this background and the fact that Ottawa Hydro is

one of the largest electricity distributors in the province (based on customer count), it is VECC's view that an oral proceeding is warranted in order to fully explore a number of the issues raised in the Application. However, VECC believes it should be possible to address certain aspects of the Application through a written proceeding and/or an ADR process.

9. VECC will be requesting an award of costs for its participation in this proceeding and believes that, as a coalition representing the direct interests of consumers, it meets the eligibility criteria set out in the Ontario Energy Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure (Section 41) and its Practice Direction on Cost Awards (Section 3.03).

DATED AT TORONTO, THIS 10th DAY OF OCTOBER 2007

Michael Buonaguro
Counsel for VECC
c/o Public Interest Advocacy Centre