Ontario Energy Board Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario



EB-2009-0265

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 Haldimand County Hydro Inc. for an order approving just and reasonable rates and other charges for electricity distribution to be effective May 1, 2010.

PROCEDURAL ORDER No. 4

Haldimand County Hydro Inc. ("Haldimand County Hydro") filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board"), on August 28, 2009, under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, *1998*, S.O. 1998, c.15 (Schedule B), seeking approval for changes to the rates that Haldimand County Hydro charges for electricity distribution, to be effective May 1, 2010.

In Procedural Order No. 3 the Board made provision for written supplemental interrogatories and a settlement conference between the Applicant and intervenors. A settlement conference was held on January 21st and 22nd, 2010 between the Applicant and intervenors with the objective of reaching a settlement among the parties on the issues.

By letter dated January 29, 2010, the Applicant requested the Board to extend the deadline for filing the settlement proposal from February 1st to February 12th, 2010 to accommodate the discussions continuing among the parties. The letter also proposed dates for the remaining steps in the proceeding. The letter further noted that it was important to all parties that the Board render its decision on the settlement proposal in advance of filing written submissions.

The Board considers it necessary to make provision for the following matters related to this proceeding on the assumption that the settlement proposal will be accepted as filed. In the event that the Board does not accept the settlement, it will issue further procedural orders outlining the next steps in the proceeding.

THE BOARD ORDERS THAT:

- 1. Any Settlement Proposal arising from the Settlement Conference shall be filed with the Board by **February 12, 2010**. The Settlement Proposal should contain a list of any unsettled issues, identifying those issues that the parties believe must be dealt with by way of written submissions.
- 2. Assuming that the Board approves the proposal as filed, Board staff and intervenors who wish to do so shall file written submissions on unsettled issues with the Board and deliver them to Haldimand County Hydro and all other intervenors no later than **February 19, 2010**.
- Haldimand County Hydro shall file with the Board and serve the intervenors its written reply submission addressing any unsettled issues no later than March 5, 2010.

All filings to the Board must quote the file number, EB-2009-0265, be made through the Board's web portal at <u>www.errr.oeb.gov.on.ca</u>, and consist of two paper copies and one electronic copy in searchable / unrestricted PDF format. Filings must clearly state the sender's name, postal address and telephone number, fax number and e-mail address. Please use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the RESS Document Guideline found at www.oeb.gov.on.ca. If the web portal is not available you may email your document to the address below. Those who do not have internet access are required to submit all filings on a CD or diskette in PDF format, along with two paper copies. Those who do not have computer access are required to file 7 paper copies.

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Board Secretary at the address below, and be received no later than 4:45 p.m. on the required date.

ADDRESS

Ontario Energy Board P.O. Box 2319 2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor Toronto ON M4P 1E4 Attention: Board Secretary

E-mail: <u>Boardsec@oeb.gov.on.ca</u> Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (toll free) Fax: 416-440-7656

DATED at Toronto, February 10, 2010

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary