

EB-2010-0185

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 Atikokan Hydro Inc. for an order or orders approving or fixing a just and reasonable utility-specific smart meter funding adder, to be effective July 1, 2010.

DECISION AND PROCEDURAL ORDER No. 1

Atikokan Hydro Inc. ("Atikokan") filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") on May 6, 2010 under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, *1998*, S.O. 1998, c. 15, (Schedule B) (the "Act"), seeking approval to increase its smart meter funding adder from \$1.00 per metered customer per month to a utility-specific smart meter funding adder of \$4.88 per metered customer per month, effective July 1, 2010. A revised application was subsequently filed on May 13, 2010. The Board has assigned the File Number EB-2010-0185 to this application.

The Board issued a Notice of Application and Hearing on May 21, 2010. The Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition ("VECC") applied for intervenor status and cost eligibility. No objections were received.

The Board has determined that VECC will be granted intervenor status. The Board has also determined that VECC is eligible to apply for an award of costs under the Board's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

In the Notice of Application and Hearing, the Board stated its intention to proceed with its review of this application by way of a written hearing.

The Board has made provision for written interrogatories and written submissions by Board staff and the intervenor. As the nature of this application concerns a single issue,

the increase to a utility specific smart meter funding adder of \$4.88, the Board has significantly shortened the usual schedule for a written hearing.

Pending the issuance of its Decision, the Board declares the current smart meter funding adder of \$1.00 interim as of July 1, 2010.

In declaring Atikokan's current smart meter funding adder 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.

This Procedural Order addresses the process for the first round of interrogatories. Please note that this Procedural Order may be amended, and further procedural orders may be issued from time to time.

THE BOARD ORDERS THAT:

- 1. The current approved smart meter funding adder is declared interim as of **July 1**, **2010**, and until such time as a final rate order is issued by the Board.
- 2. Board staff and the intervenor who wish information and material from Atikokan that is in addition to Atikokan's pre-filed evidence with the Board, and that is relevant to the hearing shall request it by written interrogatories filed with the Board and delivered to Atikokan and all intervenors on or before **June 18, 2010**. Where possible, the questions should specifically reference the pre-filed evidence.
- 3. Atikokan shall file with the Board complete responses to all interrogatories and deliver them to the intervenors no later than **June 30, 2010**.
- 4. If Board staff and intervenors wish to make written submissions on the application, they must file those submissions with the Board and deliver them to Atikokan and other intervenors by **July 7, 2010**.
- 5. If Atikokan wishes to respond to a submission, the response must be filed with the Board and delivered to intervenors by **July 14, 2010**.

All filings to the Board must quote the file number, EB-2010-0185, be made through the Board's web portal at www.errr.oeb.gov.on.ca, 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: Boardsec@oeb.gov.on.ca
Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (toll free)

Fax: 416-440-7656

DATED at Toronto, June 14, 2010

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary

APPENDIX A LIST OF INTERVENORS ATIKOKAN HYDRO INC. BOARD FILE NO. EB-2010-0185 JUNE 14, 2010

Atikokan Hydro Inc. EB-2010-0185

APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS

June 14, 2010

APPLICANT Rep. and Address for Service

Atikokan Hydro Inc. Wilf Thorburn

CEO/CRO/Secretary/Treasurer

Atikokan Hydro Inc. 117 Gorrie Street Atikokan, ON P0T 1C0

Tel: 807-597-6600 Fax: 807-597-6988

wilf.thorburn@athydro.com

INTERVENORS Rep. and Address for Service

Vulnerable Energy Consumers Roger Higgin

Coalition

Managing Associate

Econalysis Consulting Services Inc.

34 King St. E. Suite 1102

Toronto ON M5C 2X8 Tel: 416-348-0193

Fax: 416-348-0641 rhiggin@econalysis.ca

Vulnerable Energy Consumers
Coalition

Michael Buonaguro

Jounnon

Counsel

Public Interest Advocacy Centre

34 King St. E. Suite 1102 Toronto ON M5C 2X8

Tel: 416-767-1666 Fax: 416-348-0641 mbuonaguro@piac.ca