

EB-2010-0008

**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 Ontario Power Generation Inc. pursuant to section 78.1 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* for an order or orders determining payment amounts for the output of certain of its generating facilities.

#### PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 1

Ontario Power Generation Inc. ("OPG" or the "Applicant") filed an application, dated May 26, 2010, with the Ontario Energy Board under section 78.1 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998, S.O. 1998, c.15, Schedule B (the "Act") seeking approval for increases in payment amounts for the output of certain of its generating facilities, to be effective March 1, 2011. The Board has assigned the application file number EB-2010-0008.

The Board issued a Notice of Application and Oral Hearing on June 4, 2010. The Board received 11 requests for intervenor status. The Board approves these intervention requests. The Board also received 2 requests for observer status and approves these requests. A list of the parties to the proceeding is attached as Appendix A.

The following parties have also applied for cost award eligibility: Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario, Consumers Council of Canada, Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters, Energy Probe Research Foundation, Green Energy Coalition, Pollution Probe, School Energy Coalition, and Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition. The Board finds that each of these parties is eligible to apply for an award of costs under the Board's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

A draft issues list is attached as Appendix B. An Issues Conference involving Board Staff, intervenors and OPG will be convened on **Tuesday**, **July 6**, **2010**. The purpose of the Issues Conference is not to develop an agreed negotiated issues list. The objective of the Issues Conference is to review and discuss the draft issues list. Parties will also have the opportunity to provide input to Board staff. Based on the input received at the Issues Conference, Board staff will prepare a revised draft issues list that will be issued following the Issues Conference. Intervenors and OPG will have the opportunity to make written submissions on the revised draft issues list and propose changes for the Board's consideration. In proposing additional issues parties should provide justification and give consideration to whether the item is already included under one of the proposed issues. Similarly, parties proposing to remove or limit the scope of an issue on the draft list should provide justification. After reviewing these submissions, the Board will issue a final issues list. Only matters that are on the final issues list will be considered in this proceeding.

## **Confidential Filing**

OPG has sought confidential treatment for certain tax information ("Tax Information") filed with the application in accordance with the Board's *Practice Direction on Confidential Filings* ("the Practice Direction").

In accordance with section 5.1.5 of the Practice Direction, OPG has filed a copy of the cover letter requesting confidential status which indentifies the documents that are being filed in confidence, together with a description of the basis on which confidentiality is claimed. As an interim measure, counsel and consultants for intervenors that wish to review the Tax Information may do so after signing a copy of the Board's Declaration and Undertaking (which can be found at Appendix D of the Practice Direction), and filing it with the Board. Parties that wish to make submissions on whether or not the Board should ultimately treat the Tax Information as confidential may make submissions on this issue in accordance with the steps described below. If the Board ultimately decides that the documents should not be afforded confidential treatment, OPG has requested that the Tax Information be withdrawn. The Board will issue a decision on the confidential status of the Tax Information after considering any submissions.

#### **Redacted Material Filed**

OPG has filed the following material in its application with certain sections redacted:

2010-2014 Business Plan; and

Business Case Summaries.

However, the material ("Business Plan and Business Case Summaries") was not filed in accordance with section 5.1.5 of the Practice Direction. The Board notes that section 2.1.2 of the Filing Guidelines for OPG (EB-2009-0331) state that, "Unless otherwise directed by the Board, any request for confidential treatment of information by OPG must be made at the time of the filing and in accordance with the Board's *Practice Direction on Confidential Filings.*" Further, and specifically with respect to the 2010-2014 Business Plan, section 2.2.3 of the Filing Guidelines for OPG state, "... if any claim for confidentiality is advanced with regard to any part of the Business Plan, a claim for confidentiality should be made in accordance with the Board's *Practice Direction on Confidential Filings.*" The Board further is of the view that the unredacted Business Case Summaries should be filed.

OPG shall file the Business Plan and Business Case Summaries in unredacted form in accordance with the Practice Direction forthwith, so that the efficiency of the proceeding is not affected. The re-filing of the material will include the complete unredacted documents and a description of the basis on which confidentiality is claimed. As with the Tax Information noted above, counsel and consultants for intervenors will have the opportunity to submit a Declaration and Undertaking to review the unredacted versions of the documents. Parties that wish to make submissions on whether or not the Board should ultimately treat the redacted portions as confidential may make submissions on this issue in accordance with the steps described below.

The Board has provided a schedule for the proceeding below.

The Board considers it necessary to make provision for the following matters related to this proceeding. The Board may issue further procedural orders from time to time.

#### THE BOARD ORDERS THAT:

 An Issues Conference, involving Board Staff, intervenors and OPG will be convened to review and discuss the draft issues list (attached at Appendix B). The Issues Conference will take place in the Board's hearing room at 2300 Yonge Street, 25<sup>th</sup> Floor, Toronto, commencing at 9:00 a.m. on **Tuesday**, **July 6**, 2010.

- 2. Following the Issues Conference, a revised draft issues list will be issued. OPG and intervenors may make submissions on the revised draft issues list and shall file any submissions with the Board and deliver them to all parties no later than **Tuesday**, **July 13**, **2010**.
- OPG may respond to the submissions of intervenors, and intervenors may respond to the submissions of OPG or other intervenors by filing those responses with the Board and delivering them to all parties no later than Friday, July 16, 2010.
- 4. Parties wishing to make submissions on the confidentiality status of the Tax Information and the Business Plan and Business Case Summaries shall file such submissions with the Board and deliver them to OPG and all other parties on or before **Tuesday**, **July 6**, **2010**.
- 5. If OPG wishes to respond to any submissions on the confidentiality status of the Tax Information and the Business Plan and Business Case Summaries, it shall file such submissions with the Board and deliver them to the relevant intervenor and all other parties on or before **Tuesday**, **July 13**, **2010**.
- 6. The schedule for the balance of the proceeding is summarized in the following table.

Procedural Step	Required Date
Board Staff Interrogatories Filed	Thursday, July 22, 2010
Intervenor Interrogatories Filed	Thursday, July 29, 2010
Interrogatory Responses Filed by	Thursday, August 12, 2010
OPG	
Technical Conference	Thursday, August 19, 2010
(Transcribed)	
Evidence Filed by Board	Monday, August 23, 2010
Staff/Intervenors	
Interrogatories Filed on Evidence	Monday, August 30, 2010
of Board Staff/Intervenors	
Interrogatory Responses Filed	Thursday, September 9, 2010
Settlement Conference	Commencing Tuesday, September 14, 2010
Oral Hearing	Commencing Monday, September 27, 2010

7. All conferences and hearings will take place in the Board's hearing rooms at 2300 Yonge Street, 25<sup>th</sup> Floor, Toronto, commencing at 9:00 a.m.

All filings to the Board must quote file number EB-2010-0008, be made through the Board's web portal at <a href="www.errr.oeb.gov.on.ca">www.errr.oeb.gov.on.ca</a>, 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 <a href="www.oeb.gov.on.ca">www.oeb.gov.on.ca</a>. 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 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

**ISSUED** at Toronto, June 29, 2010

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary

# **APPENDIX A**

# ONTARIO POWER GENERATION INC. 2011-2012 PAYMENT AMOUNTS

EB-2010-0008

**APPLICANT & LIST OF PARTIES** 

# **APPLICANT & LIST OF PARTIES**

June 29, 2010

APPLICANT Rep. and Address for Service

Ontario Power Generation Inc. Barbara S. Reuber

Director, Ontario Regulatory Affairs Ontario Power Generation Inc. 700 University Ave. H18-G2 Toronto, ON M5G 1X6

Tel: 416-592-5419 Fax: 416-592-8519

barbara.reuber@opg.com

opgregaffairs@opg.com

## **APPLICANT COUNSEL**

#### **Charles Keizer**

Torys LLP

79 Wellington St. W.

Suite 3000, Maritime Life Tower

P.O. Box 270, Toronto Dominion Centre

Toronto ON M5K 1N2 Tel: 416-865-0040 Fax: 416-865-7380 ckeizer@torys.com

#### **Carlton Mathias**

Senior Counsel

Ontario Power Generation Inc.

700 University Avenue

H18-A24

Toronto ON M5G 1X6

Tel: 416-592 4964

Fax: 592 1466

carlton.mathias@opg.com

# INTERVENORS Rep. and Address for Service

# **APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS**

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June 29, 2010

# Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario

## **David Crocker**

Davis LLP

1 First Canadian Place, Suite 5600

PO Box 367

100 King Street West Toronto ON M5X 1E2

Tel: 416-941-5415 Fax: 416-777-7431 dcrocker@davis.ca

#### **Tom Adams**

Energy and Environmental Consulting 12 Sidford Court

Toronto ON M6S 2J4

Tel: 416-834-7442 Fax: 416-260-0442

tom.adams.energy@gmail.com

# **Shelley Grice**

Consultant
AITIA Analytics Inc.
c/o AMPCO
372 Bay Street
Suite 1702
Toronto ON M5H 2W9

Tel: 647-880-9942 Fax: 416-260-0442

shelley.grice@rogers.com

# **APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS**

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June 29, 2010

# Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters

# **Paul Clipsham**

Director of Policy, Ontario Division Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters 6725 Airport Rd. Suite 200

Mississauga ON L4V 1V2

Tel: 905-672-3466 Ext: 3236

Fax: 905-672-1764

paul.clipsham@cme-mec.ca

# Peter Thompson, Q.C.

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP 100 Queen St. Suite 1100 Ottawa ON K1P 1J9

Tel: 613-787-3528 Fax: 613-230-8842

pthompson@blgcanada.com

#### Vincent DeRose

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP 100 Queen St. Suite 1100 Ottawa ON K1P 1J9

Tel: 613-787-3589 Fax: 613-230-8842

vderose@blgcanada.com

# **APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS**

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June 29, 2010

# Consumers Council of Canada Robert B. Warren

Counsel

WeirFoulds LLP

The Exchange Tower

Suite 1600, P.O. Box 480 130 King Street West

Toronto ON M5X 1J5

Tel: 416-947-5075

Fax: 416-365-1876

rwarren@weirfoulds.com

## Julie Girvan

Consultant

Consumers Council of Canada

62 Hillsdale Ave. East

Toronto ON M4S 1T5

Tel: 416-322-7936

Fax: 416-322-9703 jgirvan@ca.inter.net

# **Energy Probe Research Foundation**

# **Peter Faye**

Counsel

Independant Participants - General Public

42 Eastwood Crescent Markham ON L3P 5Z7

Tel: 905-294-2013 Fax: Not Provided pfaye@rogers.com

#### **Lawrence Schwartz**

Consulting Economist

82 Ridge Hill Drive

Toronto ON M6C 2J8

Tel: 416-785-4985 Fax: Not Provided

lschwartz5205@rogers.com

# **APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS**

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June 29, 2010

# **Energy Probe Research Foundation**

#### **Norman Rubin**

**Senior Consultant** 

Energy Probe Research Foundation

478 Brunswick Avenue Toronto ON M5R 2Z5

Tel: 416-964-3761 Fax: Not Provided

normrubin.energyprobe@gmail.com

## **David MacIntosh**

Case Manager

**Energy Probe Research Foundation** 

225 Brunswick Avenue Toronto ON M5S 2M6

Tel: 416-964-9223 Ext: 235

Fax: 416-964-8239

DavidMacIntosh@nextcity.com

# **Green Energy Coalition**

#### **David Poch**

Barrister

Independant Participants - General Public

1649 Old Brooke Road Maberly ON K0H 2B0 Tel: 613-264-0055

Fax: 613-264-2878 dpoch@eelaw.ca

## **Paul Chernick**

Resource Insight Inc.

5 Water Street

Arlington MA 02476

Tel: 781-646-1505 Ext: 207

Fax: 781-646-1506

pchernick@resourceinsight.com

# **APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS**

June 29, 2010

**Hydro One Networks Inc. Anne-Marie Reilly** 

> Senior Regulatory Coordinator Hydro One Networks Inc.

483 Bay Street

8th Floor - South Tower Toronto ON M5G 2P5

Tel: 416-345-6482 Fax: 416-345-5866

regulatory@hydroone.com

**Ontario Power Authority Miriam Heinz** 

Regulatory Coordinator, Corporate Affairs/Legal

**Ontario Power Authority** 

120 Adelaide Street West, Suite 1600

Toronto ON M5H 1T1 Tel: 416-967-7474

Fax: 416-967-1947

Miriam.Heinz@powerauthority.on.ca

**Pollution Probe Foundation Jack Gibbons** 

> Public Interest Economics 625 Church St. Suite 402 Toronto ON M4Y 2G1 Tel: 416-926-1907 Ext: 240

Fax: 416-926-1601

igibbons@pollutionprobe.org

**Gordon Roberts** 

York University

Schulich School of Business - Finance Area

4700 Keele Street

Toronto ON M3J 1P3

Tel: 416-485-3459 Fax: Not Provided

groberts@schulich.yorku.ca

# **APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS**

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June 29, 2010

#### **Pollution Probe Foundation**

# Lawrence Kryzanowski

Concordia University

1455 De Maisonneuve Blvd. West

MB12-229, JMSB

Montreal PQ H3G 1M8

Tel: 514-848-2424 Ext: 2782

Fax: 514-848-4500

lawrence.kryzanowski@concordia.ca

# **Murray Klippenstien**

Klippensteins, Barristers & Solicitors

160 John St. Suite 300 Toronto ON M5V 2E5

Tel: 416-598-0288 Fax: 416-598-9520

murray.klippenstein@klippensteins.ca

## **Basil Alexander**

Klippensteins, Barristers & Solicitors

160 John St. Suite 300 Toronto ON M5V 2E5

Tel: 416-598-0288 Fax: 416-598-9520

basil.alexander@klippensteins.ca

#### **Power Workers' Union**

# John Sprackett

Staff Officer, President's Office Power Workers' Union

244 Eglinton Avenue E. Toronto ON M4P 1K4

Tel: 416-322-4787

Fax: 416-481-7914 spracket@pwu.ca

# **APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS**

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June 29, 2010

#### **Power Workers' Union**

## **Judy Kwik**

Senior Consultant

Elenchus Research Associates (ERA)

34 King Street E. Suite 610 Toronto ON M5C 2X8

Tel: 416-348-8777 Fax: 416-348-9930 jkwik@elenchus.ca

#### Alfredo Bertolotti

Consultant

Elenchus Research Associates (ERA)

34 King Street East

Suite 610

Toronto ON M5C 2X8

Tel: 416-348-0666 Fax: 416-348-9930 abertolotti@elenchus.ca

# **Richard Stephenson**

Counsel

Paliare Roland Rosenburg Rothstein LLP

250 University Av. Suite 510

Toronto ON M5H 3E5

Tel: 416-646-4325 Fax: 416-646-4335

richard.stephenson@paliareroland.com

## **School Energy Coalition**

# **Wayne McNally**

SEC Coordinator

Ontario Public School Boards' Association c/o Ontario Public School Boards Associa

439 University Avenue

18th Floor

Toronto ON M5G 1Y8

Tel: 416-340-2540 Fax: 416-340-7571

wmcnally@opsba.org

## APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS

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June 29, 2010

## **School Energy Coalition**

# Jay Shepherd

Jay Shepherd Professional Corporation

120 Eglinton Avenue East

Suite 500

Toronto ON M4P 1E2

Tel: 416-804-2767 Fax: 416-214-5424

jay.shepherd@canadianenergylawyers.com

#### Mark Garner

Consultant

Independent Participants - General Public c/o Jay Shepherd Professional Corporatio 120 Eglinton Avenue East, Suite 500

Toronto ON M4P 1E2

Tel: 647-408-4501 Fax: Not Provided

markgarner@rogers.com

# Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition

# **Michael Buonaguro**

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

# James Wightman

Consultant

Econalysis Consulting Services Inc.

34 King St. E. Suite 1102

Toronto ON M5C 2X8

Tel: 416-348-0640 Fax: 416-348-0641

jwightman@econalysis.ca

# **APPENDIX B**

# ONTARIO POWER GENERATION INC. 2011-2012 PAYMENT AMOUNTS

EB-2010-0008

DRAFT ISSUES LIST

# Ontario Power Generation Inc. 2011-2012 Payment Amounts for Prescribed Generating Facilities EB-2010-0008

# **DRAFT ISSUES LIST**

#### 1. GENERAL

- 1.1 Has OPG responded appropriately to all relevant Board directions from previous proceedings?
- 1.2 Are OPG's economic and business planning assumptions for 2011-2012 appropriate?

#### 2. RATE BASE

- 2.1 What is the appropriate amount for rate base?
- 2.2 Is OPG's proposal to include CWIP in rate base for the Darlington Refurbishment Project appropriate?

#### 3. CAPITAL STRUCTURE AND COST OF CAPITAL

- 3.1 What is the appropriate capital structure and rate of return on equity?
- 3.2 Are OPG's proposed costs for its long-term and short-term debt components of its capital structure appropriate?
- 3.3 Should the same capital structure and cost of capital be used for both OPG's regulated hydroelectric and nuclear businesses? If not, what capital structure and/or cost of capital parameters are appropriate for each business?

#### 4. CAPITAL PROJECTS

## **Regulated Hydroelectric**

- 4.1 Do the costs associated with the regulated hydroelectric projects, and proposed for recovery, conform to and/or meet the requirements set out in O. Reg. 53/05? If not, were the additional costs prudent?
- 4.2 Are the proposed regulated hydroelectric capital expenditures and/or financial commitments appropriate and supported by business cases?
- 4.3 Are the proposed in-service additions for regulated hydroelectric projects appropriate?

#### Nuclear

- 4.4 Do the costs associated with the nuclear projects, and proposed for recovery, conform to and/or meet the requirements set out in O. Reg. 53/05? If not, were the additional costs prudent?
- 4.5 Are the proposed nuclear capital expenditures and/or financial commitments appropriate and supported by business cases?
- 4.6 Are the proposed in-service additions for nuclear projects appropriate?
- 4.7 Is the capitalization approach used for Pickering Units 2 and 3 appropriate?
- 4.8 Are the test period new nuclear expenditures, if any, appropriate?
- 4.9 Are the test period nuclear refurbishment expenditures appropriate?

#### 5. PRODUCTION FORECASTS

## **Regulated Hydroelectric**

- 5.1 Is the proposed regulated hydroelectric production forecast appropriate?
- 5.2 Is the estimate of surplus baseload generation appropriate? What economic and supply conditions are forecast to generate the surplus baseload generation outlook?

#### **Nuclear**

- 5.3 Is the proposed nuclear production forecast appropriate?
- 5.4 Are the estimates of forced loss rates for the individual nuclear plants reasonable?

## 6. OPERATING COSTS

## Regulated Hydroelectric

- 6.1 Is the test period Operations, Maintenance and Administration budget for the regulated hydroelectric facilities appropriate?
- 6.2 Are the benchmarking results and targets for OPG's regulated hydroelectric facilities reasonable?

#### Nuclear

- 6.3 Is the test period Operations, Maintenance and Administration budget for the nuclear facilities appropriate?
- 6.4 Are the benchmarking results and targets for OPG's nuclear facilities reasonable?
- 6.5 Is the forecast of nuclear fuel costs appropriate?

6.6 Are the test period expenditures related to continued operations at Pickering B appropriate?

# **Corporate Costs**

- 6.7 Are the 2011 and 2012 human resource related costs (wages, salaries, benefits, incentive payments, FTEs and pension costs) appropriate?
- 6.8 Are the "Centralized Support and Administrative Costs" and the allocation of the same to the regulated hydroelectric business and nuclear business appropriate?
- 6.9 Has OPG responded appropriately to the findings in the Human Resources and Finance Benchmarking Reports?

#### Other Costs

- 6.10 Are the amounts proposed to be included in the test period revenue requirement for other operating cost items, including depreciation expense, income and property taxes, appropriate?
- 6.11 Are the asset service fee amounts charged to the regulated hydroelectric business and nuclear business appropriate?

#### 7. OTHER REVENUES

#### Regulated Hydroelectric

7.1 Are the proposed test period regulated hydroelectric business revenues from ancillary services, segregated mode of operation and water transactions appropriate?

#### **Nuclear**

7.2 Are the proposed test period nuclear business non-energy revenues appropriate?

## **Bruce Nuclear Generating Station**

7.3 Are the test period costs related to the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station, and costs and revenues related to the Bruce lease appropriate?

#### 8. NUCLEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT AND DECOMMISSIONING LIABILITIES

- 8.1 Is the revenue requirement methodology for recovering nuclear liabilities in relation to nuclear waste management and decommissioning costs appropriate? If not, what alternative methodology should be considered?
- 8.2 Is the revenue requirement amount for nuclear liabilities related to nuclear waste management and decommissioning costs appropriately determined?

#### 9. DESIGN OF PAYMENT AMOUNTS

9.1 Has the hydroelectric incentive mechanism encouraged appropriate use of the regulated hydroelectric facilities to supply energy in response to market prices?

#### 10. DEFERRAL AND VARIANCE ACCOUNTS

- 10.1 Is the nature or type of costs recorded in the deferral and variance accounts appropriate?
- 10.2 Is the proposed inclusion of costs related to Pickering B continued operations in the Capacity Refurbishment Variance Account appropriate?
- 10.3 Are the balances for recovery in each of the deferral and variance accounts appropriate?
- 10.4 Is the disposition methodology appropriate?
- 10.5 Is the proposed continuation of deferral and variance accounts appropriate?
- 10.6 Should the proposed variance account related to IESO non-energy charges be established?

#### 11. REPORTING AND RECORD KEEPING REQUIREMENTS

11.1 What reporting and record keeping requirements should be established for OPG?

#### 12. METHODOLOGIES FOR SETTING PAYMENT AMOUNTS

The Board Report, A Regulatory Methodology for Setting Payment Amounts for the Prescribed Generation Assets of Ontario Power Generation Inc., EB-2006-0064, November 30, 2006, stated that, "The Board will implement an incentive regulation formula when it is satisfied that the base payment provides a robust starting point for that formula."

12.1 What incentive regulation formulations and options should be considered?

- 12.2 When would it be appropriate for the Board to establish incentive regulation, or other form of alternative rate regulation, for setting payment amounts?
- 12.3 What issues will require further examination to establish appropriate base payment amounts as the starting point for an incentive regulation or other form of alternative rate regulation plan?
- 12.4 What processes should be adopted to establish the framework for incentive regulation, or other form of alternative rate regulation, that would be applied in a future test period?