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



EB-2009-0262 EB-2010-0121

**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 West Perth Power Inc. and Clinton Power Corporation for an order approving just and reasonable rates and other charges for electricity distribution to be effective July 1, 2010.

# PROCEDURAL ORDER No. 1

West Perth Power Inc. ("West Perth Power") and Clinton Power Corporation ("Clinton Power") filed cost of service applications with the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") on June 15, 2010 and June 18, 2010 respectively, 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 West Perth Power and Clinton Power charge for electricity distribution in their respective service areas, to be effective July 1, 2010. The Board has assigned the applications file numbers EB-2010-0121 and EB-2009-0262 respectively.

There are several common elements in these applications. To effect a more efficient process and pursuant to section 21(5) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act* the Board has determined that the review of these applications will be combined into one proceeding, while maintaining the separate identification of each of the applications.

The Board issued a Notice of Application and Hearing on July 6, 2010. The Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition ("VECC") and the School Energy Coalition ("SEC") applied for intervenor status and cost eligibility. West Perth Power objected to SEC's request for intervenor status but later withdrew its objection upon clarification from the Ontario

Public School Boards Association, the customer group represented by SEC. No other objections to these intervention requests were received.

The Board has determined that VECC and SEC will be granted intervenor status. VECC and SEC's contact details are attached as Appendix A to this Order. The Board has also determined that VECC and SEC are 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 but may include an oral component for certain parts of the application. The Board will assess the requirement for an oral component as the record develops through the discovery process.

The Board has conducted an initial review of the applications and notes several deficiencies in the application material including, but not limited to:

- Absence of supporting documents regarding the corporate structure;
- Absence of Audited Financial Statements for the last two historical years
- Lack of evidence and detailed variance explanations in the areas of Rate Base, Capital Expenditures and Operation, Maintenance, and Administration; and
- Absence of appropriate cost allocation data.

The Board notes that the application does not fully satisfy the *Board's Filing Requirements for Transmission and Distribution Applications* and expects that the deficiencies will be remedied through responses to interrogatories. After the outstanding information is provided in response to an initial round of interrogatories, a further round of interrogatories will likely be required.

The Board has decided to make provision at this time for preliminary interrogatories in order to clarify certain pre-filed evidence. After its review of the responses, the Board will determine the next steps including whether provision should be made for additional written interrogatories or a technical conference, after which the Board will determine whether to conduct an oral hearing or to make provision for written final submissions.

This Procedural Order addresses the process for the first round of discovery. Please note that further procedural orders may be issued from time to time.

## THE BOARD ORDERS THAT:

- Board staff shall request information and material from West Perth Power and Clinton Power that is in addition to West Perth Power's and Clinton Power's prefiled evidence with the Board, and that is relevant to the hearing, by written interrogatories filed with the Board and delivered to West Perth Power and Clinton Power and all intervenors on or before **August 17, 2010**. Where possible, the questions should specifically reference the pre-filed evidence.
- 2. Intervenors who wish information and material from West Perth Power and Clinton Power that is in addition to West Perth Power and Clinton Power's prefiled evidence with the Board, and that is relevant to the hearing, shall request it by written interrogatories filed with the Board and delivered to West Perth Power and Clinton Power on or before **August 24, 2010**. Where possible, the questions should specifically reference the pre-filed evidence.
- 3. West Perth Power and Clinton Power shall file with the Board complete responses to all interrogatories and deliver them to intervenors no later than **September 14, 2010**.

All filings to the Board must quote the file numbers, EB-2009-0262 and EB-2010-0121, 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. Parties must 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, parties may email their documents 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: <u>Boardsec@oeb.gov.on.ca</u> Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (toll free) Fax: 416-440-7656

DATED at Toronto, August 4, 2010

## **ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary

# **APPENDIX A**

West Perth Power Inc. Clinton Power Corporation

> EB-2009-0262 EB-2010-0121

LIST OF INTERVENORS

# Clinton Power Corporation and West Perth Power Inc. EB-2009-0262 and EB-2010-0121

# **APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS**

August 4, 2010

#### APPLICANT

**Clinton Power Corporation** 

and West Perth Power Inc.

#### Rep. and Address for Service

## Wally Curry

President & C.E.O Clinton Power Corporation and West Perth Power Inc. 169 St. David Street P.O. Box 220 Mitchell, ON N0K 1N0

Tel: 519-348-8458 Fax: 519-348-8949 wcurry@westperth.com

# INTERVENORS

**School Energy Coalition** 

#### Rep. and Address for Service

Jay Shepherd Jay Shepherd Professional Corporation 120 Eglinton Avenue East Suite 500 Toronto ON M4P 1E2 Tel: 416-804-2767 Fax: Not Provided jay.shepherd@canadianenergylawyers.com

## 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

# Clinton Power Corporation and West Perth Power Inc. EB-2009-0262 and EB-2010-0121

## **APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS**

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August 4, 2010

Vulnerable Energy Consumers Michael Buonaguro Coalition

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

#### **Bill Harper**

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