

Ontario Energy
Board

Commission de l'énergie
de l'Ontario



EB-2009-0408

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 Great
Lakes Power Transmission Inc. on behalf of Great
Lakes Power Transmission LP seeking changes to
the uniform provincial transmission rates for 2010.

BEFORE: Cynthia Chaplin
Vice Chair and Presiding Member

Ken Quesnelle
Member

DECISION AND ORDER

THE APPLICATION AND PROCEEDING

Great Lakes Power Transmission Inc. on behalf of Great Lakes Power Transmission LP (“GLPT” or the “Applicant”) filed an Application with the Ontario Energy Board (the “Board”) on November 30, 2009 under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998, 1998 S.O. c.15, (Schedule B). GLPT sought approval for changes to the Uniform Transmission Rates (UTR) that GLPT and other transmitters charge for electricity transmission, to be effective January 1, 2010. The Board assigned Board file number EB-2009-0408 to the Rate Application.

GLPT also filed an application with the Board on November 27, 2009 requesting that a deferral account be granted for the purposes of recording capital expenditures as well as operation, maintenance and administration expenses related to renewable generation connection, system planning, and infrastructure investment arising from the *Green Energy and Green Economy Act, 2009* (the "Deferral Account Application"). The Board assigned Board file number EB-2009-0409 to the Deferral Account Application.

The Board issued a Notice of Applications and Combined Hearing dated December 31, 2009 for both applications. A decision on the Deferral Account Application was issued on March 25, 2010.

On January 29, 2010 the Board issued Procedural Order No. 1 and Interim Rate Decision, which included a schedule for procedural steps for the rate application (the "Procedural Schedule") and determined that the current Uniform Transmission Rates as they relate to GLPT would be made interim as of January 1, 2010. The Board's approval of the settlement agreement filed in this proceeding renders the new rates effective January 1, 2010.

The details covering the procedural steps leading to the conclusion of this proceeding is found in the May 21, 2010 Board Decision and Order accepting the Proposed Settlement Agreement and the July 21, 2010 Decision with Reasons dealing with the Tax Allowance Issue.

IMPLEMENTATION

In the July 21, 2010 Decision, the Board noted that GLPT has a balance of approximately \$2.5 million owing to ratepayers in account 1574, Deferred Rate Impact Amounts Account ("DRIAA"). The Board suggested that GLPT could use this account to fully offset the increase to its revenue requirement for 2010 resulting from this Decision, without necessitating changes to existing UTRs.

The Board concluded by directing GLPT to file its implementation proposal with the Board and all intervenors. The Board also directed that if GLPT cannot file an implementation proposal, it shall file a draft rate order including the Ontario Transmission Rate Schedules and Revenue Allocators and file a separate exhibit

showing clearly the calculation of the uniform transmission rates and revenue allocators.

GLPT's Implementation Proposal

On July 30, 2010 GLPT filed its Implementation Proposal, attached as Appendix A to this Order, which would reflect the terms of the approved Settlement Agreement while avoiding the need for immediate changes to existing UTRs.

The proposed approach addresses the Board's preference to postpone changes to the existing Uniform Transmission Rates ("UTRs") until there is an opportunity to align GLPT's approved revenue requirement and charge determinants with the implementation of changes to the UTRs necessitated by revenue requirement changes for other Ontario transmitters.

GLPT's proposal outlines the accounting steps to cover two periods:

- the period from the Board approved effective date of January 1, 2010 for the recovery of GLPT's 2010 revenue requirement until the date that GLPT's approved 2010 revenue requirement is implemented through changes to UTRs (which date has yet to be determined) (the "Pre-Change Period");
- the period following the implementation of GLPT's approved 2010 revenue requirement through changes to UTRs, which date has yet to be determined (the "Post-Change Period"),

GLPT's proposal for Pre-Change Period is that it will "record an increase in its monthly revenue that is in proportion to the annual increase from the current Board approved revenue requirement to the 2010 Board approved revenue requirement." The proposed methodology is based on a 2% increase in revenue requirement from the level currently in place of \$34,785,422 (EB-2005-0241) to the approved 2010 revenue requirement of \$35,141,618 (EB-2009-0408).

GLPT's proposal also outlines the entries in Account 1574 for the two periods – Pre-Change Period (prior to UTR changes), and Post -Change Period (post UTR changes). The first entry would take place in the month that GLPT receives the

final Board Order approving the proposed methodology, and will represent a catch-up for all months between January 1, 2010 and the noted month.

GLPT also included the steps it would take to implement Section 6.3 of the Settlement Agreement, with reference to Section 6.1 and the entry steps for Account 1505 to reflect the credit to ratepayers of \$3,063,900 relating to the 1996 asset revaluation.

Board staff and VECC filed submissions supporting GLPT's proposals.

Board staff supported GLPT's proposal indicating that for a small transmitter such as GLPT, carrying out more detailed calculations to reflect the change in revenue as well as change in load forecast would not result in discernable increase in accuracy.

VECC provided its acceptance of GLPT's proposals for both the Pre-Change Period, and for the Post-Change Period, following an analysis to explore whether or not GLPT's forecast 2010 operating revenue at existing rates significantly exceeded GLPT's annual revenue requirement embedded in the exiting UTRs.

GLPT filed a letter on August 11, 2011 indicating that it had reviewed the Submissions by Board staff and VECC and would not be making reply submissions.

The Board is satisfied that GLPT's proposal is appropriate, and accepts the proposed tracking of the monthly incremental revenue in Account 1574 for the Pre-Change Period. The Board also accepts that the first entry in Account 1574 will occur in August 2010, and will represent a catch-up for all months between January 1, 2010 and this Month of August, 2010.

COST CLAIMS

In the July 21 Decision with Reasons, the Board indicated that VECC, Energy Probe, and SEC are eligible to seek an award of costs, and did set out the process for the parties to file their cost claims, for GLPT to file any objections to any of the cost claims, and for any party to respond whose claim the objection is made.

The Board received cost claims from the VECC, Energy Probe, and SEC. No comments or objections were received from GLPT.

Board Findings

The Board reviewed the cost claims received from VECC, Energy Probe, and SEC and has found that all parties are eligible for 100% of their reasonably incurred costs of participating in this proceeding. The Board finds that the cost claims of VECC, Energy Probe, and SEC are reasonable and GLPT shall reimburse all parties for their costs.

THE BOARD THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:

1. The uniform transmission rate (UTR) for the province of Ontario will not be adjusted at this time. Great Lakes Power Transmission LP will make the accounting entries in Account 1574 as prescribed in the Implementation Proposal filed on July 30, 2010, and attached as Appendix A to this Order.
2. Pursuant to section 30 of the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, Great Lakes Power Transmission LP shall immediately pay:
 - Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition \$22,296.53;
 - School Energy Coalition \$55,110.00; and
 - Energy Probe Research Foundation \$12,239.94.
3. Pursuant to section 30 of the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, GLPT shall pay the Board's costs of and incidental to, this proceeding immediately upon receipt of the Board's invoice.

DATED at Toronto on August 31, 2010
ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary

**APPENDIX A
TO
DECISION AND ORDER
AUGUST 31, 2010**

**IMPLEMENTATION PROPOSAL
GREAT LAKES POWER TRANSMISSION INC.
ON BEHALF OF
GREAT LAKES POWER TRANSMISSION LP
FILED JULY 30, 2010
EB-2009-0408**

July 30, 2010

RESS, COURIER & EMAIL

Ontario Energy Board
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Toronto ON M4P 1E4

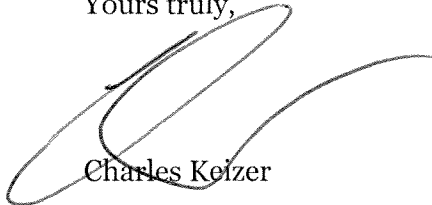
Attention: Ms. K. Walli, Board Secretary

Dear Ms. Walli:

Re: Great Lakes Power Transmission LP - Application for 2010 Rates (EB-2009-0408) - Implementation Proposal

We are counsel to the applicant, Great Lakes Power Transmission LP ("GLPT") in the above-referenced proceeding. The Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") issued its Decision With Reasons in this proceeding on July 21, 2010. In its Decision, the Board directed GLPT to file an implementation proposal with the Board and all intervenors within 10 calendar days. Accordingly, on behalf of GLPT, please find the attached implementation proposal.

Yours truly,



Charles Keizer

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cc: N. Mikhail, Board Staff
Intervenors
A. McPhee, GLPT
D. Fecteau, GLPT
M. Zajdeman, GLPT
J. Myers, Torys LLP

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O.1998, c.15 (Sched. B)

AND IN THE MATTER OF an application by Great Lakes Power Transmission Inc. on behalf of Great Lakes Power Transmission LP for an Order or Orders pursuant to section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* for 2010 transmission rates and related matters.

EB-2009-0408

IMPLEMENTATION PROPOSAL

Great Lakes Power Transmission Inc.

on behalf of Great Lakes Power Transmission LP

July 30, 2010

Introduction

In its July 21, 2010 Decision and Order (the “Board Decision”), the Board directed Great Lakes Power Transmission LP (“GLPT”) to file a proposal for the implementation of the recovery of GLPT’s revenue requirement established by the Board Decision. In doing so, the Board noted its preference for minimizing, where appropriate, the number of changes to Uniform Transmission Rates (“UTRs”) and encouraged the creation of an implementation proposal that did not necessitate changes to the existing UTRs. The Board commented on the possibility of GLPT using the balance in GLPT’s Account 1574, Deferred Rate Impact Amounts Account (“DRIAA”) to offset the increase to its 2010 revenue requirement arising from the Board Decision. If possible, this would remove the need to change existing UTRs, until there is an opportunity to more appropriately align GLPT’s approved revenue requirement and charge determinants with the implementation of changes to the UTR necessitated by revenue requirement changes for other Ontario transmitters. GLPT respects the Board’s preference for minimizing the number of changes to UTRs and offers the following implementation proposal that, if accepted, would reflect the terms of the approved Settlement Agreement and Board Decision while avoiding the need for immediate changes to existing UTRs.

Period Prior to UTR Changes

In respect of the period from the Board approved effective date of January 1, 2010 for the recovery of GLPT’s 2010 revenue requirement until the date that GLPT’s approved 2010 revenue requirement is implemented through changes to UTRs (which date has yet to be determined) (the “**Pre-Change Period**”), GLPT proposes as follows.

For each month during the Pre-Change Period, GLPT will record an increase in its monthly revenue that is in proportion to the annual increase from the current Board approved revenue requirement to the 2010 Board approved revenue requirement. In particular, as described below, the incremental monthly revenue amount arising from the revenue requirement increase would be calculated by multiplying the revenue received from the IESO under current rates by an increment that is equal to the percentage increase from GLPT's current revenue requirement (arising from EB-2005-0241) to GLPT's approved 2010 revenue requirement (arising from EB-2009-0408), i.e. the annual deficiency experienced under current rates.

GLPT believes that this method will determine monthly revenues that are consistent with the revenues that GLPT would receive if the UTRs were updated to incorporate GLPT's Board approved 2010 revenue requirement as of the effective date of January 1, 2010. All volume variance exposure will remain with GLPT. Below is an illustrative example in which it is assumed for simplicity and to eliminate the effect of volume variance, that GLPT receives the revenue to recover its revenue requirement in 12 equal monthly installments. Depending on volumetric changes, the monthly revenue could deviate from the average. However, the monthly revenue would be subject to the proportionate increment, such that the sum of the increased monthly revenue over the 12 month period commencing January 1, 2010 may be above or below the approved 2010 revenue requirement depending on the volumetric variance. The application of this methodology and the accounting treatment for a representative month (March 2010) is set out at Appendix "A" attached hereto.

Current Approved Revenue Requirement ¹	[A]	\$34,785,422
Revenue Requirement Effective Jan 1, 2010 ²	[B]	\$35,141,618
Annual Revenue Requirement Increase	[C] = [B] - [A]	\$356,196
Percentage Increase in Revenue	[D] = [C] / [A]	1.02%

Hypothetical Scenario:		
Current Average Monthly Revenue	[E] = [A] / 12	\$2,898,785
Proportional Increase @ 1.02%	[F] = [D] * [E]	\$29,683
Average Monthly Revenue with Proportional Increase	[G] = [E] + [F]	\$2,928,468
Total Annual Revenue	[G] * 12 = [B]	\$35,141,618

Consistent with the suggestion made by the Board, GLPT will record the monthly incremental revenue in Account 1574. The amounts recorded will partially offset the balance that currently exists in that account and, therefore, partially offsetting the aggregate balance of all existing deferral and variance accounts owing to ratepayers.

The first entry to be made in Account 1574 will occur in the month that GLPT receives the final Board Order approving this methodology. This entry will represent a catch-up for all months between January 1, 2010 and the current month. For each month after the Board Order is received, the accrual will be recorded for the current month only.

Post UTR Changes

In respect of the period following the implementation of GLPT's approved 2010 revenue requirement through changes to UTRs, which date has yet to be determined (the "**Post-Change Period**"), GLPT proposes that it will cease recording the monthly incremental revenue amounts

¹ Arising from the Board's approval of the Settlement Agreement in EB-2005-0241 on September 15, 2005.

² GLPT's approved 2010 revenue requirement is \$35,148,818. Of this amount, \$7,200 will be received from non-IESO sources, resulting in \$35,141,618 being required from the IESO.

in Account 1574. Consistent with Section 6.3 of the Settlement Agreement dated May 17, 2010 and accepted by the Board on May 21, 2010, GLPT will disburse the aggregate balance of the existing deferral and variance accounts over a three-year period, with the appropriate interest. The aggregate balance of \$2,962,700³ (to the credit of ratepayers) will be partially offset by the recording of monthly incremental revenues in Account 1574 in the manner described above. Upon the implementation of a future rate order for the UTR, in each of the first three years of the Post-Change Period, GLPT will reduce its annual revenue required from the UTRs by one third of the net of the balance of \$2,962,700 and the offsetting amounts described above. GLPT will track any over- and under-recoveries such that any outstanding balance can be cleared through a future rate application.

In addition, consistent with Section 6.3 of the Settlement Agreement and with reference to Section 6.1 of the Settlement Agreement, upon the implementation of a future rate order for the UTR, in each of the first five years of the Post-Change Period, GLPT will reduce its annual revenue required from the UTRs by one fifth of the amount of \$3,063,900 being the balance of Account 1505. "Appropriate interest" will be applied to the outstanding balance, as stated in Section 6.3 of Settlement. GLPT will track any over- and under-recoveries such that any outstanding balance can be cleared through a future rate application.

Conclusion

Based on the forgoing GLPT believes that it will be able to recover the increase in revenue requirement arising from the Board Decision and Settlement Agreement and to account for

³ This initial amount of \$2,962,700 (to the credit of ratepayers) reflects the aggregate balance of all existing deferral and variance accounts as of December 31, 2009.

disbursal of various deferral accounts, while leaving the UTRs unchanged until the revenue requirement needs of a number of transmitters can be implemented at one time.

**Appendix “A”
Accounting Entries to Recognize Revenues that would have been Collected Had the Rates
Been Implemented January 1, 2010
(Deferred Rate Impact Account - “DRIAA”)**

1. To record the difference between the approved monthly revenue requirement and the actual monthly revenue collected in rates

Debit Account 1574, DRIA

Credit Account 4110, Transmission Services Revenue

For the purposes of this entry, the monthly DRIA shall be calculated as described above, and as follows:

DRIA = approved monthly revenue requirement (revenue collected at current rates, plus proportional increase in revenue requirement) – monthly revenue collected at currently approved rates

Using March 2010 as a sample month:

Current Approved Revenue Requirement ⁴	[A]	\$34,785,422
Revenue Requirement Effective Jan 1, 2010 ⁵	[B]	\$35,141,618
Annual Revenue Requirement Increase	[C] = [B] - [A]	\$356,196
Percentage Increase in Revenue	[D] = [C] / [A]	1.02%

Revenue Received from IESO for March 2010 ⁶	[E]	\$2,691,400
Approved Monthly Revenue Requirement	[F] = ([E]*[D]) + [E]	2,718,852
Proportional Increase @ 1.02% (DRIA Entry)	[G] = [F] - [E]	\$27,452

The accounts in this proposal are prescribed by the Board for use under the Accounting Procedures Handbook for Electric Distribution Utilities.

⁴ Arising from the Board’s approval of the Settlement Agreement in EB-2005-0241 on September 15, 2005.

⁵ GLPT’s approved 2010 revenue requirement is \$35,148,818. Of this amount, \$7,200 will be received from non-IESO sources, resulting in \$35,141,618 being required from the IESO.

⁶ Cash received from IESO on Thursday, April 22, 2010