Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario



EB-2010-0249

IN THE MATTER OF the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O, 1998, c. 15, Schedule B;

AND IN THE MATTER OF cost award eligibility for interested parties in the consultation process regarding the development of electricity distribution system reliability standards.

BEFORE: Paul Sommerville Presiding Member

DECISION ON COST ELIGIBILITY

On August 23, 2010, the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") issued a letter to interested parties introducing a consultation process the Board intends to follow to implement a system reliability standards regime for licensed Ontario electricity distributors.

In that letter the Board indicated that cost awards would be available to eligible persons under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* in relation to their participation in this consultation process, and that any costs awarded would be recovered from all licensed electricity distributors.

The Board received requests for cost eligibility from the following participants:

- Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario
- Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters
- Energy Probe Research Foundation
- London Property Management Association
- Power Workers Union
- School Energy Coalition
- Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition

Electricity distributors were given an opportunity to file any objections they might have in relation to the eligibility of the above-noted participants for an award of costs. The Board did not receive any objections from distributors.

Based on the criteria set out in section 3 of the Board's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*, the Board has determined that the following participants are eligible for an award of costs in this consultation process: the Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario, the Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters, Energy Probe Research Foundation, the London Property Management Association, the School Energy Coalition and the Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition. The Board expects these participants to make every effort to communicate and co-ordinate their participation in this process to the extent that they represent the same interests or class of customer.

The Board has determined that the Power Worker's Union, a union that represents certain employees of some electricity distributors in Ontario, is not eligible for an award of costs based on the criteria set out in section 3 of the Board's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*. The Board finds that no special circumstances exist that persuade the Board to deviate from the criteria set out in the Board's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

ISSUED AT Toronto, October 1, 2010

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Paul Sommerville Presiding Member