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



EB-2010-0292

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 Horizon Utilities Corporation for an order approving an increase to a Smart Meter Funding Adder to be effective December 1, 2010.

PROCEDURAL ORDER No. 2

Horizon Utilities Corporation ("Horizon") filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") on August 26, 2010 under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, c.15 (Schedule B), seeking approval to increase its smart meter funding adder from \$1.56 per month to \$2.45 per month, applicable to all metered customers effective December 1, 2010 (the "Application"). The request relates to the recovery of ongoing costs for smart meters installed to December 31, 2009 and to complete deployment of smart meters in Horizon's service area.

The Board issued a Notice of Application and Hearing dated September 20, 1010. The Notice was published and served on intervenors of record in a separate Cost of Service application for 2011 distribution rates (EB-2010-0131) by November 10, 2010. No parties intervened. The Board received three letters of comment from individual ratepayers opposing Horizon's application for an increased smart meter funding adder.

The Board issued Procedural Order No. 1 on December 8, 2010, and determined that it would consider Horizon's Application by way of a written process, and the Application would be dealt with separately from Horizon's application for 2011 distribution rates. Procedural Order No. 1 established a process for discovery through a round of interrogatories followed by, if necessary, submissions by Board staff and reply submission by Horizon. Horizon's responses to interrogatories were ordered to be filed by January 12, 2011.

On January 12, 2011, Horizon filed a letter stating that it would not be able to file its interrogatory responses in accordance with the deadline established in Procedural Order No. 1. Horizon indicated that the delay was due to the illness of staff, but that it would file the responses by January 14, 2011. The Board grants Horizon the 2-day extension to file responses and also finds it appropriate to extend the deadlines for the filing of submissions and reply submission by two business days.

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:

- Horizon Utilities Corporation shall file with the Board any responses to interrogatories filed with it on or before January 14, 2011. If it so wishes, Horizon Utilities Corporation shall file an Argument-in-Chief relating to the Application by the same date.
- 2. Board staff shall file with the Board and deliver to Horizon Utilities Corporation any written submissions on or before **January 25, 2011**.
- 3. Horizon Utilities Corporation shall file any written reply submissions with the Board on or before **February 3, 2011**.

All filings to the Board must quote the file number, EB-2010-0292, 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/OEB/Industry. 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, January 14, 2011

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary