



EB-2010- 0141

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 St. Thomas
Energy Inc. for an order approving just and reasonable
rates and other charges for electricity distribution to be
effective May 1, 2011.

PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 1 And ORDER FOR INTERIM RATES

St. Thomas Energy Inc. ("St. Thomas") filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") on February 11, 2011 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 St. Thomas charges for electricity distribution, to be effective May 1, 2011. The Board has assigned the File Number EB-2010-0141 to this application.

The Board issued a Notice of Application and Hearing on March 3, 2011. Rogers Cable Communications Inc. ("Rogers Cable"), the Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition ("VECC") and Energy Probe Research Foundation ("Energy Probe") applied for intervenor status. VECC and Energy Probe also applied for cost eligibility. No objections were received.

The Board has determined that Rogers Cable, VECC and Energy Probe will be granted intervenor status and that VECC and Energy Probe are eligible to apply for an award of costs under the Board's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*. The intervenor listing for this proceeding is attached as Appendix A to this Order.

On March 25, 2011 St. Thomas filed supplementary information pertaining to its affiliates as evidence in support of its application.

At this time the Board intends to proceed with its review of this application by way of a written hearing. The Notice of Application indicated that the Board may provide for an oral component. This may be in the form of a technical conference or an oral hearing. The Board has decided to make provision at this time for written interrogatories. After its review of the responses, the Board will determine the next steps including whether provision should be made for additional interrogatories, a technical conference, or a settlement conference, after which the Board will determine whether to conduct an oral hearing or to make provision for written final submissions.

In its application St. Thomas requested that the Board declare St. Thomas's current rates interim effective May 1, 2011 until its proposed distribution rates are implemented. In light of the schedule outlined in this procedural order, the Board finds this request reasonable. In declaring St. Thomas's current rates interim, the Board emphasizes that this order for interim rates should not be construed as predictive, in any way whatsoever, of the final determination of this application.

This Procedural Order addresses the process for the first round of interrogatories. Please note that this Procedural Order may be amended, and further procedural orders may be issued from time to time.

THE BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. The currently approved rates of St. Thomas Energy Inc. are declared interim as of May 1, 2011 and until such time as a final rate order is issued by the Board.
2. Board staff shall request information and material from St. Thomas that is in addition to St. Thomas's evidence with the Board, and that is relevant to the hearing, by written interrogatories filed with the Board and delivered to St. Thomas and all intervenors **on or before April 12, 2011**. Where possible, the questions should specifically reference the evidence.
3. Intervenors, who wish information and material from St. Thomas that is in addition to St. Thomas's evidence with the Board, and that is relevant to the hearing, shall request it by written interrogatories filed with the Board and delivered to St. Thomas **on or before April 15, 2011**. Where possible, the questions should specifically reference the evidence.

4. St. Thomas shall file with the Board complete responses to all interrogatories and deliver them to the intervenors **on or before May 6, 2011**.

All filings to the Board must quote the file number, EB-2010-0141, be made through the Board's web portal at www.errr.ontarioenergyboard.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. Please use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the RESS Document Guideline found at www.errr.ontarioenergyboard.ca/OEB/Industry. 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 or diskette 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@ontarioenergyboard.ca
Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (toll free)
Fax: 416-440-7656

DATED April 1, 2011

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary

**APPENDIX A TO
PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 1
APPLICANT LIST OF INTERVENORS
ST. THOMAS ENERGY INC.
BOARD FILE NO.: EB-2010-0141
DATED: APRIL 1, 2011**

**St. Thomas Energy Inc.
EB-2010-0141**

APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS

March 31, 2011

APPLICANT

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INTERVENORS

**Energy Probe Research
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**St. Thomas Energy Inc.
EB-2010-0141**

APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS

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March 31, 2011

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**Vulnerable Energy Consumers
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St. Thomas Energy Inc.

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APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS

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March 31, 2011

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