



Energizing Our Community

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May 20, 2011

Ms. Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319, 27th Floor
2300 Yonge Street
Toronto, Ontario
M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

Re: Orillia Power Distribution Corporation - Application for a Partial Exemption from its Mandated Time of Use Pricing Date for Regulated Price Plan Customers – EB-2011-0107

Orillia Power Distribution Corporation (“Orillia”) received the Board Staff’s interrogatories with respect to the above application on May 12, 2011. The Board Staff’s questions and Orillia’s responses are as follows:

Question:

a) Please confirm the status of Orillia Power’s smart meter deployment and TOU implementation as of May 1, 2011.

Response:

Orillia has successfully registered 11,721 meters with the SME’s MDM/R to date. This represents more than 99% of its residential customers and 35% of its General Service under 50 kW customers. Orillia expects to be billing these customers using TOU pricing by its mandated TOU Date (June 2011). Orillia has begun deployment of its 3 phase smart meters and expects to be billing these customers on TOU by the requested date of November 2011.

b) Please provide information on the timing and measures taken to mitigate the smart meter delay including when Orillia Power learned of the delay and what action was taken.



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Response:

Orillia issued a purchase order to General Electric (GE) for 3 phase smart meters in May 2010. GE indicated expected delivery in August 2010 which included the required approval by Measurement Canada (MC). Orillia planned to install the meters in the fall of 2010. On August 4, 2010 the Board issued a Determination to Mandate Time-of-Use Pricing (EB-2010-0218). At this time, Orillia had no reason to believe it would not meet its mandated TOU Date. Approval by MC was delayed until Dec 2010. Meter production was expected to begin upon MC approval. However, throughout late 2010 and early 2011, it became apparent to Orillia that GE production capabilities were constrained, leading to numerous production delays for Orillia and deferral of Orillia's expected delivery date. Orillia has been actively monitoring the process and continues to maintain regular contact with GE.

c) Are there any other factors (internal and/or external) that Orillia Power has identified that may hinder its ability to comply with their requested mandated TOU date for General Service under 50 kW customers?

Response:

Orillia is not aware of any other factors that may hinder its ability to comply with its requested mandated TOU date for General Service under 50 kW customers. Orillia believes that its request to extend its mandated TOU date for certain General Service under 50 kW customers to November 2011 is achievable subject to successful AMI integration and performance testing.

Yours truly,



John Mattinson, President & Secretary
Orillia Power Distribution Corporation

cc Patrick Hurley, Treasurer
Grant Hipgrave, Controller
Tha Aung, Engineering Administrator