# EB-2011-0054 Ontario Energy Board

**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 Hydro Ottawa Limited for an order approving just and reasonable rates and other charges for electricity distribution to be effective January 1, 2012.

#### INTERROGATORIES OF

#### **EnviroCentre**

### August 22, 2011

# Is the proposed rate base for the test year appropriate?

8. Ref: Exh B1-2-4, p1

Hydro Ottawa has included \$4M in the capital budget for 2012 for the acquisition of land for a new East Operations Centre and a new Administration Building.

- # 1 Please advise if these costs include LEED certification and, if so, at what level.
- # 2 If not, please estimate the projected annual savings in operating costs and annual reductions in greenhouse gas emissions compared to the existing administration building on a per square foot or metre basis.

### Fleet Strategy

14. Ref: Exh B1-2-5, p4

Board staff estimates that Hydro Ottawa plans to purchase 18 vehicles in 2011 and 31 vehicles in 2012.

# 3 Please estimate the projected annual savings in operating costs and annual reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from the use of the hybrid vehicles Hydro Ottawa plans to purchase.

# Is Hydro Ottawa's Green Energy Act Plan appropriate?

17. Ref: Filing Requirements EB-2009-0397, Part IV

Ref: Exh B1-2-2, Attachment P, p15

The GEA Plan Filing Requirements outline the need for consultations.

# 4 Please advise who has been consulted regarding Hydro Ottawa's Green Energy Act Plan.

The Basic GEA Plan submitted by Hydro Ottawa shows no increase in Distributed Generation capacity for the three years (2012-2014) covered by this application.

- # 5 Had the system limitations been dealt with earlier, please confirm that the lost opportunity for increased distributed generation capacity by the end of 2014 would be about 15 MW if the 2011-2012 trend continued, or about 35 MW if the long-term projection were met gradually during the years covered by this application.
- # 6 Please estimate by how much capacity Hydro Ottawa could exceed its CDM targets if it filed a successful application for an aggressive CDM plan that would complement the OPA programs it is obliged to deliver.
- # 7 Please advise if Hydro Ottawa has considered including a Chief Conservation Officer as part of its senior management team.

### Low Income Energy Assistance Program ("LEAP")

34. Ref: Exh D1-1-1, p19 and Exh D1-1-2, p10

Hydro Ottawa will have a LEAP expense starting in 2011. The evidence also states that the LEAP program is the only charitable donation that Hydro Ottawa has included for both 2011 and 2012.

- # 8 Please identify the total amount contributed to all other community projects and marketing events, including the Brighter Tomorrow Fund, and compare it to the amount allocated for LEAP.
- # 9 Of the amount allocated for LEAP, please identify the amount that is recuperated by Hydro Ottawa in recovered arrears.
- # 10 Please identify the total amount of payments received in 2010 from the City of Ottawa to cover the electricity bills of social assistance clients.