

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.

BEFORE: Ken Quesnelle

Presiding Member

DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS

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, seeking approval for changes to the rates that St. Thomas charges for electricity distribution, to be effective May 1, 2011. The Board assigned the application file number EB-2010-0141.

On April 1, 2011, the Board issued its Procedural Order No. 1 for Interim Rates, granting Energy Probe Research Foundation ("Energy Probe"), the Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition ("VECC") and Rogers Cable Communications Inc. intervenor status. The Board also determined that Energy Probe and VECC were eligible to apply for an award of costs under the Board's *Practice and Direction on Cost Awards*. On April 15, 2011, the Board accepted the School Energy Coalition's ("SEC") request for late intervention and granted SEC eligibility to apply for an award of costs.

The Board issued its Decision and Order on the application on June 28, 2011, in which it set out the process for intervenors to file their cost claims and to respond to any objections raised by St. Thomas.

Energy Probe and VECC filed cost claims by the deadline of August 7, 2011 as specified in the Decision and Order. SEC's cost claim was received by the Board on August 15, 2011, and is accepted by the Board notwithstanding the late filing. No comments were received from St. Thomas.

The Board has reviewed Energy Probe's, VECC's and SEC's cost claims and finds that all parties are eligible for 100% of their reasonably incurred costs of participating in this proceeding. The Board finds that each party's claims are reasonable and their costs shall be reimbursed by St. Thomas.

THE BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, St. Thomas shall immediately pay:

Energy Probe Research Foundation \$13,953.23;
 School Energy Coalition \$14,196.76; and
 Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition \$17,035.78.

2. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, St. Thomas shall pay the Board's costs of and incidental to, this proceeding immediately upon receipt of the Board's invoice.

DATED at Toronto, September 7, 2011.

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

John Pickernell
Assistant Board Secretary