

EB-2007-0742

NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND HEARING FOR AN ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION RATE CHANGE Guelph Hydro Electric Systems Inc.

Guelph Hydro Electric Systems Inc. ("Guelph Hydro") has filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board, received on February 26, 2008, 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 Guelph Hydro charges for electricity distribution, to be effective May 1, 2008. The Board has assigned the application file number EB-2007-0742. The Board's decision on this application may have an effect on all of Guelph Hydro's customers.

Any change to Guelph Hydro's distribution rates will cause Guelph Hydro's delivery charges to change. Delivery charges are one of four regular items on residential and general service customers' electric bills and vary depending on the amount of electricity consumed.

Guelph Hydro is requesting that the Board:

- Approve \$24,632,916 as the annual revenue it requires to provide electricity distribution;
- Approve the proposed harmonization of rates across its entire service territory; and
- Declare the rates as proposed to be interim as of May 1, 2008 if the Board is not able to issue a Rate Order prior to May 1, 2008.

Guelph Hydro indicates that if the application is approved as filed, a residential customer in the Rockwood Division service area consuming 1000 kWh per month would experience a decrease of approximately 4.1% in their electricity bill. A residential customer in the remaining service area of Guelph Hydro consuming 750 kWh per month would experience a decrease of approximately 0.7% in their electricity bill. A small

general service customer in the Rockwood Division service area consuming 2,000 kWh per month and having a monthly demand less than 50 kW would experience a decrease of approximately 10.6% in their electricity bill. A similar customer in the remaining service area of Guelph Hydro would see a decrease of approximately 2.7% in their electricity bill.

How to see Guelph Hydro's Application

Copies of the application are available for inspection at the Board's office in Toronto and on its website, www.oeb.gov.on.ca, and at Guelph Hydro's office and may be on its website.

How to Participate

You may participate in this proceeding in one of three ways:

1. Send a Letter with your Comments to the Board

Your letter with comments will be provided to the Board members deciding the application, and will be part of the public record for the application. Your letter must be received by the Board no later than **30 days** from the publication or service date of this notice. The Board accepts letters of comment by either post or e-mail at the addresses below.

2. Become an Observer

Observers do not actively participate in the proceeding but monitor the progress of the proceeding by receiving documents issued by the Board. You may request observer status in order to receive documents issued by the Board in this proceeding. If you become an observer, you need to contact Guelph Hydro Electric Systems Inc. and others in order to receive documents that they file in this proceeding and they may charge you for this. Most documents filed in this application will also be available on the Board's website. Your request for observer status must be made in writing and be received by the Board no later than **10 days** from the publication or service date of this notice. The Board accepts observer request letters by either post or e-mail at the

addresses below; however, two paper copies are also required. You must also provide a copy of your letter to Guelph Hydro Electric Systems Inc.

3. Become an Intervenor

You may ask to become an intervenor if you wish to actively participate in the proceeding. Intervenors are eligible to receive evidence and other material submitted by participants in the hearing. Likewise, intervenors will be expected to send copies of any material they file to all parties to the hearing.

Your request for intervenor status must be made by letter of intervention and be received by the Board no later than **10 days** from the publication or service date of this notice. Your letter of intervention must include a description of how you are, or may be, affected by the outcome of this proceeding; and if you represent a group, a description of the group and its membership. The Board may order costs in this proceeding. You must indicate in your letter of intervention whether you expect to seek costs from Guelph Hydro Electric Systems Inc. and the grounds for your eligibility for costs. You must provide a copy of your letter of intervention to Guelph Hydro Electric Systems Inc.

The Board intends to proceed with this application by way of written hearing. The Board will not hold a written hearing if a party satisfies the Board that there is good reason for holding an oral hearing. If you object to the Board holding a written hearing, your letter of intervention must include reasons why an oral hearing is necessary.

If you already have a user ID, please submit your intervention request through the Board's web portal at www.errr.oeb.gov.on.ca. Additionally, two paper copies are required. If you do not have a user ID, please visit the Board's website under e-filings and fill out a user ID password request. For instructions on how to submit and naming conventions please refer to the RESS Document Guidelines found at www.oeb.gov.on.ca, e-Filing Services. The Board also accepts interventions by e-mail, at the address below, and again, two additional paper copies are required. Those who do not have internet access are required to submit their intervention request on a CD or diskette in PDF format, along with two paper copies.

How to Contact Us

In responding to this Notice, please include Board file number EB-2007-0742 in the subject line of your e-mail or at the top of your letter. It is also important that you provide your name, postal address and telephone number and, if available, an e-mail address and fax number. 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.

Need More Information?

Further information on how to participate may be obtained by visiting the Board's website at www.oeb.gov.on.ca or by calling our Consumer Relations Centre at 1-877-632-2727.

IMPORTANT

IF YOU DO NOT FILE AN OBJECTION TO A WRITTEN HEARING OR DO NOT REQUEST TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCEEDING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS NOTICE, THE BOARD MAY PROCEED IN YOUR ABSENCE AND YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY FURTHER NOTICE IN THIS PROCEEDING.

ADDRESSES

The Board:

Post:

Ontario Energy Board P.O. Box 2319 2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Attention: Board Secretary

Filings: www.errr.oeb.gov.on.ca
E-mail: Boardsec@oeb.gov.on.ca

Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (toll free)

Fax: 416-440-7656

The Applicant:

Guelph Hydro Electric Systems Inc. 395 Southgate Drive Guelph, ON N1G 4Y1

Attention: Arthur G. Stokman, President

E-mail: astokman@guelphhydro.com

Tel.: 519-837-4715 Fax: 519-836-1055

Counsel for Guelph Hydro Electric Systems Inc.:

Attention: James C. Sidlofsky

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP Scotia Plaza, 40 King Street West Toronto, ON M5H 3Y4

E-mail: <u>jsidlofsky@blgcanada.com</u>

Tel: 416-367-6277 Fax: 416-361-2751

DATED at Toronto, March 13, 2008 **ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

Original signed by

John Pickernell, Assistant Board Secretary