



By E-mail

March 13, 2008

Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary  
Ontario Energy Board  
2300 Yonge Street  
27<sup>th</sup> floor  
Toronto ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms Walli,

**Hydro One Networks Inc. ("Hydro One")**

**Board File No.: EB-2007-0681**

**Our File No.: 339583-000002**

We are writing this letter to seek intervenor status and cost award eligibility in this proceeding on behalf of Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters ("CME").

CME's request for this relief is late. The Notice of Application herein is dated January 14, 2008. Procedural Order No. 1 issued on February 6, 2008, and the processes described therein have already been completed. Procedural Order No. 2 issued on February 22, 2008. This Order establishes March 14, 2008, as the deadline for submitting Interrogatories to Hydro One on its pre-filed evidence.

CME's wish to actively participate in this proceeding is prompted, in part, by presentations made by representatives of Hydro One Networks Inc. ("Hydro One"), Ontario Power Generation Inc. ("OPG"), and others at a CME sponsored conference held in Toronto on February 20, 2008, entitled "Navigating Ontario's Energy Future".

As a result of presentations made at that conference, CME concluded that it should take steps to more actively represent the interests of its about 1,200 Ontario-based member companies in Ontario Energy Board ("OEB" or the "Board") proceedings such as this one, the outcome of which could have a material impact on rates CME member companies pay for electricity.

#### Request for Intervenor Status

The reasons why CME should be granted intervenor status in this proceeding include the following:

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- (i) CME is Canada's leading business network. Its members represent 75% of manufactured output in the Province of Ontario, and 90% of all exports.
- (ii) Manufacturing is important to the Province of Ontario. It is the single largest sector of the economy (17.5% of Gross Domestic Product ("GDP") or \$300B) employing, directly, over 1M people in the Province.
- (iii) Electricity is significant to manufacturing as the primary source of energy for the manufacturing sector. As a result, the members of CME are vitally concerned with all matters pertaining to the supply and price of electricity.
- (iv) Ontario-based CME members seek an electricity system for Ontario which is one of the most cost-effective and economically sustainable systems in North America.
- (v) CME's primary concern, in this proceeding, is the level of the rate changes OPG seeks and the impact such rate changes will have on the energy costs of its members.
- (vi) CME wishes to actively participate in these proceedings to assure that any rate changes which the Board approves are just and reasonable. Just and reasonable rates are a necessary ingredient of an electricity system that will support a growing and prosperous manufacturing sector.

#### Request for Cost Award Eligibility

CME seeks a determination that it is eligible for a Cost Award on the following grounds:

- (i) CME is a not-for-profit organization funded by membership fees and revenues from the services it renders to Federal and Provincial Governments and Agencies to foster the development of national and international markets for its members and to break down trade barriers.
- (ii) About 85% of CME's 1,200 Ontario-based member companies are Small to Medium sized business Enterprises ("SMEs") with 500 employees or less. The views of these businesses should be considered in these proceedings.
- (iii) CME's ability to actively participate in this proceeding is dependent upon a determination that it is eligible for a Cost Award. In many prior proceedings, the Board has determined that CME is eligible for a Cost Award.

#### No Prejudice

If the relief requested in this letter is granted, then, except for the possibility of seeking permission to pose written Interrogatories on Hydro One's pre-filed evidence which have not been asked by others, CME will not be seeking any changes to the deadline dates

specified in Procedural Order No. 2. Accordingly, it is submitted that no one will be prejudiced if the Board grants the relief CME seeks.

CME Contacts

If the relief requested in this letter is granted, then CME requests that further communications with respect to this matter be sent to the following:

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Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters  
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Please contact the undersigned if the Board requires any further information in connection with these requests.

Yours very truly,



Peter C.P. Thompson, Q.C.

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c. Hydro One Networks Inc.  
Interested Parties EB-2007-0681  
Paul Clipsham (CME)

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