

EB-2011-0250

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 Lakefront Utilities Inc. for an order approving just and reasonable rates and other charges for electricity distribution to be effective May 1, 2012.

PROCEDURAL ORDER No. 4

Lakefront Utilities Inc. ("Lakefront") filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") on October 17, 2011, 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 Lakefront charges for electricity distribution, to be effective May 1, 2012. An amended application was filed on December 5, 2011.

On March 2, 2012, the Board issued Procedural Order No.3 in which the Board allowed for a Settlement Conference to be convened on March 29, 2012 and to be continued if necessary on March 3, 2012. The Board ordered any Settlement Proposal arising from the Settlement Conference to be filed on April 18, 2012.

A Settlement Conference attended by Lakefront, both intervenors VECC and SEC and Board staff convened on March 29, 2012 and continued to March 30, 2012.

On April 18, 2012, Lakefront requested that the filing deadline for the filing of any Settlement Agreement be extended to April 26, 2012. The Board will grant the request. In addition to outlining the terms of any settlement, the Settlement Agreement should contain a list of any unsettled issues, identifying those issues that the parties believe must be dealt with by way of oral or written hearing.

Interim Rates

In the Application, Lakefront requested an effective date of May 1, 2012.

The Board is prepared to make Lakefront's current approved rates interim pending the Board's decision. This determination is made without prejudice to the Board's decision on Lakefront's Application, and should not be construed as predictive, in any way whatsoever, of the Board's final determination with regards to the effective date for Lakefront's rates arising from this Application.

Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection

On December 21, 2011, the Board issued a Decision with Reasons and Rate Order (EB-2011-0405) establishing the Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection ("RRRP") benefit and charge for 2012. The Board amended the RRRP charge to be collected by the Independent Electricity System Operator from the current \$0.0013 per kWh to \$0.0011 per kWh effective May 1, 2012. Lakefront shall begin applying the new charge effective May 1, 2012.

The Board considers it necessary to make provision for the following matters related to this proceeding.

THE BOARD ORDERS THAT:

- 1. Any Settlement Agreement arising from the Settlement Conference shall be filed with the Board no later than **April 26, 2012**.
- 2. Lakefront's current Board-approved Tariff of Rates and Charges is declared interim effective May 1, 2012, with the revision noted in paragraph 3 below with respect to the Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection charge.
- 3. Lakefront shall apply a Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection charge of \$0.0011 per kWh effective May 1, 2012.

All filings to the Board must quote the file number, EB-2011-0250, be made through the Board's web portal at https://www.errr.ontarioenergyboard.ca and consist of two paper copies and one electronic copy in searchable / unrestricted PDF format. Filings must clearly state the sender's name, postal address and telephone number, fax number and e-mail address. Parties must use the document naming conventions and document

submission standards outlined in the RESS Document Guideline found at www.ontarioenergyboard.ca. If the web portal is not available, parties may email their documents to the address below. Those who do not have internet access are required to submit all filings on a CD or diskette in PDF format, along with two paper copies. Those who do not have computer access are required to file 7 paper copies.

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.

<u>ADDRESS</u>

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

E-mail: Boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca

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

Fax: 416-440-7656

DATED at Toronto, April 19, 2012

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary