

EB-2011-0099

IN THE MATTER OF a proceeding initiated by the Ontario Energy Board to set distribution rates for E.L.K. Energy Inc.

PROCEDURAL ORDER No. 1

On July 18, 2011 the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") on its own motion issued a Notice of Proceeding and Order Respecting Interim Rates (the "Notice") to make an order fixing just and reasonable rates for E.L.K. Energy Inc. ("E.L.K.") pursuant to sections 19 and 78 of *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998.* The Board assigned this proceeding File No. EB-2011-0099.

The Notice set out the underpinning circumstances and a number of Board expectations for the proceeding, namely that:

- (i) E.L.K. would file its 2012 cost of service application in a timely manner, with the reminder that the deadline for filing cost of service applications for 2012 rates was August 26, 2011;
- (ii) E.L.K.'s levels of return for 2009 and 2010, as calculated by E.L.K., were 700 basis points above the rates that underpinned E.L.K.'s approved rates for 2009 and 2010; and,
- (iii) the issue of any over earnings for the remainder of the 2011 rate year, and the appropriate remedy (if any) to such overearnings would be an issue that may be explored in E.L.K.'s application for 2012 rates.

In this regard, the Board also declared E.L.K.'s existing rates interim effective July 18, 2011 pending the hearing of the application to be filed by E.L.K.

This proceeding has been held in abeyance pending the filing by E.L.K. To date, the Board has not received a cost of service application from E.L.K. The interim rates made effective July 18, 2011 continue to apply.

E.L.K.'s March 30, 2011 request to defer its scheduled 2012 cost of service rate setting proceeding was denied by the Board on the basis of the company's demonstrated over earning. The Board has not received an application to demonstrate otherwise. E.L.K. was originally scheduled to have its rates reset effective May 1, 2012 through a cost of service proceeding. Beyond that date, the Board is concerned with the potential for customers being required to initially pay more than need be and the related issue of intergenerational cross subsidies that arises when current customers leave the system.

In order to estimate the amount by which existing rates beyond May 1, 2012 would result in overearnings, the Board has analysed E.L.K.'s financial results for the year ended December 31, 2010 sourced from E.L.K.'s *Reporting and Record Keeping Requirements* and Annual Financial Statements. Using the Board's Revenue Requirement Work Form, version 2.2, the analysis indicates that E.L.K over earned in the amount of \$970,514 which equates to approximately 24% of its 2010 distribution revenues. The completed analysis and Revenue Requirement Work Form is attached as Appendix A to this Procedural Order.

In order to mitigate the risk that customers are paying distribution rates that result in earnings that exceed the deemed allowed rate of return set by the Board, the Board is considering the merit of adjusting E.L.K.'s existing interim rates downward effective June 1, 2012. The adjustment would also mitigate concerns of intergenerational inequity. While the appropriate date for such an adjustment should likely be May 1, 2012, the effective date for new rates based on a cost of service application, the Board will afford E.L.K. an opportunity to file submissions on its proposal. The analysis provided in Appendix A indicates that a 14.2 % decrease, (referred to as the "over earnings adjustment factor") to the existing base monthly service charge and base distribution volumetric rate for all customer classes would result in revenues that would permit E.L.K. to earn the deemed rate of return on equity. The proposed adjusted rates are shown in Appendix B.

Subject to its consideration of any submissions from E.L.K. as described below, the Board intends to issue a new interim rate order for rates effective June 1, 2012 which will reflect the adjustments shown in Appendix B. These rates would be declared

interim pending the Board's determination of a complete cost of service application filed by E.L.K. for 2012 rates. Since interim rates are and will be in place, the Board would have the ability to retrospectively alter this adjustment (either higher or lower) as the evidence ultimately warrants.

The Board will consider any submissions filed by E.L.K on (i) the appropriateness of and the degree to which the Board intends to adjust E.L.K.'s rates, (ii) the manner in which the over earnings have been calculated in the Revenue Requirement Work Form and the calculation of the over earnings adjustment factor as shown in Appendix A and (iii) the manner in which the rates are proposed to be adjusted as shown in Appendix B.

THE BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. If E.L.K. wishes to file a submission on the matters identified in this procedural order, E.L.K. shall file its submission by May 9, 2012.

Any submission filed with the Board must quote the file number, EB-2011-0099, 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. E.L.K. must use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the RESS Document Guideline found at http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/OEB/Industry.

Any 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.

DATED at Toronto, April 25, 2012

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary

APPENDIX A

TO PROCEDURAL ORDER No.1 EB-2011- 0099

E.L.K. Energy Inc.

DATED: April 25, 2012





Choose Your Utility:		File Number:	Rate Year:	
E.L.K. Energy Inc. Enersource Hydro Mississauga Inc.		EB-2011-0099	2012	
ENWIN Utilities Ltd.	▼			

Application Contact Information

Name:	APPENIDX A
Title:	
Phone Number:	
Email Address:	

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This Revenue Requirement Work Form Model is protected by copyright and is being made available to you solely for the purpose of your application, any subsequent updates and preparing or reviewing your draft rate order. You may use and copy this model for that purpose, and provide a copy of this model to any person that is advising or assisting you in that regard. Except as indicated above, any copying, reproduction, publication, sale, adaptation, translation, modification, reverse engineering or other use or dissemination of this model without the express written consent of the Ontario Energy Board is prohibited. If you provide a copy of this model to a person that is advising or assisting you in preparing or reviewing your draft rate order, you must ensure that the person understands and agrees to the restrictions noted above.





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6. Taxes_PILs

Notes:

(1) Pale green cells represent inputs

- (2) (3) Pale green boxes at the bottom of each page are for additional notes
- Pale yellow cells represent drop-down lists
- Please note that this model uses MACROS. Before starting, please ensure that macros have been enabled.
- (4) (5) Completed versions of the Revenue Requirement Work Form are required to be filed in working Microsoft Excel



Version 2.20

E.L.K. Energy Inc. Data Input (1)

		Initial Application		(6) Per Board Decision	_
1	Rate Base Gross Fixed Assets (average) Accumulated Depreciation (average)	\$22,290,387 (\$13,968,331)	(8) (5)	\$ 22,290,387 \$22,290,387 (\$13,968,331) (\$13,968,331)	
	Allowance for Working Capital: Controllable Expenses Cost of Power	\$2,083,298 \$15,739,947	(9)	\$ 2,083,298 \$2,083,298 \$ 15,739,947 \$15,739,947	
2	Working Capital Rate (%) Utility Income	15.00%		15.00%	
_	Operating Revenues:				
	Distribution Revenue at Current Rates Distribution Revenue at Proposed Rates Other Revenue:	\$4,115,198 \$3,529,939	(11)		
	Specific Service Charges	\$52,826			
	Late Payment Charges	\$99,989			
	Other Distribution Revenue Other Income and Deductions	\$277,794 \$433,232			
	Other Income and Deductions	\$433,232			
	Total Revenue Offsets	\$863,841	(7)		
	Operating Expenses:				
	OM+A Expenses	\$2,083,298		\$ 2,083,298 \$2,083,298	
	Depreciation/Amortization	\$824,357		\$ 824,357 \$824,357	
	Property taxes				
	Other expenses	\$31,759		31759 \$31,759	
3	Taxes/PILs				
	Taxable Income:				
			(3)		
	Adjustments required to arrive at taxable income Utility Income Taxes and Rates:				
	Income taxes (not grossed up)	\$388,747			
	Income taxes (grossed up)	\$580,220			
	Federal tax (%)	33.00%	(10)		
	Provincial tax (%)				
	Income Tax Credits				
4	Capitalization/Cost of Capital Capital Structure:				
	Long-term debt Capitalization Ratio (%)	60.0%			
	Short-term debt Capitalization Ratio (%)	40.00/	(2)	(2)	(2)
	Common Equity Capitalization Ratio (%) Prefered Shares Capitalization Ratio (%)	40.0%			
	- 1.010104 C.14100 Capitalization (1410 (74)	100.0%			
	Cost of Capital		(5)		
	Long-term debt Cost Rate (%)	7.25%	(9)		
	Short-term debt Cost Rate (%) Common Equity Cost Rate (%)	9.00%	(9)		
	Prefered Shares Cost Rate (%)	0.0070	(0)		

General Data inputs are required on Sheets 3, 10A and 10B. Data from Sheet 3 will automatically complete calculations on sheets 4 through 9 (Rate Base through Revenue Requirement). Sheets 4 through 9 do not require any inputs except for notes that the Applicant may wish to enter to support the results. Pale green cells are available

- on sheets 4 through 9 to enter both footnotes beside key cells and the related text for the notes at the bottom of each sheet.
- All inputs are in dollars (\$) except where inputs are individually identified as percentages (%) 4.0% unless an Applicant has proposed or been approved for another amount.
- Net of addbacks and deductions to arrive at taxable income.
- Average of Gross Fixed Assets at beginning and end of the Test Year
- Average of Accumulated Depreciation at the beginning and end of the Test Year. Enter as a negative amount.
- (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) Select option from drop-down list by clicking on cell M10. This column allows for the application update reflecting the end of discovery or Argument-in-Chief. Also, the outcome of any Settlement Process can be reflected.
- Input total revenue offsets for deriving the base revenue requirement from the service revenue requirement
- (8) Averages of 2009 and 2010 YE balances for GFA and Accumulated Depreciation
- From 2006 EDR final 2006 EDR model
- (10)
- From AFS taxes of \$580,220 of an EBIT of \$1.78M = 33% tax rate. Higher than max of 31%, but may include capital taxes from Jan.1 to June 30? The distribution revenue at proposed rates reflects a 14.2% reduction to the distribution revenue at existing rates to eliminate the gross revenue sufficency of \$970,514 (11)

In other words, an 14.2% uniform reduction in monthly and volumetric distribution rates (ignoring rate riders, RTSRs, RPP, SMFA, etc.) is to be applied uniformly to monthly and volumetric distribution rates (exluding rate riders, RRRP, SMFA, etc.) to get to approved ROE of 9.00% from 2006 EDR.



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E.L.K. Energy Inc. Rate Base and Working Capital

Rate Base

Line No.	Particulars	_	Initial Application				Per Board Decision
1 2 3	Gross Fixed Assets (average) Accumulated Depreciation (average) Net Fixed Assets (average)	(3) (3) (3)	\$22,290,387 (\$13,968,331) \$8,322,056	\$ - \$ - \$ -	\$22,290,387 (\$13,968,331) \$8,322,056	\$ - \$ - \$ -	\$22,290,387 (\$13,968,331) \$8,322,056
4	Allowance for Working Capital	(1)	\$2,673,487	\$ -	\$2,673,487	\$ -	\$2,673,487
5	Total Rate Base	_	\$10,995,543	\$-	\$10,995,543	\$-	\$10,995,543

Allowance for Working Capital - Derivation

(1)

Controllable Expenses		\$2,083,298	\$ -		\$2,083,298	\$ -	\$2,083,298
Cost of Power		\$15,739,947	\$ -	5	\$15,739,947	\$ -	\$15,739,947
Working Capital Base		\$17,823,245	\$ -		\$17,823,245	\$ -	\$17,823,245
Working Capital Rate %	(2)	15.00%	0.00%		15.00%	0.00%	15.00%
Working Capital Allowance	=	\$2,673,487	\$ -		\$2,673,487	 \$ -	\$2,673,487

Notes

(2) Some Applicants may have a unique rate as a result of a lead-lag study.(3) Average of opening and closing balances for the year.





E.L.K. Energy Inc. Utility Income

Line No.	Particulars	Initial Application				Per Board Decision
1	Operating Revenues: Distribution Revenue (at Proposed Rates)	\$3,529,939	(\$3,529,939)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2	Other Revenue (1	\$863,841	(\$863,841)	<u> </u>	\$-	\$-
3	Total Operating Revenues	\$4,393,780	(\$4,393,780)	<u> \$ -</u>	\$-	\$-
4 5 6 7 8	Operating Expenses: OM+A Expenses Depreciation/Amortization Property taxes Capital taxes Other expense	\$2,083,298 \$824,357 \$- \$- \$31,759	\$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ -	\$2,083,298 \$824,357 \$- \$31,759	\$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ -	\$2,083,298 \$824,357 \$ - \$31,759
9	Subtotal (lines 4 to 8)	\$2,939,414	\$ -	\$2,939,414	\$ -	\$2,939,414
10	Deemed Interest Expense	\$478,306	(\$478,306)	<u> </u>	\$ -	\$-
11	Total Expenses (lines 9 to 10)	\$3,417,720	(\$478,306)	\$2,939,414	\$ -	\$2,939,414
12	Utility income before income taxes	\$976,060	(\$3,915,474)	(\$2,939,414)	<u> </u>	(\$2,939,414)
13	Income taxes (grossed-up)	\$580,220	\$-	\$580,220	\$ -	\$580,220
14	Utility net income	\$395,840	(\$3,915,474)	(\$3,519,634)	<u>\$-</u>	(\$3,519,634)
<u>Notes</u>	Other Revenues / Revenu	ue Offsets				
(1)	Specific Service Charges Late Payment Charges Other Distribution Revenue Other Income and Deductions	\$52,826 \$99,989 \$277,794 \$433,232		\$ - \$ - \$ - \$ -		\$ - \$ - \$ - \$ -
	Total Revenue Offsets	\$863,841	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

E.L.K. Energy Inc. Taxes/PILs

Line No.	Particulars	Application		Per Board Decision
	Determination of Taxable Income			
1	Utility net income before taxes	\$395,840	\$ -	\$ -
2	Adjustments required to arrive at taxable utility income	\$ -	\$ -	\$-
3	Taxable income	\$395,840	\$ -	<u> </u>
	Calculation of Utility income Taxes			
4	Income taxes	\$388,747	\$388,747	\$388,747
6	Total taxes	\$388,747	\$388,747	\$388,747
7	Gross-up of Income Taxes	\$191,473	\$191,473	\$191,473
8	Grossed-up Income Taxes	\$580,220	\$580,220	\$580,220
9	PILs / tax Allowance (Grossed-up Income taxes + Capital taxes)	\$580,220	\$580,220	\$580,220
10	Other tax Credits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Tax Rates			
11 12 13	Federal tax (%) Provincial tax (%) Total tax rate (%)	33.00% 0.00% 33.00%	33.00% 0.00% 33.00%	33.00% 0.00% 33.00%

Notes



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E.L.K. Energy Inc. Capitalization/Cost of Capital

Line No.	Particulars	Сар	italization Ratio	Cost Rate	Return
			Initial Application		
	Debt	(%)	(\$)	(%)	(\$)
1 2 3	Long-term Debt Short-term Debt Total Debt	60.00% 0.00% 60.00%	\$6,597,326 \$ - \$6,597,326	7.25% 0.00% 7.25%	\$478,306 \$ - \$478,306
	Equity				
4 5 6	Common Equity Preferred Shares Total Equity	40.00% 0.00% 40.00%	\$4,398,217 \$ - \$4,398,217	9.00% 0.00% 9.00%	\$395,840 \$ - \$395,840
7	Total	100.00%	\$10,995,543	7.95%	\$874,146
	Debt	(%)	(\$)	(%)	(\$)
1	Long-term Debt	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -
2 3	Short-term Debt Total Debt	0.00%	<u> </u>	0.00%	<u> </u>
3	Total Debt	0.00%	Φ-	0.00%	<u> </u>
	Equity	0.000/	_	0.000/	•
4 5	Common Equity Preferred Shares	0.00% 0.00%	\$ - \$ -	0.00% 0.00%	\$ - \$ -
6	Total Equity	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -
7	Total	0.00%	\$10,995,543	0.00%	<u> \$ -</u>
			Per Board Decision		
	Debt	(%)	(\$)	(%)	(\$)
8 9	Long-term Debt Short-term Debt	0.00% 0.00%	\$ - \$ -	7.25% 0.00%	\$ - \$ -
10	Total Debt	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -
	Equity	_			
11	Common Equity	0.00%	\$ -	9.00%	\$ -
12 13	Preferred Shares Total Equity	0.00%	<u> </u>	0.00%	<u> </u>
10	Total Equity	0.0070	Ψ	0.0070	Ψ
14	Total	0.00%	\$10,995,543	0.00%	\$ -
Notes (1)	4.0% unless an Applic	ant has propose	d or been approved for anoth	er amount.	

E.L.K. Energy Inc. Revenue Deficiency/Sufficiency

Initial Application

Per Board Decision

Line No.	Particulars	At Current Approved Rates	At Proposed Rates	At Current Approved Rates	At Proposed Rates	At Current Approved Rates	At Proposed Rates
1 2 3	Revenue Deficiency from Below Distribution Revenue Other Operating Revenue Offsets - net	\$4,115,198 \$863,841	(\$970,514) \$4,500,453 \$863,841	\$4,115,198 \$ -	(\$1,175,784) \$4,705,723 \$ -	\$ - \$ -	\$2,939,414 (\$2,939,414) \$-
4	Total Revenue	\$4,979,039	\$4,393,780	\$4,115,198	\$3,529,939	\$ -	\$ -
5 6	Operating Expenses Deemed Interest Expense Total Cost and Expenses	\$2,939,414 \$478,306 \$3,417,720	\$2,939,414 \$478,306 \$3,417,720	\$2,939,414 \$- \$2,939,414	\$2,939,414 \$- \$2,939,414	\$2,939,414 \$- \$2,939,414	\$2,939,414 \$- \$2,939,414
7	Utility Income Before Income Taxes	\$1,561,319	\$976,060	\$1,175,784	\$590,525	(\$2,939,414)	(\$2,939,414)
8	Tax Adjustments to Accounting Income per 2009 PILs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
9	Taxable Income	\$1,561,319	\$976,060	\$1,175,784	\$590,525	(\$2,939,414)	(\$2,939,414)
10 11	Income Tax Rate	33.00% \$515,235	33.00% \$322,100	33.00% \$388,009	33.00% \$194,873	33.00% (\$970,007)	33.00% (\$970,007)
12	Income Tax on Taxable Income Income Tax Credits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
13	Utility Net Income	\$1,046,084	\$395,840	\$787,775	(\$3,519,634)	(\$1,969,407)	(\$3,519,634)
14	Utility Rate Base	\$10,995,543	\$10,995,543	\$10,995,543	\$10,995,543	\$10,995,543	\$10,995,543
	Deemed Equity Portion of Rate Base	\$4,398,217	\$4,398,217	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
15	Income/(Equity Portion of Rate Base)	23.78%	9.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
16	Target Return - Equity on Rate Base	9.00%	9.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
17	Deficiency/Sufficiency in Return on Equity	14.78%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
18	Indicated Rate of Return	13.86%	7.95%	7.16%	0.00%	-17.91%	0.00%
19	Requested Rate of Return on Rate Base	7.95%	7.95%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
20	Deficiency/Sufficiency in Rate of Return	5.91%	0.00%	7.16%	0.00%	-17.91%	0.00%
21 22 23	Target Return on Equity Revenue Deficiency/(Sufficiency) Gross Revenue Deficiency/(Sufficiency)	\$395,840 (\$650,244) (\$970,514) (1)	\$395,840 \$0	\$ - (\$787,775) (\$1,175,784) (1)	\$ - \$ -	\$ - \$1,969,407 \$2,939,414 (1)	\$ - \$ -

Notes: (1)

Revenue Deficiency/Sufficiency divided by (1 - Tax Rate)



Version 2.20

E.L.K. Energy Inc. Revenue Requirement

Line No.	Particulars	Application				Per Board Decision
1	OM&A Expenses	\$2,083,298		\$2,083,298		\$2,083,298
2	Amortization/Depreciation	\$824,357		\$824,357		\$824,357
3	Property Taxes	\$ -		¥== :,==:		¥32 i,333
5	Income Taxes (Grossed up)	\$580,220		\$580,220		\$580,220
6	Other Expenses	\$31,759		\$31,759		\$31,759
7	Return					
	Deemed Interest Expense	\$478,306		\$ -		\$ -
	Return on Deemed Equity	\$395,840		\$ -		\$ -
8	Service Revenue Requirement					
•	(before Revenues)	\$4,393,780		\$3,519,634		\$3,519,634
9	Revenue Offsets	\$863,841		\$ -		\$ -
10	Base Revenue Requirement	\$3,529,939		\$3,519,634		\$3,519,634
11	Distribution revenue	\$3,529,939		\$ -		\$ -
12	Other revenue	\$863,841		\$ -		\$-
13	Total revenue	\$4,393,780		\$ -		\$-
14	Difference (Total Revenue Less Distribution Revenue Requirement before Revenues)	<u>\$0</u>	(1)	(\$3,519,634)	(1)	<u>(\$3,519,634)</u> (1)
Notes (1)	Line 11 - Line 8					

APPENDIX B

TO PROCEDURAL ORDER No.1

EB-2011- 0099

E.L.K. Energy Inc.

DATED: April 25, 2012

E.L.K. Energy Inc. EB- 2011- 0099 2012 Interim Distribution Rates Calculation

Overearnings adjustment Factor:	14.20%	From RRWF Overearnings analysis						
Rate Class			Board- ved Rate	x (1 - Overearnings Adjustment Factor)	2012 Rate	2 Interim		
Residential Monthly Service Charge Volumetric Rate	\$/month \$/kWh	\$ \$	11.13 0.0079	85.80% 85.80%	\$ \$	9.55 0.0068		
GS < 50 kW Monthly Service Charge Volumetric Rate	\$/month \$/kWh	\$ \$	11.06 0.0017	85.80% 85.80%	\$ \$	9.49 0.0015		
GS 50 to 4,999 kW Monthly Service Charge Volumetric Rate	\$/month \$/kW	\$ \$	436.99 2.8308	85.80% 85.80%	\$ \$	374.94 2.4288		
GS 50 to 4,999 kW - TOU Monthly Service Charge Volumetric Rate	\$/month \$/kW	\$ \$	842.45 0.1253	85.80% 85.80%	\$ \$	722.82 0.1075		
Unmetered Scattered Load Monthly Service Charge Volumetric Rate	\$/month \$/kWh	\$ \$	5.54 0.0017	85.80% 85.80%	\$ \$	4.75 0.0015		
Sentinel Lights Monthly Service Charge Volumetric Rate	\$/month \$/kW	\$ \$	0.40 0.7508	85.80% 85.80%	\$ \$	0.34 0.6442		
Streetlighting Monthly Service Charge Volumetric Rate	\$/month \$/kW	\$ \$	0.01 0.0974	85.80% 85.80%	\$ \$	0.01 0.0836		