



EB-2011-0415

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 Welland Hydro-
Electric System Corp. for an order or orders approving or
fixing just and reasonable distribution rates related to Smart
Meter deployment, to be effective May 1, 2012.

BEFORE: Ken Quesnelle
Presiding Member

Marika Hare
Member

DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS
June 7, 2012

Background

Welland Hydro-Electric System Corp. ("Welland Hydro"), a licensed distributor of electricity, filed an application (the "Application") with the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") on December 5, 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 Welland Hydro charges for electricity distribution in relation to smart meter deployment, to be effective May 1, 2012. The Board assigned the application file number EB-2011-0415.

The Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition ("VECC") was granted intervenor status and cost award eligibility.

The Board issued its Decision and Order on the application on April 19, 2012, in which it set out the process for VECC to file its cost claim and to respond to any objections raised by Welland Hydro.

VECC's cost claim was received by the Board on May 11, 2012 and is accepted by the Board notwithstanding the late filing. No comments were received from Welland Hydro.

The Board has reviewed VECC's cost claim and finds that VECC is eligible for 100% of its reasonably incurred costs of participating in this proceeding. The Board finds that VECC's claim is reasonable and Welland Hydro shall reimburse VECC for its costs.

THE BOARD THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:

1. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, Welland Hydro shall immediately pay the Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition the sum of \$2,073.60.
2. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, Welland Hydro shall pay the Board's costs of and incidental to, this proceeding immediately upon receipt of the Board's invoice.

DATED at Toronto, June 7, 2012

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed by

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary