



EB-2007-0723

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 PUC
Distribution Inc., pursuant to section 78, of the *Ontario
Energy Board Act*, 1998, c. 15 (Schedule B) seeking
approval to amend electricity rates.

BEFORE: Paul Vlahos
Presiding Member

Paul Sommerville
Member

DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS

Background

On August 15, 2007, PUC Distribution Inc. ("PUC Distribution") filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998, c.15 (Schedule B), for an order or orders to adjust its rates for the distribution of electricity and other charges, to be effective October 1, 2007. The Board assigned file number EB-2007-0723 to the application.

Notice of Application was published on September 15, 2007. One party, the Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition ("VECC"), filed a request for intervention, which was granted.

On September 21, 2007, the Board issued an interim Rate Order declaring PUC Distribution's current distribution rates interim, effective September 1, 2007.

The Board issued Procedural Order No. 1 on October 2, 2007, to allow parties to seek further information by way of interrogatories. Interrogatories were served by Board staff and VECC on October 9, 2007. PUC Distribution responded to interrogatories on October 21, 2007.

The Board issued Procedural Order No.2 on November 13 2007. The Board determined to proceed with the Application by way of a written hearing. VECC and Board staff filed submissions on November 26, 2007 and November 29, 2007, respectively. PUC Distribution filed a reply submission on December 7, 2007.

The Board issued its Decision on January 8, 2008, and directed VECC to file their cost claims with the Board and PUC Distribution no later than January 29, 2008. If PUC Distribution had any comments concerning the claims, these concerns were to be forwarded to the Board and copied to all parties by February 12, 2008. Any responses to PUC Distribution's comments were to be filed with the Board and PUC Distribution by February 19, 2008.

VECC filed a cost claim with the Board and copied PUC Distribution. PUC Distribution did not file comments opposing the cost claim.

The Board has reviewed VECC's cost claim and finds VECC to be entitled to 100% of its reasonably incurred costs of participating in this proceeding. The Board also finds the cost claim to be reasonable and approves it.

THE BOARD THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:

1. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, PUC Distribution shall immediately pay VECC its costs equal to \$1,931.25.
2. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, PUC Distribution shall immediately pay the Board's costs of and incidental to, this proceeding immediately upon receipt of the Board's invoice.

DATED at Toronto, April 7, 2008

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary