



EB-2012-0036

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 Niagara-on-
the-Lake Hydro Inc. 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
August 16, 2012

Background

Niagara-on-the-Lake Hydro Inc. ("NOTL"), a licensed distributor of electricity, filed an application (the "Application") with the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") on January 30, 2012 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 NOTL charges for electricity distribution in relation to smart meter deployment, to be effective May 1, 2012. The Board assigned File Number EB-2012-0036 to the Application.

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 June 7, 2012, in which it set out the process for VECC to file its cost claim and to respond to any objections raised by NOTL.

On July 12, 2012, the Board issued a Final Rate Order.

The Board received VECC's cost claim on July 19, 2012. No comments were received from NOTL.

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 NOTL shall reimburse VECC for its costs.

THE BOARD THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:

1. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, NOTL 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*, NOTL shall pay the Board's costs of and incidental to, this proceeding immediately upon receipt of the Board's invoice.

DATED at Toronto, **August 16, 2012.**

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary