

EB-2012-0384

NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND WRITTEN HEARING Application by Hydro One Networks Inc. for an Extension to its Mandated Time-of-Use Pricing Date for Certain Regulated Price Plan Customers

The Application

Hydro One Networks Inc. ("Hydro One") filed an application dated September 21, 2012 with the Ontario Energy Board under section 74 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998 (the "Act") for a licence amendment granting an extension in relation to the mandated date for the implementation of time-of-use ("TOU") pricing rates for certain Regulated Price Plan ("RPP") customers. The application will be decided by an employee of the Board, who has been delegated this authority pursuant to section 6 of the Act. The employee of the Board does not intend to provide for an award of costs when deciding this application.

Time-of-Use Pricing

On August 4, 2010 the Board issued a determination under Section 1.2.1 of the Standard Supply Service Code to require the implementation of TOU pricing for RPP customers. The determination established mandatory TOU implementation dates for each electricity distributor. Hydro One has requested an extension to the exemption from its mandated TOU pricing date granted by the Board's Decision and Order of January 13, 2011, in the proceeding EB-2010-0282. In that Decision and Order the Board granted an exemption from the requirement to apply TOU pricing in respect of approximately 150,000 RPP customers who are outside the smart meter telecommunications infrastructure reach of Hydro One. The exemption applies until December 31, 2012. Hydro One is applying for an extension on that exemption and requests it to begin on January 1, 2013 and have an indefinite expiry date. Hydro One states that there are no current options that will meet full compliance. Hydro One indicates that the options that are available to reach these customers will achieve only partial compliance and

create excessive costs. Hydro One states that the situation is not expected to be resolved until there is improved telecommunication infrastructure in place or when future technological advancements in automated meter infrastructure become available.

Hydro One also requests that the reporting schedule that was required by the Board in its approval of the original extension in EB-2010-0282 be eliminated as Hydro One already reports on the number of customers on time-of-use and two-tier pricing as part of the quarterly Regulatory Reporting Requirements.

How to see Hydro One Networks Inc.'s Application

Copies of the application are available for inspection at the Board's office in Toronto and on its website, www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/OEB/Industry, and at Hydro One's office and may be on its website.

How to Participate in the Hearing

The Board intends to proceed with this matter by way of a written hearing unless a party satisfies the Board that there is a good reason for not holding a written hearing. If you object to the Board holding a written hearing for this application, you must provide written reasons why an oral hearing is necessary. Any submissions objecting to a written hearing must be received by the Board and copied to the applicant by October 29, 2012.

Any parties who wish information and material from the applicant that is in addition to the applicant's pre-filed evidence with the Board, and that is relevant to the hearing, shall request it by written interrogatories filed with the Board and delivered to the applicant on or before October 31, 2012. Where possible, the questions should specifically reference the pre-filed evidence. The applicant shall file with the Board complete responses to the interrogatories and deliver them to any interested parties in the proceeding no later than November 14, 2012.

Anyone who wishes to make a submission on the application must file that written submission with the Board and deliver it to the applicant by November 28, 2012. If the applicant wishes to respond to the submission(s), the written response must be filed with the Board and delivered to all parties who made

submission by December 12, 2012. All written submissions will be available for viewing at the Board's offices and will be placed on the Board's website.

If the written submission is from a private citizen (i.e., not a lawyer representing a client, not a consultant representing a client or organization, not an individual in an organization that represents the interests of consumers or other groups, and not an individual from a regulated entity), before placing the written submission on the public record, the Board will remove any personal (i.e., not business) contact information from the written submission (i.e., the address, telephone number and email address of the individual). However, the name of the individual and the content of the written submission will become part of the public record.

As stated elsewhere in this notice, you must provide a complete copy of your written submission (including your name, contact information, and everything written in the submission) to the applicant.

How to File Documents with the Board

You must forward two paper copies, and if possible, an electronic copy in PDF format of your written submission to the Board and one copy to the applicant. All submissions must file number EB-2012-0384 and clearly state the sender's name, postal address, telephone number and email address. 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.

Need More Information?

Further information on how to participate may be obtained by visiting the Board's www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/OEB/Industry or by calling our Consumer Relations Centre at 1-877-632-2727.

<u>IMPORTANT</u>

IF YOU DO NOT FILE A WRITTEN SUBMISSION OBJECTING TO A WRITTEN HEARING OR DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE HEARING BY FILING WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS NOTICE, THE BOARD MAY PROCEED WITHOUT YOUR PARTICIPATION AND YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO FURTHER NOTICE IN THIS PROCEEDING.

<u>Addresses</u>

The Board:

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

Filings:

https://www.pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/

E-mail: <u>boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca</u>

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

Fax: 416-440-7656

DATED at Toronto, October 10, 2012

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary

The Applicant:

Hydro One Networks Inc. 483 Bay Street 8th Floor - South Tower Toronto ON M5G 2P5 Attention: Susan Frank

Email: regulatory@HydroOne.com

Tel: 416-345-5707 Fax: 416-345-5866