



**EB-2011-0021**

**IN THE MATTER OF** the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*,  
S.O. 1998, c. 15, (Schedule B);

**AND IN THE MATTER OF** an application pursuant to  
section 74 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* by Hydro  
One Remote Communities Inc. to amend its Electricity  
Distribution Licence ED-2003-0037.

**By delegation, before:** Jennifer Lea

**INTERIM ORDER**

**October 11, 2012**

Hydro One Remote Communities Inc. (“Remotes”) filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board for a licence amendment under section 74 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*. Remotes sought exemptions from the sections of the DSC dealing generally with collection practices, treatment of arrears, payment arrangements and disconnection procedures for low income customers.

The Board issued a Notice of Application and Written Hearing for the application and granted a request for intervention and cost eligibility from Nishnawbe Aski Nation (“NAN”). Pursuant to two procedural orders, Remotes answered interrogatories from Board staff and NAN, and all three parties filed submissions on the application.

On October 12, 2011, the Board issued Interim Decision and Procedural Order No. 3 in which the Board granted Remotes an exemption from compliance with the relevant sections of the DSC on an interim basis for a period of one year, pending the final disposition of the application. In accordance with Procedural Order No.4 issued July 20, 2012, NAN and Remotes filed information on August 20, 2012 and September 17, 2012.

Considering the unique characteristics of Remotes’ service area and its customers and complexity of issues raised in this application, the Board requires additional time to review and analyze the evidence and positions of the parties with respect to the

exemptions sought by Remotes. Therefore, I find that it is in the public interest to make an order extending the interim exemptions granted to Remotes on October 12, 2011 until April 30, 2013 or until the final determination of the application, whichever is earlier.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

Hydro One Remote Communities Inc. is granted an interim exemption from sections 2.7.1.2, 2.7.1.3, 2.7.2, 2.8.1, 4.2.2.3, 4.2.3.1(a), 6.1.2.1, 6.1.2.2 and 7.10 of the Distribution System Code until April 30, 2013 or until the final determination of the application, whichever is earlier.

**DATED** at Toronto, October 11, 2012

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

*Original signed by*

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Jennifer Lea  
Counsel, Special Projects