

OPA Letter of
Comment:

West Coast Huron
Energy Inc.
(Goderich Hydro)

Basic Green
Energy Act Plan

November 13, 2012



ONTARIO
POWER AUTHORITY



Introduction

On March 25, 2010, The Ontario Energy Board (“the OEB”) issued its Filing Requirements for Distribution System Plans. As a condition of Licence, Ontario Distributors are required to file a Green Energy Act Plan as part of their cost of service application.

The Filing Requirements distinguish between Basic and Detailed Green Energy Act Plans (“Plan” or “GEA Plan”) and outline the specific information and level of detail which must be provided for each type of Plan. Recognizing the importance of coordinated planning in achieving the goals of the *Green Energy and Green Economy Act, 2009* (the “GEA”), distributors must consult with embedded and host distributors, upstream transmitters and the Ontario Power Authority (“OPA”) in preparing their Plans. For both Basic and Detailed Plans, distributors are required to submit as part of the Plan, a letter of comment from the OPA.

The OPA will review distributors’ Basic Plans to ensure consistency with regard to FIT and microFIT applications received, as well as with integrated Plans for the region or the system as a whole.

West Coast Huron Energy Inc. (Goderich Hydro) (“WCHE”) - Basic Green Energy Act Plan

The OPA has reviewed the Basic GEA Plan from West Coast Huron Energy Inc. (“WCHE”) on November 1, 2012, and has provided its comments below.

OPA FIT/microFIT Applications Received

WCHE’s GEA Plan indicates that there are 0 microFIT installations and 0 FIT projects are in its service territory. This information is found in section 3.1 on page 4 of the Plan.

As of November 12, 2012, the OPA has processed 11 microFIT applications totalling approximately 0.093 MW of capacity in WCHE’s service territory. Only one of those has remained active as of October 2012. Additionally, the OPA has received and offered contracts to 2 capacity allocation exempt FIT applications, totalling approximately 0.235 MW that have identified themselves as connecting within WCHE’s service territory. All of the applications are remained active as of October 2012.

Upstream Transmission Constraints

As noted in WCHE’s Plan, Goderich TS was impacted by system constraints that limit the ability of additional FIT projects to connect in WCHE’s service territory. The OPA understands that Hydro One Networks Inc. has been working on upgrading this station.

Economic Connection Test

The OPA received a directive dated April 5, 2012 from the Minister of Energy with respect to the Feed-in Tariff Program Review. The directive states that “[g]iven the transmission projects planned through the Long Term Energy Plan and changes to the FIT Program, the OPA shall not run the Economic Connection Test “. A link to the full directive is provided on the OPA’s website:

<http://www.powerauthority.on.ca/sites/default/files/page/FIT-ReviewApril-2012.pdf>

Opportunities for Integrated Solutions

There are no known corresponding expansions among neighbouring LDCs that could be addressed through integrated transmission solutions at this time.

Conclusion

The OPA finds that WCHE’s GEA Plan is reasonably consistent with the OPA’s information regarding renewable energy generation applications to date.

The OPA appreciates the opportunity to comment on West Coast Huron Energy Inc.’s Basic GEA Plan.