**EB-2012-0137**

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

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

**AND IN THE MATTER OF** an application by Hydro One Remote Communities Inc. for

an Order or Orders approving or fixing just and reasonable rates and other charges

for the distribution of electricity as of May 1, 2013.

**NOTICE OF INTERVENTION**

**OF**

**CAT LAKE FIRST NATION**

**Cat Lake First Nation applies for Intervenor Status in this proceeding.**

**Statement of Interest**

Cat Lake First Nation is a grid-connected, remote community located approximately

180 kilometers northwest of the Town of Sioux Lookout. The First Nation is presently served by Hydro One Networks on an interim distribution license which was initially

granted by the Ontario Energy Board in 2006. Since 2009, Cat Lake First Nation has

been paying an unsubsidized rate of 62.5ȼ per kWh on government funded assets in

the community. This situation has resulted in considerable economic hardship for

the First Nation and its residents.

The current situation is not sustainable. Cat Lake First Nation cannot continue to pay the unsubsidized rate of 62.5ȼ per kWh on government funded assets in the community.

Since 2009 when Cat Lake First Nation stopped receiving an electrical subsidy from the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, the community has incurred additional expenses of more than $500,000 on its government funded assets. This situation is very seriously hindering social and economic programs in Cat Lake First Nation.

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**New Servicing Arrangement**

Over the past year, Cat Lake First Nation has been involved in discussions with Hydro One Remote Communities Inc with the objective of obtaining a permanent servicing arrangement for the community. HORCI is proposing a Standard “A” Rate of 29.17 ȼ per kWh on government funded assets in grid-connected communities.

The current interim servicing arrangement with Hydro One Networks is not sustainable.

The provisions of Section 59 of the Ontario Energy Board Act were not meant to be a long-term solution. Cat Lake First Nation is supportive of a new servicing arrangement with Hydro One Remote Communities Inc. However, the permanent solution must be fair to the community and its Band members. It must also be an affordable solution that will allow the Cat Lake Band Council to continue operating its public buildings.

**Intervention**

Cat Lake First Nation is applying for Intervenor Status on two issues that will go before the Ontario Energy Board :

1. The proposed increase in residential rates.
2. The proposed rate of 29.17 ȼ per kWh on government funded assets in a grid-connected remote community.

**Communications**

Any communications related to this Notice of Intervention, including a copy of all the documents filed with the OEB for File # EB-2012-0137 are requested and should be directed to :

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Cat Lake First Nation

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and

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**Communications (Continued)**

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Submitted electronically from the Windigo First Nations Council Office in Sioux Lookout, Ontario on the 14th day of February, 2013.

Robert Taylor

Project Coordinator