



EB-2008-0053

NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND HEARING

LEAVE TO AMALGAMATE ORANGEVILLE HYDRO LIMITED AND GRAND VALLEY ENERGY INC.

The Application

Orangeville Hydro Limited (“OHL”) and Grand Valley Energy Inc. (“GVEI”), both licensed electricity distributors, have filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board, received on February 21, 2008, under section 86(1)(c) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, c. 15 (Schedule B) (the “Act”), seeking leave to amalgamate OHL and GVEI. The Board has assigned the application file number EB-2008-0053.

Currently, the Town of Orangeville holds 100 percent of the shares of OHL and the Township of East Luther Grand Valley holds 100 percent of the shares of GVEI.

Upon completion of the proposed transaction, the Town of Orangeville and the Township of East Luther Grand Valley would hold 94.5 percent and 5.5 percent, respectively, of the shares of the amalgamated utility. The applicants have stated that “the proposed ownership arrangement reflects the investment interest

of the two municipalities in the new distribution company which will continue to use the name 'Orangeville Hydro Limited'."

The applicants have stated that the proposed transaction is consistent with the objectives of the Act in protecting the interests of consumers and promoting economic efficiency and cost effectiveness. The applicants have also stated that there will be cost savings by amalgamating the two distributors.

Currently, the rates charged for the delivery of electricity to customers in the OHL and GVEI service areas are not equal. The application states that the amalgamated utility will maintain the existing rates for customers in each of the service areas and that the amalgamated utility will not harmonize rates until 2010, which is when OHL's rates are scheduled to be rebased by the Board.

If the Board grants leave to OHL and GVEI to amalgamate and the transaction closes, GVEI has requested, under section 77(5) of the Act, that its electricity distribution licence be canceled, and OHL has applied, under section 74 of the Act, to amend its distribution licence to include in its service area the area currently served by GVEI.

How to see OHL and GVEI's Application

Copies of the application are available for inspection at the Board's office in Toronto, and at OHL and GVEI's offices, and may be on the website of OHL.

How to Participate

You may participate in this proceeding in one of three ways:

1. Send a Letter with your Comments to the Board

Your letter with comments will be provided to the Board members deciding the application, and will be part of the public record for the application. Your letter must be received by the Board no later than **30 days** from the publication or service date of this notice. The Board accepts letters of comment by either post or e-mail at the addresses below.

2. Become an Observer

Observers do not actively participate in the proceeding but monitor the progress of the proceeding by receiving documents issued by the Board. You may request observer status in order to receive documents issued by the Board in this proceeding. If you become an observer, you need to contact the applicants and others in order to receive documents that they file in this proceeding and they may charge you for this. Most documents filed in this application will also be available on the Board's website. Your request for observer status must be made in writing and be received by the Board no later than **10 days** from the publication or service date of this notice. The Board accepts observer request letters by either post or e-mail at the addresses below; however, two paper copies are also required. You must also provide a copy of your letter to the applicants.

3. Become an Intervenor

You may ask to become an intervenor if you wish to actively participate in the proceeding. Intervenors are eligible to receive evidence and other material submitted by participants in the hearing. Likewise, intervenors will be expected to send copies of any material they file to all parties to the hearing.

Your request for intervenor status must be made by letter of intervention and be received by the Board no later than **10 days** from the publication or service date of this notice. Your letter of intervention must include a description of how you are, or may be, affected by the outcome of this proceeding; and if you represent a group, a description of the group and its membership. The Board may order costs in this proceeding. You must indicate in your letter of intervention whether you expect to seek costs from the applicants and the grounds for your eligibility for costs. You must provide a copy of your letter of intervention to the applicants.

The Board intends to proceed with this application by way of written hearing. The Board will not hold a written hearing if a party satisfies the Board that there is good reason for holding an oral hearing. If you object to the Board holding a written hearing, your letter of intervention must include reasons why an oral hearing is necessary.

If you already have a user ID, please submit your intervention request through the Board's web portal at www.errr.oeb.gov.on.ca. Additionally, two paper copies are required. If you do not have a user ID, please visit the Board's website under e-filings and fill out a user ID password request. For instructions on how to submit and naming conventions please refer to the RESS Document Guidelines found at www.oeb.gov.on.ca, e-Filing Services. The Board also accepts interventions by e-mail, at the address below, and again, two additional paper copies are required. Those who do not have internet access are required to submit their intervention request on a CD or diskette in PDF format, along with two paper copies.

How to Contact Us

In responding to this Notice, please include Board file number EB-2008-0053 in the subject line of your e-mail or at the top of your letter. It is also important that you provide your name, postal address and telephone number and, if available, an e-mail address and fax number. 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 website at www.oeb.gov.on.ca or by calling our Consumer Relations Centre at 1-877-632-2727.

IMPORTANT

IF YOU DO NOT FILE AN OBJECTION TO A WRITTEN HEARING OR DO NOT REQUEST TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCEEDING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS NOTICE, THE BOARD MAY PROCEED IN YOUR ABSENCE AND YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY FURTHER NOTICE IN THIS PROCEEDING.

ADDRESSES**The Board:**

Post:
Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto, ON
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Attention: Board Secretary

Filings : www.errr.oeb.gov.on.ca
E-mail: Boardsec@oeb.gov.on.ca

Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (toll free)
Fax: 416-440-7656

The Applicants:**Orangeville Hydro Limited**

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DATED at Toronto, April 4, 2008.

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary