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March 4, 2013

Ms. Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary  
Ontario Energy Board  
P.O. Box 2319  
27<sup>th</sup> Floor – 2300 Yonge Street  
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

**Re: Thunder Bay Hydro Electricity Distribution Inc. – Amendment to  
Interrogatory Response – 4-Staff-24 - Originally filed Feb 22, 2013**

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Please find enclosed Thunder Bay Hydro Electricity Distribution Inc.'s paper copy of the above noted document.

An electronic version of this file has been submitted through the e-Filing Services.

If you require any further information, please contact the undersigned at (807) 343-1016.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jenni Pajala".

Jenni Pajala, CMA  
Supervisor of Regulatory Affairs, Finance

**Thunder Bay Hydro Electricity Distribution Inc's. Amendment to Interrogatory**

**March 5 2013**

**Question 4-Staff-24**

**EB-2012-0167**

**4-Staff-24**

Ref: E4-T2-S3 Pg. 1-5

- a) The OM&A cost driver explanatory notes ( 6a, 12a, 12b, 12c, 15a, 15b) indicate that there were cost reductions and cost increases during the 2009-2013 period related to the Smart Meter program. In some years there were increases, in other year's decreases. All else equal, as compared to 2009 Board approved, are the 2013 overall metering costs higher or lower (include meter reading and billing costs if appropriate). In the response please identify the main reasons for the overall increase or decrease between 2009 and 2013 (do not provide year-on-year numbers for the intervening years).
- b) What was the tree trimming budget in 2009 Board approved and what is the forecast for 2013?

*Thunder Bay Hydro Response*

- a) Please refer to chart below.

2013 Smart Meter Costs in OM&A and offsetting Cost Reductions				
	Costs in OEB Account 5310	Other Costs	OEB Account #	Total
I.T. Costs		\$ 18,000	5315	\$ 18,000
29 Security Audit	\$ 7,500			\$ 7,500
29 ODS Charges	\$ 89,024			\$ 89,024
48 Modem Data Charges	\$ 80,000			\$ 80,000
16 & 42 Wages & Benefits	\$ 88,132	\$ 15,970	5645	\$ 104,102
12 Computer L.A.N. Mntce	\$ 28,000	\$ 28,000	5675	\$ 28,000
	\$ 264,656	\$ 61,970		\$ 326,626
Meter Reading Contract Services Reduction from 2009 COS	\$ (79,900)			\$ (79,900)
Internal Meter Reading staffing reduction	\$ (20,124)			\$ (20,124)
Wages & Benefits relating to work for affiliate		\$ (31,500)	4220	\$ (31,500)
Other variances	\$ (5,152)			\$ (5,152)
Net Metering/Billing	\$ 159,480	\$ 30,470		\$ 189,950

See also Thunder Bay Hydro's response to 4-VECC-22 (a).

- b) The tree-trimming "sub-contracting" amount for the 2009 Board Approved budget was \$543,426 and the forecast for 2013 is \$620,000 (a \$76,574, rounded to \$80,000 in the application, or 14% increase).