



EB-2012-0353

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

AND IN THE MATTER OF an application by Northern Ontario Wires Inc. for an order or orders approving or fixing just and reasonable distribution rates related to Smart Meter deployment, to be effective January 1, 2013.

BEFORE: Marika Hare
Member

**DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS
March 5, 2013**

Background

Northern Ontario Wires Inc. (“NOW”), a licensed distributor of electricity, filed an application (the “Application”) with the Ontario Energy Board (the “Board”) on August 31, 2012 under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998, S.O. 1998, c. 15, (Schedule B), seeking approval for changes to the rates that NOW charges for electricity distribution in relation to smart meter deployment, to be effective January 1, 2013. The Board assigned File Number EB-2012-0353 to the Application.

The Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (“VECC”) was granted intervenor status and cost award eligibility.

The Board issued its Decision and Order on the Application on January 10, 2013, in which it set out the process for VECC to file its cost claim and to respond to any objections raised by NOW.

VECC’s cost claim was received by the Board on January 30, 2013 and is accepted by the Board notwithstanding the late filing. No comments were received from NOW.

The Board has reviewed VECC's cost claim and finds that VECC is eligible for 100% of its reasonably incurred costs of participating in this proceeding. The Board finds that VECC's claim is reasonable and NOW shall reimburse VECC for its costs.

THE BOARD THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:

1. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, NOW shall immediately pay VECC the sum of \$1,800.76.
2. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, NOW shall pay the Board's costs of and incidental to, this proceeding immediately upon receipt of the Board's invoice.

DATED at Toronto, March 5, 2013

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary