

EB-2012-0162

**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 PUC Distribution Inc. for an order approving just and reasonable rates and other charges for electricity distribution to be effective May 1, 2013.

# PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 4 AND ORDER FOR INTERIM RATES

## **April 19, 2013**

PUC Distribution Inc. ("PUC") filed a complete application (the "Application") with the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") on December 5, 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 PUC charges for electricity distribution, to be effective May 1, 2013.

The Board issued Procedural Order No. 1 dated January 18, 2013 in which the Board established dates for the filing of written interrogatories and responses.

The Board issued Procedural Order No. 2 dated February 26, 2013 in which the Board approved PUC's request for an extension of the filing date of its interrogatories to March 22, 2013.

The Board issued Procedural Order No. 3 dated March 28, 2013 in which the Board approved PUC's request for an additional extension of the filing date of its interrogatories to April 4, 2013.

After reviewing the responses to the interrogatories, the Board has determined that provision should be made for supplemental interrogatories for the purpose of clarifying the existing interrogatory responses filed by PUC. The Board encourages parties to use a continuous numbering system that starts from the last number utilized by the intervenor, modified with the addition of the letter "s". The reference tag for the supplemental interrogatory would be the original tag of the interrogatory in question. For example, a supplemental interrogatory regarding the response to interrogatory "1-Staff-2" would be tagged "1-Staff-49s" beneath which "Ref: 1-Staff-2" would appear.

The Board has also decided that it will convene a settlement conference.

#### Interim Rates

In the Application, PUC requested an effective date of May 1, 2013. The Board is prepared to make PUC's current approved rates interim pending the outcome of this proceeding. This determination is made without prejudice to the Board's Decision on PUC's Application, and should not be construed as predictive, in any way whatsoever, of the Board's final determination with regards to the effective date for PUC's rates arising from this Application.

The Board considers it necessary to make provision for the following matters related to this proceeding. The Board may issue further procedural orders from time to time.

### THE BOARD ORDERS THAT:

- 1. Board staff and intervenors shall request any information and material from PUC that is in addition to PUC's response to interrogatories filed on April 4, 2013, and that is relevant to the hearing, by written supplemental interrogatories filed with the Board and served on PUC on or before **April 29, 2013**.
- 2. PUC shall file with the Board complete written responses to the supplemental interrogatories and serve them on intervenors on or before **May 13, 2013**.
- 3. A Settlement Conference will be convened on **May 21, 2013**, starting at 9:30 a.m. with the objective of reaching a settlement among the parties on the issues.

The Settlement Conference will be held in the Board's hearing room at 2300 Yonge Street, 25th Floor, Toronto, and may continue on **May 22, 2013**, if needed.

4. Any Settlement Proposal arising from the Settlement Conference shall be filed with the Board no later than **May 31, 2013**. In addition to outlining the terms of any settlement, the Settlement Proposal should contain a list of any unsettled issues, identifying those issues that the parties believe must be dealt with by way of oral or written hearing.

All filings to the Board must quote the file number, EB-2012-0162, be made through the Board's web portal at <a href="https://www.pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/">https://www.pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/</a>, and consist of two paper copies and one electronic copy in searchable / unrestricted PDF format. Filings must clearly state the sender's name, postal address and telephone number, fax number and e-mail address. Parties must use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the RESS Document Guideline found at <a href="http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/OEB/Industry">http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/OEB/Industry</a>. If the web portal is not available parties may email their documents to the address below. Those who do not have internet access are required to submit all filings on a CD in PDF format, along with two paper copies. Those who do not have computer access are required to file 7 paper copies.

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.

With respect to distribution lists for all electronic correspondence and materials related to this proceeding, parties must include the Case Manager, Marc Abramovitz at <a href="Marc.Abramovitz@ontarioenergyboard.ca">Marc.Abramovitz@ontarioenergyboard.ca</a> and Board Counsel, Maureen Helt at <a href="Maureen.Helt@ontarioenergyboard.ca">Maureen.Helt@ontarioenergyboard.ca</a>.

# **ADDRESS**

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DATED at Toronto, April 19, 2013 ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary